Regular Meeting June 21, 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

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

Absent: Mrs. Patricia Corbett, Member

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

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the Non-Public Session on June 14, 2016
Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adopt the minutes as circulated.
Motion carried 4-0

Vendor and payroll manifests were passed for signature.

CONSENT AGENDA

Leave of Absence
Katie Hasfjord, Special Education teacher at SHS, Maternity leave from December, 2016 through the end of the school year.


Nominations
Margaret Bentley, Director of Student Services
Sheila Farnsworth, Reading specialist Lancaster and Fisk
Nominations continued
Sara Julitz, Speech/language Pathologist at Lancaster
Karen VanderMass, Special Education teacher at Salem High School

Co-curricular Nomination
Ricky Oliver, Varsity basketball coach (F)

Motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adopt the consent agenda as read.
   Motion carried 4-0

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT/STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENT — None

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

Acceptance of the Woodbury School Grant
Dr. Delahanty stated that Woodbury School was chosen for a grant in the amount of $2,000. He then introduced Woodbury Principal Mr. St. Laurent to the board.

Mr. St. Laurent stated that Amy Deschene, art teacher at Woodbury, had applied for the Walmart Community Grant, and they would like to use it to bring Mr. Rob Surette to Woodbury so that students can witness one of his theoric-based painting presentations.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Carney to accept the Walmart community grant in the amount of $2,000 and authorize its expenditure for Woodbury School as outlined by Mr. St. Laurent.
   Motion carried 4-0

2016-2017 Perkins Grant Acceptance
Dr. Delahanty stated that the Carl Perkins Improvement Grant is used to improve the CTE department at the high school. This year’s allocation is $173,338.61.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Morgan to approve the receipt of the Carl Perkins grant allocation in the amount of $173,338.61 for the 2016-2017 school year to be expended in accordance with the budget.
   Motion carried 4-0

2016-2-17 Title I Grant Acceptance
Dr. Delahanty stated this is an entitlement grant which is included in the estimated 2016-2017 revenue, and that it is used for students having difficulty with reading skills. The allocation for the 2016-2017 school year is $499,909.30.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Carney to approve the receipt of the district’s Title I grant in the amount of $499,909.30, and authorize its expenditure in accordance with the budget.
   Motion carried 4-0
Fitness Equipment Bid Award
Dr. Delahanty stated that the renovation project includes a new fitness room, which need to be equipped with commercial grade equipment for students. He then introduced Athletic Director Mr. Insigna to discuss the bid.

Mr. Insigna stated the bid sent was for outfitting the fitness room with dumbbells, racks, weights and safety equipment. He recommended that the bid be awarded to ProMaxima of Houston, Texas.

Mr. Campbell asked if this will be taken from the renovation budget funds. Dr. Delahanty responded that it was, and will be funded from the furniture, fixtures, and equipment account.

Motion by Mr. Campbell seconded by Mr. Morgan to award the bid for the weight room equipment to ProMaxima Manufacturing of Houston, Texas in the amount of $33,815.85 with funds coming from the renovation FF&E account.

Motion carried 4-0

Debbie Voter Center
Dr. Delahanty stated the Debbie Voter Center had been used by the Salem Association for Retarded Citizens under a 50 year lease; however, they recently ended that lease agreement. Dr. Delahanty had recommended demolishing the building, but the board voted to allow three months to possibly finding a non-profit organization to utilize the space. There has not been an appropriate organization in need of the building so, at this time, Dr. Delahanty recommends that the board authorize him to move forward with demolishing it.

Mr. Carney asked what the cost for demolishing the building is. Dr. Delahanty answered it will be approximately $40,000 and that amount has been set aside.

Motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Morgan to authorize the Superintendent to demolish the Debbie Voter Center.

Motion carried 4-0

Selectmen Request
Dr. Delahanty stated that the Town Manager had requested on behalf of Selectmen, that the board be involved in a substance abuse committee they want to form. He feels the board should maintain the existing relationship with StandUp Salem. Mrs. Berry explained, however, that she spoke to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen and they believe they will be reconsidering the makeup of the committee and recommended tabling this topic.

Motion by Mr. Campbell seconded by Mr. Carney that based on the Chairman’s report, this topic be tabled until further information is given.

Motion carried 4-0

APPOINTMENT PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None
Enrollment Report
Dr. Delahanty stated that there are five fewer elementary students since the last report and the
total June enrollment is 1,543 elementary aged students. He stated that Woodbury finished with
887 students. At the high school he explained that there were 314 seniors. The continuing
education gained one student but the CTE and out of district special education retained the same
level.

Mr. Campbell asked for update on Kindergarten for next year. Dr. Delahanty stated he will
provide that information at the next meeting.

Operating Budget Financial Report
Dr. Delahanty stated there will be an end of year budget review in July and that he feels
confident about the end of year unreserved fund balance. He stated there are balances in the
teacher and assistant’s salaries account, and in the SEA retirements, because there were fewer
retirees. He stated there was also a savings in the special education transportation. Dr.
Delahanty stated the estimated unreserved fund balance will be $1,342,874 which is more than
projected in 2016-2017 operating budget.

Food Service
Dr. Delahanty stated there are significant losses at the beginning of year, but it increasingly
became less. The account has been making modest gains, and feels confident moving forward
that if we maintain the adjustments made in the fall/winter, the program should stay in the black
and continue to be a self-funded program.

Emergency Drill Report
Information only

PRESENTATION OF POLICIES/REPORTS BY SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

Renovation Update
Dr. Delahanty stated the wood floor is being finished in the gym and the loading dock area is in
place with the slab being poured in the next few weeks. He stated the temporary classrooms are
being finished and the rooftop units for the gym and performing arts areas will soon begin. Dr.
Delahanty said the work is beginning on the new entrance now that school is out for the summer,
and there is abatement work being done in several areas throughout the school.

PLANNING SESSION

Strategic Plan Update
Dr. Delahanty stated there are four strategies identified during in 2012-2013 school year to be
part of the five year strategic plan through the 2018 school year. He then introduced Mr.
Hasbany to talk about technology and the progress made.

Mr. Hasbany stated there was a keyboarding/typing pilot that took place with 17 teachers and
students spanning across grades K-5. During the closing of this pilot a survey was sent, and it
was unanimous between the 17 teachers that they would recommend continuing the program for
students in grades one through five. Mr. Hasbany also spoke about using Google apps which
students use for writing, making spreadsheets, and presentations. This was piloted in a few third
and fourth grade classrooms. This summer, 41 middle school students will use completely
online classes to learn during the summer. He stated security is always an issue, so laptops at the
SAU, IT, and building principals have been encrypted. The IT department is continuing to create
electronic classrooms. There are 25 at Woodbury to compliment the 23 that were done the
previous year. The board also approved interactive projectors for 21 classrooms at the high
school. Mr. Hasbany stated there are 100 teacher computers being distributed. The current
computers will have upgraded memory and new batteries.

Mrs. Palmer stated there is a lot that overlaps with technology as far as providing a 21st Century
Learning experience for students. She explained they’ve been trying to find ways to extend
student learning, and one way is offering online opportunities. She stated this summer there will
be a pilot for an online only course. Mrs. Palmer stated there are instructional strategies in place
to meet the needs of all learners. She explained that students have different learning styles and
needs, and teachers collaborate on creating plans to help each student succeed.

Dr. Delahanty stated the facilities plan for a comprehensive high school is definitely underway
right now. He stated the community engagement piece has been increasing by offering instant
access to information via social media and the district’s smartphone application. In addition,
several community wide Salem Pride activities have been initiated, including Night of Lights.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried 4-0

The board adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary, Salem School Board
June 21, 2016