

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Media Center

May 7, 2014

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 - Absent

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Student Services

Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Terra Geer and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the School Board meeting minutes of April 9, 2014.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Public Forum:

Ms. Bettencourt asked why the minutes aren't put up immediately after the Board meeting. She stated it is hard to keep up with what is going on due to the lag time when there is a month in between the meeting and when the minutes are posted to the website.

Russell Holden explained that the minutes aren't put up until they are approved by the Board. They can begin putting them up as drafts, but people would have to understand they still need to be approved and then they would have to then be put up again in approved form. The Board said to try and see how it works.

Ms. Bettencourt also asked that copies of maps and schematics be given out at meetings to the public or be projected at the meetings for the public to see; it would also be great to see them on the website.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- This is Staff Appreciation Week; the PTO and SAU have been very generous.
- The 4th grade is in the middle of NECAP science testing.
- Circus Smirkus came last month as the Artist in Residence and were wonderful.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan is on the Gettysburg field trip.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the Board the following report:

- He attended a meeting for Superintendents in Concord this week. They discussed:
 - The State asking for another 2 year waiver for No Child Left Behind to extend the current waiver to the 16-17 school year.
 - Using the SAT/PSATs as an assessment.
 - Using PACE as an assessment.
- Staff Appreciation week is this week. Gifts such as flashlights for all employees were handed out as well as breakfast provided.
- Interviews are ongoing for open positions.
- He is in the process of attaining a proposal for the solar project spoken about at the last meeting. He needs to talk to the town about zoning; he will bring forth new information at next meeting.
- He would like to add "Agenda Review" after the pledge of allegiance on all agendas to add/remove items. The Board agreed.

Building & Ground Updates:

- Connector Road Project – Russell met with Nick from *Ventures*; he is now working on numbers and a proposal for the project. Russell needs to talk to the town about parking options. He is very happy the project is now moving forward.
- Culvert – Once the water has fully subsided (it is almost gone) then the new culvert will be opened and fully functioning. The platform for the new Lion's shed is down.

Policy Review:

Mike Ripley moved to approve G policies second reading.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Paul Skarin moved to approve the first reading of G policies, but removing policy GDE as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Mike Ripley moved to approve G policies reviewed, but removing policy GDF as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Paul Skarin moved to approve G policies rescinded adding policies GDE and GDF as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

2014-2015 Nominations:

Paul Skarin moved to approve the 14-15 teacher and administration nominations as presented.

Russell asked that he revise the nomination to include summer personnel.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the 14-15 teacher, administration and summer personnel nominations as presented.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

New Teacher Nomination:

Russell explained that there were six candidates for the SCES special education teacher position. He and Jodi both highly recommend Rebecca Lorden for the position.

Discussion on nomination.

Mike Ripley moved to approve Rebecca Lorden as the new SCES special education teacher for the 14-15 school year.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Technology Plan:

Russell explained that a committee started in October to update the plan which is required by the State. It includes State requirements, but also technology goals of the District. The five goals of the District are:

- Access
- Teaching and Learning
- Creating a 1:1 Environment
- Creating a "Bring Your Own Device" Implementation
- Digital Community

Russell stated that technology is critical in education right now, and the District has to keep up. This plan will be good until the end of the 2017 school year.

Discussion on the technology plan.

Mike Ripley moved to approve the 2014-2017 technology plan as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Bids:

Russell apologized that the bid approvals came in at last minute and weren't on the agenda. The first is for the SMHS library carpet. He handed out informational items to the Board consisting of the ongoing transformation of the library by Ray Palin including sketches, survey by teachers and students, usage and circulation. They received three bids including two from Biron's Flooring and LaValley's; Wayne Palmer recommended going with Biron's Flooring for \$10,003.00.

Paul Skarin asked why they would go with them when LaValley's was \$700 less. Russell pointed out that their yardage was less and felt they might have underbid. Discussion ensued.

Mike Ripley moved to approve the installation of new carpet by Biron's Flooring for \$10,003.00.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

The second bid is for the SMHS roof. There are currently three companies bidding on the roof. One of the companies didn't get their bid in until late in the day, so there has been no time to discuss. The Board decided to table the bid until all parties could review and give the Board a recommendation; then the Board will conduct a phone poll.

Board Self-Evaluation:

Russell handed out the Board self-evaluation to the Board members. He asked that they fill it out and send it back to him. He will then give out the results in June.

Grade 5 Pilot 1:1 iPad for 2014-2015:

Russell explained that each student in the fifth grade, which is only two classes, will receive their own iPad for the year; this device stays with them at all times. They are using the fifth grade as a pilot because the class is small and they do not feel that 6th-12th is ready. This pilot program will start at the beginning of next school year. Many other districts are running this program in Maine, Burlington, MA and Hanover, NH. If it goes well then they will expand to other grades.

This teaches the students responsibility by making them fully responsible for the device including taking it home. There is insurance on the devices - \$33.00 a year for each device and a \$100 deductible if there is an accident. The parents will also have the option of purchasing insurance. If a student knowingly destroys a device they would not have the option of getting another one. It needs to be figured out if the parent does not purchase insurance should they be charged the full amount of the device, \$499.00.

Discussion on equipment, applications and longevity.

2014-2015 Support Staff List:

Russell handed out the 2014-2015 support staff list as an informational item to the Board.

Manifest:

Paul Skarin moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2014-21 - \$60,479.33
- 2014-22 - \$149,654.70

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

John Augustine asked if a date has been set for the use of the town library by the District. Russell stated not at this time. They are still working on programming and the town still has to vote in March on how they will proceed with the building.

Public questions were directed at Terra Geer on how a program is setup and what age range it will include. Discussion ensued.

Agenda for June 4, 2014:

- Policies
- Project Updates
- Good News
- Manifest
- Standards
- Evaluation
- Athletic Presentation
- Senior Project
- Year-end funds
- Handbooks
- Special Education Assurances
- Solar Project

Adjournment:

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn at 8:35PM.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor

School Board Secretary