

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

February 9th, 2016

CTC Conference Room

6:45 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Austin called the meeting to order at 6:45pm upon call of the roll the following members were present: Rivers, Austin, Brennan, Hanlon, Collins, Hiller, Pepin, Gibson and Bolduc. Austin stated that they are excited about the live broadcast tonight at the CTC and he would like to thank everyone who helped out to get it ready.
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** None
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent calendar:** None
 - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Collins seconded by Brennan to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - January 26th 2016- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Budget Workshop
 - January 26th 2016- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - Dylan Zinkevich-State of NH Second Place Essay Winner
 - Enrollment-February
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that Maple Wood made it to the first round of the Eddy's and they went and presented last week and they got the call that they are moving to the second round and the selection committee will be coming to Maple Wood on March 4th for a site visit so we are very excited to have them come. She also thanked Bill Rogers, Colby, Steve Gagnon, Lori Lane and the tech crew for making this broadcast happen because it was a huge undertaking. Bolduc asked what the Eddy's are. Supt. Mosca stated that it is given to schools of excellence. Maple Wood applied for the elementary branch and through a selection process they were selected for the first round and now they will do a site visit in March and from there the selection committee will determine if they are selected and if so there will be a celebration in June. Jackie Hanlon stated that each November the veteran's host a writing contest called the Patriots Pen and the topic was What Freedom Means to Me. 125,000 students enter each year. She stated that there is a local contest, district, state and national competition. She stated that Dylan Zinkevich won in December and received a certificate and \$125 for the local level and then went on to the district level and won and received \$100 and then went on to the state level and took second place in the state. She stated that they couldn't be more proud of Dylan and thankful to the VFW for engaging students in real life opportunities that they can get engaged in. She stated that he also received other awards and in total received \$525.00. She stated that Dylan read his essay at the veteran's ceremony, and shared it with the students and he will share it with you tonight. She stated that he is an excellent role model for the SMS community with academics, athletics, music and leadership and he truly embodies what it means to be a hilltopper. Dylan Zinkevich read the following essay: *The Oxford Dictionary defines freedom as "the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance, or restraint." In America, we have these freedoms, and it is our job to not take them for granted. To me freedom means to say what we want to say, go where we want to go, and to believe what we want to believe. Not all other countries have these freedoms. For example, in the Middle East a kid in the Middle School might have to walk through a war zone to get to school. They would be in fear if they didn't say the right thing they could be punished, and many people are killed for practicing the religion they believe in. Luckily for me, the most dangerous thing I encounter walking to school might be a broken bottle or traffic. This is because in American we have the "right to act, speak or think as one wants"; in America we have freedom. President Ronald Reagan said "Freedom is never more than one generation from extinction." To me, this reminds me that our freedom can be taken away at any time, and that freedom is not free. The reason we have freedom is all possible because of the brave men and women that risk their lives to ensure our safety, and protect our freedom. If it weren't for them, then our freedoms would be challenged by people who want to see America's success turn into failure. These*

brave soldiers make it possible for me to get an education, and for family to be safe and happy. I am so grateful to these people who protect us at all costs, and allow me to be free. The Nobel Prize winner Albert Camus said "Freedom is nothing but a chance to be better." To me, this means that we have a responsibility to use our freedoms for a good purpose. We need to act, speak and think in a positive way, and use our freedom to help make America better. Austin presented Dylan with a certificate.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

5.1 Elementary Re-Organization Presentation: See attached presentation. Supt. Mosca stated that they have spent nine months looking at both elementary schools and how we could do business a little differently in order to be more effective and efficient. She stated that we have a lot of work to do because our goal is to move forward with this for the upcoming school year. Hiller stated that they will need some paras to help and asked if that will also come from title I. Supt. Mosca stated yes it will come from Title I. Austin stated that as a result of full day kindergarten it could boost test scores. Supt. Mosca stated that college and career ready standards are made on the fact that kindergarten students are there a full day so we are behind the eight ball but by having the day we can expand what we can do for the students academically, socially and emotionally. Hiller asked if they will include nap time. Supt. Mosca stated no, they don't have it now and they will have specials. She stated that it will be a full day to allow for experience learning and for project based learning which we can't do now. Nikki Kinneavy stated that they don't need nap time but they do need down time with learning play and socialization which is what they are missing now.

5.2 BOARD REPORTS:

Building, Grounds & Transportation: None

Curriculum and Activities: None

Policy Committee: None

5.3 City Council Update: None

5.4 Student Representative Report-Cassidy Akatyszewski: None

6. ACTION ITEM:

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee: None

8.2 Budget: None

8.3 JBC Update-Ken Bolduc: None

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- February 15th 2016- Public Hearing on School Budget
- February 18 2016- Joint Building Committee
- March 7 2016- State of the City

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: None

10.2 Board Members: Brennan stated that Dylan is her son and she would like to thank the VFW for the experience he had and to Jackie for getting him involved. She stated it was a great group of kids to work with and she would encourage other students to get involved in the process. She stated that at the high school level if they win the national competition there is a \$30,000 scholarship. She stated that it was really amazing to be a part of. Austin stated that he would like to thank everyone involved in the technology aspects of the broadcasting tonight and he would like to hear from anyone watching to let us know their thoughts on how it went to get feedback because it will help us to improve in the future.

11. NON-PUBLIC: A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 II (a) Student Issue (b) Personnel and (e) Negotiations.
VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Entered into nonpublic session at 7:20pm. A

motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Gibson to exit out of nonpublic session. Exited out nonpublic session at 8:03pm. A motion made by Brennan seconded by Hiller to accept the resignation of Megan Thompson. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Gibson to accept Justin Haight as the technology instructor. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hiller to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval