

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: Nelson, Anderson, Leach, Kunz and Robinson.
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 Robinson seconded by Kunz to approve the consent calendar as presented. Approved were:
    - August 11 2016- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board
    - Enrollment-September
4. **Announcements:** Supt. Mosca stated that we had a smooth start to school and had lots of smiling faces and everyone was eager and excited. She stated that the amount of work that was done here over the summer is amazing so congratulations to Dick and all the staff for their efforts. Nelson stated congratulations to Jeni for the editorial in the newspaper as she was called out for being a super Superintendent for getting full day kindergarten in Somersworth.
5. **Discussion Items:**
  - 5.1 **Principal Update:** Lucas stated that everyone should check out the webpage for all the resources that are being provided to the community and parents. She stated that it was a compilation of a lot of minds to pull together resources. She stated that this is the first year that the kids signed up for electives with related arts and they came up with a schedule that allowed every student to get their first or second choice. She stated that we are super excited about it. She stated that there are 28 students in Nancy's class and because the kids want to be there it felt like 14 kids so that is good feedback. Nelson stated that she wants to bring to attention that we started school with 165 students which is ten more than we ended with.
  - 5.2 **Marshwood Student Representative-Noah Niedzolkowski:** Nelson stated that Noah couldn't make it tonight but sent a report. She stated that currently there are 789 students enrolled in Marshwood high school and 83 students are Rollinsford which is 11% of the student population. She stated that open house is September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. She stated that he noted that everything is idyllic and situating normally.
  - 5.3 **Rollinsford Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Haines stated that clubs are starting again. Student council has their officers set and will have the annual spirit week from September 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> with a spirit rally on Friday. She stated that national honor society has officers ready and the induction for new members will be on October 18<sup>th</sup>. She stated that they will be going apple picking and donating them to the food pantry. She stated that interact will be holding a raffle for free heating service and the proceeds will go to the Miss Amazing pageant for young girls with disabilities. She stated that the math team has a new advisor so we are revamping and the first meet will be on October 5<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the freshman class will be electing officers next week. The sophomore class is doing spirit rally

prep and will be doing an after school snack fundraiser. The junior class is also working on the spirit rally and will be having a car wash at VIP on September 18<sup>th</sup> and a Loudon fundraiser on September 24<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the senior class is looking at senior banquet venues. She stated that for sports, Girls soccer is playing away, Boys soccer is away on September 12<sup>th</sup>, Field hockey had a game today and had their first win and has a home game on September 13<sup>th</sup> and Volleyball is away on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

5.4 **Contingency Fund Usage:** Nelson stated that we received a letter from our attorney which is in the packet on how we can use the contingency. Robinson stated that if we have the opportunity to use it, use it that would be my advice. Kunz stated that we are approaching budget season and we need to all up our game on how we forecast what we need, there is always room for improvement to explain why we need things.

5.5 **Contracted Services:** Nelson stated that we had asked Jeni and Marie to provide a list of the contracted services. Supt. Mosca stated that we have lawn care and a variety of other services. Nelson stated that most of the others are educational functions that we contract out. She stated that last week we received a third party phone call complaining about how the school looked and she would like to know what the lawn care company does. She stated that it is not a huge amount of money to me unless they don't do much. Lucas stated that they do two huge clean ups in the spring and fall and then the occasional mowing. She stated that they do some raking and trimming back and some weed whacking. They give us what it is worth. Kunz stated that when we talked last we talked about pooling our resources with the town, who does the cemetery. Anderson stated that we talked about if the town has a mower. Robinson stated that the town mows, we discussed it at the budget committee meeting. He stated that he doesn't know what the town does for clean ups. He stated that he is interested in talking about what they could offer at the minimum the mowing. Lucas stated that they pick up significantly in the spring and fall. Robinson stated that he thinks that they do a good job. Nelson stated that we have a town wide cleanup day but the volunteers do the work and the town picks up. Anderson stated that it was brought up because we were considering buying a mower, but if they can do it for less. Supt. Mosca stated that the issue with a mower is that we have to store it and then a shed becomes the issue. Nelson stated that if the school is taking it on that is a lot to take on but we could ask to borrow the mower. Lucas stated that the school is using everyone's equipment to get the job done, I bring in my weed whacker and we use Kevin Haine's mower when we are not getting the services. Robinson stated that it was an on the spot thought not a decision. Leach stated that we could use the current budget to upgrade the services if the town could take over the mowing or lend the mower. Robinson stated that we need to find out what is being borrowed and borrow it from the town instead. Kunz stated that it is worth the conversation with the town. Nelson stated that she can go to the select board and put it in front of them. Supt. Mosca stated that another question is does the town use waste management. Nelson stated that the town uses the transfer station that is it. Robinson stated that why can't the town come with one of the town trucks and pick up our garbage and drive it to the transfer station. Nelson stated that it is worth the outreach to the town saying can we do this. Robinson stated that the entire town contracts out these types of

services so we could combine the money and hire someone, it is a big conversation on what we can do to reduce costs. Kunz stated that pooling our resources is key to this. Nelson stated that she will go on Monday to the select board meeting.

5.6 **SPED Spreadsheet:** Nelson stated that they asked for this information on the SPED for middle and high school. Supt. Mosca stated that on this sheet is the cost and whatever services they receive with a total on the bottom. Robinson stated that this is exactly what he was looking for. He stated that the board and the representatives need to be able to communicate what this is saying and it makes the conversation a lot easier so we have an idea of what is going on. Nelson stated that we will only receive another one if there is a change. Robinson stated that in all honesty he will expect to see one once a month with the amount of changes that happen. Leach asked what self-contained means. Supt. Mosca stated that they are going to a resources room to get the services.

5.7 **NHSBA Call for Resolutions:** Nelson stated that this comes out once a year and it is interesting to see what they are trying to protect for local boards to have the authority to do local things. She stated that Rollinsford hasn't put together a resolution but if you think of something you have about three weeks to put one forward and they get voted on at the January meeting.

## 6. Action Items.

## 7. Financial Update:

**7.1 Budget:** Nelson stated that we received in our packets the budget report for the ending 15/16 budget and the opening 16/17 budget. She asked regarding the 16/17 budget on the revenues what the transfer to general fund of \$50,000 is. D'Agostino stated that is for the two warrant articles that we have to take out of the trust fund. Robinson stated that he will be presenting the budget in October to the budget committee and he will be going line by line. D'Agostino handed out a draft schedule of the timeline for the 17/18 budget. She stated that the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting we will have a budget meeting before the meeting and the same on November 17<sup>th</sup>. She stated that we will discuss it with the budget committee on December 12<sup>th</sup> with a public hearing on January 14<sup>th</sup> with a snow date of the 17<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the deliberative session is on February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am with a snow date of February 7<sup>th</sup> and voting will take place on March 14<sup>th</sup>. She stated that this is based on DRA guidelines. She stated that we need to post no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> and petition warrant articles are due by January 10<sup>th</sup> as well as collective bargaining items. Robinson stated that he is fine with the dates. He stated that he would like to hear administrations plan for what they expect to bring to us at the first budget meeting and what the warrants that we are looking at. He stated that he wants to have that discussion early. Nelson stated that it may be helpful for a preliminary meeting. D'Agostino stated that October 13<sup>th</sup> we still have some major unknowns such as health insurance rates and the new retirement rates. Robinson stated that we decided last year that the direction is to reduce operating costs and increase maintenance costs and end with a reduction and he wants to make sure that is still what the direction is. Supt. Mosca stated that with the enrollment increases there are some places they are not sure they can make reductions. She stated that we are fully aware you are looking to reduce costs to shift toward maintenance and projects. Nelson stated that we are looking at something that is 18 months

away so we have to do our best. Kunz stated that he is not as concerned with cost reduction, we have to make sure we have what we need. He stated that it is like the tail wagging the dog with some of this. He stated that we are still doing a good job identifying areas to make cost reductions but he is concerned with paying for what we need and not just reducing just for the sake of reductions. He stated that he doesn't want to see this as we are looking for reductions so nothing is put on a shelf just to get to the reductions. Anderson stated that our mission is to have a quality education but reduce costs. Nelson stated that our mission is that the Rollinsford School Board in collaboration with school and town will continue to provide for quality education while pursuing operating cost reductions at Rollinsford Grade School. Kunz stated that is exactly what we are doing. He stated that he gets the impression that there are some areas that we put more money into. He stated that supplies, he is constantly hearing that they had to purchase this or that and he hates to think that something is not being brought because it is not going to be approved, he wants to hear what you need. Supt. Mosca stated that any decisions Kate and I made have not short changed the quality of the education but there will come a point in time when we have reduced as far as we can. She stated that we are constantly looking at what we can do to keep that quality education but there will come a time where we have done all we can do and then it will dip into the education. Robinson stated that having the difficult budget talks and asking the difficult questions last year we made wholesale changes that saved money and continued the quality education. He stated that we did sell to the town a three year plan of savings and we need to continue with that plan. He stated that he will say that a ten student increase in the first month is high and if we don't come in with a decrease we can say that. He stated that he doesn't want anyone thinking that he is trying to reduce the quality education. Nelson stated that we have taken an interest in oversight and asking the difficult questions and we are fortunate that it came at a time where the principal is looking at a different kind of education which helps us look good. She stated that this form of education and the way Rollinsford is being known in the state is going to make a difference in Rollinsford which is the reason why we have ten new students. She stated that it is not just because we are going to Marshwood it is because we have RGS here.

## **8. New Business:**

## **9. Old Business:**

### **9.1 Community Connections: None**

**9.2 Transportation-Late Bus Central School:** Nelson stated that currently we have an activity bus and Jeni reached out to Mary to see if the kids can use the South Berwick activity bus and the students would be dropped off at Central School. Supt. Mosca stated that the middle school kids would get picked up and get on with the Marshwood kids and then go to the high school and then there would be one stop at the central school which is closest to us. Nelson stated that right now we pay \$54 a day to run the bus which is about \$8,000 to run. Supt. Mosca stated that Mary was clear that there is no supervision and they would be dropped off and parents would have to pick up or the kids would be walking home. Anderson asked what the cost is for that. Supt. Mosca stated that there is no cost. Leach stated that she has a concern with children walking. Nelson stated that the highest we have been is 30 kids a week and if you divide that by four days that is about 4 students a day using the bus so that is \$7 a kid. Kunz stated that if we can get kids to central school

the parents would just have to know what time to be there and it is far more convenient to go to central school than to go to the middle school. Robinson stated that he is 100% on board. He stated that we had a conversation about cancelling anyway due to ridership. Kunz stated that this just cancels it out, we will still have a bus it is just not our bus. Robinson stated that we are saving \$8,000 and still providing the service. Leach stated that is it worth giving our bus some more time. Robinson stated that he is 100% on board with giving notice but he is not interested in figuring out the ridership this year. This is a very low cost alternative that still adds value. He stated that he is okay with doing this and making the outreach to parents and make sure we give a few weeks. Anderson stated that the high school times are all over the place as the activities are all at different times. Kunz stated that this is great especially with no cost. Anderson stated that it is great. Nelson stated that we can make the outreach to parents and give it to the end of the month and asked what outreach we can do. Leach stated that we can put it on the town blog and on Facebook. A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz to stop the activity bus on September 29<sup>th</sup> and start using the Marshwood activity bus on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and provide notice to all parents by all means available as soon as possible. Nelson stated that the community connections can draft an email and send it to Jeni and she can make sure that it gets to Mary to send to the middle and high school to get out to Rollinsford students. Supt. Mosca stated that Mary did state that she would like us to put something together and get it to her so she can forward it to the principals and they can send it out on a blast. Leach stated that she has had a lot of people ask about it and show interest. Anderson stated that she does feel for people who rely on it. Nelson stated that it is tops ten students a day. Kunz stated that we haven't been able to use it because of the practice times. Robinson stated that it is not an easy decision to take something away but he considers it an extra service and we are not taking it away. VOTE: motion passed, leach opposed. Supt. Mosca stated that she will contact Mary and our bus company to let them know.

**9.3 Marshwood Contract Items:** Nelson stated that we left this on the agenda in case items come up. Robinson stated that we can discuss the activity bus to get it in writing. Nelson stated that everyone should review the contract to see what is in there. Anderson asked if things are improving in regards to communication. Supt. Mosca stated that it is a work in progress. She stated that she spoke to Mary this morning and she apologized for today. She stated that it was Thursday so we assumed it was a late start day and the bus company immediately got three buses out in the morning and then sent two others out for the kids who thought it was a late start. She stated that Mary apologized and that their bus person should have called our bus company. She stated that she doesn't know how it got communicated at school. She stated that this is the third day of school and we are still working out the kinks of the first week. Leach stated that can't they provide a schedule for the whole year with the days to our bus company. She stated that our bus company should have that information. Supt. Mosca stated that she can ask John if he has communicated a yearlong schedule to Lisa so we have the same communication they have. Anderson stated that Jeni should also be cc'd so if a parent calls she has the information. Robinson stated that on their website it has the calendar and they told us to go to their website as that is how they communicate. Leach stated that her point is that our bus company should not have to go check the website, there should be direct communication. Robinson stated that it is our administrations responsibility to work with the bus company on our schedule, you can blame Marshwood but it was on their website. He stated

that they have told us that is how they do business by the website and it is in our best interest to use it. He stated that he is not suggesting that we tell the bus company to look at the website but our administration should be able to provide our bus company with the schedule, this is not all on Marshwood.

**9.4 Joint Meeting Discussion:** Nelson stated that the meeting is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> and we need to talk about what we want to discuss. She asked if they want to make it parent and student focused. She stated that we need to make it clear what we want to do and what we want to accomplish at this meeting. Anderson stated that at the last meeting they went through their website and they talked about setting up a table at their open house for new students to inform them. We could talk about how that went. Robinson stated that he was not able to make it when RGS students presented to us but he is interested in having something similar to that from the students in Marshwood, maybe a panel discussion on their experience what is working and the challenges that they have and ask if there is anything we can help them with. Kunz stated that people might not be open with the administration here. Robinson stated that he is not looking for a bashing, he is looking for conversation. He stated that it is nice to have a meeting with talking points on the quality education the students are receiving at Marshwood. He stated that if there is no interest that is okay because that means that everything is going ok. Anderson stated that we could invite folks to the joint meeting to talk about their experience. Leach stated that we could have four kids from the different classes to plan to come and that may entice others to show up. Nelson asked of ways to identify which students. Robinson stated that do we not have a list of student emails. Supt. Mosca stated that she doesn't, I support the students but they belong to Mary. Robinson stated that it would be nice if we could contact our own students. Nelson stated that they may not want us using their email server. Supt. Mosca stated that if we need to communicate with students we have to go through Mary and she goes through the two principals of the two schools. She stated that she can ask Mary and tell her what the board would like to have at the next meeting to hear the experience of the students attending Marshwood. Leach stated that privacy laws may prohibit them from sharing the email addresses. Supt. Mosca stated that you are contracting a service, just like if the students or parents have an issue they are not going to call me they call that administration and their superintendent. Nelson stated that this is our opportunity to get something out of this meeting. Supt. Mosca stated that this is the second year of the transition you could talk about how the transition went the second year from their perspective, did it go smoother and how our kids are adjusting and we will have done the late bus for a couple of week so we could discuss how that is working. Nelson stated that her concern with that is we are going to get a ten minute treatise on one topic and then the other and that is not helpful. Supt. Mosca stated then do we need to meet. Robinson stated that if we are not getting a presentation from our students then I am interested in not having a meeting. Anderson stated that she is wondering if we were to have a meeting at Rollinsford, we don't need to do it in front of them. Kunz stated that he felt like the last meeting was stiff and uncomfortable. Leach stated that let's make it not stiff and make it a positive experience. Nelson stated that we could postpone it until January. Robinson stated that December and January is budget time. He asked what value are we getting out of this. Leach stated that we could ask them the questions that they are getting from parents so we can help them. Robinson stated that anything we ask Marshwood comes in a canned speech, let's just

ask through Jeni and get the information. He stated that we have talked about this for five minutes and we can't come up with anything to discuss. Leach stated that the lack of discussion sends a message, this is a choice we made for our students and we need to be cooperative and we need to work with people regardless of how they decide to work with us. Nelson stated that we can go ahead with it and talk about transition, the late bus and ask about questions they are getting from parents. Leach stated that we should encourage parents to come and speak to the Marshwood board. Supt. Mosca asked Judy if she would like to reach out to Kerry. Nelson stated yes. Anderson stated that we can tell folks to come and share their experiences. Nelson stated that she will make that clear. Robinson stated that if we are having a meeting out of good faith we can have a conversation with them to see if they see any value in these meetings. Kunz stated that we are looking for excuses to have these meetings. Anderson stated that we can ask them if they have anything they want to talk about. Nelson stated that she can ask. She stated that the chair of their board and I used to have breakfast with Mary and Jeni before these meetings but after the last meeting that has stopped. Supt. Mosca stated that we can set it up again if you want. Nelson stated that she wants us to have a good relationship. Kunz stated that he gets the point of having the meetings but he is not sure we need them twice a year, the first one we had was eye opening and the second one was not good. Supt. Mosca stated that its new, we are still working through the relationship. Nelson stated that it becomes redundant if Jeni can get the information. Robinson stated that we are a board that has a job to do and he is not sure what job we are doing when we are meeting, we can get the information more effectively through other means. He stated that as a board we are not in the business of PR we are in the business of providing education for our students. Nelson stated that the Rollinsford board wanted in the contract to have the ability to meet four times a year and we have dropped it down to two in order to ask financial questions and we haven't gotten to that point. Robinson stated that we have the contract to look up financial information. He stated that he doesn't see any board value to meeting and that is not an insult to them. Lucas stated that there is a way to say that, as a board your time is valuable and it needs to be useful. She stated that you can have a conversation that we will contact you or you can contact us if we need a joint meeting, in the contract we have the ability to have a meeting when we need them but we don't feel we need one. Supt. Mosca stated that they may feel the same way. She stated that maybe the conversation is that you contact Kerry and say exactly that, it is early in the year and that the meeting can happen if we need it to.

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

- **September 19 2016- SAU Board Meeting**
- **September 21 2016- MSAD 35 Board meeting**
- **October 5 2016- MSAD 35 Board Meeting**
- **October 12 2016- Joint Meeting Marshwood**
- **October 13 2016- Rollinsford School Board**
- **October 19 2016- MSAD 35 Board Meeting**

#### **11. School Events:**

- **Open House September 15<sup>th</sup> 5-6 picnic, 6-7 open house**

#### **12. Closing Comments:**

**12.1 Visitors:** Celia Leopold stated that if you want to talk to the cemetery trustee about mowing and cleanup, contact Mark Couture he is the chairman of the cemetery committee and he contracts the services out. Nancy Dionne stated that what you charge for a year is one time for them. She stated that she heard that a smart board broke over the summer. Lucas stated that the touch screen did but we still use it for a projector. She stated that there is no warranty but we can still use it as a projector not the touch screen. Nancy Dionne asked what the class sizes are. Lucas stated that we have three k-1 classes with 15, 15, and 16, two grade three classes with 23 each and two 4,5,6 classes with 38 and 36.

**12.2 Board Members:** Leach stated that she was frustrated with the bus situation this morning, with everything that happened last year and kids getting to school late on other days we need to make sure it is a priority to fix the problems. This morning was unsafe situation to have kids on the street so long. Anderson stated that they have been about 5-10 minutes late. Supt. Mosca stated that this is day three but she will check with the bus company. She stated that she will check the times and see what time the Marshwood buses get there in the morning so we can mimic the same times.

13. **Non-Public:** A motion made by Robinson seconded by Kunz 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 8:22pm. A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:48pm.
14. **Adjournment:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Robinson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Katie Krauss  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval