

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

Members re-convened in open session. Hansch moved, with second by Cranston, to amend the agenda to remove Consent Agenda #VI., Item H. "Approve resignation of Linnea Natwick, High School ASL Teacher" from the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**Positive Recognition:** The board recognized National FBLA Participants, Elizabeth Ottman and Johanna Smith, as well as FBLA advisor Gwen Hennessey. Hennessey provided a recap of the events at the national convention in Nashville, including activities Ottman and Smith were involved in. Ottman and Smith thanked the board for allowing them to go to the convention. Cranston presented the students with a certificate of achievement. Witzmann asked the students how they see FBLA of value. Both students said the program has grown tremendously this year. Having the opportunity to host the FBLA regional competition at Somerset Schools was also an opportunity that both students felt was a very positive experience for students, staff and community members.

Meeting was recessed at 7:12 p.m. and re-convened at 7:26 p.m.

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

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of June 21, 2010 of the School Board
- B. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session of June 21, 2010 of the School Board
- C. Approve payment of June/July Board Bills (Enc 2, Pgs 6-10)
- D. Approve resignation of Elizabeth Steffen, High School Special Education Aide
- E. Approve resignation of Helen Leemkuil, Elementary School Aide
- F. Approve two additional Special Education Aides for the 2010-11 school year
- G. Approve Fall 2010-2011 Coaching and Advising Assignments
- H. Approve final notice of non-renewal of Nathan Brown, L-T 6<sup>th</sup> Gr. Lang Arts Teacher, for the 2010-11 school year

Motion carried.

### **Discussion**

#### **Teaching & Learning Committee**

*2010-11 School and Teacher Handbooks, First Reading:* Cranston said the 2010-11 school and teacher handbooks were brought forward for their first readings, and questions regarding the proposed changes should be directed to the administrators. Witzmann said board members were happy with the way the proposed changes were presented.

*Increase by .55 FTE Art Teacher at Elementary/High School:* Cranston asked High School Principal Shawn Madden to explain the request. Madden stated that, with the retirement of a full-time art instructor in 2007, then half-time art instructor Becky Olson was hired into that position. There was no replacement for Olson's position, which left the district short and the high school dropped two sections of art classes. During the past two years, some high school students were turned away from art classes due to the full schedule. With current enrollment numbers, Madden would like to see high school art classes increased from 16 sections to 22 sections, and would share the high school art instructor position with the elementary school.

#### **Business Services Committee**

*QSCB and State Trust Fund:* Witzmann stated the district was approved for the full \$1 million, which he said will be of great benefit to district.

*Refinancing of 2003 High School Bonds:* Avery stated refinancing of the 2003 high school bonds is moving forward, with \$34,000 being spread out over three years.

#### **Governance Committee**

*First Readings of the Transportation Policy, Grade Promotion Policy, Anti-Bully Policy and Alternative Education Program Policy:* Connor reported all of the items listed are presented as first readings and will be brought back next month for approval. He mentioned the committee also discussed a board scholarship, with the committee suggesting board members support scholarships on an individual basis.

### **Information**

Superintendent Randy Rosburg stated the yearly enrollment summary was unavailable due to the student software not pulling correct enrollment numbers. Once the software is back up and running, the yearly summary will be provided. Rosburg went on to report committee meetings for August 2<sup>nd</sup> have not been scheduled, but Facilities and Teaching and Learning Committees may be asked to meet. He said an executive session of the board is schedule for August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rosburg ended his report stating the district received a donation of an enclosed utility trailer from the Youth Football Organization. Rosburg said state law in Wisconsin now allows school buses to pull trailers. Rosburg will send a "Thank You" to the organization on behalf of the board and district.

### **Board**

*CESA 11 Update:* Cranston reported the January CESA 11 meeting will be a teleconference meeting. Other school board members and administrators will be invited to attend. The teleconference will be hosted at four different locations throughout the CESA district area; Cranston volunteered Somerset as one of the hosting locations. Meetings are typically held the third Thursday of the month, so the teleconference will most likely take place on Thursday, January 20, 2010.

*Community Involvement:* Moulton attended the Robert Seibel Memorial Golf Tournament at Bristol Ridge in Somerset, stating many people participated with a total of 33 teams in attendance. Moulton said it was nice to see so many community members participate and support the tournament.

*School Liaisons:* Witzmann asked the building principals to let board members know in early September or late August about upcoming school events. Cranston mentioned the "Welcome Back" school night may be a good night for liaisons to be on hand at the schools.

**High School Report:** High School Principal Shawn Madden reported on current enrollment numbers, adding that there are approximately 250 students scheduled for each lunch section at the high school; the high school purchased additional lunch tables to accommodate students. Exterior painting is being done at both the high school and middle school buildings including door and trim work. The high school received 57 applications for the recent physical education posting; seven interviews are scheduled for Thursday this week. Witzmann asked Madden how the Alternative Education Program will work if the stand alone building is not completed by the start of school in September. Madden said the Alt Ed program is flexible with the project timeline of the new building, stating the high school will work with parents to keep them informed of the timeline and move.

**Middle School Report:** Middle School Principal Sara Eichten said enrollment at the middle school is at 470 students. The library is under-going remodeling, and furniture installation will take place this week. Six staff members will attend Character Counts training on August 2-4. The character education program will be implemented at the middle school this school year. In the area of staffing, Linda Law will be a full 50% reading specialist and teaching two 7th grade reading classes. Jane Karl will be eighth grade reading (all five sections) and will no longer be teaching health.

**Elementary School Report:** Elementary School Principal Cherrie Wood was unavailable for tonight's meeting, however Rosburg reported the elementary building is undergoing cleaning to be ready for the new fall school year. Summer school was completed last Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. Rosburg said if board members had any questions, they were welcome to contact Ms. Wood when she returns.

**Business Services & Operations Report:** Director of Business Services & Operations Robert Avery reported that the QSCB and Trust Fund Loan will be brought forward to the board in August for formal adoption. The two processes started as separate entities, but will become one resolution which describes the district's intent to use the

loan for QSCB purposes. Once the board formally approves the resolution, a closing of the loan will be scheduled, with the first payment slated for March, 2012.

**Pupil Services Report:** Director of Pupil Services Darren Kern reported the district' Title III audit (English Language Learner) is now complete, and the district has met all of the criteria with all budget and financial policies approved. Kern went on to report special education enrollment numbers are currently at 223 students compared to 179 when Kern arrived two years ago; enrollment in this area continues to increase. Kern ended his report stating he has been working on his doctorate degree during vacation. He is learning about how to adapt a mostly Caucasian district to changing cultures, and hopes to share that information with the district later this year.

**Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report:** Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Manager Trisha Sheridan presented the 2009-2010 Assessment Report. Sheridan noted some of the changes the district made to testing procedures to help increase student test scores, stating this year's focus is on mathematics. Board members asked what the term "co-teaching" meant. Darren explained the idea is to expose more grade content to special education students by placing a special education teacher with a regular education teacher to help co-teach a class. The special education student would receive the special instruction from the special education teacher, all the while being exposed to standard grade content. Kern stated research supports this practice. He said assessments will enable measurement throughout the year to see if the student is making progress; information will be reported to the board at the end of the school year.

#### **Action**

##### **Governance Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Connor moved, with second by Moulton, to approve the ELL Student Selection Language policy. Connor stated all of the language that was added is bolded, and changes were made to reflect federal government requirements during student selection process. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **Business Services**

Witzmann moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the 2010-11 Staffing Plan. Witzmann said the plan relates to the .55 art position discussed earlier. Hansch asked to see numbers next spring to be sure all art sections were utilized. Colbeth wondered if the district is doing as much as it can for students academically and wants to look at the value of the block schedule. After no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Gunther moved, with second by Connor to approve the 2010-11 ISS Contract. Witzmann stated the overall increase was 3.5%, but did not include the additional new building. Avery stated most of the additional costs were fixed costs and supplies, including H1N1 cleaning precautions. The district will need an additional cleaner to support the new building. Hansch asked if the district did an RFP for custodial services. Rosburg stated the district sends out RFPs usually three to four years. Avery said the current contract did not include costs extensions; a CPI clause was not included in the contract language, but the next RFP contract will have that language built in. Services will be bid out next year. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Hansch, to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk