

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

June 11, 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, Larson, Yoder, Potter, Cannon, O'Brien, and McCallion.
2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Dana Hilliard stated that Somersworth Middle School had a fantastic evening Saturday night when we were honored at the annual Edies Awards and received the official award for Middle School of Excellence and Middle School of the Year. He stated that the banner will now hang in the Middle School and the prize coveted Edies bell will ring from the Hilltop City along with a check from McDonalds for \$2,000. Hilliard stated that they are taking time to reflect and see how they can reach every single student at the Somersworth Middle School and build upon this award and continue not only the excellence that this was earned for but to continue to build a better school for every kid to achieve their hopes and dreams. He thanked all for their support and supporting the Middle School philosophy.
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 **Removal of items from the Consent Calendar:** None
 - 3.2 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Cannon to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting- May 28, 2019
 - Summary of the Policy Committee Meeting-May 28, 2019
 - Summary of the JBC Meeting-May 28, 2019
 - Enrollment
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - 4.1 **Superintendent's Update:** Gadomski stated that since the last Board Meeting he had an opportunity to go to a lot of student activities. He stated that they had the District Showcase at Idlehurst which was a wonderful evening of student presentations. He stated they had the opportunity to talk to the students and hear what they were working on. He stated that graduation for Somersworth High School was last week and he can honestly say that they are well represented by the young adults going out into the world. He stated that he attended a great ceremony on Saturday evening at the Edies recognizing the Middle School. He stated that it recognizes all the hard work of educators throughout the State. He stated that we are in the process of filling vacant spots on our staff. He stated that he is encouraged by the pool of applicants that we are getting. He stated that Grade 8 Recognition is this Thursday. He stated that Grade 5 Recognition and Kindergarten Recognition are both on Friday. He stated that Friday is our last day of school.

Gadomski stated that they are still in the process and looking at the budget and closing out purchase orders. He stated that it still remains very tight. He stated that they may have additional numbers within a week. He stated that they are still in the \$70,000 range. He stated that they are still working on Special Education Transportation. He stated that at the next Board Meeting he would not be in attendance because he would be at the NHSA Annual Conference.
 - 4.2 **Recognition of Retirements:** Gadomski stated that he wanted to thank the retirees for all of their years of service. He stated that the first is Deb Chasse who has worked in the district for 20 years. He stated that Mary Ann Sweeny had worked for 25 years. He stated that Paula Francoeur had worked for 31 years. He stated that Georgianna Klipa had worked for 3 years in Somersworth. He stated that Carol Marshall had been 30 years in Somersworth. He stated that Janina Wojtkun had been 15 years. He stated that Herb Barrett has been 26 years. He stated Daryl Dunbar had been 10 years. Donna Hebert had been 33 years. He wanted to extend his admiration to all spending this time with our youth over these decades is certainly admirable and you have touched a lot of lives. Richardson stated that it is nice to see such dedication in our district and to put in the work that is required and needed for the

benefit of all of our kids.

4.3 SMS Sustainability Presentation: Richardson stated that this was a program that was presented in the showcase the other night. Matt Gerding stated that he had two 6th grade students, Hector Guzman and Aby Lambert that were going to share some of their work and information about a recycling conference that they went to. He stated that they had taken seven students to the conference. Sarah Campbell stated that they asked the sixth graders to write an essay on why they would want to go to this conference and she had seven applicants, so all seven went. Gerding stated that they had done a project where they analyzed the lunch waste, the compost, the trash bins, and the recyclables and did an analysis to see how well we are sorting our waste and what are we actually wasting. Hector Guzman shared the composting results that they got. Aby Lambert shared information about the trash analysis. She stated that only 36% of the trash was supposed to be in the trash. She stated that the other 64% was not supposed to be there. Asbell stated that his team was trying to bring forth an argumentative stance in favor of composting. He stated that his team loved what the sixth graders were doing and now the seventh grade team would look at what was going on in the cafeteria. He stated that this project, Trash On the Lawn, was incorporated into their math and science program. He stated that they took the information and made graphs to represent the results. Lukas Kelly and Jack Welch, seventh grade students stated that in the ten bags they had 97 pounds of compost and paper. They stated that 46% was actually trash. He stated that 31% was compost and 11% was paper. They stated that the purpose of the project was to make people aware that they need to sort better. Richardson stated that the State of NH does not allow meat and dairy products into composting. He stated that since our composting goes to Maine it is alright to include meat and dairy. He stated that this process started with four young ladies like yourselves with Oyster River. He stated that four years ago it again became an issue in Winnicunnet when some students asked very important questions and the New Hampshire Environmental Services heard them. He stated that they started the process with high school and middle school kids. He stated that it was up to review the rules and regulations but they are still sitting on someone's desk in Concord waiting to be reviewed. He stated that they have been there for at least a year and almost two. He stated that you are showing the science, you are showing the math. Hanlon stated that he backs Richardson 100%. He stated that when he saw this, what impressed him was the project educational piece. He stated that you incorporated math and science, language arts, public speaking and the way that you did it, is amazing and that is the type of education that he wants to see more of. Larson stated that the Board is sitting up above the audience and we are here for you guys. She stated that we are here to lay some strength and foundation for the students. She stated that school is merely academics but to care about something and to move forward with something like this is impressive. She stated that you need to look at when you get to be her age or Richardson's age and move forward. She stated that she respects what you are doing and the work is necessary.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Standing Committees:

- **Budget and Revenue:** None
- **Building, Grounds and Transportation:** McCallion stated that they did a walkthrough of the fields. He stated that they took a lot of pictures and did their documentation. He stated that in upcoming meetings they would address moving forward in a lot of these things.
- **Curriculum and Activities:** Larson stated that they had met earlier tonight and looked at what would be on their future agendas. She stated that they were looking into what are lifelong learners and we will hopefully meet earlier in the school year to see what our goals will be.
- **Policy Committee:** Hanlon stated that they had met the prior night and reviewed a handful of policies that will be coming forward in the next meeting. He stated that they have policies up for a First Reading and a Second Reading tonight.
- **Joint Commission of City Council and School Board:** None
- **Joint Building Committee for Maple Wood Project:** McCallion stated that they had a great meeting

earlier this morning. He stated that the contractors are raring to go. He stated that there were a couple of change orders that needed to be addressed. He stated that they are working with the City and some great ideas moving forward. He asked for patience for anyone who has been trying to get into the school.

5.2 City Council Update: None

5.3 Student Representative Report: Dylan Zinkevich: None

Larson asked that a post be made for a Student Representative. She is not sure about having a posting for this and does not know what the requirements are. She stated that perhaps they just need to ask if there are any students interested in attending the meetings and perhaps have more than one. Richardson stated that they are elected from the student body. Larson asked if it was through Student Council? Yoder stated that it was through Student Council. Larson stated that we will hopefully have one show up in September.

6. ACTION ITEM:

6.1 Board Meeting Schedule 2019-2020: Gadomski stated that the meetings in February had some conflicts so the meetings are now February 11 and February 17. Richardson stated that they also talked about moving the retreat to July 23. Hanlon made a motion seconded by McCallion to accept the School Board Meeting Schedule, minus the School Board Retreat. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6.2 Committee Meeting Schedule 2019-2020: Hanlon made a motion seconded by Cannon to approve the 2019-2020 committee meeting schedule as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

6.3 Personnel: Richardson stated that they have a teacher nomination. Larson made a motion seconded by Hanlon to accept the nomination of Alana Fanaritis. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Presentation of Student Handbooks: Hanlon stated that they are time sensitive to get to the printers. Hanlon made a motion seconded by Potter to suspend rules to vote on the student handbooks. Hanlon made a motion seconded by Cannon to accept the Student Handbooks as presented pending any changes. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

8. Old Business:

8.1 First Reading of Policies: Hanlon made a motion seconded by Potter to read the policies by title only.

- BEDG-Minutes
- DGD- School District Credit Cards
- JIH-Student Searches and their Property

8.2 Second Reading of Policies:

- 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

Hanlon made a motion seconded by Larson to read the policies by title only. Potter made a motion seconded by Larson to accept the policies as read.

9. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- 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: Don Austin, Ward 4, wanted to express his gratitude to all of the people who have done all of the work in the school district this year. He stated that his goal tonight is to reach out to all of the

staff members and express his gratitude for all of the work that they have put forth all year long. He stated that a lot of it goes after hours and unseen. He stated that the district is in fine shape, does great work, and wonderful things with the resources available to them. He stated that the district needs to give them the best education that they can have dependent on their future goals. He stated that he wants to make sure that everyone recognizes all of the staff because they are all there to support the kids. He stated that they are all there to support the philosophy of the school district to provide a good education and they do a great job at it. He stated that he wanted to give a shout out to the staff. He stated that he wanted to thank the Board for having a unique perspective on what goes into this job. He stated that it is not very often that someone stands up and thanks you for that. He stated that it can be a thankless job and it can be a job where you get criticized and you get no recognition when you do things they want you to do because you should have done them anyways.

10.2 Board Members: Cannon stated that it had been a crazy couple of weeks in Concord and they do not have a budget yet. She stated she wanted to congratulate the seniors who graduated. She stated that she was glad to be there for the event and it took her back to when she was walking. She stated that she wanted to thank all the students from Somersworth especially the ones who came tonight to show their projects. She stated that she wanted to thank the retirees that have put in long hours for the students. Potter stated that he echoes Cannon's comments. He stated that he attended the graduation ceremonies on June 6th and that it was quite moving, the speeches were excellent and it goes to show the type of work that we are trying to do for our students to be good citizens once they leave our school. He stated that he was impressed by the number of students that were in attendance to support their friends who were graduating, He stated that he was impressed by the number of staff in attendance. Larson stated that her gratitude goes out to all of the retirees. She stated that she wanted a safe and healthy summer for all. Hanlon stated that he wanted to thank all of the retirees. He stated that his mom was a retiree after 38 years of teaching. He stated that it is a hard job and also a thankless job. He stated that he wanted to thank all the staff and the students. O'Brien stated it is not possible to express the full gratitude to the staff in this district. He stated that he would just say "Three more days"! Yoder wanted to congratulate all of the retirees. She stated that Senor Barrett was her Spanish Teacher. She stated thank you to the Middle School for their presentation because our futures are in great hands. She asked if there was a way on the website to let people know where they could get food over the summer? McCallion stated that he wanted to thank everybody, the graduates, the staff and the retirees. Richardson asked if anyone had watched the USA Women's World Cup Soccer Game? He stated they were on the move. He stated that the District Showcase at Idlehurst was unbelievable. He stated that the ukulele club and even the young kids and the projects they were working on were wonderful. He stated that he had never been to an Edies Award night. He stated that we should be awarding teachers every year for something. He stated if they start getting awards candidates will start saying that they want to work in that school district and it will be beneficial to us. He stated that the graduating seniors have their whole future in front of them. He stated that they have parents and friends supporting them. He stated that we all need cheerleaders.

11. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Yoder to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:58.

Melinda Sullivan
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval