

Sunapee School Board Meeting
SMHS Media Center
May 6, 2009

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll – Chair
Kim Denney
Hershel Strickland
Edward Bailey – 7:07 p.m.

Judy Trow – Absent

Others Present:

Kate O'Connor – Secretary
Brendan Minnihan – Superintendent
Mike Trojano – Business Administrator
Kelly Cornish – Financial Services Manager
Terra Geer - Special Education Co-Director
Alan Pullman – SCES Principal
Sean Moynihan – SMHS Principal

Pledge/Silence:

Hershel Strickland led the Pledge of Allegiance
Shaun Carroll led a moment of silence

Minutes:

Kim Denney moved to approve the minutes of April 1, 2009
Hershel Strickland seconded the motion
Vote was unanimous

Public Forum:

None

SCES Good News:

Alan Pullman read the next two months activities for SCES (See Handout). The Board told Mr. Pullman that if he would like the Board to attend any specific activities to please let Brendan Minnihan know so that he could inform them ahead of time.

Alan Pullman spoke on the SST process and how teachers are working together to make a flow chart to show what is expected of each school faculty member, principal, teachers, paras and related service providers. He is very proud of their hard work.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan informed the Board of SMHS good news:

- Meagan Reed was named Social Studies teacher of the year by the State.
- Allison Tenney is one of six students in the country attending the National Conference for Athletic Leadership
- SMHS band and chorus had their spring concert last week
- Spring electives scheduling will begin next week for the middle school
- Senior Night is May 27th for baseball and softball athletes; the art show is the same night
- Mariah Tenney and Jack Bertheume were named middle school scholar leaders

Superintendent Communications:

- Brendan Minnihan handed out the first edition of the Goose Newsletter.
- He thanked all administration and nursing staff for how they handled the swine flu notifications
- NESDEC enrollment projections were handed out. Sunapee will become steady in enrollment after the next few years.
- Insurance rates came in less than current rates. Current rate is 3.6% and will change to – 4.7%.
- The Sunapee School District Financial Report, by the auditors, was handed out to the Board. Brendan Minnihan said to read the financial report and let him know if more detail will be needed. Hershel Strickland said he would like more clarification on the last four sections and the last paragraph on the first page explained. Brendan Minnihan said he will have Mike Trojano and Kelly Cornish make a report.

Non-Public Session:

Shaun Carroll moved to go into non-public session under 91A:3 II at 7:22 p.m.

Hershel Strickland seconded the motion

Vote was unanimous

Roll Call – Hershel Strickland
Shaun Carroll
Edward Bailey
Kim Denney

Hershel Strickland moved to come back into public session at 7:41 p.m.
Edward Bailey seconded the motion
Vote was unanimous

Preschool:

Terra Geer updated the Board on the new Preschool. There are eleven typical peer applicants that have submitted an application. They are still in the hiring and interviewing process for a teacher. She would like the Board to decide on which option they would like to use, which was discussed at the last meeting, to decide which students will attend.

Hershel Strickland moved to adopt the first option given by Preschool Coordinator, Terra Geer, for how to choose students for Preschool. (See Handout of options given in the April minutes).
Edward Bailey seconded the option.
Shaun Carroll, Edward Bailey and Hershel Strickland voted yes, Kim Denney abstained.

Bus transportation will be provided for all special education students attending.

Brendan Minnihan said the only other issue is where the Preschool should be located. He said it seems the best idea is putting an addition on to the music/art portable for \$30,000; otherwise art would have to move into the cafeteria. Wayne Palmer said he feels that it will cost a little more and recommended that they should adjust the amount to \$35,000.

Hershel Strickland moved to approve an addition to the SCES portable to house Preschool in the amount not to exceed \$35,000.
Edward Bailey seconded the motion.
Vote was unanimous

Soccer Field:

Sean Moynihan said the field will be dedicated Alexander Field on May 27, 2009 which is Senior Night. Tom Frederick has approached Paint n Place and the Lions Club for the sign. The Lions Club will send out a letter to Mr. Alexander's family to let them know as it will be a surprise for him.

Blodgett Property:

Brendan Minnihan said that the exterior of the property has the potential to deteriorate once Mr. Blodgett leaves and work still needs to be done on the house to keep it up for later renovations. The work needed to be done is as follows:

- Lead paint abatement
- Repair damaged clapboards
- Repair damaged trim
- Repair porch
- Reshingle side
- Repair damaged scroll work
- Fix up exterior

There is \$132,000 in the account and the estimate to fix up the outside is \$50,000-\$75,000.

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the administrator's recommendation for the Blodgett Property for first phases of repair.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Oil:

Mike Trojano said that he can prebuy oil for the district, as of May 6, 2009, for \$2.04 a gallon. The Board felt it was a good idea.

Kim Denney moved to accept Mike Trojano's recommendation for prebuy at \$2.04 a gallon.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Everyday Math:

Alan Pullman told the Board that they hired a new trainer for teaching teachers Everyday Math. This person gives better explanations. This was a pilot program, but SCES has now adopted it. It has a strong parent component, but the weakness seems to be basic computation and drill; the trainer is helping with this issue.

School Upgrades:

Brendan Minnihan said the custodians are taking care of small issues such as cleaning closets and fixing tiles, but there are larger jobs at the schools that need to be addressed such as:

- Electrical projects – replacing fluorescent light fixtures with more energy efficient LED lights.
- Repair ceiling tiles.
- Fixing some 3rd floor windows at SCES.
- Small mechanical improvements in the Sherburne gym.
- Ventilation improvements in the middle school hallway.
- Fixing ceiling fans and walls in the Sherburne gym.

The Board said to go ahead with the upgrades.

Personnel:

Annette Dodge, kindergarten para for twelve years, is retiring. The Board will send a card thanking her for service.

Hershel Strickland moved to accept Annette Dodge's retirement with regret.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Manifest:

Mike Trojano said the new process, approved last month, is working well.

Edward Bailey moved to approve the A/P manifest in the amount of \$134,597.49.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Edward Bailey moved to approve the Payroll manifest in the amount \$350,214.05.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

EBB Policy (Data/Records Retention):

This is the second reading of policy EBB.

Hershel Strickland moved to approve policy EBB.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

SCES Handbook:

Alan Pullman handed out a revised version of the SCES student handbook for next school year. All highlighted passages were changes. The following areas were changed:

- Pg.8 Tardiness – Addition: Explains letters will be sent out.
- Pg.8 Offenses – Change of wording: Damage of property.

- Pg.10 Birthday Celebrations – Addition: Explains that flowers will be held in the office until end of day to hinder classroom disruption. A healthy snack only was also added.
- Pg.13 Lunch – Change: Price increase to \$2.00.
- Pg.14 Lunch – Addition: If lunch exceeds \$20 the student will be given basic sandwich and milk until account is paid.
- Pg.17 Dress Code – Change: Fifth grade female students graduation to sixth grade will be allowed to wear strap dresses if first approved by 5th grade teachers.
- Pg.18 Pet Policy – Addition: Each case will be treated individually. If a student brings in a pet for show and tell, the pet has to leave once activity is finished.
- Pg.20 Reading – Addition: Requires students to read independently on top of regular homework assignments.
- Pg.20 Library – Addition: Library procedures added.
- Pg.30 Bus policy: Change in policy
- Helmet policy: Addition: Helmets are required for bicyclists.
- Donations of gifts: Addition
- Lost & Found: Addition: At the end of every month any items in lost and found will be given to local charities.
- Report cards: Addition: Explains how report cards are given out.
- SAU address: Change: The new SAU address was changed.

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the SCES student handbook with changes as presented.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Brendan Minnihan told the Board that there are three students of staff entering kindergarten, who do not live in Sunapee, who need to be approved as tuition students.

Hershel Strickland moved to approve three students of staff to enter kindergarten at the teacher tuition rate for the next school year.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

A letter was given to the Board, written by athletic director Tom Frederick, nominating Edward Keough for girls varsity basketball coach. He works in Mascoma.

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the nomination.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Shaun Carroll, Hershel Strickland and Kim Denney approved.

Edward Bailey abstained.

Sean Moynihan informed the Board that Class Day will be June 18th.

Adjournment:

Kim Denney motioned to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Submitted By

Katherine O'Connor

Sunapee School Board Secretary