

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

January 29th 2015

Somersworth City Hall

6:50 pm

- 1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Austin called the meeting to order at 6:50pm upon call of the roll the following members were present: Rivers, Austin, Paradis, Philpott, Hiller, Pepin, and Bolduc. Absent: Brennan and Gibson Austin asked for a moment of silence in honor of Marcel Hebert who passed away unexpectedly, our prayers and condolences go out to his family and he will be missed.
- 2. COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Hilliard stated that he would like to share some positive news the national title I association named the middle school as a distinguished school and we are one of 100 schools throughout the country being recognized but we are the only school in New England to receive this award. He stated that there are two categories, exceptional student performance and closing the achievement gap and we achieved both categories. He stated that Caroline and Teresa Cleary will be attending the conference and they are very excited about the team effort at the middle school to move students forward to achieve academic success.
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 Removal of items from the consent calendar:** Joanne Pepin stated that she would like to remove January 9th through 13th minutes of the Somersworth School Board Personnel Matter Meeting.
 - 3.2 Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Paradis seconded by Hiller to approve the consent calendar as amended. Approved were:
 - January 20 2015-Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - January 15 2015- Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Budget workshop
 - January 15 2015 Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - January 8 2015- Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - Certificate of Accomplishment- Schoolcare
 - National Title I Distinguished School Congratulations
 - Idlehurst Newsletter-February
 - Maple Wood- February Newsletter
- 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that she would like to congratulate the middle school and the printout Dana was reading will be included in the next board packet. She stated that she would like to congratulate Idlehurst for their second annual spelling bee and a first grader won, it was wonderful. She stated that the state of the city will be on Monday March 2nd at 5:30.
- 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - 5.1 SYC- Maureen Jackman:** None
 - 5.2 BOARD REPORTS:**
 - Building, Grounds & Transportation:** Rivers stated that the RFP for the architectural services for the redesign of the CTC meeting was supposed to be on Tuesday but that is moved to February 9th and the deadline to submit has been moved to February 16th.
 - Curriculum and Activities:** None
 - Policy Committee:** None
 - 5.3 City Council Update:** Marty Pepin stated that it is important for them to have a joint workshop with the city so they know what the situation is and he hopes that the public comes out and gives their input.
 - 5.4 Student Representative Report-Shayna Kelly:** None
 - 5.5 NEASC Visit- Katelyn Carrington:** Carrington stated that we are nearing the end and she would like to thank Daryl Dunbar and Sandy Blanc as they have been spearheading this and have made the process go smoothly. She stated that they have submitted all the necessary documents on the timeline and are now planning for their visit with hotels, food, parking, and accessing the wireless.

She stated that March 15th will be an afternoon visit to the school and they will have a big welcoming ceremony and they ask all community members to come, it will show their investment and to see how great the school is. She stated that there will be one hour for teacher interviews and your presence is appreciated to show your support. She stated that there will be an informal meet and greet, culinary will be providing food and the jazz band will be playing and it will be a time to interact with everyone. She stated that after that you will be invited for one or two meetings on an afternoon for panel interviews and they will ask specific questions on the standards. She stated that NEASC provides generic ones but they will have met and ready the study so they will be looking for holes that they are trying to fill in. She stated that they will ask questions on the working relationship with the SAU, community and city council and looking at how you feel the decision process works with the different entities. She stated that they will ask questions on how dependable funding is, long range planning, capital improvements and enrollments. She stated that you can say that you have to get back to them; you can take time to respond. She stated that they will have more exact times for the board once the chair gives the schedule but keep March 15 open as the date.

5.6 NH School Board Delegate Assembly Update: Paradis stated that she and Don had their day in Concord. She stated that Don was appointed as the first vice president of NHSBA so congratulations to him. She stated that they had a hot topic session on effective board meetings, goal setting, and best practices in school board leadership. She stated that Berlin did a wonderful presentation on some ideas that they have and they have some of the same issues we do and it was interesting to listen to them and she will be bringing them back to vision 20/20. She stated that as an example they send out pamphlets to real estate agents for the school system to market things that they made different in their community. She stated that they finished the day with reviewing the legislative resolutions and she voted what was recommended by NHSBA. She stated that it was very informative. Austin stated that the Berlin presentation was interesting and they got creative to save expenses for them and it was comforting to know that we are not by ourselves.

5.7 January 9 through 13 2015- Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Personnel Matter

Meeting: Joanne Pepin stated that after reading these minutes she noticed a small omission that she would like to see corrected. She stated in the last paragraph there is no second written down and it should read Joanne Pepin. Austin stated that the minutes will be adjusted. A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Paradis to accept the January 9 through 13 Minutes as adjusted. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEM:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee: Paradis stated that the meeting was postponed and will be rescheduled and will be at the gathering place. She will let you know when it was rescheduled. Joanne Pepin stated that she would like to see if the vision 20/20 is interested in getting that pamphlet out. Paradis stated yes she has talked to people about that.

8.2 Budget: Austin stated that the update is in the packet and is current as of January 8 2015. He stated that you had reported that the special education budget was a half a million over budgeted line items and he is still seeing red numbers and asked if they are seeing any changes to help us. Pam MacDonald stated that they did release a few purchase orders back into the budget and they are looking closely at it. Joanne Pepin asked why the 1280 gifted and talented line is over. Supt. Mosca stated that she allowed the middle school to spend extra money to have sticks and stones do a presentation on diversity and anti-bullying because she knew they had money at the bottom. Joanne Pepin asked why guidance is in the red. Supt. Mosca stated that is due to a long term sub.

8.3 CTC Renovation Update: Paradis stated that the walkthrough was rescheduled. Supt. Mosca stated that the walkthrough was moved to February 9th and the RFP is due March 2nd to allow bidders

to get their questions answered and to put the bid together.

8.4 Start time of Meetings: Austin stated at the last meeting they were hoping to get feedback from people on the start times of meetings and he hasn't heard anything. There was no desire from the board to take action on this item.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- **February 10 2015- Budget Presentation 6:30 with School Board Meeting immediately following**
- **February 16 2015- Public Hearing 6:30 with School Board Meeting immediately following**
- **February 19 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting**

Austin stated that this will be the public's opportunity to speak their mind at the public hearing and to listen to the presentation on the 10th to know what the package looks like and it will be available ahead of time to have your comments prepared. He stated that if you can't attend you can correspond with the board and they will enter their input into the record so please participate.

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: Mike Quigley stated that Diana Pettis and Idlehurst were chosen for a video for the state department on the best uses on data within the schools for training.

10.2 Board Members: Bolduc stated that it is important for the public to come out to the public hearing. He stated that another way to come to the board meeting and speak during comments by visitors, we need some input from other people, please come and let us know your thoughts. Hiller stated that she would like to give her condolences to Marcel Hebert's family and friends on his death, he was a really great guy and she hates to see him go. She stated that she would like to hear from other ward three constituents her contact info is on channel 22 and 95, we have a lot of big cuts to make and she would like their opinion on the cuts. Rivers stated that he would echo that, this is his 8th year on the board and he doesn't get much input and they appreciate it when people speak up; please give us your input. Paradis stated that Marcel was a huge part of the community and will be missed. She stated that she knows a lot of the teachers and they all talk to me and they all watch and some may not be able to come but she thanked the ones that are here and the ones at home watching. Please contact all of us we would love to hear from you. Philpott stated that if you care about education in our community she urges you to come out or contact someone, it is not just this year it is the future of education of our children and their education and we need a lot of support to help determine cuts if we have to make them. Joanne Pepin thanked and commended the administration and the support staff for what they are doing with their pay, it shocked me personally. She stated that everywhere you look taxes are going up and these people who got little raises are giving back to our community and should be commended and thanked. She stated that it is a very special thing to offer. She stated that it is important for people to understand that all faculty and staff are underpaid and they don't get a fair wage for the amount of work that they do. She stated that a lot of people say teachers have the summer off but every teacher spends the summer training to be better teachers and preparing for classes. Every person works above and beyond. She stated that we need to think about priorities there is a real need for educating our kids and she would ask the taxpayers to contact your city councilor and what you are willing to give up and prioritize and hope that you put children first. She stated that she would like to give her condolences to Marcel's family, he was a remarkable man and what he did for her personally when she got on the board she will never forget, he is very special.

11. NON-PUBLIC: None

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Philpott seconded by Paradis to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval