

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

June 1, 2016

Call to Order:

School Board Chair Carroll called the School Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll, Jr.
Paul Skarin
Brian Garland
Heather Furlong
April Royce - Absent

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent
Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator - Absent
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal
Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal
Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal
Terra Geer, Director of Student Services
Ray Palin, Media Specialist
Amanda Hughlock, Life Skills Teacher
Sharon Parsons, SMHS Science Teacher
Mat Bouranis, Facilities Director
Rachel Malanga, Student Representative

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mat Bouranis and a moment of silence was led by Board Chair Carroll.

Minutes:

Brian Garland moved to approve the public minutes of the May 4, 2016 School Board meeting as presented.
Heather Furlong seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Brian Garland moved to approve the non-public minutes of May 4, 2016 as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Agenda Review:

Remove letter "B – Accept Resignation of Special Education Teacher Rebecca Lorden" under "Action Items"

Public Forum:

John Brandolini, Sunapee resident, asked to speak, but as his comments were not geared toward the agenda, as per policy, he was denied the request by Board Chair Carroll.

Life Skills Presentation – Amanda Hughlock:

Superintendent Holden explained that each year parts of the curriculum go through a four stage review process. Tonight the Life Skills and Science departments will share their programs and how they have been revised.

Amanda Hughlock gave the following presentation:

- The goal of this special education program is to prepare students to be fully participating members of their communities.
- This is a State approved program that currently holds three students, but is approved for up to eight students.
- The program is both class-based and community-based.
- The students are taught:
 - Proper hygiene
 - Career readiness
 - Math skills related to daily living
 - Literacy classroom instruction and hands-on application
- The class utilizes different areas of SMHS and spends a portion of every day in the community.
- Job coaching is an essential part of the program. They spend time at a variety of businesses including: Unleashed, NEHSA Ski, Colby Sawyer College, and the Abbott Library.
- The students are involved in recreational therapy including: skiing, horse riding and maintenance, gardening, working with donkeys, and kayaking.

- The students are also taught how to bank and order at restaurants.
- Amanda stated she currently has everything she needs for her class.
- Director of Student Services, Terra Geer, stated that all students in the program are from Sunapee, but she is working on collaboration with other districts as the program is very successful.

K-12 Science Presentation – Sharon Parsons:

Sharon Parsons gave the following presentation to the Board:

- There are seven faculty members on the committee.
- They adopted the Next Generation Science Standards for the curriculum.
- The goal of this curriculum is to prepare students for college and careers, while aligning with Common Core Standards.
- She explained the process of revising the curriculum. This first stage was to review the content and practice. She noted the handout of the redesigned K-12 science curriculum showing an overview of the classes and units that will be taught next year.
- Stage two will be next year when they implement the curriculum. The committee will also look at what tools might be needed for the implementation.
- Stage three is making minor adjustments and stage four is monitoring and evaluation.
- Superintendent Holden stated that the foreign language curriculum would be presented in September.

Superintendent Holden asked Sharon to speak about the spring elective she offered this past year.

Sharon explained that Spring Elective is a week long course offered to sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. They have a variety of options to choose from. Sharon offered students a chance to revamp the outside of the middle school wing using STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). The students were tasked to build a school garden and create an outdoor space. She had 35 students sign up, but was only able to accept 15 due to size. The students created a beautiful space by creating raised beds and an irrigation and rainwater system that they designed and built themselves.

Student Representative Report:

Rachel Malanga gave the Board the following report:

- The SMHS band and chorus concert was great.

- The art show was wonderful—the new art teacher, Mr. Romein, tried some new things with students this year that were well received.
- The track team has made it to the State finals and the softball and baseball teams are in the playoffs.
- The senior class trip was a lot of fun.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- The SCES art show was a big success with Mrs. Willis working with every grade level to present recycled art using everything from old CDs to bottle caps to newspaper.
- On May 19th SCES held the annual Prize Speaking Contest. Seven 4th and 5th graders participated. Deklan Peirce placed second and Sophie Bourque placed first.
- The band and chorus concert was May 25th and was amazing. The chorus followed up their performance at the SCES Memorial Day Program on May 27th.
- The DARE graduation was held this morning for the 5th graders. Officer Puchler does a great job with this program and she thanked Chief Cahill for the continued support of the program.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- The seniors played the faculty in softball and lost.
- SMHS also held a prize speaking contest, which had 15 participants this year.
- The middle school band and chorus attended the Great East Festival and won the gold level standing.
- Students in economics got the chance to work with local businesses to create business plans this year and it was a great success.
- Two middle school students were selected as Scholar Leaders in the State and attended the annual banquet in Manchester.
- Three teachers from SMHS were chosen from 24 teachers to work with Angela Duckworth in Philadelphia over the summer.
- The Destination Imagination team traveled to Tennessee to compete—the Fine Arts group placed second in the world.
- Graduation will be held this Friday, June 3, 2016.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Holden gave the Board different designs from a couple of companies for the proposed LED sign outside the Sherburne Gym. The Board reviewed the sign designs and the various considerations including height, location (side of building or three different locations in the parking lot of the Sherburne Gym), quality of resolution, cost, and design. There was a difference of opinion on the location of the sign between the Board members.

Mat Bouranis stated he had spoken with the Town Zoning Administrator about egress, right of way and sight line.

After much discussion the Board asked that Mat and Superintendent Holden speak to the Town Zoning Administrator and Chief Cahill about zoning restrictions for putting the sign on the building and the safety of a message that changes on the side of the building.

Superintendent Holden will also bring to the next Board meeting pricing for having the sign on the side of the building and designs to scale showing the various locations, dimensions requested by the Board, and pricing.

Superintendent Holden then stated he would be happy to set up a new school board member training for April and Heather. He can ask a member of the NHSBA to come to Sunapee or he can arrange for the two of them to attend a training in Concord.

Approval of Proposed New Teachers:

Paul Skarin moved to approve Nicole Bailey for SCES part-time music teacher and James McDonald as SMHS full-time computer science teacher as presented.

Heather Furlong seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Proposed Professional Staff Assignment and Transfer:

Superintendent Holden explained the following internal staff changes needing approval:

- Stephanie Hubert (preschool/special education teacher) will be moving to SMHS as a special education teacher.
- Rebecca Lorden (SCES special education teacher) will become the preschool/ special education teacher.
- Simone Austin (first grade teacher) will become the SCES special education teacher.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the profession staff assignment and transfers as presented.

Heather Furlong seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Proposed Placement of Money in 2.5% Contingency Fund:

Superintendent Holden explained that the State allows 2.5% of the unreserved fund balance to be kept in a contingency fund for emergencies only that the Board can approve. The fund can only accrue to 2.5% of the overall district budget; currently there is \$150K in the account. This year the Superintendent is asking to retain \$25K.

After discussion, Superintendent Holden stated he will find out if the fund is bonded. He knows that it doesn't earn interest.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the retention of \$25K or 2.5% of the unreserved fund balance to be put in the 2.5% contingency fund as presented.

Heather Furlong seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval to Authorize the Superintendent to Approve Summer Hiring:

Brian Garland moved to authorize Superintendent Holden to approve summer hiring as presented.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Sunapee School District Adequacy Site Visit Report:

Superintendent Holden explained that the Department of Education came to the District to review the school accountability systems. They spoke with members of the Board, teachers, and students. They reviewed the education portfolio of the District as well.

He has now received the report; the District was granted adequacy and given positive feedback. He will be putting the report on the website.

Strategic Planning Update:

Superintendent Holden informed the Board that the administration had been in contact with John Kennedy from NESDEC. He outlined the process and makeup of committees needed.

Superintendent Holden is in the process of creating the Community Leadership team. The team will meet five to seven times over the course of the next year. He presented the following timeline:

- Summer – NESDEC profile of the District
- Late August – NESDEC will meet with the administration team for two hours to discuss strengths and challenges within the District.
- October – NESDEC will meet with focus groups for one to two hours.
- November/December – A survey will be sent out to the community.
- January/February – The Community Leadership team will create goals.
- April/May – The Community Leadership team will work on how to achieve said goals.
- June – Presentation of plan.

Community Conversation (follow-up YRBS):

Superintendent Holden stated he had met with Dennis MacNichol (Sullivan County Drug Abuse Counselor), Liz Henning (United Way), Jackie Watkins (SMHS guidance counselor), and Chief Cahill (Sunapee Police Chief). They have a second meeting coming up to discuss the next step of engaging the community.

Emergency Management Drill August 27, 2016:

Superintendent Holden explained that Chief Cahill has been in contact with, and invited, Homeland Security to come to the District and perform an active shooter drill on August 27, 2016.

The District is sending out permission forms to teachers and students who would like to volunteer as the drill will happen before school starts next year. Notifications of the drill are going home with students, in the newspaper, and put on the website.

Sunapee Central School Facility Study Update:

Superintendent Holden stated he has been in touch with Team Design that drew the original plans and variations from 2003-2006 of SCES. Team Design has been bought by Harriman, but Sunapee's contact, Dan Bisson, is working for them.

Superintendent Holden stated he is asking for direction from the Board as to what the next step should be. He noted that though enrollment has plateaued, the design of SCES does not work with current curriculum space needs. He also has some safety and educational concerns such as the plumbing (pipes and radiator system needs replacing), electrical system is subpar, more classroom space needed (for student instruction and to keep items out of the hallway).

Superintendent Holden stated he has asked Harriman to update the study, but is asking the Board for approval of the study and work to be done; he has not received a proposal yet for price. He will bring it before the Board again when he gets the information.

Manifest:

Brian Garland moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2016-23 - \$113,984.18
- 2016-24 - \$78,980.73

Brian Garland moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2016-23 - \$284,593.55
- 2016-24 - \$388,455.58

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

None

Agenda for August 17, 2016:

- Summer Hires
- LED sign
- SCES Study
- Foreign Language Curriculum

Non-Public Session:

None

Adjournment:

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

Heather Furlong seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor

School Board Secretary