

Sunapee School Board Meeting

October 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
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
Bill Roach – Town Selectman
Steve White – Town Selectman
Charlotte Brown – Town Selectwoman
Kate O'Connor - Absent

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Kim Denney led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and Shaun Carroll asked for a moment of silence.

Minutes:

The minutes for August 11, 2010 and September 1, 2010 were not approved at this time as the board members present at that meeting are not in attendance.

Kate O'Connor reviewed the minutes from September 1, 2010 and noted that the "Agenda for Next Meeting" was incorrect as it stated the next meeting is again September 1, 2010. It should state October 6, 2010.

Public Forum:

None

SCES Good News:

Alan Pullman gave the Board the following news:

- NECAP testing is happening this week and into next week for the third, fourth and fifth grades. Each test is forty-five minutes long.
- RTI has been instituted in all classrooms and the new schedule is working.
- A small group of six-seven students from a different grade each day meets either before or after school for intervention services.
- The speaker that came earlier this year, Mary Howard, will be coming back to SCES in the spring.
- The special education staff is having Special Education Team Meetings; they are working out very well.
- The schedules for next year are being worked on by the faculty.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following news:

- NECAP testing is occurring next week for the sixth, seventh, eighth and eleventh grades.
- The science NECAP results from last year place Sunapee High School second highest in the State.
- The middle school is rated in the top third of the State.
- SHS is also in the top 10 for reading, writing and mathematics.
- Spirit week is this week.
- The NEAS&C evaluation report has come in from their ten year visit. Overall Sean is very pleased and would like the school board to review the copies he handed out to them.
- Ms. Reed, Mr. Reed, Mrs. Parsons and Sean all went to a NEAS&C conference last week that explained how to proceed after the report was finished.
- Sunapee has been reaccredited.
- The NEAS&C team from Sunapee had previously self-assessed problem areas before the NEAS&C team visit and was not surprised of their criticisms and already had ideas to rectify these areas.
- Sunapee was given 47 commendations including the climate of the school being exceptional for students and of deeply held values in the community being evident in the school.
- Sunapee was given 29 recommendations, of which nine have been rectified, including creating an evaluation model for faculty and staff, too many informal meetings between faculty and more space for the arts.

- Mr. Moynihan is hoping that Sunapee will not have to file any paperwork with the NEAS&C commission before the two year mark. 15-20% of schools don't and 75-80% of schools do.

Town Selectmen:

Town Selectman, Bill Roach, told the Board that townspeople would like to know how much it costs to run federally mandated programs like special education. Taxpayers want to know specifically where their money is being spent and why. This would include all different types of programs. He would like the Board to educate the public. For example, when the government said that all states had to educate every student including those with disabilities, the government promised to pay each district back 40%, but it is more like 17%. The Town Selectmen feel that there needs to be a push back at the federal government demanding the full 40%.

Judy Trow stated that the district doesn't receive money for programs spent until the next year. So, this year the district will receive money for programs during the 09-10 school year. Figures will always be a year behind because of this method. You have to guess when making the budget every year, by looking at what you budgeted previously and what you think you will spend during the upcoming year.

Bill Roach said the Town Selectmen would just like an average percentage of what the school district receives back from the State.

Shaun Carroll noted that SAU 85 has better bookkeeping in place than when it was attached to SAU 43, so that we know pretty much what we're going to get back at the end of the year.

Town Selectman, Steve White, said they want to put the pressure on the State and Federal government to give the town's the percentage they were promised. It needs to be more political.

Brendan Minnihan will speak with Bill Roach to discuss figures and the policies that govern them; as Brendan Minnihan also attends monthly meetings down at the Dept. of Education.

Town Selectwoman, Charlotte Brown, asked if there will be an all day budget session. The Board said that dates have not been set yet, but will inform her once decided.

Charlotte Brown asked if there will be any warrant articles as it is good to understand how much it will cost in total or if a new bus is needed, etc. The Board said they do not know yet if any articles will be brought forth, but maybe one.

Charlotte Brown asked if there will be any raises for faculty and staff or in the steps. She wondered what the Board is projecting.

Shaun Carroll stated the teachers are under contract, but that the support staff could be eligible for raises.

Judy Trow stated that the school district does not give raises tied to cost of living increases and there are no steps (for non-teachers); just an overall percentage increase. The Board will let Charlotte Brown know if there are any increases when it happens.

Steve White stated the BAC (Budget Advisory Committee) will attend the deliberative session, but have been told to follow the rules of the committee.

Superintendent Communications:

Brendan Minnihan gave the Board the following news:

- Sunapee, Kearsarge, Newport and Claremont will be meeting in the next few week's to discuss next school year's calendar.
- A retreat will also be held between the four districts at the end of the month to talk about career and technical education and collaboration between the districts.
- Sunapee has eight to nine students who take classes through the vocational center.
- SMHS is working on developing their own alternatives including Project Lead the Way and Running Start.
- A speaker will be coming to SMHS to speak with both the middle and high school faculty about Differentiated Instruction.
- A new sign is being put up along the hill to SCES. It is made by the same individual who made the sign that is currently there now. The new sign is due to wear and tear on the old one.

Project Update:

Mike Trojano stated that all summer projects at both schools and the Sherburne gym are now complete.

The Blodgett property has had the following work done:

- The basement has had the furnace, oil tank and concrete removed. It is being leveled out and a *pruner ditch* is being built. They have been lying plastic down for now while installing the new sump pump.
- The permits have all been granted.
- The contractor will start on excavation and front walls within the next week.
- The outside trim and clapboard is almost all repainted.
- They are waiting to work on the EL until the basement and foundation work are completed. They have also not installed windows in that area for the same reason.
- Painting of the EL will not get done this fall.
- Electricians have begun working on the house wiring and the phone wiring.

Shaun Carroll stated the following about the project:

- The interior has been gutted, but all the finishes of the original house will remain.
- They found the plaster was good so it will stay and repairs will be done to it.
- The ceiling has been removed in the bottom of the house while they work on the heating system and the wiring.
- The basement is in decent shape and once completed the heating system down there will be propane.
- They have only contracted with local businesses.
- The Board plans on bringing forth a warrant article this March for money to finish the interior.
- The plan is to finish the house, EL and parking lot by August of 2011. There is no training center in the plans right now.
- \$40,000 out of \$120,000 from the Blodgett Property account has been spent leaving them with \$80,000.
- The lease on the current SAU ends April 1st and will be renewed, but the Board is going to try to work on a year lease or less.

Charlotte Brown asked what the current enrollment in the whole district is for 2010-2011. The total enrollment is 468 students; 201 – SCES, 11 – Preschool and 256 – SMHS.

Extended Field Trips:

The following three field trips were brought forth to the Board by Sean Moynihan:

- A boy's backpacking trip overseen by Thomas Coverdale.
- Date is to be announced; there will be four trips and Mr. Moynihan asked the Board to approve the overall trip and he will bring the details as they are confirmed.
- There will be two chaperones for five – seven students.
- This is a one day trip and will be climbing Ball Mountain.
- There is no cost to the students.

Judy Trow moved to approve all boys' backpacking trips as presented.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

- Girl's Outdoor Club is requesting to go on an overnight backpacking trip on October 7th – 8th, 2010.
- It is being overseen by Dawn Emory, five to six students have signed up and it will be of no cost to students.
- High school students only are allowed on the trip.
- They will climb Sunapee, Monadnock or Kearsarge Mountains.

- Like the boy's backpacking trip, this will be one of many trips and Mr. Moynihan asked the Board to please approve all further trips along with this trip and he will bring details to the Board.

Judy Trow moved to approve all girls' backpacking trips as presented.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

- Andrea Redican, SMHS French teacher, is asking to take some of her high school French students to the Quebec Winter Carnival either January 27th-30th or February 3rd – 6th.
- Jim Hathaway will also be in attendance as a chaperone.
- The cost to each student is \$230.00
- Mr. Moynihan said all students and chaperones have to be approved by him before going.

Kim Denney moved to approve the French trip to the Quebec Winter Carnival.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Policies:

Judy Trow moved that the Board received the first reading of policies:

- JH – Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy
- JKA – Corporal Punishment
- JKAA – Use of Restraints

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Judy Trow moved that the Board received the first reading of policy JICBB – Public Safety and Violence Prevention – Bullying and rescinds approval for the first reading of the previous JICBB. (This occurred because the NHSBA's revision of JICBB came out after the first reading).

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Judy Trow moved to approve the second reading of policies:

- JIC – Student Conduct
- JBAA – Sexual Harassment and Violence – Students

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Judy Trow moved to approve the revision of policy KG – Community use of School Facilities.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Manifest:

Kim Denney moved to approve the following A/P and payroll manifests:

- #2011-06 = \$29,918.87
- #2011-07 = \$1,938.19
- #2011-08 = \$101,369.31
- #2011-5 = \$330,946.24
- #2011-6 = \$184,175.11
- #2010-7 = \$197,022.26

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Agenda for Next Meeting, November 3, 2010:

- Smartboard Presentation
- Budget Review
- Blodgett Property
- Manifest
- Minutes
- Second Policy Reading
- Special Education Parent Involvement Survey
- District Data Profile

Non-Public Session:

Judy Trow moved to go into non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 8:38 p.m.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll – Chair
Judy Trow – Vice Chair
Kim Denney

Respectfully Submitted By,



Kate O'Connor
Sunapee School Board Secretary