

Sunapee School Public Hearing/Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

January 13, 2016

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the School Board meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Jan Bettencourt

Matt McNally

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Student Services

Ray Palin, Media Specialist

Rachel Malanga, Student Representative - Absent

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ray Palin and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Jan Bettencourt moved to approve the public minutes of the public hearing and School Board meeting of December 2, 2015.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

Change Laura Eldridge to Ellison and Clifford to Ellison.

Vote unanimous.

Brian Garland moved to approve the non-public minutes of December 2, 2015.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Agenda Review:

Action Items – Add “Approval of Middle School Ski Race”

Public Forum:

Shaun Carroll discussed Board history and procedures. He noted that Russell Holden is staying. He also explained his personal feelings in terms as Board Chair.

Dan Banks asked why the community survey is edited.

Russell Holden explained that the results are not up on the website yet. The results from the multiple choice will be on the website, but the open ended questions will not as identifiable, personal information should not be shared. The survey was for the Board as it is a School Board survey.

Dan Banks expressed his displeasure at the survey not being fully published on the website.

Student Representative Report:

Rachel Malanga could not attend due to another engagement.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- Discussed the many activities that took place prior to the holiday break.
- Benchmark assessments and NWEA assessments are taking place.
- Winter activities have started, including the following:
 - Skiing – 87 enrolled
 - Ski jumping – 7 enrolled
 - Cooking
 - Makerspace
 - Other winter sports
 - Horsemanship
 - Gymnastics
 - Karate

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- The Service Club has been very active.
- Many student workshops took place the day before the holiday break.
- A SMHS student took home the bronze for the Foreign Language Poetry Competition.
- Students are partnering with local businesses to set up business plans.
- Student Board Representative, Rachel Malanga, was named WMUR Channel 9's Hometown Hero.
- The honor roll field trip to the Northern Stage to see *Mary Poppins* was enjoyed.
- A number of students won awards from the National Scholastic Art Awards.

Special Education Report:

Terra Geer gave the following report to the Board:

- The Life Skills program started skiing last week; they are enjoying it greatly.
- The special education department is working on streamlining processes.
- They have been able to use the Service Club at SCES and as peer supports at the high school level.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the following report to the Board:

- Stated that Derek Tremblay, Mount Royal Academy Headmaster, and Christi Whipple, owner of the Montessori School in Newport, are holding a school choice fair on January 30th and have invited local schools to attend; Sean Moynihan is representing Sunapee.
- There have been many inspections recently, including:
 - Department of Labor – Went well, but are awaiting the report. The ladder to the roof at SCES was noted.
 - Health inspection – This was a new, local health inspector. Only thing noted was the water pressure at SCES had to go up.
 - Fire inspection – The fire chief has signed off on all school buildings.
- There is no school on January 18th due to MLK Day or on January 19th as it is a Professional Day. Faculty will be hearing from HealthTrust on health insurance options and continue to learn about Atlas Mapping Curriculum.

- All juniors have signed up for the SAT's as part of the State assessment instead of taking the SBAC's. The State pays for the reading and math portion, while the District is paying for writing.
- He and Chief Cahill met to discuss policies and school resources. An officer is going to start speaking with health classes. In general, the police is going to have an officer at SMHS a couple hours a week as an SRO (School Resource Officer). He will be here to answer questions for students, faculty and parents if there are issues. Chief Cahill spoke to the Board stating the officer is currently DARE certified and is the same officer that teaches DARE at SCES.
- Russell stated he has plans on going out into the community more and visiting places such as the senior center. He will also be holding a Superintendent's Forum which he will discuss later on in the meeting.

Policy:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the second reading of policy ILDA – Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research and IMBD – High School Credit for 7th & 8th Grade Coursework as presented.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Email Vote of Approval for Boys Varsity Basketball Trip:

Superintendent Holden explained that the School Board was asked over the holiday break by email for approval of this trip; the vote was 3 – yes, 0-no, 1-abstention and 1-no vote. The trip did go.

Paul Skarin stated this was a Christmas tournament at Keene State College that started on a Saturday and ended on a Monday; the team only stayed one night.

Board Goals Work Session:

The Board discussed when the Board goals work session should be set and how the Board goals are created. Shaun Carroll explained the history. It was agreed to hold off on scheduling the meeting until after the vote in March.

Approval of Harvard Model Congress Trip:

Brian Garland moved to approve the Harvard Model Congress Trip as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Teacher, Alex Klingerman, explained what the Harvard Model Congress is to the Board. Students from grades 9-12 are attending with a total of eight students going. The event takes place at the Boston Sheraton Hotel from February 18th-21st.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of the 2016-2017 Calendar:

Matt McNally moved to approve the 2016-2017 calendar as presented.

Jan Bettencourt seconded the motion.

Superintendent Holden explained that it is in a slightly different format. The first day of school will be August 29th and the last day will be June 15th.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of the 2016-2017 Budget:

Brian Garland moved to approve the 2016-2017 budget as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of the 2016-2017 Default Budget:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the 2016-2017 default budget as presented.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

Business Administrator Wessells explained how the default budget is created. She noted that there is an approximately \$93,000 difference from the proposed budget.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of 2016-2017 Warrant Articles:

Brian Garland moved to approve the 2016-2017 warrant articles as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Extended Middle School Ski Race Trip:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the ski race as presented.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

The coach, Norm Dalton, explained that the race is on Thursday, February 11th. The middle school team will leave the afternoon before on Wednesday, February 10th after school. There is no cost to the school as the restaurant/hotel the “Red Jacket” pays for the cost. This is the last race for the kids and it is the one they look forward to the most.

Vote unanimous.

Dr. Malcolm Smith, January 14th, Parent Community Forum, 6:30-7:30, SMHS:

Superintendent Holden stated Dr. Smith, who is a bullying expert, will be coming at 8 a.m. tomorrow to talk to high school students first, followed by middle school students, then will meet with District administration, followed by District faculty in the afternoon. He will then hold a parent community forum at 6:30 p.m.

Jan Bettencourt noted later in the meeting that she would like Dr. Smith to come back and discuss his findings after talking with each group.

Survey Reports on Website:

Superintendent Holden noted again that the survey was put together for the Board. He explained the survey setup. He will be making the data available, but not the answers to the open ended questions.

Superintendent’s Forum:

A Superintendent’s Forum will be held on Wednesday, February 17th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Abbott Library. Superintendent Holden invited the community to attend. He will be speaking about the budget, teachers’ contract and the strategic plan. He noted this is not a time to air personal issues; he wants to articulate his vision for the District.

Strategic Plan Committee:

Superintendent Holden will be setting up a Strategic Plan Committee of 15-20 people to discuss the future plans for the District.

Manifest:

Paul Skarin moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2016-11 - \$52,969.80
- 2016-12 - \$54,748.30
- 2016-13 - \$71,950.17

Paul Skarin moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2016-10 - \$500,045.11
- 2016-11 - \$227,147.28
- 2016-12 - \$474,692.68

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

April Royce, Sunapee resident, asked if the taxpayers are paying for all juniors to take the SAT's.

Superintendent Holden replied that the District is only paying for the writing component.

Pam Colanero, Sunapee resident, asked when the signup for the School Board positions would be open.

Superintendent Holden replied you can sign-up from January 20th-29th.

Agenda for February 3, 2016:

- Good News
- Manifest
- Policy

Non-Public Session:

The Board went into non-public session at 8:25 p.m. Please see non-public minutes.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor

School Board Secretary