

Present: Mr. David Valcin, Presiding; Mr. David Bayersdorfer, Dr. Natalia Smirnova, Ms. Joanne Hayhurst, Mr. Jeff Lloyd, Mr. Keith Moon, Board Members; Dr. Pam Vogel, Superintendent; Ms. Lisa Carter, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Stephanie Magyar, Principal; Ms. Jennifer Weigel, Region One BOE; Mrs. Sue Bucceri, Board Clerk; Ms. Jacquie Rice, Public; Mr. Mike Flint, Media

Call to Order: Mr. Valcin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda: Ms. Hayhurst made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Smirnova and passed 4-0. Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Moon were not present for the vote.

Minutes: Dr. Smirnova made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2017 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bayersdorfer and passed 4-0. Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Moon were not present for the vote.

Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Moon arrived at the meeting.

Student Spotlight: 2016-2017 SBAC Results – Mrs. Magyar gave a summary of the 2016-2017 SBAC results in mathematics and English language arts for the school as a whole and by grade level. She spoke about how the data is studied and analyzed by her and the staff and how it will be used throughout the year.

Financial Report: Mrs. Bucceri said that there was nothing of significance to report regarding the 2017-2018 financial report through September.

Mrs. Bucceri updated the BOE on the status of grant funding for this year. The school received news last week that we would not be receiving any Title I grant money for 2017-2018. In the past, this grant provided funds to offset the cost of our Title I teacher. In recent years the amount granted to SCS has steadily declined. In 2011-2012 the award was \$57,555 and in 2016-2017 we received \$16,307. While planning the 17-18 budget, we anticipated receiving a Title I award similar to the 16-17 amount therefore we included \$60,000 in the 17-18 budget to cover the expense not covered by the grant. Mrs. Magyar and Mrs. Bucceri will work together to devise a plan for finding funds to replace the grant money that we won't be receiving.

Mrs. Bucceri informed the BOE that Salisbury is eligible to receive a \$10,000 award through the federal Title IV, Part A-Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant recently announced by the CSDE. If received, these grant funds can be used to pay a portion of the Title I expense mentioned in the previous paragraph.

School Related Organizations: Dr. Smirnova reported that the PTO is hosting its annual book fair this week. She also informed the BOE that the annual SCS Open House will be held on Thursday, October 26th from 5:30-6:30 in the elementary school and from 6:00-7:00 in the middle school.

Public Comment: Region One – Ms. Weigel reported that the Region One BOE has begun using a service called CUBE Meeting which allows the board members to receive their BOE meeting materials online. The members can make private notes directly on the e-documents for reference during their meetings.

Ms. Weigel announced that the renovated science rooms at HVRHS are 99% complete and are being used by students. The teachers and students are very happy with the new and improved rooms.

An HVRHS student-led initiative has resulted in the cafeteria switching to compostable plates and stainless flatware as a way to be more environmentally conscious.

Ms. Weigel announced that HVRHS has created an Alumni Wall of Honor as a way to honor those graduates that support the core values of Housatonic Valley Regional High School by recognizing those individuals who exemplify them in their life's work. These core values include a commitment to 21st century academic expectations which encourage all members to grow to their potential, accept and respect different learning styles, solve problems and think analytically, and communicate their ideas effectively. Inductees will have shown that they promote personal and academic growth, as well as independence of thought and spirit within a culture of respect, responsibility and safety and to make ethical choices, demonstrate social and civic responsibility, and show pride and care for the school and its environment. The 2017 induction ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, October 29th from 12:00-4:00pm at the high school.

Ms. Weigel reminded the BOE that the HVRHS music department is holding its mattress fundraiser this weekend to help raise money for their spring trip to Disney.

Written Comment – There was none.

Oral Communication – There was none.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Magyar showed the BOE the new HoW tickets being used to recognize students for demonstrating one or more of the 7 habits of work.

Mrs. Magyar extended an invitation to everyone to come to the all school Halloween assembly on Oct. 31st to enjoy a spooky story, Halloween band concert and costume parade.

Mrs. Magyar also invited those in attendance to join her for the first SCS Community Partnership meeting scheduled for Nov. 30th at 5:30pm. During the meeting parents, teachers and community members will discuss a variety of educational topics addressed in Salisbury's School Strategic Plan. The topics up for discussion during this meeting will be Literacy, Parent/Community Communication and Habits of Work which will be explored through brief presentations followed by table discussions. This will be the first of two such meetings held this school year.

Mrs. Magyar reported that parent/teacher conferences were held on Oct. 18 & 19. The conferences were well attended. She thanked the BOE for sponsoring the teacher dinner the evening of the 18th.

Mrs. Magyar extended an invitation to all to attend this year's Open House on Thursday, Oct. 26th from 5:30-7pm.

An invitation from SCS teachers was extended to the BOE members to come see the school and their classrooms in action. Mrs. Magyar asked anyone interested in visiting to let her know so a schedule could be worked out.

Mrs. Magyar concluded her report by explaining that this week is "Red Ribbon Week" at SCS. This is a week when schools across the nation unite to educate children about the harmful effects of drugs and to show them the benefits of a drug free lifestyle. Wednesday will be "Red Out Day" and all PK-8 students and staff are encouraged to wear red.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Vogel reported that she spoke on a panel at the recent CSDE Performance Matters Forum held in Cromwell. She and two other superintendents discussed Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System and how Region One schools can use the data this system provides to improve.

Dr. Vogel shared that she is a member of the CAPSS Legislative Committee and reported on some of the committee's most recent work.

Dr. Vogel reported that negotiations of four Region One certified contracts are under way with two more beginning soon.

Dr. Vogel concluded her report by sharing that Region One is using several platforms to communicate with the public. Schools will be using their School Community Partnership meetings while Central Office will be using the Lakeville Journal (Notes from the Superintendent) and website/Facebook updates to keep the surrounding community informed of what's happening throughout the region. A quarterly, regional newsletter has been created to allow staff members at each school to write a short article about projects they are working on with their students. The newsletter will be distributed throughout the region in a digital format through Facebook, School Messenger, and the Region One website while hard copies will be provided to local establishments to put on display.

Dr. Vogel left the meeting.

Assistant Superintendent's Report: Ms. Carter gave an update on curriculum mapping, instructional coaches and professional development.

Ms. Carter updated the BOE on the regional EL programming and commended Mrs. Celina Huber for her hard work since school opened in August. Mrs. Huber has been invaluable to all Region One schools in helping to get their EL students off to a good start for 2017-2018. Mrs. Huber is currently scheduled to spend time in each school every week supporting staff and students.

Old Business: Buildings & Grounds Update – Mr. Lloyd reported that the work on the refuse room is nearing completion. The wireless hook up between the upper and lower buildings is ready for installation by Datahal. The committee is still assessing the plan and obtaining pricing on the fiber optics project. The ceiling tiles in the elementary lobby will be replaced over the Thanksgiving break. The committee is discussing a landscaping plan for around the school's event/announcement sign. Two new water fountains will be installed in the middle school including a new bottle filling station in the lower level.

The committee recently approved replacing the metal railing that runs along the outside ramp between the refuse room and the gym entrance parking lot with one that is safer. The cost of \$3652 will be paid from the capital reserve account.

Also approved by the committee was the improvement of the curbing around the electric vault in the elementary courtyard. The existing situation is a tripping/falling hazard. The cost of \$1300 will be paid from the capital reserve account.

Update on Implementation of Strategic Plan – Mrs. Magyar reminded the BOE that the Strategic Plan for School Improvement 2017-2020 was shared with them at the July 10th regular meeting. Mrs. Magyar informed the board that the plan is currently being used by the Lead Team and teachers. The goals and expected outcomes represented in the plan are aligned with the Region One goals and expected outcomes. At the end of each school year, the plan will be updated and shared with the BOE.

Mr. Valcin made a motion to endorse the Strategic Plan as written and presented by Mrs. Magyar. Ms. Hayhurst seconded the motion which passed 5-0. Mr. Bayersdorfer abstained.

New Business: BOE Policy Review Discussion – Mr. Valcin reported that during 2016-2017 Ms. Carter and Ms. Chamberlain began the process of reviewing the BOE policies. They were able to complete the process through the 2000 series. Mr. Valcin asked the BOE to consider whether or not the process should continue for the remaining policy series and if so, how should it be done.

Ms. Carter announced that CAFE provides a policy review service for a fee. She offered to investigate the service and speak to CAFE about pricing and report back to the board at the next meeting.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: There was none.

Mr. Valcin thanked the board members for their recent support of the eighth grade fundraising events for their trip to D.C.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm on a motion made by Mr. Lloyd.

Mrs. Susan C. Bucceri
Board Clerk

Mr. Jeff Lloyd
Secretary