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

Regular Meeting/Re-organizational Meeting

March 24, 2015
8:00 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. Linda MacDonald, Business Administrator
              Mrs. Deborah Payne, Director of Finance

Mrs. Corbett called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the March 17, 2015 Regular Meeting/Planning Session
Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Carney to adopt the minutes as circulated.
Motion carried 5-0

Vendor and payroll manifests were passed for signature.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF/STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Mrs. Corbett read about seventh grader Hunter Dumouchel, who recently starred in a leading role
for the Greater Worcester Opera Company. He is also a competitor in the New England
Conservatory's Baroque Vocal Competition and was the youngest competitor allowed to take
part in it. The board congratulated Hunter and he was presented with a plaque for his
accomplishments.

Mr. Paul Huard, who retired from the district in 2006 after 33 years of service, was also
recognized. During his time with the district Mr. Huard was not only a teacher but class advisor,
coach, sports official and more. He was also a big part in gaining support for the Salem High
renovation project. He too was presented a plaque for his accomplishments.
Mr. Carney took a moment to say that he has worked with Mr. Huard for about 40 years when he first started out as his soccer coach, and also from spending time with him in the press box at school games. He stated that Mr. Huard has been a great mentor and this recognition is well deserved.

Dr. Delahanty stated they are both deserving of their accomplishments and congratulated them.

**ORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

**Election of Officers**
Mrs. Berry nominated Mr. Carney for Chairman, herself for Vice Chairman, and Mr. Morgan as Secretary.

There were no other nominations at this time so the nominations carried unanimously.

Mr. Carney stated Mrs. Corbett has done a great job serving as the board’s Chairman and on behalf of the school board she was presented a token of appreciation. Mrs. Corbett stated she has enjoyed being Chairman and thanked the board members.

**SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES**
Mr. Carney, Chairman asked the board members to get back to him with the committees they would be interested in serving on.

**Appointment of School District Counsel and Recording Secretary**
Dr. Delahanty recommended appointing Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward, and Loughman as school district counsel as they have offered sound advice to the district for many years.

Motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Campbell to reappoint Soule, Leslie, Kidder, Sayward, and Loughman as counsel for the district.

Motion carried 5-0

Dr. Delahanty recommended appointing Lani Leland as the school board’s recording secretary.

Motion by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Campbell to reappoint Lani R. Leland as recording secretary.

Motion carried 5-0

**Explanation of Agenda Procedures and Policies on School Board Operations**
Mr. Carney reviewed the agenda procedures that the school board follows at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Resignation**
Jenna Heath, grade 8 math teacher, effective at the end of the school year
Maureen Ouellette, Special Education Teacher at SHS

Motion by Mrs. Corbett, seconded by Mr. Campbell to adopt the consent agenda as read.
Motion carried 5-0

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

Continuation of Existing Policies
Dr. Delahanty asked the board to reaffirm the use of existing policies.

Motion by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Berry that the school board approves continuation of the existing policies until such time as there is a vote to rescind, revise, or add a policy.
Motion carried 5-0

2015-2016 Budget
Dr. Delahanty asked the board to support him in taking action to act on the operating budget as voted on at the recent election so he can begin to plan for the upcoming school year.

Motion by Mrs. Corbett, seconded by Mrs. Berry to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to take such actions as are necessary and desirable, in accordance with school board policy, to implement the adopted budget and to staff the schools. Such authority includes the responsibility to initiate the purchase of supplies and equipment, and to contract services for the district.
Motion carried 5-0

Goal Setting Session
Mr. Carney recommended setting Saturday, June 6 at 8:00 a.m. as the goal setting session. The board members agreed.

Mrs. Corbett asked that the board review the self-evaluation forms prior to the goal setting meeting.

Set Retiree Recognition Date
Dr. Delahanty recommended setting May 26, 2015, as the date for recognizing the retirees who are retiring this year. Invitations will be sent to those involved.

Phase II Project Fund Balance
Dr. Delahanty stated there is information from Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Payne to be reviewed. Dr. Delahanty recommended the purchase of computers for Fisk and Soule Schools and asked the board to approve that purchase. Mr. Campbell asked if there is a copy of the warrant article for the bond because he is concerned about how bond funds are applied and he doesn’t feel bond proceeds can be used for this purpose.

Mrs. Payne then read the warrant article. Mr. Campbell stated the “equipping of a school” can cover cabling, outlets, fixtures, etc. that are in a school, but that he personally doesn’t feel laptops for students fit in the category of equipping the elementary school. Mrs. MacDonald referred to RSA 33.3 and explained that “equipment of a lasting nature” is considered an acceptable purchase. District counsel also okayed the purchase of laptops. Dr. Delahanty reassured the board that he would not bring a recommendation forward if he didn’t feel it was appropriate. He then introduced Mr. Hasbany, IT Director to the board.
Mr. Hasbany approached the board and discussed the purchase of new laptops stating that this will help with the student to computer ratio. He stated the first option would be for 100% renewal of Fisk and Soule computers, and a 50% redistribution of the current Acer models. The second option is a 50% renewal and 50% redistribution of the Acers.

Mr. Hasbany stated that purchasing 308 computers based on the price quoted in December would be $562 for each unit and that it would be a purchase and not a lease.

Mrs. Berry stated that computers have become an important part of education. It's a piece of equipment that is used in education today on a daily basis. She doesn't doubt that counsel approved it, but she would like to see something in writing in order to ease Mr. Campbell's thoughts.

Motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mrs. Corbett to authorize the administration to go out to bid on the laptop computers with the estimated cost being $173,096.

Motion carried 4-1-0
Mr. Campbell opposed

Mr. Carney noted that the Superintendent received an additional resignation request to add to the agenda. No one opposed.

Resignation
Dr. Delahanty stated Andrea Gagne is currently on maternity leave and had originally indicated she would return next year. However, she has now decided that it would be best for her family if she stayed home and did not return in the fall.

Motion by Mr. Campbell second by Mrs. Corbett to accept the resignation of Andrea Gagne as discussed.

Motion carried 5-0

ADMINISTRATIVE MONTHLY REPORTS
Enrollment Report
Dr. Delahanty stated that Barron lost one kindergartener, but gained a third and fourth grader. Fisk added a first and third grade, Haigh added two students in fifth grade, while North Salem gained one kindergartener. Lancaster lost one kindergartener, and Soule gained a kindergartener, two fourth graders, and a fifth grader. The SEED program added one student for a total of 38 students in that program. Woodbury added a sixth grader for a total of 912.

At the high school there was a loss of nine freshman, but most moved up to sophomore status after earning enough credits. There were several sophomores and five juniors who also moved up to the next grade level. Overall the high school showed a net change of only three students. There was also one additional out of district special education placement this month.
Operating Budget Financial Report
Dr. Delahanty stated that there is a balance in the teacher salary account due to changes in personnel, and teachers that go on maternity leave and are replaced by long term subs. Health insurance has a balance of $30,000. The transportation account has a balance of $122,000 relating to the reduction in special education transportation. Dr. Delahanty stated that there is a modest balance in supplies, but it will be spent down by the end of the year. Mr. Carney asked if snow removal is up to date. Dr. Delahanty responded that we anticipate being over by approximately $103,000 which includes snow removal from the roofs for the two companies that did that work.

Food Service Financial report
Dr. Delahanty stated that there is a slight decline in reimbursable and a la carte meals, but February had fewer service days. He stated that we are continuing to reduce the losses each month which is encouraging.

Field trip and emergency drill report
There was no discussion at this time.

APPOINTMENT PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None

PRESENTATION OF POLICIES/REPORTS BY SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

SHS/CTE Phase III Update
Dr. Delahanty stated that earlier in the evening, there was a presentation to the Planning Board about the Phase III project and it was well received. He stated the new update will be on the website tomorrow outlining the work to be done, and that between now and April a section of the building trades classroom will be demolished and Harvey will rebuild a wall there. The start date for that project is April 13 and it will be finished during the April break.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS FROM BOARD MEMBERS - None

NHSBA Strategic Planning Workshop
Mr. Campbell stated he attended the NHSBA meeting on March 12. He said there were two presenters and he felt it wasn’t particularly enlightening because he feels Salem is ahead in the planning process. He shared several handouts from the meeting.

Mr. Carney noted for the public that the board instructed a letter to be sent by district counsel on the board’s behalf. All board members agreed.

Future Meeting Dates
April 14, 2015; Regular Meeting
April 21, 2015; Planning Session

Future Agenda Items
Charter School Obligation – April
Strategic plan update - May
Contingency Fund

Adjournment
Motion by Mrs. Corbett, seconded by Mrs. Berry to adjourn.
  Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary, Salem School Board
March 24, 2015