

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
January 20, 2014**

Board President Brian Moulton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Present were board members Mike Connor, Bob Gunther, Brian Moulton, Kelly Ott, Tammie Wishard and Tom Walters. Absent was Marie Colbeth.

Gunther moved, with second by Ott, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Ott moved, with second by Connor to move to Executive Session in Accordance with Wis. Statutes 19.85 (1), (c) for the purpose of discussing performance of the district administrator. All voted yes in roll call vote to move to Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. Discussion was held on the district administrator's progress. Gunther moved, with second by Ott to move out of Executive Session. All voted yes to move out of Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

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

Positive Recognition: The board recognized Jane Driscoll, middle school math teacher as the Silver Ring Award recipient for her 25 years of service to the Somerset School district. Superintendent Rosburg noted that Ms. Driscoll was not in attendance but wished to thank the school district for all their support. The board also recognized the adult school crossing guards; Lora Greener, Heather Hornbostel, Garrison Jepsen, Robin Knudtson, Julie Schultz, Denise Siggins and Angie Sporleder. Superintendent Rosburg thanked the crossing guards and recognized that it is Adult Crossing Guard Awareness Week. Robin Knudtson was in attendance and was presented a certificate by Board President Brian Moulton. Robin introduced her husband and son who were also in attendance.

Meeting was recessed at 7:08 p.m. and reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

Gunther moved, with second by Ott to amend the Consent Agenda, Item H. The amendment made is to add Amber Rivera to those listed to be approved for early graduation.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of December 16, 2013
- B. Approve payment of December/January Board Bills
- C. Approve 2014-2015 Somerset Open Enrollment Chart
- D. Approve 2013-2014 Spring Coaching and Advising Assignments
- E. Approve Final Notice of Nonrenewal of Zac Eichten as the 9-12 EBD Teacher for 2013-2014
- F. Approve Post-Prom Facility Sponsorship and \$1,500.00 Facility Fee
- G. Approve Hiring of Ann Jauquet as Short Term Special Education Instructor
- H. Approve Early Graduation for Jacob Germain, Brielle Knepfelkamp, Trevor Wolff and Amber Rivera at the End of Term 2 of the 2013 School Year

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion: Facilities Meeting: Committee Chair Tom Walters spoke of the levels of campus roadway congestion and that the facilities committee reviewed the campus traffic patterns. He stated there is nothing they can see at this point that would warrant adding additional roadways to campus as it is now. Gunther asked if Kraus Anderson would know where a new school would be built if and when that time comes as that would be a good guide. This topic will go back to committee for further discussion.

Governance Committee Meeting: Committee Chair Mike Connor shared that the committee has transitioned into the second part of the project. The templates are coming back completed from NEOLA. Connor added that there is still a ways to go but it is coming along and it is a very good process and it is critical for this to be correct.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rosburg stated district enrollment is at 1598, which is down four from last month. The committee meetings are scheduled for Monday February 3, 2014, the information on these meetings will be sent out. Superintendent Rosburg thanked Amery Telcom for their generous donation of \$500.00. The money will be used for the Angel Fund. IT Manager Ryan Sicard was to be in attendance to walk through the IT report from Elert and Associates. Sicard was not able to attend and will be attending the board

meeting in February. Superintendent Rosburg added that some of the items from the report have been completed and there is still significant work to yet be done.

Board Report: *CESA 11 Update:* Tom Walters spoke of the candidates CESA now has for IT. The candidate will be available at the end of the school year and will be able to do IT work for all the member districts. CESA is still looking into the open meetings laws and how it affects ITV. Walters will be attending the CESA statewide breakfast while in Milwaukee January 21-24.

Community and School Involvement: Kelly Ott communicated that the scholarship is working on putting together a chili feed that will be a part of the upcoming bar stool races in Somerset as well as Vegas night, which takes place in April. Ott also shared that both her and Tom Walters will be attending the middle school Trollhaugen trip.

Student Council Report: Student Council Representative Hannah Rosentreter shared that the Books for Africa book drive was a huge success and 1,000 pounds of books have been collected. Scheduling is getting underway for the eighth through eleventh graders. The addition to the high school is being used and the students are wondering how they ever got by without it. With the start of the second semester the juniors are registering for the ACT, prom planning is in the works and the winter sports are underway.

Directors' and Principals' Report: Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Trisha Sheridan shared that all certified staff will be released for one half a day to meet with their PLC or grade level team to assess the progress and quality of their Student Learner Objective (SLO). The principals and directors will work with each team as well. Ott then asked Donnelly to speak of the lockdown that occurred on campus on December 19, 2013. Ott said she had heard that the intercoms at the high school were not working properly during the lockdown. High School Principal Chris Moore responded that phone calls were made to the classrooms as well as visits by Mr. Moore to the rooms that did not have intercom service. Donnelly added that the lockdown went as well as it could have, internal cameras have been installed at the elementary school and the big takeaway is to secure the campus and not let traffic in while on lockdown. Tighter processes will now be used to ensure the campus entry ways are secured. Donnelly also added that the building principals met at the end of the lockdown and the administration team met as well. Ott then asked if other meetings on the lockdown have occurred and Donnelly responded that the staff have informally all spoken and discussed it. Wishard asked how frequently the lockdown drills occur to which Donnelly explained the drills happen twice per year with each lasting approximately 15-20 minutes. After each drill the building response teams meet to discuss the drills. Wishard asked if there was any discussion on having more than just the two as whenever she is a part of one, something new is learned. Donnelly added that the building response teams will have more training. Elementary School Principal Darren Kern shared that a large number of parents would enter the elementary school on a daily basis and walk their students to their classrooms. Since the lockdown, the process has been changed and parents will not be walking their students to the classrooms. Kern stated that this has been very well received by parents.

Action:

Facilities Committee: Walters moved with second by Ott to Approve Forgiving the Remaining Amount Due of \$9,269.94 for the Volunteer Groups who completed the Middle School Playground Equipment Project and Zero Out this Account. Gunther stated the balance on this account started out at approximately \$32,000.00 and the group has done a nice job of fundraising and this was a great investment as the equipment is always in use. Superintendent Rosburg added that this was a good effort by all involved. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Teaching and Learning Committee: Ott Moved with second by Gunther to approve the 2014-2015 High School Master Schedule. Ott asked High School Principal Chris Moore to present the data and information on this topic that he shared at the committee meeting on January 13, 2014. Moore stated the schedule would change from the eight period day with courses that are blocked and skinnies to a six period day with a Zero Hour option for students. Mixing block and skinny courses did not allow for all courses to be taken and could possibly lead to a credit deficit. Moore added that the district is allotted funds for students to participate in online course. In the first term of this year,

the funds for the whole entire year were depleted, due in part to the current schedule that is now in place. Meetings took place with students, parents, staff as well as the student council. It came to being decided between a six period day with a zero hour or a seven period day. In a vote, it was evenly split between the two options. The decided upon option will give the students more hands on learning and will extend each class period from 42 minutes to 56 minutes. Gunther asked Moore if there were drawbacks to the schedule. Moore responded that the drawback could be getting the students to the zero hour class as it occurs before the school day begins. Moore explained the phy ed exemption; if a student wants more core classes and is part of a varsity team, they can get half a credit for phy ed. Wishard asked how many times that schedule has been changed and if the rationale behind this change is to improve student test scores. Moore answered that this is the fourth change in four years and having class periods of 42 minutes is not enough time for each class and that the one hour mark makes sense. Wishard added she has been inundated with concerns from staff on this in regards to the lack of electives. She added that the teachers are concerned over the lack of electives and what are the consequences of this. Wishard then sited examples of the South Washington County Minnesota school district and that they had a task force in place to research yet another schedule change and her concern is whether enough time has actually gone into making another change to the schedule. Moore responded that some schools go to different period days due to budget concerns, and that in the case of Somerset, multiple schedules have been researched and many highly functioning schools are currently using a six period day. Wishard shared data that showed some of the number one ranked schools in the United States function with different number of periods in their days and will this make a difference or not. Wishard also added that a happy staff equals happy students and have we given staff enough time to collaborate and go through all of this. Walters asked Moore to walk through a typical teacher day. Moore explained that most teachers arrive by 7:45 am and stay for approximately 30 minutes at the end of the school day and work though their prep and lunch times. Wishard then asked if teachers have a collaborative prep time to which Moore responded that some of the teachers do. On vote, motion passed with six yes votes and one no vote.

Ott moved, with second by Gunther, to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Motion carried.

Brian Moulton, President

Marie Colbeth, Clerk