

Sunapee School District

SMHS Media Center

May 1, 2013

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll, Chair

Kim Denney, Vice Chair - Absent

Mike Ripley

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Others Present:

Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent

Kelly Wessells, Financial Services Manager

Mike Trojano, Business Administrator

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal - (Arrived 7:06 p.m.)

Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

Elementary student led the Pledge of Allegiance and Shaun Carroll led the moment of silence.

Minutes:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2013 school board meeting.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

3 – Yay, 0 – Nay, 1 - Abstention

Public Forum:

John Augustine asked that the Board consider inviting the high school guidance counselors to come and update the Board on the graduating senior class plans for next year.

Sean Moynihan said that he will be doing that at the next meeting as he has been waiting until the final numbers are all in. He also stated that many of the Seniors have been putting their decisions on the Board out in the front hallway of the school.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- The Sportsmanship Council held a fundraiser called "Pennies for Patients". Over \$500.00 was raised.
- SCES parents have started a track team. There are 13 students interested in participating.
- The SCES art show and prize speaking competition will be held on May 29th at 6:30 p.m. Over 40 students are participating in prize speaking.
- The Destination Imagination Team has been invited to the global finals in Tennessee on May 22nd. They were invited due to winning their tournament and receiving the Spirit Award. They will be fundraising the next three weeks to help offset costs.

The Destination Imagination Team gave the following presentation to the Board on their program:

- Leslie Scheele and Danielle King are the teachers overseeing the project.
- This is the first time they have coached this type of team. It began this past fall. It is all student decision making. The teachers show them how to use power tools, electronics and computers, but the entire project is done by the students with no help from the teachers.
- There are six students participating in the program.
- Destination Imagination was started in 1999 to teach kids risk taking skills. The students said they love it and are excited to compete with students from all over the world.
- The students this year had to come up with a long term project for the entire school year. They consulted SCES staff and decided to go with a community service project.
- They built houses for animals and then taught the kindergarten classes what they did. Then they made a movie about their project.
- They also get instant challenges when they get to the competition. They do not know what they are until they arrive. The students practice ahead of time to hone their skills. They get three minutes in front of the judges.
- In the past, the team had to build a crane that could hold so many paper clips without falling over.
- The competition is four days long and there are 1,100 teams. They get to stay in the University of Tennessee dorms. It costs \$1,200.00 per student. The student's have presented to the Lion's Club, held a hike-a-thon and sold jewelry. So far, they have raised \$3,800.00.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- They are in the planning stages of the Gettysburg trip.
- Middle school spring electives start next week.
- Senior projects were quite successful. The Board asked how many schools complete the senior project program. About 1/3 of schools participate.
- Prom will be held next weekend.
- The prize speaking competition is coming up soon.
- Spring sports awards night is coming up soon.
- Senior class trip is coming up soon.
- The semi-formal is coming up soon.
- There is no student of the month chosen yet as the Board meeting was the first of the month and everyone just came back on vacation.

Superintendent Report:

Brendan Minnihan gave the Board the following report:

- The end of year closeout is going smoothly. Praised senior project night and its benefits.

District Report Card:

Brendan Minnihan asked the Board if they reviewed the draft report card he handed out last meeting and if they have any questions or suggestions. He stated that he added a couple extra parts to some of the report cards if you were going to hand it out to parents for it to be more useful for them.

Brian Garland questioned how the different test scores are read and how they compare with other districts or the State average.

Brendan Minnihan and Sean Moynihan explained how they are computed and how Sunapee compares. Sunapee has always been in the acceptable and above range on the tests and has never needed State assistance.

Brian Garland asked that comparisons between Sunapee and the State be shown in graph form on the report card. He also asked that the contact information be taken off to provide more room as people can look up how to contact the district.

John Augustine, Sunapee resident, asked that enrollment numbers, cost per student, teacher education level, experience, and salary, budget and test comparisons all be put on the card.

The Board discussed and agreed with both Brian and John's suggestions. Brendan will revamp and come back with the report card at the next meeting.

Superintendent Search:

Brendan Minnihan told the Board that NESDEC had sent out the brochure to all districts in Vermont, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Connecticut and some in New York. They have also emailed it to superintendents in the State and put it on the Schoolspring and NESDEC websites. The deadline for applications is May 10th.

The committee is made up of the principals, two staff members from each school, and two staff members from the SAU, a parent that represents both schools and two community members. They are waiting to hear back from one community member.

Paul Skarin asked how people are chosen for the committees.

Brendan Minnihan and Sean Moynihan explained the process. They base it on who will be working with the new Superintendent, job duties, community participation, etc.

Paul Skarin said he did not think it is right that the Board doesn't have to approve the committee nor that the principals choose who they want instead of asking who is interested in participating.

Shaun Carroll said that two Board members will be on the committee themselves and asked who is interested.

Brian Garland said he is interested, but he has a scheduling conflict. Mike Ripley said he would be on the committee as did Paul Skarin, but Shaun Carroll thought it might be a conflict of interest for Paul to participate since his wife is a teacher at SCES. He knows Kim Denney said she is also interested.

Discussion over how many applications to bring forth and the timing as interviews need to happen May 20th and 21st. Brendan said he will pick up the applications the afternoon of May 10th, so that the committee can go through them on May 13th and May 15th at the SMHS Conference room at 5 p.m. Interviews will be held at the same location. The Board will interview the finalists on June 5th and 6th. A decision will be made by June 21st.

Project Update:

Mike Trojano said the camera installation is going well. SCES has had 8 of the 11 cameras installed and SMHS has had 6 of the 14 cameras installed. Mike Montore is helping the Sunapee Police Department interface with the network.

Brendan Minnihan stated he would like to see a memorandum of understanding between the district and the police department before the police department has access to the camera data.

David Laurien is getting quotes for the engineering project between SCES and the safety building.

Mike also asked David Laurien to find companies for the floor project at SMHS. They have found that there are not a lot of companies out there that do that type of work. They have found one that does quality work and has good pricing – R. G. Gosselin. There is a total of 10,500 sq. ft. to fix with it costing about \$2.50 per sq. ft. The estimated cost is \$30,000.00.

Brian Garland moved to approve the hiring of R. G. Gosselin for the SMHS floor project at the estimated cost of \$30,000.00.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 0-Nay, 1 – Abstention

Kelly Wessells told the Board that there has been a miscommunication on the proposal packets sent out for the culvert project. They were sent out by CLD and the deadline for return said March 17th. New packets have been sent out.

Mike Trojano stated that the timeframe we have given for companies to fix the culvert has to be from the day after school gets out to August 9th. It cannot be before or after.

Tuition Rate:

Brendan Minnihan stated that tuition rate for 2012-2013 is \$18,000.00. The proposed tuition rate for next year is \$18,500.00. They are still waiting to hear from the State for approval, but there should not be an issue.

Brian Garland moved to approve the 13-14 tuition rate of \$18,500.00.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Assistant Treasurer:

Billie Barry has accepted the Assistant Treasurer position with the district.

Paul Skarin moved to approve Billi Barry as the Assistant Treasurer.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

SAU Rent:

Brendan explained that the district has the opportunity to pay the final two years in lump sum for the SAU 43 rental building. The cost is \$27,021.00. This was part of the agreement that was forged between Newport and Sunapee when Sunapee became their own district. It would be paid out of end of year funds.

Brian Garland moved to approve the final payment of \$27,021.00 to SAU 43 for the rent of the SAU building.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

SPED Assurances:

Tabled until next meeting

Extended Field Trip to Tennessee – SCES:

Jodi Bergen asked permission from the Board for the Destination Imagination Team to travel to Tennessee on May 22nd for their competition.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the field trip for the six Destination Imagination Team members on May 22nd to Tennessee.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

3-Yay, 0-Nay and 1-Abstention

Manifest:

Brian Garland moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2013-23 – \$132,074.24
- 2013-24 - \$104,314.75

Brian Garland moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2013-19.1 - \$4,052.70
- 2013-21 - \$203,071.01
- 2013-22 - \$395,952.72

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Agenda for June 5, 2013:

- District Report Card
- Communication
- Special Education Assurances
- Interviews
- Handbook Approval
- Student of the Month – May and June
- Project Updates
- Good News
- Manifest

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kate O'Connor".

Kate O'Connor

Sunapee School Board Secretary