

Sunapee School Public Hearing/Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

December 2, 2015

Call to Order:

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

Public Hearing on HB 507:

Superintendent Holden explained the new statute HB 507 – Video Recordings in the Classroom and its history. Security cameras and public events are excluded.

Superintendent Holden read a list of planned recordings coming up in the District for the School Board to approve and for the public to hear. Permission from students, faculty, parents and the School Board are now required.

Paul Manson asked how long the tape is retained. Superintendent Holden believes it is only for the term of the assessment.

Alden Clough asked why the Superintendent was putting cameras in classrooms. Superintendent Holden responded that he is not; teachers sometimes video for a lesson. He is not recording teachers for assessment.

Paul Manson asked what the District will do if one student's parents have not given permission. Superintendent Holden stated the teacher will have to come up with an alternative assignment.

Shaun Carroll stated this is a legislative mandate; the District has to abide. Superintendent Holden stated the District cannot control students who videotape with their phones, but there is a policy about cellphone use in school that should curtail that behavior.

Jodi Manson asked why this is being put in place when she signed a paper at the beginning of the year giving permission. Superintendent Holden replied that the paper signed by parents at the beginning of the school year is for permission to use photographs, it was not for video recordings.

Shaun Carroll closed the hearing to the public and asked the Board if they had more questions.

Shaun Carroll stated the Board will approve the recording of upcoming events at SMHS and SCES under number nine of the agenda – Action Items.

Shaun Carroll closed the hearing.

Call to Order:

Shaun Carroll called the School Board meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Shaun Carroll

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Jan Bettencourt

Matt McNally

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Student Services

Rachel Malanga, Student Representative

Pledge/Moment of Silence:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rachel Malanga and a moment of silence by Shaun Carroll.

Minutes:

Jan Bettencourt moved to approve the public minutes of November 4, 2015.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

Jan Bettencourt moved to accept the public minutes of November 4, 2015 with revisions.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

4 – Yay, 0 – Nay, 1 – Abstain

Paul Skarin moved to approve the non-public minutes of November 4, 2015.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

4 – Yay, 0 – Nay, 1 - Abstain

Agenda Review:

Action Items – letter b – Statute HB 507 – Classroom Recording

Public Forum:

Katie Ortiz asked why the recording of the Board meeting of November 4, 2015 was deleted the night of the meeting. Shaun Carroll stated the minute's taker was present at the meeting, so the video was not needed. As long as the minute's taker notes are available the video is not required.

Paul Manson, expressed his displeasure that the Board had not posted audio or video recordings of the meetings.

Alden Clough, Nutting Rd in Sunapee, expressed his displeasure with the bullying situation in the District.

Laura Ellison, expressed her displeasure with the bullying situation in the District.

Katie Flint, teacher within the District, asked that parents don't blanket all teachers as bullying students; most teachers love all students.

Sharon Parsons, teacher in Sunapee, the results from SBAC testing were incredible. She would like the Board to discuss how they are going to get that information out to the public.

Paul Manson, wanted it known he doesn't have a problem with teachers, but how protocols are handled by administration.

Jodi Manson, feels the Board doesn't allow the public to speak as freely as they would like and then it sounds like they are blanketing all teachers.

Pamela Colanaro, Lower Main St., Sunapee, wondering if the District will reinstate giving the library a yearbook every year as the last one is from 2003 that is at the library. She would like to see the school improve for all students.

SBAC/NECAP Presentation:

Jodi Bergen, SCES, gave the Board a handout with the following information:

- Explained the testing results for grades three, four and five by math proficiency and ELA proficiency level.
- Grades performed well-above State levels.
- Grades performed as well or better against comparative school districts.

- Third grade proficiency is not at the level expected. They need more keyboarding skills training. Keyboarding is now starting in kindergarten.
- Discussion on differences between NECAP and SBAC tests

Sean Moynihan, SMHS, gave the following presentation to the Board on SBAC/NECAP testing:

- Grades sixth, seventh, eighth and eleventh grades participate in the tests.
- He has included the results of the SBAC and the NECAP science.
- Proficiency levels are far above the State average.
- NH as a whole did better than other states and Sunapee was in the top results of the State.
- Eleventh grade had the best reading results in the State and was sixth in math.
- Overall, SMHS, came in third out of 189 schools in the State.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- Two teachers from Sunapee presented at the Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference.
- Holiday concert is December 16th at 6:30 p.m.
- Very successful book fair and ice cream social last month. Each student received a book and each classroom received the books on their wish list. The PTA raised \$150 on the ice cream social.
- Next week the hour of code is a global initiative to get more students in coding. All students in grades k-5 will be participating.

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- November 6th was the Veterans' Appreciation Breakfast – 55 veterans attended.
- Mulan Jr., fall drama production, had huge crowds.
- Last night was the middle school winter concert and art show. Over 200 people attended.
- This Friday is the first quarter honor roll trip. The students are going to Northern Stage to see *Mary Poppins*.
- Cross-country is being held this year and he is also in the process of hiring a spirit coach.

Special Education Report:

Terra Geer gave the following report to the Board:

- The District has been actively cross-training staff. Four staff members are attending assistive technology training which is going extremely well.

Superintendent Report:

Russell Holden gave the following report to the Board:

- Congratulated students from both schools for a job well done for the SBAC and NECAP assessments.
- Stated he is listening to parents. The District will be inviting Malcolm Smith, who helped develop the bullying law, to spend a day with students and with faculty. He is also going to introduce a middle school curriculum on bullying. Wants parents to know they have been heard.

Policy:

First reading of ILDA – Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research and IMBD – High School Credit for 7th & 8th Grade Coursework. A discussion on policy IMBD occurred.

Review of policy JLCD – Administrating Medication to Students. Superintendent Holden stated the only change is a change to the legal reference.

Updated policies BEDH – Public Participation at Board Meetings, EHB-R – Local Records Retention Schedule, GBJ – Personnel Records, IKB – Homework Policy, IKE – Promotion and Retention of Students and JICBB – Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention (Bullying). Superintendent Holden explained the change in each policy.

Upload Recordings of School Board Meetings to Website:

Superintendent Holden stated the recording is to help the minutes taker when she is not able to come to the meeting. If posting to the website and posted to the District YouTube Channel, they would not be considered official minutes.

Paul Skarin moved to approve the posting of the School Board meeting recordings to the District YouTube Channel which will be linked to the website.

Brian Garland seconded motion.

A discussion on how the posting would work.

Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Upcoming Classroom Recordings at SCES and SMHS:

Brian Garland moved to approve the practice of RSA 189:68-4 for approving classroom recording for educational purposes.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Additional SCES Stipend Agreements:

Russell Holden noted additional stipend agreements for SCES in the Board packets.

Manifest:

Paul Skarin moved to approve A/P manifest:

- 2016-10 - \$137,047.62

Paul Skarin moved to approve payroll manifest:

- 2016-08 - \$216,172.90
- 2016-09 - \$463,418.72

Jan Bettencourt seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Pamela Colanaro, Lower Main St. in Sunapee, expressed her displeasure with self-contained classrooms within the District and special education students not being allowed to participate in sports due to grades being low.

Katie Ortiz, questioned the special education programs being created within the District, especially self-contained classrooms.

April Royce, will the video of the meetings be live? No, streaming is not available. She asked for more clarification on 7th grade coursework. Sean Moynihan answered her question.

Amanda Hughlock, Sunapee resident, explained self-contained classrooms for clarification to the group per her perspective.

Pamela Colanaro, stated her son felt segregated in a self-contained classroom.

Laura Ellison, Sunapee resident, talked about her child's experience in a self-contained classroom.

Jodi Manson, Sunapee resident, asked for clarification on when the November 4th meeting video was destroyed. Superintendent Holden stated the next day; he directed his administrative assistant to destroy the video.

Laura Ellison, Sunapee resident, asked if there are cameras out in the parking lot. Superintendent Holden replied yes and explained where they are located. Ms. Gifford stated her daughter's vehicle had received damage. Superintendent Holden directed her to see Principal Moynihan; the cameras might have picked up the incident.

Ray Porter, Parent of Sunapee student, he filed a Right to Know Request for the video of tonight's meeting. Superintendent Holden will be able to give him a copy.

Paul Manson, Sunapee resident, spoke to the public about concerns.

Shaun Carroll discussed the public's concerns and asked them to give the Board time to fix the problems.

Paul Skarin moved to extend public forum for five minutes.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

A parent spoke about her daughter's experience with bullying currently in the District.

Jodi Manson, Sunapee resident, stated the process isn't working.

Heidi Currier, Sunapee resident, asked for the procedure in place to be changed for the Board to get a list regularly of complaints of bullying.

April Royce, Sunapee resident, when is the speaker on bullying coming? Superintendent Holden stated the second or third Thursday of January.

Jim Currier, Georges Mills, asked for clarification on the bullying complaint procedures. Superintendent Holden explained the steps.

Genesis Grimes, Sunapee student, new student to Sunapee. Stated it is the best school she has attended, but there are issues and many students do not feel like the School Board is listening.

Agenda for January 6, 2015:

- Good News
- Manifest
- Policy

Non-Public Session:

The Board went into non-public session at 9:04 p.m. Please see non-public minutes.

Public Session – Ratification of Teachers’ Contract:

Brian Garland moved to approve the ratification of the 2016-2019 Teachers’ Contract.

Matt McNally seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Adjournment:

Matt McNally moved to adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

Paul Skarin seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kate O’Connor

School Board Secretary