

Sunapee School District

SMHS Media Center

December 15, 2012

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll, Chair

Kim Denney, Vice Chair - Absent

Mike Ripley

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

BAC Members:

John Augustine

Spec Bowers

Ken Meyers

Others Present:

Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent

Mike Trojano, Business Administrator

Kelly Wessells, Financial Services Manager

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Terra Geer, Pupil Services Director

Kate O'Connor, Board Secretary

Ray Palin, Media Coordinator

Budget Overview:

Brendan Minnihan gave the following 2013-2014 budget overview to the Board and Budget Advisory Committee members:

- The overall operating budget for 2013-2014 reflects an overall decrease of approximately \$3,169.00.
- The SMHS bond has matured meaning the \$276,000 yearly payment is completed.
- Out of district tuition is down \$185,000.
- Health insurance is 8.6% for an additional cost of \$124,000. Currently, the district pays 83% and the staff pays 17%.
- Because of downshifting from the state, it is now on the local taxpayers to support the entire employer share of retirement. There is also an increase in the contribution required due to employers not contributing enough in the past; usually 3%. This is an additional cost of \$151,000. Teachers share was also increased from 5% to 7%. Mike Trojano explained how the Retirement System formula works.
- Increase in all salary and benefits - \$178,000.
- Acquisition of a new school bus - \$41,000.
- Increase in oil and diesel costs - \$8,000.
- Increase for coursework for classified staff - \$7,000.
- District Special Education Coordinator salary - \$35,000.
- Decrease in SAU costs due to part-time Business Administrator, Mike Trojano, retiring - \$30,000.
- 50% of the budget is salaries, 26% benefits, and 7% supplies & purchased services.
- Cost per student is \$19,176.24. The state average being \$13,159.15.

Spec Bowers asked that the Superintendent explain how the, per pupil, cost is factored when the deliberative session is held. Make sure to explain what is NOT a factor; such as the tuition and transportation costs.

John Augustine said the Board should tell the public that the insurance rate is already at 83%/17%.

The Board asked how many students are identified as special needs. Brendan stated that 14.9% of the population is identified, but that it is less than the state average. Mike Ripley asked if there is a gifted and talented program in Sunapee, which there is not.

The Board asked Brendan to get the estimates for Catastrophic Aid and Medicaid as backup at the deliberative session.

Mike Trojano explained that the \$10,696,896.00 is just the budget for the school year; it does not include the warrant articles. The revenue impact is a .3% decline on taxes.

SMHS Budget Overview:

Sean Moynihan presented the Board and BAC with the following:

- The total population at SMHS is 244 students (143 HS/101 MS); this is a decrease from the 2011-2012 school year.
- He has level funded all supplies for the 2013-2014 school year.
- Personnel is the only change to his budget:
 - Asking for the middle school guidance counselor to be increased from 50% to 70% to help with testing and 504 students.
 - Asking for the middle school math teacher to be increased from 80% to 100% to help students after class and increase program offerings.
 - This is a partial reinstatement from a reduction in force from previous years.

Terra Geer and Sean Moynihan explained what Section 504 plans and accommodations are to the Board and BAC.

SCES Budget Overview:

Jodi Bergen presented the Board and BAC with the following:

- The total population at SCES is 194 students.
- The budget is decreased by \$11,567.00 or 8.5%. The decreases do not affect programs or availability of materials.
 - \$7,025.00 decrease in buildings and grounds.
 - \$1,375.00 decrease in postage.
 - \$1,049.00 decrease in equipment.
 - \$850.00 decrease in principal supplies.
 - \$900.00 decrease in media contracts.
- Any increases directly relate to core instruction and enrichment activities.
 - \$1,150.00 increase in print media.
 - \$4,200.00 increase in co-curricular salaries which includes the Enrichment Coordinator stipend, Destination Imagination Managers and afterschool club leaders.
 - \$2,186.00 increase in co-curricular supplies for afterschool clubs, Destination Imagination and the Young Inventors Program.

Special Education:

Terra Geer presented the Board and BAC with the following:

- The 14.9% of Sunapee students includes the preschool program. The State average is 15.3% and does NOT include preschool age students.
- Sunapee passed the yearly IDEA audit with a zero meaning there were no findings. This is based on:
 - Completion of evaluations in a timely manner.
 - Transitioning of students beyond high school and preschool students entering public school.
 - Preschool measurements.
 - Adequate Yearly Progress.
 - IDEA grant management, audits, fiscal markers and maintenance of effort.
 - Proportionate representation of race/disability and suspensions/expulsions.
- Asking to increase to a full-time Speech Language Pathologist and Speech Language Assistant. The Speech Language Assistant will replace the need for hiring contracted services which are currently fulfilling the speech portion in IEP's.
- Asking to increase to a full-time Occupational Therapist to replace a full-time Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant and a two day a week Occupational Therapist that oversees the OTA.

Warrant Articles:

The warrant articles ask for the following:

1. To choose a moderator, clerk and treasurer for the 2013-2014 school year.
2. To hear reports of agents, auditors and committees.
3. To pass a budget of \$10,696,896.00 or a default budget of \$10,593,097.00. The regular budget will be a reduction of \$.06 on the tax impact.
4. The collective bargaining agreement with the Teacher's Association:
 - a. 2013-2014 increase of \$115,794.00 in salaries and benefits.
 - b. 2014-2015 increase of \$114,018.00 in salaries and benefits.
 - c. 2015-2016 increase of \$127,473.00 in salaries and benefits.
 - d. The first year is a \$.10 tax impact.
5. To raise and appropriate \$25,000.00 for the Special Education Trust Fund. (Currently the fund is \$262,022.00). This is a \$.02 tax impact.
6. To retain the year-end unassigned general funds in an amount not to exceed, in any fiscal year, 2.5% of the current fiscal year's net assessment. Such fund balance can only be used to reduce the tax rate or for emergency expenditures and over-expenditures. No tax impact.
7. Select a treasurer.

Mike Trojano explained that the maximum limit on number six would be 2.5% or about \$250,000. This will still help to manage the tax rate a little bit. In the past, the State has not allowed district's to keep any of the fund balance, but are now allowing up to 2.5%.

Ken Meyers suggested that number six be reworded to state there is a cap of \$250,000.

Spec Bowers asked if number six is for one year only, which Mike replied that it can come forth every year, but you don't have to bring it forth if not needed. Spec said the Board should explain in the article what will happen to the money.

Brendan and Mike Trojano stated that they are unsure whether they can change the wording on number six as it comes directly from the RSA passed by the State. Any changes would mean they might be changing the wording of the law.

Brendan said that Mike Trojano and Kelly Wessells would check to see if any change to the wording can occur.

The Board stated they will begin the process of getting information on an access road to SCES to help with traffic flow. It is a project they would like to begin soon. Brendan will bring to the January board meeting.

Sean Moynihan asked that the Board look into the art room upgrade. The Board said they will also discuss at the January board meeting.

Paul Skarin moved to adjourn the budget session at 11:40 a.m.

Mike Ripley seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kate O'Connor