

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 (via phone).
2. **Comments by Visitors:** Jody Lavoie Carnes stated that she is here to talk about the robo call issue from the other day. She stated that town's people asked her about it and she didn't get it the call and there is an RSA and you were within your right and what I say won't change your mind but the perception was that it didn't go out to everyone and we are trying to bring the community together. She stated that she was told that she can't go on the list to get the calls because my kids aren't in school yet but she wanted them to know that the perception is that you are segregating people and that is not how we want to treat anyone in town. She stated that you have to do it for everyone. She stated that she does want to thank them for all they do. Celia Leopold stated that robo calls are just the numbers that are provided to you correct. Nelson stated yes there is a list of numbers that get called.
3. **Consent Calendar**
  - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent Calendar:** None
  - 3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Leach to approve the consent calendar as presented. Approved were:
    - January 21<sup>st</sup> 2016- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board
    - Rollinsford Grade School Newsletter- January
    - Letter from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, Peter Michaud
    - Enrollment-February
4. **Announcements:** Supt. Mosca stated that she wanted to remind everyone that it is school vacation week next week in Rollinsford. Nelson stated that they had the joint meeting with Marshwood last night and her observation on how the students are doing align nice with the survey. She stated that she did get a call from the Marshwood chair and they didn't think the tone of the meeting was productive and she will be sending an email and it will be made public.
5. **Discussion Items:**
  - 5.1 **Principal Update:** Supt. Mosca stated that they had a visit here today that went well. She stated that they are moving forward with the PACE work and that is going well. Leach asked why people are visiting. Supt. Mosca stated that they are looking at the co-teaching model. They had six people come today from SAU 50. Nelson stated that there are a lot of visits happening because of the educational model that is happening here.
  - 5.2 **Marshwood Student Representative-Tyler Schontag:** None
  - 5.3 **Rollinsford Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Bailey Haines stated that on January 22<sup>nd</sup> the student council had the winter semi-formal. She stated that on February 4<sup>th</sup> they had the winter conference with student council from the southern district. She stated that on February 6<sup>th</sup> they had the Mr. SHS pageant and it was great to see all the contestants strut their stuff and the winner was actually a girl dressed as a guy. She stated

that they will also be having a wheelchair basketball game in May. She stated that National Honor Society is doing pennies for patients and on February 18<sup>th</sup> they will be holding a spaghetti dinner from 5-6 and all the donations will be going to a student with leukemia. She stated that the math team has a meet on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Winnacunnet. She stated that the drama club will be having rehearsals after school and will do All Shook Up in April. She stated that they will have a new club called the STEAM club and they had their first meeting today. She stated for sports the boys basketball team is playing tomorrow at 7pm. She stated that the girl's senior night is next Wednesday at 6pm and they have a good chance to make the playoffs. She stated that the hockey team has a home game on Saturday at 4pm. She stated that the freshman class is doing a fundraiser for the American Heart Association and the humane society. She stated that they are also selling snacks after school and are getting ready for March Madness basketball game which is seniors versus staff. She stated that the sophomore class is holding a valentine's dance on February 12<sup>th</sup> and are thinking about prom themes and venues and doing fundraisers. She stated that the junior class did the prom fashion show on February 6<sup>th</sup> and it was a really great fundraiser. She stated that they are also planning prom which is on May 21<sup>st</sup> and the theme is all around the world. She stated that the senior class is selling carnations for Valentine's Day and are waiting for a date for graduation.

5.4 **Survey Rollinsford Grade School Parents:** Leach stated that they received 40 responses out of 104 which is a fantastic return rate. She stated that the overwhelming response was fantastic. She stated that they asked questions on how they fit in socially, how prepared they were academically and if they take part in extracurricular activities. She stated that they had very few negative responses and the parents felt they were welcome in the school and for the most part on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being best there was nothing below a 4. She stated that they will have more accurate numbers once they go through them. Nelson thanked them for putting it together. She stated that in terms of the robo calls she heard the concerns and they felt that that different information was going out and she assured them that it was not that it was just when where and why. She stated that they would like to open it up a bit to make it open to the town so they can use it for meetings so more people get information for the meetings. Anderson stated that they would receive all calls. Supt. Mosca stated that it was set up to be a way to reach families. She stated that anyone can get it but they will get the 4:45 call for snow and anytime we use it. The cost is based on student enrollment. Nelson stated that we could add only the people who want to be added. Supt. Mosca stated that in the morning when she makes the call for cancelling school she sends it out as an emergency so it takes all the numbers associated with the students and then some people will call and say they don't want to get the call. We can't pick and choose who gets what. Robinson stated that the attorney general said what we did was legal. He stated that the idea behind the robo call is not to have the entire town of Rollinsford on it that is not the intent. He stated that he would like to see this go to the community building committee to figure out a long term solution. He stated that this is used for school events and those meetings were school sponsored events and we are well within our means to let parents of students know. He stated that before we start adding

people with no students in school that is not the intent behind the system just because there is a loop hole for us to do that. Leach stated that she would have to agree with Alan, she agrees with getting the information out to more people but it is not the school's responsibility to notify everyone in the town. It is the town's responsibility to notify people about town stuff and that is not the function of that system. She stated that if people continue to rely on the school to get information then where is that line. Kunz stated that it is driven by a very misguided misconception that there was inappropriate content. He stated that the idea of us having to do it if the town wants to do it let them contact residents. This was just an information call that there was a meeting and we contacted parents to let them know what was going on there was no content to it and it got blown out of proportion. Leach stated that we could post what was said in the call for transparency because this is the environment we are in and we can't ignore it. Kunz stated we could post what was read. Supt. Mosca stated that is what we do, we usually say what is happening and when. Anderson stated how we can get around this whole thing again. Kunz stated that if the town wants to do it they can but he doesn't think we need to take it on. Nelson stated that it is the consensus of the board to keep going the way we are so we will not be opening it up to residents. Robinson stated that his point on saying that he doesn't think that they should involve the town is the same reason he came off of it, it drives you crazy. 105 of the calls affect me and that is his concern of adding others. He stated that the whole scenario is political in nature due to the warrant article about shutting down the school. Kunz stated that it is very coincidental and it is very unfortunate the stuff that has been completely erroneous that has been said. He stated that those calls are for parents to let them know what is going on. Nelson stated that we will use it for school events and go forward that way.

## **6. Action Items:**

**6.1 2016-2017 Rollinsford Grade School Calendar:** Leach stated that doesn't Marshwood start after Labor Day and asked why we aren't. Supt. Mosca stated that we go 177 days and they only go 175 so we have to get some extra days in. She stated that we will start the last week in August with the first day on the 31<sup>st</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> and then we will have the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> off. She stated that we will still have in service days in October, December and March. She stated that the vacations and holidays will follow Marshwood. A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to accept the calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

## **7. Financial Update:**

**7.1 Budget:** Robinson stated that the budget passed the presentation and will go on the ballot as is. He stated that in this environment we are in that is very important because it shows the hard work that went into it and we have more work to do but the town and the budget committee appreciates the work everyone is doing. Nelson stated that we have a copy of the current budget in the packet. Robinson asked what the available balance looks like. Nelson stated that at the moment we have \$131,000. Robinson stated that he wants the board to be thinking about how to use or not use that money. Nelson stated that they moved it to the March discussion and we will have a list of things we want to add. Supt. Mosca stated that we had two more students move from south Berwick to Rollinsford and

one has special education costs. Anderson stated did anyone foresee this happening. Nelson stated we are up to 12 now, we didn't anticipate this many. Supt. Mosca stated that there is the potential of three more, we are waiting for confirmation. Robinson stated that is what happens when you have a great school system. He stated that there was a conversation on if property values would be affected and they probably will. D'Agostino stated that this is a transition year for everything but moving forward in the next year maybe we should be budgeting a contingency for this. She stated that we were able to catch the nine right before we finished the budget and now there is possibly five more so it may be something to look at in the following budget year.

## **8. New Business:**

### **8.1 Feedback Delegate Assembly: None**

**8.2 Facebook Discussion:** Nelson stated that she would like to have a discussion around Facebook. She stated that Emily and I had a conversation and now we have a Facebook page and we should talk about whether or not we want to continue. She stated that she is not a Facebook person but everything she has read about having a Rollinsford Board page is that we are still held to legal liability as a group. Leach asked regarding what. Nelson stated that she is not sure if there is a disclaimer but as an organization we are obligated to answer questions and we can only answer them as a board once a month. Supt. Mosca stated that typically when you set up a page it is one way communication to get information out. She stated that the issue is with two way communication you lose the protocol and the process becomes a way for people to their questions answered that might skip steps. She stated that if were saying here are the bus stops and if I am out and the bus doesn't come and you go on Facebook and we respond we haven't called the bus company and there are steps that are skipped and more people get involved in solving the problem. She stated that when it becomes two way communication there is a whole chain of command that gets passed over. She stated that she assumed we set up one way communication just to post information. She stated that we have talked a lot about coming to meetings and if everyone is on Facebook getting questions answered they don't have to come here and it would be helpful for them to hear the discussions that happen and all of that gets skipped. She stated that it also becomes public documents and we have to post because there is board work being conducted. Robinson stated that the board has not authorized an official Facebook page but there is a citizen on the board who created the page as a citizen and they can do whatever they want to do. He stated that until we sponsor a page we don't have an issue. He stated that the same communication happens over the phone when a constituent calls so just because it is on Facebook that is nothing new. He stated that having a forum like Facebook is a great thing because it allows parents to get information. Leach stated that there is a page called Rolly moms which is a closed group and parents will post to that regarding the bus and I will personally say what is going on and when I asked Judy to create a Rollinsford board page it is to post meetings, there has never been two way communication but I have responded. Supt. Mosca stated that if you're responding you are an elected official you can only function in the capacity of the board if the board has given you the authority. Robinson stated that we have not given authority; right now we have a

board member who has an outreach tool so we need to make it clear that it is not a board sanctioned site. Anderson stated that she hadn't thought about these things. Leach stated that the reason to have the page is to distinguish that she doesn't want them to see me as the speaker for the board. She stated that she is speaking for herself and that is why she set up the board page so there is a greater understanding that when I speak as Emily Leach it is me and when I answer for the board. Nelson asked if she can make it an unofficial page and make it only information out. Leach stated that it is nice to have the information out there if they can't come to the meeting.

**8.3 Mailer:** Nelson stated that this is the last meeting before the March election and traditionally we have done a mailer and she would like to get consensus on working on a mailer. She stated that we had the public hearing today and we clearly stated that we did not recommend that and it is the consensus of the board that we don't recommend either petition warrant article. Robinson asked if we can make that statement. Nelson stated that we can't put it on the ballot but we can put it in a flyer. Leach stated that we could have one mailer and then a response to the warrant articles on the town site. Nelson stated that we don't want to overwhelm the town with mailers either and there is a cost and time element to them. Supt. Mosca stated that if things need to be prepared there is a time issue, next week is vacation week for Rollinsford and some SAU folks are on vacation the following week. Leach stated that she will get her something by Wednesday.

**9. Old Business:**

**9.1 Community Building Sub Committee:** None

**9.2 Transportation:** Anderson stated that a bus here is coming really late like 3:30. Supt. Mosca stated that she hasn't heard anything from Kate. Becky Wright stated that bus #1 comes at 3:25 or sometimes later. Supt. Mosca stated that she will look into it. She stated that next year we will have five buses, three dedicated to the grade school and two dedicated to Marshwood so we will have no issues next year. Nelson stated that in regards to the late bus we made a decision to run it all year to get a sense of how it goes but it is very erratic and in order to get the cost down to \$2.50 a student we need 80 riders a day. Robinson stated that the late bus numbers are dismal and they should consider as they move forward the option for charging to take the late bus. He stated that we can supplement but we told the town we were looking at keeping costs down. Nelson stated that they will look into it. Supt. Mosca stated that maybe you could look at doing three days a week versus four. Kunz stated that we don't know what spring will hold. Supt. Mosca stated that if we change the times we run into not having supervision for kids.

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

- **February 24<sup>th</sup> 2016- MSAD 35 School Board Meeting**
- **March 2 2016- MSAD 35 School Board Meeting**
- **March 10 2016- Rollinsford School Board Meeting**
- **March 16 2016- MSAD 35 School Board Meeting**

**11. School Events:**

**12. Closing Comments:**

**12.1 Visitors:** Celia Leopold stated that in regards to the robo calls she did bring it up to the town and it is possible that the public service agencies have a service so they are looking into that so if you need more information check the selectman minutes. Charlie Dionne stated that some old timers remember in the 80's where bad things went home that wasn't supposed to and that is why a lot of us had problems with it. Lynn Spencer asked if they put out calls out for town meetings. Nelson stated that it was just for the school deliberative session. Spencer stated that wouldn't it be easier just to keep the calls for school cancellations and not call people to let them know about the school deliberative session, there are other ways to do it and it gives the same fair chance for everyone. Becky Wright stated that she enjoyed the meeting last night, tom's comment on rolling up the sleeves and having conversations even though we may not agree. She stated that she truly appreciated that comment and it needs to be heard. Nancy Dionne asked if the budget will be made available to the public. D'Agostino stated that if people want a copy they can get one. Spencer asked what the late bus is. Nelson stated that there is a bus that runs for middle and high school after school if students stay for sports or after school activities. Spencer stated that costs extra. Nelson stated this year yes. Spencer stated that when her kids went to school, we drove them and picked them up so perhaps these parents could do the same. Nelson stated that we are looking at this in case we decide to keep it. Leach stated that the concern was the south Berwick and Eliot have this service so this was our attempt to give our kids the same opportunities that the other kids have. She stated that we have started it out and see how it goes and give it a year. Nelson stated that it is not a huge amount of money it is about \$3,000. Anderson stated that we chose to send the students there and Marshwood has it. Nancy Dionne stated that last night they heard that Marshwood is teaching kids differently in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade so when they are in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade they know different things like algebra and asked if we are implementing that here so our students flow easier into the system in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Nelson stated no, we have an education system here that works well for our students here and they have an education system there that we will meld into. Leach stated that the parent survey that we sent out they felt that they were academically prepared and it was overwhelmingly positive. Anderson stated that as we get more discussions we are hoping they get the opportunity to share what they are doing here. Nelson stated that we did not prepare our students on how Somersworth taught so we will not prepare them for another district. Supt. Mosca stated that we do what is age appropriate and educationally sound for our student and our philosophy is that we accept the student for who they are and move them forward and she would hope the same went with other districts as well. Celia Leopold asked where she could find information on school standings. Nelson stated that she would check the NH Department of Education website. Supt. Mosca stated that they don't do standings anymore because there has been a shift in education to more local control. She stated that once the waiver is done in August and we have the new ESSA there is a new accountability system and one push is to move away from comparing schools because that is not what assessments are made for they are made to see how a student is doing not one school versus another.

**12.2 Board Members:** Robinson thanked the board members who are up for election and he hopes that he sees them back. Kunz stated that he appreciated the meeting last night but he is disappointed to hear their comments that they felt it was unproductive because he thought it was very productive. He stated that we are two different planets trying to meet in the middle and he hopes that they can provide specifics on why it was not productive and what they expect the next meeting to look like and what we as a board expect it to look like. Anderson stated that she hopes that the voters can see we have a lot of work out and we need time and she hopes that they don't rush into a decision and that we will continue the cost savings.

**13 Non-Public:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Leach 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 7:50pm. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Leach to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:35pm. A motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunz to accept the resignation of David Sprague. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

**14 Adjournment:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Leach to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval