

Present: Mr. David Valcin, Presiding; Mr. David Bayersdorfer, Mr. Barrett Prinz, Dr. Natalia Smirnova, Mr. Jeff Lloyd, Mr. Keith Moon, Board Members; Dr. Pam Vogel, Superintendent; Mrs. Stephanie Magyar, Principal; Ms. Jennifer Weigel, Region One BOE; Mrs. Sue Bucceri, Board Clerk; Mr. Mike Flint, Media

Call to Order: Mr. Valcin called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Agenda: Dr. Smirnova made a motion to amend the agenda adding 16-17 Budget Surplus under Old Business. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bayersdorfer and passed unanimously.

Mr. Lloyd made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Prinz and passed unanimously.

Minutes: Mr. Lloyd made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2017 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Prinz and passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Mrs. Bucceri informed the BOE members that the final figure for the 16-17 budget surplus is \$117,991.98. She reminded the board that the Board of Finance had passed a motion at their July 20, 2017 quarterly meeting recommending that the BOE put the total budget surplus amount into the capital reserve account.

Mrs. Bucceri summarized the financial report for the 17-18 budget.

Mrs. Bucceri presented a summary of the capital reserve account.

School Related Organizations: Dr. Smirnova reported that the PTO will hold its first meeting of the 17-18 year on Thursday, September 28th at 6:30 in the school cafeteria.

Public Comment: Region One – Ms. Weigel reported that a reception was held for new teachers/staff at HVRHS which included two world language, one science and one special education teachers as well as the new Career Coordinator (Dr. May O’Neill) and new EL Coordinator (Mrs. Celina Huber).

The construction at HVRHS has gone well although it isn’t quite complete. The new science classrooms/labs should be ready to use by October 1st. The locker rooms will take a little longer to complete.

The Region One BOE held their last Lighthouse Project meeting. These meetings, held over the past eighteen months, have helped the BOE find ways that they can support student achievement at HVRHS.

Mr. Bayersdorfer commented on the matriculation of the class of 2017. In response, Ms. Weigel reported that the number of students accepted by UCONN had increased over previous years possibly due to the closing of the Torrington campus.

Mr. Bayersdorfer also shared his excitement that Architectural Digest chose HVRHS has the most beautiful public high school in Connecticut.

Mr. Bayersdorfer asked Ms. Weigel about the rate of D’s and F’s earned by HVRHS students for the fourth quarter of 2016-17 and she reported that there was significant improvement over the previous quarters. Dr. Vogel volunteered to provide the BOE members with more specific information about the trend of D’s and F’s for 16-17.

Mr. Bayersdorfer reported that he has received positive feedback from businesses in the community regarding the new Career Coordinator position. Dr. Vogel was asked by Mr. Bayersdorfer if the position had been posted prior to Dr. O’Neill being hired and she responded by saying it had been posted in-house and on Applitracks.

Written Comment – There was none.

Oral Communication – Dr. Smirnova mentioned the Lakeville Journal article regarding SBAC scores and the concerns she has heard from the community regarding how SCS will be addressing the decline in scores. Mrs. Magyar and Dr. Vogel explained that the data is being reviewed and analyzed right now and a report will be presented at the next Salisbury BOE regular meeting on October 23rd.

Dr. Smirnova reported that following the presentation regarding the new grading practices given at the PK-5 Information Night on September 7th, some parents are concerned that they will no longer be able to see subtle shifts in their children’s progress in school. Dr. Smirnova suggested that Mrs. Magyar may want to provide the parents with more guidance on how they can keep track of their children’s progress with the new grading practices in place.

Dr. Smirnova’s final comment was regarding a letter sent to parents of 4th and 5th graders about homework. Dr. Smirnova expressed concern that the letter specifically mentions 20 minutes of reading each night but doesn’t specifically mention math or science. Mrs. Magyar explained that the letter also mentioned 20 minutes of additional work beyond the 20 minutes of reading. Mrs. Magyar and the 4th & 5th grade teachers

hoped that parents would understand that the additional 20 minutes of work could be in any subject area, including science and math. Dr. Vogel also clarified that the 20 minutes of reading doesn't have to be from a novel. The reading could be about math and/or science.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Magyar reviewed several key points from her written report including the work being done by the Leadership Team and the Complementary Observers training being attended by Ms. Rebecca Gaschel-Clark and Mr. John Conklin.

She reported current enrollment at 297 students including 11 new PreK students, 27 new K students and 24 new students in grades 1-8 for a total of 62. We currently have fifteen students that qualify for English Language support. These students are being supported by Celina Huber (Region One EL Coordinator), Ruth Salas-Ramos (SCS EL Instructor), Harriet Nirschel and Lei Pan (Interpreters) and volunteers from the community.

Mrs. Magyar reported that the school's Redhawk tickets have now become HoW tickets which will be given to students for demonstrating one or more of the seven habits of work. Randomly selected students will be recognized during the daily morning announcements. An all-school Dot Day assembly was held on September 15th in recognition of International Dot Day which is a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration based on the book *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds. The entire school community will come together to create a school-wide mural made from individually decorated dots.

SOAR's fall workshops have begun with 130 students participating. The workshops include this year's musical revue "Kids on Broadway" directed by Michael Berkeley, choreographed by Darcy Boynton and assisted by Millen Murray. Performances will be November 17th and 18th.

Mrs. Magyar reported that the Big Brothers (Salisbury School) and Big Sisters (The Hotchkiss School) will continue this year. Hotchkiss requires that one of our certified teachers attend the event with our students in case of emergency. The teachers that sign up for this Friday evening coverage will be paid an extra duty/extra pay rate out of the budget's BOE approved programs line. Mr. Bayersdorfer informed the BOE that the 21st Century Fund recently awarded a grant to three HVRHS students to develop a Big Brothers/Big Sisters program at the high school. He suggested that Mrs. Magyar look into it for SCS students.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Vogel reported that the opening of school for Region One teachers began with a gathering of all teachers at HVRHS. Welcome messages were given by Ms. Lisa Carter, Dr. Vogel and Ms. Alexa Curtis. A recording of the opening session can be viewed on the Region One website or on YouTube. Dr. Vogel also met with Region One secretaries/board clerks and bus drivers prior to opening day. She is currently planning meetings with cafeteria staff members, paraprofessionals and custodians from throughout the region.

Dr. Vogel will be continuing her efforts to improve communication to the public through the use of social media, parent/community meetings and the Lakeville Journal. Minutes from the monthly Region One administrators meetings will be sent to the boards for those agenda items that are relevant to their work. The Communications Committee continues to work to find ways to effectively communicate with local citizens.

Dr. Vogel shared that all Region One schools are continuing to do the work outlined in their Strategic Plans.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: Ms. Carter was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Vogel gave a brief summary of Ms. Carter's written report.

Old Business: 2016-2017 Budget Surplus – Mr. Bayersdorfer made a motion to deposit the 2016-17 budget surplus funds (\$117,991.98) into the capital reserve account. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smirnova and passed unanimously.

Buildings & Grounds Update – Mr. Lloyd reported that renovation work on the exterior of the building is almost complete. The pavers need to be sealed and the trees outside of the kindergarten rooms need to be planted. The garbage room will be completed before snow falls.

Mr. Lloyd reported that the renovation work on the interior of the building is not finished. The ceiling tiles in the elementary lobby will be replaced at the expense of Burlington Construction to make the appearance acceptable. The tile work in the bathrooms will either be done during a school vacation or next summer.

A meeting was held on September 8th with representatives from Burlington, Newfield, the Town of Salisbury and the Salisbury BOE. At the meeting, concerns about the management of the interior renovation work were expressed to Burlington. They have guaranteed that next summer's work will be managed better and the issues with the pace of the work and meeting deadlines will not happen again. Mr. Bayersdorfer recommended that Newfield Construction should be reminded that as construction managers it is their job to make sure the project is on schedule.

Mr. Lloyd reported that with the damage to the conduit running to the middle school it isn't possible to complete the fiber optic cable installation at this time. He is working on a plan to repair/replace the conduit so the project can be completed. In the meantime, Datahal has proposed a solution using a wireless point-to-point system (AirFiber) which has been approved by the BOE's Building and Grounds Committee.

New Business: BOE Candidate Forum – Due to scheduling conflicts and questions about who should sponsor the proposed BOE Candidate Forum, nothing has been scheduled at this time.

Wellness Policy Update, 2nd Read –Mr. Bayersdorfer made a motion to adopt the updated Wellness Policy (5139) as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lloyd and passed unanimously.

2017-2018 All-Star Bus Drivers – Mr. Bayersdorfer made a motion to approve the list of All-Star bus drivers for the 17-18 school-year as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lloyd and passed unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm on a motion made by Mr. Lloyd.

Mrs. Susan C. Bucceri
Board Clerk

Mr. Jeff Lloyd
Secretary