

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET  
October 24, 2011**

Board President Tim Witzmann called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call was taken. Present were board members Tim Witzmann, Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Robert Gunther, Mike Connor and Marie Colbeth. Marin Hansch was absent.

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

**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 Safe-Way Bus Company for National School Bus Safety Week. Witzmann thanked the drivers present for the amazing task they have every day transporting district students. He appreciated the very good relationship between the bus company and the district. Rosburg added that the district recognizes Safe-Way each year; the company transports students safely to many venues other than regular bus routes, including athletic events, parades, Post Prom, and other activities. Safe-Way Spokesperson Patrick Flandrick introduced drivers Ralph Mondor, Peter Caster, Tom Lawrence, and Michael Lanners, saying the company appreciated the opportunity to work with the school district. Rosburg presented the drivers with appreciation gifts.

The board recognized high school staff that organized and participated in the Freshman AODA/Healthy Choices retreat including Michele Bauer, Sarah Colling, Jeremy Kerg, Rhonda Klink, Sara Kreibich, Bill Roll, Patricia Schachtner, John Schultz, Carolyn Spoerl, and Erin Wilson. Rosburg stated Athletic Director Bill Roll took on the position of AODA coordinator, and created the district's first-ever Freshmen Retreat. Rosburg stated the reviews that came back amazing, and that it was a great experience for all involved. Roll said topics covered at the retreat included bullying, drug use, drunk driving, mental health, suicide, etc. Panelists also shared life and personal stories with the students and talked about how good or bad choices changed their lives. Moulton handed each of the staff a certificate, thanking them for their participation and dedication to students.

The meeting was recessed at 7:15 p.m. and reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of September 19, 2011
- B. Approve Minutes of Annual Meeting of October 3, 2011
- C. Approve Payment of September/October Board Bills
- D. Approve Hiring of Julie Bethke as Elementary School Guidance Counselor for the 2011-2012 School Year
- E. Approve Hiring of Ann Jauquet as Long-Term Substitute 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher for the 2011-2012 School Year
- F. Approve Hiring of Nelisena Johnson as Long-Term Substitute 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher for the 2011-2012 School Year
- G. Approve Hiring of George Leopold as Middle School Maintenance Supervisor for the 2011-2012 School Year
- H. Approve Hiring of Tiffany Moore as Short-Term High School ASL/Reading Teacher for the 2011-12 School Yr
- I. Approve hiring a Long-Term Sub. Aide to Replace Jamie Ericson's Leave of Absence During the 2011-12 School Yr
- J. Approve Youth Options Applications
- K. Approve Winter Coaching Assignments for the 2011-2012 School Year
- L. Approve High School Graduation Date of Sunday, June 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium
- M. Approve Alternative Educ. Graduation Date of Monday, June 4, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. in the H.S. Multi-Purpose Room

Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion: Human Resources Committee:** Committee Chair Gunther stated the district is starting to transition from collective bargain agreements (CBA) to employee handbook, per the Act 10 language, and are reviewing the CBA with representative teachers and support staff. Gunther stated the committee is half-way through the CBA and things are moving well. Board members with questions or concerns about issues they would like addressed regarding the handbook should contact Rosburg. The goal of the committee is to have a completed handbook in January.

**Facilities Committee:** Committee Chair Moulton reported three items were discussed at the meeting including storm water line back up that damaged the high school gym floor in the northwest corner, and was recently repaired for under \$1,000. Also, the rubber portion of the athletic track started peeling, but has been fixed and is still under warranty. Rosburg will check to see how much warranty remains on the track. Moulton ended the report by stating one of the new light poles was leaning slightly and was scheduled to be repaired soon.

**Superintendent Report:** Rosburg indicated enrollment is at 1,622 as of October 21, 2011 with some movement of students throughout class sections. Committee meetings tentatively scheduled for November 7, 2011, include Teaching & Learning (to review the Course Approval handbook), Human Resources (to continue work on the Employee Handbook), and Governance (to consider a policy on Concussion Return to Play/RTP). Rosburg also reminded the board that the WASB Convention is scheduled for January 17-20, 2012 and rooms will need to be secured by November 30<sup>th</sup>. He asked if any members were interested in attending. Moulton said he will attend; others will check their schedules. Rosburg then discussed his recent findings regarding clarification on TIF or TID (Tax Incremented Funding or Tax Incremented District) districts and their impact on the community which is mostly positive.

**Board Report: CESA II Update:** CESA board member Cranston reported some future CESA meetings will be held via ITV at the high school and encouraged other board members and staff to attend. Meeting dates are November 10<sup>th</sup>, January 12<sup>th</sup>, and February 9<sup>th</sup>. Cranston provided insight into CESA's transition to Google Docs, stating it was seamless, and after two months CESA was completely on the "cloud." The only concern from CESA was privacy issues and whether their documentation would remain safe and secure. **Community & School Involvement:** Connor attended the Freshmen Retreat saying it was an amazing process; he also joined the Third Grade Book Club after his visit to the elementary parent/teacher conferences. Several board members attended regional Wisconsin Association of School Board meetings, as well as parent/teacher conferences where they answered questions regarding the Community Survey. Some board members worked in the concession stand at the football game.

**Business Services & Operations Report:** Director of Business Services Dave Gerberding stated several items in his report were included as Action items later in the agenda, and will be discussed at that point. He also stated the Cash Flow report was included and will be cleaned up in the next few weeks as the district is still transitioning some accounts from RCU Bank to First National Community Bank.

**Pupil Services Report:** Director Darren Kern introduced Laurie Lasure and Michelle Paulisich who provided a student-produced presentation about the district's multi-age mentor, or M&M group. Lasure stated the district received a mini grant from the Partners in Education group last year that helped fund this project. She said the project helps to create functional communication opportunities for students with communication disabilities, and builds strong relationships between high school students and younger students. Paulisich stated that, because the PIE grant was only for a year, time spent on the project this year will decrease.

**Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report:** Director Trisha Sheridan shared information with regard to PLC's and the PLC leader training which kicked off on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Twenty teacher-leaders were selected through a nomination and application process to be PLC leaders for the 2011-2012 school year. They will meet for a half day each month to receive training on various topics and will communicate the new learning and facilitate action steps for their grade level or department team. The report also included information regarding the testing window for the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations (WKCE) and the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD) during October 24-Nov 23. Students in Grades 3-8 and 10

are being prepared for this state test. The elementary, middle, and high schools have been working to communicate to parents about how to support their children, rally the community to display positive messages, and motivate students to do their best on this important assessment.

**High School Report:** Principal Shawn Madden's report included "Positive Recognition" recipients from September. The report also included further information with regard to the Freshmen Retreat, stating the retreat was an initiative to generate awareness of "hot topics" in high school and build community among the Freshmen class of students. The goal of the retreat was to promote healthy choices when dealing with issues of drug and alcohol use, human growth and development, bullying, healthy life choices, and other issues, and was held at St. Croix National. Madden also provided a 2011-12 Coaches Handbook and Advisors Handbook as an informational item for the board. In addition, the Somerset School District Police Liaison Report was provided. Academic Awards night was held on October 17<sup>th</sup>, and 228 people attended dinner, with 167 students being recognized for their outstanding academic excellence.

**Student Council Report:** Student Representative Grace Becher reported on student happenings including recent Homecoming activities which had great participation by students throughout the high school. She said the homecoming dance fundraiser was very successful. In addition, 153 canned goods were collected for donation to Grace Place as part of the food drive activity. Juniors' class fundraiser is going well, and student council is currently planning Red-Ribbon Week activities with meetings once a week or more if needed.

**Middle School Report:** Interim Principal Brad Nemecek reported on items including middle school conferences which were held October 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Many teachers reported 100% student/parent turn out, with overall attendance near 88%. The Linus Blanket Project was held October 7<sup>th</sup> and the entire middle school participated. Students and staff made 152 blankets which were donated to local hospitals and area shelters. Middle school students began the Performance Series testing the first week of school. Data from testing is now being used in several ways. WKCE testing at the middle school will run from October 26<sup>th</sup> through November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and a Gallup Hope Survey will be taken at the middle school during October 25<sup>th</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Elementary School Report:** Elementary Principal Cherrie Wood's report addressed several items including Kindergarten-4<sup>th</sup> grade fall Parent/teacher conferences which were held Tuesday and Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The conferences were well attended. A book fair was also held during that week. Students in Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade have taken the STAR Early Literacy and/or STAR Reading and Math tests during October. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade took Performance Series assessments in September for their fall baseline data, and are preparing for the annual WKCE which will be taken November 1<sup>st</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. On October 7<sup>th</sup>, all teachers met with their respective Professional Learning Communities, (PLC's). Board members were invited to join the elementary school October 28<sup>th</sup> for the annual 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Grandparents' Day Program.

## **Action**

**Governance Committee (2<sup>nd</sup> Readings)** Governance Chair Connor explained tonight's policies are included as 2<sup>nd</sup> readings and approval. He said the board reviewed the policies and feel they are in compliance with current law.

Connor moved, with second by Cranston, to approve Policy AC, Nondiscrimination. Motion carried unanimously.

Connor moved, with second by Cranston, to approve Policy AC-R, Discrimination Complaint Procedures. Motion carried unanimously.

Connor moved, with second by Moulton, to approve Policy JB, Equal Educational Opportunities. Motion carried unanimously.

Connor moved, with second by Colbeth, to approve Policy JB-R, Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Business Services Committee**

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to Adopt the 2011-2012 Original Fund 10 Budget with a Total Expenditure of \$16,215,621.00. Business Services Director David Gerberding stated the budget publication format was the same presented at the Annual Meeting, with updates and revisions since the Annual Meeting date. Gerberding stated the updates were largely due to adjustments to pupil count and that the district received \$150,000 more than originally estimated from State aid. Board members were interested in the details and breakdown of the "Source Fund." Gerberding said he will provide a detailed explanation of the fund with supporting documentation to the board. Colbeth asked that future board meetings include the board packet on the SmartBoard; she then thanked the administrative team and teachers for getting the district back on budget. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to Certify the Fund 10 Tax Levy in the Amount of \$4,937,305.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to Approve Exhibit A Resolution Authorizing Cash Flow Borrowing in Amount Not to Exceed \$3,250,000.00. Gerberding indicated the district is borrowing for the same amount as last year. He reported that the borrowing bid packet was sent out through Quarles and Brady to nine bidders, and that three bidders responded. Gerberding stated interest rates are very low, which helps the district. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk