

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

October 8, 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, Marsh, McCallion, Larson and O'Brien.
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 Hanlon seconded by McCallion to approve the consent calendar as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting- September 24, 2019
 - Summary of the Budget and Revenue Committee Meeting- September 24, 2019
 - Minutes from the Somersworth Withdrawal Committee Meeting- September 30, 2019
 - Summary of the Building, Grounds and Transportation Committee Meeting- October 1, 2019
 - Enrollment
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - 4.1 **Superintendent's Update:** Gadomski stated that he wanted to welcome the new Student Representatives, Zahfirah Candra and Aurelia Simajaya. He stated that the Rollinsford Withdrawal Committee has decided to move forward with withdrawal from SAU 56 and they have developed a Plan to do so. He stated that the next step will be that the Rollinsford School Board will have a discussion this Thursday evening about approaching the Somersworth Board to negotiate a contract. He stated that the Contract for Services would be part of the Plan that would be submitted to the State for final approval. He stated that the hope is to submit the Plan and contract to the State Board of Education in time for their December meeting and would allow enough time for approval and time for Rollinsford to put that on the Warrant Articles for March.

Gadomski stated that the State Budget has been signed and that is good for the school district as we will receive additional funding for education as well as Building Aid.

Gadomski stated that they have had meetings with the Building Administration and they are in the process of finalizing their building budgets to give to the Business Administrator to put into the full budget.

Richardson asked if the negotiations with Rollinsford, would be all members of the Board or designated people? Gadomski stated that it would be up to the Boards to make that decision.
 - 4.2 **SHS Broadcast Journalism Presentation:** Bill Rogers, the Somersworth Broadcast Teacher, stated that he was going to play the first production that the class had made this year, featuring the first day of school and interviews with Chris Tebo, the Principal, and what is happening at the school. He stated that they have students from Noble, Dover and Oyster River that attend the class in the 2-year program. He stated they have 11 students in that and about 50 throughout the year in the introductory classes. He stated that they are touching a lot of students thanks to the generosity of the Cable Contract. He stated that it gives the students real world experience in learning how to do this stuff. He introduced Aziz Guedoura, the cameraman for the presentation. He stated that they rotate the different positions from Director, Producer, Cameras and Audio. Guedoura stated that he likes photography and he makes videos at home. Rogers stated that he had gotten to know Guedoura last year when he was enrolled in the ESOL Program and did a wonderful biography of coming to America from Tanizia. He stated it was the best video he saw last year. He stated that he had done it under the guidance of Ms. Somers in the ESOL Program. Richardson stated that what drew his attention was the identity of the main entrance. Rogers stated that they produce a show each week and he would love to bring more of them to the Board. Hanlon stated that he had seen some of the videos in the past and

this one was completely different. He stated that it is much more serious and keep up the good work. Larson asked if Guedoura sees himself doing this as a job in the future? Guedoura stated that it is a hobby. Larson stated that he has a knack for it and should consider it. Richardson stated that perhaps putting credits on the video at the end would be good. He asked if they were posted on You Tube? Rogers stated that they are on You Tube. He stated they were listed under the SAU-Bill Rogers on the SAU Google site. Hanlon stated that he loves the fact that Guedoura is doing this for fun but there are many people that would be so happy to be in a career that they love. He stated not to write it off yet. Rogers stated that this group this year were more observing rather than wanting to be the newscasters. He stated that they try to pattern the shows to fit the talents.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Standing Committees

- **Budget and Revenue:** In packet
- **Building, Grounds and Transportation:** McCallion stated that they have Transportation Bids that will be coming in with a due date of October 25th. He stated that they are trying to get all the field information together so that they can have their field maintenance meeting and go through the process with everyone. He stated that as the fields get older we need discussions on maintaining them. He stated that there will be a meeting on November 15 and there will be a discussion on the fields and we are looking for people to come to the table for this discussion. He stated that they had sent water samples to "Second Wind" and they will test the CTC water and we will be able to have some more information when those results come back.
- **Curriculum and Activities:** Larson stated that they met earlier this evening and went over the SAS testing and looked at the 17-18 and 18-19 test numbers. She stated that they had looked at the dates for Professional Development Days and what each school will be doing with their staff.
- **Policy Committee:** Hanlon stated that they have more policies coming forward after their October 21st meeting.
- **Joint Commission of City Council and School Board:** Richardson stated that they had met earlier in the evening and they had a presentation by Somersworth Ready Together Early Childhood Coalition. He stated that there will be a presentation before the School Board. He stated that there is a need to get Somersworth children ready for kindergarten with the basic skills. He stated that the Coalition is a variety of groups working together to get this done. He stated that one thing they need is to get the word out that they are available. He stated that one thing that they indicated is that 48% of the children entering kindergarten do not have basic skills.
- **Joint Building Committee for Maple Wood Project:** None

5.2 City Council Update: None

5.3 Student Representative Report: Zahfirah Candra: Candra stated that she is a member of the Student Council. She stated that this week is Spirit Week. She stated that Monday was Sports Day, Tuesday was Disney Day, Wednesday will be Color Day, Thursday will be Blue and White Day as well as a Spirit rally. She stated that they have been doing penny wars during lunch. She stated that the pot for each "class" that has the most money gets to keep it. She stated that they will be at Pumpkinfest and each grade will have a part in it. She stated that they will have their Annual Clothes Drive in November-December and will offer the items to the community the week before Christmas. She stated that Mr. Durkee, their advisor wants to start a Veterans Day/ Memorial Day Ceremony and wants to commemorate the veterans. She stated that they are also planning a canned food drive.

6. ACTION ITEM: None

7. NEW BUSINESS: None

8. OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 Building Aid Update: Gadomski stated that part of the State Budget that was just signed includes Building Aid to complete the project at Maple Wood. He stated that the second phase was to add on an addition for the music room, renovating the library and renovating some of the bathrooms. He stated that

they still need to go through the City Council and Finance Committee and present the plan as we move forward.

8.2 2019-20 Budget Update: Krauss stated that since the last budget update, we have encumbered salaries and benefits for staff. She stated that some areas are over budget due to staff turnover and change in the benefit package as well as salary changes. She stated that these overages are being made up in other areas where we saw a savings in salaries and benefits. She stated that the state budget has been passed. She stated that this means additional revenue for the district in both this year and next year. She stated that they would be receiving \$536,000 additional in adequacy. She stated that they changed the funding of the Kindergarten Aid and it is no longer being funded with the Keno money and is being added to the calculation in Adequacy. She stated they will decrease what we were going to get in Kindergarten Aid so the net is about \$410,000 extra. She stated that we will be getting about \$222,000 additional in Special Education Aid due to them adding \$10 million to the budget for Special Education. She stated that it will be funding at about 90% this year. She stated that we are still awaiting final figures from the state on the total that we will be receiving and once we receive the figures we will update the Board. She stated that she had to make a slight change on the DOE-25 year-end report that the Board signed. She stated that the public infrastructure funds that we received for projects at Maple Wood, Idlehurst and the Middle School had to be reported under Other Restricted State Aid as revenue. She stated that she has made the adjustment and it had no effect on the final figures as it was just a reclassification. She stated that there is still one more project for the High School and also Maple Wood, and it will show on the expense side as an overage but it will show on the revenue side as additional revenue.

8.3 2020-2021 Budget Prep Schedule: Krauss stated that she put the schedule in packets for the Budget Meetings coming up. She stated that she added two meetings that have not been scheduled yet. She stated on February 1st she added a half day budget workshop which is a placeholder if needed. She stated that she added one more Budget and Revenue Meeting on February 11th if needed.

8.4 First Reading Policy: Hanlon stated that the Policy IHBBA-R would not be read. A motion made by Hanlon seconded by O'Brien to read the one policy by title only. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

- **IHBBA-Limited English Proficiency Instruction**
- **IHBBA-R- English as a Second Language**

Marsh asked where the model language had come from. Hanlon stated that most of it came from the New Hampshire School Boards Association. Richardson stated that one policy was obliterated and they are replacing it. Hanlon stated that they are seeing a lot of that.

9. Future Meeting Dates/Suggested Agenda Items:

- **October 22, 2019-Budget and Revenue Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM**
- **October 22, 2019-Somersworth School Board Meeting- 7:00 PM- City Hall**
- **November 12, 2019- Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee Meeting- 5:30 PM**
- **November 12, 2019-Somersworth School Board Meeting-7:00 PM**
- **November 18, 2019- SAU 56 Budget Workshop and Board Meeting-6:30 PM- CTC Mulligans Grill**
- **December 10, 2019- Budget and Revenue Committee Meeting- 5:30 PM**
- **December 10, 2019- Somersworth School Board Meeting- 7:00 PM**

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: None

10.2 Board Members: Marsh stated that he appreciated the presentation. He stated that the additional funding coming our way is great news and he believes that you can judge a society on the amount that they invest in those that do not often give us an immediate return on that investment. He stated that eventually the future become the present. Potter thanked McCallion for giving a facilities update. He stated that he hopes he can hear more on this and how we can help not put additional demands on athletics that is already stretched right now. He stated that he fears this will have an overall impact on athletics in the City. Cannon welcomed the new student representative. She stated that it is nice to see the budget that was approved. She stated that she is glad to see it come to fruition

and that it will benefit the school district as well as the City. Larson stated welcome to the student representatives and come as often as you can. She stated that on October 17th there will be a “Lights on for Learning” at Idlehurst from 5:30 to 7:30. She stated that the author Scarlett Lewis, Founder of the Jesse Lewis Chew Love Movement and is a mother who lost her son in Newtown, CT. She stated a passage from Lewis “Although we cannot choose what happens to us we can choose how to respond. Children can choose a loving thought over an angry one. When a child has the power to realize that they have the power to positively impact themselves and those around them, it is empowering and impetrates their positive actions and interactions.” She stated that there will also be a free family dinner. Hanlon stated that he welcomed the student representatives. He stated that it is great to see that there are two of you. He stated that it is hard to make Tuesday night meetings as you are busy with other activities. O’Brien stated that he welcomes the student representatives and look forward to your updates throughout the year. McCallion stated that if anyone had gone to Principal Tebo’s meeting they would have seen the video of the first day. Richardson stated that he wanted to encourage the student representatives that if they have topics they want to discuss to just jump in. He stated that the decisions that the Board make are all about the students. He stated that hearing from a student, your voice and your feeling is important. He stated that he wanted to give kudos to the Rollinsford Withdrawal Committee. He stated he had attended their Public Forum and it was very well organized and informative. He stated that the information that they gave the residents that participated and sought out the information was certainly better attended than our Public Forum was. He stated that Somersworth had no one that came to the meeting and Rollinsford had about 16 people there that asked good questions, learned the information that the Committee had to give them about what has been happening with the two school districts and the SAU. He stated that the withdrawal Committee was ready with the answers that needed to be answered. He stated that this Committee did their work and an excellent job of it.

11. NON-PUBLIC: A motion made by O’Brien seconded by Cannon to exit into non-public 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. Entered non-public at 7:43 PM.

A personnel issue was discussed.

A motion made by Cannon seconded by Larson to exit out of non-public session. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of non-public at 8:23 PM.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Hanlon seconded by Potter to adjourn. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Melinda Sullivan
Board Secretary

Pending Board Approval