Budget Review Session
November 10, 2016
7:00 p.m.
SHS TV Studio

MINUTES

Present:
Mrs. Pamela Berry, Chairman
Mr. Bernard Campbell, Vice Chairman
Mr. Peter Morgan, Secretary
Mr. Michael Carney, Jr., Member
Mrs. Patricia Corbett, Member

Also Present:
Dr. Michael Delahanty, Ed. D., Superintendent
Mrs. Maura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Deborah Payne, Assistant Superintendent for
Business Operations
Mrs. Diana Darnstaedt, Director of Finance

Mrs. Berry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Budget Review
Dr. Delahanty introduced Mrs. Margaret Bentley, Director of Student Services, to discuss the
autism program proposal. Mrs. Bentley stated that there are five students in the SEED program
currently who will be entering kindergarten next year and three students in the elementary
schools who meet the need of requiring a specialized program. Mrs. Bentley stated that this type
of program will help to retain these students in the district.

Mr. Campbell asked if adding one new staff member would be most of the $80,000, and also
asked what kind of facilities are needed. Mrs. Bentley responded that would be most of the cost
and they would look for someone who is certified in general special education with previous
experience working with autistic students. Mrs. Bentley also noted that most students will be in
the typical class at Fisk with access to the OT and PT tools that are currently in place. She
explained that having this program at Fisk would allow for a smooth transition for the SEED
students already at that school.

Dr. Delahanty stated the transportation for special education students has a wide range, with
costs spanning from $1,300 to $5,300 depending on the number of times they need to be
transported. He also stated that there are a lot of students being diagnosed with autism. He
explained there is no known cause, but it is becoming a more frequent diagnosis.

Mrs. Berry asked Mrs. Payne if Medicaid gives any reimbursement. She responded that some
also falls under catastrophic aid, so a portion of it does get recovered. Dr. Delahanty stated
Medicaid helps slightly but it is a very small portion.

At this time Mrs. Berry thanked Mrs. Bentley for being at the meeting before she departed.

Dr. Delahanty reviewed the new stairway being proposed for installation at Barron School. He
stated this project will be included in the Capital Improvement Plan. He also reviewed Project
Lead the Way, and explained that it is a national program focusing on computer science and
engineering, along with math and science standards. He explained that this concept will be
introduced at the elementary schools to fourth and fifth graders and will be called Launch. At
the middle school level the program is called Gateway.

Dr. Delahanty reviewed the responses to questions that had come up at the previous meeting.
The generator for the maintenance building was discussed and board members agreed that it
would be better to spend the extra money to have it hardwired into that building so it would be
more reliable when needed. Dr. Delahanty stated that Mr. Messenheimer will attend next week’s
meeting and can answer any other questions about the generator at that time. Dr. Delahanty also
mentioned the custodians for the new STEM wing beginning in the fall of 2017, and that Mr.
Messenheimer is recommending one and a half custodians for that area. The Board decided to
wait a year for the strategic plan and pursue an enrollment study first.

Dr. Delahanty discussed the funds for the design work at Woodbury School, and the possibility
of the facilities audit at Woodbury. Mrs. Berry stated she is in favor of moving forward with the
designs for Woodbury School, and feels the sooner that work begins the better. Mr. Morgan
stated he feels the audit would be a good tool for the designers to work with. Mrs. Corbett stated
she would like to move forward with something for Woodbury but would like more information
first. After more discussion Dr. Delahanty stated he will gather additional information for the
next meeting.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adjourn.

Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary
November 10, 2016