

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Media Center

February 11, 2015

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:03 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

Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal

Sam Hagen, Student Representative

Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sam Hagen and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Kim Denney moved to approve the Budget Hearing minutes of January 14, 2015.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 - Abstention

Kim Denney moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of January 14, 2015.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 - Abstention

Agenda Review:

None

Public Forum:

None

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- The school wide Spelling Bee was held on January 29th and Maggi Levasseur was the winner with the correct spelling of “knead”. The runner up was Sean Petrin. Both students are fourth graders.
- The Valentine Box annual community service project is underway. The students have decorated over 40 boxes and are in the process of filling them with donated goodies and supplies. Parent and student volunteers will deliver the boxes to Sunapee senior citizens on Friday after school.
- Most of the illness has subsided. The school went from a high of 30 kids absent on January 21st to a handful each day over the past couple weeks.
- The last day of Winter Activities is tomorrow. The students have had a great time. All but a few of the skiers have advanced to the chairlift – even the kinders. She thanked Mr. Augustine for inviting the winter sports group to Dexter’s for cross country skiing tomorrow.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- The Lake Sunapee Center for the Arts Micro Gallery features SMHS art work in New London, NH.
- The Spelling Bee winner was Carissa Peirce and the Geography Bee winner is Erin Moynihan.
- The Quebec Trip was not cancelled for the French students due to weather.
- K-12 curriculum work continues with English and Social Studies committees.
- Work is currently being done on scheduling for the 15-16 and 16-17 school year.

Special Education Report:

None

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- The Speak Up survey results are on the webpage. Nineteen parents, ten teachers, 12 SMHS students and 91 SCES students participated. This is a survey on technology.
- He participated in a Tabletop meeting that included the police chief, fire chief, water department, building and grounds, bussing, sewer department and principals. The topic of discussion was emergency response and homeland security. Currently, students are sent to the Sherburne Gymnasium or church if evacuated, but both have issues. They have decided to send the kids as far away as the Kearsarge Middle School in case of an emergency.
- He has been conducting classroom visits including kindergarten and Honors geometry.
- The District is preparing for the Smarter Balance Assessment. Elementary will go first followed by the middle school and last the high school.

Building & Ground Updates:

- Connector Road Project – Russell presented the plans from Venture Engineering. The CIP committee will begin developing a plan during the next school year. The Board and public reviewed the plans.

Policy Review:

Paul Skarin moved to approve second reading of policy EEACC and J policies, first reading of J policies, reviewed J policies and rescinded J policies as presented.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of 2015-2016 School Calendar:

Russell stated he worked with both Newport and Claremont and all three districts vacations line up.

Kim Denney moved to approve the 2015 -16 Sunapee School District calendar as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of 2015-2016 Tuition Rate:

The Board discussed the current tuition rate for the District and the declining enrollment in the District and in the State. The Board does not want to consider consolidation. To combat this

issue, they decided to make the tuition rate for the next school year competitive with the surrounding towns to attract more students. The tuition for this year is \$14,000 for K-8 and \$16,000 for 9-12.

Paul Skarin moved to make the 2015-2016 tuition rate the same as Newport's. (Retracted)
Paul Skarin moved to make the 2015-2016 tuition rate for grades K-8 \$12,650 and for grades 9-12 \$13,500.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of letter to Kearsarge Regional School Board:

This is the letter asking permission to send our students to the Kearsarge Middle School in case of an emergency.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the letter to the Kearsarge Regional School Board.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of the Red Parka Field Trip:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the Red Parka Field trip as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of the SMHS Baseball Trip to Cape Cod:

Mike Ripley moved to approve the annual SMHS baseball trip to Cape Cod.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of the SMHS Spring Elective Trip to Gettysburg:

Kim Denney moved to approve the annual spring elective trip to Gettysburg.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Discussion on taking a charter bus for this trip. Sean Moynihan stated it considerably increases the costs for students attending.

Vote unanimous

Approval of the 4th Provision of SPTO as stated in Articles of Agreement:

Meagan Reed, SPTO treasurer, explained for them to get their 501C3 non-profit status, they have to have a “dissolution article” that states that if the SPTO ever dissolves the money will all go to SCES.

Kim Denney moved to approve the articles as presented.

Paul Skarin second the motion.

Vote unanimous

New Custodial Hire:

Russell stated that Corey Davis has been hired as a new custodian for the District. This is informational only.

Deliberative Session Review:

None needed

Croydon’s Open House:

Principals from both SCES and SMHS are attending the March 28th open house from 9AM-12PM to look for students interested in attending Sunapee schools.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2015-16 - \$51,099.42

Kim Denney moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2015-14 - \$204,585.34
- 2015-15 - \$320,311.25
- 2015-16 - \$363,109.08

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Jan Bettencourt, Fernwood Point Rd., asked what the next steps are for the connector road project; she wondered if any work would be premature, citing declining enrollment.

Shaun Carroll explained that the work the warrant article specified from last year is done. The connector road is more about safety of students and what the State would like to see done about rectifying the situation (there is only one road to the school) then about enrollment.

John Augustine asked about the cost of the plans for the connector road project. Kelly Wessells replied that \$50,000 was approved by the voters and only \$42,000 was spent. There is no warrant article this year in regards to the road; a plan needs to be developed by the CIP committee first.

John then asked how news of the Deliberative Session is publicized to the community. Russell stated that it is put in the newspaper, booklets are created, and email blast is sent out, flyers are sent home with students and it is put out over the Alert Now system.

Agenda for March 11, 2015:

- Policies
- Good News
- Manifest
- Reorganization

Adjournment:

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn at 8:17PM.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor
School Board Secretary