

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, November 1, 2021 in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. Board members Mr. Justin Wininger, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Joel Dalton, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman were present. Dr. Trevor Apple was in attendance, as well as Mrs. Renee Childress, and Mr. Kyle Neukam.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, 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.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:01 PM in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. All of the above were in attendance. Dr. Jeff Kerby, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, Mrs. Peggy Simmons, and Mrs. Felicia Wolfington were also present.

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

Mr. Burton made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2021 board meeting, and the vouchers and claims listings as presented, as well as Performance Services for the pay application number 9 for the amount of \$88,683.40 from ESSER III Fund 7923. Mr. Farris seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Childress thanked Mr. Bill Willis from the Lions Club for presenting a new dictionary to all 3rd grade students. Elementary students enjoyed fall parties last Friday, with pizza, drinks, and cookies provided by PTSO. French Lick Platters donated 26 Boo Boxes which were given as student prizes. Mrs. Childress thanked the cafeteria ladies for their flexibility and dedication to serving nutritious meals to our students. Mrs. Lori Chestnut has initiated a new program called Resident Experts, in which she and Miss Sarah Stackhouse are working with a group of 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students on individual research projects. Second grade students will be taking a field trip to Bledsoe Farms this Friday, and 5th graders will begin their DARE program with Officer Andy Burkhardt that day. Student Ambassadors will be leading the Pledge of Allegiance during the Veterans Day Program on November 11th. Progress reports will be sent out on November 19th.

Mr. Neukam recognized the Pep Club for fundraising efforts at a recent pep session for the fall teams, with the funds donated to Charlie's Angels for cancer research. He extended good luck to our Blackhawk Brigade which will be performing this Saturday at the state finals. He congratulated Grant Brown for representing Springs Valley at the cross country semi-state meet, and the volleyball team for their accomplishments in regional competition. Mr. Neukam wished good luck to the football team as they compete in the sectional championship game this Friday. Military personnel gave a presentation to Mr. Darren Kerns' US History classes last week, and shared that our students displayed excellent behavior and respect. Mrs. Abby Laux will have a Gallery Talk at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center in Jasper this Thursday evening. Mrs. Lisa Golden and Mrs. Jolynne Cruz held their fall advisory committee meeting today, with members of the committee to serve as judges for the Pro-Start tryouts. The 6th grade choir and the concert choir are preparing for their performance on December 16th.

Dr. Apple announced Springs Valley Elementary has earned a ranking of 216 out of 1,016 Indiana elementary schools on the US News and World Report Best Elementary Schools list. Rankings are based on assessment data, student-teacher ratio, and other factors. Our ranking places us within the top 22% of elementary schools statewide.

Mr. Brady McGee requested consideration of review for the football team to be named as PLAC champions this year with a conference record of 3-0, in contrast to the PLAC

Athletic Directors' agreement. Mr. Wininger advised that the matter will be discussed at an upcoming conference AD meeting.

Mr. Roger Wininger of Wininger's Floral addressed the board and requested clarification on the ban of latex balloons on school premises. Dr. Apple stated that he will speak with Mr. Wininger following the meeting.

Under Personnel matters, Dr. Apple presented the consent agenda for approval: 1) Llogan Russell as 6th grade boys basketball coach, replacing Chris Hatfield who was hired at the October 4, 2021 board meeting; 2) Jessica Roberts – junior high cross country coach at \$1,250 instead of a volunteer coach as approved on July 12, 2021 following the additional paid position per the master contract ECA schedule. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Marshall seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of the maternity leave for Mrs. Brittany Friedman from approximately November 19, 2021 through January 19, 2022, with contract adjustment as needed for days off without pay. Mr. Burton made the motion as stated. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that Mrs. Ann Dann has resigned from her position as elementary special education instructional assistant as of November 11, 2021. He stated that Mrs. Childress will post a job advertisement for an instructional assistant.

Updates to all goal cables and safety straps will be done, and new edge pads will be installed for the side goals in the P.E. Complex at a project cost of approximately \$10,100. This will bring all three gyms up to date from a safety standpoint.

The swimming pool diving board will be replaced at an estimated cost of \$26,000. Installment should be finished within three to four weeks.

The new boilers arrived today and installation has started, with the changeover expected to take approximately two to three weeks.

Dr. Apple stated the high school library furniture will ship November 5th.

Ms. Lisa Gehlhausen and Ms. Lindsey Hoffman of the Indiana Regional 15 Planning Commission addressed the board on their efforts to secure a FEMA grant on behalf of Springs Valley Schools for a Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Safe Room. The project as proposed by Kovert-Hawkins Architects has an estimated final cost of \$9.2 million. Costs eligible for grant funding total \$7 million, with approximately \$2.2 million expenses considered as ineligible. The FEMA grant would cover 75% of the eligible costs, which would be approximately \$5.3 million in grant funding, leaving about \$1.7 million to be covered by the corporation along with the \$2.2 million costs classified as in-eligible. Ms. Gehlhausen stated the application deadline is November 19th, and advised a board resolution is needed approving the proposed grant project. Discussion on the matter included concerns regarding commitment to the grant and cost estimates. Dr. Apple recommended approval of the resolution number 2021-03 to allow continuance of the grant application. Mr. Marshall made the motion to follow Dr. Apple's recommendation and approve the resolution. Mrs. Lynch seconded. Further discussion was held on the topics of project commitment, financial costs, and handicap compliance. The motion was then approved by the vote of 5-2, with Mrs. Shipman and Mr. Wininger voting in the negative.

Dr. Apple provided an update on COVID-19 data, advising that the elementary has one positive case and the high school has no positive cases at this time. With the declining COVID numbers, new statistics will be posted weekly now.

Dr. Apple recommended increasing the daily pay rates for substitute teachers to \$75 base rate, \$85 – licensed teachers, and \$100 - retired teachers, effective November 2, 2021. Mr. Burton so moved. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Shipman made a motion to approve an overnight trip for the Blackhawk Brigade on November 5th to Greenwood, Indiana to prepare for competition at the ISSMA state finals. Mr. Burton seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple requested approval of an overnight field trip retroactive to October 22nd for Mr. Derek Freeman, student Grant Brown, and parent Toby Brown prior to the cross country

semi-state competition. Mrs. Shipman so moved, Mr. Marshall seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that costly repairs are needed for one of the corporation-owned school buses so he is looking to purchase a used 72-passenger bus.

Dr. Apple presented the following policies for first reading: 0112 – Purpose, 0164.4 - Meeting of the Board Defined, 0164.5 - Member Participation in Meetings Through Electronic Means of Communication, 0164.6 - Meetings Declared During Disaster Emergencies, 0167.1 – Voting, 0167.3 - Public Participation at Board Meetings, 1220 - Employment of Superintendent, 1520 - Employment of Administrators in Addition to the Superintendent, 2240 - Controversial Issues, 2262 - Latchkey Programs, 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, 2603 - School Performance Internet Dashboard, 3120 - Employment of Professional Staff, 3120.08 - Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities, 3120.11 - Public Hearing Before Commencement of Collective Bargaining and Public Meeting Before Ratification of Tentative Agreement, 3214 - Staff Gifts, 3220 - Staff Evaluation, 4120 - Employment of Support Staff, 4120.08 - Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities, 4214 - Staff Gifts, 4425 - Nursing Mothers, 4430 - Leaves of Absence, 5111 - Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation; Proof of Indiana Residency, 5113.02 - School Transfer Options, 5340.01 - Student Concussions and Sudden Cardiac Arrest, 5410 - Promotion, Placement, and Retention, 5460 - Graduation Requirements, 5540 - The Schools and Governmental Agencies, 6105 - Authorization to Accept and Distribute Electronic Records and To Use Electronic Signatures, 6114 - Cost Principles - Spending Federal Funds, 6220 - Budget Preparation, 6230 - Budget Hearing, 6250 - Required ADM Counts for the Purpose of State Funding and Verification of Residency for Membership, 7300 - Disposition of Real Property, 7310 - Disposition of Surplus Property, 7440.01 - Electronic Monitoring and Recording, 7450 - Property Inventory, 7455 - Accounting System for Capital Assets, 7530.02 - Staff Use of Personal Communication Devices, 7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety, 7540.04 - Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety, 8305 - Information Security, 8455 - Coach Training, References, and IHSA Reporting, 8500 - Food Service Program, 8510 – Wellness, 8600 – Transportation, and 8606 - Bus Drivers and Cellular Telephone Use.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

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