

SOMERSET BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2013

Board President Brian Moulton called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Board members present include Brian Moulton, Robert Gunther, Mike Connor, Marie Colbeth (arrived at 6:25), Kelly Ott (arrived at 6:53), Tom Walters and Tammie Wishard.

Connor moved to approve the agenda as presented. Walters moved to amend the agenda by moving item D from the consent agenda, Approve Special Session of May 6, 2013 to an action item. Wishard moved to approve the amended agenda. Second by Walters. Motion passed unanimously.

Senior Forum: Review of K-12 Journey with High School Seniors. Vernon Breault, Jake Hammer, Samantha Martell, Natalie Moses, Miranda Murphy, Mackenzie Venhor, Jamie Victor, Sean Victor. President Moulton explained that the senior panel was to answer the questions that were asked of them by the board openly and honestly. The seniors expressed that their Somerset High School experience prepared them to be educated and mature citizens. They also expressed that Somerset offered many co-curricular activities and sports and that the Youth Options program was a great benefit. Upping the rigor of the advanced placement classes was discussed as well as offering a speech class that taught interviewing skills. The board thanked the seniors for attending and invited them to come back in five years to share updates.

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

Bonding: Lisa Voisin from R.W. Baird gave an update on Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$7,950,000.00 General Obligation School Improvement Bonds. Voisin shared that the bonds were sold in bonds market. There were four bids with the winning bidder being UMB Bank. 1.66% was winning bid. The district will be paying \$789K in interest, Voisin stated this is all going back to tax payer and was happy with the interest rate. June 10 money will be wired, thus allowing the incoming invoices to be paid. The Somerset School District rating is A1. It has been downgraded from AA3 which is due to tax base. Voisin reiterated that the A1 rating is solid and good.

Project Update: Gary Zifko from Kraus Anderson gave an update on referendum projects. The bleachers and floors will begin to be worked on as soon as school is out. Concrete, masonry and steel work is next with the final projects being the carpet, painting and ceilings. Zifko stated there is much interest in the work and he is receiving many phone calls. The Middle School gymnasium project has already come in under budget. Walters asked if there had been any thought in to reclaiming the wood from the gym floor. Zifko answered that they had looked into it and due to how labor intensive the process is; it could potentially end up costing money.

The Board recognized Grace Becher, Student Council Representative to the School Board. Superintendent Rosburg thanked Grace for her two years of service to the school board and stated she is an amazing leader. President Moulton presented her with a gift. After thanking the board, Grace stated she may look into participating in other boards as well.

The Board recognized 2013 State Destination Imagination Team participants Frederick Richert, Roxanne Ring, Katherine Schroeder, Serenity Slayton, Rachel Webb and Advisor Rosanne Erickson. The team advisor, Rosanne Erickson introduced the team and stated they were third and fourth grade students. The team named themselves the, "Somerset Smartens". The students introduced themselves and their parents. Walters presented them each with a certificate and thanked them for their hard work.

The Board recognized 2013 State Solo Ensemble Choir participants including Ashley Andrews, Ashley Beasley, Emily Colombo, Hannah Erickson, Mackenzie Erickson, Mary Fohrenkamm, Taylor Goosen, Mitchel Hosley, Frank Johnson, Jonathon Karis, Tyler Kupczak, Ethan Lammers, Braeden Lange Green, Kacie Larkowski, James Major, Quinn Perro, Kaitlin Raber, Hannah Rosentreter, Cassandra Schmidt, Jacob Scott, Elsie Shartin-Folkert, Zachery Siebenaler, Tayva Strom, Malia Triebold, Natalie Van Dam, Luke Westmoreland. Vocal Music Instructor: Scott Perau. Perau stated that many students went to stated and all fared very well.

Two of the entrants received Best in Sight. Gunther presented the students with certificates and extended his congratulations to them.

The Board recognized 2013 State Solo Ensemble Instrumental participants Danielle Anderson, Michael Barger, Mikaela Barger, Rachel Cloutier, Chelsea Gareis, Rachel Hessler, Andrew James, Emily Johnson, Frank Johnson, Joseph Kalka, Tyler Kupczak, Arthur Rhys Linke, James Major, Emilee Martell, Beige McConaughy, Cally Meixner, Nicolas Olson, Quinn Perro, Toni Reyes, Racheal Russell, Carole Scheder, Aric Vanasse, Mackenzie Venhor, Jamie Victor, Sean Victor, Autumn Wilson. Instrumental Music Instructor: Andrew Emerson. Emerson spoke of all the hard work and many hours the students put in while preparing for the competition. Seven events qualified for state which allowed 24 students to attend. Colbeth presented the students with certificates and thanked them as well as their parents and teachers for their hard work and dedication.

The Board recognized 2013 State Forensics participants Danielle Anderson, Kylie Anderson, Ashley Andrews, Grace Becher, Maggie Becher, Sydney Branom, Davin Dunleap, Carrie Kulibert, Emilee Martell, Autumn McMeeken, Toni Reyes, Natalie Van Dam, Mackenzie Venhor and Luke Westmoreland. Advisor: Carolyn Spoerl. Spoerl presented the outgoing seniors with a gift and thanked them for helping make her first year as advisor so successful. Connor then presented the students with certificates and stated he was happy to see there were so many students being recognized for the many activities they participated in.

The meeting was recessed at 7:36 p.m., and reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of April 15, 2013
- B. Approve Minutes of Special Session of April 15, 2013
- C. Approve Minutes of Special Session of April 22, 2013
- D. Approve Minutes of Special Session of May 6, 2013
- E. Approve Payment of April/May Board Bills
- F. Approve Hiring of Jennifer Backes, Elementary Music Instructor
- G. Approve Hiring of Megan Carlson-Formo to 1.0 FTE JK Teacher
- H. Approve Hiring of Erin Baillargeon, HS Alternative and Virtual Education Teacher
- I. Approve Resignation of Mary L. Johnson, School Psychologist
- J. Approve Changes to Spring 2012-2013 Coaching Assignments
- K. Approve Renewal of A'viands Food Service Contract
- L. Approve Gallup Teacher Insight Contract for June 10, 2013 through June 9, 2014 for \$3,656.00

Walters stated he would like item D, Approve Minutes of Special Session of May 6, 2013 removed from consent and placed as an action item. Motion carried unanimously to remove Item D from consent and place under Action.

Discussion

Business Services Committee: Committee Chair Colbeth turned this portion of the meeting over to Business Services Director Dave Gerberding. Gerberding spoke of the development of the 2013-2014 budget. He also addressed the A'viands food service contract and a school lunch survey. The results for the school lunch survey are being compiled and will be presented at a later date.

Teaching and Learning Committee: Moulton stated the RtI pilot intervention went well, with some tweaks occurring this school year as well as others in the planning stages for 2013-2014. RtI did positively improve student learning using measurable progress based on factual results. Ott asked if there was data available from the high school. Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Trisha Sheridan answered that there was data that the high school counselors had and could forward on. High School Principal Brad Nemecek spoke of the High School Master Schedule and the growing pains they experienced with it this year. There are adjustments being made to it for the 2013-2014 school year with much input coming from the teachers and students. The

Athletic code for 2013-2014 was presented for a first reading as it is every spring. The updated code will be presented at the June 17, 2013 Board of Education meeting as a second reading.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Randy Rosburg provided an overview of current enrollment, stating the current enrollment is at 1,654 which is up three students from last month. Rosburg then asked the board to please check their availability for the upcoming graduation ceremonies. The committee meetings for June are tentatively set for Monday, June 3. Moulton agreed to be the backup board member for Connors at the Alternative Education Graduation Ceremony to be held on Monday, June 3, 2013. Walters will check his calendar and possibly be the second board member at the Sunday, June 2, 2013, Graduation Ceremony.

Board Report: CESA II Update: Walters stated the April meeting was done via telephone due to having to reschedule it numerous times. CESA is looking at installing new phone system which will enable them to handle conference calls and be more interactive. Walters mentioned the conference call meeting he took part in experienced technical difficulties throughout. Walters also stated there were new CESA board members sworn in and the new delegate meeting will be on July 18.

Board Officers & Committee Assignments: President Moulton read the new committee assignments with all members agreeing to them. Rosburg then began the process of electing the board officers for this term.

- Colbeth nominated Moulton for President and Ott nominated Walters for President. Colbeth then moved to close the nomination. After Donnelly tallied the votes, Moulton retained the President role.
- Connor nominated Gunther for Vice President and Ott nominated Walters. Colbeth motioned to close the nominations. After Kern tallied the votes, Gunther retained the Vice President role.
- Gunther nominated Colbeth for Clerk. After receiving no other nominations, Ott motioned to close the nominations. Motion passed unanimously, Colbeth retained the Clerk role.
- Gunther nominated Connor for Treasurer. After receiving no other nominations, Ott moved to close the nomination. Motion passed unanimously, Connor retained the Treasure role.

Directors and Principals Report: Principal Kern spoke of the teachers work on BYOC, Build Your Own Curriculum and that some teachers were piloting it already. Kern mentioned a lot of positive feedback has come in on the RtI survey. Kern also spoke of the efforts the schools are putting forth for attendance. The Elementary School recently held a Perfect Attendance Day in which 97.3% of students were in school. Principal Eichten thanked Moulton for his attendance at Biztown, a field trip for middle school students in which they run their own businesses.

Student Council Report: Grace Becher spoke of the great turnout and positive feedback from Community Day in which the high school students completed volunteer projects and clean-up efforts throughout the community. She also stated the seniors are busy preparing for graduation and the student council is working on nominations for next year.

ACTION

Governance Committee (2nd Reading)

Connor moved, with second by Walters, to approve proposed changes to Policy AFA; Board Evaluation. There were no questions or concerns. Motion passed unanimously.

Connor moved, with second by Walters, to approve Neola as the Board Policy Review and Update Program. Ott asked what the deciding factors were in choosing this vendor. Superintendent Rosburg replied that it was due to Neola providing as much support as the district needs as well as them coming on site and working thought the polices. WASB does not provide this service. Neola will come to the district twice a year to work with staff on the policy which is an invaluable service. Wishard stated she is excited about this as when state laws change and

one policy changes, the impact on other policies is great. Walters asked about the budget and how this is going to be paid for. Rosburg answered that it is planned and is part of the budget. Walters suggested the board members take a cut in pay to pay for this as he does not want it to impact students. Rosburg stated that if the board wanted to donate their pay, it was up to them. Connor said he is excited that the district has this opportunity and it is a positive, forward step. Wishard stated that from her work, she could see WASB was very overwhelmed with their work and that it could take weeks and sometimes up to a month to hear back from them. Neola provides a legal review on all policies so the district cost for this WASB service will no longer be necessary. Motion Passed Unanimously.

PowerUp Proclamation: Moulton moved, with second by Ott, to accept the PowerUp Proclamation. Moulton read the proclamation. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Approve Open Enrollment Requests In and Out of the District for the 2013-2014 School Year: Moulton moved, with second by Gunther, to approve Open Enrollment applications in and out of the district. Ott addressed her concern with adding high school students with the current enrollment numbers being what they are. Colbeth spoke of whether or not the virtual ed and Youth Options students could take more classes off campus to help address this. Rosburg explained that the task before the board was to approve all Open Enrollment requests out for the 2013-2014 school year; approve Open Enrollment request in for the 2013-2014 school year for students currently attending and who are changing buildings, currently attending with a first time request and students with siblings currently attending the district; deny Open Enrollment requests in for the 2013-2014 school year for students not currently attending and students with no siblings in the district. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Approve Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$7,950,000.00 General Obligation School Improvement Bonds: Moulton moved with second by Ott to Approve Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$7,950,000.00 General Obligation School Improvement Bonds.

Approve Minutes of Special Session of May 6, 2013: Moulton moved, with second by Colbeth to Approve Minutes of Special Session of May 6, 2013. Walters spoke of what he perceived to be a potential conflict of interest. Walters felt a board member should have abstained from the vote regarding the IT assessment. He also states there is an amendment on the table. Walters explained he wants the board to be covered and wants another vote to take place in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. Colbeth explained the rules and stands with how the board ruled on this. Ott then explained an example of how perceptions and a potential conflict of interest involved her in a similar matter. Superintendent Rosburg explained that the conflict in this example lies in the relationship and that it was different than said example brought forth by Walters. Ott then explained that she was still trying to understand and figure it out as to how it lies with being a public employee. Connor called point of order and the decision that was made at the May 6, 2013 Special Session did not include the IT assessment piece. Connor also stated there was no connection between the two items at the meeting and he sees no conflict of interest. Colbeth reiterated that she could see there was some confusion and that there is obviously a concern. In closing, Walters stated it was not meant to be personal, and he brought it forward to the board as the concern was pointed out to him.

Roll call vote followed:

Mouton: Yes

Gunther: Yes

Connor: Yes

Colbeth: Yes

Walters: No

Wishard: No

Ott: Recused from vote.

Motion Passed to Approve Minutes of Special Session of May 6, 2013.

Colbeth moved, with second by Connor, to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried.

Brian Moulton, President

Marie Colbeth, Board Clerk