

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

April 11th 2017

City Hall Chambers

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, Joanne Pepin, Austin, Hiller, Brennan, Yoder and Bolduc. Absent: Smith
2. **Comments by Visitors:** Grace Fuller stated that she lives in Somersworth and she doesn't like to see her taxes go up but with the tax cap we are putting a strangle hold on all the departments. She stated that cuts after cuts are being made and she is not sure how aware the public is of the cuts. She stated that she has worked here 29 years starting as a Title I tutor, a special education one on one, a library aide and now a building aide. With my experience working in the different positions and with the secretarial staff we work hard for the students and when we negotiated we have never been about money and benefits because we felt we were respected and the last few years a shift has taken place and when we approach the table we are presented with a one or two year contracts which is different than the three and four year contracts in the past. She stated that we have to cut hours, days and benefits and many of us need to take on other jobs to provide for our families. She stated that we are told that there is no more to be had due to the tax cap limitations and whatever we are offered is eaten up by medical and is not a livable wage. She stated that we are told at NH Retirement that it isn't possible to be making so little when the last five years should be the most. She stated that she hopes that when money comes back that we look at the real cuts that are being made.
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the consent calendar:** None
 - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Hanlon to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - March 28th 2017- Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Public Hearing on Budget
 - Maple Wood- April/May Newsletter
 - Idlehurst Newsletter- April
 - Enrollment- April
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supt. Mosca stated that she would like to thank Caroline Butler and the Title One staff as they had their onsite visit and it was a real success due to their efforts and planning. She stated that last week she attended Pippin and it was a wonderful performance. She stated that May 23rd we will be recognizing the retirees for this year. She stated that the 6th graders are at nature's classroom. She stated that SAT testing was last Wednesday and she commended Kyle and the staff at the high school.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - 5.1 **SAU Report:** Austin stated that we will defer this to the May 9th meeting.
 - 5.2 **Middle School Essay Winner-Ethan Marshall/ 3rd Grade Fire Safety Poster Winner-Maley Clark:**

Supt. Mosca stated that Maley Clark entered the NH statewide Fire and Safety poster contest and is the third grade winner and will be recognized in Concord. We are very proud of what she has accomplished. Thank you to Chief Hoyle for being here and for her family for their support. She stated that at Barnes and Noble on Saturday Ethan Marshall was chosen for his essay on his Favorite teacher Mr. Lagarde. Ethan Marshall read his essay and was presented with an award from Don Austin.
 - 5.3 **Building, Grounds & Transportation:** None
 - Curriculum and Activities:** None
 - Policy Committee:** None
 - 5.4 **City Council Update:** Marty Pepin stated that that they had a workshop scheduled for April 1st that was cancelled due to snow. He stated that at the April 3rd meeting they had a school budget

presentation at 5:30 followed by a council meeting at 7:00 and had the second reading on the budget and we tabled the budget. He stated that we had a workshop on the 6th for nonprofit organizations and went through the budget line items with the department heads. He stated that on Monday the 17th they will be working on the budget.

5.5 Student Representative Report-Isis Orchard: Brennan stated that on April 21st NHS will host a triviaton. Wheelchair basketball will be held on April 17th. Youth to youth will be going to the middle school to run activities on the dangers of drugs to kids. The spring concert is on May 9th.

5.6 Review 2017-18 Handbooks: Austin stated that you have drafts of the handbooks in front of you for the board to review and accept. A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Yoder to table until the next meeting to review them. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

5.7 2017-18 Meal Prices: Austin stated that the meal price increases are included in your packet. Brennan asked why there is only one increase at the elementary level. D'Agostino stated that the school district needs to raise the prices at least ten cents per year to equal the amount we get reimbursed for free and reduced meals and we are trying to bring the elementary prices up to the middle and high school lunches. Austin stated that this will move to an action item at the next meeting.

6. ACTION ITEM

6.1 Re-nomination of Certified staff: A motion made by Joanne Pepin seconded by Brennan to accept the re-nomination of certified staff as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Vision 20/20 Committee: Hanlon stated that the next meeting is the Thursday of April vacation.

8.2 Budget: Austin stated that there is an update in the packet if anyone has any questions.

9. MAYOR FORUM DATES:

- May 6th 2017- At Large Councilors Witham and Paradis and School Board Brennan and Hanlon

10. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- **May 8th 2017- SAU 56 Board Meeting**
- **May 9th 2017- Somersworth School Board Meeting**
- **May 23rd 2017- Somersworth School Board Meeting**

11. CLOSING COMMENTS

11.1 Visitors: None

11.2 Board Members: Bolduc welcomed Vic back, he is glad to have him back. He stated that he would be interested to know how many students in each school are buying their lunch in school. Yoder stated that she went with Wendy Berkeley to plot out garden beds. She stated that the sixth graders are at nature's classroom and she got photos and they are having a great time. She congratulated Maley and Ethan, great job and we are very proud of you. Rivers stated congratulations to the students who got awards that is great. Welcome back to Vic. He stated that he saw Pippin and it was really great and the singing was phenomenal. Joanne Pepin stated that she wants to commend Maley and Ethan they show what a great education system we have. She stated that we have to remember to commend Mr. Lagarde, he has done a remarkable job. She stated that listening to that essay it made me realize what a remarkable man this is and he is just one of the many. Our teachers are second to none. She stated that when she worked there we had a substitute who was a retired teacher and he said that our teachers go above and beyond and the staff went out of their way to be friendly and kind to every student and he had never seen a more cleanly and pristine school where the students take pride and keep it clean. She thanked Grace for speaking. This is budget season and the board puts out a budget but the city council makes the final decision and if we as taxpayers don't let them know what we want and what we don't want cut how will they know. She stated that she sees no one at the council meetings, so email and call them and go to the meetings and tell them what you want. Brennan stated that the cleanup day is May 6th registration is 7am at

the middle school. Hanlon congratulated Maley and Ethan for representing our schools, you did a wonderful job. Austin stated that we need to continue to support the arts in our schools and sometimes we forget that it is critical to the success of students. It teaches them lifelong skills and develops talent for things that they may not know they have. He stated that we need to continue to support. Typically it is the first thing that we look at to take off the table and that is not a smart move. Congratulations to all the people who support the arts and the students who participated.

12. NON-PUBLIC: A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Brennan to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 II (b) Personnel and (e) Negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into nonpublic session at 7:30pm. A motion made by Brennan seconded by Joanne Pepin to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:12pm.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Steven Wedick for CTC Auto. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Larry Driscoll as Middle School Art teacher. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Joanne Pepin to accept the nomination of Liz Williams as Maple Wood Special Education teacher. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Rob Reynolds. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Dr. Winn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Hanlon to accept the resignation of Lisa Sloan. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

13. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Brennan seconded by Joanne Pepin to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval