

Sunapee School Board Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2008

SMHS Media Center

Call to Order: Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call: Shaun Carroll, Chair
Judy Trow, Vice Chair
Kim Denney
Edward Bailey

Others Present: Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent
Jim Vezina, Business Administrator
Kelly Cornish, Accountant
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal
Alan Pullman, SCES Principal
Kate Dunlap, School Board Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Edward Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Shaun Carroll led in a moment of silence.

Hershel Strickland arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Public Forum:

None.

Good News:

SCES: Alan Pullman said the school had a good opening. He wanted to thank the teachers and maintenance for all the hard work they had put in; he really appreciated it. He told the Board that all grades are now using Everyday Math. It came with free training and the teachers and students love it. On September 3, 2008, the literacy lab opened with Joanne Skarin as the head. She worked very hard on the project and held a staff meeting in there that day. Alan Pullman invited the Board to come look at the new computer lab and suggested that the Board hold one of their monthly Board meetings at SCES.

SMHS: Sean Moynihan said that the middle/high school also had a good opening. Not only is the media center renovations coming along nicely, but there are also an array of

new courses for students to take, including: MS drama and computer technology or HS ornithology and astronomy. Sunapee High School also scored at State level or higher on the SAT's.

Extended Field Trip: Sean Moynihan requested permission for the annual 6th grade class trip called Nature's Classroom being held 9/29-10/3.

Judy Trow moved to approve the Nature's Classroom field trip as presented.
Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.
All were unanimous.

Superintendent-Board Communications: Brendan Minnihan and the Board presented the maintenance staff with certificates for all the hard work over the summer on the schools and new SAU #85 building.

The following staff received the award:

- Doug MacWilliams
- Ernest Benware
- Chris Barrett
- Ron Akkola
- Robert Abraham
- Wayne Palmer
- Kenneth Nutting
- Greg Magee
- Bill Royce
- Dan Tracy

Next, Brendan Minnihan presented the Board with a newsletter he created called The Laker Gazette. He called Colonial Printing and found it would be \$320 for 500 or \$545 for 5000. The Board said to set in places around town such as the banks, library or convenience store as well as give to area groups.

Minutes:

Kim Denney moved to approve the minutes from August 6, 2008 as presented.
Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.
All were unanimous.

Non-Public Minutes:

Kim Denney moved to approve the non-public minutes from August 6, 2008 as presented.
Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.
All were unanimous.

Everyday Math Presented By Danielle Johnson:

Danielle Johnson teaches Everyday Math in the fifth grade. She introduced the curriculum to the Board. The program is on a spiraling concept that gives readiness support and enrichment support. Its whole concept is behind real life lessons and how to think using math. She handed out a packet of work from one lesson to the Board. (See attached). This program is being used from K-6 75-90 minutes a day.

The Board asked for suggestions for math programs at the MS/HS level. Danielle Johnson said she would think about it.

Alan Pullman said it costs some money for this program every year, but it pays to outfit the entire school, special education classes, training and the website. He said the most expensive are the children's journals that end up totaling \$3000 a year. The Board said it sounded like a good investment.

Blodgett Property:

Dan Bisson was not present. Brendan Minnihan handed out a proposal of costs that Dan Bisson sent him. Dan Bisson estimated pre design and schematic services together to cost around \$15,000. The total paperwork cost would be around \$55,000-60,000. The architectural and engineering costs would be 10% of total costs.

The Board decided to have the Blodgett Committee look over the preliminary designs and handout and then bring a suggestion.

Fuel:

Jim Vezina as of September 3, 2008 he had locked in heating fuel for the district at \$3.48 a gallon for oil and \$2.40 for propane. He found the best deal with the Dead River Company.

403B:

Jim Vezina explained that it is a tax sheltered investment that the IRS is cracking down on. It will be more difficult for small non-profits like the school district to keep track of it for their employees. The IRS is changing the rules as of January 1, 2009. The district will bear the burden if the employee doesn't follow the rules. Jim Vezina said he is looking into third party options.

Manifest:

Jim Vezina read the manifest at \$264,314.74.

Kim Denney moved to accept the manifest as presented.

Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.

All were unanimous.

DOE 25:

Jim Vezina explained that the DOE 25 is the financial operations of the 07-08 year. It gives the per pupil cost per last year's ADM. It is unaudited. He needed the Board's signatures.

The Board approved.

The Board asked how much longer they pay on the SCES bond. Jim Vezina said until 2012. The Board said they would like him to look into what the rates would be for a new bond starting in 2012; they are looking ahead at later projects.

SCES Expenditure:

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the SCES expenditure as presented.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were unanimous.

First Reading of Policy BEA:

All Board members will take it home to look at it over the next month.

Second Reading of Policies ILBAA, ILBA, IMBC, IK, IKF:

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the second reading of the policies as presented.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Committees:

The Board took away the newsletter/newspaper and open house committee. Board members will give help when needed for the new Laker Gazette.

The Board will look over the Blodgett Property and Capital Improvement Committees at the next meeting. They would like the committee charges brought forth.

The Board told Brendan Minnihan they would like to know what it means to have the Blodgett property historically registered. The Board would also like Dan Bisson and Lynn Monroe present at the next meeting.

The Board said they would also like to see a financial matrix at the next meeting of the staff i.e. maintenance, food service and paraprofessionals.

The Board would also like to look into the food budget for the food program. They would like to see if they can help out monetarily to make it better.

Adjourn:

Judy Trow moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

All were unanimous.

Submitted By

Katherine Dunlap

School Board Secretary