Souhegan Nordic Teams Finish 4th and 5th in State Championships

2015 NHIAA Division II State Championships February 11, 2015 at Great Glen Trails - Gorham, NH

GIRLS OVERALL TEAM SCORES							
Place	School	Classic	Skate	Total			
1	Kennett	382	378	760			
2	Lebanon	360	365	725			
3	Hanover	348	359	707			
4	Souhegan	342	350	692			
5	Kingswood	345	341	686			
6	Plymouth	343	325	668			
7	Conval	302	304	606			
BOYS	BOYS OVERALL TEAM SCORES						
Place	School	Classic	Skate	Total			
_	School Kennett		Skate 388	Total 772			
1		Classic					
1 2	Kennett	Classic 384	388	772			
Place 1 2 3 4	Kennett Hanover	Classic 384 372.5	388 368.5	772 741			
1 2 3	Kennett Hanover Lebanon	Classic 384 372.5 355	388 368.5 354.5	772 741 709.5			
1 2 3 4	Kennett Hanover Lebanon Plymouth	Classic 384 372.5 355 352	388 368.5 354.5 354	772 741 709.5 706			
1 2 3 4 5	Kennett Hanover Lebanon Plymouth Souhegan	Classic 384 372.5 355 352 322	388 368.5 354.5 354 319	772 741 709.5 706 641			

Girls NHIAA Division II State Championships 4k Classic

PLACE	BIB	NAME	SCHOOL	START	FINISH	ELAPSED	POINTS
6	53	Hannah Culver	Souhegan	01:00	16:30.5	15:30.5	95
11	60	Lily Sullivan	Souhegan	02:00	18:27.1	16:27.1	90
28	74	Kelly Dellovo	Souhegan	04:00	23:06.8	19:06.8	79
30	81	Emmy Ehrenstein	Souhegan	05:00	24:26.8	19:26.8	78
31	88	Julia Apiki	Souhegan	06:00	25:45.0	19:45.0	
	67	Kathleen Foley	Souhegan	03:00	DNF		

Girls NHIAA Division II State Championships 4k SKATE

PLACE	BIB	NAME	SCHOOL	START	FINISH	ELAPSED	POINTS
3	53	Hannah Culver	Souhegan	01:00	13:36.9	12:36.9	98
6	60	Lily Sullivan	Souhegan	02:00	15:31.7	13:31.7	95
27	67	Kelly Dellovo	Souhegan	03:00	18:59.0	15:59.0	79
29	74	Julia Apiki	Souhegan	04:00	20:36.7	16:36.7	78
32	88	Carly Seguin	Souhegan	06:00	23:06.2	17:06.2	
35	81	Anna Smith	Souhegan	05:00	22:14.3	17:14.3	
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TEAM SCORES – 4K Classic			IEAN	TEAM SCORES – 4K Skate		
	SCH00L	SCORE		SCHOOL	SCORE	
1	Kennett	382	1	Kennett	378	
2	Lebanon	360	2	Lebanon	365	
3	Hanover	348	3	Hanover	359	
4	Kingswood	345	4	Souhegan	350	
5	Plymouth	343	5	Kingswood	341	
6	Souhegan	342	6	Plymouth	325	
7	Conval	302	7	Conval	304	

Boys NHIAA Division II State Championships 4k Classic

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32	36	Matt Hartman	Souhegan	05:00	22:18.5	17:18.5	
29	12	Kyle Manlogon	Souhegan	02:00	18:08.5	16:08.5	79
28	4	Jim Callahan	Souhegan	01:00	16:53.1	15:53.1	80
27	28	Dillon Pollio	Souhegan	04:00	19:50.6	15:50.6	81
26	20	Loren Ames	Souhegan	03:00	18:48.9	15:48.9	82
PLACE	RIR	NAME	SCHOOL	SIARI	FINISH	ELAPSED	POINTS

Boys NHIAA Division II State Championships 4k Skate

PLACE	BIB	NAME	SCHOOL	START	FINISH	ELAPSED	POINTS
27	17	Kyle Manlogon	Souhegan	03:00	16:48.7	13:48.7	82
29	9	Jim Callahan	Souhegan	02:00	15:49.7	13:49.7	80
30	1	Loren Ames	Souhegan	01:00	15:18.9	14:18.9	79
31	41	Dillon Pollio	Souhegan	06:00	20:26.0	14:26.0	78
33	33	Matt Hartman	Souhegan	04:00	19:29.1	15:29.1	

TEA	M SCORES – 4K Clas	ssic	TEA	M SCORES – 4K Ska	te
	SCH00L	SCORE		SCH00L	SCORE
1	Kennett	384	1	Kennett	388
2	Hanover	372.5	2	Hanover	368.5
3	Lebanon	355	3	Lebanon	354.5
4	Plymouth	352	4	Plymouth	354
5	Souhegan	322	5	Souhegan	319
6	Kingswood	315.5	6	Kingswood	318
7	Merrimack Valley	98	7	Merrimack Valley	98
8	Conval	76	8	Conval	75

Last Week's Results of Headlamp Hustle Race at Dublin

Congratulations to all members of our extended Souhegan community who participated. All-in-all it's a pretty impressive list! And a special shout out to Will and Jenny Deenik/Oehler, who signed up to ski the short course and ended up showing us all up by doing both the short AND the long course! That's tough!

Current Team Members:Carly Seguin, Kelly Delloyo

Carly Seguin, Kelly Dellovo, Hannah Culver, Lily Sullivan, Jim Callahan, Matt Hartman, Sophie Oehler

Anthony Caruso, Parents:, Jenny Deenik, Jim Oehler, Polly Culver, Michael Ames, Sibling:, Will Oehler

The skiers will be doing it all again March 3rd and every other Tuesday after that until the snow disappears. Start time has been moved back to 6:00 pm.



Join our second Headlamp Hustle xc ski race at Dublin Nordic Center in Dublin, NH. All levels of skiers are welcomed.

If you plan to come please email Lindsey at design@cheetahdesignstudio.com

DUBLIN SCHOOL NORDIC CENTER

www.dublinschool.org/dublin-school-nordic-center

More Letters

Purvis Points Out The Benefits of Our School System

To the editor:

We have two townspeople, David Chen and Dwayne Purvis, running for the same seat on the Souhegan Board of Education. While I believe they both have the best interest of the town, its people, and most especially its students, at heart, their approaches could not be more different. David, whom I have come to know and respect as a fellow member of the Finance Committee, feels that the Souhegan school district is spending too much money, and wishes cuts to be made, based on a perceived drop in student headcount. Dwayne is also a member of the Finance Committee. He feels that, while we do pay a non-trivial amount for our school system, our forecast headcount is not something we can make budgetary decisions on right now, no more than you start shoveling snow that is forecast, but yet to fall.

Dwayne rightly points out that the benefits of our school system are almost unparalleled in-state: a graduation rate in excess of 99%, 92% college attendance, a challenging, engaged pool of teachers. These are the kinds of benefits you get from top-notch private schools; I consider it a privilege to have a school like this in my town. Yes, Bedford costs less – but they also have lower numbers (both graduation rates and college readiness index) than we do. Likewise, their teachers do not have the experience ours have; their school is simply too new for that to be the case. They also lack the pay that is commensurate with seniority. No doubt this will change with time.

Speaking of numbers, during the last deliberative session, someone spoke up about how the NECAP test scores in Amherst were relatively low, and wanted to know why we were spending such money when there was no apparent return. That question is a very good one -- and, were the NECAPs to be taken in a vacuum, I would even consider it damning. However, our graduation rate and college acceptance rates are both proof that our students are doing, and learning, more than just formulas for tests. On top of that, an article in the Boston Globe on February 15th, titled "The real reason why the US is falling behind in math," written by mathematician Tara Holm, bemoans the very "teach-

ing to the test" that is the de-facto standard in many schools: "We are pretty much the only country on the planet that teaches math this way, where students are forced to memorize formulas and procedures. And so kids miss the more organic experience of playing with mathematical puzzles, experimenting and searching for patterns, finding delight in their own discoveries." This is precisely what Souhegan does allow, and part of what makes it so special, and doesn't easily lend itself to representation on standardized tests.

It is also part of what David, with all the good intentions in the world, wants to put an end to: he wants to make cuts when the student attendance rate does not yet warrant them, and there is no way for these cuts not to have an outsized impact. Teachers are not lightbulbs, freely interchangeable, to be discarded at will, or acquired on whim. Some of our teachers have taken decades to attain their current level of expertise, and perhaps even more importantly, to work as part of the cohesive whole that comprises Souhegan High School. While one might wish that there could be a 1:1 relationship between attendance and the school budget, the thorny fact is that there's no easy way for that to happen. David knows this, and yet when asked pointblank which teachers he would cut, which departments he would diminish, he deflects the question. Why? Because there is no good answer.

At some point, if we do see a significant drop in student attendance, and not just forecast numbers that have consistently aimed low, we will have to make those difficult choices. That time is not now. David, much as he did with the library funding in 2011, is an answer, searching for a problem, where none exists. Dwayne has no such illusions, has six children in the school system, and is prepared to make the right choices -- easy, or hard -- where appropriate, and not because he feels compelled to make a mark for its own sake.

I am voting for Dwayne Purvis for Souhegan School Board, and I hope you will join me.

Ken D'Ambrosio Amherst

The Candidacy of Dwayne Purvis

To the editor:

We write to enthusiastically endorse and support the candidacy of Dwayne Purvis, who is running for the Souhegan School Board. We consider Dwayne the perfect candidate for this very important position. We know he will contribute wisely to the care of our principle treasures: our children and their schools.

It was in the fall of 2012 that we met Mr. Purvis, following the student-run Candidates' Forum at Souhegan High School. A reception for the candidates coincided with the end of a school board meeting held at the same time. We had more than a meet-and-greet conversation and learned interesting facts about Dwayne's growing up in Illinois. We will share more about that at another time.

Dwayne and his lovely wife Rachel have a large family of motivated children. It has been a joy to get to know Elizabeth, their eldest daughter, who is a sophomore serving on Community Council, that nearly-perfect, democratic body which is unique to Souhegan High School. When she ran for and was elected to an at-large position as a freshman, Liz mentioned that she

had great expectations. She hopes to attend Harvard University and to eventually sit on The Supreme Court of the United States of America or at her desk in the Oval Office of the President of the United States. We are certain her brothers and sisters have similar ambitions; that gives you an idea of the atmosphere of the home. Education is a first priority in the Purvis household.

Our candidate, Dwayne Purvis, serves on the Souhegan Advisory Finance Committee presently. Not only does he give much time to that position, but you will also find him sitting in on a Community Council meeting or a Souhegan School Board meeting. He will be involved in this school community for years to come. His intellect, interest and integrity, all of the highest degree, make him the solid choice for School Board Member. Most importantly, he is TRUSTWORTHY. He deserves your trust; he asks for your vote. We are thrilled he is running for this position, and we are proud to support his candidacy.

Pete and Nan Stearns Amherst

Panasiti For Selectman

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for Amherst Selectman once again; I served as your selectman from 2006 – 2009. I am an 18 year resident of Amherst, I have two grown children who graduated from Souhegan High School both now living in San Diego. My daughter is employed at EMC Corporation and my son serves in the United States Marine Corp as a C 130 Pilot. I am a retired Naval Officer with over 23 years of service. I have been a local business owner (Homestead Grocery and Deli) and a Facilities Manager until my recent retirement. Nancy, my wife, currently works as a school nurse at both Clark and Wilkins Elementary School. I have sat on several town committee and boards currently serve on the Amherst

Parade Committee, the Amherst Zoning Board of Adjustment and the recently commissioned Amherst Pipeline Task Force.

Amherst continues to be a wonderful place to live and raise a family. I would like nothing more than to serve as your Selectman. There are many new and exciting opportunities ahead which require the Selectman's utmost attention. I will work hard and continue the work and efforts of those before me. I support an open and transparent town government and the chance to work with all the many town employees and department heads. Your support and vote on March 10th would certainly be appreciated.

Thank you. Reed A. Panasiti

You Can Trust The Budget Process

To the editor:

A couple of points need to be made in response to remarks made recently in letters to the Citizen that called into question the Souhegan budget process as a whole as well as the integrity of those on the Souhegan Advisory Finance Committee who voted in the majority to support the budget. For those of us who voted in the majority, it was most disappointing to see misleading statements made that cast doubts on our reasons for supporting the budget.

It might be helpful if people understood the process by which the budget is reviewed. The way it works is that there are a total of 7 members of the committee who are paired with the 7 members of the school board and each pair takes one of 7 sections of the budget to review in depth. Each section is reviewed in detail, tough questions are asked of department heads and administrators, and mounds of data are considered.

This year was no exception. We met weekly to share our reports and discuss items that we thought merited further research. The board member liaison, the administration, and the business administrator bent over backwards to answer our questions. No one was able to identify any significant line items to cut and all seemed satisfied with the cuts that the board and administration made throughout the budget process. In the end, five of us determined after countless hours that the proposed budget met the needs of all students without sacrificing the level of excellence demanded by our communities and without putting an undue burden on the taxpayers. The two who voted in the minority had what they considered to be valid reasons for not supporting the proposed operating budget.

As for comments that the board has not been proactive in responding to changing enrollment, the board has reminded our residents in both letters in the paper and in public presentations that over the last several years they have acknowledged and been responsive to the need to make adjustments when possible. Anyone who understands school budgets knows that adjustments must be measured and tailored to the number of students expected in the coming year, not those

that may or may not be there five years from now. Some think that there is a straight line between enrollment and budgets but the reality is that many budget elements need to be considered, including the curriculum and co-curriculars a school offers. The letter in the Citizen also failed to mention that Souhegan's enrollment has not only remained relatively steady over the last several years but has actually gone up by 4% in the last 2 years, so statements about "unmistakable" trends are not totally accurate. In fact, the predicted enrollment numbers used to create the last two budgets underestimated the number of kids who actually enrolled. It would be irresponsible to make draconian cuts based on numbers that fluctuate as much as projected enrollment numbers do.

Most residents recognize that the investment we make in our kids' education is well worth it in terms of the success that our kids have after high school. Souhegan is noted for a 99.6% graduation rate with 92% attending college year after year. As a committee, we were tasked with reviewing and asking questions about the proposed budget with the final goal of making recommendations to the School Board. Those who voted in the majority looked thoughtfully and thoroughly at the budget and came to the conclusion that it was fiscally responsible. Even more importantly, we felt that it enabled the board and administration to continue to provide an excellent education to our students so that Souhegan can remain competitive and continue to draw families to our schools. Lastly, it is important to note is that the budget review process is sound and that coming to a different conclusion about the budget does not mean that some members are less trustworthy, less competent or less honorable than others.

Respectfully,
Jeanne Ludt
Ken D'Ambrosio
Dwayne Purvis
Pete Stearns
(Members of the Souhegan
Advisory Finance Committee)