

Sunapee School Board Meeting  
January 6, 2010  
SMHS Media Center

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll, Chair  
Judy Trow, Vice Chair  
Kim Denney  
Edward Bailey  
Brian Garland

Others Present:

Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent  
Mike Trojano, Business Administrator  
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal  
Barbara Lohman, School District Attorney  
Ray Palin, Video Choreographer

Pledge of Allegiance:

Brian Garland led the pledge; Shaun Carroll led a moment of silence.

Public Forum:

Shaun Carroll told the Board that Alan Pullman's, SCES Principal, mother had passed away this past week.

Charlotte Brown asked if next year's school calendar could be added to the website. Brendan Minnihan said that the calendar and budget were added today and that the deliberative session would be added tomorrow.

Minutes:

Judy Trow moved to approve the minutes of December 2, 2009.  
Edward Bailey seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

### SMHS:

Sean Moynihan gave the following report:

The last day before Christmas vacation, instead of allowing the students to watch movies, the staff worked on creating individual workshops for the last two hours of the day. Some were taught by faculty, other by students. Middle school and high school participated and all enjoyed. Workshops included a chess tournament, salsa dancing, cooking, yoga, balloon twisting, cake decorating, ski & snowboard tuning, auto mechanics and introduction to cartooning.

### Superintendent Communications:

Brendan Minnihan gave the following report:

- Handed out the NESDEC enrollment projections for the next ten years. Sunapee's enrollment is going down slightly each year.
- Prior to Christmas vacation, the Department of Education opened up applying for Race to the Top money. Kearsarge and other surrounding districts are applying as well as Sunapee. This money allows for alternative courses for students such as learning Mandarin Chinese, green technology classes or alternative programs with special needs.
- SCES winter activities start tomorrow including skiing, horseback riding and crafts.
- SMHS teachers have created a program for staff to get healthy. It's in the same lines as the TV show "Biggest Loser". It will have prizes at the end and addresses healthy eating and weight loss techniques.

### Blodgett Property:

Brendan Minnihan handed out the estimates from the construction manager to the Board (See Handout). He gave the following report:

- Some amounts on the report are guesstimates.
- Need lead abatement completed
- The trim has come in very costly due to keeping it original.
- \$120,000 is already available to be used on the project.
- The town has to vote for the Board to use any of the \$213,000 in the Capital Facilities account.
- Construction manager only used local vendors, which is why amounts have come in higher than going with a large firm.

The Board discussed in detail the estimate and was surprised by the price tag of the project and how high it came in. Some members questioned the validity of the estimates given. The Board asked the Superintendent for Northscape, Inc. to go back and look at the quotes.

The Board decided to use the whole \$120,000 and ask the town for the complete \$213,000. They will not build the training center at this time.

Educational Hardship:

Dan Banks and his ex-wife, Lisa Bogosian, are asking the Board to allow their children to attend school in Newport due to not being able to attend the Sunapee school system due to alleged harassment. They are asking the Board to pay Newport for their children to attend.

Barbara Lohman stated that she makes no decisions in the case; she just gives legal advice. Normally this would be held in non-public session, but the parents would like it in public session. There are restrictions on saying students and staff names.

Dan Banks handed out paperwork in regards to the case, he then gave a brief history of the problem.

Edward Bailey moved for the Board, attorney, SMHS principal and parents to go into non-public session at 7:35 p.m.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Brian Garland, Edward Bailey, Shaun Carroll, Judy Trow, Kim Denney, Dan Banks, Lisa Bogosian and Barbara Lohman present.

The Board voted to come out of non-public session at 9:07 p.m.

Judy Trow moved to ask the two Banks children to stay at Sunapee and do what the Superintendent has suggested.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Budget Update:

Brendan Minnihan gave the following report:

- The lighting for the soccer field has been added at \$25,000
- Taking asbestos out of the bathroom at SMHS will stay under the regular maintenance line and not be a special warrant article.
- Suggested the budget stay the way it currently has been written.
- The overall budget will have a .74 increase.
- The default budget comes in at \$80,000 less than the regular budget.

Edward Bailey moved to approve the resignation of Amy Barton/Laraway.  
Brian Garland seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

Personnel:

Brendan Minnihan asked the Board to approve the hiring of Sarah O'Connor as the grant funded Transition Coordinator. This is a short term position that will create a resource book and will be integral a making intern connections.

Kim Denney moved to approve the hiring of Sarah O'Connor as the Transitions Coordinator.  
Brian Garland seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

Extended Trip:

Brendan Minnihan asked the Board to approve the annual trip to the Harvard Model Congress. The dates are from February 25<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Judy Trow moved to approve the annual trip to the Harvard Model Congress.  
Edward Bailey seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

Exchange Student:

Brendan Minnihan asked the Board to approve a one month long French exchange student to attend SMHS. The student will be here from April 10<sup>th</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup> and will stay at the Coverdale's house. Tom Coverdale is a teacher at SMHS. French teacher, Andrea Redican, arranged all details.

Edward Bailey moved to approve a month long stay by a French foreign exchange student.  
Kim Denney seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

Non-public Session:

Kim Denney moved to go into non-public session under 91-A:3 II(a).  
Edward Bailey seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous.

Roll Call – Shaun Carroll, Judy Trow, Kim Denney, Edward Bailey, Brian Garland, Brendan Minnihan.

Discussed an item relative to an employee – No decisions were made

Motion by Judy Trow to return to public session  
Seconded by Ed Bailey

Brian Garland – Yes, Ed Bailey – Yes, Shaun Carroll – Yes, Kim Denney – Yes, Judy Trow – Yes

Entered public session 11:07 p.m.

Motion by Judy Trow to adjourn  
Seconded by Kim Denney

Adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate O'Connor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kate O'Connor

Sunapee School Board Secretary