

1. **Call to Order-Roll Call- Pledge of Allegiance:** Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM and upon call of the roll, the following Board Members were present: Nelson, Leach, Anderson Cavanaugh, and Kunz.
2. **Comments by Visitors:** None
3. **Consent Calendar:**
  - 3.1 **Removal of items from the Consent Calendar:** None
  - 3.2 **Approval of consent calendar:** Kunz made a motion seconded by Anderson to approve the consent calendar. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
    - November 1, 2018- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Special Meeting
    - November 8, 2018- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Budget Discussion
    - November 8, 2018- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Meeting
    - November 27, 2018- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Budget Discussion
    - Enrollment
4. **Announcements/Communications:**
  - 4.1 **Superintendent's Update:** Gadomski stated that recently they have been spending a lot of time on budget preparation and we presented it last night to the Budget Committee. He stated that he wanted to thank his staff at the SAU as they have been working very hard on the budget and you saw the results last night. He stated that we got our Nesdec report on the future enrollment. He stated that it looks like the future enrollment is an uptick over the next 5-10 years. Nelson stated that they were predicting the uptick years ago. Gadomski stated that the 5-year projection it is up about 18 students and then there is a slight downturn for year 10.
  - **SAU 56 Withdrawal Update:** Gadomski stated that he had touched bases with Barrett Christina from the School Board Association and in the packet you will see the answers to your questions regarding withdrawal. Nelson stated that she had met with Kerry Tice who is the chair of the Marshwood School Board and she wanted to make sure that we knew that Marshwood would be there to support us through this process. She stated that she has had one member of the public stated that they were very concerned about this and what does it mean? She stated that the Board still needs to make a decision if they will do our own withdrawal and if we decide to do it, there will be a Warrant Article to be voted on by the town that will decide that we will make our own committee to make our options and come up with our own plans which would need to be approved by the Department of Education and then go before the Rollinsford voters again for approval a year from March. She stated that if the Warrant Article passes that says that we want to explore and the committee is formed to do so. She stated that the Warrant Article would say that we are moving forward with withdrawal and will form a committee who will come up with a plan for withdrawal. Gadomski stated that what you are deciding on tonight is if you are going to put a Warrant Article out there. He stated that if the Warrant Article passes, that will create the committee. He stated that the withdrawal committee will do all of

the background, all of the options and then that plan will go to the State Board of Education. He stated that if the State Board of Education says the plan is feasible then it comes back onto another Warrant next year. He stated that the Town will decide if it is appropriate or not. Nelson stated that Somersworth has already begun the process for withdrawal so we need a plan on how we are going to move forward. Leach stated that this is a moving forward committee rather than a withdrawal committee. Gadomski stated that this is a unique situation because usually when a district is pulling out, it is a district that is deciding to go out on their own and the other entity stays the way it is. He stated that in this case you have Somersworth moving forward so Rollinsford could do nothing. He stated that you would then have to rely on what Somersworth's choice is and then the State Board would have to decide if that adequately took care of Rollinsford. Gadomski stated that he thinks it is in the best interest of the Rollinsford Board to go through the process because then you are looking at your best interest and your best plan. He stated that you have two things happening at once and it may come to Somersworth pulling out and Rollinsford stays with the SAU and you reconfigure it. He stated that while this is in motion Rollinsford could pull out and Somersworth stays with SAU 56 and reconfigures it. He stated that it is in Rollinsford's best interest to put the Warrant Article out to the community to see if they want to form the committee to explore all of your options. Nelson stated that in their plans they need an option as to what happens with Somersworth. She stated that Somersworth has to have a plan as to what happens with Rollinsford. She stated that if they choose not to withdraw we will be doing what Somersworth decides for us. Gadomski stated that when the State Board of Education looks at the plan they will make sure that both districts are taken care of. Kunz stated that if they did nothing, Somersworth still has to look out for how this affects us. He asked if it negatively impacts Rollinsford will they allow this to move forward? Gadomski stated perhaps. Nelson stated that it would depend on who is defining negative. Gadomski stated that he does not think they will look at it as putting Rollinsford at a disadvantage. He stated that they would look to see if it was feasible. He stated that the committees will be charged to come up with feasible options. Kunz stated that this was Somersworth's decision. Gadomski stated if you do not form a committee, and Somersworth goes through their piece in this they most likely will withdraw from SAU 56, which means that Rollinsford has SAU 56 and your only option is to restructure. Gadomski stated that it would be feasible for Rollinsford to keep SAU 56 but you need the services of a Superintendent, services of a Business Administrator and services of a Special Education Director. He stated that it may only be one day or two days a week. Anderson stated that they would not have a building. Nelson stated that this is not for the Board to determine although there will be two members of the committee from the Board.

**4.2 Principal's Update:** Hartford stated that the Student Led Conferences were very well attended. He stated that parents were very receptive to how information was presented. He stated that depending on grade level it was presented differently, either with binders or technology on the smart boards. He stated that he wanted to focus on the community connections that they have made over the past month. He stated that Liberty Mutual came to visit to sponsor "An Hour of Code". He stated that they brought a team of 9-20 volunteers. He stated that a couple of the volunteers were RGS graduates who were excited to come back. He

stated that they went into the classrooms and had the students go through different programs on the computers to solve various problems. He stated that as they solved a problem they got to go a little bit further into the program. He stated that if they solved the problems they were awarded a Certificate for the Hour of Code. He stated that teachers loved having them here and want them back. He stated that it allows kids to become more technology savvy so that they understand the process to solve problems using technology. He stated that the prior day they had taken the whole school to the Rochester Opera House to see the production of the Nutcracker. He stated that a third grade student from RGS was in the production as well as a child of one of the employees. He stated that this was sponsored by the Somersworth Women's club. Next week the Police Benevolent Association is doing their sponsorship on the day before December break to allow all students to go to the theater in Wells and they have a choice of seeing "Mary Poppins" or "Spiderman". He stated that they are no longer fully staffed as he had a resignation of a Mainstream Coach land on his desk this afternoon.

## **5. Discussion Items:**

**5.1 Marshwood Student Representatives Update-Megan Moore:** Moore stated that Marshwood is halfway through their second quarter and a couple weeks after coming back from Holiday Break we will start our mid-term exams. She stated that during exams it is a closed campus and you cannot bring students out during exams. She stated that students have to show up to school even if they do not have exams that day. She stated that Marshwood won, for the third year in a row, the Class B Championship for Football. She stated that they beat Brunswick and it was almost a blowout. She stated that now they have Basketball, both boys and girls. She stated that we have hockey and the boy's hockey team is a combination of Noble and Traip and Marshwood. She stated that they have a ski team, indoor track and wrestling also starting up. She stated that Anderson's daughter is on the Varsity Basketball team. She stated that they had their annual Honor Society induction the past evening. She stated that they have a new Rollinsford student. He did live in Eliot but has moved to Rollinsford. She stated that there was a Choral Concert tonight at 7:00 at Marshwood. She stated that Marshwood has a Hawk Buddy Program. She stated that the students volunteer to work with younger students once a week at Central School or Eliot Elementary. She stated that they spend about 30 minutes with the younger students to help them. She thought that perhaps the Board could discuss with Marshwood adding Rollinsford Grade School into the mix. Nelson stated that this is an excellent suggestion. She stated that she is going to try to keep track of all of the Rollinsford Seniors who have received college acceptances. She stated that then the Board and school could see the full circle of these students. She stated that Adie Hendricks got accepted to Husson and Keene State, Elise Hassan has been accepted to UNH, Lauren Francisose has been accepted to Franklin Pierce University and Salem State, Irene Labesta has been accepted to Husson and Granite State University and I have been accepted to a number of schools. She stated that she has talked with the principal of Marshwood and she will meet with the head of Guidance and I will be notified when Rollinsford students get accepted to colleges so I can update the Board. Leach asked if the college lets Marshwood know of a student being accepted? Moore stated that notification is sent to the student and guidance constantly

asks to be made aware of that notification. Nelson stated that the Board really appreciates the focus on the Rollinsford students. Hartford asked who the staff contact for the Hawks Buddy Program is and if it was for all grade levels. Moore stated that it has mostly been second through fourth grade but it can include all grades. She stated that it is for Juniors and Seniors because they have transportation as it is right after school. Nelson asked if Marshwood has a hockey rink? Moore stated that they use the Dover Rink and practice before school.

## **6. Financial Update**

**6.1 2018-19 Budget Update:** Krauss stated that there have not been many changes since the last time. She stated that the transfer of \$75,001 has been made to the Capital Reserve Trust Account. She stated that \$75,000.00 had also been transferred into the Building fund. She stated that she had looked at the audit charges for the past few years and the reason it is more in some years is that there is a reporting requirement every two years and we have to pay for that service. She stated that she left it at \$13,000 for next year because they will have to pay for that reporting service.

**6.2 2019-20 Budget Review:** Nelson stated that this budget was presented to the Budget Committee last night. Gadomski asked if there were any questions or feedback on the presentation from the previous evening? Leach stated that the presentation was awesome and thanked Gadomski and Krauss. She stated that the Budget Committee really appreciated the amount of time and work that went into it. She stated that it was very clear and easy to understand and was exceptional. Anderson stated that we will know more once we get through negotiations.

## **7. New Business:**

**7.1 First Reading Policies:** Nelson asked if the Board had a chance to look through these policies? She stated that this is the first reading on these policies but is there any discussion on any of them? Anderson stated that for the Questionnaires and Surveys they have always gone through the Superintendent. Gadomski stated that Lane has been working through the policies and if this format works for you, what we'll do is just put 3-4 policies in per meeting and cycle them through the first reading and the second reading. He stated that they are listed as mandatory policies, recommended policies or optional policies. Nelson stated that she had a question regarding the Patriotic Exercises Policy. She stated that in the last sentence she would like to see it worded "students who do not participate shall respect what the others are doing". She feels that the "must sit or stand" needs to be removed. She stated that as long as they are being respectful that is what is important. She stated that it is a voluntary activity. She stated that she was going to ask that the first sentence that it be done every day be removed but she will think about it. Leach asked if it is done every day? Hartford stated that it is not done school wide. He stated that it is left up to the individual classroom teacher. He stated that he does not think that it is happening every day in every class. Nelson stated that she would be willing to strike the sentence about doing it every day. Leach asked if there is a policy that said it had to be done every day and a teacher didn't would there be disciplinary action for that? Hartford

stated that if it is a policy and teachers have been told that it has to be done daily, then yes. Nelson stated that this could be discussed further at their next meeting.

- **ILD- Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research**
- **ILD-R- Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment- Supporting Forms**
- **ILDA- Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research**
- **IMDA- Patriotic Exercises**
- **IMGA- Service Animals**

Nelson asked if there is a drone policy? She stated that she is not sure that the New Hampshire School Board Association has come up with a drone policy. She stated that a lot of people have drones now and if one should fly over and look in classroom windows or on the playground, we need to have a policy that we can enforce. Leach stated that many states have privacy laws and drones are prohibited from flying over private land without consent of the land owner. Gadomski stated that he will check with the School Board Association to see if they have a drone policy. Leach stated that there may be a State law. Anderson asked what happens if a child is the owner of the drone. Nelson asked do we allow them to use it while on school property? Kunz made a motion seconded by Leach to move all policies to a Second Reading at the next meeting. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

## 8. Old Business:

**8.1 SAU 56 Withdrawal Discussion:** Nelson stated that they need to decide if they want to place a warrant on the ballot. She stated that she strongly suggests that they do so that we come up with a plan. She stated that this is to just to form a committee to study our options. Gadomski stated that he will find out what the proper wording for the warrant is. Leach stated that once the committee puts together the plan, do they bring the best plan to us and we do another warrant article? Gadomski stated that once the committee is formed, the committee takes over. He stated that the committee will do the plan and bring forward the best option. He stated that this will go to the State Board of Education. He stated that if the State Board approves it then it goes on as a Warrant Article. He stated that it is the committee that puts it on as a Warrant Article. Nelson stated that there will have to be Public Hearings. She stated that it is the School Board's job to seat the committee. Gadomski stated that ultimately you will be voting on all of your Warrant Articles so if I get 5 nods I am going to put a Warrant Article on to form a Withdrawal Committee. Cavanaugh stated that they would need to prepare some supporting materials for the Town before the vote explaining what the Warrant means and what will happen. Nelson stated that it would be good if they could have the materials ready for the Public Budget Hearing on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Nelson stated that they have not reviewed their goals. She stated that we should plan to do that at our January meeting. She asked how they plan to present the budget at the Budget Hearing? Gadomski asked how it has been done in the past? He stated that he has seen the Budget Committees do it all themselves and he's seen the Board present it. Nelson stated that historically the Budget Committee has not presented the budget. She stated that it has been the school folks doing it and for the past

4-5 years it has been done by Powerpoint. She asked Leach if she has heard any feedback from the Budget Committee regarding the presentation? Leach stated that they were very happy in how you presented the budget last night. She stated that if you could distill some of the more important things from that presentation and projections are good. Gadomski stated that they can put together a PowerPoint. Nelson stated that people will expect to have a copy of the budget. Krauss stated that she will include the memo with the highlights. Nelson stated that it should also be on the website. Krauss stated that she would send it to the Town to distribute. Nelson stated that the Deliberative Session will be February 5<sup>th</sup>. She stated that they need to schedule a Board Meeting prior to that if the Budget Committee makes any changes. Krauss stated that it should be publicized that the Deliberative Session is a weeknight rather than a Saturday. She stated that she can email the schedule to Board Members to be able to attach to emails they send out. Nelson stated that one thing that is not on the schedule is when people have to sign up for positions to get on the ballot. Krauss stated that she would add this.

**9. Action Item:** None

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

- **January 5, 2019- Budget Public Hearing-9:00 AM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **January 8, 2019- Public Hearing Snow Date- 7:00 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **January 10, 2019- Rollinsford School Board Meeting-6:30 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **February 5, 2019- Deliberative Session- 6:00 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **February 9, 2019- Deliberative Session Snow Date- 9:00 AM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **February 14, 2019- Rollinsford School Board Meeting- 6:30 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **March 12, 2019- Voting Day**
- **March 14, 2019- Rollinsford School Board Meeting- 6:30 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **March 25, 2018- SAU 56 Board Meeting- 6:30 PM- Mulligans Grill-CTC**

**11. School Events:** Nelson stated that the events were very nicely listed in the Principal's report. Gadomski asked if this item should be removed from the agenda and just have the events listed in Hartford's Principal Report? Nelson stated that the public does not see Hartford's report but they do see the agenda. She stated that if you could take the events listed in the Principal's Report and list them here they would be available to the public.

**12. Closing Comments:**

**12.1 Visitors:** Tracey Laurion stated that everyone had done a great job of talking about the withdrawal possibilities. She stated that it will be a Warrant Article this year, it passes, and then another Warrant Article a year later. She stated that the timeline for this is a year plus out before anything occurs. She stated that she is trying to understand the time table because there have been a lot of questions about it in the community. Gadomski stated that there is a chance it would take effect on July 1, 2020. Nelson stated that she wanted to be clear that something is going to happen. Laurion asked what would happen if the Warrant in March failed. Nelson stated that then Somersworth would continue to move forward and there would be a plan for Rollinsford. Laurion stated that if it does not pass we would not form a committee, but if it

passes we form the committee right off. She stated that if it passes it is in our hands and if it fails it will be in someone else's hands. Gadomski stated that if it fails Somersworth moves forward with their process and will pull out of SAU 56. He stated if it fails, Rollinsford will have SAU 56. He stated that you would then have to restructure SAU 56. He stated that this would be a piece included in the plan that Somersworth comes up with. Laurion asked if Somersworth was definitely pulling out of SAU 56. She stated she had read somewhere that perhaps Somersworth would stay as SAU 56 with Rollinsford contracting and being a part. Gadomski stated that anything is a possibility and it is up to the two withdrawal committees. Laurion stated that she just wants the citizens of Rollinsford to know that if we want a say in this, the Warrant needs to pass. Gadomski stated this was true to optimize your choices. Nancy Dionne stated that she believes that Somersworth actually has to hold a public hearing in Rollinsford. Gadomski stated that both withdrawal committees need to hold public meetings in all of the districts that they affect.

**12.2 Board Members:** Cavanaugh stated that back when school was starting, we had some 6<sup>th</sup> graders interview our new Administrators. She stated that those interviews are now up on the School Board Website under school district notices. She stated that the site is [bit.ly/schoolboardfaq](http://bit.ly/schoolboardfaq).

**13. Non Public:** A motion made by Leach seconded by Anderson to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A:3 II (e) Negotiations. Vote: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into nonpublic session at 7:51 PM. A motion made by Anderson seconded by Leach to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:05 PM.

**14. Adjournment:** A motion made by Anderson seconded by Kunz to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Melinda Sullivan  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval