

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Media Center

April 9, 2014

Call to Order:

Russell Holden called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll

Kim Denney

Mike Ripley – Arrived 8:00PM

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Myles Cooney, SMHS Guidance Counselor

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Russell Holden, followed by a moment of silence.

Board Restructuring:

Russell congratulated Kim Denney and Shaun Carroll on winning their re-election bids.

Brian Garland moved to nominate Shaun Carroll as the Board Chair.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Paul Skarin asked about rotating the Chair and Vice Chair positions. Shaun stated he had made calls to all the other members, but that no one else currently has the time.

Vote unanimous.

Brian Garland moved to nominate Kim Denney as the Vice Chair.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Minutes:

Kim Denney moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of March 5, 2014.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 0 – Nays and 1 - Abstention

Public Forum:

Sunapee resident, John Augustine, asked if the District's interest in the old town library was going to be put on the agenda in the future. Russell explained that he is currently in discussion and talking numbers with the Special Education Director. The District also needs to get programming approval before they can move forward with using the building for a specific special needs program. Russell explained that the District does like the advantages it brings such as a lease, it is turnkey and it meets fire code, but the District has to wait for the trustees to be bought out by the town, for between \$250,000-\$350,000, before they can move forward. He also stated that just because a program would be created doesn't mean that every out of district student would come back as it is specific to need. They would look at tuitioning students from other districts that fit the program.

Sunapee resident, Gidget Ducharme, expressed her displeasure with the new computer lunch program – NutriKids. She stated that parents were not informed that they would be charged money to deposit cash into their child's lunch account. Russell explained that you can also send money or checks into school with your child and there is no fee; the company itself charges a fee to use the system – the District does not profit. The other reason the District bought this system is to limit the amount of money handling done by the Food Director and enhance inventory.

SMHS Guidance Presentation:

Myles Cooney explained that SMHS has the following structures in place:

- There are now a middle school and high school guidance counselors that work with 250+ students and 30+ teachers.
- He is the high school guidance counselor and oversees the following:
 - Sits on the Student Support Team using RTI
 - Provides response services
 - Provides testing for two NWEA's, NECAP, NAPE, PSAT's, SAT's, ACT and AP courses.

- Develops community work and program development.
- Handles intake of new families – he has had 29 new students since the beginning of the school year. Sean Moynihan pointed out that there has been a greater increase of students moving in during the school year the past few years. Jodi Bergen stated that SCES has had four new students since February break alone and lost only one. Myles stated that the high school is up four students since the beginning of the year.
- Meets with vendor representatives; this year forty-two visited including military and colleges.

Myles gave a handout to the Board showing college placement. He explained that the District uses the Bridges Program to connect students to jobs that are similar, search colleges, prepare for the SAT and to get selectivity data. He is finding more students are starting out at a two-year college and then transferring to a four-year college to save money.

He is holding a Career Day for eight students who are undecided about their future. He finds that students choose based on self-directions, family values, peer issues, money, programs abroad and variety of other factors. He spends about one-third of his time one-on-one with students. Myles explained that the schools used to have a SAT tutor come to the school to work with students for ten sessions for \$100, but the students didn't like it. So, then they set up a SAT prep course on the Bridges Program, but students didn't use it. Now, they have students going to the tutor's house and they are taking advantage of it.

He is also seeing more student taking courses through VLACS – Self-Pace Program.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- The 5th graders are involved in the Continental Math League. They each get five problems and thirty minutes to solve them. It is based on individual results the same day around the country. They have five students who are consistently completing the problems:
 - Sean Moynihan
 - Parker Reed
 - Harper Flint
 - Josh Heino
 - Lillian Gurney
- Circus Smirkus is coming on Friday, April 11th as the Artist in Residence.
- The Destination Imagination Team – The Seven Dwarfs collected over 2,000 food items for the Newport Food Pantry. They placed first in the State Challenge and won the Da

Vinci for most creativity. They were also the second highest out of fifty teams. They will be attending the Global Finals in Tennessee in May.

- The 4th and 5th grade took the Smarter Balance test in language arts and mathematics. It was very valuable and there were no scores. This was to help teachers with teaching for the test and to get a look at the test.

Kim Denney moved to approve the Destination Imagination Team – The Seven Dwarfs attend the Global Finals in Tennessee in May 2014.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- The 7th grade had a practice hike on Mt. Sunapee.
- Spring electives start the first full week after vacation. Some of the choices are:
 - Drama
 - Martial Arts
 - Journey to Japan
- The 8th grade is getting ready for their Gettysburg trip.
- The 6th grade is getting ready for Nature's Classroom.
- The high school is going to both Costa Rica and France.
- Ventilation has been installed in the locker rooms.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- He has been working on the hiring process as well as finishing evaluations and working on contracts; he is now looking ahead to summer.
- He attended a Legislative Update in Concord, NH last week; there are sixty new bills on the House floor pertaining to education.
- He attended a two-day workshop in Portsmouth called Knowledge Works. It discusses the future of education five, ten and twenty years out. They discussed collaborating with businesses and using them as training centers for students.
- A Professional Development Day was held last Friday; the technology department collaborated.

- He attended a NEASC conference today which discussed the process of accreditation. They are looking at changing the process due to the cost and time on schools being cumbersome; no one feels the process is user friendly.

Building & Ground Updates:

- Connector Road Project – Shaun, Wayne and Russell met with the Town Selectmen who gave their approval to use the town’s land to make the road. The next step is to meet with the Planning Board. Russell is meeting with Nick from Engineering Ventures next Wednesday. He is going to develop some specs and a proposal for a budget.
- Culvert Project – They have received State approval to put the 36 in culvert inside the existing 48 in culvert. The State says they have to keep this for what if purposes even though the school has installed a 6 ft culvert. They will then concrete, pave and flatten, so that they can make storage sheds. K&A Stevens is ready to perform the work, but they have to wait until after baseball season.

Policy Review:

Kim Denney moved to approve E policies under second reading, G policies under first reading, review of G policies and G policies rescinded as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

4 – Yays, 0-Nays and 1-Abstention

Teacher Nominations:

Kim Denney moved to approve the following teacher nominations as presented:

- Jacqueline Creed – Middle School Guidance Counselor
- Alexandra Crocker – K-5 Special Education Teacher
- Alexander Klingerman – High School Social Studies Teacher

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Graduation Date:

Paul Skarin moved to set June 13, 2014 as the graduation date.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Teacher Resignations:

Brian Garland moved to approve the teacher resignations as presented.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approve Spring Coaches and After School Club Facilitators:

Kim Denney moved to approve the spring coaches and after school club facilitators as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Approval of Additional Culvert Work:

Russell explained that there are two proposals in the packet. The first is a change order to approve installing the 36in into the 48in tubing.

The second is for the flattening, concrete and forms, moving the Lion's Club shed, building the concession sheds and moving the athletic shed.

The project is currently \$16,000 over budget due to the State's stance.

Kim Denney moved to approve the two proposals from K&A Stevens for a total of \$17,655 to finish the culvert project as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Tuition Rate:

Russell explained that with enrollment shrinking the District needs to look at tuition students to offset costs. This past year the high school has cut one full-time position due to lower enrollment. The kindergarten, first and second grade currently have very low enrollments and by the time they hit the middle school the District will need to look at cutting more staff.

Both Goshen-Lempster and Croydon have showed considerable interest in coming to Sunapee; Unity has shown some as well. Goshen-Lempster has raised their tuition cap to \$15,000 to match what Newport is charging. Currently, Sunapee is charging \$18,500 per student, but if we lowered our rate and took in two or three extra student the District would break even with what was budgeted, plus they would receive ADM for those students.

Both Jodi and Sean stated they could take one to two extra students per class very easily; maybe even more. Russell gave a handout to the Board showing alternative tuition rates and how many extra students would need to be taken to meet their budgetary goals. The tuition policy would still be followed in choosing which students would be accepted.

Kim Denney moved to approve lowering the tuition rate for the elementary school to \$14,000 and the high school to \$16,000.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Review Town Vote on Budget:

Russell told the Board that the results from the vote are in their packet. The District still needs to find a Deputy Treasurer. There was a tie vote between three residents for Treasurer – Cindy Currier, Kathy Carroll and Ellen Doxter; Kathy Carroll took the position.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2014-18 - \$159,140.97
- 2014-19 - \$115,176.15
- 2014-20 - \$107,699.22

Kim Denney moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2014-18 - \$199,629.04
- 2014-19 - \$428,567.59
- 2014-20 - \$358,500.98

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Gidget Ducharme asked why a concession shed was being built instead of using the Lion's Club shed which has always been used. She also wondered why the Lion's Club was being moved. Shaun explained that the Lion's Club shed wasn't big enough for Ms. Parson's use whose class does the concession for soccer to raise money for their Gettysburg trip. The Lion's Club has approved all the changes.

Agenda for April 2, 2014:

- Policies
- Project Updates
- Good News
- Manifest

- Tuition

Shaun Carroll called to recess the meeting at 9:16PM before the Board went into non-public session.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor
School Board Secretary