

REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
December 20, 2010

Call to Order and Roll Call: Board President Tim Witzmann called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Roll call was taken. Present were Tim Witzmann, Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Robert Gunther, and Mike Connor. Marie Colbeth and Marin Hansch were absent.

Approval of Agenda: Cranston moved, with second by Connor, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Positive Recognition: The board recognized Somerset School District Athletic and Programs Director Brad Nemec for receiving this year's Wisconsin Athletic Director of the Year Award. Superintendent Randy Rosburg introduced Nemec, stating that Nemec's recent award makes him a two-time award winner; Nemec is only one of two people in the Wisconsin Athletic Director Association's history who has received the award twice. Rosburg went on to state that Nemec has been the recipient of all eligible WADA recognition and awards, and Nemec truly represents Somerset and WADA well. Rosburg then opened the floor for comments. Many audience members commented about Nemec, stating that he is very deserving of the award, is a good person, very inspirational and supportive of staff and students. Nemec thanked everyone for the recognition.

Nemec was also recognized as a Silver Ring Award recipient for 25 years of employment with the district. Rosburg stated that during the past 25 years Nemec has been a driver's education teacher, early childhood program director, community education program director, assistant principal, phy ed teacher, and has held various coaching positions. Rosburg added that Nemec is the master of volunteerism and has put in more volunteer time than anyone he knows. Witzmann presented Nemec with a certificate of recognition for the WADA award and a certificate of recognition for 25 years service, stating that Nemec has been an icon in the district and the community.

Francis Jamie Rushton, son of Francis & Karmen Rushton, was recognized for receiving a Somerset High School diploma. Witzmann presented the diploma to Rushton, congratulating him on his hard work to achieve this goal.

Meeting recessed at 7:18 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

Moulton moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of November 15, 2010
- B. Approve payment of November/December Board Bills
- C. Approve hiring of Dawn Spafford as the District Census Taker for 2011 at a cost of \$2,500.00
- D. Approve hiring of Holly Waterman, as long-term substitute for Kdgn Art & Elem. G/T for the 2010-11 school year
- E. Approve additional aide time of 2 hours and 45 minutes/per day for Tabitha Dusek for the 2010-11 school year
- F. Approve additional aide time of 15 minutes/per day for Nathan McNaughton for the 2010-11 school year
- G. Approve Official Reimbursement Intent Resolution for Technology Lease
- H. Approve winter coaching and advising assignments

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion: Human Resources Committee: Measures of Success: Gunther asked Rosburg to summarize the committee meeting on the topic of "Measures of Success." Rosburg stated the Measures of Success is a reflection of all student learning and activities going on at the district. Witzmann indicated DPI also has measures of success for Wisconsin school districts to follow, however, Somerset's own measures are a bit

more extensive. Facilities Committee: Middle School Boiler/Chiller vs. Geothermal: Moulton stated the committee reviewed a number of companies regarding geothermal for the middle school, however, the payback is 25 years or greater, so the committee decided not to go with geothermal but will pursue the gas boiler and electric chiller. Student Enrollment and Space Accommodations: Director of Business Operations Robert Avery stated student enrollment information provided at the committee meeting was also going to be included in the upcoming district newsletter. Avery said enrollment growth at both the middle and elementary schools look manageable, however, the high school may be anywhere from 26% to 43% over building capacity within five years. Moulton stated the committee brainstormed how to get climbing high school enrollment information out to the community, and the newsletter seemed a good tool for this. Witzmann asked that the board keep the demographic study on the horizon as it would take about six months to accomplish and, given the increases in enrollment the district has had this year, it's important to know where the district is headed. Moulton stated the district has done three demographic studies in the past ten years, adding that the Facilities Committee will discuss having another demographic study done in the near future. Teaching and Learning Committee: 2011-2012 High School Course Offering Book: Cranston said the course offering book was being brought forward to the full board for a first reading and encouraged everyone to take the time to read through it before its approval in January.

Superintendent Information: Superintendent Rosburg reported on current enrollment numbers, stating enrollment is down by three students from last month. Tentative board committee meetings slated for Monday, January 3, 2011 include Business Services Committee, Facilities Committee, and Governance Committee. The meetings will start at 6:00 p.m.

Board: CESA 11 Update: Cranston invited board members and administrative staff to attend the next CESA 11 board meeting on January 13th at 7:00 p.m. at Osceola School District via ITV. She stated the actual meeting will be held in Turtle Lake, however, it will also be held via ITV in three other areas including Osceola. Cranston went on to report CESA 11 is hiring a new business manager and has one interview remaining. The final candidate will meet with the CESA 11 board at its January meeting. The new business manager will start February 1st. Cranston said CESA's Shared Services contracts all went out today, and CESA has asked all districts to place this on their January agendas for board approval. CESA will also update their website to make it more interactive with RTI and PBIS teleconferencing which will be offered to administrators. Community and School Involvement: Connor said last Tuesday he dedicated a new Somerset Ice Arena score board in the name of former school board member and Somerset Hockey Association developer Rex Dalzell. Connor stated it was an honor to do so. Cranston wanted to thank the high school hockey players who have donated their time each week to work with children who are learning to skate. Rosburg stated Hansch joined him last week at a meeting with Senator Sheila Harsdorf and other legislators who shared insights into possible political issues of the Wisconsin governor-elect. 2011 WASB Delegate Assembly Resolutions: Witzmann stated if board members had any thoughts or feedback, they should contact him before next month's regular meeting when the board will act upon the resolutions.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report: Manager of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Trisha Sheridan, reported building level RtI teams were busy developing common language, reviewing foundational beliefs, and learning about a new LD law that recently went into effect. A sub-committee of volunteers from all three buildings was formed to explore different RtI models. The sub-committee will collaborate with the intent to present a recommendation to the building committees at a joint meeting in February. They plan to adopt a model at that time and break back into building teams to continue their work.

High School Report: High School Principal Shawn Madden reported in the area of character education, naming high school students of the month for November. Madden stated the recipients were nominated based on demonstrating one or all six qualities of "The Six Pillars of Character." In the area of teaching and learning, Madden congratulated teachers Eric Olson, Richard Thompson, Guidance Counselor Jeremy Kerg, and the Community Partnership Team members for receiving National Certification for the Project Lead The

Way program. Madden said PLTW is the nation's leading provider of science, technology, engineering, and math education, offering a rigorous curriculum that allows students to apply what they are learning in class to real-life engineering and technology projects. Madden went on to congratulate Sarah Icenogle, Jenna Evenson, Kate Rorabeck, and Amy Young for receiving a \$500.00 AODA mini-grant from CESA #11. The funds will be used to establish a peer-to-peer mentorship program with high school STAND members and 8th grade students. Madden ended his report congratulating Academic Decathlon Coach Troy Pertzborn and his student team for advancing to regional level of the Wisconsin Academic Decathlon Competition scheduled for January 7, 2011 at UW Barron County Technical College.

Middle School Report: Middle School Principal Sara Eichten reported that student council has been busy with fundraisers including Penny Wars, which raised over \$1,100 this year and enabled the school to adopt five families from the Salvation Army. Other school activities included Santa Photos and Toys for Tots, in which the school was able to collect over 50 toys for needy children. Middle school students will be going to Trollhaugen Ski Resort this week for snow tubing. Two hundred twenty students including St. Anne students have signed up to attend. Eichten stated all of these activities work toward Character Education and Community Involvement goals for the middle school. A middle school music concert was held on December 16 and was well-attended. In the area of building goals, Eichten stated the Assessment Committee continues to meet and reviewed four different types of assessments, matching the type of assessment to accurately reflect what students learned. The Common Core Standards roll-out process for math and reading will occur in January.

Elementary School Report: Elementary School Principal Cherrie Wood reported in the area of Character Education-Community Partnerships saying the elementary school continues to collect surveys from field trip sites and from speakers so staff may evaluate student behavior from outside perspectives. Elementary and high school counselors have coordinated to enlist high school students to assist with the homework club that is held for 3rd and 4th grade students two nights per week. Elementary and middle school counselors have coordinated a "Bus Buddy Program." This program will be piloted with Jr. Kindergarten and Kindergarten students who may need some assistance riding on daily route buses. First grade continues their blog with the families as a communication tool. Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students wrote letters to Santa and were collected by the NR News. For instructional strategy, 2nd grade is learning research and note taking skills, which have been tied to a science study of the planets. Students are also using a web site called Raz Kids which uses leveled books, headphones for multiple readings of a book, and follows up with a quiz. The first electronic version of the trimester report card went home to parents last week.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director of Business Services & Operations Robert Avery said the Cash Flow and Monthly Reports were attached for board review. He stated budget development was reviewed this month at the committee level. Other items coming out of the committee were included in the "Action" items later in the agenda.

Pupil Services Report: Pupil Services Director Darren Kern, was unavailable to report, however, Rosburg provided a handout of current ELL, GT and Special Ed enrollment numbers. Rosburg also reported that the ACCESS test for ELL has been in preparation and will be given to ELL students in January. Rosburg also stated the Strategic Plan Committee has been broken down into three action teams, and the committee would like to have a board member on each of the three teams. Moulton offered to sit on the Life & Career Skills team, and Cranston said to include her on the Information, Media and Technology Skills team. Rosburg stated one more board member was needed for the third action team of Learning and Innovation Skills, and is hoping to hear from one of the board members to be included on the team.

Action

Business Services Committee

Witzmann moved, with second by Gunther, to approve completing an actuarial study for the Somerset School District. Avery explained an actuarial study needs to be done every three years; 2006 was the last study done for the district. Avery said the committee would like to move forward to have that study reflect changes in order to continue to know the district's actual and future funding liability for employee benefits per OPEB guidelines. The district will solicit bids for this study. Witzmann asked for updates once contract negotiations have begun. Motion carried unanimously.

Witzmann moved, with second by Gunther, to approve posting for a .5 FTE Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Secretary position with a wage not to exceed \$10,000 and with no benefits. The board was informed the position's total was \$13,941 which included some benefits including HRA, TSA and paid time off. Cranston said the intent of the board was that the position has no benefits. Most board members felt the position should not include paid time off, and should only have the mandated benefits which are WRS, FICA, life and long-term disability insurance. Witzmann stated the motion should be amended to reflect mandated benefits only. The motion was amended as Witzmann moved, with second by Gunther, to approve posting for a .5 FTE Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Secretary position with a wage not to exceed \$10,000 and with mandated benefits only. Motion carried unanimously.

Witzmann moved, with second by Connor, to approve a three-year contract for document shredding with Confidential Records, Inc. This contract is a discount over previous contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Governance Committee

Approve Board of Education Evaluation Instrument: Connor stated the board has been discussing a board self evaluation instrument for some time. This month, the Governance Committee selected two self-evaluation instruments to bring before. Board members agreed to use the first evaluation, or the Somerset evaluation instrument, instead of the sample from Elk Mound School District. Board members agreed the instrument has everything in it including opportunity to insert comments about topics. Witzmann stated the board may use this instrument on a trial basis for now. Cranston reminded members this is a self-evaluation assessment, and that the board will not be doing a 360-degree assessment outside of the board members as yet. Rosburg affirmed other items with the board regarding the instrument, including that the assessment will be done on-line, the evaluation will be done only by board members to start, and the instrument will go out in April of each year to report at the May board meeting.

Cranston moved, with second by Connor, to adjourn at 8:56 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk