

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
March 21, 2011**

President Tim Witzmann called the meeting order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Cranston moved, with second by Colbeth, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Moulton moved, with second by Colbeth, to move into Executive Session in Accordance with Wis. Statutes 19.85 (1), (c) for the purpose of discussion of benefit and wages of an employee, and for review and discussion of strategies on Board of Education Self-Evaluation instrument and Process. Upon Roll Call, all voted "yes." Motion carried unanimously.

Cranston moved, with second by Colbeth, to move back into open session. Upon Roll Call, all voted, "yes." Motion carried unanimously.

Board moved to open session in the Learning Center Conference Room.

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

Positive Recognition: The board recognized 2011 State Wrestling Participants Haydon Dvorak, son of Mark Dvorak and Mary Jo Dvorak, Gabriel Flandrick, son of Mitch Flandrick and Michelle Baillargeon, and Robert Le Roy, son of John and Kristine Le Roy. Head Coach Grady Radabaugh and Assistant Coach Cory Warman stated the students had a great season. Radabaugh added that it was a good first season for him as a new teacher. Dvorak thanked the board and coaches for the opportunity to wrestle at state. Le Roy said he ended up with the flu, but was able to wrestle one match before he became ill. Flandrick said it was nice to go again this year and was hoping to win. He is hopeful for a title next year. Mitch Flandrick stated that there are many people that help the wrestlers throughout the year. He said the three students are leaders and hard workers, and put in extra time after practice and on weekends, and represented Somerset well. Board member Gunther handed each of the wrestlers certificates commending them for their efforts.

The board then recognized the Somerset Schools Nutrition Program employees including Vickie Collins, Jelaine Germain, Julie Johnson, Kristi Kampsula, Debbie Revalee, Ryan Roettger, Amy Stewart, Sally Viellieux, and Niki Weidinger. Superintendent Rosburg said the food service employees do a great job and provide high quality low-fat variety foods for students throughout the campus. He said the State code checks always come out good from all schools. Witzmann added that it will be nice for the middle school employees to work in their new kitchen once it is remodeled. Revalee said the kitchen employees are excited to be able to work in a remodeled kitchen environment. Board member Colbeth handed out certificates to each of the employees thanking them for their work and dedication to a nutritious food program.

Meeting was recessed at 7:10 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of February 21, 2011
- B. Approve Minutes of February 21, 2011 and March 7, 2011 Executive Session
- C. Approve Payment of February/March Board Bills
- D. Approve Hiring of Darcy Cunningham as Long-term High School Spanish Teacher for the 2010-11 School Yr.
- E. Approve Hiring of David Gerberding as the 2011-12 Director of Business and Operations
- F. Approve Resignation of Somerset School Psychologist Kelly Lamon
- G. Approve Youth Options Applications
- H. Approve Early Graduation Requests of Abigail Raleigh, Justine Olson, Madasyn Kelly, Jordan Skwarek, Samuel Schiltgen, Hali Lundquist, and Andrew Hoffman
- I. Approve General Supply Contract with School Specialty, Inc.

- J. Approve Application for Hockey Cooperative Team Sponsorship with Osceola and St. Croix Falls School Districts for 2011-12 and 2012-13 School Years

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Facilities Committee: *Middle School Food Service Project:* Committee Chair Brian Moulton stated bids are still coming in for the middle school kitchen remodel; bids received to date are coming in under budget. Moulton indicated the Facilities Committee will bring another report to the board after its next committee meeting. *High School Gymnasium Floor:* Moulton said the floor has been repaired and is now being dried. The rest of the floor will be resurfaced. *Capital Maintenance Projects:* Moulton said the Facilities Committee reviewed documents for dates and timelines for several projects. Many of the projects have been deferred during the past three years. The Facilities Committee will continue to review projects and will bring those projects forward for board approval in the near future.

Teaching & Learning Committee: Committee Chair Cranston said the high school driver's education program may be discontinued and no longer offered as Bruce Larson may be starting a driver's education company. Cranston said many other school districts have discontinued their driver's education program. Larson will continue using space at the high school for the driver's education classroom portion.

Business Services Committee: *Preliminary Budget:* Committee Chair Colbeth stated the preliminary budget is being closely watched with the Governor's new ideas. She added the budget is not yet firm at this time due to possible modifications. *Staffing Information 2011-12:* Colbeth said a long-term substitute Spanish teacher is now in place at the high school. Committee reviewed and prioritized requests for other district staff needs. Colbeth stated this process will also be affected by the budget.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rosburg stated enrollment numbers continue to remain steady as indicated. Rosburg added elections are coming up on Tuesday April 5th. He said a canvassing meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6 at 5:00 p.m. Cranston offered to help with canvassing. Committee meetings tentatively slated for Monday, April 4, 2011 include Governance Committee, Business Services Committee, Human Resources Committee, and Teaching and Learning Committee. An Executive and Special Session are also slated for 7:00 p.m. Monday, April 4, 2011, to review open enrollment information.

Board Report: *CESA 11 Update:* Cranston said the major news is the CESA Board of Control settled with all three union contracts and delivered 23 layoff notices, stating these are difficult times for everyone. CESA is trying to keep shared services contract costs low. The Board of Control suggested that CESA employees will be willing to do more and put in extra time at no cost to the district. Rosburg added he recently attended a PAC meeting where discussions focused on ramifications of the Governor's Repair Bill from a legal point of view. *Community and School Involvement:* Colbeth attended the Fine Arts Festival and would like to see the district hold this event on a Friday night into the weekend because it is so phenomenal. She said it is a great way to show off talent of students in the district. *Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) Day at the Capitol:* Witzmann traveled with Rosburg to Madison to attend this conference which was scheduled a year prior. He said the conference received record attendance and attendees got an understanding of the Governor's Budget Repair Bill. Witzmann added that, like Somerset, 28% of school districts throughout the state under levied. Legislators said this was an error/oversight in the Budget Repair Bill, but it will take legislative action to correct. Witzmann stated he and Rosburg also had an opportunity to meet with legislative aides to share concerns regarding the bill. Witzmann stated there was an assumption from the legislature that all schools are at the same point and have opportunities to reduce costs, however, Somerset has already done much of that reduction during the past several years. Witzmann said he would like to have more Somerset voices heard at legislature. Moulton suggested the board gather as a committee to outline how to go about using the advocacy tool. Cranston agreed this should be included on an upcoming agenda so that the community is aware of what is under board control and what is not under board control.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report: Director Trisha Sheridan informed the board that teams of teachers from the elementary and middle school will be participating in a pilot to try out Scantron's Performance Series Computer Adaptive Assessment. This adaptive, multiple choice assessment is similar to the current NWEA MAPs assessment with a few positive differences. This web-based diagnostic test is not tied to a testing window, does not require weeks of roster preparations, is directly aligned to the common core standards and have teacher

friendly reports that allow teachers to spend less time sifting through pages of data with highlighters. A larger neighboring district also reported a 28% savings when they transitioned from MAPs to the Performance Series. The third grade team will be using the math assessment and several middle school teachers will be piloting reading or language arts with their students.

High School Report: High School Principal Shawn Madden congratulated character education award recipients including Freshmen Hannah Rosentreter & Gavin Meader, Sophomore recipients Samantha Martell & Matthew Skoglund, Junior recipients Eleanor Vanasse & Luke Peters, and Senior recipients Kayla Berger & Jacob Perkins. Madden also said thanks are given to high school staff for their continued efforts in this area. In the area of Teaching and Learning, the high school will be recognizing students in grades 9th through 12th grade at an Academic Awards Ceremony Monday, March 28, 2011. The high school Jazz Band will be performing during the awards dinner. Guest speakers will be our Valedictorian –Kayla Berger and Salutatorian – Krista Berger. STAND (Students Taking Action in New Directions) and the AODA committee announced that Somerset High School will be hosting a nationally renowned guest speaker, Jamie Nabonzy, on March 24, 2011. Nabonzy will be talking to students and staff about the physical and mental harm that is caused by bullying. Madden ended his report stating all of spring sports are up and running at this time, with the exception of boys Golf and boys Tennis which will begin next week; Madden wished all of the student-athletes and coaches good luck.

Middle School Report: Middle School Principal Sara Eichten provided an update on the middle school playground, stating pledges for the fundraiser raised a total of \$3,753.29. The playground committee will meet again to decide the next fundraising project. Eichten congratulated Stephanie Magnuson, Becky Olson, Mary Perrizo-Peterson, Dawn Tunison, Rachel Erickson, Scott Perau, and Andrew Emerson for the Fine Arts Festival held March 4th. Eichten stated there were great performances and lots of talented artists' work on display. Eichten also congratulated Becky Olson and Mary Jane Mielke on leading a fabulous performance of "Cinderella" at the middle school play on March 4th-6th. Eichten stated the students did an excellent job. The middle school will host a Talent Show on April 1st. The show will begin at 8:30 a.m. and run about an hour and a half. Eichten said if anyone was interested in judging to contact herself or Dawn Peer at the middle school.

Elementary School Report: Elementary School Principal Cherrie Wood congratulated Melanie Germain for being selected as a Kohl Teacher of the Year Scholarship recipient. Wood went on to report members of the district continue to work on improving the Emergency Management Information and process. Patty Schachtner will attend a training meeting on train/ truck chemical spills tonight. April 11th -15th is Tornado/Severe weather awareness week; all schools on the campus will participate in drills that week. WITC will have a class on NIMS National Incident Management System on May 19th for anyone who is interested. Today staff learned about the Performance Series for assessments; this is an alternative to MAPS and several staff will pilot this program in the spring. March 31st and April 1st second grade students will have their annual Health Fair. The afternoon of the 1st is early release. The elementary teachers will meet with CESA 11 staff to look at the Rd/Language arts Common Core Standards. The Elementary Career Fair will be held on May 13th.

Business Services & Operations Report: Rosburg stated the cash flow report was attached for board review. He said Robert Avery and his assistant, Mary Wienke, combined their efforts to put out this report. Rosburg stated Avery will be in the district the last few days of the month to help with current budget and budget forecasting, and will review numbers and the impact on Somerset.

Pupil Services Report: Pupil Services Director Darren Kern stated action teams are finalizing their work for the Strategic Plan. Team leaders will present to the full committee on April 7th. At that time the full committee will accept, reject, or modify the action plans developed by the teams. In the area of ELL Christine Scheid is teaming with penny Deakin to present a 3 part series to ELL parents. The series includes: Preparing your child for school success, Encouraging positive behavior, and Reinforce academic skills during the summer. In the area of Special Education, the life skills class is currently growing flowers in the greenhouse in preparation for the spring sale. The Friends Helping Friends program will be going to Feed My Starving Children, and the transition group is working on future job skills and will be visiting Kuryakyn and the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport.

Governance Committee (2nd Readings)

Witzmann moved, with second by Cranston, to approve Revision of Policy IGBE & IGBE-R School-Age Parent Program. Cranston stated the revisions are federally mandated. Motion carried unanimously.

Witzmann moved, with second by Colbeth, to approve Revision of Policy JHCD & JHCD-R Administering Medication to Students. Witzmann indicated there may be a future change to this policy, depending on the Governor's budget, but that this revision was required at this point. Motion carried unanimously.

Teaching & Learning Committee

Cranston moved, with second by Witzmann, to approve a Contract with School Perceptions to Conduct a Community Survey. Cranston said the committee reviewed examples and sample survey results from School Perceptions. She indicated the company received a 30% survey return from schools, whereas Somerset, has usually only received a 3% survey return. Cranston said the timing of this contract will work well for the district, and that the School Perceptions organization are experts at when and how surveys are done. Motion carried unanimously.

Cranston moved, with second by Moulton to approve Make Up Inclement Weather Day Hours for Support Staff on April 1, and/or May 13, 2011, and to approve Make Up Inclement Weather Day for Teachers on the Afternoon of June 6, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Services Committee

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to approve Contract Updates with Safe-Way Bus Company. Colbeth stated the contract is already in place, however the district may need to make allowances for the fuel surcharge. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk