

NON Meeting due to lack of quorum

Meeting will resume on October 6, 2010

Sunapee School Board Meeting
September 1, 2010
SMHS Media Center

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Others Present:

Brendan Minnihan, Superintendent
Terra Geer, Special Education Coordinator
Ray Palin, Media Coordinator
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal
Alan Pullman, SCES Principal
Mike Trojano, Business Administrator
Kate O'Connor, School Board Secretary
Joanne Skarin, SCES Teacher

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Kate O'Connor led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and Shaun Carroll asked for a moment of silence.

Minutes:

The minutes were not approved at this time as there were only two board members present, which was not enough to fill a quorum. All action items on this agenda were not approved due to this fact.

Public Forum:

None

SCES Good News:

Alan Pullman gave the Board the following news:

- The first day of school had a smooth opening. The new schedule, with RTI blocks, went over well with students and staff.
- Have been dealing with the heat; the mornings are good, but the afternoons are horrible. Thirty to forty fans are being bought especially for the two top floors.
- 202 students are currently registered.
- Room changes were made with the literacy center and the special education room swapping places. Two additional learning areas were made by reconfiguring existing spaces.
- The first fire drills will begin next week.
- Preschool and kindergarten had a great start!

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following news:

- SMHS also had a smooth opening. Again, activities were held the first day with the theme being "Dare to Care". This included a cookout and bonding group activities in the afternoon.
- SMHS also had some heat issues.
- Enrollment is currently 258 from 6th through 12th grade. Ninth grade is the largest. Overall 18 students were gained and 7 were lost.

Superintendent Communications:

Brendan Minnihan gave the Board the following news:

- The school district had a great beginning. Teacher's Day Breakfast went exceedingly well.
- The staff participated in a presentation by speaker, Mary Howard, who is an expert on RTI. She was very well received.

RTI Presentation:

Alan Pullman and Joanne Skarin gave the Board the following presentation:

- The staff took away many ideas from speaker, Mary Howard, including "Watch your Minutes". This means you should utilize every minute of your day including putting a clock up before you start staff meetings to stay on task.
- Students are being brought in earlier during the morning hours.

- Smartboards were upgraded today with the library Smartboard moved higher and new cables for the rest of the building.
- The triangle, shown by Joanne, represents the 3 tiers of instruction.
- 80% of students will meet the 1st tier, 10-15% will meet the 2nd tier and 5% will be in the 3rd tier.
- The 2nd tier will need more time, focus and smaller groups, while the 3rd tier will need an increased level of intensity, plus more time, focus and even smaller student groupings.
- Joanne gave everyone a handout; see attached, and stated that she also has extra copies of the book by Mary Howard if the Board would like to borrow it.
- In 08-09, four teachers attended a conference by Mary Howard.
- In 09-10, ten to fifteen people were a part of a book study reading Richard Allington's book on RTI. They learned the following:
 - How to teach students to select "Just Right" books.
 - Don't take special education students out at reading time.
 - Make sure you hire certified staff.
- Also in 09-10, ten more teachers attended a Mary Howard presentation on RTI.
- Now, in 10-11, the staff participated in a two day presentation by Mary Howard. From her and her book they learned the following:
 - Focus on tier 1 in 2010-2011
 - Cut down tier 2 times from 1hr to 30 minutes.
 - Small groups should meet around the "Sacred Table", which is a reading recovery time that should be adapted to each grade level for 30 minutes.
- The Reading Recover Model Plan is as follows:
 - Read a familiar book
 - Read a newer book introduced the day before.
 - Run a reading record on the book
 - Make sure book doesn't go home
 - Use word work and phonics lessons
 - Incorporate journal writing
 - Cut up sentences into sections
 - Teacher reads a brand new book to students and the plan starts over again.
- There will be collaborative planning time each week for 30 minutes.
- A 5yr plan has been created for reading:
 - 1st year will focus on tier 1, which is 80% of the students, and sacred table will begin as well as the collaborative meetings.
 - 2nd year will focus on tier 2
 - 3rd year will focus on tier 3
 - Years 4 and 5 have not been hashed out yet.
- An RTI newsletter is being established for each class that will talk about the monthly reading strategy for parents. This will go out every Friday.
- Anchor charts are being created around the school. Anchor charts help students with strategies that are important to their learning. Each class has a different strategy.

Smartboard Update:

Brendan Minnihan told the Board that Valley Communications had to come out to SMHS and SCES to check the stability of the boards and to make sure they are all working properly. There were some issues with certain boards, but all are being used and in October the Board will get a presentation.

Project Update:

Mike Trojano passed out a handout to all attendees. (See handout). Most of the school projects are complete.

Katie Richardson, Intertown Record, asked how the Blodgett property was getting worked on without the taxpayers approving the funds in March. Shaun Carroll responded that there is \$120,000 the Board can spend without voter approval which is the SAU Capital Reserve Fund. The money that has been spent so far, \$55,684, was money that was not expended in the previous school year. The Board has the right to use that money for what they see fit in the district or the money goes back to the town. The \$120,000 from the SAU Capital Reserve Fund has not been spent at this time.

Shaun Carroll handed out an email from Terry Jillson White, in her role as chair of the Sunapee Library Trustees, who is working on finding a new location for the town public library, asking if the Board would be interested in swapping the Blodgett property for the Abbott Library. As there were not enough members of the Board present, Shaun Carroll said he will do a straw poll tomorrow by calling Judy Trow or Edward Bailey.

Policies:

The policies part of the agenda could not be finished due to not having a quorum.

Manifest:

The manifest could not be approved at this time due to not having a quorum.

Agenda for Next Meeting, September 1, 2010:

- 1st and 2nd reading of policies
- Smartboard Presentation
- Blodgett Property
- Manifest
- Minutes


Adjournment:

Kim Denney moved to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Shaun Carroll seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted By,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katherine O'Connor".

Katherine O'Connor
Sunapee School Board Secretary