

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Media Center

April 1, 2015

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll
Kim Denney
Mike Ripley
Paul Skarin
Brian Garland

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal
Terra Geer, Special Education Director
Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal
Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator
Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brian Garland and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Public Comment:

Sophie Sparrow, Sunapee resident, asked why the upcoming year's teacher's contracts had been reduced. Shaun Carroll stated that it will be discussed under teacher's nominations later in the meeting, but no specific information will be discussed because that would be deemed a personnel issue and would be talked about in non-public session.

Life Skills Presentation:

Teacher Amanda Patenaude presented to the Board:

- The Life Skills Program teaches functional academics to learn independence to those with disabilities.
- It is an incentive program, the students learn how to budget by saving money for an item of their choosing.
- There is a daily schedule that is incorporated into their general education program.
- The program is aligned with the Common Core Standards.
- Activities of daily living that are taught include:
 - Hygiene
 - Cooking
 - Grocery shopping
 - Budgeting
 - Communication
- Therapeutic recreation is included such as:
 - Yoga
 - Gymnastics
 - Sledding
 - Swim lessons
 - Skiing
 - Pottery
 - Horseback riding
 - Kayaking
 - Gardening
- Job coaching is performed at the following businesses:
 - Woodlawn Nursing Home
 - LaValley's Building Supply
 - Abbott Library
- The students also gain community exposure/job shadowing at:
 - Huberts
 - Unleashed
 - Grocery stores
 - Transfer station
 - Bookstores
- The students are given related services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech services and work with the teacher of the deaf if needed.
- Out of district consultations are done as needed.

Special Education Director, Terra Geer, explained that the District doesn't want to take students out of an out of district placement if they are not ready or the District is not ready. The focus is

to help those students transition back into the community. The District is considering partial programs for some of these students who would stay at their out of district school, but also attend in Sunapee part-time.

Minutes:

Brian Garland moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of March 11, 2015.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Agenda Review:

Russell added "B – Gym Floor Bid" under Buildings and Grounds

SCES Good News:

Meagan Reed gave the Board the following good news as Jodi Bergen was not in attendance:

- One Destination Imagination Team went to the State Championship on March 28th and made first place out of 110 teams in attendance. This will be the third year for a SCES team to attend the Global Finals in May.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- The middle school Destination Imagination team made third place and the high school team made second place; both teams made it to the State Championships. The high school team will attend the Global Finals in May.
- "You Can't Take It With You" is the spring play and the director is from the Northern Stage Theatre Company.
- The cheerleaders thought they won the State Championship this year, but the Sunapee coach noticed a scoring error and realized that Newport won the trophy. The girls graciously gave the trophy to Newport.
- The 9th graders are putting on a Renaissance Faire this week.

Special Education Report:

Terra Geer gave the following report to the Board:

- Special education staff are working on Extended Year Programming and transition meetings.

Student Representative Report:

None, as Sam Hagan was not in attendance.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- Congratulated the Destination Imagination Teams. Explained that last year the District offset transportation costs, which for each team is approximately \$1500; the Board stated they approve of the District doing so again. Russell stated he would like to budget for the cost in the future.
- Don Bettencourt was elected a new member of the BAC. He has asked that he be allowed to attend the upcoming meeting with the Negotiations Committee on health insurance. Russell has spoken to the union and they would prefer the BAC member not be in attendance; the Board agrees.
- The summer town meeting will be held on August 4th at 7PM. He asked the Board if they wanted him to send a letter to the selectman asking to be on the agenda; the Board said they would.

Buildings and Grounds:

A. LED Lighting Retrofit Project – Peter Salvitti

- a. He is from an Energy Conservation Company that counts all the wattage being used by the District and figures out what they need for lighting to lower electricity costs.
- b. They believe they can lower the costs at the core building at SMHS by 54%, the middle school by 45% and the Sherburne Gym by 42%.
- c. Eversource is a rebate program. There is financing available for the initial cost of \$127,119. The rebate would be \$44,650 and the net project cost would be \$83,469. The return on investment is 24.71%.
- d. He presented the different lights used. They would replace the existing lights with energy conserving lights. Everything is under warranty for up to 50,000 hours.
- e. The rebate money for 2015 is already gone and there is a wait list for 2016. The District would have to get in the line now to receive the money for 2017.

The Board stated they would like to have it on the agenda at the next Board meeting.

B. Gym Floor Bid – Sherburne Gym

- a. This is going down to the wood and refinishing and repainting.

- b. Wayne Palmer called seven places and most are out of business; only two responded – Denneher (\$19,000) and Bob’s Floor Service (\$13,000).

The Board asked Russell to get more references on Bob’s Floor Service and a more detailed description on what they would do to the floor. The Board will decided at the next Board meeting.

Policy Review:

Kim Denney moved to approve the first reading, review and rescinded K policies as presented. Russell asked her to add the first reading of policy BEDG-R.

Kim Denney moved to amend her first motion to include the first reading of policy BEDG-R. Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Graduation Date:

Mike Ripley moved to approve Friday, June 12th for graduation.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Special Education Policy and Procedures Manual:

Terra Geer explained that the Department of Education sends out updates for the manual each year. The District has to review annually and get approval.

Kim Denney moved to approve the revised Special Education Policy and Procedures Manual as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of 2015-2016 Teacher/Administrator/Director Nominations:

Paul Skarin moved to table the approval of teacher/administrator/director nominations until after non-public session.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of the 2015-2016 Program of Studies:

Sean Moynihan gave the following changes to the Board:

- The students wanted more electives, so English 12 was taken out and more choices were created.
- The social studies curriculum is the same, but changes have been made to what is offered in what grades. Meagan Reed explained the reasoning behind the changes.
- In 2016-2017, there will be an extended learning opportunity option for physical education.
- Running Start is a program where students can earn dual credits for both high school, and three college credits from the community college. It costs the student only \$150.

Brian Garland moved to approve the 2015-2016 program of studies as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Process for Filling Board Seats:

Russell explained that both Kim Denney and Mike Ripley have resigned as of tonight's meeting. He gave out the RSA to the Board explaining they can appoint to the empty seats. He recommended the Board run an advertisement in the paper asking for letters of interest and then from those conduct interviews. The Board agreed to run an advertisement.

Non-Certified Personnel Nominations for 2015-2016:

Russell noted that this is informational only; the Board does not need to approve. All of the positions are the same as last year.

SMHS Fall 2015 Coaches:

Russell stated that this is informational only; the Board does not need to approve.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2015-21 - \$68,790.55

Kim Denney moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2015-12.1 - \$567.95
- 2015-19 - \$290,127.76
- 2015-19.1 - \$422.80
- 2015-20 - \$361,432.09

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Russell handed out the Board resignation letters to the other three Board members. He then handed out Board gifts to Kim Denney and Mike Ripley.

Paul Skarin moved to accept Kim Denney and Mike Ripley's resignations with regret.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Paul Manson suggested the Board appoint new Board members by looking at the recent ballot for who received the most votes after Paul Skarin.

Gidget Ducharme asked the difference between the flooring bid quotes; \$6,000.

Paul Manson stated that unless there is damage to urethane layer on the wood there is no need to refinish the floor.

Jolyon Johnson asked what the process is for contract negotiations. He is wondering how the public found out about the contract changes before the Board has approved them. Russell explained that the changes are shifting of contract times and the realignment of people. He had conversations with the administrators who then spoke with their faculty ahead of time and that is how the word go out. Tonight is the first time the School Board is seeing the changes.

Gidget Ducharme asked why the process for choosing new Board members is going to be different this time compared to when Mike Ripley was chosen for the Board. Shaun Carroll explained that there are different ways to choose a new Board member before an election and they are choosing to do it differently this time.

Heidi Currier stated that it is an assumption that as a taxpayer if a budget is passed that teachers wouldn't be decreased. Russell explained that it is a lengthy budget process and that priorities due change after the budget is passed and the administration works with the board to address priorities with in the budget.

Agenda for May 6, 2015:

- Floor Bid
- Good News
- Manifest
- LED Light Discussion
- New Board Members

The Board decided to take a five minute break at 8:45PM before going into non-public under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c).

A motion was made by Paul Skarin and seconded by Kim Denney to go into non-public session at 8:57PM. The vote was 5 - 0.

A motion was made by Brian Garland and seconded by Mike Ripley to accept the list of teacher nominations for the 2015-16 school year as amended. The vote was 5 – 0.

A motion was made Kim Denney and seconded by Paul Skarin to accept the list of administration/directors nominations for the 2015-16 school year as presented. The vote was 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Paul Skarin seconded by Mike Ripley to adjourn. The vote was 5 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor
School Board Secretary