

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
February 15, 2010**

President Tim Witzmann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call was taken. Present were Tim Witzmann, Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Marie Colbeth, Michael Connor, Robert Gunther and Marin Hansch. No members were absent.

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

Moulton moved, with second by Connor to move into Executive Session in Accordance with Wis. Statute 19.85(1)(a)(c) for the purpose of preliminary consideration of employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of the district administrator, other administrators, teachers, supervisory support staff, and support staff. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

Gunther moved, with second by Connor to move into open session. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

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

Positive Recognition: High School Principal Shawn Madden introduced 2010 Valedictorian MacKenzie Ott, son of David and Kelly Ott. Madden stated Ott proved to be a superior scholar, with many accomplishments throughout his school career, including being chosen as a recipient of the State of Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship. Ott plans to attend college to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering, but has not made a final decision on where he will attend college. He has narrowed his choices down to four colleges, including Purdue University, Iowa State, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Principal Madden introduced 2010 Salutatorian Johanna Smith, daughter of Rennie and Debra Smith. Madden said Smith's scholastic performance during her years at Somerset High School has been exceptional, working hard to successfully complete higher level college preparatory classes, receiving several awards during the last four years, including academic excellence letters, medals, and certificates. After graduation, Smith will attend Purdue University in LaFayette, Indiana, to pursue degrees in Chemical Engineering and Physics and will continue her studies to earn a PhD in Chemical Engineering from Purdue. Cranston presented both Ott and Smith with certificates, thanking them for their hard work, saying they have very bright futures.

The Dynamics Show Choir was also recognized for their outstanding performance before the General Session of the Wisconsin Education Convention in Milwaukee. Vocal instructor Rachel Erickson introduced Dynamics members, those in attendance and those who could not attend, including Brittney Anderson, Jeremy Bucklew, Dana Carlson, Cylie Colbeth, Briana Crichton, Riley Jackson, Jacob Lang, Cedric Mantovani, Elizabeth Ottman, Amanda Prax, Alicia Post, Haley Ritter, John Russell, Johanna Smith, Natalie Strese, Cody Waalen, and Emilee Wolf. President Witzmann stated the show choir had an outstanding performance before approximately 500 people who attended the General Session at the convention.

Meeting was recessed at 7:20 p.m. and reconvened at 7:34 p.m.

Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of January 18, 2010
- B. Approve payment of January/February Board Bills
- C. Approve 2009-10 Spring Coaching Assignments
- D. Approve CESA 11 2010-11 Shared Services Contract
- E. Approve Confidential Records Shredding Services Contract
- F. Approve Post-Prom Facility Sponsorship and \$1,200.00 Facility Fee
- G. Approve Demulling proposal for Lawn Care Services for 2010 and 2011
- H. Approve resignation of school crossing guard Kathy Kirkman
- I. Approve 2010-2011 School Calendar

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Business Services Committee: The committee reported on the Review of 2009-2010 2nd Quarter Budget to Actual Report. Business Services Director Avery stated the district's budget is on target, keeping in mind business administration expenses this year include costs for the completion of the Spartan Drive project.

Governance Committee: Connor said the committee reviewed the suggested revisions to Policy IKFAA High School Graduation Requirements, bringing it forward to the board for a first reading. Minor revisions were made to the policy, however the primary change was that students will no longer be required to submit a work portfolio.

Facilities Committee: Moulton gave an update of the standalone building project. Rosburg stated handouts and enclosures regarding the update were made available in the packet, and that the district is working on bid numbers hoping to get them later this week. Rosburg stated questions can be directed to him, and he will continue to send out updated project information as it comes in. Hansch added that everyone involved in the project is looking at the best interests of the students and teachers, and felt the project was proceeding very well.

Information

Enrollment: Superintendent Rosburg stated enrollment is down slightly, but has been stable throughout the year. *Tentative committee meetings slated for Monday, March 1, 2010* include Business Services Committee, Facilities Committee, Teaching & Learning Committee, and Governance Committee. Meeting times will be confirmed at a later date. *Change Board of Education Meeting Date to March 22, 2010 due to Spring Break:* All members agreed to move the regular March meeting to March 22, 2010. *Joint PAC Board Member Meeting March 23, 2010:* Rosburg stated board members interested in attending the meeting are to inform him in early March for CESA registration. Rosburg indicated that people have spoken highly of the featured guest speaker.

Board Report: *CESA 11 Update:* Cranston stated CESA 11 completed its triennial evaluation with a report of high satisfaction of services from all member schools. CESA hired a search firm to help in the process of hiring a new CESA 11 executive director. The CESA board will meet throughout March hoping to have final interviews by the end of March. *Community Involvement:* Cranston and Witzmann judged FBLA regional's the district hosted recently, both stating it was impressive, and a positive and rewarding experience. Cranston also attended a recent staff trip to Cumberland School District to look at new assessment software the Somerset School District is considering. Connor attended a Super Bowl fundraiser for school sports. *School Liaisons:* Nothing to report. *WASB Convention Report:* Witzmann stated a lively discussion was had amongst the Wisconsin Association of School Boards delegates. Witzmann encouraged board members to get involved next year.

High School Report: Principal Shawn Madden introduced students from Students Taking Action New Direction (STAND). The students gave a presentation regarding the group's mission and commitment. STAND's projects include: Kick Butt Day, Healthy Choices Day, Public Service Announcement contest, Operation Prom; and SOS players. Students presented Witzmann with a proclamation of pledge and support. Witzmann said STAND students are doing a great job of communicating the importance of making good choices. *Building Updates:* Madden read names of the recent Students of the Month in line with Character Education building goals. Madden thanked students and staff for their support of Character Education. Madden stated the high school will be hosting Career Day this Friday, indicating it was a large undertaking for all involved. Madden stated all 16 career clusters will be covered. Staff development will be later that day and will focus on MAPs test data. The high school will be hosting wrestling sectionals this Saturday.

Student Council Report: Student Johanna Smith reported on high school student activities including the selection of prom activities. Other activities include a sophomore fundraiser, Penny Wars, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fundraiser, and meetings for seniors to discuss Senior Memory Night, graduation, and class picnic. The board asked Smith about her involvement in the FBLA regional competition last Saturday. Smith stated she and advisor Gwen Hennessy started planning the event a year ago when Smith became regional president. Over 500 students registered for the event. Witzmann commented he was impressed with how well the event was organized.

Middle School Report: Principal Sara Eichten provided an update on the middle school playground, stating \$200 was recently received from the Lions club. Eichten indicated installation of the equipment is set for May 15th and 16th. Eichten went on to report students raised \$584.00 for Haiti with "Hats for Haiti" day. During the

upcoming teacher in-service, staff will look at assessments and standards and modify thematic units, revising them for next fall. Upcoming school events include the Fine Arts Festival and the middle school play. Middle school teachers Pam Seekel, Tracy Yndestad, and Stacy Toenjes joined Eichten as they presented a short “readers’ theater,” to thank the board for allowing them to attend a recent reading convention in Milwaukee.

Elementary School Report: Principal Cherrie Wood introduced elementary teachers Sherry Petznick and Kristin Flater, for their presentation to the board regarding infusing instruction with technology, and the use of technology to motivate students to read more books. Petznick and Flater worked with students creating book trailers and loading them on to the Internet’s You Tube, stating students are the target audience for this project; the book trailers will give students a better idea of the subject matter of the books they are viewing. Wood reported on other activities and upcoming elementary events including parent teacher conferences.

Director of Business Services & Operations Report: Avery presented the State of Wisconsin’s proclamation of school bus driver recognition week as another opportunity to thank the transportation company and its drivers for the safe transportation of district students. Tax collections for 2009 have started, with the largest month’s collections typically in February. Avery said the district is further ahead than last year with collections, and will report further on this subject in March.

Pupil Services Report: Pupil Services Director Darren Kern was unable to attend tonight’s meeting, however, informational enclosures regarding special education enrollment and ELL information was provided. Board members reviewed a list of donations from area businesses supporting the upcoming Friendship Games which Somerset Schools will host this year. Kern is looking for additional support. Staff and board are encouraged to contact Kern regarding others who can help with the games. The goal of the Friendship Games is to have more schools become involved in the event.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report: Director Ron Berg stated the district, with assistance provided by WITC, is putting together high school articulation agreements, such as post-secondary options. The Business Education Department is also creating articulation agreements to help students get a jump start on vocational education. Regarding assessments, Berg stated two of the district’s school buildings will be MAPs testing three-times a year. Six teachers went to a recent MAPs training, which includes four levels of assessment, with the district currently at the second level. With regard to the district’s strategic plan, Berg stated administration has made a formal decision to move away from an elementary foreign language, but will expose staff to the Rosetta Stone curriculum with student development preceding.

Business Services Committee: Witzmann reported Avery has clarified the budget timeline process for the board as it moves forward. Gunther moved, with second by Hansch, to approve the 2010-2011 Budget process and timeline. Motion carried unanimously.

Facilities Committee: Moulton summarized the capital projects involved including resurfacing the track, repairing and resealing high school roof, middle school kitchen remodeling, upgrading the high school sound system, repairing and recoating gymnasium flooring, construction of the standalone building, and replacement of furnishings. Moulton moved, with second by Cranston, to approve the Capital Maintenance projects plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Moulton moved, with second by Connor, to approve a parent transportation contract. Avery said he was limited as to how much he could discuss the issue due to student privacy. Avery stated this is a challenging situation, as regular bus transportation of this student is not working; the school and transportation company have tried a number of solutions. The motion would approve the student’s parent to transport the student to school, with reimbursement to the parent for transportation expense. Motion carried unanimously.

Witzmann moved, with second by Cranston to approve the Kraus-Anderson Construction Company contract. Rosburg stated the contract has been reviewed by the district’s liability insurance company, legal counsel, Facility Committee board members, as well as the construction management company’s attorneys as well. Motion carried unanimously.

Cranston moved, with second by Colbeth, to adjourn at 9:11 a.m.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk