

Sunapee School Board Meeting  
April 6, 2011  
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  
Brian Garland  
Edward Bailey

Others Present:

Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent  
Ray Palin, Media Coordinator  
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal  
Alan Pullman, SCES Principal  
Mike Trojano, Business Administrator  
Tim LaTorra, Physical Education Teacher  
Terra Geer, Special Education Coordinator  
Jim Hathaway, Transportation Director  
Kate O'Connor, Board Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Edward Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was led by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Judy Trow moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2011 as presented.  
Kim Denney seconded the motion.  
3 – Yays, 2 - Abstentions

Public Forum:

None

SCES Good News:

Alan Pullman gave the Board the following good news:

- The DARE program started Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and will run from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Report cards will go out to parents on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

- The PTO will hold their monthly meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. with a presentation on the Outdoor Classroom at 7 p.m.
- April 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the Spring Book Fair.
- There will be a kindergarten orientation on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. So far, 23 students have been signed up and he anticipates getting 5 or 6 more students by the end of August. Three anticipated kindergarteners are staying in preschool one more year.
- The third grade will be visiting the Odion Point Science Center in late May.
- The third grade is also participating in the Great Mail Race.
- A staff meeting was held today and they participated in learning how to teach students through guided self-reading groups and small group instruction.
- SCES has received a free pilot program called “Science Companion” through the same publisher as “Everyday Math”. They are examining the unit next to the NH standards. The State of Maine is currently using this curriculum.
- Teacher, Simone Robinson, has written a book on small machines. SCES staff is excited to be using it and will be piloting the book toward the first and third grades.
- Alan will be attending NEASP down in Tampa, Florida this weekend.

#### SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- Students have received many acceptance letters and the school has decided that when a student commits to a school SMHS will receive two pennants to put in the hallway.
- Rehearsals for the upcoming middle school play are going on right now.
- Mr. Coverdale went to the Dominican Republic during February vacation and brought back a lot of information on the operations of schools and culture at the island schools.
- Tim LaTorra asked the Board for permission to hold a fundraiser to buy a “Shoot-Away” for the basketball program that would be used for all basketball teams. The “Shoot-Away” helps form, increases shooting percentage, rebounds and passes for you. The cost is \$15,000 and his idea is to hold a golf tournament. To do this, he would need to contact area businesses to see if they would each sponsor a hole. The Board stated they would like him to contact the Booster Club and get them involved to help speak to area businesses. Also, speak with SPTO, Lions Club and the Senior Group first. The Board knows that these groups have said they have money to donate to school activities. Gidget Ducharme asked if the Sunapee Recreation Department could contribute. The Board said that Mr. LaTorra could ask, but would like him to try the other local groups first.

#### Superintendent Communications:

Brendan Minnihan gave the following report to the Board:

- Congratulations to the SMHS student body; he is proud to see all the college acceptance letters on the wall.

- The district held a technology workshop to discuss the future of technology in the district. It was a four hour workshop and felt that much was accomplished. He thanked Judy Trow for attending.
- NECAP and AYP results are published on April 8<sup>th</sup>; Sunapee will not be disappointed.

New Bus Award:

Mike Trojano and Jim Hathaway gave the following report to the Board:

- The district is in need of a small bus to hold thirty students.
- The district received three quotes from W.C. Cressey and Son, Inc., O'Connor GMC, Inc. and S.G. Reed Truck Services.
- They recommend the Board go with the quote from W.C. Cressey & Son, Inc. in the amount of \$48,176 down from their original quote of \$51,846.
- The company is giving the district \$9,000 - \$11,000 for their trade.
- Shaun Carroll asked Mike Trojano to call Sunapee Mountain and tell them they are buying this bus and trading in the old one as the mountain was interested in making an offer. Just wants someone to let them know they are going through with this deal.

Kim Denney moved to award the purchase of the new school bus to W.C. Cressey & Son, Inc. at the cost of \$48,176 less the available trade in allowance.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 – Abstentions

Speech Pathologist Update:

Terra Geer stated that no one was found for the position. She doesn't want to use contracted services and has come up with an idea for a homegrown SPA. She would like to send one or two existing paraprofessionals to school to become certified as Speech Language Assistant's. They would be able to give the services at school while being overseen by a certified speech language pathologist; both of the candidate's already have bachelor's degrees. This would cost less than hiring a contracted service. The two people would attend the National Community College and study speech and language three days a week from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The Board said they will want both of these people to sign a contractual agreement stating that they will work for two years with the Sunapee School District after completing their training or they will have to pay back the money. Terra agreed. She will bring forth the particulars to the next meeting.

Audit:

Mike Trojano gave a letter to the Board from 2008 by their auditors explaining the findings from the 2007-2008 school year. This shows how much progress has been made from then until now as there are no findings for the 2009-2010 school year. While Sunapee is not perfect, it shows that systems are being put in place.

“Management Discussion & Analysis” takes numbers and schedules and breaks it all out giving an overview of the community, policies, procedures, what happened over the course of the school year and the school district itself for the reader to get a better understanding of the inner workings of the business.

Shaun Carroll applauded the SAU 85 team and all the hard work they’ve put in to make their business practices more complete.

Blodgett Property:

Mike Trojano handed out a sheet of projects and to what level they have been completed at the Blodgett property. The Board is happy with the progress.

Judy Trow and Shaun Carroll will discuss the paints for the interior and will meet on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the SAU in the afternoon with Brendan Minnihan and Mike Trojano to make sure the buildings interior flows properly.

Legislative Session:

Brendan Minnihan stated the State House of Representatives has passed a budget returning building aid and catastrophic aid back into the budget. They changed retirement putting the burden on the employees, but this might be illegal, so it is possible it won’t stay that way.

Also, the “Senate Bill 2” was passed that allows for the imposition of a tax cap on the school district that is tied to the Consumer Price Index. The district and the town do not want this passed as do most towns in the State as it will make it hard to create budgets if the tax cap cannot be raised.

There is also another bill in the works called the “Conscientious Objector Bill” that would allow parent’s to object rules or policies school district’s impose. An example would be if a parent wants their child to attend a certain school in the district instead of the one they are assigned.

First Reading of Policy KHB – Advertising in the School:

Judy Trow asked the principals how advertising works currently and how individual advertisements are hung up in the schools.

Both principals stated they have community boards and most ads are for landscaping or babysitting. Nothing is allowed to be set up or distributed; people can only put ads on the boards.

The Board asked the principals to compare the new policy with the current policy and bring back suggestions as the Board is worried the new policy will be too harsh or that the old one is too lenient.

Teacher Renewals:

Brendan Minnihan handed out all elementary, middle and high school teacher non-renewals and renewals for the 2011-2012 school year to the Board.

Judy Trow moved to approve all elementary, middle and high school teacher renewals and non-renewals for the 2011-2012 school year.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

3 – Yays and 2 – Abstentions

Administrator Renewals:

Brendan Minnihan handed out all administrator renewals for the 2011-2012 school year.

Judy Trow moved to approve all administrator renewals for the 2011-2012 school year.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 – Abstentions

Graduation Date:

Graduation Day will be held Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. The final day of school will be held on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Brian Garland approved Graduation Day for June 17, 2011.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

3- Yays, 2 – Abstentions

Retirement:

.5 FTE Library Media Generalist at SCES, Elizabeth Moul, has written to formally announce her retirement at the end of June 2011. (See handout).

Judy Trow moved to approve the retirement of Elizabeth Moul, the .5 FTE Library Media Generalist at SCES, at the end of June 2011.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 - Abstentions

Manifest:

Judy Trow moved to approve the following A/P and payroll manifests:

- #2011-22 = \$141,619.64
- #2011-19 = \$181,383.57
- #2011-20 = \$390,623.55

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 – Abstentions

Teacher Evaluations:

Brendan Minnihan handed out a new Teacher Evaluation Model to the Board. The administrators and teachers did not like the old model. The changes to the evaluation model have to be made by May 1<sup>st</sup> with a hard copy sent to all teachers by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee was made up of administrators and teachers and met all year to revise both the model and the rubrics. The committee took the Kim Marshall model and adapted it to Sunapee's needs. The teacher's then gave feedback and it is now at the Board level. The Board was very pleased with what they saw.

Kim Denney moved to approve the revised teachers model and rubrics to be used starting July 1, 2011.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 - Abstentions

Agenda for Next Meeting, May 4, 2011:

- Legislative Session (Maybe)
- KHB Policy
- Manifest
- Minutes
- Good News
- Blodgett Property
- Superintendent News
- Outdoor Classroom
- Update on hiring of Speech Pathologist

Adjournment:

Edward Bailey moved to adjourn at 9:12 p.m.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

3 – Yays, 2 – Abstentions

Respectfully Submitted By,



Kate O'Connor

Sunapee School Board Secretary