

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

February 9, 2021

Black Box Theater

7:00pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Hanlon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Upon call of the roll, the following members were present: Hanlon, Potter, McCallion, Cannon, Donohue, Levasseur, Larson, O'Brien, and Marsh.
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 Potter seconded by Cannon to approve the consent calendar. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - 3.3 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board work Session January 21, 2021
 - 3.4 Discussion Summary of the Somersworth School Board Budget and Revenue Committee Meeting January 26, 2021
 - 3.5 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting January 26, 2021
 - 3.6 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee Meeting January 27, 2021
 - 3.7 Enrollment
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - 4.1 **Superintendents Update:** Supt. Gadomski stated that in the packet we received a petition from Kim Pelletier asking if there was any way the board could revisit the guidelines for away fans to attend the hockey games. He stated that he discussed this with Steve Hodsdon and he said this was sent to all area hockey teams and Steve felt that the guidelines were well thought out and their recommendation is to stick with the guidelines and keep them in place. He stated that it has been difficult with substitutes in the buildings and trying to get coverage when people are out. He stated that we are going to move forward with trying to get a sub for each building to allow us to cover for these positions that are out. He stated that we are hopeful that we will get applications and we will move forward if anyone is interested. He stated that the school board and the union met last week and had a good collaborative discussion on the MOA. He stated hats off to the board and the union on keeping the collaboration going because it is going to be very important as we move forward. He stated that not a day goes by that we aren't managing symptoms, doing contact tracing, direct contact or positive cases. He stated that the administration and staff have been extremely cooperative and collaborative and to this point have been very successful and we are lucky we have limited any exposure. He stated that with the contact tracing it is usually one to two people versus eight to ten people. He thanked the school nurses as they have been the go to people for us and they have been going above and beyond and he appreciates it.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - 5.1 **Standing Committees:**
 - Budget & Revenue – Potter stated that they met last week and they also had a budget meeting on Saturday and will be meeting with the council on the 16th.
 - Buildings, Grounds & Transportation – McCallion stated that they met on the 27th and received project updates and also talked about paving at the middle school and high school.
 - Educational Programs and Community Outreach – Larson stated that she has no update and they will be meeting on March 9th.
 - Legislative Advocacy – O'Brien stated that they have not met but with the recent developments in the legislature, they will be setting up an agenda to discuss these bills.

- Policy Committee – O'Brien stated they met last night and will have some policies at the next meeting for first reading. He stated that they went through the back logged policies from NHSBA. They will be meeting again on March 1st.
- Joint Commission of City Council – No Update
- Joint Building Committee (JBC) for City Bonded School Projects – No Update

5.2 City Council Update: None

5.3 Re-opening Update: Supt. Gadomski stated we are increasing students coming into the building, as of yesterday we added grade one and grade four on a rotational basis. He stated that he went into all the schools and it is going smoothly, hats off to the administration and staff. He stated that on the 15th we will be adding eight classes at the high school and after February vacation; we will be adding grade two, five and eight and another nine classes at the high school. O'Brien stated that the sixth grade is also increasing to two days a week. Supt. Gadomski stated correct, this is a tentative schedule and if we can bring in more students we will. Marsh stated that he noticed increased communication to parents on a more detailed timeline, he appreciates that, and parents must appreciate that. He stated that he has received questions on the options for parents who have a concern with students coming in during the increased phases. Supt. Gadomski stated that if a child has the opportunity to come back into the building, we are taking every precaution possible. He stated that we have plenty of masks, hand sanitizer, UV lighting, social distancing, and cleaning classrooms. He stated that we are offering a safe place for children. He stated that if someone has concerns please give us the opportunity to explain the precautions and call the building administrator or give my office a call. He stated that as staffing allows, we will set up some situations in some grade levels with one remote teacher. If the staff allows we will continue to offer as many different opportunities as possible. Hanlon asked if we are being proactive with spring sports to come forward to the board. Supt. Gadomski stated that Steve and I have talked about it and have been through the guidelines and have put them together mirroring the guidelines we have in place and will come to the board in March. Hanlon stated that we have allowed sports the whole time and asked what we are doing for clubs and other options. Supt. Gadomski stated that we have other clubs and activities occurring. He stated that if you participated in activities in the past touch base with your building principal. Hanlon asked if the board can get a list of the activities happening. O'Brien stated that thinking ahead to summer, are there going to be additional summer offerings. Supt. Gadomski stated that the discussions have already started because we know that students will need assistance. Lane stated that summer planning starts eight months prior to kick off. She stated that we have set some dates and have recognized the need to expand our offerings and we would like to have as many students in as possible. She stated that we are meeting this week and there will be more to follow but it is definitely on our radar. Marsh stated that he has had residents inquire about summer options so he appreciates that. Larson stated that our vision to bolster what we can offer and put COVID assistance back into kids going forward. She stated that the buildings look amazing and it is time to reinvest back into the kids. Levasseur stated that he understands that standardized testing is going on right now and that can be difficult and asked if there was an option to do it in the building. Supt. Gadomski stated that any type of testing has pit falls. He stated that they try to modify and give kids as many opportunities as possible.

5.4 Re-opening next steps: See 5.3

6. New Business:

6.1 One-Time Adequacy Fund Projects Recommendation: Supt. Gadomski stated that included in the packet is a list of projects that are included in the one-time funds. He stated that we have done a number of projects and at the present time there is approximately \$444,000 remaining and we were holding back on spending to see what was needed to spend on re-entry. He stated that at this point we are comfortable to recommend releasing half of that. He stated that they talked about it at the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation meeting and this will be the first reading tonight and if you

accept, will be back on the next agenda for action. Donohue stated that he is in support of this and that it is an appropriate time to bring this forward as we have a good estimate for the rest of the year.

6.2 SYC Resolution: Supt. Gadomski stated that there is a resolution in the packet that was discussed by the SYC task force, joint commission and the city. He stated that it will be going forward to council on the 16th. He stated that the Mayor asked that this come forward tonight and he has also requested waiving rules and acting on it as well. Larson asked what this resolution means. Donohue stated that it is for a commitment from the school and the city council that we are committed to the program and that it is engrained in our city and supports our students and we are committed to sustain it. He stated that there is no funding stream attached to it, that will be a discussion for future meetings. He stated that this is coming before us as we have one more year on the grant and it is possible that we don't get the grant and the amount decreases each year and this is just our commitment to keep our program here. Hanlon stated that when we first got the grant part of it was to show that we are investing in the program. He stated that we keep getting the grant because Somersworth is a model. He stated that we need to find a way to make this sustainable on our own. Marsh stated that he supports this resolution. A motion made by Potter seconded by Donohue to suspend board rules. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. A motion made by Larson seconded by Marsh to accept the resolution as presented. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 2020-2021 Budget Update: Krauss stated that since the last budget update, regular education transportation has been updated. We have been receiving a 10% discount from First Student due to being in remote learning. As of March 1st through the end of the year, we will be going back to paying full contract pricing. I have adjusted the encumbrance to reflect the change. We have also been identifying areas within our budget that have a savings and are working on tightening up other areas to ensure we have encumbered what we need through the end of the year. Superintendent Gadomski and I will be meeting with building principals next week to go over their school budgets and also meeting with Karl and Nancy to go over the facilities and special education budgets as well. She stated that in terms of revenue, since the last budget update, we have begun to receive additional Medicaid Revenue checks, which is great news, and hope to see more as the year continues. O'Brien asked about summer school and if we are going to increase the amount. Krauss stated that we have money built in the budget for regular summer school and we plan on using some of the additional funds we will be receiving toward the additional summer offerings.

8. ACTION ITEM

8.1 Renewal of Food Service Contract: Krauss stated that at the last meeting she notified the board that our food service contract is due to expire at the end of the year, however the USDA has granted a waiver to allow districts to extend another year. We are recommending that the board extend one additional year with Café Services. A motion made by Donohue seconded by McCallion to approve the food service contract renewal as presented. Donohue stated that he supports this, logistically wise it makes sense to get a good quality contract in the RFP process and we have a really great relationship with Café Services and they have been amazing this past year. Hanlon stated that there are a lot of great partnerships through this, Café Services is one and also the bus company and Back Bay with all the support they have given us. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATE/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- February 15, 2021 Somersworth School Board Budget Presentation, School Board Meeting Immediately Following
- March 9, 2021 Somersworth School Board Education Programs committee meeting
- March 9, 2021 Somersworth School Board Meeting
- March 23, 2021 Somersworth School Board Policy Committee Meeting
- April 13, 2021 Somersworth School Board Building and Grounds Committee Meeting

- April 13, 2021 Somersworth School Board Meeting

Donohue stated that a suggestion for the agenda, to make 5.3 and 5.4 one agenda item.

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: None

10.2 Board Members: Marsh stated that he appreciated the workshop on Saturday; he appreciates the efforts of the SAU staff and the board members. He stated that it was an easy read but the story increasingly challenging. He stated that he appreciates the collaborative relationship with city council including Mayor Hilliard. He stated that it hasn't always been that way. He stated that when he was on the council, the generality was that the city doesn't care about education and the school board doesn't care about the tax rate and that is false. He stated that he appreciates the collaboration we have and we are going to need it as we move forward. Donohue stated that he appreciates Dave Witham coming to the workshop and having that representation there. He stated that is one example over the years seeing that relationship improve and grow. He stated that when you are not looking at it up close, it doesn't seem that special but when you look at other towns it is not the case and it is something to value here in Somersworth. He stated that he appreciates everyone supporting the SYC resolution, it is the first step and a very important first step to demonstrate our commitment to the program. Cannon stated that the legislative committee is going to be meeting in March, before now and then there are a number of bills being discussed, if anyone has any questions on the bills please contact me directly. O'Brien stated that with the budget being the topic, he would encourage anyone watching or here in person look at the materials, it is really enlightening seeing the pieces first hand on how inadequate the state adequacy funds are and how reliant we are on tax dollars. He stated that we are receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars less than last year that we need to make up or make tough decisions with the budget. He stated that there is no fat to be cut and he encourages everyone to look at the budget, all the documents are available publicly. He stated hats off to Katie and the staff for doing an amazing job putting the budget together under these trying times. Larson stated that we are approaching 100 days of school and she is happy kids are starting to go back this week. She stated that we are almost 100 days in and getting in hopefully positivity resonates and things go well and things feel more connected. She stated that if your not part of that group, hang on and if you need help reach out to the schools. Take care of yourself and other and we will get through this. Hanlon thanked Maureen and all of her staff to make SYC a part of our community. Thank you to the committee who worked on this and Marty Dumont. He thanked Dave Witham for taking part in the budget workshop. He stated that to have their support going forward is huge, because it wasn't long ago pre-tax cap that city hall would be packed and we would list for hours of people saying we can't cut these positions and we would have more than a million dollar increase. That is not where we are today, they have overridden the tax cap and support us. He stated that we don't get any help from the state so it is our tax payers and the council so we have to thank them for that. He also congratulated Mia Westphal who won the 8th grade patriot pen contest and will be representing us nationally.

11. NON-PUBLIC 91-A: 3, II e: A motion made by Cannon seconded by Potter to exit into non public session in accordance with Chapter 91-A:3 ii (e) negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Entered Non-Public Session at 6:30. Board members present in nonpublic: Potter, Cannon, McCallion, Levasseur, Larson and Marsh.

In nonpublic a discussion regarding negotiations took place.

A motion made by McCallion seconded by Potter to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic session at 6:58pm.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Cannon seconded by O'Brien to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

February 15, 2021

Black Box Theater

7:00pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Hanlon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Upon call of the roll, the following members were present: Hanlon, Potter, McCallion, Cannon, Donohue, Larson, O'Brien, and Marsh. Absent: Levasseur A motion made by Larson seconded by Potter to allow for remote attendance. Donohue stated that we approved this before and it makes sense to approve and then have the policy revised. Hanlon stated that it makes sense to send this back to the policy committee because this was done four years ago and this was not the intent of the policy, it was quorum related. He stated that he will personally be voting no. Marsh asked if he could please describe the situation. Hanlon stated that it is a request by Ed Levasseur and he stated that he needed to go to his mother's house. Marsh stated that he very much respect Ed's reason however he is not sure that it fits the criteria of this. He stated that as elected officials we need to make choices and we have lives outside of meetings and he recognizes that but he will not support this. VOTE: Upon roll call vote, the motion failed 7-1.
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 Donohue seconded by Cannon to approve the consent calendar. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Approved were:
 - 3.3 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Meeting February 6, 2021
 - 3.4 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Policy Committee Meeting February 8, 2021
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - 4.1 **Superintendents Update:** Supt. Gadomski stated that a reminder that February break is next week and he knows that it will be a welcome break for students, parents and staff. He stated that due to the incoming weather, we will have a remote learning day tomorrow. He stated that there will be no buses running and no lunch delivery tomorrow as well. He stated that he talked to the athletic director and they are in the process of putting together the Spring guidelines that will be mirroring the fall and winter guidelines and they will be coming to the board on March 9th and then on March 23rd for action. He stated that at the last meeting, there was a question on what other activities we are offering and he asked administrators to give him a list. He stated that at the elementary levels there aren't many extracurricular activities. He stated that at the middle school there is drama, robotics, yearbook, tough topper, virtual job shadow and books and blabber. He stated that at the high school there is interact, band, jazz ensemble, student council, class council, math team and drama. He stated that there are a lot of things going on and there are ongoing discussions on other activities to put together. Donohue stated that we have been getting the building reports in our packets since October and November and there is a list of criteria that is included. He stated that at this point, they have served their purpose and it hasn't driven the decisions that we have made. He stated that he wanted to check in with the board to see if you are finding it useful and if others wanted it included. He stated that he would like to go back to seeing highlights of programmatic things that were reported before. He stated that he wanted to see if it is okay to shift direction of what is in those reports. Marsh stated that he found value in those reports in before times and when it is reasonable and makes sense, he would appreciate that. Hanlon stated that we still need to see the data. He stated that we never end up in the papers for these things and this is the only way that it is reported. He stated that the public needs to see that information. He stated that the dashboard is not corrected; it has only shown four cases throughout the entire pandemic. He stated that it is important for this data to remain where we see any struggles the more we come in. He stated that it would be nice to see another update, maybe newsletters because it is important to see that but he doesn't want the

other information to disappear. Donohue asked if these reports are posted online. Hanlon stated through the consent calendar. Larson stated that we could revise the information that we are seeing and make it student based to balance the perspective of COVID data with students and how they are doing and how things are going overall. Hanlon stated that if we are changing the one we have, we can kick it back to the Ed committee to look at. O'Brien stated that things are evolving and the administration is looking critically at what is relevant. He stated that these pieces are time consuming to put together so he is open to see if the stuff on the report is valuable. Lane stated that the template is what you as a board decided on so if you want the Ed Committee to look at it you just need to be clear on your direction. O'Brien stated that maybe you could have the building administrators come up with a new form, they know the story of their building and what is important to convey.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

5.1 Standing Committees:

- Budget & Revenue – None
- Buildings, Grounds & Transportation – None
- Educational Programs and Community Outreach – Larson stated that she has no update and they will be meeting on March 9th.
- Legislative Advocacy – None
- Policy Committee – None
- Joint Commission of City Council – No Update
- Joint Building Committee (JBC) for City Bonded School Projects – No Update

5.2 City Council Update: Pepin stated that they are meeting tomorrow night and voting on the resolution for the unexpended funds. He stated that they received the information on the finances and what the request is. He stated that they will also have the first reading on the resolution for SYC. He stated that the Mayor also set March 8th at 6:00pm for the joint city and school board budget meeting.

6. New Business:

6.1 Policy for First Reading: A motion made by Potter seconded by Cannon to read by Title Only. Donohue stated that he would like to get rid of the last sentence in paragraph four. He stated that putting this in policy a high requirement. He stated that these are constantly changing and fluid so this is setting a high bar. Lane stated that we have a policy meeting on March 15th and will look at it in further detail. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

- IHAMA Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. ACTION ITEM

8.1 2021-2022 Budget Approval: A motion made by Potter seconded by O'Brien to accept the 2021-2022 as presented with the addition of the City Council resolution if approved. Donohue stated that during the workshop, he brought up the truancy officer and we had a discussion on how the role would be broken up into other positions but he would like to see that position moved from tier two reductions to tier three. He stated that we have asked for an amount to cover tier two but we do have to consider the option that it may not happen and he would like to see the truancy officer in tier three. Hanlon stated that we are under a time constraint and the city is approving a bottom line. Supt. Gadomski stated that if the resolution is approved for the \$419,000 it will take care of both tier two and three reductions. Marsh stated that he can appreciate the time constraints but the truancy position did get my attention at the workshop. He asked how often the truancy officer knocks on doors and makes personal contact. Supt. Gadomski stated that the scope of any position is beyond knocking on doors, there are many preemptive duties that happen. He stated that many of the requirements for school approval say the need for services and not necessarily a position and the services completed by the truancy officer would be divided up in other jobs. Krauss stated that as a reminder, you are only voting to send the budget to the council, once the budget process is completed by the council it will come back to the board for approval of the budget. Marsh stated that when we send the

original budget it is our intent. Hanlon stated that the intent was clear and Dave Witham heard the discussion. VOTE: Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

8.2 One Time Adequacy Fund Projects: Supt. Gadomski stated that there is a memo in the packet with more detail on the projects. He stated that many of the projects went out to bid and in addition, Karl is getting multiple quotes to make informed decisions. He stated that the total is not to exceed \$236,477. A motion made by Donohue seconded by McCallion to approve as presented. Potter asked if the funds for the fields include irrigation at the football field. Krauss stated yes. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATE/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS:

- March 9, 2021 Somersworth School Board Education Programs committee meeting
- March 9, 2021 Somersworth School Board Meeting
- March 23, 2021 Somersworth School Board Policy Committee Meeting
- April 13, 2021 Somersworth School Board Building and Grounds Committee Meeting
- April 13, 2021 Somersworth School Board Meeting

Donohue stated that a suggestion for the agenda, is to set a goal setting session and to talk about when we can schedule that. He stated that it has been a rough year and it would be refreshing to set up a goal session with the vision for our board. Hanlon stated that every summer we have that when our meetings are lighter and he is in favor of keeping it that way.

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: None

10.2 Board Members: Potter stated that he would like to thank the SAU admin team, the administrative team, the board and the council, this was not an easy budget to go through and he is impressed with the amount of dialogue that we have so thank you. Marsh stated that he would like to thank all the professionals at all levels for the final product that is in front of us tonight. As we know, the budget is a value statement that includes our teachers and support team using limited funds and making difficult decisions. He stated that the school makes difficult decisions and so does the council where we need to trust each other to continue collaborating with each other. He stated that we may not always agree but as indicated, we can agree to find balance. He stated that he is looking forward to us continuing to work with the council and the community as a whole. Donohue wished everyone a good February break. McCallion stated that he would like to thank Katie for a great presentation and the staff. He stated that it is a balancing act for the city and the school and having Dave Witham here was a great thing. Thank you everyone. Hanlon thanked the SAU staff, administration and finance committee, budgets are never easy but we are in an interesting position because of the trust and partnership and collaboration and it is good to see that continuing. He stated that there are a lot of communities who don't have trust and collaboration; it is to the betterment of the city. Thank you to the council and everyone involved.

11. NON-PUBLIC 91-A: 3, II e: A motion made by Potter seconded by Cannon to exit into non-public session in accordance with Chapter 91-A: 3 ii (e) negotiations. VOTE: motion passed, unanimously. Entered Non-Public Session at 7:43. Board members present in nonpublic: Potter, Cannon, McCallion, Larson and Marsh. Also Present: Lori Lane and Robert Gadomski

In nonpublic, a discussion regarding negotiations took place.

A motion made by McCallion seconded by Potter to exit out of nonpublic session. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously. Exited out of nonpublic session at 7:58pm.

A motion made by Marsh seconded by Larson to accept the MOA revisions as presented. VOTE: Motion passed, unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by McCallion seconded by Cannon to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

**Somersworth School Board
Minutes of the Public Hearing
Proposed 21-22 Budget**

February 15, 2021

Black Box Theater

6:51 PM

(Board Members Present: Hanlon, Potter, McCallion, Donohue, Larson, and Marsh)

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. **Call to Order:** Hanlon opened the public hearing at 6:51 pm.
2. **Public Comments Relative to the proposed 21-22 budget:** None

Public hearing was closed at 6:53 pm.

Katie Krauss

Pending Board Approval

Somersworth School Board Budget Presentation

February 15, 2021

Black Box Theater

6:30pm

1. **Call to Order:** Hanlon called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The following members were present: Hanlon, Potter, McCallion, Donohue, Larson, Cannon and Marsh. Absent: Levasseur and O'Brien
2. **Budget Presentation:** See presentation attached.
3. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Budget Presentation closed at 6:50 PM.

Katie Krauss

Pending Board Approval

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Proposed Budget Presentation

February 15, 2021

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Budget Process

- ▶ SAU Administrative Team met weekly to discuss the preparation of the 2021-2022 Budget.
- ▶ In October, Building Administrators submitted budgets to the Business Administrator. The directive was to submit a budget with no increase.
- ▶ Budget and Revenue Committee has been meeting on an ongoing basis to get updates on the budget as it was being created.
- ▶ Budget Binder was created for the school board with all pertinent information regarding the budget.
- ▶ Budget workshop was held on February 6th with the full board to discuss the proposed budget.

FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget Summary

Budget Summary	
Total FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget	27,925,422.00
Total FY 2021-2022 Estimated Revenue	8,364,486.00
Total FY 2021-2022 Net Budget	19,560,936.00
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes Per Tax Cap	18,896,386.00
Total Amount Over Tax Cap	664,550.00

FY 2021-2022 Budget Reductions

Phase One Budget Reductions	
Technology Reductions	12,507.00
ISO Assistant	16,000.00
Elementary Teacher	62,000.00
Elementary Teacher	62,000.00
SAU Reductions	62,332.00
	214,839.00
Phase Two Budget Reductions	
Tenancy Officer	45,000.00
Elementary Teacher	65,000.00
Building Aid Disturb	80,000.00
Building Aid Maple Wood	60,000.00
	250,000.00
Total Budget Reductions	
Early Childhood Interventionist	94,571.00
High School Teacher	95,000.00
	389,611.00
Total Budget Reductions	
	644,450.00

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Estimated Revenue

The 2021-2022 Estimated decrease in Revenue is \$2,445,686 less than Fiscal Year 2020-2021 primarily due to the following reasons:

- ▶ Decrease for one-time Building Aid for Maple Wood Project: \$(1,165,783)
- ▶ Decrease for State of NH Adequacy One-Time Payment: \$(1,175,777)
- ▶ Reduction in State of NH Adequacy Education Aid: \$(629,395)
- ▶ Reduction in Building Aid: \$(17,748)
- ▶ Reduction in Medicaid Reimbursement: \$(10,264)
- ▶ Increase in Preschool Tuition: \$8,500
- ▶ Increase in Rollinsford SAU Revenue: \$207,323
- ▶ Increase in SAU Fund Balance: \$257,000 (One-Time Revenue Source)
- ▶ Increase in Indirect Cost Revenue: \$33,400
- ▶ Increase in CTC Tuition: \$22,000
- ▶ Increase in Special Education Aid: \$25,098

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Expenditures

The 2021-2022 Proposed Budget is \$27,260,851. The proposed expenditures change is \$1,786,391 less than the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Approved Budget.

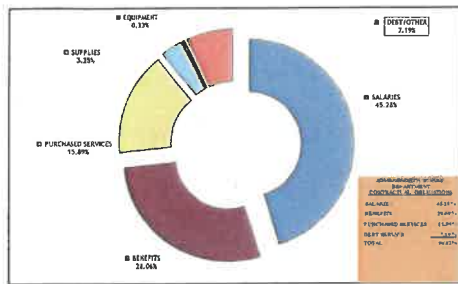
General Expenditure Items:

- ▶ Medical Insurance actual 5.5% increase for Custodians and actual 2.9% increase for all other staff over 2020-2021 actual rates using Schoolcare's Effective Rate which does include the Premium Strategy Credit.
- ▶ Primex Property and Liability: 2.6% Increase
- ▶ Primex Workers Compensation: 14.4% Decrease
- ▶ Northeast Delta Dental Rates- No Change
- ▶ New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase

	RATES	RATES	%
GROUP	FY 2021-2022	FY 2020-2021	CHANGE
Employees	14.00%	11.75%	22.87%
Teachers	21.02%	17.80%	18.09%

- ▶ Includes Teacher, SACA and Custodian Salary Increases based on negotiated contracts.
- ▶ Includes 3% Salary Increase for all non-union staff
- ▶ Includes a reduction of \$1,258,526 in one-time expenditures from prior year.
- ▶ Includes a reduction of \$1,165,783 in expenditures for Phase II of the Maple Wood Renovation Project

FY 2021-2022-Contractual Obligations



Function 1100- Regular Education

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$8,476,773
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$8,330,010
- ▶ Budget Difference: **\$146,763**
 - Negotiated Teacher, SACA Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Plan Election Changes and Rate Increase
 - Track Changes
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase
 - Reduction of three Elementary Teaching Positions
 - Reduction of two Building Aide Positions
 - Reduction of High School Teaching Position
 - Misc. Increases/Decreases in supplies, print media, software

Function 1210- Special Education

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$5,755,262
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$5,893,111
- ▶ Budget Difference: **\$137,849**
 - Negotiated Teacher, SACA Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Special Education Liaison Proposed 3% Salary Increase
 - Health Plan Changes and Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases
 - Track Changes
 - Staff Changes
 - Special Education Contracted Services Estimated 3% Increase
 - Special Education Out of District Placement changes based on current/anticipated student needs

Function 1260- ESL

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$265,242
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$263,213
- ▶ Budget Difference: **\$2,029**
 - Negotiated Teacher Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase
 - Reduction of ESOL Assistant

Function 1300- Career and Technical Center

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$805,327
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$838,513
- ▶ Budget Difference: **\$33,186**
 - Negotiated Teacher and SACA Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase and plan changes
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase
 - Misc. Increases/Decreases in supplies, equipment, print media

Function 1410- Co-Curricular

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$46,564
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$48,309
- ▶ Budget Difference: **\$1,745**
 - Increases based on negotiated teacher contract Appendix C changes.
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase

Function 1420- Athletics

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$179,111
- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget: \$179,877
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$766
 - Increases based on negotiated teacher contract Appendix C changes.
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases
 - Reduction of Football Reconditioning One-Time Expenditure from prior year

Function 2110- Attendance/Tuant

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$129,134
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$77,509
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(51,625)
 - Reduction of Truancy Officer
 - School Resource Officer Estimated Increase

Function 2120- Guidance Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$804,177
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$848,230
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$44,053
 - Negotiated Teacher Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - Health Plan Changes
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases
 - Reclassify Testing from Function 2210

Function 2130- Nurse Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$333,921
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$343,804
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$9,883
 - Negotiated Teacher Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases

Function 2150- Speech Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$325,052
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$328,690
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$3,638
 - Negotiated Teacher Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases
 - Staff Changes

Function 2160- PT/OT Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$299,295
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$242,208
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(57,087)
 - Contracted Services based on current need/services

Function 2190- Strafford Learning Center Dues

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$9,988
- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget: \$9,988
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0
 - No Change

Function 2210- Improvement of Instruction

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$58,118
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$50,363
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(7,755)
 - Reclassify Testing to Guidance Function

Function 2213- Admin Professional Development

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$18,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$18,000
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0

Function 2222- Librarian Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$345,782
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$348,702
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$2,920
 - Negotiated Teacher Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase and plan changes
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases

Function 2310/2312- School Board

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$16,585
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$16,585
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0

Function 2317-2319- Audit and Legal

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$45,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$45,000
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0

Function 2320-2324 SAU Expenditures

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,048,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,247,749
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$199,749
 - Increase based on SAU Approved Budget
 - Offset by Revenue from Rollinsford School District based on SAU Withdrawal Plan

Function 2400- School Administration

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,788,027
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,882,927
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$94,900
 - Administrator Proposed 3% Salary Increase
 - Negotiated SACA Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increases
 - Health Plan Changes
 - Misc. Increases/Decreases in Supplies

Function 2610- Custodial and Maintenance

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$146,631
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$152,855
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$6,224
 - Proposed 3% Administrator Salary Increase
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase

Function 2620- Property/Liability Insurance

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$110,952
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$113,839
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$2,887
 - Increase based on Primex Rate Increase

Function 2621- Custodial Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,046,417
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,159,139
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$112,722
 - Negotiated Custodial Contract Salary and Benefit Increases
 - Health Insurance Rate Increase
 - New Hampshire Retirement Rate Increase
 - Increase for SAU Custodial Salaries and Benefits and Supplies

Function 2622- Utilities

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$623,700
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$640,263
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$16,563
 - Increase based on SAU Utilities

Function 2630- Lawn Care

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$8,979
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$8,979
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$ 0

Function 2631- Trash Removal

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$50,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$50,000
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$ 0

Function 2640/2641- Maintenance

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$325,339
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$333,139
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$7,800
 - Increase based on inclusion of SAU Maintenance

Function 2643- Special Projects

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$948,866
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$0
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(948,866)
 - Reduction of One-Time Expenditures Included in the FY20/21 Budget

Function 2650- Vehicle Repair/Maintenance

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,000
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0

Function 2690- SAU Property and Liability

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$0
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$3,557
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$3,557
 - Increase due to inclusion of SAU Budget.

Function 2721-2725- Transportation

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,145,661
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,171,248
- ▶ Budget Difference: 25,587
 - Contractual Increases for Regular and SPED Transportation
 - Increase to Athletic Transportation based on First Student Contract

Function 2840 Contracted Technology Support

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$446,563
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$293,320
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(153,243)
 - Reduction of Staff Laptop Replacement One-Time Expenditure
 - Technology Budget Reduction

Function 2900/2990-Other Support Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$416,035
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$415,312
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(723)
 - Decrease based on retirement payouts for staff
 - Increase based on retiree health insurance changes
 - Decrease to Workers Compensation Insurance based on Primex Rate

Function 4010-4025 Maple Wood Renovation Project

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,165,783
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$0
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$(1,165,783)
 - Reduction of Maple Wood Renovation Project

Function 5100-Debt Services

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$1,831,958
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$1,875,412
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$43,454
 - Decrease based on bond schedule
 - Additional Principal and Interest for Middle School Elevator

Function 5221-Transfer to Food Service

- ▶ FY 2020-2021 Approved Budget: \$30,000
- ▶ FY 2021-2022 Proposed Budget: \$30,000
- ▶ Budget Difference: \$0

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Budget Summary

Total Budget Summary

2021-2022 Proposed Budget:	\$ 27,260,851
2021-2022 Estimated Revenue:	\$ 8,364,485
2021-2022 Total Net Budget:	\$18,896,366
Total Net Budget Increase:	\$ 659,295

City of Somersworth Resolution 31-21 Use of Fund Balance as Revenue

- ▶ WHEREAS, the School Department/School Board is required to prepare an annual budget for consideration and action by the City Council, and
- ▶ WHEREAS, each year the School Department's annual budget may provide unexpended funds/surplus funds that will lapse to the City's fund balance; and
- ▶ WHEREAS, during the annual budget development of the School Department/School Board's budget conditions may be such that all or a portion of any such anticipated surplus within the current budget would be advantageous to use as a revenue source in the upcoming budget; and
- ▶ WHEREAS, the Finance Committee unanimously recommends adoption/ratification of the following considerations, to be reviewed annually by the City Council:
 - ▶ The School Department/School Board will report each February to the City Manager the estimated amount of surplus, if any, that will lapse to the City's General Fund as result of current unexpended budget funds.
 - ▶ The School Department/School Board will develop an amount, if any, of the estimated surplus that they recommend be used as a revenue source in the ensuing budget.
 - ▶ Once the City Manager receives the aforementioned information, the City Council will deliberate and take action on the amount, if any, that may be used as a revenue source in the ensuing School Department/School Board budget.

City of Somersworth Resolution 31-21 Use of Fund Balance as Revenue

- ▶ The School Board reviewed the current FY 20-21 budget savings at the budget workshop on February 6, 2021. The School Board made a motion to recommend to the City Council to use \$419,671 from the unexpended funds at the end of FY 20-21 as revenue in the proposed FY 21-22 budget.
- ▶ The City Council will be meeting on February 16, 2021 to vote on the proposed resolution.
- ▶ If the City Council approves Resolution 31-21, it will allow the school district to be able to have additional revenue to use to cover some of the budget reductions that needed to be made in order to meet the tax cap requirements.
- ▶ Each year the School Board will determine the amount if any of unexpended funds that could be used as revenue in the following years budget. This revenue source could possibly be a one-time revenue source depending on the budget savings that are realized each year. The last two years of budget savings are anomalies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ▶ This is another great example that shows the collaboration between the City and the School and what makes Somersworth a model to many other communities.

City of Somersworth Resolution 31-21 Use of Fund Balance as Revenue

Tier Two Budget Reductions	
Truancy Officer	65,000.00
Elementary Teacher	65,000.00
Building Aid Islehurst	50,000.00
Building Aid Maple Wood	50,000.00
	<u>230,000.00</u>
Tier Three Budget Reductions	
Early Childhood Interventionist	94,671.00
High School Teacher	95,000.00
	<u>189,671.00</u>
Total Budget Reductions	419,671.00

Somersworth School District 2021-2022 Budget Summary Including Unexpended Funds Revenue

Total Budget Summary

2021-2022 Proposed Budget:	\$ 27,680,522
2021-2022 Estimated Revenue:	\$ 8,784,156
2021-2022 Total Net Budget:	\$18,896,366
Total Net Budget Increase:	\$ 659,295

Somersworth School District Proposed 2021-2022 Budget Next Steps

- ▶ Proposed 2021-2022 Budget Public Hearing February 15, 2021
- ▶ City Council Meeting to vote on proposed Resolution-February 16, 2021
- ▶ Proposed 2021-2022 Budget will be submitted to the City Manager by March 1, 2021
- ▶ Continue working with the City Council, Joint Finance Committees and Joint Commission on collaborative services and collaborative efforts to provide a budget that meets the needs of the city and school while keeping the tax rate down for our taxpayers.

Somersworth School Board Policy Committee**

March 1, 2021

5:30 PM - 6:45 PM

Discussion Summary

****In accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body was authorized to meet electronically. The Somersworth School District utilized zoom for this electronic meeting.**

Present: John O'Brien (School Board, Committee Chair – attended remotely), Matt Hanlon (School Board – attended remotely), Lori Lane (Assistant Superintendent – attended in person at SAU office), Gerri Cannon (School Board – attended remotely), and Steve Potter (School Board – attended remotely)

IHAMA – Teaching About Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

This policy had been reviewed by the Committee at the last meeting and had moved forward for first reading at the February 15, 2021 school board meeting. At that meeting Board member Coty Donohue questioned whether or not the line, *"The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the development, distribution, and maintenance of a comprehensive list of local, regional, statewide drug and alcohol counseling and treatment resources which are available to district students,"* was necessary to include. He was concerned that this seemed like a high expectation to put onto the district when there are other organizations that gather this information. As a result of his inquiry, the Committee is re-reviewing the language tonight.

Lori shared the legislation that this policy is based on, RSA 189:11-d - Drug and Alcohol Education. Although the RSA does not set the expectation of the school district as high as the recommended policy language, the RSA does set the expectation that school districts are required to develop policies on how it will provide students and families with information and resources about drug and alcohol counseling and treatment.

Lori explained that although she appreciated Coty's concerns, she felt that this responsibility could be managed as part of the new Director of School District Operations and incorporated into the redesign of the school district's website. The new Director position's responsibilities include overseeing the student support networks that the district has. She further explained that having a central location for this information such as the district's website made sense instead of leaving the decision about what information is available up to each school.

After further discussion, the Committee did not feel that the policy language needed to be adjusted. It will go on the next agenda for second reading and John will explain the Committee's reasoning when he reports out on the work of the Policy Committee at the next board meeting.

BEDC – Quorum

At the last school board meeting, one member requested to attend the meeting remotely. The full board requested that the Policy Committee review the existing policy to clarify when a board member should be allowed to attend a meeting remotely.

Lori provided the Committee with two policies – BEDC and BEA – Regular Board Meetings. The Committee discussed that purpose of remote meeting attendance, as outlined in BEDC, is to allow the board to meet the quorum requirement to hold a meeting. If a physical quorum is not available, a member can ask or be asked to attend the meeting remotely in order for the board to meet a quorum. If a physical quorum is met, remote attendance by a board member would not be needed.

The Committee talked about the expectation for board members is to attend meetings in the format that the meetings are being held in. Right now, because of the Governor's executive order, meetings can be held remotely. However, if the meeting is held in person, the expectation is that board members attend in person. Steve said that he did attend a meeting remotely recently and said that it was challenging and he felt that he should have asked to be excused from the meeting. Matt added that, as chair, it is harder to facilitate the meeting when members are remote because you cannot see them when they want to be recognized during the discussion. John also noted that the district does not have the level of technology to make remote meeting attendance for one member a truly successful experience.

The Committee also felt that although board members need to make every effort to attend all board and committee meetings, there will be times that board members are unavailable. Remote attendance is not intended to allow a member to always be present but, as stated, remote attendance is to allow the board to reach a quorum.

The line, "When a quorum cannot be met and it is not reasonably practical for a requested board member to attend in person, a member can be asked to attend remotely," will be added to the first paragraph of policy BEDC.

The Committee agreed with this language addition. The revised policy will be moved forward for first reading at the next full board meeting.

ACD/GBED/JICG – Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids In and On School Facilities and Grounds and During School Activities Held Off School Grounds

In preparation for this meeting, Lori provided the Committee with the Athletic Code of Conduct as well as Policy JICDD – Student Discipline/Out-of-School Actions as resources to decide if language needed to be added to ADC regarding off-campus behavior. The Athletic Code of Conduct speaks to an athlete's behavior 24/7, 365 days a year, implying that off-campus behavior is included. However, it is not specifically stated that off-campus behavior such as when a student is an athlete and is attending an off-campus game or function is also when the school administration can hold the student accountable for their actions.

The Committee reviewed the language in JICDD. After discussion, it was decided that this policy was designed to address behavior at specific off-campus locations like bus stops. The Committee and Lori agreed that this policy would need further review if it was to be considered as it is currently not a Somersworth policy.

The Committee decided that the following language was added the second line of the first paragraph of ADC. The line now reads, "Students and minors are further prohibited from possession of such items in or upon any facility, school vehicle, grounds owned or maintained by the District, or if you are participating in a school activity off school grounds.

The Committee agreed on the new language and the policy will move forward to the full board for first reading at the next school board meeting.

IHCD/LEB – Advanced Course Work/Advanced Placement Courses & STEM Dual & Concurrent Enrollment Program

Lori explained the edits that she made to the policy language based on the feedback from the Committee at their last meeting. She added an introductory section that includes definitions of both Advanced Placement and dual enrollment programs. She also added a section to identify the oversight of any dual enrollment programs that the school district fosters with postsecondary. Lastly, the language specific to STEM dual enrollment programs through the Community College System of NH was restored and separated as it was in the original NHSBA update.

The Committee felt that the edits provided more clarity to the intent of the policy and the educational opportunities provided. The Committee agreed on the new language and the policy will move forward to the full board for first reading at the next school board meeting.

KEE – Website Accessibility and Grievance

Lori reviewed the edits that she made to the policy language based on the feedback from the Committee at their last meeting. As this policy was originally written in 2018, prior to the revision on complaints and grievance procedures that were changed in 2020, she removed the 2018 language and steamed the language in the policy to align with the grievance processes now in policies AC and AC-E.

The Committee agreed on the new language and the policy will move forward to the full board for first reading at the next school board meeting.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 5:30 PM at Mulligan's Grill at Somersworth High School/CTC

Agenda will include:

JLC – Student Health Services & School Nurses

JLCE – Emergency Care & First Aid

IHBAB – School District Criteria for Special Education Evaluations/Parent Request for Independent Evaluation

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Lane

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Somersworth School Board

Budget Committee

March 2, 2021

Meeting Summary

Members Present:

Steve Potter	Bob Gadomski
Coty Donohue	Katie Krauss
John O'Brien	Lori Lane

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

2021-2022 Budget update:

The budget was unchanged as presented and approved by the board to move forward to the city council. The committee had a lengthy discussion in preparation for the March 8, 2021 Joint City Council/School Board meeting to discuss the budget. It was agreed that the budget process developed a good budget to work with for the 2021-22 school year. The \$419,671 that was approved by the city council, for the school district to use unexpended funds to offset cuts, was largely beneficial. The additional cuts that were identified out of the budget were minimal.

Truancy Officer	65,000.00
Elementary Teacher	65,000.00
Building Aid Idlehurst	50,000.00
Building Aid Maple Wood	50,000.00
<hr/>	

Early Childhood Interventionist	94,671.00
High School Teacher	95,000.00
<hr/>	
\$419, 671	

Other

Krauss notified the budget committee that the Department of Revenue called to inquire about the resolution that was passed by the City Council to get a better understanding of how this is going to work because school districts normally can't retain a fund balance and how end of year reporting will be handled. She also spoke to Scott Smith about it and it should all work out but she wanted the budget committee to be aware so there weren't any surprises.

A motion was made by Coty and seconded by John to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm.

Motion passed 3-0.

**SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING**

March 2, 2021

ZOOM PLATFORM

6:30pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Hanlon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Upon call of the roll, the following members were present: Hanlon, Potter, McCallion, Cannon, Donohue, Larson, O'Brien, and Marsh. Absent: Levasseur
2. **Discussion on Governor's Executive Order:** Supt. Gadomski stated that we received the Governor's Executive Order right before vacation and it calls for all students to receive in person learning at least two days a week. He stated that the administrators and the staff have been working diligently to tweak our plans. He stated that as we discussed the executive order, we were close to start with. He stated that we have been working on these plans since September and we have been moving forward since then. He stated that he wanted to remind the board that this is a house of cards as we are putting this together. He stated that plans are unique to each building and even each grade level. He stated that the staff has been working diligently to make this happen. He stated that currently we have twenty staff members who are working outside the building. He stated that we are no longer allowing childcare leave, they are out either on MOA, ADA or FMLA or the staff need to be in the building. He went over the following plans:

IDLEHURST

Preschool will have two cohorts (am/pm) two times a week.

Head Start will have two cohorts two times a week.

Kindergarten has six classrooms in person and one fully remote classroom currently in two days a week but starting March 15th will increase to four days a week.

First and Second Grade will have two cohorts two times a week with two cohorts based on the child's last name.

MAPLEWOOD

All students grade three through five will attend school two days a week based on cohorts.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

All grades will be in two days a week cohorting students by blue and white teams.

HIGH SCHOOL

Starting March 8th they will move to a split schedule four days a week. There will be a morning and afternoon session by last name. High School presents many challenges because some students are coming back and some aren't. We had to add a mid-day bus run to transport students from the morning session home and then pick up the afternoon session students.

He stated that specific information will be sent home to parents. He stated that we were given this order the day before February vacation and we will be up and running next Monday. The staff and administrators have done a fantastic job. Potter asked if there was any thoughts at the high school around flipping the morning and afternoon around so you do some mornings and some afternoons.

Supt. Gadomski stated that he will bring that question back to Mr. Tebo. Potter stated that since we are bringing in cohorts on the same day, he has been hearing over and over again that the custodial staff doesn't have enough time to clean, how are we going to get all the desks cleaned. Supt. Gadomski stated that we will do the best we can with what we have available but that is a limitation. Potter stated that currently for teacher office hours are in the afternoon and now it will be in between the first and second cohorts. How are they going to effectively do that and still have their lunch. Supt. Gadomski stated that Mr. Tebo had a lengthy discussion on prep time with the union. He stated that he will bring all these things back and get some answers. Donohue asked if the eighth grade is still coming in on the 15th. Supt. Gadomski stated that they were planning on the 15th but they backed it up to March 8th to fulfill the executive order. Marsh stated that he appreciates the administrator's efforts to provide these

plans to us. He stated that he realizes that most were developed prior to the mandate but he has no doubt that adaptations had to be done. He wanted clarification on the language on the Maple Wood plan regarding not being able to continue targeted in person instruction and if we would still be meeting our obligations. Supt. Gadomski stated that we will meet all our obligations and make sure that those are provided in all buildings. He stated that when we were remote we were able to provide additional assistance but with more kids coming in we aren't able to give additional services outside of class. He stated that all our legal obligations and special education will be met. Larson stated that she appreciates this happening on such short notice. She asked if we receive another executive order, is that something we anticipate and do we have plans for that. Supt. Gadomski stated that we have contingency plans and will meet any executive order. He stated that our administration and staff will meet anything we are mandated to do. He stated that we have followed a methodical manner and timeline and if we can add more kids we will continue to do that. Larson stated that in the high school plan it says that all staff and students must leave the building at 3:20, can you explain that. Supt. Gadomski stated that in all the buildings we have tried to set a deadline because we need to clean the buildings. He stated that staff have the habit of staying and we have had to tell them to leave so the custodians can clean the buildings. Larson stated that she knows it has only been a couple of days but how has it been going on the new form with more students in the building. Supt. Gadomski stated that any time that you bring in another cohort, the level of anxiety increases and once we work through the protocols things settle down. He stated that the challenge is the number of accommodations we need to make during the day to get tasks done. He stated that overall, it is going well, managing symptoms and quarantines is an everyday occurrence and we will continue to do so. O'Brien stated hats off to all the staff and administration for reacting so quickly. Bob you speak with such confidence and that is due to your staff. He asked if there are any gaps where you need more resources or more supports. Supt. Gadomski stated that the board has been so supportive all year. He stated that the midday bus run we are putting in place using the one-time money, we had held back \$200,000 for this type of purpose. He stated that the maximum that will be is \$16,000 but it could be less. We are going to do a full run and adjust after a week. He stated that we had to order additional desks and chairs for the middle school to better spread out and we have ordered additional supplies for some buildings so that the kids don't have to share. He stated that we are chipping away at the one-time money but if we get a second round of ESSER funds it could be reimbursed. He stated that there are daily things that pop up and there is nothing that we have held back on. O'Brien asked if there is a custodial issue at the high school. Supt. Gadomski stated that there is always an issue. He stated that we don't have enough UV trees or staff to do that. He stated that we have a rotation of UV trees and misters. We are in a good place and Karl's group works their tails off to clean as much as possible. He stated that the positions we have been advertising for we aren't getting many applicants. Marsh stated that it is very important for governing bodies to ask the question on what do you need. He stated that he appreciates everyone's efforts and a shout out to the paraprofessionals I see them referenced in the plans many times and he appreciates their efforts. Cannon stated that she appreciates all of the work done by the administration and teachers and staff and she also appreciates what families are going through and adapting quickly as we change things. She stated that people need to keep us informed if there is anything they need, we can't always guarantee we can do it but we need to know. Hanlon stated that the paras are being asked to do a lot but we have open positions for paras as well. He stated that the custodians right now are his biggest concern because if they go out we are in trouble. He stated that we pulled everything together and able to do that because we were almost already there. He stated that there were other communities like Nashua who were still fully remote who didn't get called out. He stated that this was one of those things, it is no surprise that the Governor and Commissioner are at war with public education and the last three things that have happened that stood out. He stated that it is a personal attack against public education and we are only one of two states who did not include teachers as essential workers for vaccinations. He stated that he did prioritize the ski industry because the Governor's family owns a ski resort. He stated

that the next issue is HB20, which is taking the taxpayers money out of the community and putting it in the hands of the Governor and Commissioner who send their kids to private school or homeschool. He stated that an hour after HB20 was defeated, the executive order came out. Larson stated that she is also following HB130, which is nearly identical to HB20, which was paused, but this is very similar and still going down the line. She asked about the percentage of students that are going in and taking advantage of two days in person. Supt. Gadomski stated that he will try to get a read on that. He stated that 100% of our students will have the opportunity to go in two days a week whether they take advantage of that he is not sure. Hanlon stated that he would also like to see the numbers of students taking part in clubs and activities that aren't sports. Supt. Gadomski thanked the board for their support and hats off to the administration and staff for doing a terrific job.

3. **Adjournment:** A motion made by Cannon seconded by Larson to adjourn. VOTE: upon roll call vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Katie Krauss

Pending Board Approval

Somersworth School Board – Buildings, Grounds and Transportation

Committee meeting

March 3, 2021

Discussion Summary

Present: Tom McCallion, Ed Levasseur (absent), Todd Marsh, Bob Gadomski, Karl Ingoldsby, Katie Krauss, Lori Lane

5:30pm, Remote Zoom

Projects from the “one time” money discussed:

Katie and Karl reported that all of the following projects that were previously approved are advancing forward.

Band/chorus storage carts	\$13,180
Softball field rebuild	\$10,950
Football field renovation	\$39,300
Soccer field renovations	\$29,005
One year maintenance all fields	\$ 6,500
Irrigation soccer/softball fields	\$ 17,400
Radios antenna, repeater HS/MS	\$ 1,000
Radios and equipment HS/MS	\$ 3,000
10 Radios, IH	\$ 3,500
Radios MW/HS/MS	\$ 3,150
Water Bottle filling stations	\$33,541
MW Fence around the pond	\$13,216
Softball field backstop	\$5,096
Man lift	\$ 8,251
HV Condensing coil	\$12,000
MW Basketball hoop	\$ 7,000
Technology wireless infrastructure	\$20,000

Total: \$226,089

Maple Wood Siding replacement:

Maple Wood School additional paving:

District phone system:

Lori mentioned that all three of these projects have been identified as a need. However all are large items and should be on the CIP. Maple Wood paving is being explored in parts so that if funding becomes available, it could be done in stages. The district phone system is antiquated and needs to be replaced. This project is also getting cost out so that if funding becomes available, it could be done in stages.

HVAC Projects SMS, MW, SHS:

Lori has met with EEI and started initial discussions. We want to be ready to utilize the ESSER II funds when available. An RFP will be developed and sent out.

Overview of completed projects:

Karl is getting together a list of projects that has been completed in the past 3 years. The list is very impressive.

Transportation update:

Bob reported that a mid-day run is being done at SHS to accommodate having more students in the building. The cost for 6 busses until April vacation is \$18,360. All 6 busses will be run for the week of March 8th and then adjusted accordingly. There might be an opportunity to reduce the number of busses due to student utilization and save some money.

Todd made a motion to adjourn at 6:27pm, seconded by Tom. Motion passed 2-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2021 at 5:30pm,

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Gadomski