

Sunapee School Board Meeting

July 2, 2008

SMHS

Call to Order: Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call: Shaun Carroll, Chair

Judy Trow, Vice Chair

Hershel Strickland

Edward Bailey-Absent

Kim Denney-Absent

Others Present: Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent

Jim Vezina, Business Administrator

Kate Dunlap, Secretary

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Jon Reed, Technology Coordinator

Sandra Willard, Intertown Record

Pledge of Allegiance: Shaun Carroll welcomed the new Superintendent of Schools, Brendan Minnihan to the meeting. Brendan Minnihan led the pledge of allegiance.

Shaun Carroll asked for a moment of silence.

Alan Pullman, SCES Principal, arrived at 7:09 p.m.

Public Forum: Judy Trow discussed holding an open house for the new SAU #85. She thinks it would be a good idea to introduce the new staff to the community. The School Board would be in attendance. It would be open to the public, but staff would be invited from the schools as well as those who attended the focus groups.

The Board discussed with Brendan. It was decided that July would be the best month to hold the open house and Wednesday seemed best being that it is band concert night on the common, which means many of the local townspeople will be present. It would be

held from 5-7 p.m. Brendan Minnihan said he will see if staff at the SAU #85 will be available. The Board asked Hershel Strickland to announce the open house in the Argus Champion newspaper.

Shaun Carroll asked the Board if they liked the format of the meetings; they do. Shaun Carroll said that if there are any changes the Board would like to make in concern to the way the meetings are handled, then they should call Brendan Minnihan with their thoughts. Shaun Carroll said he would like the process of bringing new hires to the Board cleaned up. He just wants it as an action item; he does not want all the details. Brendan Minnihan and Board thought this was fine.

Good News-SCES: Alan Pullman presented the Board with a photograph of the whole SCES staff and children standing outside on the baseball field spelling out “Live Strong”.

Alan Pullman read a list of positive accomplishments or statements that the faculty at SCES said were the highlights of the 07-08 school year. (See attached handout)

Alan Pullman said the parking lot at SCES is cleared out, leveled, graveled and pressed. He said the pavers will come at the end of July. Shaun Carroll asked that Alan make sure that the striping is done well and that safety is a priority. Alan Pullman assured the Board that safety is first.

Superintendent-Board Communications: Brendan Minnihan said he was glad to be on board at SAU #85 and thanked the Board for help with the transition and building as well as Judy for personally helping with the setup. He informed the Board that he has already planned meetings on Professional Development for the 09-10 school year.

Hershel Strickland said that he is having trouble coming out at the end of the SAU #85 driveway because of high weeds. He is afraid an accident may occur because of the obstruction. Judy Trow said she felt the same way and will contact the Riverway Company, since they own the property, to remove the plants.

Hershel Strickland asked that the SAU and SCES please change his address. SMHS has already done so, but the other two have not; they said they would see to it.

Minutes:

Hershel Strickland moved to approve the 6-4-08 minutes as presented.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Personnel: Brendan Minnihan brought forth Dorie Shaw and Terra Geer to be hired for the .4 Special Education Director position at the SAU. Dorie Shaw is certified as a Special Ed. Director while Terra Geer is getting her Alt IV. Terra Geer has massive

amounts of experience in receiving Catastrophic Aid for school districts. Brendan felt that between both people special education would run very smoothly.

Hershel Strickland asked if the two candidates were worth the money. Brendan Minnihan said that they are worth the money.

Judy Trow moved to approve the nomination of Eudora Shaw as the .20 FTE Special Education Director (Job Share) at Sunapee School district for the 2008-2009 School year at an annual salary of \$17,500.

Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Judy Trow moved to approve the nomination of Terra Geer as the .20 FTE Special Education Director (Job Share) at Sunapee School district for the 2008-2009 School year at an annual salary of \$17,500.

Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Brendan Minnihan brought forth the nomination of Mary McLaughlin, for the position of .50 FTE Art Teacher at the Sunapee Central Elementary School. She has worked for the district before and is very experienced.

Hershel Strickland moved to approve the nomination of Mary McLaughlin as the .50 FTE Art Teacher at Sunapee Central Elementary School for the 2008-2009 School year at an annual salary of \$16,780.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Sean Moynihan asked the Board to let Jon Reed work on the Sunapee School District website over the summer. He did this last summer as well. The website needs a lot of work, but no money has been budgeted for this, he recommends it is budgeted for next year. It would be about 50-60 hours over the course of the summer. The Board asked for certain changes to the website such as reflecting the Sunapee School District as SAU #85, a new homepage to reflect each school and lots of parent access.

Hershel Strickland moved to hire Jon Reed to create web designs for SAU #85 with a stipend up to \$2,000.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Manifest: Jim Vezina presented the manifest.

The grand total was \$1,565,883.93

Jim Vezina said the amount was so high because of the balloon payment in payroll at the end of the year.

Hershel Strickland moved to approve the manifest at \$1,565,883.93

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Treasurer: Jim Vezina told the Board that the treasurer, Alan Doherty, had resigned. Jim said that so far he was unable to find anyone to replace him. Shaun Carroll told him to contact Charlotte Brown about taking the position. Shaun Carroll said that if she accepts he can do a phone poll with the rest of the Board. This will allow her to start the position before the next meeting in August. Jim Vezina said that would be wonderful because they need a signature plate soon.

Audit Report: Jim Vezina presented the 06-07 Audit Report to the Board. He was not employed by SAU #43 at the time. He had them look at certain items of interest including:

Pg 4. - General Fund Unreserved Balance. There will be no increase in hot lunch. It is making a slight profit.

Pg 17. - There is a bond outstanding. After August there are only five payments left of \$270,000 a piece. Jim Vezina told the Board to start planning ahead for projects.

Pg 18. - Leases. Jim Vezina recommends that Sunapee get out of the lease for the copiers because it is a waste of money. Sean Moynihan said he would like to be more involved in choosing equipment for his school. Shaun Carroll agreed.

Pg 24. - Revenues. Jim Vezina said that the District is \$65,606 to the good. Under investments and earnings the District is \$29,000 over and under Catastrophic Aid the District is \$34,000 over. Judy Trow asked if they were close to the figures projected to give money back to the town. Jim Vezina said that they are close to the figure.

Jim Vezina said that he hoped to have the Audit Report for the 07-08 year by September. The Board was very happy to hear that it would be coming so soon.

Retreat: The date of the retreat is July 19, 2008. Shaun Carroll asked board members to send their ideas and goals to Brendan Minnihan. The retreat will be posted at the SAU.

The next Board meeting will be August 6, 2008. Email Brendan Minnihan with items for the agenda. Kelly Cornish will call Shaun Carroll if she needs signatures for the manifest.

Hershel Strickland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted By

Katherine Dunlap

Sunapee School Board Secretary