

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 2015**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 4:30 PM on Monday, May 11, 2015 in the Learning Center Board Room. The following were present: Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, Dr. Ryan Carnes, Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, Mr. Kevin Allstott, Mrs. Linda Carnes, Mr. Tony Galloway, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman. Mr. Tony Whitaker was also in attendance.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluations, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, personnel, and litigation. 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 5:15 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members and Mr. Whitaker, as well as Mr. Jim Bush, Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Edith Pinnick were present.

Mrs. Lynch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Minutes of the April 13, 2015 board meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Galloway, and second by Mr. Allstott. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made a motion to approve vouchers and claims as presented. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reported that we completed our extended day schedule on Thursday, May 7th. He commented that the extended days went very well due to the work of our students and staff.

A parent informational meeting concerning our 1:1 initiative was held on Wednesday, May 6th with approximately 250 parents attending. The meeting was very informative, several parents asked many good questions, and the information was positively received. Members of our technology team presented and did an outstanding job. Mr. Whitaker thanked students LeeAnna Byrd-McFarland and Devon Roach, and staff members Mrs. Jessica Roberts, Mrs. Monica Wolford, Mrs. Cherish Wininger, Mr. Chad Goldman, Mr. Jeff Kerby, Miss Vanessa Vertin, and Mr. Lionel Brown for their contributions.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated students Olivia Carnes, Kayla DeWeese, and Kiana Wininger for being selected to the Girls' Basketball All-Conference Team.

Mr. Whitaker announced that Elizabeth Orr has signed her letter of intent to play golf at IUPUI, and Kayla DeWeese has signed her letter of intent to play basketball for Olney College. Rebecca Pierce will sign her letter of intent in the near future to play volleyball at Alabama A&M. He congratulated these students on their success at Springs Valley, and wished them well as they begin a new chapter.

No one from the public addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker recommended accepting the resignation of Mrs. Audrey Case effective the end of the 2014-15 school year. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker requested permission to post the math vacancy created with Mrs. Case's resignation per our hiring guidelines. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to post the math position. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended accepting the retirement notice of Mr. Jerry Allbright as custodian and bus driver effective June 2, 2015. He stated this is a tough position as

night custodian, and Jerry will be missed. Mr. Purkhiser motioned to accept Mr. Allbright's retirement notice. Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended hiring summer help at this time and look at ways we may be able to use this position as a means to save costs. I have spoken to Henry Cruz concerning this and recommend hiring him to work 20 hours a week at \$10.00 per hour through the summer. Mr. Whitaker stated that he will work with John Carnes on looking at options and report back to board. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Following up on Mrs. Margaret McGirt's retirement, Mr. Whitaker provided current enrollment numbers at the elementary school and recommended not replacing her at this time. He will monitor the enrollment situation over the summer to determine any additional elementary staff needs.

Mr. Whitaker advised that the legislation ended their session a few weeks ago, and several bills will effect Springs Valley Community Schools, specifically the funding formula and the Casino legislation. He will search for additional information on the funding formula to provide the board, but added that our ADM numbers will continue to impact the state funding. Discussion was held.

Following the posting of the deputy treasurer position, Mr. Whitaker received 20 applications from which seven interviews were conducted. He then recommended hiring Mrs. Peggy Simmons as the new deputy treasurer with fringe benefits as stated in the Non-Certified Employee Handbook at the hourly rate of \$16.00 for a 40-hour work week, with employment to start June 1, 2015. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion as recommended. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following athletic coaching recommendations from Athletic Director Mr. Mark Hammond for coaches to be hired for the 2015 fall sports season: Football – Justin Scheller (head coach), Jeremy Reynolds (assistant coach), Daniel Wolford (assistant coach), Nick Land (assistant coach), Jason Lowe (junior high), Derek Freeman (junior high), Chris McCracken (junior high volunteer), Heath Snider (volunteer), Ethan Galloway (volunteer), Tracy Tucker (volunteer); Cross Country – Bob Greger (head coach), Tim Weisenberger (junior high); Girls Golf – Landon Harner (head coach), Brent Harner (volunteer assistant); Cheerleading – Tiffani Stemle (varsity), Karen Crews (junior varsity and 8th grade), Kali Walls (7th grade); Girls Basketball – Kelly Schmitt (head coach), Brad Bledsoe (junior varsity coach), Leigh Ann Kluesner (assistant varsity); and Boys Basketball – Rick Scholl (head coach), Jason Russell (junior varsity coach), Tracy Tucker (volunteer), Ron Carnes (volunteer). Mr. Purkhiser motioned as recommended. Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made a motion to employ the Volleyball coaching staff as recommended by Mr. Hammond: Erin Carnes (head coach), Monica Wolford (junior varsity coach), and Vanessa Vertin (varsity assistant coach). Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion then passed 6-0-1, with Dr. Carnes abstaining.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members of the ISBA Regional Meeting to be held on May 19th, and asked board members to notify Mrs. Allstott for registration.

Mr. Whitaker advised that another meeting will be scheduled with AMERSCO in the near future to discuss the pool facility, and will contact Mr. Galloway and Dr. Carnes with the meeting information. Mr. Whitaker stated that with the latest funding changes with our Casino Revenue Fund and not wanting to spend from our Rainy Day Fund, he recommends proceeding with caution on future projects.

Mr. Whitaker stated that he has received documentation of approval of our conditional waiver for three instructional days made up through our extended day schedule.

In follow-up on matters from a prior meeting regarding the summer school program, no English teacher has been assigned at this time. Mr. Whitaker stated that Mr. Bush is exploring options, including the extent of funding for using the Edmentum software, and requested tabling this matter until a future meeting. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made a motion to approve the 2016 budget process timeline, as presented by Mr. Whitaker. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion carried 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Whitaker advised that Mr. Hammond has requested the purchase of athletic tickets for all students in grades K-12 again next year from Casino Revenue Funds. He recommended the contribution of \$45,000.00 to the Athletic Department from Casino Revenue, and then review the athletic department budget in moving forward. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Dr. Carnes seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Our corporation will be participating in the Summer Food Service Program, which is a federal program administered through the state with no cost to our school. Mr. Whitaker stated this program will allow all children ages 18 and under to eat a free lunch from 11:30 to 12:30, Monday through Friday, beginning May 26th through July 31, 2015 in the high school cafeteria. Adult meals will also be available at a reasonable cost of \$3.00. State regulations require that all meals must be consumed within the dining room of the cafeteria. He added that a weekly menu will be posted in the Springs Valley Herald. Mr. Whitaker thanked Mrs. Kelly Weisenberger, cafeteria manager, for making this happen, stating that this is a great opportunity for children attending summer academics, athletic camps, or any child within the community to enjoy a free nutritious meal.

Mr. Whitaker requested permission to proceed with a possible refunding/refinancing opportunity on the School Severance Bonds that were issued through the Indiana Bond Bank. He has returned the "Intention to Participate" form and will be working with them along with Mr. JC Tucker and Dr. Tom Miller to receive potential savings on these bonds. Dr. Carnes motioned as requested. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that we have three bus routes for which we have typically used the bid process to fill, adding that he is very happy with the drivers we have and recommend we continue the contracts for one additional year for routes 9, 12, and the vocational route at the current daily rates as follows: bus 9 - \$50 each to Richard Stackhouse (AM) and Charlene Brown (PM), bus 12 - David Noble for \$97, and vocational route to David Noble at \$47. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Mr. Luke Aylsworth has asked for approval for the band to participate in the following trips: (1) May 22nd or 23rd - trip to Nashville, TN for the music appreciation class. This would be an optional field trip after the school year is finished, allowing students to tour the Grand Ole Opry. Mr. Aylsworth requested the corporation provide a white bus and fuel, and he will drive. Students would pay the cost of their ticket and lunch; (2) Walt Disney World and Universal Studios Trip on 2016 Spring Break. This would be an optional performance opportunity trip for the band. Currently, it would be for students in grades 7-12 enrolled in high school band class. However, he may open it up to all 6-12 grade band students. All transportation and individual costs would be funded by the students. Mr. Galloway made a motion to allow both band trips as requested by Mr. Aylsworth. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reported that Wes McNeely asked for quotes from four companies to replace the freezer in the elementary kitchen, and received two quotes. D.E.Q., Inc. submitted a quote of \$48,500 and C & T Design and Equipment Company quoted \$56,145. Mr. Whitaker recommended accepting the quote from D.E.Q. Inc. for the new freezer in the elementary kitchen, to be paid by the Cafeteria Fund. Mrs. Shipman motioned as recommended. Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that professional development opportunities are scheduled for our teachers during the summer, and recommended stipend pay of \$60 for those attending the half-day workshops. Discussion was held regarding the 1:1 initiative and Edmentum training. Mrs. Carnes then made a motion to approve the \$60 stipend pay, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed 6-0-1, as Dr. Carnes abstained.

Springs Valley Community Schools, as with all schools in Indiana, has begun implementing the new College and Career Ready Indiana Academic Standards for the 2014-15 school year. The Indiana Department of Education is allowing school districts to implement the new standards and develop their new curriculum in a manner that best serves their local needs. While creating the curriculum for the new standards, Mr. Whitaker reported that we will also be putting the curriculum in a digital format which is

a vital step in transitioning to a digital curriculum in preparation for the 1:1 education program. To accomplish these goals, the teachers and staff will utilize time created to allow them to work together to develop these programs that are so critical to the future educational opportunities of the students of Springs Valley Community Schools. This valuable work time will be created by dismissing the students twenty-five minutes early every Wednesday afternoon throughout the entire 2015-16 school year. Elementary students will be dismissed at 2:35 PM each Wednesday afternoon, and Jr./Sr. High School students will be dismissed at 2:40 PM each Wednesday afternoon. Parent letters were sent home with students on Friday, April 24, a School Messenger call was also made alerting parents of the information sent home, the letter was published in the Springs Valley Herald on April 29th, and the information was also discussed at our meeting last month. Mr. Whitaker recommended approval of early student dismissal on Wednesdays during the 2015 - 2016 school year as discussed. Mr. Allstott so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval was given at the April 13, 2015 meeting for the contract with KiNETik Networks for our network upgrade at a cost of \$86,851.00. Mr. Whitaker clarified that e-rate grant funding will cover 80% of this cost (\$69,480.80), leaving our cost at \$17,370.20. He recommended that we proceed with covering the full amount of \$86,851.00 so that we can begin the network upgrade and receive reimbursement at a later date. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to proceed with the full payment and begin the upgrade project. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended approval to proceed with the purchase of Chromebooks and protective cases for our students, with these items to be included in the student textbook fees. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. Discussion was held regarding the textbook rental fees and funding by Orange County Community Foundation Supporting Organization, and Mr. Whitaker stated that we need to be conscientious of costs associated with this purchase. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members that the graduation ceremony is scheduled for 6:00 PM on Saturday, May 16 in the high school gym, and requested board members to arrive by 5:40.

Discussion was held as to possibly scheduling a special meeting, and Mr. Whitaker stated that he would look into this matter.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Carnes motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

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