

SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:30 Non-public 91-A:3, 11

May 25, 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: Matt Hanlon, Steven Potter, Coty Donohue, Gerri Cannon, Maggie Larson, Tom McCallion, John O'Brien, and Todd Marsh. ***Counselor Levasseur was tardy. He arrived during student recognition in section 4.1.**

2. **COMMENTS BY VISITORS:** Katelyn Carrington, CTC Director, said with graduation and events coming up she wanted to take a moment in calm before the storm to highlight things the graduating class has accomplished. She said 50 students of the class of 2021 completed a Career Technical Center 2-year program, which means they are program completers. She said they represent 51% of this graduating class, and 20 of those students also met the criteria for acceptance into the National Technical Honor Society and 5 of our completers are represented in top 10, including salutatorian. She said they have been working to place students directly into jobs, and some will go on to college in the fall. She said currently, the CTC students will graduate with over 70 industry recognized credentials, which does not include the numerous college credits they will get upon graduation. She said these accomplishments belong to class 2021 and a little bit to teachers who helped them through. She said while these accomplishments belong to these students, it is because of this community's continued support of career tech education. She said enrollment was fluctuating many years back and has grown steadily every year, and that is due to this community's continued faith in what career tech education can provide. She pointed out that here we are now with over half a graduation class making the most of what is provided of them, showing this community continues to value its student's future that we have been blessed to provide these unique life changing opportunities within our school district attached to our own high school. She states on behalf of our current and future students, thank you to the Somersworth community for believing in the many opportunities of career tech education.

3. ***CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - 3.1 Removal of items from the Consent Calendar
 - 3.2 Approval of Consent Calendar
 - 3.3 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board meeting May 11 2021
 - 3.4 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Nonpublic meeting May 11 2021
 - 3.5 Discussion summary for the Somersworth School Board Educational Prog & Community Outreach Committee meeting May 12, 2021
 - 3.6 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Policy Committee meeting May 17, 2021
 - 3.7 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee meeting May 18, 2021
 - 3.8 Minutes from the Somersworth School Board Budget and Revenue Committee meeting May 18, 2021

Motion made by Larson to accept the consent calendar as presented, seconded by Cannon. Motion passed unanimously.

*As noted above in attendance, Levasseur was not present for this vote.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

4.1 **Superintendent's Update**

- Retiree Recognition: Supt. Gadomski stated he would like to start off the evening by recognizing some of our retiring teachers and congratulating them on their retirement and thanking them for their years of experience. He asked when their name is called to can come up because they have a gift for them.

The following individuals were recognized: Ginny Hahn (19 years); Betsy Tormany (28 years); Patricia Nadeau (22 years); Irene Collins (24 years); Diane Madariaga (37 years); Margaret Hall (13 years); Gloria Morin (18 years); Kelly Warren (16 years).

Supt. Gadomski stated he wants to thank his retirees for all their years of experiencing to their students and they deserve another round of applause.

- Student Recognition: Supt. Gadomski stated at the last meeting we were able to recognize some of the students for their hard work at the high school and middle school level. He said again the students they recognize in the meetings are only the tip of the iceberg of the wonderful things that all their students are doing throughout the year. He said tonight he will start with Maple Wood. He said these students are recognized by teachers for doing an outstanding job, being role models, and going above and beyond. He started with 5th grade: Sue Sue Hamadi; Katelyn Lensky; Sophia Malo; and Jayelyn Somerset. He acknowledged 4th grade: Devlin Meadow; Eli Diamond; Josie Emmond; Sophia Garen; Lila Musso; and Cameron Picard. He acknowledged 3rd grade: Adelynn Gifford; Riaan Patel; and Reena Sherwood. He said next, he will recognize students of Idelhurst, and the following students were recognized as superstars by their teachers for explementary behavior for being safe, respectful, and responsible both online and in person. He acknowledged the Kindergarten students as: Isha Aneesh; Nora Carrington; Oscar Doyle; Ayden Poplawski Garcia; Lydia Michaud; Emily Morelli; and Athena Thompson. He recognized the first grade: Adrienne Babel; Olivia Beaudoin; Robyn Maher; Maya Mawire; Lydia Sims; and Alice Zink. He recognized the second grade: Austin Joubert; Spencer Malo; Nora Perrault; Zaida Rizkallah; Maya Rowe; and Aria Watson. He stated that again congratulations to all students throughout the district that are coming down the home stretch of the school year. He also stated that by the end of the school year many other students will be recognized as well.

Supt. Gadomski noted he wanted to relay that starting in June that school board meetings will again be at city hall. He said the city hall chambers are open and ready for us.

Supt. Gadomski noted he has had many meetings with Chief Kramlinger asking if there is a possibility of using the football field area as a landing zone for the Dartmouth helicopter that if they should need a med evac. He said they have approved it with the chief that in the interim they can use the practice football field and in the longer term they will use the football field. He said this is a wonderful opportunity for the Somersworth area to be able to have that available to them should they ever need it, which he hopes that does not happen. He said if they do it ever need it, the landing zone will be centrally located for people to get to in an emergency.

Supt. Gadomski turned the next item over to Lori to introduce the new middle school principal. Lori said she is thrilled to bring Jim Lampron as the new middle school principal. She said many people may know him already, he may have taught or coached their children when he did work in the Somersworth school district for several years. She said they are excited for him to be stepping up into this role as Dana steps up to the SAU office. Lampron stated that he worked in Somersworth from 2007-2017 where he worked in Hill Top, Idelhurst, Maple Wood, and the middle and high school. He said the sole purpose for leaving was professional growth and now he is coming back with years of administrative experience. He said during his interview process he was asked a few times why he was leaving his current position and he said the answer was always the same. He explained it was not about him leaving his current position, it was the opportunity to come back to Somersworth. He is really excited to work with the middle school staff, reconnect with former students, to meet new students and work with Somersworth administrative team.

He said he is excited to work with Eris, Liza, Devin, Max, Moreen, Chris, Katelyn and Dana and Lori. He said he has a quick story and stated by saying in 2007 when he was originally hired in Somersworth, he was eager young 22-year-old kid. He was walking down the high school hallway and he crossed paths with Dana, which it was his first year as assistant principal at the high school, and he said “Hi, Dana Hilliard, Assistant Principal High School.” He said he replied, “Hi, Jim Lampron, Principal.” He said he was mortified, he does not remember how Dana responded, but fast forward 14 years later here he is principal of the middle school. He thanked the school board for giving him the opportunity to introduce himself.

5. DISCUSSION ITEM:

5.1 Standing Committees:

- **Budget & Revenue-** Potter said they met on 5/19 and they discussed excess funds from the 2020-2021 budget year. He said they also discussed the project request put forth by the SAU, and they approved bringing that forward for action tonight. He said they also spoke about the finger printing costs for teachers and staff. He said that they unanimously approved that they should take that as part of the budget and not pass that cost on to the teachers and staff. He said before they take that up, they have passed that back to the policy committee as there is a policy related to that. He said lastly, they spoke at a high level of the ESSER II funds and some of the concerns they have where they originally looking at some projects but are waiting now for state approval.
- **Building, Grounds and Transportation-** McCallion stated that the agenda stemmed around the RFP for the phone system. He said the phone system is extremely dated and we as a group agreed it is something that needs to get done. He said it has been neglected for so long and we can get it done now.
- **Educational Programs and Community Outreach-** Donahue noted that they met on 5/12 and only agenda was to discuss the potential collaboration with Goodwin Community Health to create a student health clinic. He said it was a unanimous agreement is that we would need a lot of input from the board, the school, community at large but they want to have a conversation to see if the board is amenable to continuing the idea. He said a lot of Goodwin’s endeavors are grant funded and they identified a grant that would allow for the formation of a student health clinic. He said with the due date for the grant being too close, and their mutual wishes to ensure if they do it then they do it well means they are not moving forward with applying for that grant. He said that there is some initial discussion potentially using the ESSER funds to do construction-based cost. He went on to say that so maybe initial operational cost to get it off the ground for a year or two, but theoretically it would be a self-sustaining program because the staff would be able to bill insurance. He said the idea is that it potentially could be behavioral and mental health, primary health, and dental health. He said it is a discussion item tonight that Lori will speak more to, and their next meeting is June 8th.
- **Legislative Advocacy-** O’Brien stated that they met for the first time in several months and primarily discussed the ESSER II funds and the status of that given that there was some legislative outreach already being done. He said from a committee standpoint there was no specific action other than being in alignment for what the administration is doing for next steps. He said they did have some discussion on how they get ahead of some of the legislative and get back to the committee purpose and objectives. He said a lot of it informed by representative Cannon given her experience in the state house to find where they can apply the most influence. He said as a board they want to ramp up engagement and partnership with NH School Board Association as they have information and status about state and senate bills and statues. He said also really getting advocacy efforts increased is an area they discussed as well. He said they are looking for regular opportunities for their board to get more direct dialogue going and get in front of their local representatives aside from representative Cannon so that when the time comes, and they need to make a call they have those relationships. He also said getting in front of the committees in state government during their cycle

which is January, February, and March. He said that is beneficial to them because instead of trying to influence hundreds of representatives at the tail end before a vote, they can give their opinion to a handful of known important players like bill sponsors, etc. He said they are hoping to set an annual cadence for the committee to maximize the work that they do.

- **Policy Committee-** O'Brien noted that they met on May 17th and primarily discussed JIC which is up for first read tonight. He said that a lot of policies they talked about they have mandatory updates from the NH School Board Association, and they need to make sure language is tweaked as it is their obligation. He said these are very important policies they are reviewing, i.e., JIC and JICD, because they really effect how they operate between all the different schools. He said that it is interesting and informative to understand how their administrators are focusing on student outcomes and their wellbeing since this is not a punitive approach that they have. He said some of this is driven by state laws that require to use MTTSB. He said we use PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventive Strategies) which they have used in this district for a long time and in that respect, he thinks they are leaders utilizing that strategy. He said there is more to be done as things get implemented and it is worthwhile to know how it is implemented among all the buildings. He said the next they will continue to focus on JICD, which is the student discipline policy and that will be coming forward in the next couple meetings.
- **Joint Commission of City Council-** This was not reported on during the meeting.

5.2 **City Council update:** Don Austin reported that they had a relatively light meeting at the last session and has nothing to report. He said he would like to take a moment to congratulate the retirees this evening. He said he thinks all his fellow city counselors would join him in expressing their gratitude for their service and many of them have known them for a long time. He said it is important to recognize their service.

5.3 **School-Based Health Clinic discussion:** Lori noted that Donahue talked about some highlights from the meeting they had with Janet, the CEO from Goodwin Community Health. She said they have had several discussions about how the school district and Goodwin work collaboratively as they are a part of their community, and the school has several needs. She expressed they want to help each other help the community. She said there is an idea for a student-based health clinic focusing on physical, behavioral, and dental health. She her and Janet are very excited about this prospect but before they go too far down the road, she wants to ensure this is something the board would want to continue the conversation on. She said they think this would be a good use of ESSER III funds and they could make a case that this is a help to respond to the needs that have been created thru the pandemic and certainly going forward. She said they brought it to the committee, and they had a good dialogue, and they were supportive. She said now they want to bring it to the full board because they do not want to go too far down the road and then have the board say this is not something the school district should be involved in, which is why this is on the agenda tonight. She said this year would be the development year and visitations to various clinics in various states and then putting a budget together. She said they would hope to roll this out fall of 2022. Donahue noted as a committee member he was in support of this, and he thinks it is a wise use of ESSER funds. He said there is not a dollar amount attached to it yet so that is one of the first questions that might come to mind, but they are not at that point yet. He said this is directly related to health and wellbeing, their ability to be in school. He said if this were in the area then a middle or high school student could go to a doctor appointment in the middle of the day and return to school and have less time out of class, and parents might have to worry a little less about taking time off from work and transportation, etc. He said with the use of these funds with responding to the pandemic, and what they have learned, that this is worth discussing what a model would look like. He said there is a national association that has an exemplar model of what this does look like and there are some states that are doing this. He said the CEO spent

some time in Massachusetts and she spent time in schools that had school-based health clinic. He said it is not common here if it is available in New Hampshire. Hanlon noted that he first thinks this is something that is not being done in New Hampshire, and them being on the front line of that would be a great thing. He said it is a great service to provide to their students. He said he sees no harm in continuing the conversation, he supports this. He said that anything they can do to better the lives of the students in any way shape or form is a discussion worth having until they cannot have it anymore. Levasseur stated that he cannot think of anything better to come out of this global health pandemic than a school-based health system especially with his experiencing using a school-based health clinic. He said it can help middle class families, and he thinks Donahue made a good point saying it removes so many barriers. He said he would love to continue the conversation and change so many lives for their community. Potter said he agrees this is a conversation worth continuing. He said he does have a question about the ESSER III funds and that is would they be used for a fixed cost or what type of costs would the ESSER funds be used for. Lori stated that what they talked about so far around the needs and how they fund it is using ESSER because it makes sense especially due to the mental health aspect. She said being able to give schools direct access to that kind of support is critical. She said she has heard horrific stories that kids cannot get the support they need for a variety of different reasons. She said the funding to answer the question would be used to renovate space which they do not know where that would be, and noted Donahue mentioned a sustainability piece. She said Goodwin anticipates this would take 2 years to be sustainable and she has been very clear with Janet that this cannot cost the school district anything. She said they just got some information from Goodwin, and the administration has a call tomorrow about ESSER III funds, and she does not know why it would not be supported but she said they learned a lot about ESSER in the past few weeks that they did not think they would be facing. She reiterated it is a very at the beginning states but as she said before that the board supports moving forward because some communities do not because they think there are lines. She explained they are strong about where school day ends and what schools' responsibilities are, so it is not an easy sell and that is why she wanted to have the conversation tonight. Marsh said he thinks this is fantastic and he appreciates Somersworth leading the way with this initiative. He said he supports this and the ongoing conversation and said perhaps one again they can be looked at as a model to the rest of the state. Larson said thank you to Lori for continuing the conversation because from her research mental health as a direct line to academic achievement and engagement in the school. She said health is the foundation of what they can achieve and if they can have it here and work within that system, they can be a model and be successful. She thinks they should bring the community into the conversations to be apart of it and be engaged about this potential clinic. She said another thing she wants to know would it be for students or for faculty, staff, and community members as well. Lori said that is a conversation as well to look at what are the parameters and who has access. She said there is a lot of things that they need to continue discussing but she agrees about having community input and that would be a next step. Larson said the other piece would be that the high school would be ideal location for this clinic. Lori said the concept right now is that it would be housed here but not necessarily limited here but they are thinking about students and types of services they might need at teenage years that the high school makes sense. Hanlon said it sounds like they have a consensus to move forward and asked if anyone disagrees, which no one spoke up and he direct Lori to continue the conversation.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Policies for First Read:



JIC

Student Conduct

Motion made by Potter to read the policies by title only, seconded by Donahue. Motion passed with representative Levasseur opposed.

O'Brien read the policy JIC by title only, Student Conduct. Hanlon stated this will come forward at the next meeting as old business and to please review and refer questions to both O'Brien and Lori. He said it is a large document so please read and get questions before the reading because it is easier to handle them that way.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 Policies for Second Read:

- BEA Regular Board Meetings
- GBCE Training and Information Relative to Child Sexual Abuse
- JCA Change of School Assignment-Best Interest and Manifest Educational Hardship
- JEC Change of School Assignment-Manifest Educational Hardship (withdraw)

O'Brien read the policies by title only stating that they are withdrawing JEC.

Motion made by Potter to approve the policies for second reading as presented, seconded by Cannon. Motion passed unanimously.

Hanlon noted that they need a motion for the withdraw.

Motion made by Potter to accept the withdrawal of JEC, seconded by Levasseur. Motion passed unanimously.

7.2 ESSER II update: Supt. Gadomski noted that the ESSER II funding they have been working on for a while since January or February. He said the two pieces in the ESSER funding that they had were ventilation mostly for the high school and middle school, and an extended summer program and expanded summer school. He the summer piece has gotten approval, but the ventilation piece has not been approved by the state yet. He said after lengthy conversations with the Commissioner of Education that he cannot provide with final approval yet because he is waiting for in his words "federal partners to give him the authority to approve the ventilation project." He said there is confusion because this was on the original list of acceptable projects as it included ventilation projects, which is why they proceeded with that. He said they got all the local approvals, and this is the final hurdle. He said they are using all the resources they must assist the commissioner in his dealings with his federal partners. He said Lori has written to Foster's newspaper, as well as posed a question directly to the governor that was addressed last night who also said they are waiting for the federal partners to give him authority to approve this. He said he has been in touch with Senator Hassan's office, Senator Shaheen's office, Senator Waters, as well as many superintendents around the state that are having the same issue with construction projects with ESSER funds. He said in addition he had an interview with WMUR that hopefully will air tonight to bring attention to these issues around the state and they are hopeful they can get approval soon. He said unfortunately is that if they do not gain approval by the end of this week that they are against the time constraint as they will not be able to order equipment, do the project, and complete by the time they open school in September. He said that is a dilemma because they do not want to put off a year waiting for approval with construction costs going up 20-30 percent it will eat into the project and those funds. He said they are still pressing, hopeful, and waiting. He said he hopes the federal partners will assist their commissioner in making the correct choice in a timely manner. He said with that they are suggesting a building and grounds meeting next week to revisit this project whether it gets approved or not because they will need a meeting to discuss moving forward. Hanlon stated that despite the lengthy update it barely scratches the surface the number of man hours that Supt. Gadomski, Lori, Katie, and the staff have been putting in because they have been pushing and pushing and pushing. He wants to thank them publicly for that.

7.3 2020-21 Budget Update

● **End of year expenditures:** Katie stated that included in the packet is a memo from her because they did not do a full budget update this time because there were no manifests from last meeting to this meeting since they just processed it today, so she explained they will do a full update at their next meeting. She stated that the budget committee met last week to discuss the available balance they have which they have been holding on to most of this year because of potential unknown expenses but they are at a time now they would like to release some of the funds and get some things done. She said there is a list in the packet of the items they brought forward to the budget committee for recommendation. She read off the list which includes: project screens for Maple Wood and the Middle School stages; retiree buybacks; training for Kindergarten; Special Education training; computer lab for engineering; website improvements; engineering study for the Maple Wood Parking lot (outside scope of Maple Wood project so this would be needed in future when city does do paving they are ready for that); additional picnic tables at the High School; medical assisting equipment; and engineering robotics kit. She said all of those totaled just under 200K. She said the budget committee is recommending that they move forward with these expenditures. She said at the last meeting the board approved the additional 35K for the additional loam on the football field. She said they went out for bid for the new phone district and that came out to be just over 95K which will come from the rest of the one-time money. She said they reported at the last meeting they had 135K left of the one-time money and removing the 35K for the loam the rest would leave enough for the phone project, and they are recommending they approve that expenditure later in the agenda as well. She said at the last meeting they had about 667K available and if they approved all the items on the list, they would have about 340K remaining thru the end of the year. She mentioned it could fluctuate up or down as they close out purchase orders, but they feel comfortable to move forward with these expenditures. She also stated she wants to thank the retirees for their service. Larson asked regarding the phone will they be corded or cordless. McCallion stated that it will still be a corded system, but they are updating all the existing equipment. Hanlon asked Supt. Gadomski if he was looking for a motion to approve the list. Supt. Gadomski stated he thinks it would be appropriate to have a motion to approve the list.

Motion made by Potter to approve the additional items as presented and moving forward as the year closes out the remaining funds will be transferred back to the city, seconded by O'Brien.

Katie did not she has already encumbered the 419K that they will use toward their budget as revenue next year so that is already reflected in that update. Supt. Gadomski said the telephone system is on for an action item, but it would essentially just be approving a vendor at that point. Marsh noted that he does support it, but he does have a question about the phone system. He said from the discussion there was talk about potential safety concerns about maintaining the current system and asked Supt. Gadomski to speak to that. Supt. Gadomski noted that the current system is antiquated, and it is so antiquated it is difficult if not impossible to get pieces to repair it. He said this is kind of the same conversation they had about the Middle School elevator in that it could last 6 months, it could last a year, but when it breaks, they cannot fix it. He said that is the urgency with the telephone system and it poses a safety issue because if the system goes down it will be very difficult to fix it at that time. He said also it would be difficult to put it in the budget in the future and this is a great opportunity to get it done.

Roll Call- Hanlon Y; Potter Y; McCallion Y; Cannon Y; Levasseur Y; Larson Y; O'Brien Y; Marsh Y. Motion Passed.

8. ACTION ITEMS:

8.1 **Personnel:** Supt. Gadomski stated that he has a couple of items to discuss tonight. He stated first he has 5 staff resignations: Travis Heon; Kaitlyn Shouse; Olivia Harding; Kristin Lockhart; Robert Godbout.

Motion made by O'Brien to accept the resignations as presented, seconded by Cannon. Motion passed unanimously.

Supt. Gadomski notes he has a nomination of Emily Robinson for a school counselor which will be shared position with Maple Wood and Idelhurst.

Motion made by O'Brien to accept the nomination as presented, seconded by Potter. Motion passed unanimously.

8.2 **Phone system replacement:** Supt. Gadomski noted in the packet there is an RFP with the information that is brought forward. He said it was brought to building and grounds, and they discussed the importance of replacing the phone system and is something they cannot do piecemeal, and this would be a real big job to get done and out of the way. He said they have the information in the packet. He asked if Katie had anything to add. Katie stated that it would be accepting the bid from Hampton Technical Services, and she does not know if Lori has anything since, she did most of the work on the RFP. Lori said not unless the board has any questions. O'Brien said he is just curious if the system is something that is upgradeable. He said can they move forward from there because they are spending a lot of money. He wants to know if it is upgradable and is there infrastructure or are they stuck with this now until they replace it with something digital. Lori stated that this is a digital system, and something they must do within the district is 911 compliant. She explained if something happens, and a person calls 911 from a room that emergency services know specifically which room and not simply Somersworth High School as then there would be confusion as to what is going on. She said that is part of what they are trying to accomplish with this and another thing they want to accomplish is being able to page district wide if they must get information out immediately. She said it is not a VOIP system, but she knows its not that level of sophistication. She said Idelhurst has that level if they chose to put it in place, but they would double the cost to put that system in all of the other schools. She said this is a way to upgrade to a digital system and meet the needs they must but not at an exorbitant expense. Hanlon stated that to O'Brien's point he has mentioned before that there are other things they might want to look at from a building and grounds perspective that adjunct this project. He said one of those things is he knows Maple Wood has a key FOB that they can use in an emergency. He said there are different things they can upgrade to those capabilities while maintain the landlines physically where everyone can find it so when a 911 call comes in, they know exactly where it came from. O'Brien stated it is a big expense, so he wanted to know if we were upgrading to current technology, but he understands better the constraints and appreciates the clarification. Marsh states he appreciates Lori's words and that is what he came away with in the discussion at building and grounds committee. He said what he would not want to happen is they had this conversation and they did nothing, and tragedy struck. He said they can do something now and he will work with that. Larson stated she is thinking of a cordless phone for administrators if possible because that is a safety concern of hers. Lori stated that they have radios as well. She said they did a lot of investment to upgrade those so that administrators have walkie talkies and she said there are repeaters on top of the buildings. She further said that they are in the process of that same upgrade at the SAU office so if she needed to speak with an administrator at a school, she has that capability from the office. She said that is a whole big piece of their communication efforts. She mentioned that Devin has classrooms that do not even have a phone in them which brings back the compliance piece of this situation. McCallion noted that as an example, the gym has the same speaker that was there when he was in middle school, and it is static and in disrepair. He said then they upgraded to a wireless system but at a volleyball game they had problems with the wireless system. He said are on the cusp of technology being great, but they must update things first.

Roll Call- Hanlon Y; Potter Y; McCallion Y; Cannon Y; Levasseur Y; Larson Y; O'Brien Y; Marsh Y. Motion Passed.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES/SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS

- June 8, 2021 Somersworth School Board Educational Programs & Community Outreach Committee meeting 5:30pm
- June 8, 2021 Somersworth School Board meeting 7:00pm
- June 19, 2021 Somersworth School Board Goal Setting Workshop 8:30am
- June 22, 2021 Somersworth School Board Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee meeting 5:30pm
- June 22, 2021 Somersworth School Board meeting 7:00pm
- June 28, 2021 Joint School Board & City Council meeting 6:00pm

Hanlon read off the above meeting dates.

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

10.1 Visitors: None

10.2 **Board Members:** Donahue noted congratulations to the students mentioned tonight and knows there are many more. He said also to all the students the school year is coming to an end so finish strong and congratulations for making it thru the year. He said thank you to the retirees for their service, congratulations on their retirement and to enjoy themselves. He also said thank you to the board for moving forward with the school-based healthcare conversation. Larson said her heartfelt congratulations to all the retirees for all the amount of work, heart, and energy they put in through the years and their influence is important, so she hopes it carries them in a positive way in the years to come because it is so influential. She said her mother is a teacher and people still come back and say how influential she was. She said nothing can compare to that. She said congratulations to all the students that the teachers are recognizing. She said 14 days left and things seem to be getting warm and hopefully get a lot of outdoor time and finish strong. Marsh said thank you to those retiring. He said that the blue bags they have are a nice touch, but they represent hundred of thousands of thank you from your students. He said he appreciates the initiative of the joint school board and city council meeting regarding dover mental health alliance and workplace recovery. He said they talked about mental health earlier, and this is again another way that shows Somersworth leading the way. He said it was a very positive meeting tonight, except for the HVAC system update. He said its warm and recognition and students are back to school, and we are back to city council chambers next month. He said he is looking forward to moving forward. Potter also wanted to thank the retirees for their years of service and the students for all their great work during such a difficult year. He said a few things he would like to add is a thank you to the CTC director for coming out. He said that he did not participate in any time CTC when he was in school since it was different back then, and he believes it is a great program for students to get involved in. He said he has the experience to watch his son go thru the engineering program and he would be glad to do whatever he can to help. He was glad the board voted to put some of their excess funds to be able to help them there. He would also like to thank the city council for approving the use of excess funds from this year to use in next years budget. He said he cannot say enough how that has assisted them. He said it helps with all the initiatives they have going on, especially the mental health piece that they need to move forward on. O'Brien stated that there was a lot of great news tonight. He said he wants to thank the retirees and he wishes them all the best. Cannon stated that she would like to include her thanks to the retirees and stated now they are retired

their schedules will be busier than ever. She said she would like to see any of them run for school board. She said that she appreciates them and the students that have excelled this year in their classes. She said that sometimes they do not recognize their students enough because they are just as much a part of the community as the adults are and she said they have a long way to go as a community. She said they also have a long way to go as a community and she looks forward to it. McCallion said that he would also like to thank the council, he said he had a conversation with some of the counselors who said they were really impressed that the school board worked hard this year and really did the best they could for their students. He said it was a complicated year and hearing that from the counselors meant a lot. He said their counsel knows a lot of what our board goes through, and we know what they go through behind the scenes, and it is good to support one another. He is also on the committee with graduation, and he said Chris is doing a great job and all his staff. He said they really want to have a great time at graduation. He said keep in mind there are challenges o as much as we can all communicate that is important. He said listen, read, and know they are doing their best for everyone. He also wants to thank Mrs. Madariaga as 37 years is a long time. Levasseur had no comment. Hanlon stated that thank you to Principal Lampron for showing up and speaking to the board. He said they heard all these lengthy updates from the committee chairs and hopes everyone understands all the work these committees put in. He said it is a lot of meetings and a lot of thankless nights away from your families, so he thanks them all. He also wanted to thank the SAU staff for their hard work as he knows end of the year is a busy time and there is even more going on than usual. He said if anyone wants to write or call their local or national legislators, Governor, and/or the DOE please do so on Somersworth's behalf that would be great. He said it is great to hear recognition of the students and he cannot wait to have students and staff present at meetings because that recognition got lost this year. He also thanks the retirees and appreciates their years of service. He said the three women in front of him, he has known them a long time and appreciates all the years of service and is lucky to know them personally as well as professionally.

Motion made to adjourn made by Cannon, seconded by McCallion. Motion passed unanimously.

Pending Board Approval