

1. **Call to Order-Roll Call- Pledge of Allegiance:** Gadomski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and upon call of the roll, the following Board Members were present: Nelson, Leach, Anderson Cavanaugh, and Kunz.
 - 1.1 Elect a Chairperson: Gadomski stated that since it was the first meeting after the annual meeting they needed to elect a chairperson. Kunz made a motion seconded by Cavanaugh to elect Nelson as Chairperson. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Nelson stated that she did not think that she would be in this position but she will serve 100% for the district.
 - 1.2 Elect a Vice Chairperson: Nelson stated that they needed to elect a Vice-Chair. Leach made a motion seconded by Anderson to elect Cavanaugh as Vice chair. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.
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 Leach to approve the consent calendar. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - February 14, 2019- Minutes of the Rollinsford School Board Meeting
 - Enrollment
 - Timeliness of Special Education Evaluations Report
4. **Announcements/Communications:**
 - 4.1 **Superintendent's Update:** Gadomski stated that he wanted to thank the people of Rollinsford for their continued support with the Warrant Articles passing and the voting was appreciated. He stated that they will continue to work hard to make sure that they are moving this school and the students forward.
 - **Contoocook Valley School District Funding Lawsuit:** Gadomski stated that in the packet was the Contoocook Valley School District Funding Lawsuit. He stated that this was for informational purposes. Nelson asked if members had had the chance to look at this and were there any questions for Gadomski? Leach asked what the next step would be? Gadomski stated that it is interesting timing for this as there are a number of bills in the legislature that are gaining some support to do with funding. He stated that Contoocook Valley has decided to move forward with filing the lawsuit because they feel that the current funding is not equitable or sufficient. He stated there is not a necessary next step but they are just sending this out to School Boards for consideration if any School Boards want to take action. Cavanaugh asked if the outcome of this could affect districts across the state? Gadomski stated that the answer is yes if they are successful and they change the formula for funding. Anderson asked if it would affect all districts? Gadomski stated that it is not equitable across the state, district to district, and they do not feel that the adequacy number is adequate.

Nelson stated that this goes back to the Claremont decision where a new state formula was developed for the distribution of money across the state. She stated that this was never enacted all the way. She stated that the State has pushed more onto local governments in terms of the cost of education. Kunz asked what the chances of their prevailing were? Gadomski stated that he is thinking it is pushing the conversation to the forefront. He stated that he does not think that they have a specific way to fund education but they know that it is not funded correctly and it is underfunded. He stated that when Andru Volinsky came and did his presentation in Somersworth it was very clear that it was inequitable on the property wealth of your town or the lack thereof. He stated that the tax burden on some communities is enormous and very light on others. He stated that some communities have to work twice as hard to earn the same amount of money as others. He stated that Contoocook just thought they needed to take the next step and push it to the forefront. Nelson asked if there were any benefits for a school district to sign on with them? Gadomski stated that he was not a part of their discussion at a board level. He stated that they would welcome other districts signing on as there is power in numbers. He stated that was up to each individual board. Kunz stated that it would seem others would have joined on. He stated that perhaps they know that there is not much of an argument there. He stated that there is strength in numbers. Gadomski stated that the burden is very different from community to community. He stated that in Andru Volinsky's presentation it was apparent that some place like Portsmouth, Moultonborough or Alton, their tax burden is much lower than other communities so they are probably not that interested in jumping on board as communities that have to raise the tax dollars. Nelson stated that she remembers that he was a part of the original Claremont case. Gadomski stated that he was one on the original attorneys that brought the suit forward and has a lot of background.

4.2 Principal's Update: Hartford stated that he had put a lot in the packet this time as there has been a ton going on in the past six to seven weeks. He wanted to just acknowledge several publically. He stated that one of the fifth-sixth grade classrooms had a writing project that was to create a newsletter. He stated that it took a number of weeks for them to do the research and the writing and editing the drafts. He stated that it is not something that they are considering doing on a regular basis but it was more of a school project for writing. Nelson stated that it was an excellent product for fifth and sixth graders. Leach stated she really enjoyed reading it. Cavanaugh stated that it was very well done. Hartford stated that for the topic of transition of the sixth graders to Middle School, they had been invited to the Talent Show at Marshwood Middle School. He stated that they went over and it was an excellent opportunity for the kids to be in the building without being overwhelmed. He stated that they had a quick tour of the cafeteria and then we were brought into the gymnasium and sat on the bleachers by the doors so they did not feel like they were in the crowd. He stated that they came back with rave reviews and it was a nice first experience for a lot of them. He stated that next up on their transition plan is to have Principal Bourbon come over with a couple former

RGS students and have an informational meeting where the sixth graders can ask questions of the principal and the former students. He stated that Step-up Day will be May 31st this year. He stated that it is a Friday morning and they stay for a couple of hours at Marshwood Middle School and get a tour of the building. He stated that community related, they had their school production of Seussical. He stated that the attendance was overwhelming and we had over 175 people each night. He stated that the past week they had held a Literacy Night to celebrate Read Across America. He stated that there were different stations in the classrooms, we had some read-a-louds with guest readers and then there were some different events in the gymnasium. He stated each student got to take a book home and there were refreshments by the PTO. He stated that the second graders had gone on a field trip to Oyster River High School where one of our parents is the Band Director and invited them over for a "Meet the Instruments" presentation. He stated that the band performed for a bit and then each of the instruments was introduced to the students where they got to hold them and learn how to play them. He stated that our Safety Committee meets quarterly and at the last meeting the Lieutenant from the Police Department came, along with the Chief and made some recommendations to our Safety Manual. He stated that he is interested in bringing other Town Departments to our building and they will be doing a walk through during April vacation just to familiarize themselves with the layout of the building and then in August would like to come and do an Active Shooter Training. He stated that he was able to attend the Recreation Committee meeting the prior night as our summer rec. program is coming up and we are trying to accommodate as many of their needs as we can with the upcoming maintenance projects that we have coming up this summer. Nelson stated that a lot has been going on. She stated that the things that are going on with the Marshwood transition is a compliment to you and your staff and the Marshwood Middle School Staff. She stated that our 7th and 8th graders that are currently in Marshwood Middle School, 50% of them made the Honor Roll and she believes that this has been true for the past four years. She stated that it shows the staff here do a good job and then after their initial adjustment to the Middle School, they do quite well. She stated that she saw that there is a new website for RGS and she loves the new calendar on it. She stated that she would like to see more hard information. Hartford stated that it is a work in progress. He stated that they had had a discussion with Lane at the SAU because they are looking at their website. He stated that she reached out to Hartford and Caroline Carrel had a discussion that our website needed some work. He stated that they needed more updated information, pictures of what is going on. He stated that she got it up and running but now they need to add the hard information.

5. Discussion Items:

5.1 Marshwood Student Representatives Update-Megan Moore and Nicholas Garrepy:

Garrepy stated that the end of this month we will be ending Quarter 3 and then onto the 4th quarter. He stated that April break is coming up the week of April 15-19th. He stated that SAT testing is April 9th for all Juniors and MEA Testing is on April 4th which is a State

Wide Science Test that all the Juniors take. He stated that it gives a grade to the school as to how they are doing teaching science to the students. He stated that it is not an individual score. Moore stated that spring sports have officially begun and practices are ongoing. She stated that they have lacrosse, baseball, tennis, track and all have started. She stated that the MHS Hockey Team was awarded the Class A Sportsmanship Award for participation. She stated that the Unified Basketball Team is having their banquet tonight. She stated that the Girl's Indoor Track Team finished 5th in the State. She stated that the Girl's Ski Team placed 6th at their tournament and the Boys Ski Team placed 5th. She stated that the Girls' Basketball Team made it to 3rd place this year in Class A, winning 14 games and losing 4 games. She stated the Wrestling Team placed 4th in Class A South winning 14 matches overall. She stated that the Interact Club has many fundraisers throughout the year. She stated that they will be holding a Spring Dodge Ball Tournament to benefit the people in Yemen who are struggling. She stated that Marshwood has their own Quiz Show Team that compete with Trivia. She stated they had a tournament on March 4th which was aired on March 6th. She stated it is aired on Maine Public TV. She stated that she will be letting the Board know the former RGS students and what college they have been accepted to. She will be getting a full list from the Guidance Department. She stated that Deposit Day is May 1st for all Seniors. She stated that the theater group is putting on a short play entitled Once On This Island. She stated that opening night is tomorrow and it will be this Friday and Saturday and next Friday and Saturday. Garrepy stated that he has not heard back from Miss West. He stated that he is reaching out to Katie Tarren who is the Marshwood Board Student Representative and they are thinking of both meeting with Miss West to get some additional information about the RGS students being able to audition for the Marshwood production next year.

5.2 Review Warrant Results: Nelson stated that she particularly wanted to discuss the results of two of the Warrant Articles. She stated that Article 9 was "To see if Rollinsford School District shall create a Planning Committee under the provision of RSA 194-C to study the feasibility of the Rollinsford School District's withdrawal from School Administration Unit 56." She stated that this had passed by quite a large margin. She stated that the other was a Petition Warrant Article which was Advisory "to see if the school board will negotiate a contract with MSAD 35 (South Berwick School District) to send all sixth grade students to MSAD 35 effective July 1, 2019 and to pay such tuition as negotiated from the funds provided through general taxation." She stated that we will get into the details of the withdrawal but she thinks there needs to be a discussion as the Petition Warrant Article passed for us to take some action. Gadomski stated that as far as the Petition Warrant Article goes, the tuition would be approximately \$212,000 figured by the number of sixth graders that we have. He stated that this was just base tuition and does not include any Special Education Services or transportation. He stated that they would have to see if they would have to add transportation or if that cost could be absorbed by putting the additional students on the existing busses. He stated that we then can look at reducing one teacher and one paraprofessional which would be a

reduction of \$118,000. He stated without looking into it too far, the cost would be around \$94,000 and it would increase from there with transportation and Special Education. He stated that this amount had not been included in the budget for next year. Nelson stated that there is a financial piece of this that we have not budgeted for and we have talked about this in prior years. She stated that there is also an educational piece of it that we, as a Board, have not researched. She stated that they have not heard from experts or looked at the pros and cons of sending sixth graders to a Middle School or keeping them in a K-6 school. She stated that there are arguments from parents on both sides. She stated that it may be time based on this Petition Warrant Article to start doing that research. Leach stated that she remembers several years ago reading some articles about sixth graders being at the top of the class rather than the bottom and what that did for their self-esteem. Anderson stated that they had done some reading and looked at some financials a few years back. Leach stated that it is nice to see the public coming forward on the Warrant Article based on the education of our students and what they believe to be the benefits as opposed to something that is just financial based. Nelson stated that we would ask that the research stay on the agenda and we can figure out some experts that we would like to hear from. Leach asked if perhaps we should have a Community Forum regarding this? She stated that parents will have a lot of opinions and it is a difficult situation at a School Board Meeting to hear from people because it is not really interactive. Anderson stated it was an excellent idea. Nelson stated that it makes sense, especially if we have some experts present to help field the questions. Gadomski stated that we could certainly do this and get a panel together to answer questions. He stated, that to him, the pressing question is if it is going to cost \$100,000 plus, is that a deal breaker for this year? He stated that these monies would have to come out of the budget to get this done. He asked if you wanted to start the discussion in regards to the next budget cycle? Nelson stated that she thinks that this is something they will continue to look at and July 1, 2019 is off the table partly because of the cost and she thinks that as good consumers of Marshwood education we do not want to throw more students at them when they are not expecting it. Anderson stated that she thinks they would be hard pressed to make this happen that quickly especially with the SAU situation as well. Kunz stated that it does not make much sense to do it July 1, 2019. He stated that the date was arbitrary. He stated if we had already investigated this it would be different. He stated that the Board wants to hear from parents. He stated it also has a staff impact that we cannot take lightly. Cavanaugh stated that it would be an abrupt transition for the current fifth graders to suddenly tell them they will be going to a new school next year. She stated that the parents and kids need at least a year's notice. Kunz stated that there may be some curriculum changes that they will need to look at to help make that transition. He stated that we want to make it so that they are successful in this transition. Nelson stated that the students and school had 3 years during the Withdrawal from the Area Agreement to get ready for the change. Kunz stated that the people who had spoken regarding the Petition Warrant Article at the Deliberative Session did not provide a lot of constructive evidence. He asked what is it that supports this or doesn't support

it? He stated this is a big thing and we need to give it the attention that it deserves. Nelson stated that the consensus of the Board is that we will not move students this year but we will start looking into the research and looking at the real costs. She stated that it is nice that the community is looking at what might be best educationally for these students and not what it is going to cost us. Cavanaugh asked if Gadomski would be able to get some estimates on the Special Education and transportation costs with an eye in the future? Gadomski stated that he can do that. He stated that they would be guesstimates at this point as we are looking out 18 months. He stated that he likes the idea of having a panel and forum.

5.3 CIP Development: Gadomski stated that the CIP development is in its infancy stages. He stated that there are a number of things on the list and we are still getting estimates to some of the projects. He stated that they will also be walking around the building and looking at every nook and cranny to get a good idea of any project that might rise above \$25,000. He stated that this is a format that Krauss has been working on with the list and pictures which provides a lot of detail. He stated that if any Board Member had any ideas of something that should be on the list or something we should look at let us know. Kunz stated that the back windows are pretty weak. He stated that we need to look at them to see if they can be fixed or need to be replaced. He stated that in the winter you can feel the air coming right through them. Anderson asked about replacing the front steps? She stated that she was not aware they needed it. Gadomski stated that the front steps are falling apart and disintegrating and need some attention. He stated that you saw some of the purchases that we anticipate we can do as the budget is in good shape and as we come to the May meeting, you may want to discuss some items that we can fast-track like the steps and do them immediately and take them off the CIP. Nelson stated that repairs have been done on the stairs year after year. Gadomski stated that they would need to make a decision so that we could put it out to bid and break ground before the end of the school year. He stated if you are interested, we can start the process right now. He stated that the budget is in good shape. He stated that they could get quotes for the next meeting. Krauss stated that she does have the pictures of the front steps uploaded which will be included next time you see the CIP information. Anderson stated that she did not know if there were other priorities. Nelson stated that we really won't know until we get the cost. Gadomski stated that he will get a quote for the next meeting. Cavanaugh stated that she feels a safe and secure entrance is a priority. She stated that she knows there were some large quotes for that but it is listed here that maybe there are some smaller renovations we can do to accomplish this. She stated that she would like this considered. Nelson stated that the people doing that proposal did not think they could do that at the existing entrance to make it safe and secure due to a lack of space. Gadomski stated that space wise at the front of the building there is not much room to configure there. He stated that you could put a door at the top of the stairs. Cavanaugh asked if there were any measures that they could take to increase security? Gadomski stated that they will take a look and see if there is anything that could be done inside to put some doors. Kunz stated that you would have to move the principal's office.

Nelson stated that a lot of things are going to begin overlapping. She asked if maybe we need more space for these things? She asked if we send sixth graders to Marshwood would it free up some space? She asked what if we need to find space for Administration offices? She stated that they have a lot of decisions ahead of them. Anderson asked what putting a set of doors in would do? Nelson stated that it would mean that the person would not get directly into the building without meeting face to face with the secretary. Gadomski stated that the person would be contained. Nelson stated that she thought that the State may be making more money available. Gadomski stated that the purchases that are included in the packet we are planning on moving forward with. He stated that next year's budget is tight and by moving ahead with these purchases now it frees up some money in the next budget. Nelson stated that there were two versions of this list in the packet with two different totals. Krauss stated that there had been an updated one that should have been the only one included in the packet, probably the more expensive one. Nelson asked if they needed to take action on this tonight? Gadomski stated they wanted to get going on this list now so that you can get a better picture on the cost of the front steps. He stated that you are in good shape with \$562,000 available now so this will allow us to get ahead and free up some of next year's budget. Nelson asked if everything had been encumbered. Krauss stated that it had. Nelson stated that she likes that the study of the ventilation plans is a good thing. Anderson asked if we should still be concerned about the Medicaid reimbursement. Krauss stated that she is concerned but they did get \$50,000 reimbursement from the Public Infrastructure Funds so it will be a wash. Gadomski stated that he is looking for a nod of approval to go ahead and spend this money. Nelson stated that what they are looking for is an approval to spend approximately \$85,000 of this year's budget. Cavanaugh stated that these are things that we already talked about for next year. Nelson stated yes. She asked if anyone had an objection to moving forward?

6. Financial Update

6.1 2018-2019 Budget Update: Krauss stated that there have been a few changes since the last meeting. She stated that she was notified by MSAD 35 that Rollinsford has 4 students attending Dover for CTC classes. She stated that she has encumbered \$12,859.60 for those 4 students. She stated that it is paid twice a year so she made the first payment. Anderson stated that we do not plan for this. Krauss stated that they have 2 students in the budget as a place holder. Nelson stated that they may want to consider upping that amount because more and more students are thinking they can have a career in the trades. Krauss stated that they allow them to go to Sanford as well and there is no charge to go to Sanford. She stated that there were also some charges for Special Educational services. She stated that some students dropped services and some added services which resulted in additional expenses in the amount of \$4,585.82. She stated that she has paid out all of the expenditures for board stipends, treasurer, moderator and district clerk stipends. She stated that the postage for mailers and ballot expenses have also been paid. She stated that she is keeping an eye on the Medicaid Reimbursement as we have not received as much as we would have expected for being more than half way through the year. She stated that she has prepared the MS-22 budget report for the Department of Revenue. She

stated that she also has created a draft Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2019-2020. She stated that once it has been reviewed by the REA it will be ready to sign.

6.2 Meal Prices: Krauss stated that each year the district has to raise the price of meals by a minimum of ten cents in order to show a good faith effort that we are working towards the amount that we are being reimbursed for free and reduced lunch. She stated that they are proposing an increase of .10 cents for lunch and .15 for breakfast. Kunz made a motion seconded by Anderson to increase lunch prices .10 cents and breakfast .15 cents. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

6.3 Food Service Contract: Nelson stated that the other item is the Contract with Café Services Krauss stated that it is renewed every year. She stated that it has to be approved by the State and they have already given it their blessings. Nelson asked what this contract actually covers? Krauss stated it covers everything. She stated that the district budgets \$12,000 to make it whole. She stated that your program loses money every year. Kunz made a motion seconded by Leach to approve the 2019-2020 food services contract as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. New Business:

7.1 Withdrawal Committee Update: Gadomski stated that the Warrant Article passed and it is time to form a committee. He stated that in the Board packet is some information about the committee and the withdrawal. He stated that it spells out who needs to be appointed and there are 2 Board Members who sit on the committee and the first Board Member appointed is responsible for setting the first Withdrawal Committee Meeting within 30 days. Nelson stated that the job tonight is to get 4 community members and 1 Budget Committee Member. She stated that she feels that they need to put something out on the Town Website that they are looking for members to this committee and they should send an email to us to let us know you are interested. She stated that once they have community input they can nominate two members to the committee from the Board at the next meeting and then set the first meeting. Gadomski stated that you can do your recruiting and then we can finalize the committee at the next School Board Meeting.

7.2 Committee Appointments (1 Budget, 2 Negotiations, 2 Withdrawal): Nelson stated that we need to make some other appointments. Leach stated that she has a conflict with the next Budget Committee Meeting but would serve again this year. Cavanaugh stated that she would be the backup for the first meeting. Kunz and Anderson stated that they will continue as the Negotiations Committee.

8. Old Business:

8.1 Fundraising Policy Discussion: Cavanaugh stated that she likes the Dover example of this policy. Gadomski stated that you have Dover, Northwood and Claremont policies included to look at. Kunz stated that he thought we should just keep current what we have now. Leach stated that the problem with this is the School Board has to approve all fundraisers going on. Kunz stated that the PTO is a separate entity. He stated that it is not a school sponsored event. Nelson stated that there is fundraising that goes on in the school that is not for the school. She stated that she thought there needed to be some clarification about this. Leach stated that Nelson's suggestion was to put the "all fundraising events require the recommendation of the principal and the School Board." She stated that she does not feel that the School Board should have to approve every

fundraising event. Krauss stated that perhaps you could add that it would be anything taking place within the school. Hartford stated that they have the School Store which sponsors fourth grade events. Nelson stated that there are book sales and there are bake sales. Leach stated that this policy does not even address what your concern was. Nelson stated that maybe it is not really a concern. She stated that it was a concern to her at the time but perhaps it is not a concern to the rest of the Board. She stated that there may be individuals that are operating within the school to raise money. Hartford stated that the road race in the fall is a fundraiser for the Public Library which is a non-sponsored school event but held on school grounds. He stated that this falls under Building Use and that is why this is included in your packet. Nelson stated that she is talking about a non-sponsored school events that happen organically within the school. She stated that if someone brought in their girl scout cookie sheet and was going classroom to classroom that would not be alright but if it was in the teacher's room that would be alright. Gadomski stated that when we are advertising internally or externally and utilizing our students is it a school sponsored event. He stated that if the PTA is putting on an activity we are advertising that but we are not running it. Nelson stated that our current policy covers this. Kunz stated that it seems cumbersome for us to police everything going on in the schools. He stated that we have Administrators and professionals that will know what is going on. He stated that we would be have to meet more often just to discuss fundraising events.

9. Action Item:

9.1 Second Reading of Policies: KDR Drones: Kunz made a motion seconded by Leach to approve the policy as written. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

10. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- **April 11, 2019-Rollinsford School Board Meeting-6:30 PM-Rollinsford Grade School**
- **May 6, 2019- SAU Board Meeting-6:30 PM-Mulligan's Grill**
- **May 9, 2019- Rollinsford School Board Meeting-6:30 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **June 13, 2019- Rollinsford School Board Meeting-6:30 PM- Rollinsford Grade School**
- **Nelson stated they needed to think about a date for their Board Retreat.**

11. School Events:

- **April 3, 2019- PTO Meeting-Library- 6:00-7:00 PM**
- **April 8, 2019- Safety Committee Meeting-Zen Den- 1:00-3:00 PM**
- **April 11, 2019- School Board Meeting- RGS-6:30 PM**
- **April 13-22- April Vacation-No School**

12. Closing Comments:

12.1 Visitors: Celia Leapold stated that she likes the idea of having a panel of experts to discuss the sixth graders going to Marshwood. She asked what it is that Marshwood offers that we do not offer? She asked if Rollinsford School Board would be scrutinizing the fundraisers in Somersworth? She stated that she receives flyers from the Somersworth School district events. She agreed that changing the policy might hold up fundraising because of the time constraint. Jodi Carnes stated that this was the first Warrant Article that passed with 67% of the Town for it.

She stated that it is the only thing that got more votes than the Zoning Ordinances. She stated that it is the one time that this town was coming together. She stated that the Board represents the Town people and your job is to do what we would want you to do and not what you think is best for us. She stated that this Warrant stated that the Board “will create a contract”. She stated that this is not an Advisory. She stated that Marshwood has way more to offer for sixth graders. She stated that they have robotics, jazz, chorus, band, sports. She stated that there is nothing in this school for a girl and sports. She stated that they move so many girls to sports and extracurriculars at the 11-12-year-old stage. She stated that if there is nothing here to offer them than there in nothing for them to do. She stated that her son would love the robotics, her daughter would love the sports and chorus. She stated that these are things that RGS will not offer them. She stated that this was not advisory. She stated that this is the one time that it got more votes than the budget, it got more votes than a plow truck. Lori Hess stated that she would like to commend the Board for not rushing into sending the sixth graders to Marshwood. She stated that she cannot think what it would be to pull the rug out from under them and change them from what they have known their entire life. She stated that she is glad that the Board is taking the time to look into all of the studies of this.

12.2 Board Members: None

13. Non Public: A motion made by Leach seconded by Cavanaugh to exit into nonpublic session in accordance with Chapter 91-A:3 II (c) matter if which discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. Vote: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into nonpublic session at 8:10 PM. A motion made by Cavanaugh seconded by Anderson to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: motion passed unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic at 8:30 PM.

14. Adjournment: A motion made by Leach seconded by Cavanaugh to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Melinda Sullivan
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval