

REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
April 16, 2012
MINUTES

Board President Tim Witzmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members present including Tim Witzmann, Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Robert Gunther, Mike Connor, Marie Colbeth, and Marin Hansch. Witzmann then introduced and welcomed Tom Walters and Kelly Ott who were newly elected board members from the April 5, 2012 election.

Hansch moved, with second by Connor, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Groups or Individuals Wishing to Be Heard: Witzmann read off this portion of the meeting. No one came forward.

The Board recognized 2012 Scholar Athletes Laura Wells, daughter of Scott & Karen Wells, and Derrek Tarter, son of Patrick & Karan Tarter: Program Director William Roll introduced Wells, and stated Tarter could not be present this evening as he was in Italy participating in a global challenge. Roll explained the scholar athlete awards, stating the student must have an academic GPA of 3.5 or more, and have lettered in sports including all conference. Wells introduced her parents, and said that she would not have become a scholar athlete without their support or without the support of her teammates. Witzmann presented Wells with a certificate and congratulated her on her accomplishment.

The Board recognized 2012 State Academic Decathlon participants Sydney Branom, Anthony Cogger, Ashley Duggan, Gage Kruecher, Lexine Lynner, Emilee Martell, Quinn Perro, Kaylin Peterson, Jessica Sisler, and advisor Heidi Haugen. Haugen said the students worked very hard and had a longer season than previously thought. Previously with participation in the regional competition in January and then on to state. Haugen said they were all very proud to go this far as it is unusual for a team that is re-grouping to make it this far. Haugen then introduced the students and acknowledged the ribbon winners, explaining what Academic Decathlon entails. Haugen also shared special thanks to Monica Duggan for helping to chaperone. Colbeth presented each of the students with certificates stating they did a wonderful job competing and that the Board was very proud of them.

The Board recognized Sara Kreibich for achieving the WCSS Distinguished Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award. High School Principal Shawn Madden introduced Kreibich and congratulated her for receiving this distinguished award. Madden gave a brief background of Kreibich's career. Kreibich then explained what the WCSS award entails, then introduced her husband, elementary teacher Cory Kreibich. Cranston presented Kreibich with a certificate of recognition, and thanked her for her hard work and her accomplishment at receiving the state award.

The Board recognized outgoing board members Catherine Cranston and Marin Hansch. Witzmann stated they seated tonight for their last regular board meeting. Cranston has been on the board for two terms, and Hansch filled in for outgoing Sharon Germain, and then was elected for another term. Witzmann thanked both for their critical thinking and perspectives they brought to the board. Colbeth said she will miss their input and contribution and it was a pleasure working with them; she said she will also miss Cranston's insight as a teacher. Witzmann stated Hansch provided great insight from a perspective of private industry. Cranston and Hansch then thanked the district residents, staff and children that they represented, stating being board members was a great learning experience.

The meeting was recessed at 7:26 p.m. and reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

Gunther moved with second by Hansch to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of March 19, 2012
- B. Approve Minutes of Special Session of March 19, 2012
- C. Approve Minutes of Executive Session of March 18, 2012
- D. Approve Payment of March/April Board Bills

- E. Approve Irrigation System Installation to the Practice Field with Costs Covered by the Athletic Dept. Fundraising
- F. Approve Spec Ed. Bus Aide Position for hours of 6:30 a.m.–8:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. for 2011-12 School Yr.
- G. Approve Nathan McNaughton to Transport Student to Baldwin for the 2011-12 School Year
- H. Approve Increase to 1.0 FTE for Laurie Lasure for Remainder of 2011-12 School Yr. to Cover Elem Speech Position
- I. Approve Laurie Lasure at .90 FTE for the 2012-13 School Yr. to Cover Elem Speech Position
- J. Approve Hiring Rachel Everson Fink for .50 FTE to Cover Remaining .50 FTE Speech Position for 2012-13 Sch. Yr.
- K. Approve Resignation for Retirement of Tim White, High School Social Studies Teacher
- L. Approve the 2012 Summer School Booklet for the 2012 Summer School Session

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Business Services Committee: *2012-2013 Preliminary Budget:* Witzmann turned this portion of the meeting to Business Director Dave Gerberding. Gerberding pointed out some budget concerns as well as various cost savings options which were discussed at tonight's special session. In addition, bids for custodial work and computers were discussed.

Facilities Committee: Committee Chair Moulton discussed topics from the Facilities Committee meeting including building space needs and what a new Stillwater Lift Bridge may mean for the district. Committee discussed possible cost of doing demographic studies, and asked Rosburg to gather demographic studies from the past.

Teaching & Learning Committee: Open Enrollment Request Catherine asked RR to explain new rule from DPI. Regular open enrollment window has now been expanded for three months instead of three weeks. New Exception language rule is new this year with the 7 criteria and board approval. RR mentioned different criteria that the students have to fit into for the seven. Gives the opportunity for family to move student to a better learning environment. Will take action tonight later on one that came in.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rosburg provided the enrollment report to date, stating enrollment went up slightly with 1,634 students this month, up four students from March. Also, tentative Committee Meetings for Monday, May 7, 2012 include Facilities and Business Services. Rosburg reminded board members they will need to think about committees they would like to be on any board officer positions they would like to hold. Pea Soup Days will be held this year on June 8, 9, and 10, and provides a great volunteer opportunity. Lastly, the Board/Admin retreat is tentatively schedule for June 28, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. A few board members said this was a conflict for them, so Rosburg will find another date that works. Bob said will not work. RR will try to find a day that works.

Board Report: CESA 11 Update: Witzmann asked Cranston to share what she does as a CESA 11 Board Rep Cranston stated the board meets in Turtle Lake the 2nd Thursday of each month, but two or three times a year the CESA board will host their meetings through the ITV room at the high school She said their meetings were very similar to the Board of Education meetings, and includes 37 in the CESA consortium, with eleven members on the CESA board. Cranston stated Somerset's staying connected to CESA would be very valuable. Cranston stated at the last CESA board meeting they discussed a new teacher evaluation system that will be mandated. The evaluation would be 50/50 classroom management and student achievement, and CESA will help districts with implementation. Cranston stated the new law is a result of WI waiver from no child left behind. *Community & School Involvement:* The Somerset Memorial Scholarship Vegas fundraiser was a success, with many board members, teachers and community members in attendance. Witzmann stated he spoke with WASB staff member Deb Guerke to speak to the Board and will possibly have her talk with Board members in May.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment: Cranston asked about the WINSS website that includes the data for WKCE scores. Director Trish Sheridan stated the data will be available for Board review at the data retreat in June. Summative data was posted to the WINSS site, however, school districts have not yet received their final reports. Initial results can be viewed at the WINSS website. <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/sig/index.html>. In the area of Professional Learning Communities (PLC's), teams across the district are completing the identification of essential learning targets for their grade level or content area. PLC teams worked on completing this task on April 5th after the early release. Their efforts will also include identifying and defining common vocabulary and working on other strategies outlined in their action plan. The elementary school has been working on this project as individual grade levels. PLC leaders will be receiving further training and support on Wednesday, April 25th during half-day sessions, which are designed to give the PLC leaders the knowledge and skills they need to facilitate the work of each individual team. In the area of assessment, the tenth graders just completed the PLAN assessment. This assessment is the midpoint measure of academic progress in ACT's College and Career Readiness System, and is designed to measure each student's current academic development, investigate career interests and determine a path for the remaining years of high school. A family information evening with the high school counselors, teachers and administration will be held in May.

High School Report: *Student Council Report:* Student Council Representative Grace Becher reported on community day plans as Student Council was asked to take on the organization of the high school's Annual Community Clean-up Day, scheduled for May 18th. Becher also reported that high school fundraising is completed for the year for each of the classes. Juniors are in the process of planning prom for April 28th. Seniors received their caps and gowns for graduation and have been in the planning process of picking their flower, song, etc. A group of students visited the Xcel Energy Center for leadership night, which included a tour, presentation, and a ticket to the Wild game. *Building Update:* Principal Shawn Madden congratulated students of the month for March including Freshmen recipients Nicole Tetzlaff and Mitchell Foster; Sophomore recipients Meghan Erickson and Jack Emmert; Junior recipients Natalie Moses and Tyler Ledbeter; and Senior recipients Ashley Bahr and Anthony James. Madden went on to report new tables were installed in the high school's multi-purpose room, and thanked the Board for their support in helping to receive the tables. The high school will again be participating in the Cedar Lake school bus races for the 5th year in a row. The event will be held on May 12th. The school district will be participating in a Tornado Awareness statewide drill on Thursday, April 19, 2012. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 7-11, 2012. The graduation ceremony will be held on Sunday, June 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the high school gym. The alternative graduation ceremony will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Madden asked board members to assist with the distribution of diplomas, and asked Rosburg to do the welcome.

Middle School Report: Principal Sara Eichten thanked Board Member Moulton for being a judge at the middle school Talent Show again this year. There were many strong musical and dancing artists this year and winners included Ethan Lammers, Gabbie Vogel, Kenzie Erickson, and Nikki Quaderer. Eichten also reported on the middle school playground, stating the clothing sale fundraiser has come to an end and the school earned \$291 in profit. St. Croix National Golf Course is offering a fundraising opportunity for the middle school this summer. Golf St. Croix National any Friday during the 2012 golf season at their weekday rate of \$41.95 green fee and cart and mention Somerset Middle School and they will donate \$7.50 back to the school. The JA BizTown Experience on April 4th was another successful field trip for sixth graders to experience what it would be like to run a business for an entire day. It was a great learning experience for students as they learned how to work together and tried to make a profit. As a wrap up to their Holocaust unit, 8th grade students will be presenting Power Points on May 4th from 8:20-10:20 in the morning. They are scheduled for 15 minute increments, and the board is welcome to attend. The middle school will be participating in Severe Weather Awareness Week. The final Performance Series tests will occur in the first few weeks of May. The results of these tests will help determine RtI groups for the fall, and plan for flexible grouping. Upcoming May Middle School Events include Student of the Month Breakfast, all school day trip to the St. Paul Saints Education Day game, spring music concerts, and Hoops for Hearts.

Elementary School Report: Principal Cherrie Wood said the Board is welcome to join them at the elementary school any time. She said there is something going on just about every day. Upcoming activities include Spartans Give Back which is an event and activities designed around service to others. The primary impetus is to raise food

for the student back-pack program which was started earlier this year. First through 4th graders will attend a Yumm Power assembly on nutrition which will focus the value of fruits and vegetables in the diet and have follow up activities. The elementary will participate in Severe Weather Awareness day. Jr. Kindergarten will hold their spring program on April 19th and 24th. Fourth graders will perform on April 27th. Also on that day, first grade students will have an “in-house” fieldtrip when the Bell Museum returns; this is one visit of a three part series and involves such interesting animals as Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches and Honey Bees. KARE 11 news will be at the presentation on the 11th as part of their on-going series “What’s Cool in Our Schools”. The month of May will also include assessments for all as the school uses the STAR and Performance Series instruments to measure student growth for the year. On the morning of May 18th the school will host its Annual Career Fair, and on May 22nd the Somerset Fire and Rescue will provide safety and CPR presentation to students.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director Dave Gerberding stated the report information was covered earlier in the agenda tonight.

Pupil Services Report: Director Darren Kern provided a report for Board review. Gunther asked how the new State of WI seclusion and restraint laws will affect schools. Kern said this is a very big deal for all school districts. New law which goes in to affect September 1, 2012, applies to all students, not just students in special education. The key pieces of the new law require that seclusion and/or restraint only be used in situations where imminent physical danger to students or staff is present. The new law also requires that parents be informed any time these procedures are used. It also requires the Principal to prepare a written report of the incidents. Kern stated Minnesota passed a similar law four years ago, which was not quite as restrictive as the WI law, but this may be a national trend. The High School Life skills group will be hosting its annual dinner for families on April 26th from 5-7pm. The Early Childhood Family Fun Carnival Event is being hosted by Somerset on Thursday April 19th from 5:00-6:45pm, with fun events for families to participate in as well as a parent break-out session on making the most of time with your child. The High School Life Skills group has also completed their annual Geranium sale, and is now putting together hanging flower baskets that will be sold soon. Eighth grade G/T students are coordinating a project with St. Croix Parks and the St. Croix County Waste Departments. The students are researching creating a flip sheet on how individual recycling awareness will be attached to the parks waste paper containers and recycling containers.

Action

Human Resources Committee: Employee Handbook: Per Gunther’s request, Rosburg clarified that, from tonight’s special session, there was consensus on three items. Motion by Gunther with second by Connor, to approve the 2012-2013 Employee Handbook as drafted to include Option 3 of the Opt Out and to include Section 7 from teacher compensation planning and items 3.02 and 3.03 from the professional growth language. Motion carried unanimously.

Facilities Committee: Moulton moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the replacement of the Middle School condenser and repair the high school parking lot steps. Moulton said initially the middle school boiler was included along with the condenser, but the condenser is in worse shape, and the district would be saving \$120,000 in the budget this way. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Services Committee: Colbeth moved, with second by Witzmann, to approve the Maintenance Experts Custodial Contract for the 2012-13 through 2014-15 Fiscal Years. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Moulton, to approve Three-and Five-Year Capital Lease Contracts with Providence Capital Network for District Technology. Motion carried unanimously.

Teaching & Learning Committee: Cranston moved, with second by Hansch, to approve Tammie Wishard as the School District Voter Registration Deputy for 2012 and 2013. Colbeth said this is a good opportunity to have a student in this situation, and a high school student may benefit with training involved. Rosburg asked Village Clerk Pam Donohoe, who was in attendance, to share her thoughts. Donohoe said the position is a long-term commitment and disagreed with having a student in this position because of the need for consistency and the

complexity of the training within the different municipalities. Donohoe added a student has to be 18 years old and would have to be trained every year. There being no other discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Approve Open Enrollment Exception Request for 10th Grade Student: Cranston moved, with second by Connor, to approve the open enrollment request, which met one of the seven criteria. Motion carried unanimously.

Installation and Oath of Office: Board re-elected member Brian Moulton, and newly elected board members Kelly Ott, and Thomas Walters repeated the Oath of Office and were installed as members for a three-year term.

Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to Move to Executive Session in Accordance with Wis. Statutes 19.85 (1), (c) for the purpose of discussing benefit data of support staff employees. Upon roll call vote, all members voted, “yes.” Motion carried unanimously. Board returned to open session. Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to approve the sick bank requests for two support staff employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Moulton, to Move to Executive Session to address employee issue in Accordance with Wis. Statutes 19.85 (1),(c) for the purpose of considering employment and performance evaluation data relating to staff members; 19.85(1)(f) for preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges which if discussed in public would likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon their reputation of any person involved in such problems or investigations; and 19.85 (1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. Upon roll call vote, all members voted, “yes.” Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Witzmann, President

Brian Moulton, Vice President