

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

August 23, 2017

Call to Order:

School Board Chair Skarin called the School Board meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Paul Skarin

Brian Garland

Edward Andersen

Jesse Tyler

April Royce – Attended electronically

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent

Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal

Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal

Terra Geer, Director of Student Services

Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal

Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator

Jackie Balch, Student Representative

Pledge/Moment of Meditation

The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were led by School Board Chair Skarin.

Minutes:

Ed Anderson moved to approve the public and non-public minutes of the June 7, 2017 school board meeting as presented.

Jesse Tyler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Agenda Review:

Add action item "D" – Approve proposed Nature's Classroom field trip. Also, a few additional names will be added under approval of "B" – Approval of SMHS coaches.

Public Forum:

None

Student Representative:

Student representative, Jackie Balch, gave the Board the following good news:

- Summer soccer, volleyball, baseball, and softball had high attendance.
- Fall sports tryouts were this past Monday thru Wednesday. All teams have full rosters.
- The students are excited for the hike on the second half of the first day of school.

SCES Good News:

Jodi Bergen gave the Board the following good news:

- There is new carpeting on the third floor and spaces have been created for better learning.
- The fourth annual Family Night will be held tomorrow from 5-7 p.m.
- Teacher professional development over the summer included literacy, math, and competency.
- Professional development focus for tomorrow is the new math program. A consultant will be coming to speak to the faculty.
- There are 29 kindergarten students for 2017-2018. For overall enrollment at SCES

SMHS Good News:

Sean Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- Sixth grade, ninth grade, and new student orientation was held tonight.
- For overall enrollment numbers, 10 students moved out, and 14 new students moved in.
- The theme this year is "One step at a time."
- There will be goal building activities on the first day of school.
- AP results have come in and they are strong. He will talk more in-depth at the September meeting.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Holden gave the following report to the Board:

- Harriman engineers were in District today. They are reviewing the past options and architectural plans.
- Today was the first day back with staff. Chair Skarin attended the breakfast.
- Curriculum meetings were held today with teachers.
- Abby Peel, social media consultant, came today to present the new Facebook account to teachers.
- Consultant, Alison Bryant, talked about SMART goals with staff.
- There were 257 new pieces of legislation that came up in July.
- 100 people, faculty, and staff, came this week to work on the trail project outside of SMHS. This included putting in bridges, a rope swing, signs, birdhouses, and cutting back trails. A beekeeping club will start this year.

Approval of Policy:

The following policies were up for second reading:

- *ADB Drug Free Workplace*
- *BBFA Board Member Conflict of Interest*
- *BEDC-R Rule and Regulation on Electronic Participation in School Board Meetings*
- *ECAF Audio and Video Surveillance on School Buses*
- *EFAA School Lunch Program Meal Charges*
- *EHB Data/Records Retention*
- *GBEC Drug Free Workplace*
- *IHAMB Teaching about Self-Protection*
- *IHAMA Teaching about Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco*
- *JKAA restraint, Seclusion, and Intentional Physical Contact*
- *JLD School Guidance and Counseling Program*

Brian Garland moved to approve the second reading of the policies as presented.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Approve Proposed Strategic Plan:

Superintendent Holden explained that last year the Board approved NESDEC to help develop a strategic plan for the District. In the Board packet is the plan with goals for the next five years. A

committee of 16 people, including administrators, staff, parents, students, and community member, help develop these goals. The plan outlines the goals, strategies, who's in charge of each goal, and the outcomes.

Superintendent Holden stated the plan is lofty; the District will have done well to accomplish two-thirds of the plan in five years. He noted that it is a good blueprint; the District has done well.

The Board discussed the noted "ongoing timelines" and the changing of student rankings. Superintendent Holden explained that the District will have a better handle on certain timelines after trainings.

Student representative Balch stated there has been positive feedback from students who want rankings changed.

Brian Garland noted a typo where it states "SAT" and should state "STA".

Brian Garland asked why the socio-emotional action plan is planned so far out. Superintendent Holden replied that the District wants to find the right one.

The Board asked that "staff/community" be added to the five principles and that the strategic plan be added as an agenda item at every meeting.

Superintendent Holden read the names of the committee participants and thanked them for their service.

Jesse Tyler moved to approve the strategic plan as presented.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Approve Proposed SMHS Coaches:

Superintendent Holden stated that in addition to the SMHS coaches in the packet, he was adding three more:

- Rob Messenger – Bass Fishing
- Katie Flint – MS soccer A team
- Peter Salviti – MS soccer B team

Brian Garland moved to approve the proposed SMHS coaches as presented.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

2017-2018 Budget Conversation:

Jesse Tyler moved to start discussion on the 2017-2018 budget.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Superintendent Holden gave a history of the budget from the 2011-2012 SY to now. He noted that already this year, health insurance is over between \$160K-\$180K. The District is down three tuition students this year, but they may get more by the time school starts next week. The District has also honed down budgeting on gas and electric. They tried on health insurance as well this past year, but more people than expected changed their insurance plans over the summer.

Superintendent Holden stated that the District is on track to give back \$450K-475K back to the town from the unreserved fund balance. He would like the Board to approve putting \$75K into the 2.5% fund, which currently holds \$175K. This would cap that account at \$250K; more cannot be put in per the law as it is based on your net assessed property value. Last year he recommended putting \$25K in the account because the District didn't realize it would have this much left in unreserved fund balance.

Superintendent Holden also asked that the Board approve taking an additional \$25K from the unreserved fund balance to purchase a new truck to use for snow plowing. The current truck is a 2009, has 60K miles, just had a new transmission installed for the second time. It is still under warranty, but it is a ten-year old vehicle, which would be difficult to replace in the middle of the year if the transmission goes again. A new truck would also be able to plow the SAU parking lot, which would save the District \$2K-\$3K a year.

Jesse Tyler rescinded his motion to start discussion on the 2017-2018 budget.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Jesse Tyler moved to retain \$25K from the unreserved fund balance to purchase a new truck for the District as presented.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

The Board discussed whether the new truck is needed and if a good trade-in could be received.

Jesse Tyler moved to amend his motion to retain up to \$25K from the unreserved fund balance to purchase a new truck for the District.

Motion failed.

Jesse Tyler moved to retain \$25K from the unreserved fund balance to purchase a new truck for the District as presented.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – no, EA – yes, BG – no, JT – yes, and PS – yes

Motion passes

Brian Garland moved to cap the 2.5% fund by retaining \$75K from the unreserved fund balance as presented.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Brian Garland amended his motion to keep up to \$75K from the unreserved fund balance to the 2.5% fund with the goal of not having a negative tax impact.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Approve Proposed Nature's Classroom Field Trip:

Brian Garland moved to approve the Nature's Classroom field trip as presented.

Jesse Tyler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Update on Summer Projects:

Superintendent Holden noted the following summer projects to the Board:

- Back-parking lot behind the high school is finished.
- He reiterated that there is new carpeting and space at SCES.
- The health classroom at SMHS is now the pre-engineering and STEAM room.
- He thanked the Lion's Club for fixing the drainage issues behind SMHS.

New School Board Member Training:

Chair Skarin thanked Edward Andersen and Jesse Tyler for completing the new school board member training.

NHDOE Determination Letter for Meeting IDEA:

Director of Student Services Geer stated the District received notice that they have met all requirements for the 2016-2017 SY and have received that distinction for the last five years.

Manifest:

Brian Garland moved to approve A/P manifests:

- 2017-24 - \$52,759.18
- 2017-25 - \$165,695.00
- 2017-26 - \$42,909.15
- 2017-27 - \$44,858.49
- 2017-28 - \$92,942.30
- 2018-01 - \$170,269.65
- 2018-02 - \$120,877.58

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Brian Garland moved to approve payroll manifests:

- 2017-25.1 - \$3,146.54
- 2017-26 - \$323,884.66
- 2017-26.1 - \$528,311.56
- 2017-27 - \$482,015.22
- 2018-02 - \$45,866.40
- 2018-03 - \$280,514.58

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Public Forum:

Paul Manson, Young Hill Road, stated the District should look at having the town plow the SAU office. Felt that buying a new ½ ton truck with a snow plow would not last given they are not good for plowing, and having multiple users.

Jodi Manson, Young Hill Road, asked what will be communicated on the new Facebook page. **Chair Skarin** responded that the staff will utilize it to get information out to parents and the community. The Board will have Abby Peel come to the next Board meeting to present.

Jodi Manson, asked when the new sign in front of SMHS was installed and how was it paid as the Board did not approve it. **Superintendent Holden** stated it has been up for a year. It cost \$6K, which is under the amount the Board would approve, per policy.

Jodi Manson, stated she would like two retirees to be recognized for their work, that were not recognized by the Board at the time they retired, due to being forgotten.

Agenda for September 6, 2017 at the SMHS music room:

- Facebook presentation
- Academic eligibility for athletes

Non-Public Session:

None

Adjournment:

Edward Andersen moved to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AR – yes, EA – yes, BG – yes, PS – yes, and JT – yes

Motion passes

Respectfully Submitted by,
Kate O'Connor
School Board Secretary