

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Media Center

January 15, 2014

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll, Chair

Kim Denney, Vice Chair

Mike Ripley

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland - Absent

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Pupil Services

Ray Palin, SMHS Media Coordinator

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

Done during the Budget Hearing

Minutes:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the budget meeting minutes of December 4, 2013.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

3 – Yay, 0 – Nay and 1 - Abstain

Paul Skarin moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of December 4, 2013.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

3 – Yay, 0 – Nay and 1 – Abstain

Public Forum:

Spec Bowers, BAC, said that he did not show up to the Budget Hearing tonight at 6PM tonight because he believes the website had the wrong time listed. He asked if there were any new developments during the Budget Hearing.

Russell responded that they removed the \$75,000 repaving of the SMHS parking lot warrant article. The budget has stayed at a 2.94% increase or \$318,494.00.

Gayle Harrington, WNTK Talk Radio, asked if the warrant article removed had to do with the connector road the District is trying to put in. Russell replied that it is not; the taxpayers have only approved a study of the road. There will be more discussion on the connector road tonight.

Katie Ortiz repeated her displeasure from the Budget Hearing of the cutting of Synthia Liska's position.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- The Holiday Concert with the fifth grade band and chorus was a success.
- There will be three Destination Imagination groups running this year.
- Winter Activities Program has started.
- 8 second graders came to Jodi with a petition asking to learn cursive a year early; they will be allowed.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- SMHS just completed their Geography Bee. Ben Van Paassen won and will go onto the Regionals.
- SMHS will hold their Spelling Bee next Wednesday.
- Tom Frederick has signed up the school through WMUR for Hoops for Hunger. People will be asked to bring food for pantries to the basketball games.
- Teachers are working on their spring electives.
- Sunapee is participating in the Winter Wild for the second year in a row. Last year Sunapee had the best participation and won an award. Students will hike a mountain.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- He noted that the website did have the correct times for both tonight's Budget Hearing and School Board meeting.
- Commented that he was very popular for the extended holiday vacation due to a snowstorm the first day school was to be back.
- He has received the preliminary numbers for the high school dropout rate; the numbers look positive.
- Commended the second graders for their petition to learn cursive early.
- NutriKids will start running February 17th. The SAU will be sending out information to families beforehand.

Building & Ground Updates:

- Culvert Project –
 - The project is 90% completed; paving still needs to be completed, but the weather has hindered its completion.
 - The State has approved the culvert installed as the main culvert. The 32" can go in the 48" as a sleeve, but they are not allowed to cap it. The District has a five year window to finish it.
- Connector Road Project – Russell found out that because the road will be crossing town land they also need signatures from the town selectmen. The Board is foregoing attending the Planning Board meeting on January 16th and will instead attend the Selectmen's meeting on January 22nd. Once they signoff, then he will go to the Planning Board in February. He is asking the engineers to come up with a site plan for the Planning Board, depending on how long that takes the February meeting with the Planning Board may be pushed back to March, April or May.

Policy Review:

Paul Skarin moved to approve policies under second reading:

- ACE – Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability
- BBAB – Roles & Duties of the Board Chair
- BBAC – School Board Powers & Duties
- BBAC-R – School Board Powers & Duties (Part Ed 303 Duties of the School Boards)
- BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics
- BCA-R – Annual Code of Ethics Affirmation/Reaffirmation

- BHE – School Board Use of Email
- IJOA – Field Trips & Excursions
- IJOA-R – Field Trips & Extended Travel Procedures
- IJOC – Volunteers
- IJOC-R Sunapee Volunteer Application

Paul Skarin moved to approving the first reading of D policies:

- DA – Fiscal Management Goals/Priority Objectives
- DBJA – Transfer of Appropriations
- DBK – Transfer of Funds/Budget
- DC – Taxing and Borrowing Authority/Limitations
- DEA – Revenues from Local Tax Sources
- DG – Depository of Funds
- DGD – School District Credit Cards
- DH – Bonded Employees
- DI – Fiscal Accounting and Reporting
- DIA – Fund Balances
- DIE – Audits
- DJCA – Petty Cash Accounts
- DJCA-R – Petty Cash Accounts
- DK – Payment Procedures
- DM – Cash in School Buildings

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Other polices under “C” and “D” were under review. Policy KCD – Public Gifts and Naming to the Schools terminology was handed out in the Board packets. The Board needs to come to a consensus on accepting gifts and how much a donor would contribute to have their name be recognized. The members will review and discuss at next meeting.

Adoption of Budget:

Kim Denney moved to approve the 2014-15 Budget as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Adoption of Warrant Articles:

Kim Denney moved to approve the 2014-15 Warrant Articles as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Sunapee Police Department Security Cameras Agreement:

Both the police department and District are for the agreement presented in the Board packet.

Kim Denney moved to approve the security camera agreement with the Sunapee Police Dept. as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

2014-15 School Calendar:

Kim Denney moved to approve the 2014-15 school calendar as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

SMHS Field Trips:

There are two field trips presented: one is the annual 8th grade trip to Gettysburg and the other is a new 7th grade field trip of a group of 20 students chosen by faculty and Sean Moynihan to hike Mt. Pierce in the spring.

Kim Denney moved to approve both field trips as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of New Hire – Destination Imagination Team Leader:

Jodi Bergen has nominated Jackie Keegan as the new Destination Imagination Team Leader. Currently there are two groups of 3-5 students in DI and they are adding a third team called the "Rising Star Team" for first graders to gain experience which Jackie will oversee.

Kim Denney moved to approve Jackie Keegan as the Destination Imagination Team Leader.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Resignation:

Kim Denney moved to approve the resignation of Kate Dulac as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Default Budget:

Kim Denney moved to approve the Default Budget as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

SPIRAL – Chinese Student Exchange Program:

Russell has been researching how to increase tuition revenue in the District. The SPIRAL Exchange Program is an innovative and culturally enhancing idea. The District would start by having 30 students from China come for the summer starting in July. Two students would each stay with a host family. They would work on some light educational language pieces and then be immersed in the community. Russell would like to know if this is something the Board would be interested in doing.

He stated that 100,000 students from China come to America through exchange programs every year. The District would receive public high school tuition for hosting. Where he worked in Maine is one of the largest hosts of exchanges in the country, with China being the main country. The program gives \$21,000 to the host District.

The summer exchange would be a test to see if students would like to stay for a year-long exchange. He thinks the District would attract 2-3 students out of the 30. Sean noted that it might be something they could combine with another school district such as Kearsarge.

The Board asked that a survey be put on the website asking families what they think of the idea and how many, if any, would be willing to host. This will be brought forth at the next meeting for further discussion.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2014-12 - \$73,852.36
- 2014-13 - \$113,178.44
- 2014-14 - \$79,870.27

Kim Denney moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2014-9 - \$200,963.35
- 2014-10 - \$421,910.94
- 2014-11 - \$242,793.88

- 2014-12 - \$346,857.76
- 2014-13 - \$514,453.00
- 2014-14 - \$188,215.26

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

John Augustine brought to the Board's attention that due to the new library being built the old library on Main St. will be empty starting in September. The town states it has no use for the building and he was wondering if the School District couldn't use it for something as he does not want to see it empty, if so, then he can get them on the Selectmen's agenda to discuss. The Board stated they would be interested.

Gidget Ducharme asked some questions in regards to the 7th grade field trip to Mt. Pierce.

The Board reviewed the budget timeline with Kelly Wessells. The Deliberative Session will be held on February 3rd in the SMHS Gymnasium.

Agenda for February 5, 2014:

- SPIRAL Program
- Policy KCD
- Policies – 2nd Reading
- Project Updates
- Good News
- Manifest

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor
School Board Secretary