

1. **Call to Order-Roll Call- Pledge of Allegiance:** Supt. Mosca called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and upon call of the roll the following board members were present: Kunz, Robinson (Electronically via phone), Pass and Nelson. Nelson stated that we have Alan attending electronically; we can't see him we only have audio. She stated that before we open the floor to visitors she would like to point out on the back of the agenda the visitor orientation section and they are asking people to be succinct in their comments and know that a time limit may be imposed. She stated that the board won't comment and they would like to stick to that, this is not a time for dialogue. She stated that emails and phone calls are always encouraged but know if you email the entire board that it becomes an official part of our information. She stated that we do want to hear from all stakeholders and you will have a chance at the beginning and end of the meeting.
2. **Comments by Visitors:** None
3. **Consent Calendar**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent Calendar:** Nelson stated that she would like to remove the Memorandum- Understanding SPED services attending MSAD 35 from the consent calendar.
 - 3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Pass seconded by Kunz to approve the consent calendar as amended. Approved were:
 - March 19 2015- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board
 - Rollinsford Newsletter
 - Letter of Resignation from Paula Woolley
 - Email from Judy Nelson regarding the budget
 - Enrollment: April
4. **Announcements:** Nelson stated that she would like everyone to know that the dinner for Ed Jansen to celebrate his 39 years on the board will be Saturday at 5pm at the Legion and they are asking for a donation at the door of \$5.00. Nelson stated that she would like to move up the new school board member interviews on the agenda. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Pass to move up item 8.1 to discuss. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.
5. **Discussion Items:**
 - 5.1 **SAU Team Report:** Supt. Mosca stated that the report is in the packet if anyone has any questions she would be happy to answer them. Nelson stated that she would like Jeni to talk about the professional development regarding the current budget by the state and how it has no new revenue sources. Supt. Mosca stated that it is not only for education but no new revenue for our state in general. She stated that there was a piece of gambling that passed the senate but it died at the house level. She stated that the biggest revenue month in the budget process is in April so we will have a good idea in a week or so on the revenue projections. She stated that bills have crossed over and the biggest focus on the senate side is the capital budget and we will wait to see what comes out of that. She stated that if the

adequacy cap gets lifted it will be huge. She stated that she sits on the NHSBA executive board and the big push is waiting to see what is happening with the budget. Nelson asked what NHESIS means on page three. Supt. Mosca stated that is the system that we put IEP's into. Nelson asked about the preschool program and stated that she didn't realize that we had non special Ed students in preschool. Supt. Mosca stated that the law changed a little bit and we do reverse mainstreaming. She stated that by law we have to educate age three to twenty one for special education students and as you get into preschool if you have typicals they can help model behavior and it helps their development. She stated that we always have had a few but now we need a 50/50 split. She stated that we do screenings three times a year and sometimes through that we find students who have special education needs. She stated that from the waiting list if two special Ed students enter, we add two typicals from the waiting list.

- 5.2 **Board Retreat Update:** Nelson stated that they met on April 1st and had some very long and hard conversations and they are calling upon each other and they have a lot of work to do and they are committed to doing it. She stated that the Rollinsford school board mission statement is on the back of the agenda and it reads "We are actively pursuing keeping education at Rollinsford Grade School. In order to accomplish this, we are aggressively looking to reduce operating costs and asking tough questions regarding the budget." She stated that will be informing everything that we do. We have committed ourselves to doing the hard work ahead of us and maintaining facts and sharing things with the community as much as possible. She stated that they are committed to being more budget savvy as we move forward. She stated that the meeting with Dr. Joyce has been postponed until May 7th. She stated that she would also like to share SAU board information. Assistant Superintendent Bob Marquis has resigned and we will not be replacing an Assistant Superintendent but it will be replaced by a Curriculum Director and Tom is sitting on the search committee. Kunz stated that they had five interviews this week and we are going to continue in our search for the right candidate. He stated that they are looking for the right person to fill a new position, this is an SAU position but they will be in this building a lot and they will be very involved so we are looking for the right person. Nelson stated that she is also on the Superintendent Evaluation committee to come up with an evaluation process that the committee is making steady progress on. She stated that recently she met with the board chair from Marshwood in order to build their relationship with Marshwood. She stated that she mentioned to her board last night that she would suggest setting up dates to meet jointly in order to meet once to work out the schedule this summer. She stated that she and I will meet on and off and she wanted us to know that we are invited to attend their meetings as well.
- 5.3 **Principal Update:** Nelson stated that the report is included in the packet. Lucas stated that the newsletter will be her principal update from now on. She stated that she wants to add that as a staff they have spent time talking about how to support the board and educate you on what is going on here and hope they can be on the agenda for May. Nelson stated that she had a question on the newsletter regarding the request for proposals for the Rollinsford Education foundation. Lucas stated that the Rollinsford education foundation has been

around for a number of years and they bring arts to the community. She stated that historically people who asked for the grant funds have come from the school but it is open to all of Rollinsford. She stated that they have brought wonderful things to the school and they support the school and the community. She stated that they do all the enrichments after school. Lucas stated that she was able to attend the NCSM conference in Boston, it is a national conference supporting Math and it was inspiring in every way possible, she feels empowered and what they talk about is complex and it is what we do on a daily basis and it confirmed what the teachers here are doing and it is the best by kids and she feels really fortunate to have that experience.

- 5.4 **Rollinsford Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Nelson stated that Bailey is home sick but she handed out a copy of her report.
- 5.5 **Budget Information:** nelson stated that they are looking at the operating costs and they asked Marie to breakout the budget information so that process has started. She stated that they asked for costs for K-6, and costs for 7-12, and costs for special education K-6 and 7-12. She stated that they are starting to gather data and she sees this as good preliminary data. She stated that she would suggest to take our time and set up a budget workshop for the board. She stated that she is not trying to rush and she wants to gather information and understand things before we suggest changes. She stated that last December it was confusing when they asked questions but the timing was off so we want to start earlier and have a more measured approach. Pass stated that she agrees that spending time in workshop is a good idea, she stated that there is a high percentage of contracted services and stated that we need to know what can be done with that. Kunz stated that if any cuts are made they have to make sense it just can't be money thrown out. He stated that he doesn't want to get rid of something that we need. Robinson stated that he plans to take what was provided and share it with the budget committee. He stated that the breakouts are perfect to show the allocation of the money we spend for education for Rollinsford. He stated that he likes the idea of a workshop. The board set a workshop for May 6th at 5:30pmn at the SAU office.
- 5.6 **Health Insurance Savings:** D'Agostino stated that based on the percentage increase of next year's rates we went out to bid and got three different responses from firms. She stated that HealthTrust was high and Harvard pilgrim could not match the plan. She stated that schoolcare offers a deductible plan called the consumer driven plan with a maximum out of pocket cost and that is different than what we currently offer. She stated that if everyone went from the current plan to the consumer driven plan this report summarizes how much the savings would be. She stated that the estimated savings would be \$57,000 for the district and around \$7700 for the employees. She stated that they held an informational meeting for all of SAU 56 to explain the plan so this is just informational. Nelson asked if the plan offered by schoolcare is available to the employees. D'Agostino stated that it is something that we would have to negotiate to make it available.
- 5.7 **2015-2016 School Year Start with Full Day Kindergarten:** Supt. Mosca stated that every year we come to you to request moving from half day kindergarten to full day kindergarten and based on the projections for next year we would like to start the year right out of the

gate with full day kindergarten. She stated that they are coming to you now to afford them the opportunity to plan over the summer and we know what research says about it and 80% of districts have full day kindergarten. She stated that they are here tonight for the board's approval. Robinson stated that before we move forward with any additional items, he believes it is in our best interest to go through the budget workshop first before we add anything. He stated that he agrees it does make sense but he is not at a point to vote to approve it without going through the budget discussion. Pass stated that she wants to make sure that we have all the information we need as far as student and staff and she would also like to wait until after the budget workshop. Supt. Mosca stated that they would like staff levels and student's levels and asked what other information they will need for that night. Pass stated that if we have that small of a class can we get by with just the teacher in the class; she is trying to look at everything. Kunz stated that you are dealing with a class of five and six year olds versus ten year olds and knowing what a preschool setting looks like there is generally more than one adult. Pass stated that she agrees with him but it is irresponsible of us not to have the conversation. Supt. Mosca stated that she can come prepared May 6th with the information. Nelson stated that they can have it on the May agenda to vote. Robinson stated that the question he has is are we setting precedent that we are going to offer full day kindergarten and if we suddenly jump to 25 students will we need another class and he wants to be prepared before we make a decision. Pass asked if it changes transportation is also a question she has. Nelson stated that this will be an action item at the May meeting. Pass stated that she feels like she has a target on her back all the time and she is going to get the dirty looks and she is not trying to make your job harder but she is trying to keep kids in this building and these questions might seem out of line but she has to ask. Nelson stated that we are looking at everything and some is going to sound like what is happening here but we will be asking tough questions and we need everyone's help.

5.8 Memorandum: Understanding SPED services attending MSAD 35: Supt. Mosca stated that included in the packet is some of the work that happens behind the scenes. She stated that she met with the special education directors to delineate who is doing what and put it in writing to start the process. She stated that this is a work in progress document and a first attempt at putting something down and identifying the key people to meet this spring. Nelson stated that she had a question do with Rollinsford providing any required transportation. Supt. Mosca stated that there are times we have students a who ride a regular bus and then there are times that they can't ride the regular bus and they may take a smaller bus and it is our job to cover everyone's needs and it is our responsibility to make sure that happens.

6. Action Items

6.1 School Board Meetings 2015-2016: Nelson stated that the schedule is in the packet for approval. They are set up as usual on the third Thursday. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Pass to accept the school board meeting schedule for 2015-2016 as proposed. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. Financial Update:

7.1 **Budget:** Nelson stated that the report is included in the packet. She stated that this will be a good tool to share with the budget committee on how we are doing. Supt. Mosca stated that she was asked about possible projects that we could tackle this year so she had a conversation with Kate. Lucas stated that they looked at phase three power which is roughly \$60,000 to get it to the building and then the original thought was around \$200,000-250,000 to finish the building. They had Mr. Electric come through and including the \$60,000 to bring it to the building and having the switching station outside he could do \$200,000 and if not it would add \$25,000 to the price. She stated that we have a number of pumps that run on first phase that would have to be converted for another \$15,000 so it would be a total of \$250,000 to do that. She stated that they looked at other things and next on the list would be to look at the lifts in the building. She stated that they are serviced every year but they are no longer in production so they are working now but if they break down we can't purchase parts so it is very important that they are looked at for safety reasons. She stated that they also looked at paving the parking lot and the playground. Nelson asked if there are any thoughts from Mr. Electric to get things done in the building without the phase three, like an interim measure. Dick Fortier stated that you could go a 4 amp; we are maxed out so it doesn't make sense but you could do in piece meal such as bringing it to the building and then do one side and then the other. He stated that if we do resurfacing it would make sense to bring the service in first rather than having to rip it up. Nelson asked for the price on the resurfacing. Lucas stated that from the bus entry and increasing parking spaces it would be \$36,000 and to repave on the north side with slanted parking spaces it would be another \$5,000 and if we do all, it would be about \$100,000. Nelson asked for the costs on the lifts. Lucas stated that we have three lifts, one in the main building and one in the upper gym and the lower gym. She stated that the main lift would be \$38,000, upper \$32,420 and lower \$28,028. She stated that includes site work and disposing and it includes a two year warranty. Kunz asked what the life span is. Fortier stated 15-20 years. Robinson stated that the budget has \$230,000 available and bringing three phase power is the ideal scenario but we are a little short for that project. Lucas stated that bringing three phase power up to the building for the \$60,000 is something else to consider. Robinson stated that doing the \$60,000 and not having to do anything crazy makes sense to him. Nelson stated that the three phase power to the building and the lifts still allows us to do the bus lane; safety is a critical piece as a board member. Supt. Mosca stated that you can think of a bundle of about \$150,000. Pass asked for the total on the lifts. Lucas stated it is about \$98,000. Robinson stated that he would like to see us move forward with spending the \$60,000 and \$100,000 to replace the lifts. Lucas stated that if we don't want to do it now, we could do it up until June 28th. Supt. Mosca stated that it is an auditing issue; it would be nice to make a decision now so we can start the process. Robinson asked about the numbers for paving. Lucas stated \$36,000; it would add a lift and creates more parking spaces. She stated that the north side would be another \$5,000. D'Agostino stated that the projects have to be done when school is out so you could approve not to exceed \$150,000 and then determine what projects to do by a certain date if the money is available. Robinson stated that he is comfortable with going forward with a

minimum of \$60,000 to start the phase three power. Supt. Mosca stated that a priority of the board is the phase three power and paving seems to be an issue more so than the lift. Nelson stated that we could do one lift, the phase three power and the paving. Fortier stated that he is working on long range budgeting next year he budgeted for a lift so it makes sense to do two lifts. He stated that he will go out to bid; these are just budgetary numbers so they could go down. Kunz asked if time of year matters. Fortier stated that summer is the best time to do it. Emily Leach stated that it seems that with the phase three power it would be more efficient so there would be a cost savings. Fortier stated yes, there would be a cost savings. Leach asked what the cost would be to upgrade the amps. Fortier stated that he hasn't gotten a cost for that. He stated that the building is maxed out and with all the technology we don't have enough outlets in the building and no surge protectors. Pass asked what your triage list is if you had \$150,000. Fortier stated three phase power, the entry way paving and one lift. Supt. Mosca stated that you could do this now and then look at the budget next month. D'Agostino stated that when we get bids it could come in line and we could have money to do something else. A motion made by Pass seconded by Kunz to move forward with bids for paving, one lift and three phase power not to exceed \$150,000 contingent upon funds available. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously. Supt. Mosca stated that also included is the renewal of the food service and the transportation contracts as well as meal price increases. Nelson stated that we are in the last year of the regular transportation contract and we are extending it for this year and this is the first year of the special education transportation and asked when we signed the contract. D'Agostino stated that the contract is a joint contract between Somersworth and Rollinsford with Safeway and they are the only ones that bid and it is cheaper for both districts. Nelson stated that we will go out to bid this summer on regular transportation and asked if MSAD 35 is included in those bids. D'Agostino stated that it is open to the public. Supt. Mosca stated that we will send them the RFP. Nelson stated that for the meal price we are continuing the yearly increase to meet the federal standards. D'Agostino stated that we have to show in good faith that we are increasing at least ten cents because we can't charge less than what we get reimbursed from the state for free lunch. She stated that the food service contract, next year is the end of the five years and we will do an RFP in the summer for bids. She stated that this is a draft because the state has to approve it and once the board approves, the contract will be executed. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz to accept the food service contract. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz to accept the meal price increase as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Pass to accept the transportation contract as presented. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

8. **New Business:**

8.1 New Board Member Interviews: Nelson stated that we are in the position that we need to fill a vacancy due to Paula Woolley resigning. She stated that Paula devoted a lot of her time to the community and she has a historical perspective and she will be missed. She stated that to make this as public as possible we posted the process in the usual places and the closing date for interested candidates was Monday and we had a few inquiries and one person who

maintained interest. She stated that she would ask Emily Leach to come up and chat with us on why she is interested in being on the board. Emily Leach stated that she is interested in being part of the board because the town is at a pivotal point of what the future will look like and the board will play an integral part in that by the way that it puts information out and she would like to be a part of making that happen. She stated that she stands behind the mission statement on the agenda and she supports keeping our students in the grade school and figuring out a way to make it happen for our town. Nelson stated that this would be filling the position until next March and then the remaining two years will be up in March for voting. A motion made by Pass seconded by Kunz to nominate Emily Leach for the vacant school board position. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Nelson stated that you need to get sworn in by Kate Nesmond. Supt. Mosca stated that once you get sworn in bring a copy over to the SAU office and we will set up an appointment to meet with you. Nelson thanked her for her interest.

9. **Old Business**

9.1 **Building Maintenance Committee-Judy:** None

10. **Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:**

- April 21 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting
- May 6 2015- Marshwood School Board Meeting
- May 11 2015- SAU Board Meeting
- May 12 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting
- May 20 2015- Marshwood School Board Meeting
- May 21 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting

11. **Closing Comments:**

11.1 **Visitors:** Chris Reishus stated that in the discussions on all day kindergarten part of what the principal said was more communication between the board and the school and in order for you to know the impact of all-day kindergarten she would like to see the people in those positions there to answer your questions. Celia Leopold stated that she has a child preschool age and asked where she can get information on preschool. Supt. Mosca stated on the SAU website and it is listed on the paper and she can call the SAU office. Celia Leopold stated that on the special education cost information she is wondering if there is a comparison between our district and other districts in the area. She stated that they are trying to find more efficient ways with power and asked if there is an active campaign in making the school more efficient. Nelson stated that is one of the reasons that we hired a facilities director, and he hasn't even been here a year yet and has made great strides. Celia Leopold stated that she is interested in getting more information on the benefits of full day versus half day kindergarten. She stated that with a small number of kids it might be beneficial but she also thinks that they need to talk to the staff to make sure that the teacher gets a break for planning. She also asked if there were any state or federal regulations on the number of kids in class to adults. Nancy Dionne stated that when you said you have non special education students in preschool, which pays for that. Nelson stated that there is no cost; it is part of the education taxes. Tracey Laurion stated that one

reason that the numbers for kindergarten increased over Christmas is because we added full day kindergarten, everyone is pleased that we have full day.

- 11.2 **Board Members:** Robinson stated that he is looking forward to the budget workshop. Nelson stated that she would like the board to think about babysitting for our meetings so more people can come and participate. Lucas stated that we have some ideas and we agree with you. Nelson stated that would be really great and she would like the board to consider a subcommittee called community school liaison to build bridges between the school and the community. She stated that she would also as a board improve on their timeliness of signing the manifests and think about that as they are supposed to be signed that week. She thanked everyone for coming out especially the staff.

12. **Non-Public:** None

13. **Adjournment:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Pass to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval