

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, Cavanaugh, Kunz and Anderson. Absent: Leach
2. **Comments by Visitors:** Jill Boutin stated that she is the Co-president of the Rollinsford Education Association and she would like permission to read a letter. She stated that it is with great sadness and disappointment that we feel it necessary to respond in writing to your recent proposal. The purpose of this letter is to bring forth our concerns regarding the proposal and its impact on the relationship between the Rollinsford School Board and the Rollinsford Education Association. We acknowledge that you have made an effort to at least partially address the financial inequities that recent years have brought upon five professional staff members at Rollinsford Grade School by providing a one-time bonus. However, it's essential to note that as a board you have the legal right to place teachers on their appropriate step based on years of experience by appropriating the funds into the general operating budget. This can be done, legally, without input or permission from the budget committee and/or Select Board and regardless of whether the contract is passed. In many other towns and school districts, teachers receive the appropriate steps regardless of whether the collective bargaining agreement passes. The one time "bonus" that you have proposed is an incredibly small percentage of the amount that these individuals are entitled to based on their years of teaching experience. When you as the school board fail to grant steps to deserving employees, especially when there is an operating budget surplus of over \$125,000, you are accepting and endorsing a gross injustice. The school board should commit itself to doing what is legal, just, and right by placing all employees on the correct step. Doing so will cost far less than what the school board over-budgeted for special education expenses. The chart below outlines the step and salary currently earned by the five professional staff and the salary which should have been earned based on their years of experience. When each of the above mentioned staff members were hired, they were provided a contract that outlined the pay structure. It is clearly written that for each year of experience gained, the financial compensation increases as noted by steps on the pay scale. For the past several years, this has failed to occur. Longevity has been awarded based on years of experience but steps have not. Why has the school board chosen to ignore repeal of the Evergreen Law when it calculates longevity, but not step placement? This money is not just a number on a line of a budget. This money, to which each of the five professional staff members affected are entitled, is money that pays for mortgages, day care, student loans, and more. Without using your legal right to provide the appropriate pay for years of experience, you are withholding real things from real people, causing financial strain on real families. In addition, it is incredibly devaluing as professionals and belittling the effort and experience that these five members of the professional staff have dedicated to Rollinsford Grade School. In writing this letter, we are appealing to you to make the ethical and legal decision to provide the appropriate financial compensation to each of the five professional staff members based on their years of experience. Issue new contracts to those five employees, placing them on their appropriate

steps and show the community of Rollinsford, the staff of Rollinsford grade school and the students whose futures we, together, are shaping, that you will not allow this injustice to continue. We respectfully anticipate a response from you.

3. **Consent Calendar**

3.1 **Removal of items from the consent Calendar:** None

3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:

- May 11 2017- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Meeting
- May 11 2017-Minutes of the Rollinsford Public Hearing-Ratification of School District
- Rollinsford Grade School-Newsletter
- Enrollment-June

4. **Announcements:** Supt. Mosca stated that as you can see there are a number of school events and we have a lot going on between now and the end of school.

5. **Discussion Items:**

5.1 **Principal Update:** Lucas stated that the update is in the packet if anyone has any questions. She stated that Shawna Coppola's book came out Monday and we are really excited and honored that she is part of our staff and showcasing the work she is doing for our school. Nelson stated that she didn't see the new lift on the summer project list and asked what the plans are. Lucas stated that it has been ordered but it is not in yet, we will let you know when they will be doing it. Anderson asked when the paving is scheduled. Lucas stated that they hope to start the Monday after the 4th July 10th. She stated that she has spoken with summer rec about that.

5.2 **Marshwood Student Representative Report- Noah Niedzolkowski:** Niedzolkowski stated that tomorrow is graduation night at Marshwood High School for the class of 2017. He stated that the week following will be finals for underclassman. He stated that last Monday was senior awards banquet and academic and extra curricular excellence awards. Tuesday was the same thing for underclassman. He stated that Wednesday was graduation night for the health occupation program for students pursuing a career in nursing. He stated that last Friday was step up day where the underclassman got to meet their teachers including the 8th graders entering the high school. He stated that the projected first day of school is September 5th.

5.3 **Somersworth Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines:** Haines stated that the student council will have their year-end banquet on June 16th to celebrate their accomplishments. There will be a teacher barbecue on June 20th to thank the teachers for all they do. She stated that there will be a new advisor next year Alisha Wroblewski along with Gail Griffith. She stated that they helped the 8th grade class establish their officers before they come in to high school. She stated that the freshman are planning fundraisers, sophomore class is selling t-shirts and they sold water and popcorn at graduation. They have a prom date of May 19th at the Rivermill in Dover. The junior class has car washes planned and will be going to Loudon in September and are looking at senior banquet locations and congratulations to the seniors and tomorrow night is their senior banquet at

Spring Hill. She stated that they had their sports meeting for the fall sports today and the guidance department is doing a college boot camp on August 21st and 23rd.

6. Action Items.

6.1 Allow the Superintendent to do Summer Hiring: Supt. Mosca stated that every year the board votes to give the Superintendent the opportunity to do the summer hiring and then bring it to the board when the first meeting occurs. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Cavanaugh to allow the Superintendent to do the summer hiring. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6.2 Updated Rollinsford Calendar 2017-2018 with Changes to in service days: Supt. Mosca stated that she and I met to change the in service days so they don't always fall on a Friday as it affects the specials so they looked to move the dates around and will repost it on the website and get it out to staff. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson to accept the revised calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6.3 MOU-Billing Marshwood Changed Monthly: Nelson stated that we discussed the MOU at the last meeting that we would be changing the frequency of the billing with Marshwood to monthly versus three times a year. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson to accept the MOU as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. Financial Update:

7.1 Budget: Nelson stated that the budget is included in the packet if anyone has any questions. She stated that at the moment we have an available balance of \$77,000 and we discussed wanting there to be \$100,000 so there are a couple of things to do to ensure that there is \$100,000. She stated that hearing that the bonus offer is not accepted puts us up to that or we could reduce the amount to put into the special education fund. Supt. Mosca stated that it was a warrant article so we can't do that one. Nelson stated that we will see what it is at the end of the year.

8. New Business: Nelson stated that we want to recognize someone who won't be with us at the next meeting. Jeni didn't want to have anything but I would like to say a few words. Jeni Mosca is an educator of the highest degree with state and national recognition as one of the 2006 Milken Educators (1 recognized in each state). The search committee that hired her 7 years ago cited her energy, enthusiasm and leadership. When I started working with her 5 years ago, I knew I had a lot to learn and I am a skeptical student, seldom accepting things at face value and often questioning even seasoned professionals. Jeni accepted the challenge and I'll take just a moment longer to share some of what I have learned. A good Superintendent emulates nature in that she abhors a vacuum. So a good Superintendent will fill in the missing pieces, the black holes-herself, if needed. Aside from the extreme volume of administrative and educational responsibilities a superintendent must fulfill, she also must work with diverse and ever changing boards. If a board is hands off, she steps in to lead and ensures nothing gets missed. If a board is hands on, she steps back and provides support. By any measure Jeni Mosca is not just a good superintendent, she is a great one. She can aptly be called a force of nature. Thank you Jeni for always setting high standards for yourself, SAU 56 and the Rollinsford School District, for always putting students first and for making this board the best it can be. You will be missed. Kunz stated that clearly we have gone through a lot in the districts and there is never a dull moment and he would echo what Judy said, you had a lot

on your plate and you have put in countless hours you have more than earned your retirement. I am going to miss you, thank you for your effort. Anderson stated that she appreciates all the help you gave me being brand new. I was out of my comfort zone and you really helped educate me on the procedural stuff so thank you. Cavanaugh stated that as a parent thank you for your time and hard work. I will really miss hearing your voice at 5:30am in the winter. Supt. Mosca stated that it has been an honor, thank you for your support it is a tough job if you don't have board support so thank you and I appreciate it.

9. Old Business:

9.1 Community Connections: nelson stated that we need to make our goals official and talk about the student survey. The goals for this year are:

- To place the teachers on the appropriate salary step based on experience
- Communicate consistently and clearly to all stakeholders
- Investigate closely with the town committees to pool resources as much as possible.

Cavanaugh stated that in order to update tax payers and all stakeholders we have decided to send out a monthly newsletter to help people who can't make it to the meetings and hopefully it will be helpful to spread information and we hope to get some feedback. She stated that the first one will come out in July and outline our goals and provide information to get things kicked off. Nelson stated that we did a survey of RGS and Marshwood students. Anderson stated that overall the responses were very positive. She stated that RGS received positive feedback. Some were not happy about the configuration and they are happy things are changing and others said they were worried about but realized that they didn't have to worry after they experienced it. Nelson stated that it is good for the second year of the transition to get positive feedback. Good work getting it out and may thanks to RGS staff for getting kids ready for Marshwood.

9.2 Transportation: Supt. Mosca stated that you asked me to contact Mary Nash about the late bus for next year and the cost will be \$31.98 per day and will start on Monday September 11th and end on June 7th for 135 days for a total of \$4,317.30. Nelson stated that we have been told that there are between 5-10 rollinsford riders on the bus and that is only going to grow. She stated that it is our best financial option and will stay on the agenda as we move forward.

9.3 Marshwood Contract Items: None

9.4 Late Start Marshwood: Nelson stated that she was visiting Europe and her cousins brought her 12 year old son and they are talking there about late start as well so it is obviously happening around the world.

10. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- **August 10 2017- Rollinsford School Board Meeting**

11. School Events:

- **June 9 2017-Field Day and Bike Rodeo**
- **June 9 2017- Flag Day Ceremony**
- **June 15 2017- Trimester Awards**
- **June 16 2017- Talent Show**

- **June 19 2017- 6th Grade Breakfast**
- **June 19 2017- 6th Grade Recognition**
- **June 20 2017- All School Awards**
- **June 20 2017- Step Up**
- **June 22 2017- Students Last Day**

12. Closing Comments:

12.1 Visitors: Tamara Niedzolkowski asked if the results of the survey will be made public. Nelson stated they will think about the best way to make them public. Niedzolkowski asked how many responses they received. Anderson stated 57 RGS and 44 Marshwood Middle and High School. Nancy Dionne asked about enrollment. Nelson stated that it has not changed, it is 156. Celia Leopold asked if Marshwood had college level courses. Anderson stated that there are AP course offered. Leopold stated that if you exhaust all the school option is there another option. She stated that on behalf of the rec committee we were wondering where the shed is going. Lucas stated that she asked to sit with the rec director and have one point of contact. Leopold asked when the bus routes for next year will be posted. Supt. Mosca stated that they won't go up until August. Leopold asked how the newsletter will be disseminated to the public. Nelson stated it will be mailed. Tracey laurion stated that there is a Somersworth student going to the new englands Saturday for the Javelin and placed 5th in the state.

12.2 Board Members: None

13. Non Public: A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson 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. Entered into nonpublic session at 7:16pm. A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson to exit out of nonpublic session. Exited out of nonpublic session at 8:35pm.

14. Adjournment: A motion made by Kunz seconded by Cavanaugh to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Katie Krauss
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval