

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
April 19, 2010**

Vice President Brian Moulton called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Roll Call was taken. Present were Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Marie Colbeth, Robert Gunther, and Marin Hansch. Mike Connor entered at 6:40 p.m. Tim Witzmann was absent.

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

Review of K-12 Educational Journey with High School Seniors:

James Duggan, Benjamin Germain, Jenna Green, Vincent Johnson, Jessica Lammers, Shanise McMahon, Heather Northey, Brendan Weise, Robert Wendt, and Alyssa Wylie. (*Handout*)

Groups or Individuals Wishing To Be Heard: No one came forward.

Positive Recognition

The board recognized State FBLA participants including Megan Duggan, Zachary Helgeson, Aminah Henne, Tyler Lindquist, Mackenzie Ott, Elizabeth Ottman, Jacob Perkins, and Johanna Smith. Advisor Gwen Hennessey said the group had another active year due to Johanna Smith's stepping up to host the regional FBLA competition this year in which 500 students from school districts around the state participated. Over 2,000 students competed at state. Hennessey thanked the board for the opportunity for students to participate in FBLA. Cranston presented award certificates to each of the students, congratulating them on their success.

The board recognized International Football Participants Luke Buerkley, son of Warren and Deb Buerkely, Rocky Larson, son of Bruce and Kelly Larson, and Robert Wendt, son of Bernie and Jean Wendt. Coach Bruce Larson said Somerset has participated in this program for the past couple of years in Japan. Because of their economy, Japan backed out, but France stepped up. The students spent ten days in France with 37 other students from the U.S. Coach Larson provided some highlights of the overseas game. Wendt and Larson will also be playing the State high school game in Oshkosh in July. Coach Larson was selected coach of this team. Moulton presented the students with a certificate, stating they represented Somerset very well.

The board recognized Scholar Athletes Johanna Smith, daughter of Rennie & Debra Smith, and Robert Wendt, son of Bernie and Jean Wendt. High School Principal Shawn Madden said both students have done a phenomenal job and worked hard to achieve this award. Wendt has participated in football all of his high school years and was in track the last two years. He is also a member of the National Honor Society, and has volunteered for many community needs. Wendt will attend St. Thomas Academy in the fall. Smith has been involved in activities including cross country, track, cheerleading, FBLA and various church activities. Smith will attend Purdue University in the fall. Both students introduced their parents, and were thanked by the board for their accomplishments.

Scott Zoellner, representative of Prudential Companies, presented the Prudential Spirit of Community award to Johanna Smith, daughter of Rennie and Deb Smith. Zoellner said it was a pleasure to present this award, which represents achievement in service to the community, Smith. Zoellner stated thousands of students were considered for the award, and thanked Smith for her many hours volunteerism and service projects.

Meeting was recessed at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:53 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Cranston moved, with second by Hansch, to approve the: Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of March 22, 2010 of the School Board
- Approve payment of March/April Board Bills
- Approve resignation for retirement of R.E. Walker, High School English Teacher and Class Advisor
- Approve hiring of Brianna Letnes as short-term substitute art teacher for Stephanie Magnuson for 2009-10 school year
- Approve 2010 Summer School booklet for the 2010 summer school session
- Approve 2009-2010 spring coaching and advising assignments

- Approve early graduation of student Heather Kralewski

Discussion:

Facilities Committee: Committee member Moulton provided an update on geothermal considerations for the district, stating the committee is still reviewing numbers and looking at replacement needs of the high school boiler and air conditioning.

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent Rosburg indicated enrollment numbers are down slightly, but remain steady. Committee meetings tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2010 include Teaching & Learning and Business Services. The Board Retreat is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 26, 2010; packets will be provided before the meeting, and additional handouts will be provided the night of the meeting. Board officer positions will be voted on and members should inform President Witzmann of any special interests in committee or liaison positions they may have. Pea Soup Days will be held June 11-13, 2010; if anyone is available to help, Rosburg said they may contact the Somerset Chamber of Commerce. Rosburg said the Village of Somerset scheduled a Storm Water Utility Meeting for April 21st at 5:00 p.m. to talk to the public about fees that may be charged for storm water runoff. Gunther and administrative staff member Avery will attend.

Board Report:

CESA 11 Update: Cranston stated the CESA Annual Meeting is June 7th. The district's "pod" is not up for re-election, but a representative is needed. The search committee for a new CESA 11 administrator was unable to come up with a large enough pool of applicants; therefore, the search was expanded to include more regional and some business experience (in addition to education). Applications will be accepted through April 27th. *Community Involvement:* Cranston attended the Somerset Memorial Fund Committee's annual Vegas Night event. Cranston suggested the SMSF committee expand their donation/gift requests to the school board and teacher association. Colbeth attended the high school's "Encore" performance. Cranston attended a high school baseball game. Hansch attended a recent CESA board meeting with Rosburg. She said the presenter was a dynamic and motivational speaker, whose message was teachers make the difference. *School Liaisons:* No report.

High School Report: High School Principal Shawn Madden stated Operation Prom is being held tonight. He thanked the student council and AODA committee for organizing this event, stating many parents also helped. Madden talked about the Senior Profile provided in the packet tonight to give the board an opportunity to see the future plans of graduating seniors, indicating the sixteen "career clusters" are very well covered throughout the graduating class, including "green" careers and global studies. Madden also recognized students of the month. Tornado and severe weather awareness week will be observed with mock drills. Madden ended his report stating Community Clean up day is scheduled for May 7th, with a rain date scheduled for May 14th. Many clean-up activities are planned throughout the campus and community.

Middle School Report: Middle School Principal Sarah Eichten reported on the middle school playground construction, stating a fundraiser party for the playground is scheduled for May 15, and will include a family dance; Eichten indicated the party is scheduled the same day as installation of the playground. She added that three sets of Adirondack chairs, built by Mark Barron's shop class will be raffled at the event. The middle school also recently held their annual talent show. Eichten said the students had fun and turned out with a variety of different talent this year. MAPS testing for 5th – 8th grade is scheduled for mid-April through mid-May.

Elementary School Report: Elementary School Principal Cherrie Wood stated students enjoyed the all school assembly regarding making good choices. MAPs testing for Grades 2, 3, and 4 is slated for April 26th through May 12th. Staff reviewed building goals during recent in-service day. Students learned about deserts, and desert living through a research center in the Namibian Desert via Skype. Local author Rick Chrustowski visited with students about his book that he both wrote and illustrated. Fertilized chicken eggs recently hatched to the enjoyment of Kindergarten students. Early release day at the elementary will include a career fair with many business people representing all 16 career clusters visiting that day.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director of Business Services & Operations Bob Avery presented the cash flow report. He said the first draft budget will be brought to the Business Services Committee in May. Avery reviewed 3rd quarter highlights, stating 58% of the budget's payroll has been paid out, special education is at 62 ½ % of the budget, and food service is running equivalent to last year. Avery ended his report stating budget performance is where it is expected to be.

Pupil Services Report: Director of Pupil Services Darren Kern said the Friendship Games, which will be held on May 21st, will have attendance of 440 students, the largest number to date. Kern stated the district is in Year 2 of the autism project. Sonya Stewart will present at the state autism conference in Madison. The district's last step in the self assessment project is the post high school survey for special needs students. The survey's purpose is to find out what special education students are doing after they are done with high school. ELL parent night event is scheduled for April 29th. Kern ended his report stating the department works with an average of seven homeless families each year. This year, due to the economy, there are 22 families the department is working with—a significant jump.

Curriculum & Instruction Report: Director of Curriculum & Instruction Ron Berg stated the district is in the middle of MAPs testing for grades 4 through 12; the testing will continue through May 17th. The MAPs test has been very positive for the district in that it can assess student needs much earlier than with WKCE testing. Because of the quick assessment time of MAPs, data from the tests were reviewed at the recent district data retreat. Berg stated the Strategic plan's was also recently reviewed, stating the one of the plan's strength area is the career piece, which has been very successful throughout the schools.

Teaching & Learning and Business Services Committee

Cranston moved, with second by Hansch to approve 2010-2011 staffing request items #1 – 28 projected at \$180,000. Cranston said building principals took a lot of time to move around staff needs, and she provided a summary of those needs. She stated overall the district will be adding 1.5 FTE in JK, but will be reducing aides, which will offset the cost. A shared elementary/middle school music teacher will be added. The high school is adding 1.0 FTE for a core subject and adding a French course. The State of WI now requires gifted and talented students in grades K through Two be identified. To that end, the Special Education Department will add 1.0 FTE to help in this area and to help staff the resource room. Avery provided a handout on the impact of how these FTE's impact class sizes. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Services Committee

Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to approve Tru-Green for 2010 Lawn Care. Colbeth stated the district did not receive any other bidders, but was assured to know the district heavily interviewed the vendor. Motion carried.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to approve a resolution to issue non-referendum debts. Avery noted in the cover report that one piece of language will be changed in the second paragraph, and the resolution will be updated after today's Facilities Committee meeting. Estimated standalone building project amount is \$1,385,181. The resolution for borrowing remains at \$1million. Colbeth felt financing options provided were good. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Facilities Committee

Moulton moved, with second by Gunther, to approve district up-front purchase of wood chip base for the middle school playground for \$5,250. Marie asked about safety of wood chips. Eichten affirmed the district would be paid back by the playground committee. Motion carried.

Moulton moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the Standalone Building project of either 8,000 or 11,000 square feet with a total cost not to exceed \$1,386,000. Moulton said the best option from today's bid opening was an 11,683 square feet steel structure. Kraus-Anderson's Gary Zifko said bids were received this morning on the project, and K-A has been reviewing numbers. K-A was happy with the numbers that came out; Zifko stated bids received gives the district a good choice. He said the structure will cost about \$102 per square foot. Colbeth

added the timing of the building presents very good building opportunities, and appreciates what K-A has brought to the district in this project. Motion carried.

Cranston moved with second by Colbeth to move into Executive Session in Accordance with Wis. Statutes 19.85(1), (c) for the purpose of discussing performance, compensation, and benefit data of administrators, teachers, support staff, and supervisory support staff employees.

On roll call, All voted yes and moved to the DO Board Room.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk