

Sunapee School Board Meeting

SMHS Music Room

October 3, 2018

Call to Order:

Chair Tyler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Jim Borelli
Brian Garland
Edward Andersen
Jesse Tyler
Scott Ritzmann

Others Present:

Russell Holden, Superintendent
Kelly Wessells, Business Administrator
Sean Moynihan, SMHS Principal
Meagan Reed, SMHS Asst. Principal
Jodi Bergen, SCES Principal
Terra Geer, Director of Student Services
Ray Palin, SMHS Teacher
Blaise O'Mara, Student Representative

Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Tyler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Brian Garland moved to approve the public minutes of the September 5, 2018 meeting as presented.

Scott Ritzmann seconded the motion.

3 - Yes, 0 - No, 2 - Abstentions

Jim Borelli moved to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2018 SCES Facility Committee meeting as presented.

Chair Tyler seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Brian Garland moved to approve the non-public minutes of the September 5, 2018 School Board meeting as presented.

Scott Ritzmann seconded the motion.

3 - Yes, 0 - No, 2 - Abstentions

Agenda Review:

None

Public Forum:

A member of the STA clarified a misprint in the InterTown Record by stating that the union stands behind renovating the current SCES and not the building of a new school behind the SAU.

A member of the public discussed the tax increase to taxpayers if the renovation occurs as proposed.

Physical Education Presentation:

Tom and Bonnie gave the following presentation to the Board:

- In pre-k through fifth grade the lessons are around physical literacy.
- The goal is to get kids excited in the outdoors. Examples were given of physical education activities at the elementary level.
- An overview of the NH State Standards for physical education was given.
- At the middle school level, students are given more independence. The focus is on teamwork, problem-solving, changing bodies, and hygiene.
- At the high school level, it is about teaching lifelong physical education practices.
- High school students have access to team sports, leisure physical activities, and taught safety.
- Students have the option to take coaching and officiating classes.
- 60% of high school students are involved in fall sports along with 65% of middle school students.
- Sunapee has motivated and high-performing sports teams.
- There is currently not enough practice/playing space for sports teams.
- Unlike other districts, Sunapee's JV program is thriving.

Student Representative Report:

Blaise O'Mara gave the following report to the Board:

- He sent out a survey to the SMHS student body on the two proposals for the SCES renovation. He received 73 responses. 76.4% of students wanted SCES renovated, instead of a new building.
- Homecoming was last week; there was a lot of school spirit.

SCES Good News:

Principal Bergen gave the following report to the Board:

- Watershed Discovery Day at Mt. Sunapee went well.
- Kindergarten is taking a field trip to an apple orchard.
- The fourth grade is going to the Polar Caves.
- Tomorrow night is the Annual Cardboard Challenge from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- The fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh grades are going to the Abbott Library event to meet a Young Adult author.

SMHS Good News:

Principal Moynihan gave the Board the following good news:

- There was a positive Homecoming Week. The bonfire went very well. He thanked the Chief of Police, the Town of Sunapee, and emergency services with preparation and guidance, especially on the parade.
- The Homecoming Dance was well-attended.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Holden gave the following report to the Board:

- There are nine students attending the Vocational Center this year in a variety of different classes.
- A community STEAM class is being offered at SMHS this year and 20 students are enrolled.
- SB 247 requires all NH districts to complete lead testing in all schools by July 2019. The district is required to pay for the testing and mitigation if positive.
- HB 6012 is regarding data privacy and protection. The Department of Education is requiring districts to audit all things we store in technology. Our test costs anywhere from \$6-8K. Then there is the cost of implementation to prevent intrusion.
- He encouraged voters to speak to their legislators about the cost burden.

State Testing Results:

SCES

Principal Bergen stated that the math scores from last year were far above the State average. The ELA scores in the third grade were quite good, but the fourth and fifth grades were disappointing. She attributed this to the focus of the faculty on math last year. They are making a conscious effort to balance the focus this year.

SCES

Principal Moynihan stated that students in grades seventh through tenth are given State testing, while Juniors take the SATs. The State average for the SAT is 1034. Sunapee's average is 1140.

Students, depending on courses, also take AP exams. There are five AP courses offered; three in school and two via VLACS. Out of 28 seniors last year, 15 took AP exams. The national average is 2.9, the State average is 2.3, and Sunapee's average is 4.

The middle school State testing came in double digits above the State average.

Policy:

Scott Ritzmann moved to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- ILD-R - Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment
- IMGA - Service Animals in Schools

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous

Scott Ritzmann moved to approve the second reading of the following policies:

- BCA - Board Member Ethics
- EHB - Data Records Retention
- IGBG - Home Education Instruction and Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs
- IHBG-R - Participation in Public School Activities by Home Educated, Charter & Non-public Pupils
- IJA - Instructional Materials
- IKFC - Alternate Diploma for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
- ILD - Non-educational/Non-Academic Questionnaires, Surveys and Research
- INDA - School Ceremonies and Observances
- JIC - Student Conduct
- JICD - Student Discipline and Due Process

- JJJ - Access to Public School Programs by Non-public, Charter School & Home Educated Pupils
- JRA - Student Records and Access - FERPA

Jim Borelli seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approval of Budget Timeline:

Edward Andersen moved to approve the budget timeline as presented.

Scott Ritzmann seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Approve Proposed 2018 Fall SMHS Extracurricular Stipends:

Brian Garland moved to approve the proposed fall SMHS extracurricular stipends as presented.

Jim Borelli seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

October 1, 2018 Student Enrollments:

Principal Moynihan stated that SMHS is slightly up from last year - 107 to 109 at the middle school and 140 to 151 in the high school.

Principal Bergen stated SCES is slightly down from last year - 158 to 149.

The Board and administration discussed tuition.

SCES Facilities Committee:

Chair Tyler stated the committee held another public forum on September 10, 2018. There was good attendance and discussion. He reiterated that he knows the project has a high price tag, but explained why the renovations are needed.

There have been different discussions in committee. He knows people have brought up consolidation, but feels many families have moved to Sunapee for the school system and how it is currently set up.

There has been good conversation with the selectboard about the access road as well. Next Thursday, the committee is meeting with the Town Planning Board.

On October 24, 2018 there will be another SCES Facilities Committee public forum at 5:30 p.m. at SCES. Amy Clark from the Department of Education will attend to discuss schools. The committee will have harder numbers over the next couple of months as well.

Manifest:

Scott Ritzmann moved to approve A/P manifests:

- 2019-05 - \$135,619.52
- 2019-06 - \$134,004.47

Brian Garland seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Jim Borelli moved to approve payroll manifests:

- 2019-05 - \$281,401.41
- 2019-5.1 - \$12,863.73
- 2019-06 - \$524,049.91

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous.

Public Forum:

Comments from the public included:

- Please attach Board packet online. Don Bettencourt
- Received positive feedback regarding the school renovation project.
- Look at spending in other areas, like a reduction in administrative costs. Chris Whitehouse
- If the taxpayers are the primary funders, what are the other stakeholders willing to put forth to get the renovation passed? What is the STA willing to offer? The administration willing to offer? The PTO willing to offer? Negotiations are going on right now; there should be cost concessions. There should be budget concessions during budget discussions. John Augustine
- The District should not look at test scores between the State and District averages as apples to apples. The Board should be encouraged to ask to see apples to apples, like the test scores of similar districts to Sunapee. John Augustine

Agenda for November 7, 2018:

- Budget Update
- Advisory Budget Committee
- Policies
- SCES Update
- Presentation

Non-Public Session:

Brian Garland moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) 7:31 p.m.

Edward Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: JT, BG, JB, SR, and EA

Adjournment:

The Board adjourned directly from nonpublic session.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kate O'Connor

School Board Secretary