

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MAY 15, 2017**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, May 15, 2017 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Todd Marshall, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman, Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, and Mr. Justin Wininger were present. Mr. Tony Whitaker was also in attendance. Mr. Jim Bush, Mr. Trevor Apple, and Mr. Jason Russell were present for a portion of the meeting.

A second Executive Session was held following the Regular Session, and dismissed at 8:01 PM. All board members and Mr. Whitaker were present for that Executive Session.

During the Executive Sessions, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, school safety and security, personnel, and litigation. No subject matters were discussed in the Executive Sessions other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:07 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members and Mr. Whitaker, as well as Mr. Jim Bush, Mr. Trevor Apple, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

The minutes for the April 10 and April 24, 2017 board meetings, vouchers and claims listings as presented, and payment to Wendy E Kruger, Ed. D. for the amount of \$3,000.00 from the Lilly Grant funds, were approved with a motion by Mr. Purkhiser. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated Brady Robling on earning top honors at the Indiana Optimist Club South District Oratorical Contest. He will now advance to international competition at Saint Louis, Missouri in June.

The boys and girls track teams were recognized for winning the PLAC conference meet. The following athletes won their events and were named to the all-conference team: Isiah Pantiere, Jacob Bates, Alanna Nelson, Garon Gadau, Caitlyn Reynolds, Alanna Nelson, Bryanna Roach, Addison Stailey, Wyatt Purkhiser, Kolbe Lowe, Trenton McElfresh, and O'Brien Selby. Caitlyn was also named MVP of the track meet.

The drama club presented "Cinderella" recently, with twenty elementary, middle school, and high school students participating. Mr. Whitaker reported that it was a great event, with large crowds at both performances. Cinderella, played by Caity Pierce spent one afternoon reading to some of the elementary students.

The 2017 Junior/Senior Prom was held on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Whitaker congratulated prom royalty Princess Morgan Apple, Prince Nathan Carnes, Queen Addi George, and King Chase Crecelius. He stated there was great participation despite the flooding issues. Mr. Whitaker thanked the sponsors Mrs. Tiff Stemle, Mrs. Rita Hinkle, and Mrs. Lindsay Mendel, and SADD sponsor Mrs. Jill Stephens for making the prom and after-prom a success.

Mr. Whitaker recognized the high school Science Academic Team on winning the regional and advancing to state competition.

The senior awards program was held Friday night. Mr. Whitaker reported that a lot of students received scholarships.

Mr. Whitaker extended his congratulations to culinary students for receiving their Servsafe certifications.

Sectionals will be held soon for the spring sports. The baseball sectional will be held at Northeast Dubois beginning May 29<sup>th</sup>, softball at Springs Valley – May 22, 23, and 25, girls track at Jennings County on May 16<sup>th</sup>, boys track on May 18<sup>th</sup> at Bedford, and boys golf at Jasper on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Patron Dwight Purkhiser addressed board members and administration regarding a recent discipline matter.

Patron Brady McGee addressed the board about a possible junior high soccer program.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following consent agenda for personnel recommendations: Alexis Lamb has turned in her letter of resignation as teaching assistant effective May 10, 2017. This position will be filled over the summer, ii) Justin Scheller has submitted his letter of resignation as Social Studies teacher and Varsity Football Coach effective at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. These positions have been posted, iii) Approve maternity leave for Vanessa Masden. Her expected due date is August 19, and she is requesting a six-week leave, iv) Approve elementary summer school teachers. We have had enough interest to have both 4th and 5th grade sections of summer school. Mr. Whitaker supported Mrs. Woolsey's recommendation of Heather Tucker and Kris Tarr as teachers for these sections, and also recommended Angie Ragains as a teaching assistant for summer school. These salaries will be reimbursed by the State, v) High school summer school teachers. Mr. Whitaker supported Mr. Bush's recommendation to hire Jolynne Cruz as supervisor for the junior high/high school credit recovery class at the salary rate of \$25.00 per hour. Mr. Whitaker asked to also approve Mrs. Cruz to teach a special needs section which will be needed for 14 hours, vi) Mr. Whitaker supported Mr. Bush's recommendation of Nikia Kalb as special needs teaching assistant for summer school. vii) We have professional development opportunities scheduled for June 19 and 20, and recommend a \$125 per day stipend for attending teachers. The Rural and Low Income School Grant will cover \$8,000 of this cost, viii) Mr. Whitaker supported Mr. Apple's recommendation to hire elementary teachers Elizabeth Cave at the annual contract amount of \$43,683 and Rebecca Elkins at \$46,083. With no discussion on these matters, Mrs. Shipman so moved. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Wininger stated that Mr. Tucker would like for him to clean up the language in a motion on the superintendent's contract, so he is going to read verbatim what Mr. Tucker provided. Mr. Wininger then made a motion to amend the previously adopted motion from the April 10, 2017 board meeting regarding the superintendent's contract rollover by omitting the wording of the entire motion which reads "to end the auto renew of the superintendent's contract and have the contract terminate effective the current effective date, which is December 31, 2019" and substitute the wording "that Mr. Whitaker's contract as superintendent not be extended to calendar year 2020 pursuant to paragraph 11 of the contract addendum for Mr. Whitaker." Mr. Farris seconded the motion. Discussion included Mr. Marshall clarifying that everyone understood what was being done and stated that he felt this is the correct motion to clean up the previous motion, and the correct action to take care of what the majority wanted to do. With no other discussion, the motion to amend the previously adopted motion was approved 4-3. Mr. Burton, Mr. Purkhiser, and Mr. Marshall voted in the negative.

With the above vote, the previous motion has been changed. Mr. Marshall stated therefore a vote needs to be taken on the motion. Mr. Wininger then made a motion to approve the previously adopted amended motion and Mrs. Shipman seconded. With no other discussion, the motion passed 4-3 with Mr. Burton, Mr. Purkhiser, and Mr. Marshall voting against the motion.

Mr. Whitaker advised that we have received the Duke Energy rebate in the amount of \$66,787.95 for the LED lighting project, which was the proposed figure. He stated that he will be working on replacing our outdoor lighting to upgrade to LEDs also.

Meetings are continuing with Architectural Sales on security cameras, and Mr. Whitaker hopes to bring proposals to the Board for approval at the June meeting. Discussion included a timeline for the possible project.

Mr. Whitaker stated that work has begun on the pool project, the peers have been poured to prepare for the unit, and the structure is being built at this time. He reported that Mr. Scott Stenftenagel of The Stenftenagel Group has ran into trouble finding a painter, and we might possibly have to hire this work ourselves. Installation of the new playground equipment is complete, and Mr. Whitaker stated there was a lot of activity on the playground today.

Mr. Apple stated the Lilly Implementation Counseling Grant application is almost complete and ready for signatures. He was happy with the process, and appreciated community and stakeholder input regarding our counseling program. The intent of the grant is to partially fund a social worker at the high school and elementary buildings.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following items for approval as new business: i) Use of activity bus for Seaperch teams to travel to the national finals in Atlanta. Our policy states approval must be given for our buses to travel over 200 miles out of state, ii) Participation in the Summer Food Service Program. This will allow all children ages 18 and under to eat a free lunch, and is also available for adults at a cost of \$3.00. Lunches will be available from 11:00 to 12:00, Monday through Friday, beginning May 24 through June 13, being closed Memorial Day, with meals to be served at the high school cafeteria. This is a great opportunity for children attending summer academics, athletic camps, or any child within the community to enjoy a free, nutritious meal, iii) Approve 2017-2018 meal prices. According to USDA Food and Nutrition Service, a paid lunch for school year 2017-2018 is targeted at \$2.86. Our current student lunch price is \$2.30. The USDA's weighted average price requirement is calculated to be \$2.44 for Springs Valley, with the optional rounded down price to \$2.40. It is recommended to increase the paid lunch price to

\$2.40 for school year 2017-2018. According to meal cost calculations, as well as the average meal price of surrounding schools, it is recommended to raise the student breakfast price from \$1.15 to \$1.25. Adult meals are calculated to remain the same with an adult lunch priced at \$3.30, and breakfast \$1.75, iv) Revision of Student Out-of-District Transfer Tuition Policy. (copy attached) We had previously used the February count day as the deadline. However, with the State going back to one count day in September for funding purposes, the deadline will be moved to coincide with the Fall ADM count date, v) Timeline for the 2018 budget process. (copy attached) Mr. Whitaker stated he will be working on the budget through June and July, and requested approval of the timeline schedule as presented, vi) Mr. Hammond has requested the school corporation again purchase athletic tickets for all students in grade K - 12 for the 2017-2018 school year. The cost will be approximately \$35,000.00, and Mr. Whitaker recommended expenditure from the Casino Revenue Fund, viii) declare football sled property as worthless so that we can scrap and/or donate it, and item b) Memorandum of Understanding for Special Education Teachers who are currently teaching at Springs Valley, will be employed here next year, and on our payroll beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. This action is the result of decentralization of the South Central Area Special Education Cooperative. (copy of MOU attached) Mr. Wininger motioned as recommended, and Mr. Burton seconded. Discussion included the hiring process for both certified and non-certified employees. Mr. Whitaker stated that special education teaching assistants will be discussed at the June meeting. The motion then carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members that the graduation ceremony will be held at 7:00 PM this Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in the high school gym. Board members are asked to meet in the tunnel by 6:40.

Mr. Whitaker reported that he and Mr. Burton, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Purkhiser attended the ISBA Spring Regional meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Marshall stated that topics of discussion included new legislation impacting schools. The ISBA Superintendent's Fall Conference will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Indianapolis. Dr. Brian Smith will be leaving his director's position with the ISBA.

Mr. Whitaker and Mr. Marshall attended the Third House meeting held Saturday. Senator Erin Houchin and Representative Steve Davisson recapped several of the new laws affecting schools and laws they had passed.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following NEOLA policies for the first reading: 8540, 8600, 8615, 8640, ~~8651~~, 8660, 8710, 8740, 8750, 8760, 8770, 8800, 8810, 8900, 9111, 9120, 9130, 9140, 9150, 9160, ~~9191~~, 9210, 9211, 9250, 9270, 9500, 9555, 9600, 9700, 9700.01, and 9800. Mr. Whitaker stated he will also be adding a policy regarding direct deposit. These policies will be recommended to be adopted at the June 12 Board Meeting.

Mr. Marshall stated the board and Mr. Whitaker would be returning to Executive Session.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

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