

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, Woolley, Robinson, Pass and Nelson.
  - 1.1 Election of Officers: Nelson stated that she would like to get an explanation for each office and discuss what we hope for things to happen in these offices and committees so people get an overview of what slots need to be filled. She stated that it would be nice to know the goals first before we start talking about committees. Supt. Mosca stated that some of the committees are part of the policies. Nelson stated that yes she knows but someone's strengths may fit better for some committees and we are coming off a tough year and this year we have an awful lot in front of us so it would be nice to have a definition and an idea of what some of the things they do. She stated that as chair one of the new duties will be on the standing superintendent evaluation committee that they will sit on so that will be extra work they will be doing. Woolley stated that as chair she gets together with Jeni several time a month to discuss possible agenda items and put together the agenda which is the biggest piece. Supt. Mosca stated that the chair runs the meeting and set the tone and facilitates the agenda and tries to stick to what we have listed as the meetings are an opportunity for the board to conduct business in a public setting so there has to be some efficiency. She stated that they look at the agenda to work in a way that has logical sense and I take notes during the meeting for follow-up to discuss with the chair. Nelson stated that she was vice chair this year and she only had to open a couple of meetings so it was not too tasking. Supt. Mosca stated that the secretary does any correspondence needed from the board or on behalf of the board. Nelson stated that the budget committee this coming year will have a lot of stuff happening. She stated that the budget is the budget committee's budget and it is important to work with them to own it and help them approve it and accept it and she wondered if they should have a budget subcommittee where one of them is the representative on that committee. Woolley stated that she serves as the alternate if Tom is not available. Nelson stated that the negotiations committee is two people and we will figure out our goals with that later on. She stated that she was the representative on the NHSBA annual meeting and the people who attend need to be well versed in the NHSBA proposals on a national and state level and be ready to go through each one with the board and it will be time consuming and a solid piece of work to do that. She stated that we also have two other standing committees the building committees and the transition subcommittee. She stated that there are two members on the building committee and we should continue with that but we don't have to decide that tonight but that is another piece of work. She stated that the transition committee which is for the Marshwood/Somersworth transition and we should think about continuing with that subcommittee but maybe call it a community relations committee to look at a lot of outreach going forward. She stated that we are a small board and this stretches us very thin.

- Chairperson: A motion made by Robinson seconded by Pass to nominate Judy Nelson as Chairperson. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously
- Vice Chairperson: A motion made by Kunz seconded by Pass to nominate Paula Woolley for Vice Chairperson. Robinson stated that he was interested in vice chair as in the past year the town has changed their direction and in my nomination of Judy as chair he hoped that the leadership of the board will take a fresh approach but Paula also has experience. Woolley stated that she would be happy to defer to Alan for vice chair. A motion made by Pass seconded by Kunz to nominate Alan Robinson for vice chairperson. Nelson stated that she is neutral on vice chair at the moment but this board has to work well together with whatever goes on so the will of the board is with whoever will work best together. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.
- Secretary: A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz to nominate Tia Pass as secretary. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

#### 1.2 Committee Assignments:

- Negotiations: Judy and Tom
- Delegate and Alternate to NHSBA: Nelson stated that this is a one day meeting at the NHSBA delegate assembly and about twenty pages of reading to be prepared for it and discuss with the board. She stated that she wouldn't mind doing it again, she learned a lot. Judy and Tia as an alternate.
- Technology Committee: Supt. Mosca stated that this is someone to help out at the SAU level as we need to submit a technology plan every three years. Kunz stated that is this something that we can just do as a board. Supt. Mosca stated yes, you will approve it anyway.
- Town Budget Committee: Nelson stated that this is a liaison to the town budget committee and an alternate. Robinson stated that he would be interested in this committee. Alan and Tom as alternate.

2. **Comments by Visitors:** Celia Leopold stated that she doesn't expect to have answers to this but the town voters voted to have a choice to send the kids to Marshwood and she is hoping that you will make announcements and let us know when there will be discussions. She stated that her kids will be enrolling in the next couple of years and she hopes that they look out for the best interest of the kids and the school is important to the town. She stated that people were upset about the cost to fix it but she hopes that they get input from the town. She stated that she wants to stay involved and help the board any way possible so this community can keep this school and keep the say in the education of our children as we will lose some of the say we have and our kids will also lose a lot that they are getting now that they won't be able to get if they go to Eliot. She stated that she saw classes walking from scoutland and she is afraid that field trips like that won't happen and they will lose teaching the kids Rollinsford history as well as NH history. She stated that remember that this is not just about the kids it is about our community and the school is our biggest employer and they will all lose their job. She stated that we have a good school and business will leave town if the school closes. She stated that there are a lot of

factors that go into this decision and she hopes that they don't take it lightly. Nelson stated that she wants to remind everyone that comments we won't necessarily answer but it is important to say that the article was directing the board to investigate it does not mean that the school will be closed, these are the things that will be investigated. Pass stated that it was a petition warrant article it was not from the board and the decision will be made by the voters not the board. Nelson stated that she needs to correct you on that; it is up to the board to determine where the best education is. Kunz stated that it is a process and it is lengthy and very involved. He stated that it is not one that we will be taking lightly and he was disappointed with the vote and he thinks a lot of people like you were as well and we will do our homework and he thinks that interesting information will come out of that so they will keep everyone posted.

3. **Consent Calendar**

3.1 **Removal of items from the consent Calendar:**

3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Robinson to approve the consent calendar as amended. Approved were:

- February 19 2015- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board
- February 19 2015- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Public Hearing SB2
- Email: Clarity-Kate Lucas
- Enrollment-March

4. **Announcements:** None

5. **Discussion Items:**

5.1 **Presentation: National Register-Peter Michaud:** Nelson stated that she is very pleased to welcome Peter Michaud he is an architectural historian and he is here to talk about the historical significance of RGS. Peter Michaud stated that he handed out a package of information to look at and he is here to discuss programs that can benefit the school to defray costs but you need to be considered historic. He stated that they need to look at listing to the national registry of historic places. He stated that the national register is not a restrictive program. He stated that in the late 70's the salmon falls mill in Rollinsford was listed to the national register and it opened up tax credits for daymart to renovate the mills and they have never been regulated. He stated that putting the building on the national registry won't affect what you can do but there are layers of benefit. He stated that there are various grants such as the license plate programs which give grants up to \$10,000 for repairs such as the cupola. He stated that there is also the lchip program. He stated that the building is historically significant it is one of four local schools built by Huddleston and Hersey. Eric Huddleston from UNH with his partner Irving Hersey who was a student at UNH went into partnership together in 1935 and they put out feelers for work and they were able to bring in grants which allowed towns to construct schools and Rollinsford tapped into that and that was an early example of the largest architectural firm and most importantly it was the first time that all the kids in Rollinsford were under one roof. He stated that national register put the history down in one place and identifies the character defining aspects of the building. He stated that it would prioritize the areas to protect the cultural identity and character of the school. He stated that it is a planning document to make educated

decisions as to how the change should happen in case you want to change something historic. He stated that the cost to do the registration would be between \$4,000-6,000 but he would offer as an alumnus to do this for you and write the national register nomination. Nelson stated that is an incredibly generous offer and she would like to take action to vote on this tonight. Woolley stated that they would be crazy not to accept. Supt. Mosca asked how long it would take. Michaud stated that he has done the research already but we have to notify property owners, local and county government and they have no less than 30 and no more than 75 days to comment on the nomination so that will be done by June and then we go before the state historical council in July and the park service's takes 45 days so you should see the listing by mid-September. Kunz stated that besides the builder what the historical significance of the building is. Michaud stated that there are four headings Architectural, association with famous people, trends and history and buildings that have yielded or will yield information important to history. He stated that Rollinsford is for the trends in history where education is the best example as it represents the first educational system in Rollinsford and under the WPA association. Kunz stated that the financial aspect is appealing and asked what the types are. Michaud stated that there are two, the conservation license plate program that gives up to \$50,000 for five \$10,000 grants and it has to be something like repairs to the cupola which would qualify. The other grant is the Lchip program which is a matching program that pays 50% and you would pay 50% to be used for overall rehabilitation of a historic building. Kunz asked if redoing the electrical would qualify. Michaud stated as part of a larger project it could. Nelson stated that you have to be listed before you would qualify. Michaud stated that there are grants that could happen in the future such as when Hurricane Sandy funds became available but you had to be listed in order to get that money. When the economy improves there may be grants in the future. Kunz asked if there were benefits to being on the state registry. Michaud stated that there is nothing in addition, but you can get on the state registry with the national registry. Kunz stated that he did this for a house and there is an amazing amount of work and it didn't qualify. Michaud stated that there is a lot of leg work but the school was built in 1936 so it is easier to research back and he has already pulled all the school reports for this building and the previous boards gave an amazing gift when they detailed everything. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Pass to accept the offer of Peter Michaud to prepare the nomination for the national registry of historic places. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Woolley asked if there are any costs associated with this that we need to be concerned with such as mailings. Michaud stated no, it allows for digital so we can do everything digitally so it would be the cost of two discs and the mailings are incurred by the state so it really is at no cost to the town. Nelson thanked Peter.

5.2 **Principal Update:** Nelson stated that the report is included in the packet. Lucas stated that the showcase was last Thursday and it was awesome and the kids were brave, confident and knowledgeable and there was a myriad of different things to see and there were performances throughout the night and she feels inspired, rejuvenated and proud.

5.3 **Somersworth High School Update:** None

5.4 **Somersworth Middle School Update:** None

5.5 **Rollinsford Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Bailey Haines stated that last Thursday the freshman had March madness which was the seniors versus staff and the seniors won and it was a fun time for all and it was the most successful fundraiser yet. She stated that there was a wheelchair basketball game to support unified sports and an award was given to Mrs. Hepburn who was influential to NH unified sports. Nelson asked her to explain unified sports. Supt. Mosca stated that unified teams are for cognitive intellectually impaired students as athletes with partners who are not forming a team. She stated that she coached the basketball team at the high school and there are a variety of unified sports teams in the state and they do everything regular teams do. Bailey Haines stated that winter sports are over and spring sports are starting. She stated that drama is doing the little shop of horrors starting on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and it will run all weekend. She stated that the freshman class is doing a mixed bag fundraiser and they have made \$200 and it is still going for another week. She stated that classes will be chosen next week. She stated that graduation will be on June 18<sup>th</sup> at the whitemore center.

## 6. Action Items

6.1 **Calendar 2015-2016:** Nelson stated that the calendar is the same with February and April vacations aligned with Marshwood. Supt. Mosca stated that Kate and I met and aligned the first day of school so you will be starting September 1<sup>st</sup> and in Somersworth we will be starting September 2<sup>nd</sup>. She stated that in Rollinsford the 4<sup>th</sup> will be a day off and in Somersworth that is a day of school. She stated that they left the in service days the same because Marshwood does late start with the high school and they are looking at doing it with the middle school. She stated that they aligned February and April vacations to follow Maine and the last days of school to meet the 177 days. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz to accept the calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6.2 **Re-nomination of Certified Staff:** Supt. Mosca stated that she handed out a copy to you. By statute we have to let staff know prior to April 15<sup>th</sup> if they are being re-nominated. She stated that it is listed for continuing contract, third year and second year. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Pass to accept the re-nomination of certified staff as presented. Robinson asked what would happen if we don't nominate staff or what if we don't want to nominate a certain individual. Supt. Mosca stated that if we are choosing not to re-nominate an individual I have to notify them and if it is prior to the 5<sup>th</sup> year we don't have to give a reason but if they have a continuing contract they are entitled to a due process hearing to ask the board why and by statute we have to let them know before April 15<sup>th</sup> that they are not being re-nominated. Robinson stated thank you this was only informational. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

## 7. Financial Update:

7.1 **Budget:** Nelson stated that the update is in the packet if anyone has any questions.

8. **New Business:** Robinson stated that they talked about starting the budget process early this year and asked what the plan for coming forward in April is. Nelson stated that we have the board retreat and we will be discussing goals for the budget and other things and until we have the goals it will be difficult to understand what we want with the budget. Supt. Mosca stated that Alan sent an email that he will not be here at the next meeting and we were going to do an

educational presentation and asked if they can do it in May seeing that he won't be here. Nelson stated that she was planning on attending the school care meeting but she won't be able to make it and she hopes that others will be able to make it and report back to the board. She stated that the contract did not pass but that was the money part of it and asked if the language changes. Supt. Mosca stated no, the contract stays status quo.

9. **Old Business**

9.1 **Transition Update:** Supt. Mosca stated that we have given them the information that they needed and transition meetings have been happening with the students and parent meetings and they have been working on course selections. Nelson asked if the numbers are still the same. Supt. Mosca stated yes.

9.2 **Building Committee-Judy:** None

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

- March 23 2015- SAU 56 Board Meeting
- March 24 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting
- April 1 2015- Marshwood School Board Meeting
- April 7 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting
- April 15 2015- Marshwood School Board Meeting
- April 16 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting

11. **Closing Comments:**

11.1 **Visitors:** Tracey Laurion stated that she was talking to someone who asked why the school board only meets once a month versus other boards who meet twice a month and she didn't know the answer to that. Nelson stated that they will be discussing that in our retreat. Supt. Mosca stated that we end up meeting more than once a month. Celia Leopold stated that the Paul Wentworth house went through the lchip so there are community members that were involved in that that could also help you. Vern Crosier asked when the workshop is with Mark Joyce. Supt. Mosca stated March 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the SAU office. Emily Leach stated that someone pointed out to me that while everyone on the board has expressed interest in keeping the school in town action items seem to be in the area of exploring the marshwood option rather than fixing the building. She stated that things such as contracting with Dr. Joyce is a forward motion to exploring going to marshwood and there is no counter balance on fixing the school and that is a perception and a concern. Nelson stated stay tuned because we are having a planning session on April 1<sup>st</sup>. She stated that all is on the table and we are coming up with a game plan.

11.2 **Board Members:** Kunz stated that he wants to reiterate a request that he made about scheduling something on a better explanation for the fee schedule for special education so when we prepare the budget and we had comments made at recent meetings and we were not as prepared to answer them as we should have been. He stated that he would like a special education 101 on how things are made and fees and schedule. Supt. Mosca stated that when you brought it up before she thought it was a greater understanding of special education or is it understanding the money. She stated that she sat with the special education directors from Somersworth and Marshwood and they have been working on a

plan as far as what SAU 56 is responsible for and what MSAD 35 is responsible for. She stated that the kids going to Marshwood need to follow NH law so work has to be done to set up meetings so we have a pretty comprehensive plan laid out. She stated that she will be keeping an oversight on cost and asked them to show monthly costs. Kunz stated that part of it is how we responded to some of the questions; he didn't feel we were prepared. He stated that we can't identify children but he thinks that going forward the town would benefit from having a better understanding to give a better idea how costs are arrived at. Supt. Mosca stated that she will have Pam come to walk through the process to make up a fictitious kid with costs. Pass stated that there is an overwhelming mistrust of the school, board and SAU and that is the overarching issue. Nelson stated that we need to start addressing the mistrust of the board and it is a big job but we are up to the task. Kunz stated that there is a ton of misinformation that circulates. Nelson stated that the school board helping the budget committee with the budget will help out as well. Supt. Mosca stated that pam will do a brief special Ed 101 with a fictitious kid and walk through the process of a child from a mom requesting testing to how the team starts and determines tests along with costs. Nelson stated that would be helpful. Robinson asked if the spreadsheet from Marshwood could be made public. Supt. Mosca stated no, it identifies services and you are not a big enough district you could easily pick out who's who. Robinson stated that there has to be something more specific that can explain where all the money is going because the breakout doesn't work as it is. Nelson stated that this is starting to go beyond closing comments so we will discuss this during the budget process. She stated that she attended the readathon and it was great to see all the kids enthusiastic.

12. **Non-Public:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Pass to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A:3, II C A matter which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. VOTE: upon roll call vote, motion passed, unanimously. Exited into non-public session at 7:55. A motion made by Woolley seconded by Nelson to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic session at 8:15.
13. **Adjournment:** A motion made by Robinson seconded by Nelson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval