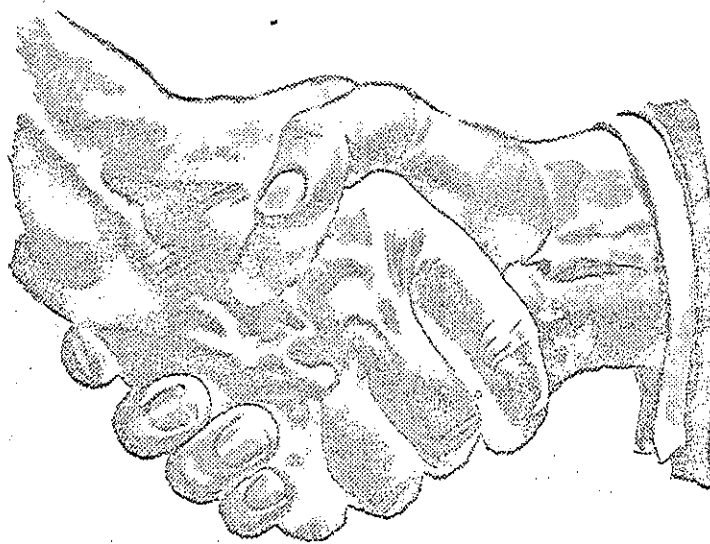


DEC - 6 1968

REPORT OF THE
AREA SCHOOL PLANNING BOARD

Rollinsford &
Somersworth, N. H.



Public Hearings:

Grade School
Rollinsford - Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1968 7:30 p.m.

High School
Somersworth - Thursday, Nov. 21, 1968 7:30 p.m.

AREA PLANNING BOARD

Rollinsford: Joseph Caouette, Vice-Chairman; Edmund T. Garland, Peter Ordway.

Somersworth: Alexander Loika, Chairman; Lionel Desmarais, Clerk-Treasurer; Louis M. Bograkos.

Superintendent of Schools John H. Powers

SOMERSWORTH AREA SCHOOL REPORT

Planning Board

The Somersworth Area Planning Board consisting of the three-member committees from Rollinsford and Somersworth has studied the feasibility of establishing an AREA school in Somersworth. This intensive study has been carried on for more than a year. The Planning Board has involved the Superintendent of the participating school districts and consultant help from the State Department of Education.

The Planning Board believes that this plan will provide educational benefits for the school districts involved and recommends the adoption of the AREA plan to the two school districts.

The New Hampshire AREA Plan (Somersworth)

The Somersworth School District guarantees to own and operate an educational program in Grades 7-12 for its own students and for the sending district's students for a minimum of twenty years.

The sending district of Rollinsford guarantees to send all of its pupils, Grades 7-12, to Somersworth for a minimum of twenty years and shall pay tuition in accordance with the provisions of Article C in the Written Plan. The Written Plan also provides in Article F that Rollinsford high school students already enrolled in high schools other than Somersworth may continue and finish their education in those high schools.

Starting with the present 1968-69 students in Grade 6 of the sending district, all students will be assigned to the Somersworth AREA School for Grade 7 in 1969-70.

Finances

The tuition rate as established in Article C of the Written Plan is computed on the same basis as is presently used for Somersworth High School plus the inclusion of a two percent building rental fee.

If the two school districts vote affirmatively and join in an AREA Plan, state building aid to Somersworth will increase from thirty percent to forty percent.

Curriculum and Guidance

With the ever increasing change and the improvement in curriculum, the advantage to the sending district of a single co-ordinated elementary curriculum geared to the Somersworth School program in Grades 7-12 is obvious. Every effort will be made to facilitate a smooth transition from the Rollinsford elementary program into the Somersworth Grade 7 program.

General Information

The Written Plan provides for at least two annual meetings of the Rollinsford and Somersworth School Boards. The purpose of these meetings will be to consult and advise on matters compatible with the AREA Law. These meetings will be advisory only since the two school districts maintain their complete independence and have no control over each other.

The Written Plan also provides in Article J a method of amending the plan should the necessity arise. No change can occur without a vote of approval of the two districts.

THE WRITTEN PLAN of the ROLLINSFORD AND SOMERSWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICTS

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into pursuant to Chapter 195-A of the New Hampshire Statutes Annotated, as amended, by the school districts of Rollinsford and Somersworth.

- A. The name of the Authorized Regional Enrollment AREA School shall be the Somersworth High School and the Somersworth Middle School located in Somersworth.
- B. Rollinsford shall be the sending district, and Somersworth shall be the receiving district; and together they shall form the region which will be served by the AREA School. The receiving district shall be responsible for Grades 7-12.
- C. The rate of tuition shall be the estimated cost of current expenses per pupil in average daily membership in Grades 7 and 8 and 9-12 respectively for the school year immediately preceding that for which the charge is made. These costs shall be computed by December 15. (Amended by State Board action)
- D. The amount of incentive aid as provided in RSA 195-A:10, I and II, shall be applied to reduce the current expenses of the receiving district before determining the annual rate of tuition.
- E. The following is an estimate of the initial enrollment in the Area School from the sending District and from the receiving district:

	Estimated 1969-70 Grades 7-8	Estimated 1969-70 Grades 9-12
Rollinsford	83	56
Somersworth	225	660
Total	308	716

- F. The date of operating responsibility shall be July 1, 1969. In accordance with RSA 195-A, 14 neither district may withdraw from the plan before July 1, 1989.

The sending district may continue to pay tuition to any school district other than the Somersworth Area School for any student who has, on June 30, 1969, completed the 9th, 10th or 11th Grade in said district;

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of November, 1968.

Robert L. ...
Notary Public

My commission expires March 27, 1973.

and, also, may pay tuition for pupils requiring special education to attend an approved school providing such education.

- G. The receiving district shall bill the sending district three times annually, and the sending district shall pay said tuition rate not later than December 1, March 1, and June 1. The tuition for pupils who attend a portion of the full school year shall be the product of the daily rate and their average daily membership.
- H. There shall be annually at least two joint board meetings of the Rollinsford and Somersworth School Boards for the purpose of consulting and advising about any and all matters of joint interest. The receiving district encourages members of the sending district's school board to attend its regular monthly meetings.
- I. The Somersworth AREA School shall give the sending district progress reports and attendance reports for all pupils enrolled under the provisions of this Written Plan. It is further understood that the same pupil regulations will apply to the pupils from the sending district as to those of the receiving district.
- J. The AREA school plan may be amended by the school districts comprising the region, consistent with the provisions of the RSA 195-A, in the following manner:

On the part of the Rollinsford School District, amendments will be effective only if such amendments approved by the State Board, are submitted to the voters of said district, voting by ballot with the use of the checklist after reasonable opportunity for debate in open meeting, and only if a majority of the voters of said district who are present and voting shall vote in favor of adopting such amendments. Furthermore, no amendment of the AREA plan shall be considered except at an annual or special meeting of said district and unless the text of such amendment is included in an appropriate article in the warrant of such a meeting. It shall be the duty of the Rollinsford School Board to hold a public hearing concerning the adoption of any amendments to the AREA school plan at least ten days before such an annual or special meeting and to cause notice of such meeting to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the area before such hearing.

In the case of Somersworth, a dependent school department, amendments will be effective only if such amendments, approved by the State Board are submitted for approval to the legislative body, the City Council of Somersworth. It shall be the duty of the Somersworth City Council to hold a public hearing on such amendments giving such notice thereof, as it shall determine to be reasonable. As soon thereafter, as may be reasonably possible, the Council shall act upon the amendments voting by roll call vote. No amendment shall become effective until approved in the above manner by both the sending and receiving districts.

SOMERSWORTH AREA COMMITTEE

ROLLINSFORD AREA COMMITTEE

Louis D. Bonrakos
Lionel Desilvarais

Joseph S. Caouette
Peter Ordway
Edmund T. Garland

11/4/68

Alexander Lojka
Alexander Lojka