

**REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
September 20, 2010**

Vice President Brian Moulton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present were board members Brian Moulton, Catherine Cranston, Robert Gunther, and Marin Hansch. Marie Colbeth arrived at 7:07 p.m. Tim Witzmann and Mike Connor were absent.

Approval of Agenda: Moulton asked for approval of tonight's agenda. Superintendent Rosburg asked that Item #5 (Consent Agenda) be moved before Item #4 (Positive Recognition) in order to approve new employee hires on the agenda before the Positive Recognition portion of the meeting. Cranston moved, with second by Hansch, to approve the agenda with the change to move Agenda Item #5 before Agenda Item #4. Motion carried unanimously.

Groups or Individuals Wishing To Be Heard: Moulton read off rules for this portion of the agenda. Paul Westmoreland came forward with a concern regarding a lack of policy for staff use of technology in the district. Westmoreland felt staff should sign the same type of agreement as students. Westmoreland stated he inquired with other schools last spring and found that New Richmond and Hudson school district staff sign technology agreements. Moulton thanked Westmoreland for his concern stating the board will look into this and will have an administrator get back to him.

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

- A. Approve minutes of the Regular Session of August 16, 2010 of the School Board
- B. Approve minutes of Executive Session of September 13, 2010 of the School Board
- C. Approve payment of August/September Board bills
- D. Approve hiring of Brianna Letnes as Short-Term Sub for Stephanie Magnuson for the 2010-2011 school year
- E. Approve hiring of Jennifer Nilssen as Half-Time Short-Term Sub for Amy Young for the 2010-2011 school year
- F. Approve hiring of Lora Greener as Elementary School Special Ed Aide for the 2010-11 school year
- G. Approve hiring of Nathan McNaughton as Special Education Driver Aide for the 2010-11 school year
- H. Approve hiring of Sarah Welker as Half-Time Spec Ed Aide & Half-Time Alt Ed Aide for the 2010-11 school year
- I. Approve add'l 15 minutes a.m. time per day to contracts of Deb Ludowese & Brittney Johnson for 2010-11 school yr
- J. Approve additional Special Education teacher at the elementary school for the 2010-11 school year
- K. Approve additional .5 FTE Jr Kdgn teacher and .5 FTE classroom aide positions for the 2010-11 school year
- L. Approve notice of non-renewal of Lora Sorenson, Long-Term ASL Teacher for the 2010-11 school year
- M. Approve 2010-2011 Staffing Plan
- N. Approve 2010-2011 Coaching/Extra Curricular Assignments
- O. Approve High School Graduation Date of Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium
- P. Approve Alternative Education Graduation Date of Monday, May 23, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Positive Recognition: Rosburg introduced the newest school district staff members including Nathan Brown, Long-Term Sub for 6th Grade; Pamela Bump, Noon Lunch/Recess Supervisor; Megan Carlson-Formo, JK & Noon Lunch Recess Supervisor; Rachel Fuller, Jr. Kdgn Teacher; Lora Greener, ES Special Education Aide; Kelly Holm, Jr. Kdgn Teacher; Michael Holmquist, 2nd Grade Teacher; Sarah Icenogle, MS & HS Health Teacher; Julie Johnson, Noon Lunch/Recess Supervisor; Susan Kadlec, High School English Teacher; Kitzi Klinger, 5th Grade Reading Teacher; Cory Lindenberg, High School English Teacher; Karen Magler, ES Health Care Provider; Nathan McNaughton, Special Education Aide Driver; Ayla Mitchell, 8th Grade Science Teacher; Scott Perau, 7-12th Grade Vocal Music Teacher; Mary Perrizo-Peterson, ES/HS Art Teacher; Troy Pertzborn, HS Social Studies Teacher; Grady Radabaugh, PK-12th Grade Phy Ed Teacher; Stacey Ramaeker, HS Special Education Aide; William Roll, Director of Programs and A/D; Dawn Tunison, 5th-6th Grade Band & General Music Teacher; Kelly Walczak, Family & Consumer Science Teacher; Sarah Welker, Special Ed and Alt Ed Aide; and Hillary Wolski, K-12th Grade Special Education Teacher. Board members then introduced themselves, thanked the employees for coming, and invited them to come to future board meetings.

2010-2011 Compass Award Recipients: Board members recognized this year's Compass Award recipients including Trisha Sheridan (elementary school), Lorri Baillargeon (middle school), and Susan Oberstar (high school). Rosburg provided a background explanation of the purpose of the Compass Award which is given to one member of each school building, selected by their peers for their leadership, guidance and direction. The recipient will provide leadership throughout the year. Principal Wood introduced Trisha Sheridan, stating Sheridan was selected for her energy, creativity and clarity for students as well as staff. She said Sheridan is an excellent communicator, and it was not a surprise that she was selected amongst her peers. Principal Eichten introduced Lorri Baillargeon, stating Baillargeon is s a leader in many ways and leads by example with the evident student success in her classroom. Eichten stated Baillargeon is dedicated and a leader, with leadership extending beyond the classroom and building. Rosburg stated Sue Oberstar was unavailable to be at tonight's meeting; however Rosburg stated he has known and worked with Oberstar for many years. Rosburg stated she is a dedicated teacher whom both students and staff seek out for leadership and guidance.

Meeting was recessed at 7:20 p.m. and reconvened at 7:36 p.m.

Discussion

Governance Committee: Cranston provided a re-cap of the meeting, stating all of the policy's before the board tonight are first readings. 1.) Home School Policy: Cranston indicated there have been some modifications in state law regarding home school which necessitates language changes in the policy, such as home school students may enroll in other public school classes, not just core classes; private school students may also enroll in some public school classes; 2.) Update Volunteer Policy Guidelines: Language changes or modifications to this policy are mainly between volunteer coordinator and volunteer secretary; 3.) Update Alternative Education Policy Program Description: Language changes are mainly due to the change in building location to the new learning center; 4.) Establish Anti Gang Policy: This policy is new to the district and will provide a proactive approach. 5.) Establish Video Surveillance Policy: This policy is also new to the district.

Business Committee: Business Services Director Bob Avery provided a recap of the committee's last meeting, indicting the committee reviewed the budget building process and resulting mill rate and tax levy for 2011. Avery stated there will be an increase of \$275,000 over last year's levy. Avery stated the committee will meet again in October to review how the district can lower that levy or to keep it as static as possible. Colbeth said she appreciates those efforts.

Teaching and Learning Committee: Cranston stated the minutes provided were for review, and that everything that the committee discussed was on tonight's Consent Agenda for approval.

Information

Enrollment: Superintendent Rosburg provided a review of enrollment information, stating numbers changed a bit from last month; although unofficial, the district has about a 54-student increase from last year. Rosburg also stated last Friday was the Third Friday Count for the state; once enrollment information from that count is official, those results will be shared with the board and community. *Committee Meetings:* There will be a Business Services Committee meeting on Monday, October 4, 2010. Other committee meetings may be scheduled for that evening as well. Rosburg stated the Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office conference room in the new building. Rosburg stated the building move is slated for Thursday and Friday of this week, with hopes to be functioning by Monday, September 27th. Board members may call Rosburg if they would like to have a tour of the building. He stated the district hopes to have an Open House for the building in mid-October or November.

Board

CESA II Update: Cranston stated the CESA board is focusing on instruction with WI common core standards. She said the next August Star Academy will be held next year in River Falls, and John Coughlin has been invited as the keynote speaker. Star Academy will host an evening session in anticipation of attendance of board members and administrators. The academy will also offer a work session specific to board and administrators.

Community Involvement: Cranston stated she attended the elementary school's Welcome Back Open House and talked with parents, teachers, and staff. She said teachers were appreciative of her attendance. Hansch mentioned she

attended the high school Welcome Back Open House and that it was fun to see the excitement of students returning to school. *School Liaison Update:* Nothing to report.

Pupil Services Report: Darren Kern reported on Special Education and Friends Helping Friends Program. Kern said the program involves high school and upper middle school students being partnered up with special needs students. The program gives special education students a chance to have peers that they would not typically have, and attend functions that they would not normally attend. The transition program continues to grow in numbers and opportunities for kids. Kern went on to report the co-teaching model is up and running in all buildings, but that the high school will not be on board until 2nd Term. Kern stated the district is already seeing incredible results with special education students with this model. In the area of Gifted & Talented, Kern stated that many Somerset 7th grade GT math and science female students attended an engineering program at UW-Stout. In the area of ELL, student numbers have jumped from 33 last year to 53 students this year. In the area of Strategic Planning, Kern said the 1st meeting was held Sept 9th where the discussion focused on vision and possibilities for students. The October meeting will focus on the district's mission.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Report: Manager Trisha Sheridan reported on the co-teaching model which Kern talked about earlier, stating the model is one of the items that came out of this year's Data Retreat. One of the goals of the model is to increase students MAPs scores. Sheridan has been sharing data among buildings, which she said helps to give staff a better understanding of the goal. Sheridan is currently compiling leadership teams to work with the data. Hansch commented she would like the district to keep time at the forefront for teachers to be able to review all of the testing data from the MAPs scores. Sheridan reported that Career Education is a part of the Strategic Plan, and staff and students are hard at work on career clusters. Wisconsin Career Pathways has created a website that the district may use as a data store warehouse; the site is accessible to parents as well. Sheridan ended her report stating she attended a Common Core Standards Workshop that she will be reviewing with staff in the near future.

High School Report: Principal Shawn Madden was unable to attend. Rosburg introduced new student council liaison to the board, Amanda Kirk. Kirk stated she was happy to be able to follow in former liaison Johanna Smith's footsteps. Rosburg said Kirk will bring a student perspective to the board meetings. Kirk went on to report student happenings at the high school stating student council has been busy working on homecoming week activities. Jostens met with sophomores and seniors regarding rings and graduation caps and robes. Rosburg then provided a brief building update on behalf of Principal Madden including the piloting of CompassLearning Odyssey this year with alternative education students and special education students with the goal of increasing academic achievement, a pilot project with Rosetta Stone and high school French and Spanish students this year. For Character Education, Madden will report out on high school students of the month recipients for September next month. For Community Involvement, last Thursday high school staff members packed meals at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan, MN. It was a great team building activity for a great cause. Parent teacher conference will be held September 23 from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. Cranston asked that Compass Learning Odyssey activity be shared with the board.

Middle School Report: Principal Sara Eichten reported on the new middle school playground, stating it has been used a lot and has helped to alleviate stress for students. There will be more fundraising for the playground this year. MAPs testing is underway; students will use their fall MAP scores to set growth goals this year. This information will be shared with parents at Student-Led Conferences in October. In the area of Community Involvement, students will be working on many projects including World Day, Linus Project, Hoops for Heart, Student Council activities, Fine Arts Festival, Concerts and more; community members will be invited to volunteer to assist and participate in these activities. For Character Education, the team will review and revise CE curriculum to develop an assessment tool; the middle school will solicit formal evaluation/feedback from bus drivers, field trip hosts, guest speakers, etc. Staff will continue to evaluate year to year Youth Risk Behavior and Climate Surveys for improvements in school safety, bullying, and violence, and the Assessment Committee will continue to explore best practices in assessment.

Elementary School Report: Principal Cherrie Wood reported on a smooth and exciting start to the school year. She said there are many things going on at the school including Karen Bye was the assembly speaker for Sept. 10th. She focused on courage, hard work, and being the best you can be. Sept 14th, National Anthem Day: Staff members:

Al Duerkop, Lane Johnson, Rachelle Erickson, and Christine Sheid, sang for the presentation of the National Anthem. MAP testing completed on Friday for 3rd and 4th grade. Today we started MPG with 1st grade. We plan to finish with all students by Oct 1st. Jr. Kindergarten is planning to move to the new building this week with an opening date of Monday the 27th. JK teachers have been connecting with the students through a variety of activities. Last week the students were invited in groups Mon-Thurs. Nights. On Friday the 17th, students came for a shortened day and had a chance to ride buses.

Business Services & Operations Report: Director Avery reported last Friday was the Third Friday Count. Thanks to the efforts of Principal Wood and the Jr. Kindergarten staff, the district had 100% of its students on campus. Avery went on to state the importance for all students to be in attendance to be counted in order for the district to receive state aide funding. Avery also reported on Cash Flow Report, stating it included refinancing money and debt service payment of nearly \$4 million. Avery indicated the board will see a big decrease from August to September because of the debt service payment. With regard to the staffing plan, Avery stated the district is well within the original budget approved, even with the amount of new hires to the district. In terms of 2010-11 budget Avery indicated there was a separate report, in which the board members are being asked to endorse the budget before them as the last action item on tonight's agenda. This budget will then be reviewed at the October 4th Annual Meeting and will be brought forward at the October 25th regular board meeting for approval.

Action

Colbeth moved, with second by Gunther, to approve the original 2010-2011 budget brought forward for board approval. Gunther asked for clarification of what "Transit of Aides" was meant in the budget. Avery explained how the fund functioned between state and federal fiscal dollars. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Colbeth Moved, with second by Hansch, to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Witzmann, President

Catherine Cranston, Clerk