

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 7, 2019**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, October 7, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Justin Wininger, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Joel Dalton, and Mrs. Cheryl Lynch were present. Dr. Trevor Apple and Mr. Kyle Neukam were also in attendance.

During the Executive Session, 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 Session other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Public Meeting Notice - Ratification

Regular Session

The Regular Session opened at 6:00 PM with all of the above present, along with Mrs. Amy Orr, Mr. Jason Russell, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons.

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

Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve the minutes for the September 9, 2019 and September 23, 2019 board meetings, along with the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Orr stated that Grandparents' Day was celebrated on September 11<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school with over 460 visitors in their building, adding that family connections and participation are encouraged with community involvement. A family swim party was held recently for families new to our school, with goody bags provided by French Lick Springs Resort, Dr. Auto, French Lick-West Baden Visitors' Center, and Springs Valley Bank & Trust, students received Blackhawk t-shirts, and dinner was prepared by the high school FCCLA class. First grade teachers held a family literacy night on September 17<sup>th</sup> with attendees treated to pizza and prizes donated by Jeremy Payton, Edward Jones Financial, and Chicago's Pizza. The first nine-week grading period ended on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, and report cards will be sent home this Friday. Mrs. Orr advised that report cards for fourth and fifth grade students will be on a standards-based scale rather than on the traditional letter grade system. She added that the standards-based report cards focus on end-of-year goals, and therefore the report cards for the first and second grading periods may have marks indicating not yet proficient in some skills. Staff members from Orleans Community Schools and Springs Valley Community Schools served as grand marshals of the Orange County Pumpkin Festival Parade, and thanked Springs Valley PTSO and Mark Carlson for the donations to purchase books that were handed out to the children in attendance. Fall parties will be held this Friday, and parent conferences are set for October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Russell had the following recognitions: 1) Girls' golf team on their back-to-back regional appearances, which is possibly the first time in school history, 2) Jessalyn Mahan, Canyon Crew, and Ethan Edwards for being named to the all-conference cross country team, 3) 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team which finished with a season record of 15-1, won the Perry Central tourney, and were undefeated in the PLAC, 4) 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team for winning the Crawford County tourney, 5) Varsity volleyball team for winning the Edgewood Tourney, was runner-up at the Blue River Tourney, and Jewel McCormick and Sydney Tucker for being named to the all-tourney team at Blue River, 6) Varsity volleyball will host senior night on Thursday against Perry Central, with the girls going for their 5<sup>th</sup> straight PLAC championship, 7) Junior high cross country had a great season, with the girls' team winning the county meet and a couple of dual meets while the boys were second in the county, 8) 8<sup>th</sup> grade cross country runners Alan Marshall won the Barr-Reeve Invitational and MaKenlei Purkhiser won the county meet, 9) Senior night for the football, band, cheerleading, cross country, and girls' golf teams will be held this

Friday, which will also finish the football home schedule for this season, 10) Cross country teams will compete in sectional competition on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at Vincennes University Jasper Campus.

Mr. Neukam advised that the new Math curriculum has been received for the junior-senior high school. Teachers are eager to start the program, and some have already received professional development on the new program. English teachers are implementing the new English curriculum for students in all grade levels. The new Math and English curriculums, which are the first new adoptions in nine and ten years respectively, will provide our students the best possible opportunity for success in their futures. He thanked teachers, Mr. Daniel Wolford, and Mr. Russell for their work in the Academic Monitoring Program, which holds all students who are involved in extra/co-curricular programs accountable for their grades, and gives students the opportunity to attend before or after-school study tables. He also thanked parents for encouraging students to make education a priority. Mr. Neukam congratulated the Blackhawk Brigade on winning the Salem and Paoli band competitions, and recognized Mr. Aylsworth and stakeholders on the successful Festival of Marching Bands held this past Saturday. He thanked Mrs. Cynthia Chastain and her Health Science students for hosting the blood drive last week. A thank you was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Tim Orr and staff for preparing the float for the Pumpkin Festival Parade, and to those who participated in the parade.

Dr. Apple congratulated Mr. Aylsworth, staff, and volunteers on the success of their band festival, recognizing the amount of organization needed to pull off an event of that magnitude. He also thanked all staff, students, and parents for an outstanding start to the 2019-20 school year, and for the good culture that is being established at Springs Valley.

Mr. Aylsworth thanked board members and administration for their support of the brigade. He stated that approximately 3,000 people including participants were in attendance at the band festival, adding that the event raised approximately \$25,000 for the band department and band boosters.

Mr. Marshall recognized junior high cross country runners MaKenlei Purkhiser, Kenleigh Dalton, Maci Eckerty, Grant Brown, Alan Marshall, and Hayden Robinson for their accomplishments this season.

No patrons addressed the board.

Dr. Apple recommended accepting the resignation of Mrs. Sheila Cooper as elementary teacher. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

As recommended by Mr. Neukam, Dr. Apple requested approval to hire Mrs. Sheila Cooper as athletic secretary at the pay rate of \$13.45 per hour. Mrs. Shipman made the motion as stated. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended changes to four bus drivers' contracts due to mileage adjustments which were necessary because of increased enrollment and safety issues, and requested approval of the updated contract amounts as provided to board members. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The motion passed 7-0. The revised contracts were signed at this time.

Dr. Apple reported the ADM student count on September 13, 2019 was 876, and our current enrollment as of today is 880. This is a significant increase from the September 2018 and February 2019 counts.

Dr. Apple advised that Mr. Burton, Mr. Farris, Mr. Wininger and he have been meeting with the Teachers Association concerning the 2019-20 and 2020-21 contract, and asked for approval of the tentative contract agreement between the Springs Valley Teachers Association and the Springs Valley Community School Corporation. The tentative agreement has been ratified by the Teachers Association. Information on the contract was included in the board packet. With no input or comments from the public regarding the tentative CBA, Dr. Apple asked for a motion from the Board to approve the 2019-20 and 2020-21 contract between the Springs Valley Teachers Association and Springs Valley Community Schools. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Farris seconded. With no discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1 with Mr. Dalton abstaining.

Under project updates, Dr. Apple stated that we have been awarded a safety grant of up to \$44,000 from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, with up to \$22,000 in matching funds provided by Springs Valley Schools, for a total grant of up to \$66,000. The grant will be used for various safety and security upgrades across the campus. The gym sound system project is moving forward, with discussion being held on the proper placement of acoustical tiles on the ceiling. Repairs of less than \$1,000 were recently made to the junior high gym floor to fix warping issues due to water damage. Pool grates for the edge of the swimming pool have been ordered and are being produced at this time.

Mr. Farris made the motion to approve the Go Math! Curriculum for grades 6-8 at a cost of \$19,210.30. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple notified the board of a change in the software tool used to administer staff evaluations. We are now using the Standards for Success program, which will provide more valuable feedback for teachers and administrators.

The ISBA Regional Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> in Jasper. Board members were directed to notify Mrs. Allstott if they plan to attend.

Dr. Apple requested permission to approve any overnight field trips for the rest of the semester as needed. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mr. Farris seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that we have renewed the five-year \$30,000 line of credit with Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company, which is used as the financial mechanism for the state's Excess Liability Trust Fund as required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for the school's underground diesel fuel storage tank.

The following policies were presented for first readings by Dr. Apple; 2261, 2261.01, 2281, 2623.01, 5330.02, 5335, 5341, 5410, 6144, 6145, 6220, 6325, 6605, 7530.01, 8121, 8210, 8500, and 8600. He stated that all policies are available for review on the school's website. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. These policies are updates to previously adopted policies. The motion was then approved 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Farris motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

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