

1. **Call to Order-Roll Call- Pledge of Allegiance:** Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and upon call of the roll the following board members were present: Kunz, Nelson, Anderson, Leach and Robinson.
2. **Comments by Visitors:** None
3. **Consent Calendar**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent Calendar:** Robinson asked that the enrollment be removed from the consent calendar. Nelson stated that it will be moved to 5.10.
 - 3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Robinson seconded by Anderson to approve the consent calendar as amended. Approved were:
 - **September 15th 2015- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board**
4. **Announcements:** Nelson stated that she attended family fun day and the cleanup day and there was great participation of staff and community members and it was great to see everyone out. She stated that last night they had their first joint meeting with Marshwood and it went well and they will hold it four times a year. Supt. Mosca stated that she would like to welcome Tyler Schontag as the new student representative for Marshwood.
5. **Discussion Items:**
 - 5.1 **SAU 56 Team Report:** Supt. Mosca stated that the report is in the packet if anyone has any questions. Nelson stated that she appreciates the names attached to the report.
 - 5.2 **Principal Update:** Nelson stated that there was no calendar attached to the newsletter. Lucas stated that the parents get one but this is more about highlighting the work they have been doing. She stated that there is one online.
 - 5.3 **Marshwood Student Representative-Tyler Schontag:** Schontag stated that the transition is going well and they can't tell the Rollinsford kids from everyone else. There is a football game tomorrow and a play in a couple of months; it will be Miracle on 34th street. Nelson stated that what they are looking for is any upcoming events that you think that the board should be aware of.
 - 5.4 **Rollinsford Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Bailey Haines stated that the dig pink volleyball game in support of Jess Noonan a graduate from Somersworth who has breast cancer is tomorrow at 5:30, it is \$5.00 to get in and the team is doing great. She stated that the last home football game is on October 30th and field hockey has ended. She stated that there is a marching band show at Dover on Saturday at 6:00pm. She stated that student council is doing community groups with the elderly and children. They will be holding a veteran luncheon for the elderly and they will be reading to the kids at Idlehurst. She stated that the spirit week and rally went really well. She stated that the freshman are selling flower bulbs and had a booth at pumpkin festival, the sophomores also did the pumpkin festival, a car wash, a mixed bag fundraiser, a margaritas fundraiser on October 25th and a Texas roadhouse fundraiser in November, the Juniors are selling pies and hosting the Halloween dance and the seniors are doing a video game night in November and they

booked their senior banquet at spring hill. She stated that NHS is inducting 17 new members at 6:00pm on the 19th.

- 5.5 **Marshwood Buses:** Nelson stated that they made a decision to not run a late bus on Thursday and they need to get more information on that. Supt. Mosca stated that she has the cost which is \$53.59 per bus times 30 weeks for a total of approximately \$3200. Robinson stated that he would like to see us spend that. Watching the bus numbers he can see that the Thursday morning bus has less participation on it but he is willing to spend that to get them to school on time. Anderson stated that we could eliminate the Monday late bus to help offset that cost because looking at the data the counts are lower. Kunz stated that the clubs are going to start full throttle and we don't have a lot of experience yet. Anderson stated that Monday's seem lower so it is just a thought. Nelson stated that she would prefer not to take anything away until they have more experience. Leach stated that for those kids who use it, it is important. Nelson stated that has anyone received any feedback on not having the late Thursday bus. Leach stated that parents are not happy that the kids had to go early. She stated that she heard from one person who has a high school student that has a free period first so they get there three hours early which is absurd. She stated that she is in support of adding. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Leach to add the additional two buses for Thursday not to exceed \$4,000. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously. Supt. Mosca stated that they will be ready to start next Thursday. They will change the schedule in all the appropriate places. The bus company will start letting the kids know.
- 5.6 **Moving Board Meetings from 3rd Thursday to the 2nd Thursday:** Nelson stated that the reason for this is due to the school vacation schedule and if we leave them the way they are in February and April some school is always on vacation so to be consistent they thought they would move them to the 2nd Thursday. Robinson stated that he is in as long as he can call in sometimes. Kunz stated that he would prefer not to do it until the after the first of the year. Nelson stated that they will start in February. February 11th will be the first meeting.
- 5.7 **Science NECAP Scores:** Supt. Mosca stated that they take this test once a year in the spring for grades 4, 8 and 11 so these are the fourth grade scores for the last four years. She stated that this test will be around for one more year and then it will be gone. She stated that for 2014/2015 the scores were Proficient- 45%, Partially Proficient- 50% and Substantially below Proficient- 5%. The state average is Proficient- 48%, Partially Proficient- 40% and Substantially below Proficient- 10%. She stated that we are doing well and this is only one snapshot in time.
- 5.8 **RFQ Results Food Service:** Nelson asked why Fitz is so much higher. D'Agostino stated that they are not well versed in NH and they have a few schools in Vermont. She stated that they had four firms come out to the pre-visit, Café Services, Chartwell's, Fitz Vogt and Abbey Group. She stated that they did request a second walk through while school was in session. Only two companies put in bids, café Services and Fitz Vogt. She stated that Café Services did two proposals. Rollinsford runs into the negative because the participation isn't high and two grids show with the current staff that have been here prior to us outsourcing and

because of their longevity the rate is higher than if they would hire in the market. So they are just showing that you would have a savings if they were to hire in the market. Nelson asked if we have to pick one of those proposals. D'Agostino stated no, they just wanted to show you why you are in the negative. She stated that the revenues are estimated and the cost is estimated the only known is the administrative fees because we know we will pay those no matter how much revenue we bring in. A motion made by Leach seconded by Robinson to suspend board rules to take action on this tonight. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Leach to accept the proposal from Café Services. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

- 5.9 **RFP-Transportation Services:** Robinson stated that we just added two additional buses so we will have to update that. Nelson stated that for discussion, do we have to use the same carrier to Marshwood as Somersworth. She stated that Marshwood said they wanted to be included but they may only be interested in 7-12. Robinson stated that if Marshwood picks that up then we would need a second proposal for RGS. Supt. Mosca stated that it is one RFP. D'Agostino stated that you would have an addendum and you could do it as one but we need to know the direction. Leach stated that you could have everyone do two prices. Nelson stated that Marshwood may not be interest at all. Kunz asked how many companies are out there. D'Agostino stated that there is one other company called Student Transportation of America that is out of Massachusetts. Kunz stated that we have to consider if there is problem we may have a place that is not local and what happens if we have a problem with the driver. D'Agostino stated that it is all covered in the RFP. Supt. Mosca stated that we could do one and leave it open to bid on part or whole it would be up to them. Robinson stated that his concern is that if we put an alternative out there and Marshwood bids on 7-12 and first student bids on everything and how that will work. D'Agostino stated that they would have to bid on whole or part. Robinson stated that we need to have a discussion as a board on Somersworth transportation and decide if we want to provide it. Nelson stated that we are not legally bound to transport high school students. She stated that we can have that discussion but we opened up the opportunity and we have to be mindful that we can't make it impossible for students to get there. Anderson stated that we were one of the families that had to make a choice between Somersworth and Marshwood and she was under the impression that we would have to make sure that he could get there but she is not sure how others felt. She stated that as the kids get older they find other means. Supt. Mosca stated that next year we have 23 in Somersworth. Nelson stated that there are 5-10 students riding in the morning and there is a high of 12 riding in the afternoon. Robinson stated that these students could transfer to Marshwood at any point. He stated that he is willing to say that not have transportation to Somersworth. He stated that he would like to see us not add it to the RFP. Nelson stated that are there other options, it says three buses. Supt. Mosca stated that because of the spread of the town three buses is needed. For example we have a student living out on Pinecrest and they are leaving Marshwood and picking them up at the grade school and coming home. She stated it delays them getting here a couple of minutes but those kids are on the bus until 4:15pm. Nelson stated that she doesn't want to see RGS impacted so she is sorry to hear that. Supt.

Mosca stated that to cut it to two buses for RGS would be tight. Nelson stated that maybe we would only need one for the other run. Kunz stated that we should do the right thing and provide Somersworth transportation. We have the late buses running with lower participation. We are trying to provide education for kids and unfortunately that includes transportation and we made a decision to let students finish their years at Somersworth and we can't assume that they all have cars. We need to take the pulse of the parents. He stated that we are getting extra buses for Marshwood. Nelson stated that she doesn't want to close any doors, there should be three sections of RGS and work everything else around that. Robinson asked why we are making the decision on bus counts, can we leave it open on the options. D'Agostino stated that they are going to bid on the number of buses that you are requesting. Supt. Mosca stated that it is based on routes and dropping and exchange and there are a variety of pieces we are doing to accommodate. Leach stated that why are we pretending we know what we need. D'Agostino stated that the bus company recommends. Leach stated that if we go to a new company why don't we say you tell us how many we need. Supt. Mosca stated that the current company says two buses doing Marshwood and let them do the middle and high school, then they say do six buses, one doing Somersworth, one doing Marshwood Middle School and one doing Marshwood high school and then three buses doing the grade school. Right now we have three buses that we are trying to fit in all the pieces. She stated that six buses is what is needed if we want the grade school separate from the other arraignment and they are willing to accommodate but we are trying to work under budget constraints. Nelson asked if we can decide the size of the bus. D'Agostino stated no it is the same cost. Robinson asked how long the contract is for. D'Agostino stated three years with the option to renew for a total of five. Robinson stated that he disagrees with Tom and he feels we should do two buses to Marshwood and three to RGS and not do Somersworth and put the bid out and do it correctly. He stated that if the students going to Somersworth have an issue with transportation they can go to our school of record. Leach asked how many Somersworth kids ride the bus. Nelson stated 5-10 in the morning and 12 in the afternoon. Leach stated so on average 1/3 ride the bus so next year there will be 22 kids so we will be providing a bus for 7 kids. Robinson stated that and to add to that those seven kids may live on seven points of Rollinsford. Nelson stated that come winter there may be more taking the bus. She stated that she may feel better getting Somersworth as a separate section. D'Agostino stated that past practice with first student is that the pay for the three buses is the same to transport to Somersworth and that is where you save money. If the board wants three for the grade school they could use those for Somersworth and then add two for Marshwood. Lucas stated that the bus is already going through Somersworth so that could be why it doesn't cost anything. Leach stated that she hates the idea of leaving people high and dry. Anderson stated that we can talk to folks and see if they are planning on taking the bus. Robinson stated that the tax payers made it clear that Marshwood was the school of record and he doesn't feel we should provide it. Nelson stated that they need to know the cost to do it correct with three buses for RGS and two for Marshwood. Lucas stated that the cost of buses is outrageous and if you are looking at cutting personnel to accommodate a budget and if that means that

she comes and sits with the kids here to save personnel she will do that if that means doing three instead of five. Robinson stated that this year we had to change the times and when it comes to you with 100 students you will need support. Kunz stated that we need to consider including the Somersworth kids that are remaining. It may be the same buses used right here. Yes the school of record is Marshwood but we have kids that are still going to Somersworth and we need to revisit what we have envisioned transportation to be. He stated that we may only have 1/3 of the kids take the bus but we only have five kids on the late buses. We need to think about what is the right thing to do. Kids want to finish their time there and we need to get them there, we have a responsibility to do that. Nelson stated that we want the RFP in three sections. Robinson stated that we should have three buses to RGS and two Marshwood buses and then see what the cost would be to handle Somersworth with those three RGS buses and we need to add the late bus to Marshwood and we need to state that we may split the bus contracts. Supt. Mosca stated that if we look at just three buses, tonight we added two extra on Thursday morning. With three buses one can go to Somersworth and get back to Rollinsford. The two buses heading to Marshwood is tight and we are right back in the same situation if we only bid three buses it doesn't fit the need. Leach stated that can we do three buses with the additional two on Thursdays. Supt. Mosca stated that you have to think about is one bus going to be enough as enrollment goes up. D'Agostino stated that we won't go out to bid until you look at this again. She will create a draft and have it reviewed again. Supt. Mosca stated that it will go back on the agenda at the next meeting. Nelson stated that on page 6 number 12 it says four mid-day kindergarten buses and we need to remove that. D'Agostino stated that on the last page it has it included in the breakout in case you need to add it. Nelson stated that on the same page number 8 it states that it must say Rollinsford on the side, do we need to do that. D'Agostino stated that most schools do that.

5.10 **Enrollment:** Robinson stated that last night at the joint meeting the total enrollment was off by 11, he quoted 58 but it is actually 47 so he wanted to make that known. He stated that he would like the enrollment that was given out tonight added to the minutes.

Total Enrollment- Rollinsford Middle and High School- 133.5

Total Enrollment- Marshwood School District- 95

Total Enrollment-Somersworth School District- 38.5

Marshwood Middle School:

Grade 7-22

Grade 8-26

Total- 48

Marshwood High School:

Grade 9- 28

Grade 10- 7

Grade 11- 10

Grade 12- 2

Total- 47

Somersworth High School:

Grade 10-12
Grade 11-11.5
Grade 12-15
Total-38.5

6. Action Items

6.1 Resolutions NHSBA: None

7. Financial Update:

7.1 Budget: Nelson stated that she had a question on what school board services is. D'Agostino stated that it is for your NHSBA dues. Robinson stated that we are showing an available balance of approximately \$180,000 but when we prepare the budget for next year we are not showing that savings. D'Agostino stated that on the detail behind this it shows a budget of \$2.4 million and we have spent \$301,000 to date and we have encumbered \$961,351 and you have \$1.2 million left. She stated that all the highlighted areas she encumbers manually. Things such as supplies that we haven't spent yet. We only encumber what we know. Supt. Mosca stated that we only encumbered what we know and what is available hasn't been spent yet, that will decrease as the months go on.

8. New Business: Kunz stated that we need to talk about plowing at the theatre. Supt. Mosca stated that she has been trying to get ahold of them but when she talked to Lisa from First Student she said they were going to do it but she needs to confirm and we will go from there. Anderson asked if Grainge Hall was the bus company's idea. Supt. Mosca stated that the bus company made the contact because the timing is really tight. Nelson stated that Charlie Putnam the new chair of the budget committee would like to join us for a meeting. She stated that she would also like to invite Kate Salvati the district treasurer also.

9. Old Business:

9.1 Community Building Sub Committee: None

10. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- **October 21 2015- MSAD 35 Board Meeting**
- **November 4 2015- MSAD 35 Board Meeting**
- **November 16 2015- SAU 56 Board Meeting**
- **November 18 2015- MSAD 35 Board Meeting**
- **November 19 2015- Rollinsford School Board Meeting**

11. School Events:

12. Closing Comments:

12.1 Visitors: Celia Leopold stated that there is no legal requirement to provide transportation to kids in Somersworth so it is a great idea to talk to parents. She stated that if I were to send my kids to Berwick Academy I would not expect transportation to be provided. She asked if the elementary school and the high school is talking and communicating if there is not enough time. Keeping the kids here is a great idea and if you get that out to people you will get support. She stated that in the past you haven't had a bus for the people who live across the tracks on Church Street and Water Street is it worth having a bus go there or would it be more cost efficient to get a crossing guard. She asked if

they were going to ask Marshwood to put Rollinsford District on the buses if they come to bid. Nelson stated that Marshwood changed their ending time without consulting with us and the staff here scrambled to make it work and it is great that we have such flexible staff to accommodate that. Kunz stated that the discussion to changing to Thursday with the late start, he understands why they do it but if we are part of that community it has be the same concessions to work something out with them on that. Celia Leopold stated that she grew up in Vermont and they had five towns go to one high school and they all managed to get us there at the right time, we should be able to create communication. Nelson stated that we are renters now and we don't have a lot of leeway. Tracey Laurion stated that she would like to voice her opinion on the buses, she has a Somersworth junior and he is not a driver and we are trying to get rides whenever possible. She stated that they moved to the town twelve years ago and Somersworth was the school of choice and they made the choice to stay. She stated that we are adding buses to Marshwood and she thinks a bus to bring kids that need to go to Somersworth even if 7 or 8 kids need the bus it is our responsibility to finish the three year stay. She stated that we started this process and these kids in Somersworth didn't have a choice where to start school. She stated that sometimes there are only seven kids on a late bus and you didn't even discuss it but you poo pooped Somersworth stuff because it is not the school of record. There are still 40 kids in Somersworth and they are still part of the Somersworth tuition and she doesn't want to see us poo pooing this. It is not a possibility for some to go to Marshwood due to what they are involved in and for me pulling JT out of a school it meant pulling him out of clubs and it was not an easy decision and she gets upset seeing you say Marshwood, Marshwood but then nothing for the 40 kids in Somersworth who are feeling strong. Nelson stated that they are not taking this lightly and when we make a decision it won't be a light decision.

12.2 Board Members: Robinson stated that we are outsourcing our education grades 7-12 and we lose a lot of ability to negotiate and manipulate outside the contract and we can have conversations and it would be nice to be included but if it is not in the contract it doesn't have to happen. He stated that he was not here when they voted on the late bus and he wants to revisit that because he is not sure he supports it. He stated that they started it and the numbers are picking up so it is premature to start a conversation today. He stated that the Rollinsford School Board 2015 mission statement is that we are actively pursuing keeping education in Rollinsford Grade School. In order to accomplish this, we are aggressively looking to reduce operating costs and asking the tough questions regarding the budget. He stated that he does that a lot ask questions that are difficult. He stated that he made the inference to reducing staff and he is looking to do that. He stated that we have to have an affordable education in Rollinsford or we are going to lose education in Rollinsford. He stated that there are some things we are obligated and required to provide and he is interested to see the RFP and he hopes it comes in our favor. He stated that he is asking the tough questions and you can come back with this is impossible or this is the impact. He stated that he doesn't want to see warrant articles to shut down the school so he will look for every nickel and dime to cut with still providing education in this town. Anderson stated that she has been hearing from parents in Eliot and South Berwick that they are not pleased

with late start and she is hoping that they will change that for us. Lucas stated that the idea is for professional learning for adults, ours is spaced out by full days. It is a dilemma for all schools and districts are tackling it in different ways. Leach stated thank you to the RGS staff for being flexible in helping with the transition and staying later so the kids are safe here out of the kindness of your hearts. My sincere gratitude for making this situation easier for us. Nelson stated that we are starting a three year transition and there will be more bumps in the road and it is not over just because we started school. Tracey Laurion asked when the contract with Marshwood started. Nelson stated that it started in July 2015.

13 Non-Public: A motion made by Robinson seconded by Anderson to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with chapter 91-A: 3 II (a) Student Issue and II (b) Personnel (e) Negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into nonpublic session at 8:15pm. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Anderson to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 9:04pm.

14 Adjournment: A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval