

SOMERSET BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
September 15, 2014

Board President Brian Moulton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken. Board members present were Brian Moulton, Robert Gunther, Mike Connor and Tammie Wishard. Absent were Tom Walters, Marie Colbeth and Kelly Ott.

Connor moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Groups or Individuals Wishing to Be Heard: President Moulton read the rules for this portion of the meeting. Lorri Baillargeon shared that the beginning of the school year was very intense with much information that had to go out to all staff. She stated it was nice that the administrative team met with all staff members, this was very helpful and she hopes it can continue.

Positive Recognition: New staff members were recognized during the Positive Recognition portion of the meeting. New Staff: Laura Bambach; Short Term Special Education Aide, Stephanie Briggs; Middle School Special Education Instructor, Paige Charland; Special Education Aide, Abby Christensen; K-12 Physical Education, Melisa Erwin; High School English Instructor, Erin Hoff; Title 1 K-4 Reading Instructor, Linda Hoff; Special Education Support Staff, Jennifer Jahner; Elementary School Office Aide, Christopher Kamrath; Elementary Principal, Gail Kerr; Junior Kindergarten Instructor, Nicole Leslie; Special Education Support Staff, Eric Possehl; 7-12 Band Instructor, Kristin Siskow; High School Social Studies, Catherine Skramstad; Special Education Support Staff, Billie Jo Stephens; Elementary Special Education Instructor, Melissa Swanson; ELL Support Staff; Kay Vater; Elementary Gifted/ Talented and Art Instructor, John Walsh; Director of Programs. Each staff member that was in attendance introduced themselves with a brief background. Moulton welcomed the new staff and thanked them for coming.

Board members recognized 2014-2015 Compass Award Recipients: Julie Fretz; Elementary School Guidance Counselor, Damon Barta; Middle School Science Instructor, Jen Sutton; High School Business Education Instructor. Superintendent Rosburg explained the importance and significance of the Compass Award. President Moulton and other members of the board then presented each recipient with a certificate and compass and thanked them each for their hard work and dedication to the district.

Board Members recognized Damon Barta; Middle School Science Instructor for his participation in TWIST. Middle School Principal Sara Eichten explained that Mr. Barta had spent six weeks at 3M this summer on the TWIST (Teachers Working in Science and Technology) program. Mr. Barta shared that his experience there was wonderful and that it is important for students to learn to be problem solvers. He hopes other teachers are able to be a part of this as well. From his experience at 3M and his work on his invention Mr. Barta will now be recognized on a patent.

President Moulton also recognized John Siggins, Student Council Rep to the School Board for the 2014-2015 school year.

Meeting was recessed at 7:16 p.m. for refreshments; meeting was reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of August 18, 2014
- B. Approve Minutes of the Annual Meeting of September 8, 2014
- C. Approve Payment of August/ September Board Bills
- D. Approve Resignation of Lori Maypark as Special Education Aide
- E. Approve Resignation of Nathan McNaughton, Special Education Aide/ Driver
- F. Approve Resignation of Mindy Schupp, Middle School; Special Education Instructor
- G. Approve Resignation of Angie Sporleder, Elementary School Special Education Aide
- H. Approve Resignation of Rebekah Meuers, Special Education Driver/ Aide
- I. Approve Hiring of Paige Charland, High School Special Education Aide
- J. Approve Hiring of Linda Hoff, Special Education Driver/ Aide

- K. Approve Hiring of Jennifer Jahner, Elementary School Office Aide
- L. Approve 2014-2015 Fall and Winter Coaching Assignments
- M. Approve Open Enrollment Out of the Somerset School District to New Richmond
- N. Approve Open Enrollment Out of the Somerset School District to McFarland School District

Motion carried unanimously

Discussion

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Randy Rosburg provided an enrollment summary and indicated enrollment is at 1,592. The official numbers will be known on the third Friday count in September. The committee meetings for October will take place on October 6, 2014. The October Board Meeting will be held on October 27, 2014. The date is pushed out a week in October. This will allow Director of Business Services and Operations, Dave Gerberding to work on the budget. Rosburg provided updates on the IT work that is being done collaboratively between RMM and the IT department. Rosburg also provided updates on the roof project as well as other building updates.

Board Report: *CESA Update:* Walters was absent.

Directors and Principals Report: Middle School Principal Sara Eichten invited all those at the meeting to be part of the perfect attendance luncheons that are held at the middle school. Eichten also spoke on the topic of Educator Effectiveness and the six standards as well as SLO. She addressed the pilot that took place at the middle school last year and what the biggest impact teachers could have on the students. Support seminars will be held after school for the staff that would like to work further on this.

Student Council Report: John Siggins introduced himself and shared that both he and Nicole Tetzlaff will take turns attending the board meetings for the 2014-15 school year. Siggins spoke of the upcoming homecoming activities, the first annual tailgate party as well as the other activities going on at the high school. He also shared that students are getting used to the six period day, seniors have met with Jostens and the students at the high school will hold fundraising activities throughout the school year.

ACTION

Human Resources Committee:

Wishard moved, with second by Gunther to Approve Updates to the 2014-2015 Handbook. The updates are only regarding the opt out language. Wishard spoke of the discussion that took place on the opt out and that a survey was conducted as to what people would do without the opt out options. Without the option it would cost the school district more. Gunther asked Gerberding if it would make sense to have some groups to have fixed rate and some being variable. Gerberding explained that the change proposed to this language is to establish a fixed contribution amount rather than an amount based on the actual premium cost of single health insurance. Rosburg explained the survey and there were about 80 that responded, of the 80, 70 voted to keep the opt out. Coming out of committee the thought was to not eliminate the opt out piece. Baillargeon asked about a life changing event, what if staff took opt out and then had life changing event. Gunther responded that is the risk a staff member would take. The opt out money would then pay for their insurance. Rosburg explained staff would get the same amount, staff can go from one to the other, the dollar amounts would be pro-rated. Rosburg stated this language has been the same for many years. Baillargeon asked what happens if the opt out is a fixed amount. Her concern is that the insurance would cost more. Gerberding explained the HSA portion is pro-rated, not the premium.

Motion Failed unanimously.

Teaching and Learning Committee:

Wishard moved with second by Gunther to Approve Adding a Second High School Drama. Wishard spoke of the Teaching and Learning Committee and the compelling information that was shared by Becky Olson, High School Art Instructor and Drama Director. Wishard stated the drama production always gets rave reviews, is well attended and is positive experience for all those involved. Connor said this a great chance to provide the community with another production and provide the community with more arts. Moulton and Gunther also agreed and shared it is a great experience for the students. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Wishard moved to Add Robotics as a High School Activity with second by Moulton. Wishard spoke of the Teaching and Learning Committee and that Eric Olson presented and gave background on Robotics. Wishard added this will be very beneficial to the students. Gunther asked for clarification on the meet schedule and whether there will be meets added to Western Wisconsin. Eric Olson said it is slowly moving this way and hopefully it will catch on here as many now are in Appleton, WI. Connor added this is a win-win and fits with the strategic plan. Gunther added that he appreciated the grant that Mr. Olson received for Robotics last year. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Wishard moved with second by Connor to Approve Athletic Trainer Contract for 2014-2015. Athletic Director, John Walsh spoke on the need for having a trainer on the sidelines. Westfields has stepped up to help with the needs of the school and shared that it fits within the budget. Gunther asked if there would be services available at away events. Walsh stated there will be an independent trainer that will be attending the Durand and New Richmond away football games. Somerset will also bank on the use of the trainers that are at the hosting school. He has seen the use of the hosting school trainer and was pleased with how quickly they responded. Walsh also shared there is an EMT, ambulance service and a doctor, all volunteers, at the games. Gunther thanked Walsh for all his hard work on this. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Gunther moved, with second by Wishard to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Brian Moulton, President

Tammie Wishard, Board Clerk