

REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
April 18, 2016
MINUTES

Board President Bob Gunther called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Present were Brian Moulton, Robert Gunther, Mike Connor, Marie Colbeth, Tammie Wishard, Patty Schachtner and Nancy Dressel.

Colbeth moved, with second by Wishard, to approve the agenda. Dressel requested that items E, F, and G under the consent agenda be moved to Action so discussion can take place. Motion carried unanimously.

IT Update: Daniel Johnson from RMM provided an IT update. ERate 15/16 Wireless Access Points have been ordered and should be delivered this week, RMM will then schedule the installation of the devices. Somerset IT is looking to downsize VDI in a multiphased/multiyear approach. This includes reducing the T310's and replacing them with Chromeboxes, with the possibility of eventually removing the VDI entirely over multiple years. Somerset IT has proposed moving from 700 VDI licenses to 200 within the next year. Wishard asked about savings to which Rosburg shared they are researching this. Dressel asked about the removal to which Rosburg explained the reasoning and the removal plan. Somerset IT and RMM have worked diligently to reduce the amount of VM Server and App Servers from 51 to 27. Rosburg shared that this will be accost savings as well. This will greatly help to reduce the complexity of the virtual infrastructure and simplify the network. From the reduction in Virtual Servers, the district will see a decrease in its Managed Service Contract starting in May 2016. Rosburg stated there is much behind the scenes work on the part of Somerset IT and RMM.

Student Council Report: Student Council Rep, Mackenzie Erickson provided a handout report. The junior class has been working hard at getting ready from Prom 2016, which will be April, 23, followed by the all night Post Prom party. Community day is scheduled for Friday, May 20. Lunch will be provided on that day and the student council is selling cookies to raise money in order to purchase t-shirts. All Somerset schools came together to collect over three truckloads of books that were donated to Books for Africa. The homeroom that collected the most books from each building earned a pizza party.

Directors and Principals Report: Director of Pupil Services, Shannon Donnelly spoke of the assessment testing that is taking place right now. Donnelly stressed how much behind the scenes work goes into the planning and preparing for the testing. The preliminary reports from some testing is back and the results are very positive. Educator Effectiveness is wrapping up and support is being offered to all involved as it is a time consuming process. Donnelly also shared that she trained the first group of teachers at the high school for ALICE training. Training will take place in the other buildings and with parents as well. Colbeth asked about the testing and if it is just once a year. Donnelly explained the timeframes and how often the testing takes place. Dressel asked if the district has enough devices and technology to support testing. Donnelly responded that any available devices and computer labs are being used right now for testing as testing is the priority right now. High School Principal Chris Moore stated they try to minimize the impact. Elementary School Principal Chris Kamrath explained how it impacts the elementary school. Dressel asked if staff members knew when they would be getting their Educator Effectiveness information. Donnelly shared that from May 15th on, evaluation would be taking place. Dressel also asked about the interventions, Donnelly stated they are academic interventions and provided an explanation. Dressel asked for the information to be given to her after the behavior interventions have taken place.

The Board recognized 2016 State Forensics Participants: Kylie Anderson; daughter of Edward & Lisa Anderson, Mikaela Barger; daughter of Gary & Constance Barger, Sally Bodlovick; daughter of Robert Bodlovick & Mary McComb, Vienna Branom; daughter of Donald & Sherrill Branom, Cade Colbeth; son of Rick & Marie Colbeth, Damian Cutler; son of Erin Cutler, Sophia Dunleap; son of David & Kym Dunleap, Ashlynn Giossi; daughter of Julie Giossi, Briggan Harris; daughter of Richard Harris and Collette Harris Amor de Caballero, Kendall Isaacson; daughter of Laurie Isaacson, Dakotah Johnson; son of Kale and Caryn Johnson, Braeden Lange Green; son of Susan Lange and Bradley Green, Amy Lippman; daughter of Todd & Cheryl Lippman, Max

McMeeken; son of Graeme and Lucie McMeeken, Burke Meader; son of Dana Demets-Meader, Alexis Meuers Cepress; daughter of Rebekah Meuers, Sydney Nelson; daughter of Derek & Tracy Nelson, Anna Pasno; daughter of Fred and Susan Pasno, Nicole Quaderer; daughter of Amy Quaderer and Gary Quaderer, Salem Rondeau; daughter of Casey and Amye Rondeau, Janae Rothe; daughter of Christine Milde Rothe, Benjamin Schmitt; son of John and Kathleen Schmitt, Michelle Schmitt; daughter of John and Kathleen Schmitt, Jaden Skwarek Schwartz; daughter of Lori Skwarek and Keith Schwartz, Anya Swanson; daughter of Darrin Swanson & JoAnn Hardegger, Josef (Sepp) Swanson; son of Darrin Swanson & JoAnn Hardegger, Caitlyn Thurber; daughter of Ernest and Tracy Thurber and Forensics Advisor; Carolyn Spoerl. Miss Spoerl spoke of the Forensics team's trip to state and shared that all team members did very well. The team received 19 gold medals and silver and bronze medals as well. The board presented certificates to the students in attendance and thanked them for their hard work.

The Board recognized 2016 State FBLA Participants: Kylie Anderson; daughter of Edward & Lisa Anderson, Mikaela Barger; daughter of Gary & Constance Barger, Breanna Coerber; daughter of Ross & Dawn Coerber. High School Principal Chris Moore explained that the team this year partnered with another school. The team worked very hard this year and qualified for Nationals. The board presented certificates to the FBLA team members.

The Board recognized 2016 Scholar Athletes: Logan Peterson; son of Eric and Christine Peterson, Alexandra Wittstock; daughter of Paul and Melissa Wittstock. High School Principal Chris Moore expressed the hard work that both Alexandra and Logan put in both academically as well as athletically. Alexandra and Logan will be recognized at the Celebration of Excellence Ceremony which is for the student in the top 10% of the class. The board presented a certificate to Alexandra as she was present at the meeting, Logan will also receive his. Moore thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

The Board Recognized 2016 Outgoing Board Members: Gunther spoke of Mike Connor's 28 years and Tammie Wishard's 3 years on the board. Their contributions have been fantastic and they will be greatly missed. The hours and dedication they have both put in are invaluable. Colbeth spoke of the quiet wisdom and leadership they both possess. Past Board Member Tim Witzmann thanked Mike for all he has done for the board. Connor shared that he can never pay the district and board back for all it has given him and he is greatly appreciative for the time he was able to spend on the board. Wishard shared that it was an honor and privilege to be a part of the board and shared it is a wonderful place to live and stressed that the school district is an important part of the community. Wishard wished the new board members well and stated they should always keep the student best interests first. Gunther thanked Connor for being a role model and positive influence. Gunther presented Connor and Wishard with thank you gifts.

The meeting was recessed at 7:43 p.m. and reconvened at 7:58 p.m.

Groups or Individuals Wishing To Be Heard: Gunther read off the rules for this portion of the meeting. Tim Witzmann, Somerset Township, read a letter he wrote in regards to a postcard that was sent to residents in Somerset School District to vote no for the referendum

Jerry Sullivan, Somerset resident, spoke on the topics of running for school board, early graduation and his questions on a postcard that was mailed in regards to voting no on the referendum.

Bob Wright from the Osceola School District spoke on behalf of the St. Croix Valley Friends of Education. He shared documents with the board and spoke of the kickoff event that is taking place on April 19.

Moulton moved, with second by Colbeth to approve the Consent Agenda, with items E,F and G being moved to action as requested by Dressel earlier.

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of March 21, 2016
- B. Approve Minutes of Executive Session of April 4, 2016
- C. Approve Minutes of the Canvassing Session of April 8, 2016

- D. Approve Payment of March/April Board Bills
- E. Approve 2016 Summer School Registration Book
- F. Approve Youth Option Applications
- G. Approve Fertilizer RFP

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Brad Nemec spoke of a start date being necessary for summer school. This is needed in case of an audit.

Discussion:

Business Services: Committee Chair Colbeth spoke of the budgeting reports and the process of what will be shared with the board. Director of Business Services and Operations, Dave Gerberding, reiterated the process.

Governance Committee: Updates to NEOLA Policies (1st Readings): Committee Chair Connor spoke of the first readings on the updates to the NEOLA Policies: 8310; Public Records and 8390; Animals on School Property. These both will come before the board in May for a second reading and approval.

Board Committees: Connor spoke of the makeup of the board committees. Dressel summarized that the board has discussed the makeup and formation of the committees. Dressel asked if it would be worthwhile to consider realigning the committees. Can some committees be combined and possible meet more regularly to help form consistency in their work, she cited the van purchase and summer school planning as examples. Wishard shared this has been discussed and in going through all the policies with NEOLA this was brought to light. It makes sense to split up the policies amongst committees to allow for thoughtful discussion. She shared this would be helpful for the board and the district. Gunther shared that the updating of the policies increased the work of the Governance Committee. Dressel asked the board if they wish to continue on as is or possibly combining some and shared examples of how the committees could be combined and spoke of the possibility of a technology committee. Colbeth shared her thoughts on the combining of finance and facilities. She also stressed how important the work of RMM has been and how they could help with an IT committee. Moulton spoke of how this discussion should be continued and include the full board. Schachtner shared there should be a branding/marketing piece as well. Wishard shared this would be a good starting point to work more with the administrators.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rosburg provided the enrollment report to date, stating enrollment is at 1,593 students this month which is down one from last month.

The monthly staffing report reflects the hire of a volunteer baseball coach and the resignation of a middle school special education aide,

Tentative Committee Meetings are scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2016.

The NCAA selects a person of the year, this year it is Gaelin Elmore. Rosburg just learned of this today and was able to speak with Mr. Bruce Larson very briefly on it. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Referendum: The board has not yet had a chance to put together next steps and share the process for another referendum vote and the potential dates one could be held. These are just starting points for the board to determine where they want to go. Gunther would like it to be taken one step at a time and does not think we need to employ School Perceptions again. Gunther stated Katie Thurmes's postcard was a positive and the district could go this route as well. Thurmes shared that a friend handled the postcard design for her. Wishard stated the vote no on the referendum postcard was ingenious. She heard comments that the four page mailer on the referendum may have been too much. Wishard stated a new approach needs to be put in place for the referendum. Schachtner said she heard that the information shared was not clear. If we do it again we need to take responsibility on it and do a better job on the marketing of it. Gunther reiterated that if there was confusion on the part of the board, the board should have spoken up. Dressel said the lesson she learned was pace, there were times the information given to the board was not

enough to process it all. Dressel learned she also needs to listen to the community and the consultant recommendation. She then shared an example of how the referendum was one question and she learned a lesson in advocating stronger and voting her mind. The district should re-engage with the community and she has the most skin in the game of the other board members due to having three children in the district. Colbeth added that she heard a comment that the district could have put more emphasis on the students. Amye Rondeau, parent, shared she did not get any information at all on the referendum or the election, their family did not receive anything. Tom Lindfors, New Richmond News, shared what he had heard on the referendum, he was surprised by the number of parents that did not vote.

Board Report: CESA II Update: Marie Colbeth spoke of the evaluation that was completed at CESA. Colbeth thinks using CESA to facilitate with grant writing could be good for the district. CESA is struggling with their budget as well.

Community and School Involvement: Schachtner spoke of an upcoming conference she will be attending that is on the topic of suicide prevention. There is also a conference in June of opiates. Colbeth spoke of how great the Forensics tournament was. Gunther spoke briefly of the track team and their performance this far. Colbeth also shared the girls soccer team is off to a good start. Dressel shared she is excited about an upcoming literacy night at the elementary school. She said she tries to get to the events early and wears her badge to speak with parents. Kamrath spoke of an event at the Dairy Queen on April 26 in which 25% of proceeds will be donated to the elementary school.

Action:

Teaching and Learning Committee: Wishard moved, with second by Colbeth to Approve Friday, June 3, 2016 as the last day of school for Students and Support Staff for the 2015-2016 School Year. Upon vote, there were six yes votes and one no (Dressel) vote.

Approve the Appointment of Marie Colbeth as the 2016 CESA Convention Representative: Gunther moved with second by Dressel to Approve the Appointment of Marie Colbeth as the 2016 CESA Convention Representative. Motion passed with six yes votes and one abstaining (Colbeth) vote.

Installment and Oath of Office: Newly elected board members Courtney Kurkowski and Katie Thurmes repeated the Oath of Office and were installed as members for a three-year term. Board Clerk Wishard administered the oath to the two new members and the official documents were signed.

Gunther moved with second by Colbeth to Approve 2016 Summer School Registration Book and summer school starting on June 13 and running for six weeks. Motion passed unanimously.

Gunther moved with second by Wishard to Approve Youth Option Applications. Motion passed unanimously. Colbeth moved with second by Connor to Approve Fertilizer RFP. Motion passed unanimously.

Gunther moved, with second by Wishard to move to Closed Session of the Board in Accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation, retirement or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes to move to Closed Session. Discussion ensued on topic.

Colbeth moved, with second by Wishard to move out of closed session. Upon roll call vote, all voted yes to move out of closed session.

Announce any Decisions coming out of Closed Session: Connors moved, with second by Colbeth to accept the Letter of Retirement of District Administrator Randy Rosburg of the School District of Somerset effective as of June 30, 2016. Motion passed unanimously.

Colbeth moved, with second by Moulton to post for the District Administrator position on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, using WECAN. Motion passed unanimously.

Moulton moved with second by Colbeth to adjourn at 10:22 p.m. Motion carried.

Robert Gunther, President

Tamara Wishard, Clerk