Regular Meeting/Planning Session  
December 15, 2015  
7:00 p.m.  
SHS TV Studio  

MINUTES  

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

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

Absent:  
Mrs. Maura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent  

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

Vendor and payroll manifests were passed for signature.  

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT/STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
Mr. Carney took a moment to acknowledge Mr. Alfred Rodrigues, also known as Mr. Al, as the 89 year old Navy Veteran who volunteers at the Soule Elementary School. He stated that Mr. Al has been going to Soule School for weekly read alouds for students since his own grandchildren attended the school and have since grown. He has impacted students in many ways by teaching them the importance of properly recycling, bringing in guest speakers, and by educating them about World War II. Mr. Al has shared pictures, medals, and stories of his experiences which provide a very unique learning experience for students. Mr. Al was presented with a token of appreciation from the board.  

Dr. Delahanty stated that it is difficult to express the district’s thanks for everything Mr. Al has done, that he has been a fixture at the school for so long, and has touched the lives of thousands of students during that time.  

Mr. Al thanked the Superintendent and the board for the honor of being recognized. He explained that when he got out of the service many of his friends had passed on. He said that reading at Soule School to children who could have possibly been children of those people who died in the service was his inspiration and he has enjoyed his time at Soule.
OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

Default Budget
Dr. Delahanty noted that the Default Budget was initially presented at the last meeting, and that he provided information on the 450 construction services line. He spoke with district counsel and learned that as long as there are capital projects needing to be addressed, there can be money left in that line to address those items.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Berry to establish a general Default Budget of $63,777,198 and a Gross Budget Default of $67,092,389.
Motion carried 5-0

PLANNING SESSION

Food Service Review
Dr. Delahanty stated that the food service program is being discussed this evening because last spring the board made the decision to withdraw from the national school lunch program at the high school, giving more flexibility to food being served there. He said that lunch prices had been slightly increased, and that there is always some concern about increasing pricing and seeing diminished participation. He introduced Mrs. Schultz, Food Service Director to the board.

Mrs. Schultz reviewed many aspects of the food service program. She stated that due to decreases in enrollment, there were 47 food service employees during the 2008-09 school year and there are only 36 this school year. She stated that there is one site coordinator for the middle and high school, and that she is the coordinator for the elementary schools. Mrs. Schultz discussed how menus are planned and how often, and that each meal is balanced and includes a grain, protein, vegetable, fruit, and milk. The middle school has six choices on a daily basis, the high school has five choices, and the elementary schools have two choices. Mrs. Schultz stated the federal meal guidelines changed in the summer 2014, when the district was required to use 100% whole grains and implement sodium and snack restrictions. In December of 2014, the board agreed to withdraw from the National School Lunch Program and breakfast, but that the district continued to fund the free and reduced price meals for qualifying students.

Mrs. Schultz stated that this fall she piloted different breakfast options including “Parfait Fridays” at Fisk School, “Breakfast on the Go” at Soule school, and a satellite cart with various items at the high school. She explained that she is working on bringing Breakfast on the Go meals to all elementary schools beginning in January, and exploring the idea of a hot and spicy bar at the high school. Mrs. Schultz stated that she will continue to work with other districts to find ways to make positive changes.

Dr. Delahanty asked Mrs. Schultz to describe the “offer” versus “serve” for students. Mrs. Schultz explained that all students are offered five components in their lunch: grain, protein, fruit, vegetable, and milk. They are not necessarily given each component on their plates but it is offered. The students only have to take three out of the five options for it to count as a
reimbursable meal. If they do not take a fruit or vegetable it does not count as a meal. She
stated that the food service staff encourages students to take one of the choices so that it meets
the meal guideline and there is always a large variety to choose from.

Mr. Carney asked if there can be an analysis done on the amount of waste created comparing the
offer versus serve. He stated there may be a saving on food cost because of students not taking
food they don’t want, but he asked if it is possible the district is losing money because of the
meals not qualifying for reimbursement.

Mrs. Corbett asked if withdrawing from the National School Lunch Program would be
something to consider at Woodbury. Dr. Delahanty stated that we need to start seeing a
difference at the high school first, but if it proves to be beneficial then they could implement the
same plan at Woodbury.

Mr. Campbell asked if the average number of meals per student could be provided. Dr.
Delahanty replied that they can look into that, but that it would be challenging to look at the a la
carte purchases.

**Board Self-Evaluation**
Dr. Delahanty explained that Mrs. Corbett created the board self-evaluation. The board agreed
to each category included, and Dr. Delahanty asked that the board decide how this evaluation
will be completed and collected. Mr. Carney suggested using Survey Monkey for the survey so
that all information will be easily collected. He stated that comments would still have to be
analyzed and looked at individually. Board members liked the idea of taking the survey online.

**INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**
Mr. Campbell stated that the Budget Committee meets tomorrow for preliminary votes on the
school budget, and will then be meeting on Thursday for the Public Hearing and Final Vote on
the school district budget.

**Adjournment**
Motion by Mrs. Corbett, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adjourn.

Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

![Signature]

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary, Salem School Board

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