

REGULAR MEETING - BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET
March 16, 2015

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

Walters moved, with second by Ott to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Groups or Individuals Wishing To Be Heard: Moulton read off the rules for this portion of the meeting. Wishing to be heard was Patty Schachtner, Jerry Sullivan and Sarah Colling.

Patty Schachtner spoke about a joint initiative the St. Croix County Drug Prevention Coalition and Suicide Prevention Task Force of St. Croix County are uniting forces on. The joint initiative has enlisted the help of many organizations to include: St. Croix County Medical Examiner's Office, Sheriff's Department, CJCC, District Attorney's Office, DHSS, Rivertowns Groups, Hospice, Child Death Review Team and are asking all school districts, police departments and other community organizations all to be a part of the venture. Addiction & suicide are a problem in St. Croix County, suicide rates are above the national average and drug overdoses are double the national average. St. Croix County residents have limited access to resources. The initiative would like the District to commit an AODA person to help create 50,000 resource guides. The guide would be dispersed to everyone from 6th to high school, all mailboxes, the Scotsman, Hot Sheet Shopper, Glenwood City Tribune, St. Croix County and school districts. On May 17th a fundraiser will be held at The Orchard in Baldwin. They would like each community to bring their AODA person, a community member and an artist. Items will be created and will be auctioned off at the event. Additionally on April 6th a free community event will be held at the New Richmond High School Auditorium. Kevin Brael, a comic & mental health speaker, will provide an inspiring and empowered message about mental health issues. Last year there were 32 drug overdoses in St. Croix County, most from prescription drugs. So far this year we have had two suicides and two drug overdoses.

Jerry Sullivan, a community member, parent of three adult children and one who still attends school questioned the board on who has the power to inspect, pass judgment on, to work together on, to veto, assess legal rights and obligations for whether board policies are inconsistent or consistent. More specifically Mr. Sullivan would like the board to revisit, review and revise if appropriate the athletic coach policies. Current policy is roughly 1 ¼ pages. Mr. Sullivan states he came to district 14 years ago. Each season across all areas he agrees to the District's philosophy, practice terms, fees and signs participant student/guardian forms. What stands out in his mind is, "What is the agreement for the coaches? What is the philosophy in how coaches treat us, the coach's creed, trust, relationship, sportsmanship, what is the protocol for heat exhaustion, etc? He states there are no specifics or it is vague. There are eight pages for the volunteers to sign versus 1 ¼ pages for the athletic coaches. Mr. Sullivan brought with him a model from Iowa-Grant which is thicker than our current policy handbook. Mr. Sullivan reiterates we need to look at it and revisit it. These are issues that are important that are all dear to our hearts that are not in Somerset's policy. In closing he implores and beseeches the Board to adopt, revise and review the athletic coach's policy so that it is current to today and not 1991.

Positive Recognition: The Board recognized 2015 State Wrestling Participants: Maxwell Praschak, son of David and Sarah Praschak and Frederick Mangine, son of Frederick and Jennie Mangine. Head Coach Trent Larrieu, Assistant Coach Lloyd Larrieu shared in the sport of wrestling there are many ups and downs, in the end it is all worth it. Coach Larrieu states this season was a little challenging. The season started off with injuries to wrestlers that were to be our leaders on the mat and in the practice room. It left a room full of young wrestlers who had to grow and adapt, and they did. Two wrestlers, who were injured at the beginning of the season, which excelled and advanced to State, were Freddie and Maxwell. At State, Maxwell had good first round winning it but during the second match time off from the injury showed. Maxwell was tired but still wrestled solid. Maxwell's injuries forced him to default his remaining matches. He still placed which is great, two years in a row standing on the podium at State is something to be proud of. Freddie spent more time off the mat due to injuries than on the mat this year. Fortunately, he did some off season wrestling which helped his preparation and mat presence this year. He also did a lot of recruiting. He recruited 8 to 10 wrestlers that are 500 plus wrestlers. We are thankful to Freddie for bringing them in. We hope they will follow Freddie's footsteps and will wrestle during the off season to prepare for this upcoming year. Summer wrestling will help them immensely, teaching new skills and technique. Freddie was in the top two at regionals, 3rd

at Sectionals and drew a returning state champ in his first round at State who went on to win it again! As coaches we hoped to use Freddie's summer Greco experiences to catch his opponent off guard. We are thankful for Freddie participating and his parents for exposing him to summer wrestling.

Maxwell introduced his parents Sarah and David. He states that while he was out for eight weeks, he came back with a chip on his shoulder, he came back and wrestled as hard as he could. He is glad he was part of such a super team, a young team. Maxwell believes this team will be state champs due to attitude and security on mat. He went on to say wrestling changes you, it makes you a better person. He wishes everyone would go through it. Moulton gives them credit for everything they do. Gunther shook his hand, congratulated him and presented him his award.

The Board recognized 2015 State Robotics participants Tanner Anderson, Spencer Ashton, Ethan Baillargeon, Trevor Brammer, Glenn Coerber, Jacob Crotty, Andrew King, Gavin Lee, Hunter Nichols, Nicholas Northey, Samuel Schmoker, Reid Sedlak, Alexzander Threlkeld, Henry Thurber, Haley Walters, and Andrew Williams. Advisor: Eric Olson shared that when he came to board at the beginning of the school year and wanted to assemble a robotics team you graciously said yes. From there many students came in, looked at the rules, determined what it would take to build one and worked to build it. It started out as an hour after school, a little during homeroom and as the season progressed they started staying later and later...he found himself kicking students out extremely late. At the 1st competition they went to inspection and found two robots were not going to pass. Olson stated this is when the guys came alive as they had 1 1/2 hours to change four hours worth of stuff and they did it. He was impressed with their last second maneuvering, their problem solving ability and thinking on the fly. At the home meet he advised them not to make a lot of modifications, when he left the room and came back the robots were in pieces. As the competition advanced they had five of the top six robots. He again told them not to make a lot of changes, left the room to come back to totally disassembled robots but a lot of great thoughts and ideas went into reassembling them. The team really enjoys trying and striving to do their best. He learned never to leave them alone in a room with the robots. Olson shared Collin Downing from Bioset gave great advice. Walters presented awards. Ott states Tom Lindfors published a great article on this topic in "How cool is school?" in NR News. Moulton thinks it is neat, seeing new robotics at Anderson Windows and would like to get together and take the team down their.

Moulton introduced Sarah Colling who is the District Health Instructor for the middle and high school. Every other year students in and out of school take part in a Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The YRBS monitors six types of health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and adults, including behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence, sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol and other drug use, tobacco use, unhealthy dietary behaviors, and inadequate physical activity. Sarah has been successful in obtaining a grant every other year for \$15,000. The survey allows us to see what the trends are and the funds provide the financial backing to plan, respond and react to them to these trends. More information can be found at the National YRBS database (<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/slides/index.htm>) or the Wisconsin YRBS database (http://sspw.dpi.wi.gov/sspw_yrbsindx).

The meeting was recessed at 7: 46 p.m. and reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

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

- A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Session of February 16, 2015
- B. Approve Payment of February/March Board Bills
- C. Approve 2015-2016 CESA 11 Shared Services Contract
- D. Approve 2014-2015 Spring Coaching and Advising Assignments
- E. Approve 2015 Cash Farm Lease Supplement
- F. Approve Early Graduation for Sophia Cloutier
- G. Approve a Sick Bank for District Employee
- H. Approve Resignation of Julie Carr, Elementary School Media Specialist Aide
- I. Approve Hire of Salina Caroon, Elementary School Media Specialist
- J. Approve Make-Up Plan for Inclement Weather Day of January 7, 2015

K. Approve 2015-2016 Family Means Contract

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Discussion: There was not agenda items under the discussion portion of the agenda.

Information: Superintendent Rosburg stated student enrollment is 1,601 which is up three from last month. We are also up 19 from this same time last year, most of these new students came into the middle school. Committee meetings are tentatively set for Monday, April 13, 2015. The meetings this month will be a week later as April 6th is the Monday after Easter. Rosburg shared a handout and provided an RMM IT update. Trish Sheridan and Amy (RMM Solutions) have communicated about the Google Doc platform. There are many benefits to kids, less down time, less difficulty for bringing devices to use from home should students choose to do so. There will need to be uniformity among district-provided devices and BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and it will need to be determined who and what the district would then need for supplying remaining devices. If you have any questions, please ask Randy and he can forward them to Amy for clarification.

Rosburg states he is active with the Somerset Community Foundation. The Foundation has taken over administering the Somerset Food Pantry. With Grace Place moving to New Richmond they wanted to assure our residents still had this valuable resource. The Pantry is open and exists behind St. Anne's Church in the rectory. They are having an open house, posted an article in The NR News, passing out fliers, and are asking we all share this information with any organizations, churches or alliances club to let the greater community know the food pantry is alive and well. They have doubled the Pantry's participation since they took it over a 1 ½ years ago. Ott asks if they take cat/dog food, Rosburg will send an email to find out.

Board Report: *CESA II Update:* Walters provided an update of the CESA meeting he attended on March 12, 2015. Approved shared services contract, as a group we are trying to come up with \$21,000 which may be eliminated from the budget for our CESA. There will be no new members this year. *WASB Convention and Report on Resolutions:* President Moulton provided an update of the WASB Convention and reported out on the resolutions. They voted on 17 resolutions which took roughly 2 ½ hours to go through. Two of the resolutions took 1 ½ alone to review: 1. Open enrollment –support legislation to support shortening open enrollment window and 2. Rehiring of WI retirement retirees-the 30 day waiting period increased to 60 days and is now back to 30. The reasoning behind this is a lot of smaller schools are having difficulty finding quality replacements. Moulton stated it was interesting to listen to other schools views, a lot of great points are brought up. Ott reminds everyone the Somerset Memorial Scholarship is holding their annual Las Vegas fundraiser night on April 11th, 2015 at the American Legion here in Somerset. Post Prom is still looking for volunteers to help on April 25th, 2015. Fliers for both events will be posted on the District webpage upon receipt. Colbeth states the Middle School Arts Festival was once again fantastic. She wishes there was more coverage.

Student Council Report: Student Council Representative John Siggins shared that student council had another busy month. Polar Daze which was held the week of February 20th was well attended. The week ended with a talent show that was well attended and had a lot of great group of talent, everyone enjoyed it. Winter sports have wrapped up, course registration is close to being complete and the spring play is coming up March 20-22. The seniors are working on graduation, all juniors to take the ACT test and the WorkKeys assessment. The freshmen and sophomores did college visits and while the seniors went to Feed My Starving Children. Hockey lost 2nd round game.

Principals' Report: Mr. Moore stated the ACT testing for the Juniors went flawlessly. All but eight students tested the first day. There are two students who have not taken it as one has been on vacation and the other is refusing to take it. He thanks Ms. Eichten and Ms. Sheridan for all of their help. Other districts are looking at us for what we did, how we did it. Freshman and Sophomore students who visited the college were excited, some have changed their plans believing they can now attend. Moore states he would like to make visiting colleges an all-day adventure and expand to other colleges. The Seniors who attended Feed my Starving Children had a great experience. Students who watched the movie Thelma, were happy to see it. High School History teacher Dennis Potter successfully interviewed with the University of Minnesota to offer college history here on campus. Students can now take college history in

high school and will achieve 6 college credits upon successfully completing the yearlong course. Math teacher Richard Thompson is meeting with them in the near future to see if they offer the same for college algebra. We are hoping to continue to expand courses in the future. Additionally, two students next year can potentially obtain one year welding degrees through WITC in New Richmond while in high school. The cost is minimal, is limited to two students from each of the seven area school districts participating. They will hold a lottery for the remaining two spots. Students currently graduating from WITC with two year degree have starting salaries at \$41,000. Students will have the option to work or continue on to a two year degree at WITC upon graduation.

Action

Human Resources Committee: Moulton moved, with second by Ott to Approve NEOLA Policy Code Updates to the 2014-2015 Employee Handbook. Motion passed unanimously.

Moulton moved with second by Gunther to move to Closed Session in accordance with state statute 19.85 (1) (c) for the purpose of strategizing early retirement incentives for a few district teachers. Roll call: Connor, Wishard, Gunther, Ott, Colbeth, Walters all voted yes.

Ott moved with second by Wishard to move out of Closed Session.

President Moulton shared the action from the closed session of the meeting stating that the Board approved early retirement incentives for three teachers.

Ott moved, with second by Walters to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Brian Moulton, President

Tamara Wishard, Clerk