

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

March 22nd, 2016

City Hall

7:00 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Austin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm upon call of the roll the following members were present: Rivers, Austin, Brennan, Hanlon, Collins, Hiller, Pepin, Gibson and Bolduc.
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Katelyn Carrington stated that she would like to give an update on the renovations and how they are affecting the high school and CTC. She stated that they relocated Topper Tots to Maplewood and Engineering and Broadcasting is at the high school. She stated that they have put up some wooden doors and walls to prevent the kids from going in the construction area and there have been no issues rerouting kids. She stated that they did have a fire alarm go off and the new evacuation plan worked great. She stated that North Branch commented on how well we vacated the area. She stated that Maintenance and Andy has done a fabulous job of getting the area ready and the storage packed up. She stated that so far it has been going well and it has been an all hands on deck process. She stated that they are done with movement now until the end of May. Tamara Hallee stated that she wanted to give the board an update on the Eddy's awards. She stated that the school visit went fabulous and they visited with the students, a parent panel and the teachers and they are waiting to hear back. She stated that she knows of at least four other schools in the running. She stated that she would also like to thank the lab teachers at Maple Wood and Idlehurst for putting on a fabulous professional development day. Andy Lucier stated that last Thursday the Superintendent and I met with the public works director and the city engineer and Memorial Drive is going to be paved this year so we discussed concerns with the drainage issues and the catch basins need to be raised and there was a lot of discussion on water shut off. He stated that they are looking forward to the paving happening.
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:
 - March 8th 2016- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting
 - March 7th 2016- Minutes from the JBC Meeting
 - February 29th 2016- Minutes from the JBC Meeting
 - Idlehurst Elementary Newsletter- April
 - Maple Wood News- April
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that she wanted to remind the board that the CTC groundbreaking event will take place on March 25th at 11am at the CTC. Austin stated that on April 8-11th he will be representing the NHSBA at the National Annual Meeting in Boston.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - 5.1 **Presentation Julie McTague: Spring Musical "All Shook Up":** Supt. Mosca stated that as you know we are trying to highlight the things that are happening in the schools and we have a group from the high school here to do a few numbers from their spring musical. Julie McTague thanked the board for inviting the drama club tonight. She stated that it is a great opportunity to perform in a different space. She stated that All Shook Up was written in 2004 featuring music popularized by Elvis Presley. With a book by Joe DiPietro, the show is a story based on Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. In the story, Chad, a great lookin, motorcycling, guitar-playing, leather-jacketed roustabout, comes to a small town and wreaks havoc with the mayor and her laws against dancing and wearing tight pants. Meanwhile, all the characters in the town fall in love, but not with the person they should. Today we will be performing "C'mon Everybody", the song that Chad first sings when he arrives in town to get the town alive again, and "Can't Help Falling Love". Other songs you will hear if you join us on April 14-16 at

our show are favorites like Don't Be Cruel, Jailhouse Rock and Burnin' Love. Today we have the portion of the cast that will fit into this space, although there are over fifty people in the cast and crew. The students that were present were: Jean-Luc Valdivia, Kate Grant, Elisha Mahar, Jeremy Toussaint, Celina Hill, Isis Orchard, Libby Sweeney, Gabby Suleiman, Griffin Russell, Cedric Chanthaboune and Amanda Marcin.

5.2 BOARD REPORTS:

Building, Grounds & Transportation: None

Curriculum and Activities: None

Policy Committee: None

5.2 City Council Update: Marty Pepin stated that last night they had the first reading on ordinance 15-16 for a supplemental appropriation for the roof for the CTC. He stated that at the next meeting they will have a public hearing and take a vote.

5.3 Student Representative Report-Isis Orchard: Orchard stated that on March 11th we had a talent show and that had a good outcome. She stated that April 7th the student council will be hosting a wheelchair basketball game versus Dover. She stated that on April 8th they will be having a conference in Exeter. She stated that on April 9th National Honor Society and Youth to Youth will be doing a cleanup day at Willand Pond.

5.5 Snow Days-Last Day of School: Supt. Mosca stated that right now the last day of school is Friday June 17th.

5.6 Discussion regarding Narcan in Schools: Austin stated that you are all aware of the districts in the state that are taking action on this and we need to discuss whether it is appropriate for this board to have a discussion on whether Somersworth should contemplate this. Supt. Mosca stated that back about a month ago Nashua came out and said they put Narcan in all their schools and she asked Don if she could talk to Nashua and she did. She stated that they had a number of conversations around it and did some training and conversations with administration before they came forward with a recommendation. She stated that the conversation is also happening in Manchester and passed in Conway and Keene. She stated that it is important for the board to have the conversation and she asked Captain Kretschmar and Scott Schuler from American Ambulance to be here tonight in case you had any questions. Austin stated that he would open it up to the board for comments. Hiller stated that she doesn't think that it is a necessity at the high school but we do get a lot of guests so it might be beneficial if it can save a life. Bolduc stated that he would ask if the police carry Narcan in their cruisers and also the ambulance, do they carry it in their ambulance. He stated that the ambulance service has a quick response time so he doesn't think that we need it in the schools. He stated that he thinks that those two organizations can handle it well. He stated that there has to be some liability there. He stated that how many people would be trained to administer it and how are they trained to know when to administer it. He stated that we don't know the effects if you give Narcan and you didn't need it. He stated that we are not experts in that. He stated that all organizations have a quick response time. He stated that Nancy Reagan said Just Say No and he wishes that could stick. He stated that if you have a friend trying to get you on that stuff, that is not a friend. Collins stated that this topic is a difficult one to grapple with. He stated that this is not a topic to place blame; it is an issue that affects everyone in every walk of life. He stated that he opposes anyone that says this will enable or give kids the impression it is okay because a nurse can revive me. He stated that lives are too important not to have it readily available. He stated that the issue is deep and cuts every line and there is no way we can say that it is relegated to one department in our community to deal with and not everyone's. Brennan stated that her questions would be where it is kept, who is administering it and what the chain of command is. Is it a hierarchy of the nurse and then principal, what happens if there is only one person in the building and it needs to be administered, logistically how will it work. Joanne Pepin stated that if possible she would be very interested to hear from

Captain Kretschmar and Scott from American Ambulance to give us more guidance because she has very mixed feelings about this. She stated that she thinks that it is important but she worries about people being too complacent that it is available. She stated that she would value the opinion of the experts. Hanlon stated that he has the same concerns and he would like to hear from experts on the timing issues and how they feel about the time to get to someone or is it like an epi pen or defibrillator where time is of the essence. Gibson stated that he understands the concerns and he has the same concerns but there are major points that bother me about the concept. He stated that if it is more readily available there is a higher incidence of repeat overdoses and the issue of school zones becoming a shooting gallery if we have it readily available and a fixed location and that scares me. He stated that at what point do we stop accepting responsibility for every issue that comes down the pike and at what point to people take action for themselves. He stated that watching the ongoing war on drugs has been the most poorly run war he has ever heard of. He stated that when you outlaw something like they did with prohibition it ended up failing and he is not saying to legalize drugs but we need to start looking at other alternatives. He stated that his big concern is that we have seen anecdotal evidence that it encourages repeat situations and concerns of schools becoming a target. Rivers stated that he is an active member of the Somersworth prevention coalition and he hears a lot of details on how Narcan works and he has read a lot and the biggest comment it seems to be a solution in search of a problem. He asked how often this occurs in the schools. He stated that he can understand having it available but he is not sure of the logistics of it. Scott Schuler from American ambulance stated that he is a proponent of putting Narcan into the community and getting Narcan you are able to get them to recovery faster. He stated that in NH you have to have a prescription to get Narcan. He stated that on average there is a four minute response time in the City of Somersworth and the high school and middle school are closer to our station so he would expect it to be slightly less time. He stated that the fire department does carry Narcan and the police do not due to our response times. He stated that the police have to go through more training and the city of Somersworth police does not carry and that is appropriate. He stated that for you if you got Narcan the training is very quick and we offer the staff to do it and there is a lot to talk about on the logistics especially with the rapid response time in the city. Dave Kretschmar stated that on our end we made a decision not to carry it in the cruisers. He stated that we respond quickly and it is always the ambulance and fire right behind us. He stated that for redundancy it didn't make sense for us to look at it. He stated that looking at it, the fire department is very close to two of your schools and not too far away from Idlehurst so the response time would be very quick and they are trained. He stated that he would ask them to take that into consideration. He stated that the issue they looked at in Manchester is that five of the OD deaths came from heroin and spice and with spice you don't know how they will react when they are narcanned and some of these people come out of an overdose in a violent state. He stated that would be one of his concerns. He stated that the reported overdoses have gone down since last year and we have had two deaths in the city this year and one of the deaths he had a Narcan unit right next to him. Scott stated that they talked about whether or not this was a problem in the schools and there have been zero overdoses in the schools. Supt. Mosca stated that you talked about the violent side but what are the other side effects. Scott Schuler stated projectile vomiting is one but he wouldn't not put it in due to the side effects. He stated that if you give it to someone and they didn't need it the side effects would be very minimal. Hiller asked how they administer it. Scott Schuler stated that there is one that is nasally and one is like an epi pen with an auto injector. He stated that the nasal costs much less and the auto injector is over \$300 a pop. Hanlon stated that the social aspect aside we have a responsibility to save a student if necessary and if you feel comfortable with the response times I would back that and if you feel you need it I would back that as well. Supt. Mosca stated that she hasn't had any conversations with administration in part because she held the board off on discussing it until she had a conversation with Nashua and there is

no decision that is going to be made tonight it is just a discussion. She stated that personally she trusts their response time because we sit in the backyard of the police and fire departments and she sees their statistics every month. She stated that it is a hot topic but for me this was just the board having a conversation. Collins stated that these are experts that are most respected in the community and we are in good hands. He stated that he has a more rhetorical statement, what if they didn't get there. Is one person's life not worth having it? He stated that we can't ever walk away from these types of problems. He stated that he understands the comment about we are enabling and drug dealers selling Narcan with the drugs but the only point I would have is that he wouldn't want to leave it up to chance for my son. At the end of the day we have to think about the reality of it and if we can save someone's life should we not do that. Hiller stated that she doesn't understand Bob's comment about making us a shooting gallery. She stated that this is when our ten or eleven square miles comes into play; we are so close we should just leave it to the professionals. Gibson stated that he thanks both gentlemen for coming and the information; it backs my feeling about the situation. He stated that his comment on the shooting gallery is that his concern is that when you have a fixed area that can be designated as a good place to do it because there is help right there. He stated that not to sound cold hearted but at a certain point we can't take responsibility for everything. He stated that he doesn't want to say he doesn't value human life because I certainly do but with the response times available and the side effect of being violent. We have a lot of female administrators and if someone gets violent that is a concern. He stated that there are a lot of concoctions of drugs out there and we are asking someone who may not be physically or mentally able to deal with that type of situation. He stated that our professionals answered the questions and if they have a good response time and there have been no overdoses in the schools. He stated that our responsibility is to the students in the school not outside and if it is not an issue don't look to create an issue. Bolduc thanked the experts and stated that he appreciates what they do. They respond one behind the other and they don't waste time and they all do a fantastic job for us and with all the pieces we heard tonight, these people are going to be there. Joanne Pepin stated that she would have to agree if it was my child I would want it there but after hearing from the experts and hearing it is available to our community. Our responsibility is to protect the children and the services we get from the police, fire and ambulance is above and beyond and it is a really short response time and we should not be doing it. She stated that she would encourage the whole community they personally should look into getting it but she is strongly opposed to putting it in the school system. Hanlon stated that he likes the response times but were talking about children and what if four minutes is two minutes too late. He stated that he hopes it isn't something we ever need but do we want to risk it and is two minutes too late a chance we want to take. He stated that the social responsibility doesn't matter, these are children and they are our responsibility when they are in our care and he would say he is for it because two minutes could save a kid. Marty Pepin stated that he was on the fire department for thirty two years and back in those days the response time was not that good but you can give CPR to help until help gets there unless something has changed. Scott Schuler stated that eighteen months ago he would have agreed but there has been a change to that. Hanlon stated that timing wise, if it takes ten minutes to find someone and then there is a four minute response time is that ok. Scott Schuler stated that every individual would be a different scenario. Supt. Mosca stated that we are not just talking about the students' she is looking at a broader scope; we have events at the schools with a variety of people so it is far greater than just our kids. She stated that she hopes and prays that it is not something that we have to do for our kids. Gibson stated that he can't speak for the administration but it is his personal feeling that at times the government bodies dump things on people that they employ and it is very easy for someone to sit here and say let's do that but they aren't the ones who have to deal with it. He stated that how fair is it for us to make a call like that for them. He stated that if the administration wants to do it on their own he can understand that but I as a

member of this board don't want to force that on any of our people. Collins stated that everyone is making great points and we have the experts and I imagine the first time people mandated epi pens and CPR etc. the same arguments were made on how can we expect the teachers to take on the responsibility. He stated that he can understand not having every person doing this except for maybe the nurse and the principal. He stated that he feels comfortable the ambulance will get there but I hope and pray this won't happen but the stakes are too high to hope and pray. He stated that if we need it and one life is lost and it is not there it is our responsibility. Austin stated that there is no proposal on the table tonight and no votes will be taken but this is a severe enough issue that we have to talk about it and begin to figure out where we move on this. He stated that maybe it goes nowhere but the item is timely and other districts are taking action and people in the public are going to start asking us. He stated that he understands Bob's point with the area around the schools for people to come because there is Narcan there to help them. He stated that he has seen a spirited discussion on both sides of the issue and it is good and allows us to open the door and talk about what it would mean for Somersworth. Hanlon stated that we need a lot more information and we need to give Jeni consensus to start gathering information now that she has heard our questions and can talk to administrators. Austin thanked everyone for the participation in the discussion.

6. ACTION ITEM

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee: Hanlon stated that they approved the Somersworth palm cards and they are being handed out to realtors and going in the chamber. He stated that there are fifteen different packets with different letter head for each department and they have highlighted items in the master plan for each department. He stated that he is working on putting interviews on channel 95. He stated that the next meeting is on April 11th at 5:30.

8.2 Budget: Austin stated that the budget update is included in the packet if anyone has any questions. He stated that at the state of the city we talked about having an unencumbered balance of \$200,000 and now it is at about \$112,000 so you can see some gets used as things come up.

8.3 JBC Update-Ken Bolduc: Bolduc stated that they met yesterday at the SAU and had a discussion about a budget update. Marie had put together a spreadsheet and to date have spent \$478,949 on the project and of that \$119,737 is our responsibility and the rest the state picks up. He stated that we had a project update from North Branch and he went through the building yesterday and they are doing a fantastic job. He stated that they are in the demo phase, taking walls down and working around the auto shop, building trades and engineering and everything has been blocked off from the work area and he saw no dust in the place. He stated that they are doing a fantastic job working while school is in session with no disruption to the school. He stated that they had a problem with an odor from a sprinkler line that had stagnant water. He stated that were some concerns about the roof from some members of the JBC because we are putting a large number of penetrations and we had a concern with the age of the roof with those penetrations and there is no money in the budget for a new roof. He stated that there is a resolution by the city council to get the roof done so we don't have to worry about that. Supt. Mosca stated that thanks to the Mayor, City Manager, Scott Smith and the council for the amazing working relationship we have. She stated that Denis and Marty brought the concern about the roof and talked to the finance committee with the support of the city manager and a resolution was written and brought to the council and there will be a public hearing at the next meeting. She stated that it is about the working relationship you as a board has created with council and the council coming to bat for us and the notion of one pot of money to continue to support each other. That is the grateful piece of us all working together for everyone in this community.

8.4 High School Graduation Date: June 16 2016-6:00pm: Supt. Mosca stated that the graduation date has been set for June 16th and it will not be moving. We share the facility with Dover and they

are on the 15th and we have it on the 16th. She stated that the graduation will be at UNH at 6:00pm and the board is to be there at 5:30 to line up. Hiller stated that last year there were only two board members there and she thought it was disappointing and she would suggest that we all make an effort to go and represent the board.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- **April 4 2016- Budget Public Hearing**
- **April 5 2016- Somersworth School Board Meeting**
- **April 19 2016- Somersworth School Board Meeting**

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: Hilliard stated that 8th grade recognition will be on June 15th at the high school. Amy Michaels stated that she would like to thank Jeni for starting the conversation on Narcan and Sean and Matt for recognizing it. She stated that we also have band aids at the school also and she hopes that a kid doesn't get cut. She stated that One Voice NH has an online training and it is just a nasal spray and it is very simple. She stated that it is easier to give Narcan than to give an epi pen. She stated that she carries it with her at all times.

10.2 Board Members: Hanlon stated that he went to literacy night and the staff/student basketball game and they were great events and a lot of fun and he would like to thank the staff that was involved, they do such a great job and he would like to recognize them for all the work they do. Joanne Pepin stated that she would like to commend the drama club for the outstanding performance and she hopes that the community will come out to see it. Collins stated that he would echo Joanne, it was fantastic and he loved seeing this and he was very proud of them. He stated that it is important to have the discussion on Narcan regardless of your personal opinion and he is proud to have the conversation right now. Hiller stated that she would like to thank the drama club as well as the police captain and American Ambulance they gave us important information that added to our discussion. She thanked the council for the resolution on the roof; you are our heroes and have come through for us. She stated that she hopes that the discussion of Narcan helps parents start to have a discussion with the kids on drugs. She stated that one try can kill you and she is glad we are having the conversation and I am on the fence and need more discussion. Gibson thanked the drama club and stated that they did a great job. Thank you to the city council for supporting us on the roof, he hated the thought of doing the project without a new roof. He stated that in regards to the discussion tonight he has a hard time with these subjects, this drug thing is a mess and he doesn't think that any of us have the answers to it. He stated that our opinions are our feelings but it doesn't mean that we can't come to some kind of consensus. Bolduc thanked Captain Kretschmar and Scott from American Ambulance and the fire department, they are three very important organizations in our city and when you call them they are there. He stated that it was a great presentation by the high school and it brought back memories and he hopes people will get out and see it. He stated that the students do a fantastic job. He stated that he would like to add an agenda item on expanding kindergarten, he has nothing against it but we have to discuss if we have money in our pocket to pay for this. He stated that when you do this you are doubling up and will you have a few bucks next year if someone gives it to you this year. We need to take a look and make sure that we are going in the right direction because there are critical things that we need to take care of in our schools. He stated that it is great to expand but we have to have the money in our pocket to pay for it. Austin stated that he would like to thank the drama club for coming they were very impressive. He stated that the Narcan conversation was our first stab at having a conversation about it and it is important to have a conversation because it will have an impact on our staff, students and community and we are missing the boat if we try to hide our heads in the sand, the conversation is extremely important and he looks forward to having more discussions.

11. NON-PUBLIC: A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Brennan to exit into non-public session in

accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 II (a) Student Issue (b) Personnel and (e) Negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into non-public session at 8:39pm. A motion made by Collins seconded by Joanne Pepin to exit out of non-public session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of non-public session at 9:15pm.

A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Hiller to accept the nomination of Amanda Bresnehan. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval