

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET  
November 21, 2016**

Board Vice President Marie Colbeth called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Colbeth shared that Gunther was absent. Those in attendance were Nancy Dressel, Brian Moulton, Marie Colbeth, Courtney Kurkowski, Katie Thurmes and Patty Schachtner.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Mission: Developing learners. Empowering futures. Together.

District Vision: To become a premier community, bridging learners with their passions and pathways.

Statement of Core Strategies: Enhance Learning

1. Advance services and operations
2. Engage community through partnerships
3. Cultivate professional growth and leadership

Protocol Reminders: Board members are asked to follow the agreed upon protocol:

1. No side bar discussions
2. No interruptions (including cell phones)
3. State your concern
4. Ensure that you understand
5. Don't take things personally
6. Adhere to time limits
7. Come prepared
8. Ensure all are heard

Moulton moved with second by Dressel to approve the agenda with the addition of the approval of Youth Options being added to the agenda. As per request from Dressel, Youth Options will be added under Enhancing Learning for discussion and then to consent for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

**Superintendent Reports:** *Fablab:* High School Principal Chris Moore spoke of the collaboration with the community of a Fablab. Moore also spoke of the grant that has been applied for and the match the school would need to provide to accompany it.

Dr. Bezek shared an appreciation award he received for being a part of AASA and being on their Executive Committee.

*Enrollment:* As of November 7, 2016 enrollment is at 1,586.

*Hiring:* Bezek mentioned the hires that have been added since the last board meeting.

*Strategic Plan Update:* Bezek spoke of the Strategic Plan and that he would like to get the core team back together to update the plan. This will be added to future work sessions for further discussions.

*Student/Staff Feedback Sessions:* Student Council Rep, Shelly Schmitt, spoke of a session Dr. Bezek recently had with the seniors and shared the seniors liked knowing they had a voice and were being heard. The same process will take place in each of the buildings.

**Student Council Report:** Student Representative Shelly Schmitt recapped events and shared pictures of events occurring at the high school which included WITC Career Day, the Creative Writing Festival, the addition of Student of the Term at the high school, field trips the art students have recently attended, the student council holiday fundraiser and the winter sports and activities that have just started.

**Positive Recognition:** The board recognized 2016 State Cross Country Participant: Anya Swanson. Coach Abby Christensen spoke of Anya's amazing season.

The board recognized 2016 State Honors Choir Participants: Collin Gallo, Kayla Huerta and Jacob Wright. Vocal Musical Instructor Jaimie Palbicki explained the process of how the WMSA approval process works and shared how well the Somerset students did.

Palbicki shared details of a fundraiser she will be participating in at UWRF and also the musical which will be occurring at the high school in December.

The meeting was recessed at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:55p.m.

**Open Forum:** Colbeth explained the process of how the open forum will take place. No one came forward.

**Enhancing Learning:** Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Trish Sheridan provided handouts and a presentation on Understanding the State Report Card which also included the Spartan results as the embargo has been lifted and the information has now been made public. Bezek added that this topic could be added to a work session for further discussion. All schools either meet or exceed expectations and student achievement has gone up five points from last time. Student growth was discussed and questions from the board were addressed.

High School Principal Chris Moore explained the high school results and spoke of the Aspire and ACT scores. The High School SLO is for staff to help use active reading strategies and how this will be used to increase the number of students meeting or exceeding the college benchmarks on the ACT and ACT Aspire in the areas of Reading, English, Science and Math.

Middle School Principal Sara Eichten spoke of the middle school scores. The SLO for the middle school is to decrease the percentage of students performing at a below average level in math and reading to less than 10% while increasing the percentage of students performing at an above average level in math and reading to greater than 40%.

Elementary Principal Dr. Chris Kamrath explained the results as well as the SLO. The SLO focuses on student growth in ELA. The number of JK students below the benchmark will decrease from 75% to 20%. Kindergarten students below benchmark will decrease from 75% to 20%. First – fourth grades will decrease by 5% and increase by 5%. Kamrath answered questions from the board regarding the testing and assessments.

Bezek recapped that there were bright spots but there is work to do and explained how this ties in with the strategic plan.

**Cultivating Professional Growth and Learning:** Youth Options: Dressel asked how many applications there were this year compared to last year as well as the cost. Dressel also asked how many of the credits actually transfer on for the students after they graduate and attend college. Dressel would also like to see this item added to a work session for further discussion.

Colbeth moved with second by Schachtner to approve the Youth Options Applications for spring 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

Colbeth spoke of the new website and the discussions she was a part of at CESA regarding the website being accessible to those with special needs. Sheridan spoke of how CMS, the district web provider, has been challenged on this. The district team members that worked on the website will gather to walk through this.

**Engage the Community through Partnerships:** Thurmes spoke of an event at the New Richmond School that is on the topic of protecting student's digital footprints. Schachtner spoke of the offer the Jacob Wetterling Foundation made to the district. Thurmes also spoke of upcoming events through the county that may be of interest to the Somerset district residents.

**Advance Service and Operations:** Nothing to report.

**Consent Agenda:** Thurmes moved with second by Schachtner to approve all consent items:  
Approve the Minutes of the Regular Session of October 24, 2016 as presented.  
Approve the Minutes of the Work Session of November 7, 2016 as presented.  
Approve October/November Board Bills.  
Motion passed unanimously

**General Information:** The upcoming district events were shared.

Thurmes moved with second by Dressel to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Marie Colbeth , Vice President

Nancy Dressel, Clerk