

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
Board of Education Administrative Offices
382 Long Hill Avenue
Board Room, 2nd Floor**

June 6, 2018

Chairman Mark Holden called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mark Holden, Chairman
Thomas Minotti, Vice Chairman
Kate Kutash, Secretary
Anne Gaydos
David Gioiello

José Goncalves (excused)
Amanda Kilmartin
Darlisa Ritter
Kathleen Yolish

Quorum – 8 present, 1 absent

Board of Education Administration present: Christopher Clouet, Superintendent of Schools; Ed Drapp, Finance Director; Carole Pannozzo, Human Resources Director

(2 tapes on file in City/Town Clerk's office – poor quality)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Thomas Minotti moved to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Kate Kutash and passed unanimously.

Budget Adjustments to Balance 2018-19 School Year

Superintendent Clouet made some introductory comments regarding the proposed cuts, which he feels are unnecessary due to the fact that the City has the money to pay for the things we need and asked for in our \$2.8 million request. He said the project today is to reconcile the money that has been appropriated versus our request, which is a gap of over \$2 million. He said this is very serious work; the recommendations were made with a lot of thought and take into consideration, first and foremost, the wellbeing of students and their future. Part of our Strategic Planning work is to consider how we deliver not just for their needs today, but how we are preparing them for their future. Working with a slashed budget is going to make that difficult. He asked board members to think about the actual, day-to-day work being done by employees when considering cutting positions.

Dr. Clouet stated he hand-delivered a formal letter to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen requesting six school resource officers for our elementary and Perry Hill schools and has not yet received a formal response. Related to budget, he said there is no response yet as to whether or not the propane buses will be available for transporting students to and from school. He said there is dialog expected between the Mayor and Durham; and, if we receive good news (potentially \$880,000), he would recommend to the Board to reconvene and revisit a new list of

potential cuts that would be much smaller and less painful to the district. General discussion about transportation followed.

The list of potential reductions (items 1 through 28) totaling \$2.4 million was discussed and debated and many questions were addressed. Ed Drapp and Carole PannoZZo were asked for clarification and will provide additional information as requested. Also reviewed was a handout of class size configurations and other options for consideration (items 29 through 40).

Ed Drapp noted this is the eleventh year the BOE received less than 50% of its request, and it will be an annual process of cutting and reducing. Dr. Clouet agreed it will become the new normal unless, as was suggested, we become a GoFundMe district by reaching out to the community for sponsorship. He discussed his suggestion to work it out with the City to have a three-year business plan, with a possible 2% yearly increase for three consecutive years, giving us the ability to make our decisions on forward thinking, and that idea was rejected by the City.

(Tape 1; Side B – 6:39 p.m.)

There was continued lengthy discussion of the recommended budget cuts. Of concern to most were Pay to Participate; elimination of Assistant Principal position; reduction to Instructional Supplies; reductions to SIS and SHS Sports; elimination of two administrative interns.

Darlisa Ritter reviewed her list of proposed reductions, followed by suggestions by other board members. There was criticism of the teacher evaluation process and suggestion to form a small committee to look at the structure of Central Office for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

(Tape 2; Side A – 7:31 p.m.)

Superintendent Clouet and Chairman Holden encouraged the board to proceed with a vote that would be on a projected budget that would at least firm up the staff reductions and reassignments, with the understanding that once the additional information is made available, the board can meet again next week to revisit the budget. Chairman Holden stressed the importance of letting staff members and parents know where they stand as soon as possible.

David Gioiello moved to accept the budget reductions in their entirety listed as Items 1 through 28 on the Budget Reduction Worksheet (see separate attachment); motion seconded by Amanda Kilmartin and passed with a vote of 6-2 (Nay – Darlisa Ritter and Kathy Yolish).

Adjournment

Chairman Mark Holden adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Diane Luther

Diane Luther

Secretary to Board of Education

June 11, 2018

SHELTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 BUDGET REDUCTION WORKSHEET
 OPTIONS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION
 June 6, 2018

Item #	Item	Line Item Reduction Amount	Explanation/Rationale/Impact	Cumulative Reductions	Superintendent Recommended	Board Recommended	Final Recommended
1	Staff Reductions	319,050	Eliminate 4.0 FTE positions due to retirements or resignations: See details in Exhibit 1.	319,050			
2	Reassign Staff at SIS	145,356	Reassign staff at SIS: See details in Exhibit 1.	464,406			
3	Proposed Program Enhancements	271,319	Eliminate 4.8 FTE staff: See details in Exhibit 1.	735,725			
4	Public School Tuition	50,000	Reduce amount budgeted for tuition to magnet and agricultural schools based on FY18 expenses.	785,725			
5	Operating Savings	17,000	Projected savings on telephone, printing, advertising, and trailer rental expenses.	802,725			
6	Worker's Comp	50,000	Reduced utilization	852,725			
7	Unemployment	20,000	Reduced utilization	872,725			
8	Health Insurance	175,000	Based on new rates developed by actuary.	1,047,725			
9	Athletic Equipment	22,000	Purchase uniforms and goals in FY18.	1,069,725			
10	Computer Equipment	299,590	City to purchase staff desktops. Purchase some Chromebooks using FY18 funds	1,369,315			
11	Magnet School Transportation	68,250	Voluntary transportation for 14 students attending Six-to-Six Magnet School. See statute in Exhibit 1, page 2.	1,437,565			
12	Talented & Gifted Transportation	111,300	Voluntary transportation for 19 students attending Talented & Gifted Programs. See statute in Exhibit 1, page 2.	1,548,865			
13	Preschool	129,641	Eliminate 1.0 FTE preschool teacher and 1 preschool aide. See details in Exhibit 1, page 2.	1,678,506			
14	Administration - Assistant Principal	55,832	Reassign assistant principal position to classroom teaching position	1,734,338			
15	Program Improvement & Staff Development	55,052	Limit outside presenters, reduce offerings, no out-of-district conferences, etc	1,789,390			
16	Administrative Interns (2)	5,500	Reduce administrative interns	1,794,890			
17	Custodian Overtime	50,000	Reduce building usage, charge higher fees	1,844,890			
18	Preschool	60,000	Charge tuition for general education students. See details in Exhibit 1, page 2.	1,904,890			
19	Athletics & Performing Arts Pay to Participate	200,000	See details in Exhibit 1, pp. 2 and 3.	2,104,890			

SHELTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 BUDGET REDUCTION WORKSHEET
 OPTIONS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION
 June 6, 2018

Item #	Item	Line Item Reduction Amount	Explanation/Rationale/Impact	Cumulative Reductions	Superintendent Recommended	Board Recommended	Final Recommended
20	SIS Sports	42,000	See details in Exhibit 1, pp. 2 and 3.	2,146,890			
21	SHS Sports	15,000	See details in Exhibit 1, pp. 2 and 3.	2,161,890			
22	Color Printers	50,000	Remove color printers from elementary classrooms; replace with centralized copiers/printers	2,211,890			
23	Field Trips	11,146	Reduce field trips by 50%	2,223,036			
24	Instructional Software	40,000	Reduce software options. Use grant funding where possible.	2,263,036			
25	Instructional Supplies	21,110	Reduce new funding from \$87,500 to \$66,390	2,284,146			
26	Academic Support Tutor	24,894	Reduce academic support for students	2,309,040			
27	Building Repairs	25,000	Reduce new funding from \$50,000 to \$25,000	2,334,040			
28	Transportation Director	88,000	See Exhibit 1, page 3.	2,422,040			

TOTAL REDUCTIONS	2,422,040	TOTAL REDUCTIONS TO BALANCE BUDGET TO ALLOCATION				
TARGET REDUCTIONS	2,422,040					
VARIANCE	0					

OTHER OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION							
29	Academic Support Tutors (3)	74,682	Reduce services to students				
30	Freshmen Sports	55,000	See Exhibit 1, pp. 2 and 3				
31	Art teacher @ SHS	70,000	Reduce position				
32	.5 English Lang. Arts	35,000	Reduce position				
33	French program @ SHS	52,848	Eliminate French program				
34	Building Repairs	25,000	Remove all new money for repairs				
35	Instructional Supplies	21,110	Remove additional 25% of new money for supplies				
36	Field Trips	11,146	Reduce field trips by an additional 50%, effectively eliminating all field trips				
37	Math Specialist	70,000	Reduce services for students				
38	Reading Specialist	70,000	Reduce services for students				
39	Increase Pay-to-Participate	50,000	See Exhibit 1, pp. 2 and 3				
40	Higher Class Sizes		Grades to be determined				
41							
42							