Planning Session

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

January 20, 2015
7:00 p.m.
SHS TV Studio

MINUTES

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

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

Mrs. Corbett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Adoption of the 2015-2016 Warrant Articles
Dr. Delahanty stated that the warrant is a document that the board has already approved, and that was presented to the Budget Committee last week. Further, he stated that this is the shortest warrant he can remember, and then circulated copies for board signatures.

Mr. Campbell asked about the informational session before or after the deliberative session to discuss the renovation. Dr. Delahanty stated he is working on what that presentation would include. He noted it would be approximately ten minutes long and would take place at the end of the deliberative session and would include slides and an update on the timeline.

The board members asked if the architect and other renovation representatives would be in attendance. Dr. Delahanty stated that the presentation can be opened for questions if that is what the board wants, and he will ask if representatives can attend.

Speakers to the Articles
Mrs. Corbett reviewed the speakers to the articles as follows: Article 2 - Mr. Carney, Article 3 - Mrs. Berry, Article 4 – Mr. Campbell.

Dr. Delahanty said more information can be provided before the meeting for the board members to use during their presentation of the articles.
**Restoration Plan**

Dr. Delahanty stated the Budget Committee suggested a cut of about $400,000 to the proposed budget. As the board is aware, operating expenses were reduced and were sensitive to what the operating costs are and will be. Dr. Delahanty explained cuts were made by reducing a teacher at the high school, adjusting the wage pool for the leadership team, and general cuts in the 100 series. He stated that he feels the board’s proposed budget was a responsible, reasonable budget, and he is recommending a request to restore all money reduced by the Budget Committee.

Board members supported the Superintendent’s recommendation as they do feel the budget is reasonable. They felt some of the cuts went against what the community supported and are a necessary part of the budget. Mr. Carney suggested seeking to restore four or five key items and return less at the end of the fiscal year.

Motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Campbell to support an amendment to the budget at the deliberative session to restore the entire amount of $424,186 to the budget.

Motion carried 4-1-0

Mr. Carney opposed

**2015-2016 School Year Calendar Proposal**

Dr. Delahanty stated that Labor Day is late this fall. The Windham School District is starting school after Labor Day but he is recommending having Salem students start on Wednesday, August 26, with the teachers starting on August 24. Including the ten required inclement days this would bring the last day of school to June 10. Dr. Delahanty then reviewed the other no school and teacher in service days.

Dr. Delahanty stated that he will distribute the survey to staff and bring the results and proposed calendar to the board for adoption at the February 10 meeting.

Mr. Campbell asked if there will always be as many early release and delayed opening days or if the objective of those days has been met. Dr. Delahanty replied that there is always something to be worked on but it can be adjusted if there is a need. Mrs. Palmer stated the biggest difference in holding those days is that the work is ongoing throughout the school year and rather than one or two days can bring an entire grade level together at one time. Dr. Delahanty stated he could have a presentation made about what has been discussed during the early release and delayed opening days if that is something the board would like. Mr. Campbell stated he definitely supported the idea but thought it was to complete a specific objective and at some point that specific work would be done.

**Repurposing Salem High School Materials**

Dr. Delahanty stated the board has discussed possibly selling or distributing parts of Salem High School as a way to offset cost. However, upon further investigation, Dr. Delahanty stated the seats in the auditorium may not be as easy to remove as he first thought. The same is true for possibly selling pieces of the Davis Gym floor. The process for removing each could be lengthy and actually add a cost to the demolition.
The board members are also concerned that there may be an additional cost. Mr. Campbell suggested the possibility of having the Booster's club or Parents Music Club be involved in removing and distributing auditorium chairs to those who are interested. The group that took this on could keep any profit earned.

**OTHER** - None

**Adjournment**
Motion by Mrs. Berry, seconded by Mr. Carney to adjourn.
Motion carried 5-0

The board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Lani R. Leland
Recording Secretary, Salem School Board
January 20, 2015