SALEM SCHOOL BOARD
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #57
SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Regular Meeting/Planning Session  April 21, 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. Maura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent  
Mrs. Deborah Payne, Director of Finance

Mr. Carney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance. He then took a moment to acknowledge Sheriff Michael Downing who passed away on April 17th. Mr. Carney paused the meeting for a brief moment of silence in his honor.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the April 14, 2015 Non-Public Session
Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Corbett to adopt the minutes as circulated.
    Motion carried 4-0-1 Mrs. Berry abstained

Vendor and payroll manifests were passed for signature.

CONSENT AGENDA

Professional Staff Nominations
Melody Somers
Kristi Warlick

Co-curricular Nomination
Eric Redder, SHS Men's Varsity Soccer Coach

Motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adopt the consent agenda as read.
    Motion carried 5-0
OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

Resignation
Dr. Delahanty stated he spoke with Mr. Thomas Pelletier, CTE teacher, who explained he has run into circumstances in his personal life which have lead him to request retirement effective at the end of the school year. Dr. Delahanty stated Mr. Pelletier meets both the age and years of service requirements even though his request did not meet the October 1 deadline. He then recommended that the board approve the request.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Morgan to accept with regret, the resignation due to retirement, of Mr. Thomas Pelletier and award the retirement benefit through the collective bargaining unit agreement effective at the end of the school year.

Motion carried 5-0

Request for Sign – North Salem Elementary School
Dr. Delahanty stated the Principal of North Salem Janice Wilkins, and PTA President Robyn Glickel, are present at the meeting. He explained that a year ago a proposal for a school sign was presented to the board, but there were some concerns. They are returning now with a new sign proposal for the board’s consideration.

Mrs. Glickel presented the proposal for North Salem. She explained that it is not an electronic sign, but that it will display the school’s name, and includes a backlight that can be put on a timer. She took a moment to thank Kathleen Martinello who started this project in 2011, and has continued helping to raise funds. Mrs. Glickel stated that the installation of the sign will be fully funded with the monies raised.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Corbett to authorize the Superintendent to give permission to the North Salem Elementary School PTA to proceed with the installation of the school sign as presented to the board, with the understanding that they will coordinate with Mr. Messenheimer on work to be completed.

Motion carried 5-0

School District Policy JLCF-R Meal Payments (2nd reading)
Dr. Delahanty stated that this policy was revised, changing the wording throughout to read that all account balances will be refunded by check to students who graduated or are leaving the district. He also noted a change in what we need to provide for lunches at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

Motion by Mrs. Berry seconded by Mrs. Corbett to adopt the updated policy JLCF-F Meal Payments.

Motion carried 5-0

School District Policy JKAA Use of Child Restraint and Seclusion (2nd reading)
Dr. Delahanty stated that this policy was brought forward at the last meeting. He explained that children are restrained when and if the child is endangering his or her self or someone else in the facility. There is also a seclusion area used for students; but it is a comfortable, well lit, quiet
area for students and it does comply with the law. He then recommended the policy be adopted as presented.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Berry to adopt policy JKAA Use of Child Restraint and Seclusion with a date of 4/21/15 as presented by the Superintendent.

Motion carried 5-0

ADMINISTRATIVE MONTHLY REPORTS

Enrollment Report
Dr. Delahanty reviewed changes at the elementary level, and noted that there generally isn’t much change at this time of year. There were three additional out of district special education students; however, which is significant. There was a loss of one CTE student.

Food Service Financial Report
Dr. Delahanty stated that there have been positive changes in the food service department. There were 22 service days for March, which is more than January and February, but there have been increases in reimbursable and a la carte meals. Dr. Delahanty stated that even though there is a loss of $52,000 this year, it is occurring at a much slower rate and that it is starting to level off. He then thanked Mrs. Schultz and Mrs. Payne for their efforts.

At this time, 7:30 p.m., the board took a five minute recess before continuing on to the Planning Session.

PLANNING SESSION
At 7:35 p.m. Mr. Carney called the meeting to order.

Charter School Obligation
Dr. Delahanty introduced Attorney Diane Gorrow of Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward and Loughman to discuss the district’s obligation to charter schools. He stated that Birches Academy does have a number of Salem students who are transported by the district. The district also has an obligation to special needs students. Dr. Delahanty stated that he believes the Salem School District provides a better education than any other option a parent could choose for their child. He does not feel there is any additional benefit for students attending a charter school in our community.

Attorney Gorrow brought the statutes pertaining to the obligations of the school district in relation to charter schools, and noted that transportation is one of those obligations. She stated the district is required to transport resident students to the charter school, using the same regulations as district students in grades 1-8 living more than two miles from the school. Dr. Delahanty stated that at this time transportation for charter school students does not add any additional cost to the transportation account, but if it did they could request financial help from the charter school.

Ms. Gorrow stated that another significant obligation the district has is to provide for special education students. The district is responsible for having IEP meetings and all issues involved in
the process for its resident students. She stated that the statute encourages the host district to have a mutual agreement with the charter school.

Unreserved Fund Balance
Dr. Delahanty stated the board has considered putting money into a contingency fund as approved by voters to help with the bond rating, and he is asking the board to consider how to fund the laptops that the board recently approved. Dr. Delahanty stated that the board approved the purchase of the laptops at a cost of $590 each, but there was a question of either using bond funds and financing them, or purchasing them outright. He stated there is $1.6 million dollars anticipated for an unreserved fund balance, but there is still a quarter of the school year remaining. In regards to the contingency fund, the board would have to make a decision before June 30. The board members did agree to wait to make a decision.

Other
Mr. Carney announced that the next school board meeting is scheduled for May 12.

Adjournment
Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Corbett to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3(II)(c).

Mrs. Berry yes
Mrs. Corbett yes
Mr. Morgan yes
Mr. Campbell yes
Mr. Carney yes

Motion carried 5-0

The board entered the non-public session at 8:28 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Corbett to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary, Salem School Board
April 21, 2015