

## SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

May 12 2015

Somersworth City Hall

7:00 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Paradis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm upon call of the roll the following members were present: Rivers, Gibson, Paradis, Philpott, Hiller, Pepin, and Bolduc. Absent: Austin and Brennan
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Sharon Lampros stated that they had a very successful prom, the grand march was at the high school and dinner and dance at the Frank Jones Center in Portsmouth. She stated that 80% attended and stayed until 11 and they had the students commended by the Portsmouth officer on duty and the staff at the Frank Jones Center. She stated that the spring concert is tonight. She stated that tomorrow is United Sports Day and they will have 26 students participating. She stated that tomorrow the ROTC program is going to present the national colors. She stated that the band is leaving for a trip to NYC Thursday morning. She stated that Friday they will be going to Radio City Music Hall, Central Park, Times Square and Lincoln Center, Saturday the adjudication process for chorus and band and once completed they will go to Six Flags with the award ceremony and Sunday before they come home they will visit the 9/11 Museum. She stated that there are 53 students going with 14 chaperones. She stated that this week juniors have NECAP testing and will be finishing up the third day of testing and they will also be training the students on taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment next week as they will be taking the test the last week in May. She thanked the middle school for sharing two hard wired rooms to enable us to do the test. She stated that on June 3<sup>rd</sup> is NH State Scholar Day and we have 24 seniors qualifying to Manchester for the awards ceremony. Tamara Hallee stated that kindergarten information night is tomorrow night from 6-7 at Maple Wood for all kindergarten families. She stated that the Hilltop Hustle Road Race is June 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30, you can register online and the proceeds will be shared between the middle school, Maple Wood and Idlehurst. She stated that Maplewood is starting an annual running club and they have created a make shift track and they will roll it out on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
  - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent calendar:** None
  - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Rivers seconded by Hiller to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
    - April 21 2015-Minutes of the Somersworth School Board Meeting
    - Fosters- High School Jazz Performance Sooths Local Souls
    - Fosters- High School May Expand Media Class
    - Fosters- Intern Program Lets Students Hone Real Skills
    - Enrollment-May
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated on the table in front of you she left a note card invitation to the 150 Dwellings Bedrock Gardens in Lee which is a joint effort between Somersworth High School, Dover and Oyster River Middle School and they have worked together and will have their art work displayed May 15<sup>th</sup> between 4-6.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
  - 5.1 **Technology Plan- San Murray:** Supt. Mosca stated that in the packet is the technology plan that is required by the DOE and we have to submit a three year plan. She stated that she will bring it back at the next meeting for action. She stated that there are a variety of stakeholders on this plan and there are some board members that are no longer on the board but they are still in here. She stated that it is a work in progress but we do have to submit and updated plan on what we have accomplished in the last three years. She stated that it will come back for approval at the next meeting to submit to the state.
  - 5.2 **BOARD REPORTS:**
    - Building, Grounds & Transportation:** Rivers stated that they met on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April and had a let's

get started meeting on the CTC renovation project with Banwell. He stated that they got started trying to get down to the end game of this phase. He stated that they went into detail on where we are headed and also set up meetings with the faculty members and stakeholders to come up with things to address. He stated that they will be meeting this Friday at 2:00pm. He stated that they also discussed the Tri City CTC Transportation contract bid response; he stated that it is not on the agenda tonight so look at it and they hope to take action at the next meeting. He stated that they did have a water heater give out on May 4<sup>th</sup> and it got fixed real quick and they will get an update from Andy on Friday.

**Curriculum and Activities:** None

**Policy Committee:** None

**5.3 City Council Update:** Marty Pepin stated that they met on May 4<sup>th</sup> and talked about the budget and there was a motion to put \$800,000 back in and it failed. He stated that they did get \$231,000 back in with \$100,000 coming from budget cuts on the city side. He stated that they tabled the budget and they will work it out in the near future.

**5.4 Student Representative Report-TBA:** None

**5.5 Property-Liability Trust (PLT) Coverage:** D'Agostino stated that in the packet is a letter they received from PLT where we had our workers compensation and property and liability coverage through and they have been notified that 15/16 is the last year that they will be providing these programs so we will be going out to bid this summer. Hiller asked if they are going out of business. D'Agostino stated that this all stems from the legal suit with LGC and they won't have enough funds to pay going forward. She stated that they will pay current claims but they will not be taking any more.

## **6. ACTION ITEM:**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

**8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee:** Paradis stated that they met on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00pm at Kelley's Row and talked about what they will add to their agenda according to the action plan. She stated that they worked on the tri fold that they will hand out to real estate agents on what we have to offer in the schools and in the city for a proactive approach. She stated that they talked about doing a city survey and having the banners redistributed at local events we do. Supt. Mosca stated that vision 20/20 is a way to promote the positive happenings in the city and the city is dedicated to doing that. She stated that the banners will travel as people attend events in order to market the good things that are happening in the city.

**8.2 Budget:** D'Agostino stated that in the packet is the status of the budget as of May 8<sup>th</sup> with the explanations on excess or overages and they still have a positive overall bottom line.

## **9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:**

- **May 21 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting**
- **May 26 2015- Somersworth School Board Meeting**

Hiller asked when the policy and curriculum and activities committees usually meet. Supt. Mosca stated that they do meet, the policy committee met three times this year. She stated that they just got the current updates and they will be planning a June policy meeting. She stated that the policies are current because we spent money four years ago and sent all the policies to the NHSBA and got them all updated. She stated that they try to meet quarterly. She stated that the curriculum and activities committee are for when we make major changes and we haven't done anything to warrant a meeting.

## **10. CLOSING COMMENTS**

**10.1 Visitors:** Dana Hilliard stated that he comes tonight as Mayor. He stated that he usually saves accolades for the council but he would like to present to someone who has been instrumental in moving the district forward in curriculum and making sure that the students had access to top education as a school psychologist and special education director. He stated that he is the best of the

best and he expressed his wishes to him in his new district as they are blessed with his leadership. He stated that it will be hard to fill the void and we have been lucky to have his tenure. He called Bob Marquis up to accept on behalf of the city a proclamation. "Honoring Bob Marquis for his dedication and service to the City of Somersworth. WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" Marquis has served the students and citizens of Somersworth faithfully since 1999; and WHEREAS; Robert "Bob" Marquis in his positions as School Psychologist, Special Education Director and Assistant Superintendent has aided in the advancement of higher learning and the wellbeing of all SAU 56 employees and students, and WHEREAS; Through his insight and dedication a successful RtI system has been adopted and implemented within the SAU 56 school district; and WHEREAS; SAU 56 and the City of Somersworth progressed under his leadership; and WHEREAS, his wit, humor and seasonal ties will be missed by all; NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dana Hilliard, Mayor of the City of Somersworth, New Hampshire, on behalf of the Somersworth City Council, do hereby proclaim May 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 as Robert "Bob" Marquis Day in the City of Somersworth." Bob Marquis thanked Mayor Hilliard and stated that he wasn't prepared to say anything tonight but the first thing that comes to mind is to thank the board, this one as well as past boards. What he will take away is the true level of respect you have granted me in the various positions that I have held here. He stated that they have been tough jobs but you have supported decisions, the school district and buildings have been greatly and warmly received and he couldn't have done it without their support. He thanked the administration present and past, nobody can do this job alone and you can't move anything forward without developing relationships with colleagues to move the district forward for special education or regular education programs but to service the needs for all children and that has always been my goal here and he couldn't have done it without the support and they are true leaders. He thanked all the teachers who he developed relationships with, they are on the ground with the children and they open up their hearts and minds to children and create families with them. He stated that it is a group effort and he is really pleased and honored to be a part of it. He stated that lastly but not least my gratitude goes out to the community and parents who he has worked with as a special education director and school psychologist and all the various children. He stated that this has been a great learning experience and he couldn't ask for anything more.

**10.2 Board Members:** Philpott thanked Bob it has been an honor and a pleasure working with you and wished him the best of luck in his new district and she knows he will bring a lot to their district just like ours. Joanne Pepin stated that she is sorry to see Bob go, the time she has worked with him has been very enjoyable. She stated that this year Rene will be honored as Citizen of the Year and it is well deserved and she thanked her for helping her grow. Paradis stated that she would like to congratulate Bob. She stated that her image of him here she will never forget is him bundled up ushering cars and kids, he is very dedicated and the city appreciates that. Congratulations to Rene, she looks forward to Friday. She thanked Mike Quigley for hosting Reaching Higher NH on May 5<sup>th</sup> it was very informational. Rivers stated that he would like to congratulate Bob and wished him good luck in the future. Congratulations to Rene as well. Hiller stated thank you and congratulations to both of you for all you have done. She stated that she did attend the training for new board members at NHSBA and she thanked Jeni and the SAU for allowing me to go she learned a lot about what they can do for us as an SAU. She stated that she attended the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting on the common core and it was very informative. Gibson congratulated Bob and thanked him. He also congratulated Rene. Bolduc thanked Bob and wished him good luck. He stated that he watched the city council meeting and he was glad to see they put \$231,000 back in the budget but they took from other departments and he felt bad about that and he wished that it wouldn't have been done. He stated that it still does not cover the gap of \$800,000 and if the council can find \$800,000 somewhere to add to the school to fill the expenditure line it is nice except it does not fill the \$800,000 hole in revenue. He stated that if you draw two lines one being expenditures and then you have another line of revenue

there is a gap in revenue that you can't fill by stealing from other departments, the only way to fill it is with a tax cap override. He stated that it has to be done and that is why the law was written that way and he knows that Mr. Roseberry is a strong advocate for the tax cap and he stands up there but I stand on the other side and he doesn't advocate for the cap especially in a time like this and he hopes that the council can take another look on how to fill the revenue line. He stated that it has been tabled and he is sure that it will be talked about at the next meeting. He stated that it is going to be a tough discussion to have for anyone advocating for an override but people need to know if they don't fill the gap this year it carries over to next year and if you don't fill it next year it carries on year after year and it is cumulative and we have more students that will leave next year that will add to the \$800,000 and it will continue to get bigger. He stated that it is a tough choice to make for the councilors and he hopes that some are listening. He stated that voters voted in the tax cap and he wonders how they would vote now if it was put back on the ballot and he hopes that the law can be changed or amended so we don't run into this all the time.

**11. NON-PUBLIC:** A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Hiller to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 II (b) Personnel. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Bolduc seconded by Hiller to exit out of nonpublic. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 7:41pm.

A motion made by Bolduc seconded by Gibson to accept the nomination of Nicole Patridge. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion made by Gibson seconded by Philpott to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval