

# SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**December 12, 2023**

**City Hall Chambers**

**7:00pm**

## AGENDA

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Special Agenda Item: Recognitions For Service To The School District**

**1. COMMENTS BY VISITORS**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR\* (Items for the board to approve that are not discussed at the meeting.)**

Removal of items from the Consent Calendar  
Approval of Consent Calendar

- 2.1 Pre-K-12 Enrollment, December 2023
- 2.2 Policy Committee Minutes, November 27, 2023
- 2.3 Somersworth School Board Minutes, November 28, 2023

**3. REPORTS (Informational)**

- 3.1 Student Representatives Report - **No report for this meeting.**
- 3.2 Superintendent's Report
  - a. Donation Announcement
  - b. The Falls Chamber of Commerce Awards
- 3.3 Business Administrator's Financial Report - **No report for this meeting.**
- 3.4 City Council Update

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Informational)**

- 4.1 Standing Committees
  - Budget & Revenue Committee
  - Buildings, Grounds & Transportation Committee
  - Educational Programs & Community Outreach Committee
  - Policy Committee

**5. PRESENTATION (Informational): No presentation for this meeting.**

**6. POLICY ADOPTION**

- 6.1 Policies for First Reading: **None**
- 6.2 Policies for Second Reading: **None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- 7.1 23-24 School Calendar Change Due To Presidential Primary Date Set
- 7.2 Superintendent Search

**8. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 8.1 Approve FY 25 Proposed SAU 56 Budget

**9. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- January 9, 2024 Somersworth School Board Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
- January 23, 2024 Somersworth School Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- February 3, 2024 Budget Workshop 8:00 a.m.

**10. COMMENTS BY VISITORS**

**11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

**12. NON-PUBLIC# - The Board will enter non-public according to Chapter 91-A:3: II (a) & (c)**

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

**#The Board reserves the right to enter non-public to conduct business that needs to come before the Board that was identified after this meeting agenda was published.**

In accordance Chapter 91-A: 3, II sets grounds upon which school boards may enter non-public session: (a) dismissal, promotion, compensation or disciplining of any public employee, unless that employee has a right to an open meeting and requests the meeting be open; (b) personnel, hiring of a public employee; (c) matter which, if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, (d) consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property; (e) negotiation;(i) consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carry out of emergency functions; (j) consideration of confidential, commercial, or financial information that is exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A:5, IV in an adjudicative proceeding pursuant to RSA 541 or RSA 541-A;(k) consideration by a school board of entering into a student or pupil tuition contract authorized by RSA 194 or RSA 195-A (*May be called at any time, pending roll call vote of the Board*); (l) consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present; (m) consideration of whether to disclose minutes of a nonpublic session due to a change in circumstances under paragraph III. However, any vote on whether to disclose minutes shall take place in public session.

**\*CONSENT** items are approved without discussion through agenda item 3. Should a member of the Board wish to discuss or comment, the item is removed. The **CONSENT** format is to expedite the business of the Board when adequate preliminary discussion has been held or satisfactorily printed "backup" material has been submitted. Approval of briefings and reports acknowledges receipt and not necessarily adoption of the report. Copies of reports are generally available upon request.

#### SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD VISITOR ORIENTATION TO MEETING

Welcome to this evening's meeting of the Somersworth School Board. If you wish to make comments to the Board, please note that there are "**COMMENTS BY VISITORS**" at the beginning and "**CLOSING COMMENTS**" at the end of the agenda. The section at the beginning is to accommodate visitors who wish to address the Board without staying for the business meeting. The section at the end provides an opportunity for those staying for the business meeting to comment on the work of the Board.

Public comment is just that; it is an opportunity to comment on Board business. There should be no expectation by the public that they are participating actively in the business of the Board.

Per Policy BEDH, each comments section of the agenda may not exceed 15 minutes unless extended by vote of the Board. Each speaker is asked to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. Occasionally, the Board may vote to "suspend its rules" to allow visitor comments at the time an issue of specific interest is being addressed.

Visitors should not expect a Board response to their comments or questions since the Board may not have discussed or taken a position on the matter. The Superintendent, without speaking for the Board, may offer clarification as appropriate. When the Board has taken a position, the Chairperson may state the Board's position.

The Board's goal for the conduct of its meeting is to accomplish its work within a qualitative time frame, respecting the participation of visitors as well as all others who contribute to the effectiveness of its meetings. The Board agenda, therefore, is arranged to reserve adequate time for quality Board discussion of priority agenda items.

Any comments which do not adhere to the above, or which disrupt the official business of the Board may be ruled out of order by the Chair. Repeated disruption may result in the individual being asked to leave the meeting. Obscene speech, comments threatening bodily harm, or other unprotected speech will not be tolerated. 7. The Board Chair may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if the speaker does not follow the above rules of order

You will note several agenda items listed under item 3, "**CONSENT CALENDAR**". These items will not be discussed unless any one member of the Board requests their removal from the "**CONSENT CALENDAR**". The Board will previously have received information or reports on these topics.

Generally, visitors to the meeting will receive the posted agenda. These may be available at the entrance to the meeting room.

Future agenda items are cited under item 9, subject to Board approval. Please contact the secretary to the Superintendent for information surrounding future agendas.

The Somersworth School District will meet in regular session on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month with additional meetings scheduled as necessary. The public is encouraged to refer to the calendar on the sau56.org website to verify meeting dates.

The Board appreciates your attendance this evening and invites your continued interest in its work on behalf of the children and residents of the Somersworth School District.

#### SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL BOARD

Maggie Larson, Chairperson	At Large	617-460-4063	Marcia Brown	Ward 1	603-219-4911
Todd Marsh, Vice Chairperson	Ward 4	603-841-5717	Barbara Wentworth	Ward 2	603-507-0170
Kari Clark, Secretary	At Large	207-951-1491	Susan Tierney	Ward 3	603-275-5323
Paul Hackworth Jr.	At Large	603-556-1070	Mandy Demers	Ward 5	603-834-1586
Thomas McCallion	At Large	603-765-1921			

Superintendent of Schools- **Louis Goscinski**

Student Representatives- **Sophia Day, Kezia Mawikere, Jack Rossiter, and Chaplin Coussoulet**

Recording Secretary- **Katie Krauss**

**SAU 56 DISTRICT OFFICE:  
51 West High Street  
Somersworth, NH 03878**

**District Office Telephone: 692-4450  
District Office FAX number: 692-9100**

#### Somersworth School Board Goals for 2023-2024

1. The school district will review and modify the communication plan (i.e., strategies, formats) throughout the district to maximize consistency and increase effectiveness.
2. The school district will monitor student enrollment and report to the school board to understand fluctuations in order to optimize enrollment.
3. The school district will monitor staff retention and report to the school board in order to increase and support staff.
4. The school board will increase visibility and engagement throughout the community with respect to current policies and procedures.
- 5.

