

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, Leach, and Anderson. Excused: Tom Kunz (late)
2. **Comments by Visitors:** None
3. **Consent Calendar:**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the Consent Calendar:** Cavanaugh stated that there was an extra random page in the minutes. Nelson stated it was in the packet and not in the minutes.
 - 3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** A motion made by Anderson seconded by Cavanaugh to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - March 15, 2018- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Meeting
 - Enrollment-April
4. **Announcements:** Lane stated that on March 22, 2018 the SAU Board met and officially approved Katie Krauss as the Business Administrator. She stated that she had been in an interim role since Marie D'Agostino retired in December. She stated that she had been filling that role and doing a fantastic job and she received unanimous approval. She stated that we will be advertising for her Bookkeeping Assistant position soon. Krauss stated that it would be posted tomorrow. She stated that there were some revisions to the posting.

Lane stated that Rollinsford got moved to a wait list for one of the Security Grants from the State. She stated that at least they did not say no. She stated that they came up with an arbitrary end date which we did not know about so this grant was submitted after that date. She stated that there is a committee meeting at the end of the month to make decisions about the projects that are on the wait list. She stated that they did have some money left and they were waiting to see if some districts returned money due to the fact that what they were awarded was not enough to complete their project. She stated that we are hopeful that they will approve the approximately \$51,000 for Rollinsford Grade School. Nelson asked if they are quick about getting word out so we will know. Lane stated that they have been.

Nelson stated that the New Hampshire School Board Association Workshop for Board Members and Chairs is May 2 from 5-8 in Concord. She stated that if anyone was interested in going they should notify Lane as soon as possible so the fee could be paid. She stated that many may have seen signs for the Duck Race which raises money for the Rollinsford Garden Club. She stated that this is one of their major fundraisers to help

preserve the gardens and trails down by the Legion. She stated that it will be May 5th during Open Studios. Leach stated that there will also be Chocolate Tasting sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Nelson stated that Bob Gadomski , incoming Superintendent, will join us for our May meeting. She stated that he wants to get to know the School Board Members and the community.

5. Communications: None

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Principal Update: Lucas stated that the performance of Peter Pan this past weekend was the most incredible performance she has seen in the seven years she has been at RGS. She stated that the students were so invested and so spectacular and Jeanne and Lori did an exceptional job. She stated that it was standing room only for both nights. She stated that Mike Gillis had taped it so that it will be put on DVD if you want to see it. She stated that Mrs. Phipps, Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Nichols classes performed on Wednesday night for their Spring Musical. She stated that they have Nature's Classroom for the 5th and 6th graders May 29th through June 1st. She stated that our 3rd and 4th grade team have five field trips planned for the end of the year to Celebrate NH. She stated that one is to the State House and also to go to a Sea Dogs Game. She stated that Teacher Appreciation Week begins May 7th. She stated that the SAU will provide breakfast on May 8th, and that she does something every day and the PTO will bring lunch one day. She stated that the 6th grade Lock-In is May 18th which is when the entire 6th grade student body spends the night with us. She stated that the PTO would be sending home their Calendar Fundraiser tomorrow. She stated that the Teacher's Association bought ten of the gift cards for this fundraiser. She stated that they started the extended day on Monday and everyone is tired but it has gone off without a hitch. She stated that teacher assignments have been done for next year as well as the schedule. She stated that they are starting student placements and thinking of what students need to be where. She stated that the Rec. Department will have a classroom in the building that they can use this summer. Nelson asked if anything had started with the cupola even though she realizes the weather has not been conducive. Lucas stated that work on the cupola will start on the 18th. She stated that the ceiling tile replacement in the downstairs starts over vacation. She stated that a dumpster will be delivered on Monday so they can purge the attic. She stated that there are two sheds remaining outside and they will be painted by some community service students during vacation. She stated that the flag pole will be done over vacation and the front steps will be worked on during vacation. She stated that Katie and herself has been discussing the RFP for the roof so that will be going out soon.

Lucas stated that a law changed in the State that affects every public school and we were not sure of the implications for us because it just started in September. She stated that what they have realized is that RGS has students that we are not servicing the way we should be. She stated that if we have a student who is screened and shows signs of having a dyslexic brain we are required by law to provide intervention services for those students. She stated that at this time we can use the Title One Tutor to do this with students in kindergarten through third grade. She stated that students with a dyslexic brain need more time with additional intervention. She stated that we are understaffed to provide the services we have to provide. She stated that in NH in order to qualify for Special Education under Specific Learning Disabilities, you also have to have a processing deficit as well as being dyslexic. She stated that often students who have a dyslexic brain do not have a processing deficit so they do not qualify for Special Education Services. She stated that at RGS we do not have that middle level intervention staffing. She stated that this came up due to the law change. She stated that they have many students coming in now with significant needs more than at any other time. Nelson asked Lucas if this needs immediate addressing, as in this year. Lucas stated that if we could do it this year it would be great but you probably will not find someone in May of this year to fill that position. She stated that this level of intervention and support requires a very special person. Nelson asked if every child gets tested. Lucas stated that every student is screened. Leach asked if this happens in kindergarten. Lucas stated that every new student to us and every kindergarten student gets screened and any student that there may be a concern about. She stated that the science of dyslexia is evolving daily. Leach asked if it would be a Special Education Teacher that we need. Lucas stated that it could be a certified teacher with training in these areas. She stated that there is a specific training that they have to have to meet the needs of these kids. She stated that the more experience and expertise, the better, because the response to the child is really important. Nelson stated that she comes from a family that knows dyslexia as her sister is severely dyslexic and I am dyslexic, but to a point that would never have been picked up. She stated that she had also spent a lot of her experience in public education as a physical education teacher working with dyslexic students. She stated that this would be talked about later and needed to be addressed. Lucas asked if the Board was aware of the issue with Title 1 Funding. Nelson stated that last month they had learned that Rollinsford has always had 18-19% free and reduced students and that has now dropped to below 6% so we will be losing funding. Lucas stated that they would lose funding of the position and all the Title One materials that were purchased with Title One monies. She stated that all of those materials will have to be boxed up and put away for a year.

She stated that if they then qualify again next year we can unbox them and use them again. Anderson stated that these are materials no one can use. Nelson asked if we have to give them back. Lucas stated that after a year boxed up, and we do not qualify the following year, yes we give them back. She stated that she would like to see if there was a possibility of the district purchasing them as many they cannot do without next year. Nelson asked if Lucas would have the list of materials for the next meeting that this involves. Lucas stated that she has it whenever the Board wanted it.

6.2 Marshwood Student Representative Report- Noah Niedzolkowski: None

6.3 Somersworth Student Representative Report-Bailey Haines: Haines stated that the Student Council has two field trips coming up. She stated that they have a Team Bonding Trip to the Museum of Science. She stated that this is the time of year to get together and celebrate everything they have done. The other is the Spring Conference for the League of Student Councils. She stated that they are doing a Beach Clean-Up in Rye. She stated that this is the second year doing this. She stated that the National Honor Society is at Riverside Rest Home tonight doing a Bingo Night for the residents. She stated that this is the second year for this also. She stated that tomorrow they will have their Teacher Luncheon on the Professional Development Day and we are also doing a Scholarship Workshop for Seniors. She stated that they are doing a Krispy Kreme Fundraiser next week for the second time this year. She stated that it was really successful the first time around so we are trying to raise some additional money for scholarships. She stated that they will have Election of Officers next week. She stated that they are doing it earlier this year than last as there will be no returning officers. She stated that this would give time for the outgoing officers to pair with the new officers. She stated that the second Blood Drive of the year will be on May 11th. She stated if they reach a certain amount of units of blood two seniors will get a scholarship. She stated that the Freshman Class has planned two car washes in the near future and the Sophomores are planning various fundraisers. She stated that the Juniors are in Prom Mode with the prom being May 19th. She stated that the Senior Class has the fundraiser tonight and on May 19th we are partnering with the Gathering Place and Small Business to hold a Paint Night. She stated that they are also sponsoring a booth at the Spring Craft Fair on May 5th at the High School. Juniors will be doing Science Testing next week.

6.4 2017-18 Calendar Last Day of School: Nelson stated that the last day of school will be Friday, June 15th. Lucas stated this is for students and teachers would have to report on June 18th and 19th.

6.5 Personnel Not Members of Union-Moving to Health Insurance Yellow Plan: Nelson stated that once the Union Contract passed and would be signed this week, one of the things we put off was putting the non-union staff on the Yellow Plan She stated this would be the Principal, the Administrative Assistant, the Facility Director and the custodian. She stated that this is good timing to so this. She stated that they should have enough money in the budget to give them a stipend towards it for next year because we did not have time to put it in their compensation for next year. Leach asked if this plan would save money with them the same as the Teachers. Nelson stated it would. She stated that with current staffing it saves about \$10,000.00 and it would put everyone in the building on the same plan. Lucas stated that the prior year when it went before the Town Jeni Mosca had told her if the Teachers insurance changes, yours will too. Leach made a motion seconded by Anderson to place the non-union staff on the Yellow with Choice Fund Health Plan. VOTE: motion passed, unanimous

6.6 2018-19 Calendar: Lane stated that there is a new calendar since the packet was put together. Nelson stated that they would probably not have a long discussion about this calendar at this meeting and that way the Board could look at the differences by the next meeting. Lucas stated that one of the revisions was that the staff, especially the Special Education staff and the Nurse, wanted to align some of the Professional Development Days with Somersworth. She stated in order to do that we changed three workshop days in the spring to align with Somersworth. She stated that they also wanted to have as many days as possible to align with Marshwood. She stated that those are the changes in the calendar. Nelson asked what the first day for Marshwood was. Leach stated that it was after Labor Day. Leach made a motion seconded by Anderson to adopt the 2018-19 school calendar. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. Action Items:

7.1 Professional Staff Re-Nomination List: Nelson stated that we have a list of the professional staff that Lane is recommending for rehire. Nelson stated that this would be tabled and would be discussed in non-public.

8. Financial Update:

8.1 Budget: Krauss stated that she had noticed that for Special Education Transportation they had spent very little. She stated that she had brought this up to Special Education and they are going to be looking at this. She stated that they had not been billed for Marshwood after-school busing. She stated she has not seen any bills. She asked if she should reach out to them or let it ride. Anderson asked if we were still getting counts of how many ride the after school bus. Nelson stated that they were not. She stated that we should get counts from them for the last couple weeks and the bills. She stated that they do know who rides the bus and who they drop off. She stated that she sees many

things that are unencumbered that have money that will be spent. Krauss stated that trash removal, utilities and things like that would be ongoing. Nelson stated that when we look at the huge figure at the bottom of the financial report it is nowhere near accurate. She stated that we are probably looking at returning to the Town \$100,000 which is about the same as last year. Nelson stated that we do not know if we will get the Grant from that State but if we don't we should have the funds to do the things that we want to do. She asked which line item represented the free and reduced lunches. Krauss stated that Title One is a Grant Budget.

Krauss stated in next month's packet they would see some information about an increase in lunch prices of \$.10. She stated that we have to do that by law. She stated that she wants to get next year's budget put up on line so wanted to have a talk about what the Board wants to see with the different lines. Nelson stated that the HIPPA Regulations states that what people get for health insurance is not public knowledge. She stated that Krauss has found a way to summarize some of the protected information. She stated that she is comfortable to direct Krauss to put the budget that she has come up with on the site that she feels comfortable doing. Krauss stated that she could email it to Board Members before she posted it if desired. She stated that it is basically the same report that you get every month in your packet except it collapses it down with less detail. She stated that the bus routes and times have been uploaded to the website for the extended day. Lucas stated that First Student and Lisa had been amazing.

9. New Business:

10. **Principal Search and Update:** Lane stated that the committee has met three times and that there are ten members. She stated that there are two school board members, six staff members, a parent and herself. She stated that they looked over the applications that came in and their own priorities. She stated that they made decisions on which applicants they wanted to move forward. She stated that last night they had a marathon session at the SAU Office and interviewed the candidates and we have moved forward two of them to the next stage. She stated that the next step in the process is to have them spend a day here at the school, meeting staff and getting a feel for the school and seeing if it is a good fit both for the school and for the person. She stated that both candidates have administrative experience and that was something that they thought was really important. She stated that one of the things to make a decision about was the Board's interface with the candidate. Anderson stated that they were not sure if they wanted two to come forward to the Board or if the committee should narrow it down to one. Kunz asked how many total candidates there were. Lane stated that there were five. She stated that not all of them are in a current administration position. She stated that she had some correspondence with the staff today. She stated that the question is if the Board wants to have the opportunity to have an informal conversation with the candidate. She stated that if the committee recommends one person do we bring that person to the Board to meet them and perhaps have an informal discussion with them. Kunz asked of the two candidates is one better than the other. Lane stated that the committee is not at that point yet. Nelson stated that it is two experienced administrators. She asked if once they spent a day at Rollinsford Grade School if their names become public. Lane stated that

after they work through the schedule they will make it public. Nelson stated that she was concerned about them and that they know in the next few weeks their names will become public. She asked if they both were going to be at RGS on the same days. Lane stated they would be there on different days. Nelson stated that maybe some of the Board Members could make time to be a part of that day. Leach stated that if the committee is torn after the school visits she would be fine with them bringing both to the Board but if there is one that stands out, that's fine to bring that one candidate forward. Kunz stated that he hopes the Board does not have to do this again anytime soon as it is a process. Nelson stated that there was not a big turnout for the public session to meet Bob Gadowski. Lane stated that they had thought about something in the morning for a meet and greet so that parents might be able to meet the candidates as they drop off their kids. Kunz asked what the end date was. Lane stated that if it all comes together we could have a name for you at your next meeting. She stated that she does not know if the Board wants to do a formal interview. Nelson stated that it is the Board's decision if that person will be hired. She stated that if visiting the schools, they were on an equal plane the Board would want to see both candidates. She stated that if one was above the other we would meet with that one. She stated that she likes the idea of having them come to their next meeting. She stated that Bob Gadowski would be there. Kunz stated that maybe you could do a robo-call to let the community know that this person would be here. Lucas stated that you could have an informal interview with the person, they can answer questions. Nelson stated that we should think about starting the meeting at 6:00. Lucas stated that the staff had already asked her to start looking at the Wednesday and Thursday after vacation for school visits and build a schedule for that day. Nelson stated that we are looking at April 25th and 26th. Lane stated that one of the questions is does the Board want to wait to meet until May 10th to meet the candidate. Lucas stated that the Board is going to want the feedback from the staff in the building on the visits from the 25th and 26th. She stated that she has them do surveys where they rate the candidate. Kunz asked if there was any harm in waiting until May 10th to meet the candidate. Leach stated that she is concerned that if we wait, the candidate maybe offered another position in the meantime. She stated that if they are looking for a job they have probably put out other applications. Lane stated that we are fortunate that the two we wanted to move forward are available to do so. She stated that the committee will need to meet again to process the information from the visit days. She stated that the committee is not in a position yet to say if there is a first and second choice. Leach stated that they would need to check to see if the candidate was available for a night that we choose to meet with the Board. Anderson stated that they will cater to the Board. Nelson stated that if they met with the candidate at the meeting on May 10th that the decision could be made that night. Lane stated she would bring a nomination forward when the decision had been made. Leach stated that her fear is that waiting to meet the candidate until May 10th and that they may accept another offer prior to ours. Lucas stated that when she was a candidate for her new position in Stratham she asked to have the date moved up to meet with the School Board. She stated that it is a very difficult position for staff in your building to not know if you are leaving or staying. She stated that it is difficult on relationships. She stated that she thought there was no reason for them to not move the meeting to an earlier date.

Nelson stated that she was not sure if Bob Gadomski could attend a different date. She stated that if we move the meeting from May 10th to May 3rd it will make for a long meeting. She stated that perhaps they should start it at 6:00. She stated that it would be a long meeting whether we do it on the 3rd or the 10th. She stated that she would check in with Bob Gadomski on that date. She stated that she believes Bob Gadomski is attending the SAU Meeting on the 7th. Kunz stated that perhaps we should check to see when the Board Meetings are in his district prior to contacting him. Lane stated that he had told her that Wednesdays and Thursdays tend to be meeting days for him and he was surprised that he was free on May 10th. Nelson stated that it did not have to be May 3rd but could be the 2nd. Lane stated that there has to be time for the committee to meet prior to the meeting. She stated that the committee has been meeting on Thursdays. Krauss stated that May 3rd was the Northwood School Board Meeting. Lucas stated that if the committee was to meet on the 26th which is a Thursday, after the candidates have visited the school, the committee could then review the surveys that are filled out by staff on their feedback. Krauss stated that May 2nd is a Nottingham School Board Meeting. Leach suggested they meet on May 7th. Krauss stated that they also have City Council on the 7th. Nelson stated that she knows they do not want to do two meetings but this is an important decision. She stated that perhaps they should break it up. She stated that we could meet on April 30th or May 3rd and that would be to just meet the candidate for Principal. Leach asked if May 2nd works for everyone. Nelson stated that we would do this meeting to meet the candidate on May 2nd and then Bob Gadomski would be here on the 10th. Lucas stated that if a decision was made on May 2nd the new principal could potentially come on the 10th also. Nelson stated that the School Board will meet on May 2nd here at the Rollinsford Grade School at 6:30. She stated that this meeting would be for a Principal Nomination. She stated that it is nice to see everyone's hard work come to fruition. She stated that they would also keep the meeting on the 10th.

11. Old Business:

10.1 Community Connections FAQ: None

10.2 Marshwood contrat Items: None

10.3 Late Start Time Marshwood: Anderson stated that there was another meeting on April 23rd from 2:30 to 4:00. She stated that she cannot make this meeting so if anyone else is free on that day it would be great. She stated that the committee has been very good about giving her an update on the meetings. Nelson stated that usually around this time of year we plan our School Board Retreat and Annual Meeting with Marshwood. She stated that she is requesting that they wait until Bob Gadomski comes on board to discuss a time to do it over the summer. She stated that when he is there on the 10th they can discuss that.

11. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- **May 2, 2018-MSAD 35 School Board Meeting-7PM-MHS**
- **May 7, 2018 –SAU 56 Board Meeting-5:30 PM- CTC 1st Floor Mulligans Grill**
- **May 10, 2018-Rollinsford School Board Meeting-6:30 PM-Rollinsford Grade School**
- **May 16, 2018-MSAD 35 School Board Meeting-7 PM- MHS**

- **June 6, 2018- MSAD 35 School Board Meeting- 7 PM-MHS**

Krauss stated that she wanted to inform everyone that the SAU Meeting on May 7th is actually at CTC Mulligans Grill and not a Rollinsford Grade School. She stated that it was a misprint on the agenda that it was at RGS. Leach stated that they would vote for SAU Board officers that day. Krauss stated that it is also at 5:30 and not at 6:30 as listed. Lane stated that they have a Budget Presentation at City Hall at 6:15. She stated that she does not believe it will be a large agenda. She stated that it was originally at 6:30 but has been changed due to the Budget Presentation with the City Council in Somersworth. She stated that she did not know if a new posting went out yet with the change in time.

12. School Events: none

13. Closing Comments:

14. Visitors: Cecelia Leopold asked if the Board has looked into lengthening the day throughout the school year to avoid lengthening the school year due to snow days. She stated that perhaps starting at 8:20 rather than 8:40 would be better. She stated that it has been difficult to transition the students to a new schedule this late in the year. She stated that as Lucas stated, not only are the teachers exhausted but students are coming home exhausted. She stated that extending the day infringes on after school activities. Nelson stated that over the summer they would be having some discussions regarding this. Leopold stated that there is a Dyslexic Center in Rochester that you may want to contact to work with the dyslexic students. She stated that for the meet and greet of the new principal it would be great if childcare was provided. She stated that the mornings are not a good time to have a meet and greet as parents are rushing to get their kids to school, daycare and rush off to work. She stated that evenings are a problem because kids are home and parents may not have childcare. She asked how the community was notified that a search committee was being formed. She stated that you only have one parent on the committee. She stated that she feels you should have more parents on the committee. Nelson stated that the formation of the committee had been a discussion since they had received Lucas' resignation. She stated that they wanted a lean as possible committee. She stated that the Board had decided on the makeup of the committee. She stated although it seems like one parent it is more parents as members of the Board are also parents. She stated as to the meet and greet nothing has been committed to. Leopold stated that the School Board should coordinate notices with the Town Website. She stated that there are parents who may want their kids to come back to RGS now that there will be a new principal. Nelson stated that the Meet and Greet for Bob Gadomski was on the Town Website and we did not have many show up for it. Leach stated that the meeting on May 2nd to meet the candidate will be open to the public. Kunz stated that he agrees that this is an opportunity to meet the new principal and it is tough when you have children that

need childcare. Leach stated that they should try to have childcare. Kunz stated that perhaps there would be some Middle or High School students available. Nelson stated that perhaps the Rec. Committee should be asked as they know the kids who may want to do this. She stated if you can provide people we are willing to pay. She stated that this meeting would need to be posted and if childcare would be available it needs to be in the posting. She stated that she was going to provide a different email for posting as there is one person not on the list who will make sure it gets to all areas of the town. Nancy Dione stated that she had heard mention of changing the school year next year to align with Somersworth. She asked if we have any students in Somersworth next year. Nelson stated that they were aligning some of the Professional Days with Somersworth so that the Special Education Staff, Art Teacher, Music Teacher and the Nurse will be able to get together with their counterparts in Somersworth.

13.2 Board Members: None

14. Non Public: A motion made by Kunz seconded by Cavanaugh to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A:3 II (b) Personnel. Vote: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into nonpublic session at 8:00 pm. A motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunz to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:40 pm.

A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to approve the confirmation of the Re-nomination of Professional Staff for the 18-19 school year. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to accept the resignation of Shawna Coppola. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Kunz seconded by Anderson to pay stipends for dedication and hard work at RGS to the following staff and to pay a stipend to non-union staff to offset health insurance expenses incurred by non-union staff who were made to move to the Yellow Plan. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

A motion made by Anderson seconded by Leach to hire a 50% Literacy Specialist for the 18-19 school year. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

15. Adjournment: A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Melinda Sullivan
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval