

## SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

August 9<sup>th</sup> 2016

City Hall

7:00pm

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, Hanlon, Gibson, Austin, and Pepin.  
Absent: Hiller, Collins, and Brennan
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 Gibson seconded by Rivers to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
    - July 25 2016- Minutes from the Joint Building Committee
    - July 11 2016- Minutes from the Joint Building Committee
    - July 13 2016- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting
    - July 27 2016- Minutes from the Joint Building Committee
    - June 21 2016- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting
    - June 20 2016- Minutes from the Joint Building Committee
    - RENEW Project Update
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that fall sports are starting. She stated that be careful on Memorial Drive as they will be paving the road so you won't be able to park on memorial drive you will need to park on Cemetery road. She stated that the first day of school is on August 31<sup>st</sup> and bus routes are posted on the SAU 56 website. Austin stated that he left a flyer on everyone's desk. On Friday September 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7 there will be a district wide K-12 back to school open house at the high school. He stated that this will give community organizations a chance to come together so parents can see all the opportunities they have with regards to their students in the district. He stated that he received a call from Caroline Butler today asking if the board was interested in having a table at this open house. He stated that he told her he would discuss it with the board tonight. He stated that he thinks that it is a good idea for the board to be represented and asked if anyone had any objection to that. He stated that it is a good chance for us to meet parents and an opportunity for us to get out into the public and make us visible. He stated that if there is no objection he will get back in touch with Caroline and let her know that we are interested.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
  - 5.1 **SAU 56 Team Report:** Supt. Mosca stated that this has been a very busy summer in the Somersworth School District. The 21<sup>st</sup> century conference kicked off the summer with training on the brain and after school learning. The conference title was Riding Brainwaves. The focus of the conference centered on work study practices and creating opportunities for students to practice compassion, empathy, and understanding trauma and the brain. We continued that theme as our administrative retreat focused on teacher evaluation and student engagement as well as math. We all read the same book entitled, Influencer which presented us with real life examples and research regarding the change process and our leading change. We decided collectively as a group that student engagement would be the main objective of our mini observations this school year. We will collect as much evidence throughout our observations that support engagement. We also shared the work started regarding math competencies K-12 and the action plans created for each building for the school year. She stated that our district was also well represented at the 2016 NH Educators Summer Summit at UNH. We had over 30 staff and administrators K-12 attend the summit. Workshop strands included, competencies, STEM, UDL and family engagement to name a few. We also had team time where our buildings devoted time to collaborating and planning for the school year. This is our 4<sup>th</sup> year in attendance and the largest group of educators that have attended from

our district. She stated that we are ready for new staff to start on Friday August 26<sup>th</sup> and returning staff on Monday August 29<sup>th</sup> with students starting Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>. She stated that in regards to curriculum, instruction and assessment, on June 21-24, approximately 35 teachers from across the district participated in four days of professional development focused on math instruction. Therese Wetherington, the curriculum director from SAU 4 in Bristol served as our facilitator. Therese has extensive experience both in the classroom, having taught math at elementary, middle and high school as well as having served as a transformation coach in North Carolina for seven years to help district understand and begin to utilize the common core state standards as the basis for their instruction. The teachers worked diligently throughout the four days as they increased their knowledge of Common core state standards and our state test, Smarter Balanced. They also learned about the Eight Mathematical Practices, the instructional resources available to them and how we can use data to better understand how students are progressing with their learning. She stated that we are excited to have Therese continue her work with us throughout the 2016-2017 school year as she will be in the district approximately, one day a month to work with different groups of teachers to continue to work to improve our instructional practice in math. She stated that in regard to special education preschool has been involved with the NH DOE and the SSIP grant for the past year. The focus is on social emotional outcomes where we are tracking what we do and whether or not a student has improved in this area when they go off to kindergarten. We were asked to join the cohort as the state is impressed with how we have grown our preschool program in the last five years. Changes that we have made the last few years include moving to a 50/50 preschool program where the class has 50% special education students and 50% regular education students. Other changes include creating and utilizing a preschool handbook. We have also focused on providing 99% of our services in the classroom and have had students respond positively. She stated that for the past year, Maple Wood and Somersworth Middle School have been involved with the NH DOE and UDL. Two groups worked very hard to learn about UDL and how to apply it to their classrooms. Both teams focused on student engagement and the results were impressive. She stated that not only did we work with NHDOE, but we also worked with CAST.org. This is a free website that has a vast amount of ideas, lesson plans, information, etc. for teachers to access and utilize in their classroom. She stated that currently we have 27 students in out of district placements, a total of 32 special education students moved into the district during the 2015-2016 school year, a total of 62 special education students moved out of the district during the 2015-2016 school year, 8 special education students graduated from Somersworth High School, 3 special education students received their GED and currently we have 339 special education students in the system. D'Agostino stated that the finance office is finalizing the FY 2015-216 revenues, expenditures, reconciling accounts with the city, and preparing for the audit review in order to submit NHDOE year-end reports. The Somersworth School District audit is scheduled for next week. She stated that beginning this school year, staff security badges are being issued and tracked at the SAU office based on their specific building access. She stated that we want to give many thanks to Andy Lucier and his staff who had done a great job with the CTC Renovation as well as keeping up with multiple summer projects which are proceeding on schedule. She stated that based on our food service review it is mandatory that staff needs to attend training and that is taking place tomorrow and Gwen, Marie and Katie will be attending.

**5.2 Building, Grounds & Transportation:** Rivers stated that they met last Tuesday August 2<sup>nd</sup> and the key item that they discussed was the CIP proposal that will be talked about later. He stated that the bus routes have been posted on the SAU website. He stated that Andy gave them an update on items that have been going on and it has been a very summer. He stated that all the classes are completed and ready to go and the preventative maintenance that are required on the equipment has been done and is also ready to go. He stated that there were two issues at Idlehurst one with the metal grates outside the entrances and in the winter or when it is raining and freezes it is a safety issue when it ices up. He stated

that Harriman and the manufacturer of the grates are supplying some mats at no cost to the school district to take care of it. He stated that there was also an issue with the heat traces and Harriman is working on a solution to that issue. He stated that the front steps at the high school and the walkways are being replaced during the paving project. Austin asked about the safety issue with the stairs at the high school. Supt. Mosca stated that when you come out of the cafeteria there is one step and then a landing pad and then down onto the pavement and all of it was the same color and a number of people fall and some have gotten injured. She stated that they had put tape down and painted it yellow so people could see the landing but when Serveno came we thought it was the appropriate time to address the issue and they will put the step to code and come from a wide angle in so it creates a vision of a walkway. Austin stated that it is the steps from the cafeteria not the main entrance. Supt. Mosca stated yes, the main entrance doesn't have steps.

**Curriculum and Activities:** None

**Policy Committee:** None

**5.3 City Council Update:** Pepin stated that at the last meeting they approved a resolution and did a first and second reading to authorize the school to use the cable franchise fees in the amount of \$34,599 for the broadcasting program at the CTC and that passed. He stated that they also approved a resolution on road improvements and the utilities and Severeno received the contract for that. He stated that memorial drive will be the key project and we may have another resolution to give the authority for night work for any delays in order for them to finish before school starts. He stated that they are doing the sewer lines from the middle school to cemetery road so it may take extra time and they want to have a buffer. He stated that they also did a first reading on a resolution to utilize the capital reserve for sidewalks in the amount of \$275,900. He stated that just as a heads up that as soon as memorial drive is done they will work on indigo hill from high street to Main Street. He stated that he doesn't know how deep they will go but the hope is to do the first coat and then leave and do the second coat next summer. He stated that the maple street culvert project is taking longer than they anticipated and that will be blocked until the end of September.

**5.4 Student Representative Report-TBD:** None

**5.5 CIP Plan:** Rivers stated that each year the city is required to submit a CIP plan to the state. He stated that at the end of August we have to have the information to the city manager. He stated that every year we work on this and then it goes before the planning board. He stated that it is a six year plan going out and this proposal mirrors last year with the only difference from last year is taking out the CTC renovation and in the 5<sup>th</sup> year on the HVAC we reduced it down to \$100,000 going forward. He stated that everything else matches up. He asked the board to take a look at it and we will take action on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Gibson asked how many more HVAC systems are left to be replaced. Rivers stated 13. Gibson stated that at that point they would drop out of the plan. Rivers stated yes. Austin stated that at the next meeting this will move to an action item.

**5.6 Barrington MOU:** Austin stated that we entered into an MOU with Barrington three years ago to allow Barrington students to attend Somersworth High School and that will expire unless we extend it. He stated that included in the packet is the updated MOU. Supt. Mosca stated that she met with the Superintendent from Barrington and adjusted the costs for tuition and adjusted the tier system approach for special education. She stated that it is no different than what we had just updated costs. Joanne Pepin asked if we have any students attending. Supt. Mosca stated one. Austin asked the board to review the document and it will be an action item on the next meeting agenda.

## **6 ACTION ITEM**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

**8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee:** Supt. Mosca stated that she attended the meeting last night and vision 20/20 continues to be the cheerleaders for the city and Jessica Paradis has done a great job creating

efforts behind that and they sit at different events and asks people what they would like to see in the city by 2020. She stated that the master plan is on the website and there are 11 components and they are reviewing the plan and looking at how many they have achieved and what they have left to accomplish by 2020. She stated that Jess had a booth at National Night Out and they are advertising on channel 22 and 95 and have a Facebook page that has 300 followers. She stated that vision 2020 is the backbone of everything that is happening in the city and they will be at the September 9<sup>th</sup> kickoff.

**8.2 Budget:** Austin stated that they will receive information on the budget in September and he is pleased to hear that the audit is next week and he anticipates good results as we have had and doesn't expect any problems there.

**8.3 JBC Update-Ken Bolduc:** Supt. Mosca stated that they met last night and it is crunch time for North Branch and Banwell starting the systems up and they had a commissioning meeting on Monday. She stated that culinary equipment and auto equipment is installed and the lighting and sound for the performing arts center is ordered. She stated that the furniture is coming the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup>. She stated that there will be a number of inspections will be done next week. She stated that everyone is feeling the pinch and we continue to meet. Gibson stated that the ceremony for the opening is on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at the CTC.

#### 9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- **August 23 2016- Somersworth School Board Meeting**
- **September 26 2016- Career Technical Center Ceremony- 6:00pm CTC**

#### 10. CLOSING COMMENTS

**10.1 Visitors:** None

**10.2 Board Members:** Austin stated that he would like to remind the public that we are in the midst of an election year and primaries are in September statewide and it is important to pay attention to those because they will impact the future at the local level and it is important to become involved and listen to the candidates and make thoughtful decisions.

**11. NON-PUBLIC:** A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Joanne Pepin 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 7:40pm. A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to exit out of non-public session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of non-public session at 8:44pm.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Susan Wallace. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Adrian Alford. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Km Royal. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Francesca Kennedy. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Kelly Wass. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Brianna Knight. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Allyson Izzard. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Georgianne Klipa. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Richard Hartford. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of John Dinger. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Denis Pelletier. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Katie Gove. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Susan McTague. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Gibson seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Sara West. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

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

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion made by Gibson seconded by Hanlon to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval