

1. **Call to Order-Roll Call- Pledge of Allegiance:** Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and upon call of the roll the following board members were present: Nelson, Kunz, Robinson and Leach.
2. **Budget Discussion:** Nelson stated that the board received the presentation and Marie will be walking us through it. She stated that the presentation is regarding cost per student calculation. She stated that we got a lot of information on how it is calculated and we hope to explain it enough so we can explain it to other people. Supt. Mosca stated that she hopes a couple of things come out of this. She stated that information is out in a variety of places and without understanding how the numbers are derived it becomes useful or sometimes not useful information because you may think you are comparing apples to apples but you may be comparing apples to grapefruits. She stated that she is hopeful to give people an understanding of where the numbers come from.

**Maine Per Pupil Cost State Formula**

TOTAL ACTUAL DISTRICT EXPENDITURES

Less:

Transportation

State Paid Debt Service

Federal Expenditures - Grants

= TOTAL PUPIL COST

Divided by the Average October & April Enrollments

= COST PER PUPIL

*FY 2012-2013 MSAD 35 Cost Per Pupil – Elementary \$8,916.24 Secondary \$10,598.58*

**NH Per Pupil Cost State Formula**

TOTAL ACTUAL DISTRICT EXPENDITURES

Less:

Transportation

Private or Out-of-State Tuition  
Supplemental Expenditures = Equipment

= TOTAL PUPIL COST

Divided by the Average Daily Membership

= COST PER PUPIL

*FY 2012-2013 Rollinsford Cost Per Pupil – Elementary \$16,881.74*

*FY 2012-2013 Somersworth Cost Per Pupil – Middle \$13,093.22 High  
\$13,052.63*

### **Rollinsford/Somersworth Area Agreement**

TOTAL AVERAGE SOMERSWORTH ACTUAL/BUDGET  
MIDDLE, HIGH SCHOOL & DISTRICTWIDE  
EXPENDITURES

Less:

- ▶ Special Education Tuition – (out-of-district)

Add:

- ▶ 2% Middle, & High/Career Technical Center -  
Building Rental Fee

= TOTAL PUPIL COST

Divided by the Average Daily Membership

= COST PER PUPIL

*FY 2012-2013 Somersworth Cost Per Pupil – Middle \$12,724.26 High \$11,482.09*

## RSA 194-C: 9 SAU Assessment

### **194-C: 9 Budget. –**

The apportionment calculation is based on the RSA:

- ▶ 50% Average Daily Membership in Attendance for the previous school year; and
- ▶ 50% Equalized Valuation (no utilities) for each district as of June 30 of the preceding year.

Supt. Mosca stated that you take the equalized valuation of Somersworth and Rollinsford and add them together and divide the Rollinsford portion into the total and it gives you a percentage. She stated that the same thing happens with the ADM and that is how the Rollinsford portion is figured and the other portion is the Somersworth portion. Leach asked what equalized valuation is. D'Agostino stated that it is property values. Each community has a total valuation one with utilities and one without. She stated that you can pull up a report from the state and that is the number used to calculate. She stated that it can fluctuate if it has been reassessed.

## Marshwood Tuition Agreement Formula

Total FY2014-2015 Operating Budget

Less:

Transportation

Special Education

Career Technical Center

Out of District Tuition  
Capital Outlay = State Paid Debt Service

= TOTAL PUPIL COST

Divided by the April 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment (previous year)

= COST PER PUPIL

*FY 2014-2015 Rollinsford Cost Per Pupil – Middle \$9,650 High \$9,650*

Supt. Mosca stated that this becomes an estimate because we will build a budget by October and we will have only been there 2-3 months so we will have a small amount of history so we will be building the 16/17 budget on estimates and it will take a couple of years to get the history. Nelson stated that this is the formula that they laid out before we started negotiations and when it came down to it we were still negotiating to make sure that it stayed this. She stated that we are stepping into the unknown and when Jeni says it will be a year or two that may be generous because we still have students in Somersworth so we won't have all kids in Marshwood until 2018. She stated that in the Marshwood formula it takes out special education and the Maine and NH State formulas include special education. D'Agostino stated that is true, NH and Maine include it because it belongs to that school district, the reason Marshwood is pulling it out in this formula is because they aren't going to charge Rollinsford for transporting Marshwood kids or the special education costs for Marshwood. She stated that is two different scenarios. She stated that when the state calculates it is because it truly is the cost for that district.

Supt. Mosca stated that in the next slides we took the RGS operating budget only and followed the same formula as the Marshwood tuition agreement one with the SAU Assessment and one without. D'Agostino stated that she would like to point out that just because we pulled out special education you still have to pay this no matter what.

## **Marshwood Tuition Agreement Per Pupil Cost**

### **Formula- One**

Total FY2014-2015

Operating Budget - (RGS Only)

\$3,405,514.38

Less:

Special Education (1200)

591,339.00

*(Rollinsford School District Required Responsibility)*

Transportation	147,243.38
Capital Outlay, debt service	<u>-0-</u>
Pupil Cost <i>(including SAU 56 assessment)</i>	\$2,666,932.00
April Enrollment previous year (13-14)	178.00
COST PER PUPIL	\$ 14,982.76

*(Pupil cost divided by April 2014 enrollment)*

### **Marshwood Tuition Agreement Per Pupil Cost**

#### **Formula- Two**

Total FY2014-2015

Operating Budget – (RGS Only) \$3,405,514.38

Less:

Special Education (1200) 591,339.00

*(Rollinsford School District Required Responsibility)*

Transportation 147,243.38

Capital Outlay, debt service -0-

SAU 56 Assessment 177,002.00

*(Rollinsford School District Required Responsibility)*

Pupil Cost \$2,489,930.00

April Enrollment previous year (13-14) 178.00

COST PER PUPIL \$ 13,988.37

*(Pupil cost divided by April 2014 enrollment)*

D'Agostino stated that the last slide is that one direction the board indicated that they wanted to see was what are the costs that are obligated no matter what happens to RGS.

# Rollinsford Elementary School District FY 2014-2015

## Budgeted Obligations

### Special Education

- Contracted Services \$ 51,200
- Tuition to Private School \$ 18,000

Speech Services \$107,586

PT/OT Services \$ 36,771

Adaptive Physical Education \$ 9,292

School Board Expenses \$ 39,020

School Board Secretary \$ 2,842

Elected Officials (includes voting) \$ 886

Audit Services \$ 11,000

Legal Services \$ 19,000

SAU 56 Assessment \$177,002

Transportation \$254,067

Sub-total \$726,666

Elementary Student Tuition ????????

D'Agostino stated that what you would have to add to that would be the tuition cost to send students. Robinson stated that if we were to tuition students to Marshwood and if we follow the tuition agreement wouldn't the speech services be provided by the other school. D'Agostino stated that it would be a la carte. Leach stated that based on 160 students that would be another \$4500 added to the \$9650 so that comes out to about \$14,000 which is pretty close. Supt. Mosca stated that when you take that and compare it to the RGS cost only it is about the same. Nelson stated that hopefully the town will give us time to take a step back and see how the costs run in Marshwood because we may be surprised we don't know what the special education costs will be so we are looking to get that experience to see how it all comes out. Supt. Mosca asked if there is more information that they need from them. Robinson stated that he would like something like the last slide for just special education in order to compare that to a la carte because one question that he had was a cost per student for special education. D'Agostino stated that with special education you have students with very minimal needs to some with many services so it is hard to say this is the cost per student. Supt. Mosca stated that speech

services may cost \$2,000 and then out of district could be \$50,000 and up so the cost per student could be skewed based on the individual needs and services. She stated that special education services sit on a continuum and we look at the least restrictive environment and doing services within the classroom we try to do that first and if it has to be a pull out the model changes the cost and if we have to place out it becomes more restrictive. Kunz stated that his fear is that by giving that information we will be identifying kids because we are a small population and he is concerned about that. He stated that perhaps there is a cost menu per service that we can rely on to say this is what it costs. Nelson stated that we could just say cost and not number of kids. Kunz stated that there will come a time where we have to say time out and where we can't go any further. Supt. Mosca stated that if you go back to the formula it's not broken down, it is included. She stated that the only reason we are having the conversation around this is that we entered into an agreement where they aren't charging us for their special education kids. Kunz stated that there has to be some base line for services. Supt. Mosca stated that if I have a speech and language teacher who services five kids it could be different services and it doesn't get pulled out that way, I don't pull out how many times a kid goes to phys ed etc., the only sticking point is that Marshwood does a la carte. Leach stated that we can't say that if Marie gets 3 hours of speech the cost is say \$400. Nelson stated in RGS no, but in Marshwood we can. Supt. Mosca stated that there is an a la carte menu in the back of the tuition agreement that spells out the cost of services. Kunz stated that if someone said we need to look at these costs how do we know if we are paying too much. Supt. Mosca stated that if tomorrow we have two ESOL families move in we would have to provide those services and we don't have a teacher here to do that so we would have to contract with an agency and we would be charged every time the person comes. She stated that the other way is that they are part of the hiring, we have special education teachers who provide services, speech person, and so we have staff in place that covers those needs. She stated that we could look at every IEP and divide it up. She stated that today we did transportation and it is important that they accept our documents and they are willing to provide the supports and they were a little argumentative about wanting to pull things out and we were adamant in keeping them in because we know the kids. Kunz asked if that was because of staffing. Supt. Mosca stated that it becomes about IEP and what is in it. Nelson stated that it takes time to see how things fall into place and someone will have to keep an eye on that. Kunz stated that if we had 15 kids or 2 kids we still have a cost and that cost may not be any different. It is like having a store and you may have 5,000 customers or 1 but it is about keeping the store open. Supt. Mosca stated that it depends on what the service is, you could have 15 with minimal services and two with large services. Kunz stated that he is afraid that if we get too far into the weeds we will identify kids and if we have an understanding that we have the staff to address the needs as they are that is satisfactory to me. Robinson stated that he is not trying to identify students, the breakdown is to compare our costs versus the a la carte so if administration could break ours down as if it was based on the a la carte pricing. He stated that it is about cost and what it would cost in an a la carte environment. Supt. Mosca stated that they can take the IEP and break it down for RGS with the a la carte menu. Nelson stated that as we all understand the budget better is there any other specific things that we want further information on. Robinson stated that he would like to start seeing the proposed budgets and what we could look at for reductions in cost. Supt. Mosca stated that she and Kate have been meeting so they will be ready to present some options but some will be public and some will be nonpublic. Nelson stated that these are discussions not plans but we should start the conversation as

soon as possible because October will be here before we know it. Supt. Mosca stated that they will be ready to present at the next board meeting.

3. **Adjournment:** The workshop closed at 7:55pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval