

## SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

May 28, 2019

City Hall Chambers

7:00pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Richardson, Hanlon, Potter, Cannon, Brennan, O'Brien, and McCallion. Excused-Larson and Yoder
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** None
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
  - 3.1 **Removal of items from the Consent Calendar:** None
  - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by McCallion seconded by Cannon to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
    - Summary of the Policy Committee Meeting- May 13, 2019
    - Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting- May 14, 2019
    - Summary of the Building, Grounds and Transportation Committee Meeting-May 14, 2019
    - Principal Reports
    - Café Services Correspondence
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
  - 4.1 **Superintendent's Update:** Gadomski stated that he wanted to bring the Board and the general public up to date on upcoming events. He stated that this is just the tip of the iceberg as there are many things going on in each of our buildings. He stated that this Thursday at Idlehurst is the District Showcase. He stated that May 31<sup>st</sup> is the Senior Banquet at the High School at 6 PM. He stated that Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Senior Breakfast followed by the Seniors Award Ceremony at 8:45. He stated that June 3<sup>rd</sup> there is a Somersworth and Rollinsford Withdrawal Committee Meeting at 5:30 in Mulligans Grill. He stated that the High School Baccalaureate will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM. He stated that June 4<sup>th</sup> they have a Joint Commission Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall. He stated that Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> the Somersworth Withdrawal Committee has a meeting at 5:30 PM. He stated that High School Graduation is Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Whittemore Center at UNH at 6 PM. He stated that on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> the Middle School is being recognized as the Middle School of the year at the Edies at 4 PM in Manchester. He stated that on June 13<sup>th</sup> it is the Somersworth Middle School Recognition Ceremony at 9:30 AM. He stated that on June 14<sup>th</sup> the Grade 5 Recognition would be at Somersworth High School at 8:45 AM and also on June 14<sup>th</sup> would be the kindergarten recognitions at 10:00 AM and another at 12:30 PM. He stated that also on June 14<sup>th</sup> it is the last official day of this school year. He stated that he wanted to take a moment to recognize the outstanding work of some of our seniors. He stated that these students are the top 12 graduating students in their class and each have accumulated a GPA of above 4.0 and they are Jake Ducharme, Breanna Flanagan, Sean Flanagan (Valedictorian), Sydnie Givetz, Evan Gray, Ashly Lavery, Patricia Louis, Emily Roberge, Cam Rocheleau, Gabrielle Suleiman, Grace Vachon (Salutatorian), and Rachael Wattimena. He stated that he wished congratulations to all of the graduates. He stated that in the top twelve we have students that have been completers in our CTE Program in Marketing, Digital Media, Medical Assisting, and the LNA Program in Dover. He stated that students are taking advantage of our CTC Programs.
  - 4.2 **Proposed 2019-2020 Board Meeting and Committee Meeting Schedule:** Gadomski stated that this schedule mirrors this year for next year. He stated that they also tried to schedule committee meetings at 5:30 prior to the Board Meetings. He stated that they will need to schedule in more than we have here but this is a starting point to keep them organized. Richardson asked if they could approve this at the next meeting and consider this the First Reading to give folks the chance to check their calendars? Brennan stated that there were two different versions in the packet. She asked was one just the meetings and one with the committees? Gadomski stated that was correct. He stated that one is the list of Board Meetings and one is the list of the Committee Meetings held prior to the Board Meetings.

## 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

## 5.1 Standing Committees:

- **Budget and Revenue:** Richardson stated that they had a meeting scheduled for May 21 but since he was the only one who attended it was a non-official meeting.
- **Building, Grounds and Transportation:** McCallion stated that they will be holding a Field Walk on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM. He stated that with summer coming, Ingoldsby is ramping up for summer cleaning and projects. Richardson stated that anyone is welcome to go on that Field Walk. He stated that it is a posted meeting of the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee.
- **Curriculum and Activities:** None
- **Policy Committee:** Hanlon stated that they had met prior to this meeting. He stated that they have policies on the agenda for First and Second Readings tonight.
- **Joint Commission of City Council and School Board:** None
- **Joint Building Committee for Maple Wood Project:** McCallion stated that they met this morning. He stated that construction is under way. He stated that they discussed the flag issue with the pole and that the weather has been a big factor.

**5.2 City Council Update:** Pepin stated that they had the High School Jazz Band play a few sets at the last City Council Meeting. He stated that on Saturday, June 1 they are performing at the CTC at 7:00 PM and he hopes all will support them as they do a great job.

**5.3 Student Representative Report: Dylan Zinkevich:** None

## 6. ACTION ITEM:

**6.1 Personnel:** Richardson stated that they would divert this item to non-public.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS:

**7.1 First Reading of Policy:** Hanlon made a motion seconded by McCallion to read the policies by title only.

VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

- **BEDH-Public comment and Participation at Board Meetings**
- **DFA-Investment**
- **DJ-Purchasing**
- **DJE-Bidding Requirements**
- **DK-Payment Procedures**
- **DKA-Payroll Procedures**
- **DM-Cash in School Buildings**
- **GBCD-Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check**
- **IJOC-Volunteers**

**7.2 Second Reading of Policy:**

- **DB-Annual Budget**
- **DGA-Authorized signatures/Check-Writing Services**
- **DI-Fiscal Accounting and Reporting**

O'Brien made a motion seconded by Potter to accept Policies DB, DGA and DI as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS:

**8.1 2018-2019 Budget Update:** Krauss stated that since the last update the bottom line has stayed basically the same with an available balance of approximately \$72,000. She stated that certain line items have fluctuated as we start to close them out and encumber funds through June 30. She stated that in revenue they are starting to chip away at the Medicaid payments. She stated that she and the Superintendent met with a representative from MSB, the Medicaid provider on May 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss wrapping up loose ends and ensure that we receive all payments that are due. She stated that she will be invoicing for the end of year tuition payments in the coming weeks for our Rollinsford and Barrington students. Gadomski stated that this budget continues to be extremely tight and we are at less than a ½ of a percent of the original \$25-million-dollar budget. He stated that the budget has been frozen for a couple of months now and we have restricted all

purchases and the Administration has been doing an outstanding job at monitoring what is absolutely necessary, along with our Facilities Director looking at what is absolutely necessary to make sure that we meet our budget.

#### **9. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:**

- **June 11, 2019- Somersworth School Board Meeting- 7:00 PM-City Hall**
- **June 11, 2019-Curriculum and Activities Committee Meeting-5:30 PM-SAU**
- **June 25, 2019- Somersworth School Board Meeting-7:00 PM-City Hall**
- **June 25, 2019-Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee Meeting-5:30 PM-SAU**

#### **10. CLOSING COMMENTS**

**10.1 Visitors:** Phil Yoder stated that several meetings ago when talking about the reorganization O'Brien had asked what had happened to the opposition group? He stated that the response had been that they went away. He stated that he is one of the opposers. He stated that the reorganization was not what they opposed, it was the speed that the reorganization was being pushed through that we opposed. He stated that one of the driving forces was that it was going to be a cost benefit. He stated that since that time we have had \$10,000 in the cost of moving and the cost of \$7,000 for food services because there was a loss of revenue for breakfast. He stated that Maple Wood and Idlehurst would share an Assistant Principal as a cost savings and also sharing the Art, Music and Physical Education Teachers. He stated that he appreciates that the City has stepped up and done what they have done. He stated that we definitely need that Social Worker. He stated that his issue is now, if you add all those numbers up and all that has been approved, now you are talking \$117,000. He stated that this is not just a cost for this year but it extends the cost into next year. He stated that we will be relying on other income for subsequent years. He stated that this is not what was presented. He stated that there is nothing else to say, the decision has been made. He stated that he is still frustrated on how this all played out. He stated that you will run into some issues with the bus company with the next contracts because that is what has happened with food service. He stated that had we done due diligence to make sure that we addressed all potential contracts we would not be in this situation. He stated that when we are making decisions we have to think 5-10 years down the line. He stated that with the elevator we need to be looking at other resources for that. He stated that we cannot do nothing because if that thing goes down we will incur more costs. He stated that we need to look long term.

**10.2 Board Members:** McCallion stated that he wanted to thank Lane and Krauss for all the hard work they are doing and have been doing in the past year and a half. He stated that people do not realize that we have so many committees and there are so many things that we do. He stated that there are a lot of people behind the scenes that work to get these things done. O'Brien stated that he thanked Yoder for his comments. He stated that he had attended the Maple Wood Spring Concert and it was amazing. He stated "hat's off" to all of the students who performed. Hanlon stated that during the discussion for the reorganization there were potential budget savings. He stated that they had been looking at it from an educational stand point. He stated when they looked at the timeline he had said that if this was something that was going to benefit children educationally, do not wait and do it now. He stated that if there were not benefits financially that is OK. He stated that when you talk about the food service issue it had nothing to do with the contract but a change in what was being purchased for breakfast. He stated that foreseeing a difference in what would be purchased for breakfast is something that you could not foresee. He stated that they did save money with the busses and there were a lot of safety issues that were alleviated. He stated as always, there are pros and cons. He stated that he still thinks it was educationally the best decision. Potter stated that he wanted to thank the eighth grade teachers. He stated that his son went on the fieldtrip. He stated that they had discussed going to New York City instead of Philadelphia but they didn't. He stated that he is glad that they could keep the cost of it low so that most of the class could go. He stated that his son loved it. Cannon stated that she wanted to congratulate the seniors. Brennan stated that she wanted to congratulate all the seniors as well as the faculty and staff. She stated that it has been a great year. She stated that she wanted to read something: When I bought my house in Somersworth in 2006, people said to me "what about the schools?" "They are terrible". To be honest with you, I really hadn't. However, I can tell you that from day one and my first interaction with Joel Eastman at Maple Wood, my children and I have had nothing but the greatest of experiences! I have always said that you get out what you put in, as a student and a parent. I believe in what is being done at all the levels of our district. I think we have an amazing group of educators that care tremendously about our

students, selflessly every day. I became a part of the school board because of these beliefs and I am leaving the school board believing these very same things. I have been extremely proud to serve the city in this capacity, but at this time feel that it is best for me to resign. Unfortunately, I cannot give the 100% commitment that being on the school board requires due to my career. The demands have just become too much and sadly; it is time for me to move on. With that being said, I am blessed to have met so many amazing people along this journey and am thankful for the things that I have learned along the way. Thanks to those continuing to serve and fighting the good fight for the kids and educators in our great city! Thanks for all that you do. Richardson stated that it is not enough to thank someone for their service and we do not know what we are missing until they are gone. He stated that it has been a struggle for Brennan to make meetings with her job. He stated that before he got back on the Board he knew of her hard work. He stated thank you for all your efforts that you have put into the Board. He stated that the City stepped up to the budget and this had nothing to do with the reorganization. He stated that it had to do with funding shortfalls from the State that would have paid for those positions if we had had that money. He stated that they did not look to the City for that supplemental budget. He stated that it was volunteered to us. He stated that it was one City Councilor who thought, in the process moving forward they should approve the shortfall. He stated that it had nothing to do with the reorganization. He stated that we lost some revenue with the school lunch program with breakfasts that we did not foresee. He stated that there is a benefit to those kids who are staying at home a bit longer and having breakfast at home, hopefully with their mom and dad. He stated that the family may even be saving money by having breakfast at home. He stated that the busses are running great.

**11. NON-PUBLIC:** A motion made by McCallion seconded by Brennan to enter into non-public in accordance with Chapter 93A II (a) dismissal, promotion, compensation or discharging of any public employee (b) personnel (c) matter which, if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited into non-public at 7:30 PM.

A motion made by Cannon seconded by Brennan to exit out of non-public. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of non-public at 7:45 PM.

A motion made by Brennan seconded by Potter to accept the Personnel Report as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion made by Cannon seconded by Brennan to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Melinda Sullivan  
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval