

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2018**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, February 12, 2018 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Justin Winger, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Chris Burton, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, and Mr. Ralph Purkhiser were present. Mr. Tony Whitaker was also in attendance. Mr. Kyle Neukam and Mr. Jason Russell were present for a portion of the meeting.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, 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 6:05 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Dr. Trevor Apple, Mr. Chad Goldman, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

Mr. Winger presented the consent agenda for approval of the vouchers and claims as listed. Mr. Marshall so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Marshall then amended his motion to include the minutes of the January 8, 2018 board meeting. The motion was approved 5-0-2, with Mrs. Shipman and Mr. Burton abstaining.

Dr. Apple congratulated the elementary spelling bee champion Josie Dixon and finalists Kinsey Campbell, Hunter Carnes, and Elliott Winger. He also recognized McCartney Sherrard for receiving a gold rating at the ISSMA District Solo and Ensemble competition.

Mr. Neukam thanked Mrs. Amanda Dalton for her efforts in coordinating the junior high spelling bee. Mrs. Dalton congratulated finalists Lola Pantoja, Logan McWilliams, and Sean Baker, and champion Karson Dalton. The county-wide spelling bee will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>. The winter sports senior night will be February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Springs Valley will host a SeaPerch competition on February 24<sup>th</sup>, and the state Solo & Ensemble contest is that day as well. ISTEP testing begins the week of February 26<sup>th</sup>, and a jazz festival will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Springs Valley will host the boys' basketball sectional on February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Purkhiser congratulated the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team for winning the Springs Valley tourney.

Mr. Marshall advised that author Mr. Tim Wright will be at the basketball game on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to distribute copies of his new book, The Valley Boys, to Coach Rex Wells and members of the Black Hawks' team of 1958. A book signing will be held on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the French Lick-West Baden Museum for Mr. Wright, and a dinner for Mr. Wright, Coach Wells, and teammates will be held that evening at the high school cafeteria.

The following students qualified for ISSMA State Solo & Ensemble Contest: Brian Elkins, Matthew Burton, Olivia Burton, Brooklyn Dixon, John Scott, Daniel Reynolds, Sam Parsons, Aidan Aylsworth, Tre Toliver, Payton Watson, Carter Rayls, and Grace Woolsey. Mr. Winger advised that Brian Elkins received a perfect score at district on his solo.

No patrons addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following personnel matters for approval: maternity leave for Mrs. Lindsay Mendel with the expected due date of April 25<sup>th</sup>; medical leave for Mrs. Kristina Allen for remainder of this semester; Mr. Darren Kerns and Mr. Jason Russell as Driver's Education instructors at a salary of \$40 per hour; and resignation of Miss Mariah Brinkman as special education teaching assistant, to be replaced by Mr. Joe Crow. Mr. Farris made the motion as requested. Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated the following head coaches had already been approved: Baseball Varsity/JV - Bob Greger, Softball - Jill Stephens, Boys Track - Derek Freeman, Girls Track - Jolynne Cruz, and Boys Golf - Brent Harner. He requested approval of the following coaches: Baseball – assistant coach Rob Denbo, volunteer assistants Matt Pierce, Seth Dickey, Tyler Jordan, and Broc Warner, and junior high baseball Henry Cruz; Softball – assistant coach Matt Weisensteiner, volunteer assistants Ron Allen, Marty Goldman, and Jason Rominger, junior high head coach Jenny Qualkenbush, junior high volunteers Shawn Kluesner, Gail Johnson, Anesha Bostock, and Manny Pantoja; Track – assistant coaches Tim Weisenberger and Jason Gossett, volunteer assistant Megan Greger, junior high girls Monica Wolford, and junior high boys Ben Syberg; Boys Golf – volunteer assistant Dave Harner, junior high coach Damon Tarr, and junior high volunteer assistant Mark Hammond; and Volleyball – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Erin Carnes, with 5<sup>th</sup> grade coach to be named later. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to approve the coaches as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

As old and unfinished business, Mr. Whitaker advised that the outdoor lighting project is complete with the exception of some high school parking lot lights, which should be installed any day now. Field tile will be laid on the softball field as soon as weather permits. Discussion was held regarding possible repairs in the pool locker room. Work will be done soon on the playground area, including moving dirt and sowing grass.

Under new business, Mr. Whitaker recommended approval for Mrs. Lori Chestnut to take the elementary choir, 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir, and concert choir on a field trip to Louisville, Kentucky to participate in the Trills & Thrills Music Festival on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> (101 students and 15 chaperones) and culinary/FACS students to attend the state conference in Muncie March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> with Mrs. Lisa Wray as sponsor. Mrs. Shipman moved to approve the two field trips as requested, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Chad Goldman gave a presentation on the school's new website, which is 85 percent functional.

Mr. Goldman also addressed the board regarding the SeaPerch program. The competition is now an international event with different scoring methods, and this year's competition will be a three-day event held at University of Dartmouth in Massachusetts.

Mr. Whitaker advised that we have missed five days of school due to inclement weather. Two of these days will be made up on February 19<sup>th</sup> and April 13<sup>th</sup>, with the other three days to be added on to the end of the school year on May 21, 22, and 23, with graduation now scheduled for Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. He recommended approval of any additional days missed this year to be made up as eLearning days, and requested a planned eLearning day to be scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> with the cafeteria and libraries open that day with teachers to be available during a designated time period that day. A pilot run of eLearning was held at the high school on the semester finals days in December. Mr. Farris so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. A window of time will be established for submission of completed assignments with students allowed on-campus for WIFI availability. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended we contract with WillSub (Professional Contract Management Incorporated) to provide substitute teachers to our corporation beginning the 2018-19 school year. Our cost will be 28% of the substitute teachers pay, including the employer portion of the FICA payment which we are currently paying, for an estimated annual cost of \$6,500. A copy of the contract had been provided in the board packets. Mr. Purkhiser motioned as requested, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Wininger advised this process will not affect any long-term leave situations. Mr. Whitaker stated that he will contact the company to see what options are available if we should choose later to end the contract. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mrs. Lynch made the motion for drivers' education fees to be established at \$330, with Mr. Kerns and Mr. Russell as instructors. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion

carried 7-0. Mr. Whitaker thanked Babcock Motors for their assistance in supplying the vehicles, and Mr. Kerns and Mr. Russell for their efforts in taking care of the preliminary work.

Mr. Whitaker requested approval to purchase an electronic access control lock system for the Ivy Tech-Learning Center building. The proposal from Architectural Sales, which is the same company that installed our door locks, electronic access controls, and security cameras, was for the amount of \$14,300. Mr. Burton moved as recommended, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. Mr. Whitaker advised the electronic access system would be the same as used at our other buildings. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he and Mr. Winger, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Burton have worked on the support staff pay scale. Mr. Farris made the motion to approve the pay scale as presented, and Mr. Marshall seconded. Mr. Winger advised that efforts were made to fix a lot of things that were wrong on the old scale with raises at a 3% minimum increase with more to selected staff to get things in line, with the pay increases to be effective today, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and will be realized on the March 2<sup>nd</sup> paychecks. Mr. Marshall stated that the support staff is vital to our school, and they are deserving of the raise. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Following the Affordable Care Act ruling, hours for teaching assistants and other selected staff at Springs Valley Schools were reduced to 29 hours. Mr. Winger advised that after talking with an attorney on this matter and since the hours are averaged over a period of time, the teaching assistants and other staff that are currently working 29 hours a week will begin working from 8:00 to 3:00 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and 8:00 to 2:30 on Wednesdays. New hires would be required to work 29 hours the first three months of employment, and then work the same schedule as other employees in that category. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve increase of hours as discussed, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. It was noted this change in scheduling only applies to staff now working the 29-hour schedule. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker provided a financial update after receiving the DLGF 1782 Notice for the Budget Year 2018 with approved appropriations. He stated that \$416,000 had been spent from the Rainy Day Fund in 2017 to cover General Fund expenditures while we received \$200,000 more General Fund revenue than estimated, resulting in an actual deficit of \$216,000 for the General Fund for the 2017 budget year. A large amount of building projects has resulted in the decrease of the Capital Projects Fund balance, while those projects were paid from the CPF fund, as well as the Rainy Day and Casino Revenue Funds and construction funds from bond refinancing. Mr. Whitaker reminded board members that the certified and support staff pay increases will be reflected in the 2018 expenditures, and commented that prior boards and superintendents had done a good job to prepare for the shortfall of state funding. Mr. Purkhiser stated that we had overspent from the General Fund, not that we had spent more funds than we have.

Mr. Whitaker presented information on the elementary flooring project and requested permission to advertise a request for proposal (RFP) for quotes. He stated the project could be broken down into two years if needed. The RFP will specify for quotes due in the superintendent's office by 2:00 PM on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. With no other discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

The second ADM count day was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Whitaker advised this student count was for information purposes only and not used for state funding purposes. Our student enrollment on February 1<sup>st</sup> was 846, which is down 12 students from the September 2017 count, but up three students from the February 2017 enrollment.

Mr. Burton made a motion to approve Jason Hammond as junior high baseball volunteer assistant, as recommended by Mr. Whitaker. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Discussion was held regarding possible future building projects, including sidewalk repair, pool locker rooms, general maintenance painting, sound system in the high school gymnasium, wayfarer signage for the elementary building and office area, digital sign for the elementary school or one new sign for both buildings, drywall repair in the middle school gym, and relocation of classrooms so that all kindergarten classrooms are in one area. Further discussion will be needed to prioritize projects. Mr. Whitaker added that our school has received a \$35,000 matching Secured School Safety Grant, which will be used to continue the replacement of door locks.

Mr. Purkhiser informed fellow board members that Mr. Whitaker, Mr. Marshall, and he attended a meeting at the French Lick Springs Resort a couple of weeks ago, in which discussion included the need for housing in the French Lick and West Baden areas. Mr. Farris added that the local redevelopment board is working with the hotel on this matter.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

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