

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2010**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, January 18, 2010 in the Learning Center Board Room. The following were present: Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Kevin Allstott, Mrs. Deborah Brothers, Mr. Willard Owen, Mr. Tony Galloway, Mr. Eddie Kellams, and Mr. Larry Pritchett. Mr. Todd Pritchett was also in attendance, as well as Mr. Troy Pritchett and Mr. Tony Whitaker for a portion of the meeting.

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed strategy with respect to collective bargaining, initiation of litigation and pending litigation, implementation of security systems, purchase or lease of real property, received information about prospective employees, and discussed individuals over whom the governing body has jurisdiction. No subject matters were discussed in the Executive Session other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:02 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above were present, as well as Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Edith Pinnick.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Marshall, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Mr. Owen motioned to approve the minutes of the December 14th, 2009 regular meeting and the January 6th, 2010 special meeting. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Larry Pritchett motioned to approve the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Owen seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Band director Mr. Luke Aylsworth was present, with band members Nia Seitz, Jacob McCormick, and Tyler Allbright. The Blackhawk Brigade was recognized for finishing 3rd in the 2009 ISSMA State Finals, and 3rd at the 2009 Bands of America Grand Nationals Class A competition. Mr. Aylsworth thanked Mr. Todd Pritchett and board members for their continuing support.

Mrs. Allstott requested approval of the year-end appropriation transfers in the General, Debt Service, Retirement/Severance Bond Debt, Capital Projects, and Transportation Operating Funds. Mr. Owen so moved, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. The motion passed 7-0. (attachment)

Mrs. Allstott distributed copies of the Report of Investments for 2009. (copy attached)

Mr. Todd Pritchett gave a financial review for 2009, recapping revenue and expenditures, and anticipated revenue and expenditures, as well as a nine-year financial trend and 2010 student tuition support revenue reductions. Discussion followed.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended that board members and officers of the Springs Valley School Board be appointed as members and officers of the 2010 Board of Finance. Mr. Owen so moved, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Tracey Galloway addressed the Board on the matter of fund-raising efforts for the varsity softball team, and requested permission to post business-sponsored advertising signs on the softball fence. Mr. Marshall asked that Mr. Todd Pritchett check on the school's policy of advertisement signs. Mr. Galloway questioned the length of time needed to prepare the signs and the softball season's opening game, and also requested this matter be discussed at the next executive session.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended the hiring of an instructional assistant due to the resignation of Mrs. Mindy Pendley and accepted Mr. Whitaker's recommendation to

employ Mrs. Liz Buchanan, recommended approval of Mrs. Rita Hinkle's request to use personal sick days as family sick leave due to immediate family health emergencies, and requested approval of the maternity leave request for Mrs. Erin Carnes beginning on February 26, 2010. Mrs. Brothers so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

With this being the final year for Mr. John Emmons to serve as Athletic Director, Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that in conjunction with the head football coaching position, we have posted these positions together as no other vacancies are expected for next school year. The interview process will begin following the February 12th application deadline, with March 1st and March 4th set for board interview, and the anticipated hire date is March 8th.

Mr. Todd Pritchett requested approval to advertise and employ a part-time night custodian to fill the opening created by Mrs. Marilyn Stout's resignation effective January 29, 2010, with final approval to be made at the February 8th board meeting. Mr. John Carnes will be reviewing applications and interview candidates, with Mr. Todd Pritchett assisting. Mr. Owen so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

The 2010 drivers' education fees will remain at \$320 for resident students and \$430 for out-of-corporation students, with a motion by Mrs. Brothers. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett gave an update on the Race to the Top grant application process and work plan, and advised that we will know in April if Indiana is successful in obtaining the Race to the Top grant.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that tremendous amounts of confusion and inconsistencies currently exist due to changes in local General Fund tax levy that the effect state transfer tuition guidelines, and requested direction on this matter. Mrs. Brothers made a motion that due to the confusion regarding the transfer tuition as required by the State of Indiana, the superintendent be directed to not collect any transfer tuition at this time. Mr. Owen seconded. Mr. Galloway questioned the State Board of Accounts' position on this matter, and Mr. Pritchett replied that he was unsure of their position under the circumstances. The motion then carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Marshall, as representative of the Springs Valley Educational Foundation, requested an extension on the deadline for Springs Valley Schools to match 2009 donations. Mr. Kellams questioned what disbursements had been made from the foundation, and asked what would happen to funds if the educational foundation should fold. Mr. Todd Pritchett clarified that all funds in the educational foundation would go to Springs Valley Community Schools. Mr. Galloway stated that he wants to see the money help kids now. Mr. Marshall then made a motion to extend the deadline for donations to August 1st. Mr. Owen seconded. The motion was approved by the vote of 4-3, with Mr. Allstott, Mr. Galloway, and Mr. Kellams voting against the motion.

Mr. Troy Pritchett discussed the graduation rates, and advised that our 2008 rate was 79.0% compared to the 2009 rate of 76.1%. Discussion included how the information is reported to the state and the significance of each student in smaller corporations.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that the weather-related closings on January 7th and 8th will be rescheduled for May 19th and 20th, with any additional closings to be added to the end of the school year. Graduation is tentatively scheduled for May 22nd. Positive feedback was received on the new software system, SchoolReach, which was utilized to notify staff and parents of the school closings.

With no other business, Mr. Larry Pritchett motioned to adjourn at 7:09. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.
