

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 14, 2011**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 14, 2011 in the Learning Center Board Room. The following were present: Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, Mr. Kevin Allstott, Mr. Tony Galloway, Mr. Larry Kalb, and Mr. Eddie Kellams. Mr. Todd Pritchett was also in attendance.

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, discussed individuals over whom the governing body has jurisdiction, and interviewed industrial or commercial prospects. 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 6:15 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above were present, as well as Mr. Troy Pritchett, Mr. Tony Whitaker, Mr. Josh Thompson, 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.

Minutes of the February 14th, 2011 board meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Galloway and seconded by Mr. Allstott. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Kellams abstaining since he was not present at that meeting.

Mr. Purkhiser motioned to approve the vouchers and claims as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recognized the bus drivers and transportation staff for passing the bus inspection held recently at Springs Valley Schools, and congratulated them on their work for 100% pass rate.

Mr. Troy Pritchett stated the 8th grade science fair team placed first in regional competition, and the high school sea perch team placed first in two competitions.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade math bowl team for placing second in their class at the Paoli regional. He also reminded board members of the 2nd grade music program to be held tomorrow night.

The first phase of the ISTEP testing is complete, with the second round to be conducted in April. Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that he has received good feedback from staff members.

Mr. Marshall advised that the Springs Valley Education Foundation will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships this spring, and that the endowment amount has almost reached \$100,000.

No patrons addressed the board.

Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that a tentative agreement had been reached between teachers and members of the bargaining team. Mr. Galloway made the motion to approve the agreement of a 2% stipend for 2009-10, 2% stipend for 2010-11, and a 1% salary schedule increase for 2011-12. Mr. Marshall made a friendly amendment to the motion to include the ECA schedule with the 1% increase for the 2011-12 year with other items remaining status quo, and then seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion passed 7-0. Mr. Marshall stated that "On behalf of the board, we applaud the teacher's union for their professionalism throughout the bargaining process. We respect the right of teachers to bargain as set forth by Indiana law. The teachers have worked very hard, with positive results, to increase academic achievement at Springs Valley. In addition basic costs have risen for our teachers. We are happy to get an agreement that is fair for our teachers and is fiscally responsible for the school corporation." Mr. Jason Russell expressed his appreciation for support by the board, especially Mr. Galloway and Mr. Marshall, for their fairness to work together to work for the students.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended the same stipends and salary increase for non-certified employees in the amount of 2% stipend for 2009-10, 2% stipend for 2010-11, and 1% salary increase for 2011-12. Mr. Marshall so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion was approved by the vote of 6-0-1. Mr. Allstott abstained due to a conflict of interest. Mr. Marshall stated that the non-certified staff play an important role in the education process along with ensuring the educational setting runs efficiently. He recognized their importance and the fact that costs have risen for them as well. He also advised that the board was happy to be able to offer this package to our non-certified for the important role they play in the education of our students at Springs Valley.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended the administrator contracts for Mr. Tony Whitaker as elementary principal, Mr. Troy Pritchett as middle/senior high school principal, and Mr. Josh Thompson as assistant principal at the middle/senior high school be renewed, thus resulting in two-year contracts that would expire at the end of the 2012-13 school year. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mr. Kalb seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Lynch made a motion to approve maternity leaves for the following teachers: Mrs. Monica Wolford – 6 weeks leave, Mrs. Tara Allstott – 6 weeks leave and 2 weeks unpaid depending on the time of delivery, and Mrs. Nicole Purlee – 6 weeks leave. Mr. Todd Pritchett stated the maternity leaves would commence upon the birth of each child or as directed by the doctor. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Purkhiser motioned to approve two unpaid leave days for Mrs. Marci Collier Payton to attend a business meeting with her husband. Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. John Hawkins of Kovert Hawkins Architects addressed the board on the pending building projects. Discussion was held on the following topics: flood plane zone for the concession building, boiler/chiller issues, music storage cabinets, union wage scale, and flooring for the elementary gym. Mr. Hawkins stated that specifications are not quite complete, but should be ready for the bidding process at the next meeting. Mr. Marshall advised that the proposed projects will be paid for by Casino Revenue funds. Discussion also included the location of the football locker rooms.

Mr. Allstott moved to adopt the 2011-12 school calendar as presented. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the calendar was adopted with the vote of 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended the offering of high school English, high school Algebra, high school Instrumental Ensemble, and Supervised Agriculture as summer school courses, pending enrollment of at least 15 students per class for state reimbursement. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Hoosier Hills PACT has requested funding in the amount of \$25,000 for their programs at Springs Valley Schools, and Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended approval of such. Mr. Allstott made the motion to approve the funding, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. Mr. Troy Pritchett stated that he strongly supports the PACT programs for at-risk students, and appreciated their staff presence in the junior/senior high school building on a daily basis. Mr. Todd Pritchett clarified that payment would be from the Casino Revenue Fund. The motion was approved 7-0.

Recommendation was made by Mr. Todd Pritchett for establishment of the summer school driver's education fee at \$320.00 per student, with a minimum of 20 students required for the program. He also recommended approval of a Memorandum of Understanding that has been signed between the school corporation and teachers' association stating that summer Driver's Education teachers shall be paid \$35.00 per hour. Mr. Allstott so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion passed 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Purkhiser made a motion to advertise the Lost River vocational school/special education bus route for the 2011-12 school year as presented. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that changes in the state's funding formula are included in the proposed budget bill. If approved, the proposed changes, which include removal of the deghoster factor, the small school grant, and the restoration grant, would result in a 1.4% loss of funding in 2012 and a .8% loss of funding in 2013 for Springs Valley Schools.

The large digital message board located across from the high school gym was damaged by vandalism recently. Two quotes for repair have been received by Johnny's Signs in the amount of \$585.00 for replacement of black panels, and \$1,090.00 for repair identical to installation. Board consensus was to repair the sign as initially installed.

Mr. Todd Pritchett reported that all 8th grade writing applications have been invalidated on the recent ISTEP testing due to a security breach that occurred when an ISTEP question was posted on a social network page prior to completion of the test.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Kellams motioned to adjourn. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.
