

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

March 2, 2016

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Jan Bettencourt

Matt McNally

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal - Absent

Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Student Services

Ray Palin, Media Specialist

Matt Bouranis, Facilities Director

Rachel Malanga, Student Representative

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led Brian Garland and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Jan Bettencourt moved to approve the public minutes of the public hearing and School Board meeting of February 10, 2016.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Shaun Carroll asked for a change under "Approval of Strategic Plan" on page four.

4 – Yes, 0 – No, and 1 - Abstention

Paul Skarin moved to approve the non-public minutes of February 10, 2016.
Matt McNally seconded the motion.
Vote unanimous.

Agenda Review:

Add "D", under "Informational" – SCES Clubs

Public Forum:

Russell Holden mentioned that he has been asked why a microphone was added to the Board meetings. He explained that it is so people can be heard more clearly on the recording; it was not meant to be intimidating.

Shaun Carroll stated that the Board meeting would move back into the SMHS library starting in April. The Board also asked that different microphones and camera styles be tested to get the best sound quality without making residents feel uneasy.

Student Representative Report:

Rachel Malanga gave the following report:

- The student body thought the bullying presentation by Dr. Malcolm Smith was eye opening and went very well.
- The students enjoyed the Career Fair held in February; she especially liked the keynote speaker from Colby-Sawyer College.
- The art program is very different this year due to the new art teacher. He has implemented a new curriculum, which includes a graphic art design class, and students are really enjoying it.
- The basketball program is really strong this year. SMHS has combined with the recreation department and the middle school to work with younger students and it has been beneficial.
- Senior projects are due Friday.
- She will be attending Westfield State University in the fall.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- After school clubs start Tuesday for five weeks; 77 students have joined. They have partnered with SMHS to have French and Spanish students come to work with the elementary students.
- There are four Destination Imagination Teams this year; the regional competition is on March 19th at Kearsarge.
- Plymouth State University is coming to put on the Tiger Bullying performance on March 18th.
- An Anagrams tournament will be held.

SMHS Good News:

Meagan Reed gave the Board the following good news:

- Three skiers participated in the League of Champions; one placed 28th in jumping, one won the silver and another won the gold. Two of them will be going on to the State Championship.
- The SMHS spelling winner won third place at the State competition.
- The gallery for Senior Projects will be open this Friday; April 7th is the public presentation.
- The girls' basketball team play in the State finals on Friday night.
- The Career Fair was a success and enjoyed by many.
- Harvard Model Congress did well, but there were no individual recognitions.
- Two Destination Imagination teams will be competing on March 19th.
- The school play will be held on March 17th and 18th.

Special Education Report:

Terra Geer gave the following report to the Board:

- Linda Taylor spoke today with staff about hearing disabilities.
- The NH DOE has updated the Procedural Safeguards Manual and Sunapee will be reviewing the changes.

Superintendent's Report:

Russell Holden gave the following report to the Board:

- At the last Southwester's meeting he attended there was a presentation on the opioid/heroin epidemic in NH. He explained the steps taking place in NH schools, including policy changes.

- He applauded the faculty that put on the Career Fair for the tremendous amount of work they put into putting it on. He noted that twitter was being used to put out activities taking place while it was happening.
- He held the first Superintendent's Forum before the winter break; there were great questions and dialogue. He will be holding the next forum on April 13th.
- The juniors were supposed to take the SATs today, but there was a two hour delay. They will now take it on April 23rd.
- The girls' basketball team is currently undefeated and if they win Friday they will be 22-0.

Jan Bettencourt asked what the school district currently does to combat drugs in the school system. Russell Holden explained that DARE is part of the curriculum in the elementary school and drug abuse is discussed in the health classes at SMHS. He will be presenting the youth risk survey at the next Board meeting.

Approval of Strategic Planning Proposal:

This was tabled at the February Board meeting. Russell Holden stated he has asked for further proposals from the NHSBA, a tech company from Massachusetts, and a nonprofit company; he still recommends the Board go with NESDEC.

Paul Skarin stated he felt the subject should be tabled until after the vote as there is potential for new Board members and they should have a say.

Paul Skarin moved to table the approval of the Strategic Planning Proposal until the April Board meeting and ask Superintendent Holden to continue investigating other strategic planning companies.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Employee Health and Safety Manual:

Russell Holden explained that the Department of Labor came for an inspection. They gave recommendations in their report which the District has to report back to them on their progress by March 14th. Based on their inspection the District has been fixing certain items, including the creation of the Employee Health and Safety Manual, which is required, but seems to have been overlooked after the split from SAU 43.

Matt Bouranis explained to the Board the items the facilities department has been fixing to stay in compliance, including proper signage, eyewash stations, and the creation of the manual.

Matt McNally moved to approve the Employee Health and Safety Manual as presented.
Paul Skarin seconded the motion.
Vote unanimous.

Approval of SMHS 6th Grade Class Appointments:

Brian Garland moved to approve the SMHS 6th grade class appointments as presented.
Jan Bettencourt seconded the motion.
Vote unanimous.

School Board Evaluation:

Shaun Carroll explained that the evaluation is not to self-evaluate each individual but to evaluate as a Board. He explained the process and Board members and the Superintendent gave comments on how they believe the Board has done over the past school year.

Superintendent Evaluation:

Shaun Carroll stated he is still waiting for one evaluation from a Board member before they can proceed.

SCES Clubs:

Russell Holden explained that this is informational only. These are the people who will be receiving stipends for running after-school clubs at SCES.

Manifest:

Matt McNally moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2016-17 - \$81,365.57

Matt McNally moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2016-17 - \$324,754.32

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.
Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Heidi Currier, Sunapee resident, asked if there would be a makeup day for the April SATs as that is during a class trip and also asked for more information on the heroin epidemic Superintendent Holden mentioned.

Myles Cooney stated he has a phone call into the SAT program to find out when the makeup day would be in May.

Russell Holden explained a little more about what is being done by the State legislature to combat the opioid drug issues.

Jim Currier, Georges Mills, asked if the School Board could bring the rules the School Board follows to the next Board meeting to give clarification to the public.

Shaun Carroll stated that those are policies which they will bring to the next meeting, but the Board has also asked the District attorney to come to explain the rules in more detail.

Jodi Manson, Young Hill Rd., Sunapee, asked why an attorney would be present if the rules are already policy.

Shaun Carroll and Matt McNally explained that new Board members might be present, so not only will the attorney help clarify questions for the public, but will be able to help new Board members understand. Matt McNally also explained what new Board members go through for orientation when they are elected to the Board.

John Augustine, Sunapee resident, asked for clarification on the strategic planning process.

Superintendent Holden explained the next steps.

Pam Colonero, Sunapee resident asked when the Strategic Plan Committee would be created.

Superintendent Holden said he would be sending out information after the Board decides on a third party vendor.

April Royce, Sunapee resident, reiterated the next steps for the Strategic Plan Committee, Superintendent Holden had given at the forum and asked why there is a holdup.

Superintendent Holden explained why he cannot move forward on the committee until the vendor is chosen.

Agenda for April 6, 2016:

- Nominations
- Graduation Policy
- Strategic Plan
- SCES presentation
- Youth Risk Survey

- Tuition Rate

Non-Public Session:

The Board went into non-public session at 8:16 p.m. **Please see non-public minutes.**

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O'Connor

School Board Secretary