

REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
October 25, 2010

Members re-convened in open session. Colbeth moved, with second by Moulton, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

President Tim Witzmann welcomed everyone to the district's first meeting in the new 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 Safe-Way Bus Company in honor of National School Bus Safety Week. Superintendent Rosburg said Safe-Way has done a great job transporting students in a safe and reliable manner, and he looks forward to their continued service. Safe-Way employees that were in attendance introduced themselves. Each received a gift of appreciation.

Athletic Director Brad Nemeč introduced Jerry Sullivan as the 2010 Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association Distinguished Service Award Recipient, explaining that the award is given in recognition of Sullivan's many hours of volunteering in the community and school district. Nemeč stated Sullivan is very deserving of the award as he is dependable, unselfish, and committed to students and his community. Sullivan has donated many hours to the district including painting of the football field, working on the baseball softball fields, and opening the high school gymnasium each morning for students to continue their workouts. Witzmann presented Sullivan with certificate of recognition stating that he appreciated everything Sullivan has done for the district.

Meeting was recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

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

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Session of September 20, 2010
- B. Approval of Minutes of Executive Session of October 4, 2010
- C. Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting of October 4, 2010
- D. Approve payment of September/October Board Bills
- E. Approve additional 45 min./day for elemen. school Kdgn playground/noon supervision for the 2010-11 school year
- F. Approve hiring Kelly Holm as Jr. Kdgn teacher for add'l section of Jr. Kdgn for the 2010-11 school year
- G. Approve hiring Megan Carlson-Formo as aide for add'l. section of Jr. Kdgn for the 2010-11 school year
- H. Approve hiring Tabitha Dusek for 2 hr./day elem school Noon Recess Supervisor for 2010-11 school year
- I. Approve hiring of Paloma Rodriguez as ELL aide for the 2010-11 school year
- J. Approve hiring of Douglas Lang as short-term substitute teacher for high school English for 2010-11 school year
- K. Approve resignation of Julie Johnson, Noon Recess Supervisor
- L. Approve Youth Options Applications
- M. Approve Winter Coaching Assignments for the 2010-2011

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Governance Committee (1st Readings): Establish Instrument Rental Policy: Chair Mike Connor stated the need for this policy was brought to awareness by the middle school due to the increase in student requests to rent music equipment. Connor said any questions related to the policy may be directed to Rosburg's attention.

Superintendent's Report: Enrollment: Superintendent Rosburg stated enrollment numbers are similar as last year with a bit of increase. Enrollment numbers this month include transition student numbers from the special education program. Witzmann asked why the district is counting transition students now. Pupil Services Director Kern stated

the district used to send transition students out to other districts for services, but with the growth of the district's own transition program, more students are continuing their transition through the Somerset School District, so numbers have increased in the school. *November Committee Meetings:* Rosburg stated committee meetings tentatively slated for November 1, 2010, include Teaching & Learning to discuss course approval, Governance Committee to discuss the AmberVision program, and an Executive Session meeting. *Open House:* Rosburg suggested that the Learning Center Grand Opening Open House celebration be held on November 15, 2010, before the board meeting. Board members agreed to the date and time. *WASB State Convention:* Rosburg reminded the board that the WASB State Convention will be in January, 2011 and asked them to let him know by the end of the week if they are planning to attend.

Board Report: *CESA II Update:* Cranston stated the January CESA meeting would be held at ITV locations in Spring Valley and Osceola. The CESA board would like one or two administrators and board members from each of the school districts to attend. CESA will be hiring a business manager and have been interviewing candidates with hopes to hire someone in the position by November. *Community Involvement:* Cranston indicated the Somerset Lions Club sponsored a "Learn to Skate" workshop with 30 to 40 kids in attendance at the ice rink at each session. She stated the Lions Club will be putting in an outdoor ice skating rink at the old elementary school site. The rink will be for recreational skating only, will have lights and will be open in the evening as well. In addition, the Lions Club will be hosting a haunted hayride Saturday night with Cranston in charge of concessions. *School Liaison Update:* Witzmann offered up his spot as elementary liaison due to time constraints. He asked if any of the board members would like to fill in as the elementary liaison, they are to get in touch with him.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director of Business Services and Operations Robert Avery indicated the big news this month enrollment and property values, with enrollment up 3.38 % from last year. He said equalization has increased due to property values going down and enrollment going up. Avery then provided a summary report of tonight's action items for the board.

Pupil Services Report: Pupil Services Director Darren Kern reported on the strategic planning meeting which was held on October 14, 2010. He said it was a good process with good discussion and a set of statements that will guide the district. The planning committee hopes to get through parameters at their next meeting. In the area of Special Education, Kern indicated a new law was recently passed which clarifies new criteria for qualifying students under the Response to Intervention (RTI) model. Kern explained that RTI is a general education initiative which looks at whether or not a core program is meeting the needs of special education students in a district. Have to have a full system in place in three years. Cranston stated the school district she works at was a pilot for this new initiative; she indicated data gathering for this program is a burden and should not be taken on by a teacher. She said districts need to hire at least a part time person to gather the data; her district used a Title staff person to gather the data as the person responsible for this should have a teaching background.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report: Manager Trisha Sheridan reported that in the area of Curriculum and Instruction, today was the initial CESA sponsored Core Standard Roll-Out session. The first standards to be addressed were the high school math core standards. District staff attended the session via remote from the middle school. Sheridan said it was nice not to waste time on the road to attend the session. Sheridan stated the standards are national level, with a rigor piece embedded. Menomonie School District has invited Somerset to review their standards-based report cards, which they have had implemented for ten years. For Instruction and Assessment, staff spent a half day on October 8th analyzing MAP's testing data. Feedback on co-teaching has been good. RTI and co-teaching are happening at math level in 6th grade. The district is preparing for WKCE testing in grades 3 through 10. Testing window opened today and closes on Nov. 26th. Goal setting was the focus at the middle and high school. Kindergarten through grade 2 received their first training on MAPs for Primary Grade(MPG). Some of this data has been used to organize math classes and inform teachers who are participating in the co-teaching classrooms.

High School Report: Student Council Representative Amanda Kirk was unavailable to report on student council activities, however, Principal Shawn Madden reported student council is off to a good start with a successful homecoming week, several fundraisers, and Red Ribbon Week activities. Madden read off the names of high school students of the month as part of the Character Education program, stating academic awards will be held the

following evening; Madden's goal is to have 207 active award recipients at the ceremony. Madden went on to report that officer liaison Strohmusch guidance counselor Jeremy Kerg have taught students and parents about Cyber Bulling for three years. Madden handed out the presentation information Strohmusch and Kerg provide at the presentations. Madden went on to report he is planning next month's Veterans' Day program. Choir and band students are hosting a concert this evening, and the drama department will present the play, "Just Another High School Play," in November. Madden congratulated the volleyball team for a great season, and stated high school student Tia Belter will be going to state for cross country. Madden ended his report stating he attended the AWASA convention with Sheridan and Eichten for professional development.

Middle School Report: Middle School Principal Sara Eichten reported that the middle school presents information regarding cyber bullying through IMC specialist Tracy Yndestad and guidance counselor Kate Rorabeck. Presentations regarding cyber bullying start at 5th grade. Eichten stated that much of cyber bullying is done by text messages and happens outside of school as well as during school. The middle school will continue its awareness program regarding cyber bullying throughout the year with the older grades as well. Eichten went on to report the Somerset Youth Assn. will be presenting the middle school playground committee with \$1,500 for the playground. The committee continues to host fundraisers and has approximately \$22,000 to raise. During the in-service day, staff reviewed recent MAPs testing results. Eichten stated every middle school student set goals based on their MAPs scores. WKCE testing starts tomorrow for the middle school, and the first Student of the Month breakfast will be held tomorrow.

Elementary School Report: Principal Cherrie Wood reported on some of the elementary activities held recently including fire prevention week, parent teacher conferences, and staff development, where staff reviewed how to compile and use MAPs testing information to group students for continued educational success. Upcoming events at the elementary school include WKCE tests, Red Ribbon Week, and continued work on thematic units. October 24th marked the end of the elementary school's trimester period. Ongoing activities include first grade's on-line blog, a staff book study that looks at balanced literacy, and flexible grouping of staff for RTI with the guidance of Kern and Sheridan. Wood reported on how the elementary school presents information regarding cyber bullying stating IMC specialist Kristin Flater works with students regarding awareness of cyber bullying. Wood provided a handout of Flater's presentation. Witzmann added a board member had asked how the district addresses the topic of cyber bullying, which is why all principals were asked to report on it this evening.

Action

Governance Committee: Connor stated all of the policies presented are second readings. Witzmann suggested the policies be approved in one motion. Connor moved, with second by Cranston, to approve the following:

1. Updated Home School Policy LBCD
2. Updated Volunteer Guidelines IICC-R
3. Updated Alternative Education Policy Program Description
4. Anti Gang Policy JFCF
5. Video Surveillance Policy JFGB

Motion carried unanimously for the five policies.

Business Services Committee

Colbeth moved, with second by Moulton to approve the 2010-11 Budget Development & Tax Levy of \$8,074,560.00. Avery stated the board wanted Fund 10 Levy to remain flat and wanted to under levy. Avery discussed several budget items including the middle school food service area remodeling, administrative assistant position, and adding lower high school parking lot. Additional dollars is for a support person for the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Manager, who currently shares a secretary. Board members discussed what is needed for the school, staff and students. Avery also wanted to be clear that the district was not putting off the middle school food service area project, only how the dollars would be split. The board asked to bring back the administrative secretary piece to committee to continue discussions. After no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to approve Short-Term Borrowing of \$3,250,000 for Cash Flow Purposes. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to approve Fund Balance Designations as reported. On Roll Call vote, all members voted yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to approve engagement of a five-year lease with Providence Capital Technology. Avery stated this is a government lease with an interest rate under 2.6%. Motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Cranston, to approve WIAA & Other Tournament Revenues. Rosburg stated there was no change in designation, but DPI is requiring a formal reporting process. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cranston moved, with second by Colbeth, to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Board Clerk