

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
January 18, 2010**

Board President Tim Witzmann called the meeting to order in the District Office Board Room at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken. Members present were Tim Witzmann, Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston Marie Colbeth, Mike Connor, Robert Gunther and Marin Hansch.

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

Hansch moved, with second by Gunther, to move into executive session in accordance with WI 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 and supervisory support staff. On Roll Call vote, all present voted yes. Meeting went into closed session. Hansch moved, with second by Moulton to close executive session at 6:45 p.m. All board members present voted yes to close executive session and reconvene in open session in the high school IMC. Meeting reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m. in the high school IMC.

Groups or Individuals Wishing To Be Heard: President Witzmann read off the rules for this portion of the meeting. Student Council Representative Johanna Smith stated FBLA's regional competition would be held at Somerset High School on February 6, 2010, and asked board members to think about volunteering their time that day. The Board then allowed Johanna to read the high school Student Council Report, enabling her to leave early to perform in the evening's high school music performance.

Positive Recognition: President Witzmann recognized Spartan Silver Ring Award recipients including elementary special education teacher Cheryl Ek, high school English teacher Susan Oberstar, and elementary physical education teacher Robert Seibel. Witzmann said it was a good opportunity to recognize staff members who have been with the district for 25 years, and the commitment and difference they have made for students as well as staff. Each of the recipients thanked the board and administration for the recognition, and was presented with a certificate of appreciation.

The Board also recognized the district's adult school crossing guards including Sheri Cunningham, Kathy Kirkman, Heather McConaughy, Michelle Perry, Julie Schultz, and Wendy Trout. Principal Sara Eichten read from the state's proclamation regarding adult school crossing guard week. Eichten thanked the crossing guards for their bravery in inclement weather, and their commitment to cross students safely to school every day. Cranston thanked the crossing guards, and presented them with a certificate of appreciation.

Meeting was recessed at 7:20 p.m. and reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

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

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of December 21, 2009
- B. Approve payment of December/January Board Bills
- C. Approve resignation for retirement from Pamela Seekel
- D. Approve resignation for retirement from Chuck Ennis
- E. Approve recommendation to increase hours for elem. school office aide Lisa Hohler from 6.25 to 7.5 hours per day

Motion carried.

Discussion

Facilities Committee: Moulton provided a re-cap of the purpose of the standalone building. Superintendent Rosburg introduced Gary Zifco and John Huenink of Kraus-Anderson (KA) Construction. Huenink presented a preliminary project report showing the original plan of the building; the building site was moved to just north of the elementary school, a change in location from the original plan. Witzmann stated busing needs drove the change in location since it made more sense for parking and bus drop off points. Witzmann indicated it was also more cost effective to utilize what is already present at the elementary school, including tapping into existing utility lines. Huenink said all cost effective building options will be considered, from stick built to precast. The project schedule will become more detailed as the project moves further along. SDS Architects will develop drawings once KA puts together preliminary budgets.

Business Services Committee: Colbeth said the committee reviewed the 2010-11 budget development process, indicating Director Avery laid out the report well with clear, concise information, helping the board understand the very systematic budgeting process.

Information: Superintendent Rosburg said enrollment is up slightly from last month. Tentative committee meetings for February 1, 2010 include Governance Committee, Facilities Committee, and Business Services Committee.

Board Report: *CESA 11 Update:* Cranston reported on two items including a recent CESA budget audit and the regional search for a new CESA 11 director due to the upcoming retirement of current director Jesse Harness. There was no report for Community Involvement or School Liaison due to the holiday break.

High School Report: Principal Madden was absent, however, a report was provided in the board packet. The Student Council Report was provided earlier in the agenda.

Middle School Report: Principal Sara Eichten said a survey similar to one which the elementary school developed was being designed by middle school teachers; the survey will be used to summarize middle school students' conduct during field trips. Cranston would like to see the surveys used as a measurement for character education goals. The middle school received several donations including \$500 from Polk-Burnett Electric's "Operation Round Up" to be used towards the new middle school playground (playground installation is planned for two consecutive weekends in May or June); an electric piano was donated and will be placed in the middle school's music department; and, the Doar Drill Law Firm contributed \$1,000 to the middle school IMC.

Elementary School Report: Principal Cherrie Wood stated the school's 100-day celebration is slated for Feb 4th; Student Council will help direct some of the activities. Second grade is busy making sets and puppet plays. Next week first grade is presenting a "Readers Theater," where they will perform plays and read play parts. Third grade moved their program back to Feb 12th in the morning. Fourth grade will be holding Winter Olympics that afternoon.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director Avery was unable to attend, however, the monthly report and cash flow information was provided in the board packet. Board members were encouraged to contact Avery if they had questions.

Pupil Services Report: Director Darren Kern reported on the district's recent purchase of three Intel Readers, an electronic device which captures reading material and reads it aloud. It allows a person with reading and visual difficulties to use the device to take a snapshot of text, and then reads back the words. One device was ordered for each district school building, along with headsets that plug into the device. Witzmann thanked Kern for the report, stating it gives the board an opportunity to see the needs of special education students.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report: Director Ron Berg said MAPs testing will be used at the elementary level three times a year for fourth grade. The high school is in the middle of first-time mid-year MAPs assessment as well. In the curriculum area, staff completed a science review at all three buildings for science materials adoption this year. Teachers working together have closed up and eliminated some gaps and overlaps, and found some new technologies. Materials adoption information will be reported at a future board meeting.

Business Services Committee

Colbeth moved with second by Witzmann, to approve unreserved designating funds to be used for the north access road (Spartan Drive). Colbeth stated that remaining funds at the conclusion of a fiscal year are required to be designated. Unreserved funds of \$173,404 will be designated for Spartan Drive. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried.