

# Sunapee School Board Meeting

## SMHS Media Center

March 11, 2015

### Call to Order:

Russell Holden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll

Kim Denney

Mike Ripley – 7:20PM

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

### Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Terra Geer, Special Education Director

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 Russell Holden.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade iPad Presentation:

Teachers Danielle King and Lesley Scheele presented to the Board:

- It's been 8 months since the fifth graders started using their iPads; they had them on the first day of school.
- Before school began they contacted parents and received permission slips, insurance forms, informed them what the kids would be doing on the internet and downloaded the apps.

- Jodi Bergen approves the apps for the students and then the technology “Casper Suite” has the apps go to Jon Reed who opens them up for the students to download.
- Before the students could take them home the students had to learn iPad etiquette in the classroom, home use and rules, plus password protection.
- The students write reports, learn geography, perform science labs, make video reports and STEM projects.
- The teachers showed examples of student projects and a video of students explaining why they love using the iPad as a tool for learning and what they consider their favorite applications.
- Only two iPads have used their insurance due to cracked screens. A couple of students have lost privileges from time to time.
- The teachers stated that even though it’s been a lot of work they wouldn’t change anything.

**Reorganization:**

Kim Denney moved to nominate Shaun Carroll for Board Chair.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

3 – Yes, 0 – No and 1 – Abstention

Kim Denney moved to nominate Paul Skarin for Vice Chair.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

**Minutes:**

Kim Denney moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of February 11, 2015.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Abstention

**Agenda Review:**

Russell asked to add “Election Review” under Superintendent’s Report.

**Public Forum:**

Jan Bettancourt asked the following:

- She congratulated Paul on his re-election as she had been running against him.
- There is a Common Core Seminar being held at Mount Royal Academy on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

- People are asking her why the Board went under non-public session at the January 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. There was nothing in the minutes regarding they went out to non-public session. Russell stated they went into non-public session to talk about a warrant article that dealt with a potential bid, so it would be under (d) – Negotiations. He said there are non-public minutes from that meeting that can be requested; they are not posted to the website. He will also make sure the minutes taker notes they went into non-public session in the public minutes.

#### SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- Four teams participated in the Destination Imagination Regional Tournament. One grades k-2 team and three grades 3-5 teams. Two of the grades 3-5 teams competed; one finished third and the other finished fifth. The third team did not have to compete because they were already being sent to the State competition on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- She will be going to Croydon on March 28<sup>th</sup> to talk to families about sending students to Sunapee.
- Bill Royce will be receiving the Life Changer of the Year award.

#### SMHS Good News:

Meagan Reed gave the Board the following good news:

- Sean Moynihan serves as the Chair of the NHIAA Nomination Committee and that is why he cannot be here tonight.
- This year they expanded the co-curricular offerings to include Destination Imagination teams at both the middle and high school level. Both teams will compete at the State Championship on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Will Austin placed in ski jumping.
- The girls' basketball team won the State Championships and Katie Frederick was named the Hometown Hero on WMUR.
- Senior projects are to be completed this Friday.
- The ninth grade will be holding a renaissance fair on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Changes have been made to electives in social studies, English and middle school courses.

#### Special Education Report:

Terra Geer gave the following report to the Board:

- Staff attended a Smarter Balance seminar on accommodations. Both schools have setup accommodations and are ready for the Smarter Balance test.
- On April 8<sup>th</sup> the International Organization of Dyslexia will be presenting a simulation on dyslexia in Sunapee.
- Staff is gearing up for transitions for the next school year.
- She will be attending a course on intellectual disabilities this spring.

Student Representative Report:

Sam Hagen stated that the Service Club has been a great success this year. There are no prerequisites to be a part of the club. They have done community service down in the harbor, at the elementary school and they just held a blood drive which was a huge success. There are a total of 15-20 students involved between the middle and the high school.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- The Smarter Balance exam is coming up; elementary will be taking place in April and the middle and high school in May. He gave a handout on the exam to the Board.
- Administration evaluations are underway.
- Kearsarge School District has written back giving permission for Sunapee to use their facilities in case of an emergency or for drills.
- He and others met with representatives of Homeland Security. They gave recommendations to make the schools more secure including adding planters in front of entryways so cars cannot be driven through them, tinting the windows so people cannot look inside and adding cameras to the outside of the buildings.
- He congratulated the girls' basketball team on winning the State Championship.
- He is having a company come to the next meeting to present on a proposal for LED lighting in the schools.
- He discussed with the Board how to get the message out better to the community about the school ballot before elections. The articles on the ball field and putting money into a capital reserve for building renovations did not pass. There was not a large voter turnout.
- He is still looking into solar panels for the district, but there is an initial line cost. The company is crunching the numbers; he will have more information at the next meeting.
- NH State Legislature did not adopt the Common Core Standards, but Smarter Balance has to happen because that is the test the State is using and that is aligned with Common Core.

- The Board and administration discussed getting eighteen year old students to vote. The high school said they do teach about voting and upcoming elections, but they cannot make the students go.
- A frozen pipe burst in the science lab over February vacation. Luckily, the leak was found rather quickly. The tile floor may need to be renovated which is made of asbestos; the room next door also holds asbestos and will be done at the same time.
- The roofs have been cleaned off due to heavy snow and there are no leaks.

#### Policy Review:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the second reading of J policies as presented.

The dress code policy was included. The specific guidelines are not in the policy, but will be in the school handbook, which the Board also approved.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Paul Skarin moved to approve the review of F policies as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

#### Negotiations Committee:

Russell stated that Healthtrust will be presenting on health insurance on April 6<sup>th</sup> at the SAU starting at 2PM. Members of the committee should attend for upcoming negotiations purposes.

Paul Skarin moved to appoint Shaun Carroll and Brian Garland as the Negotiations Committee members.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

#### Spring Coaches:

Russell stated the list of spring coaches is just information. They are still looking for a middle school track coach.

#### Access Energy:

Russell state he has signed a contract to be part of the Constellation Energy Consortium for the next seven months to help stabilize the energy fluctuations. The district was using Access Energy.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2015-17 - \$94,817.78
- 2015-18 - \$8,477.40
- 2015-19 - \$72,357.33
- 2015-20 - \$93,395.74

Kim Denney moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2015-17 - \$285,831.71
- 2015-18 - \$361,056.21

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

John Augustine asked that the Board consider changing the tier system of health insurance at the healthcare meeting in April. He stated it would be better if the district paid per employee and if the employee wanted to add dependents then they have to pay the extra. Russell stated that the healthcare meeting is just for Healthtrust to show what plans are available, not to start talking about negotiating changes to the pay structure with the union.

John requested the administration can find out how many eighteen year olds at the high school voted. Russell stated it is the civil right to vote and students do not have to share that information. It can be asked, but it would be best not to overstep in that area.

John then stated that the Board could fundraise for the articles that didn't pass and the taxpayers considered wants. He asked them to review their policy.

Agenda for April 1, 2015:

- Policies
- Good News
- Manifest
- LED Light Presentation

Adjournment:

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn at 8:36PM.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Paul withdrew his motion to adjourn and Kim her second  
Motion pass 5-0

Kim Denney moved to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 8:40 PM.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Adjournment:

Mike Ripley moved to adjourn at 9:18PM

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor  
School Board Secretary