

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2014**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 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 Mr. Larry Kalb. 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 6:09 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Edith Pinnick were in attendance.

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

Mr. Galloway made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2014 board meeting, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Vouchers and claims were approved as presented, with the motion by Mr. Purkhiser. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Kris Tarr presented the 5th grade student council members: Ella Hughes, Mason Chaplin, Gracye Judy, Lexiss Davisson, Jessalyn Mahan, Gwen Parker, Allie Cooper, and Kyliegh Marshall. The students described various projects that they are involved in throughout the year, such as recycling and pre-school tours.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated Elizabeth Orr for qualifying for the Girls' Golf Regional again this year, stating that she had a great season and an outstanding golf career at Springs Valley.

Mr. Whitaker reported that Mr. Galloway, Mr. Purkhiser, and he attended the ISBA Regional Meeting held last evening, where they received information on current legislative issues.

Work has been completed by Lindsey's Lumber in the elementary cafeteria and laundry room, updating the ceiling and lighting. This project was finished over Fall Break. New furniture was also installed in the elementary office during the break.

Springs Valley will be hosting the volleyball and football sectional games, and a schedule of games was given to board members.

Contracted bus driver Mr. Damon Robbins addressed the board on his concerns regarding the upcoming bid process. He asked if the school would possibly be putting a couple more routes up for bid, extending the number of years that a bus could be used, and questioned the bid specifications. Mr. Whitaker addressed these issues. Mr. Lawrence Robbins had also signed up to speak, but stated that Damon had covered all of his questions so he declined any further comments.

There were no personnel matters or old and unfinished business for discussion.

Mr. Tim Garver, consultant with Choice Mechanical, presented the board with information on our facilities and utility usage, and discussed different ways to proceed with future projects. He advised that one option is to go the traditional route by employing an architect to compile bid specifications, advertise and then receive and accept or reject bids, while an alternative to that is to consider a guaranteed energy savings contract whereby savings on energy costs would cover the cost of improvements. He added that this alternative would be a good opportunity, allowing us to seek either Requests For Proposals (RFP) or Requests For Qualifications (RFQ). Mr. Garver recommended using the RFQ method for more ability to pick who we want to work with to provide the best job, identifying the scope of the work and prioritizing projects. Mr. Doug Munz of Ameresco discussed the utilities usage schedule, and offered suggestions of lighting upgrades and utility usage control to save on energy costs, thus covering the cost of work done. Discussion was held, and Mr. Whitaker then recommended approval to advertise for Requests for

Qualifications to utilize an energy savings program. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mr. Kalb seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that in order to satisfy new requirements with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management relating to our school's underground storage tank for diesel fuel, we have received a letter of credit from Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company for the amount of \$30,000. He added that this letter of credit will be used as our financial mechanism to join the state's Excess Liability Trust Fund; whereby in the event of an accidental exposure, our corporation would be liable for the deductible amount of \$30,000 and the trust fund would then fund up to \$2 million dollars in expenses related to clean-up of said exposure. Mr. Whitaker thanked Shane Buffington of Springs Valley Bank & trust Company for working with our school on this issue.

Mr. Whitaker recommended acceptance of the 2014-15 contract agreement with Springs Valley Teachers Association as outlined in the tentative agreement ratified by the teachers' association, with a stipend total of \$90,000 to be divided among teachers based on the rating system previously established and additional monthly contributions toward the health insurance premiums, with these payments coming from Rainy Day Fund. In addition, it was agreed that \$100.00 would be added to the base salary of teachers rated effective or highly effective. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion passed by the vote of 5-0-2, with Dr. Carnes and Mr. Allstott abstaining.

Mr. Galloway made the motion for non-certified employees to receive a \$1,000 stipend as recommended by Mr. Whitaker, who stated full-time employees must have been employed prior to January 1, 2014 and in good standing, with part-time employees to receive a full-time equivalent amount. Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion was approved 6-0-1, as Mr. Allstott abstained.

Mr. Whitaker reported that our enrollment count is down eight students from last spring and down 34 students from the September 2013 count, with our total number of students being 899. The ADM count, which is used for state funding purposes, stands at 864.5, creating a reduction of approximately \$110,000 in tuition support. Mr. Purkhiser urged patrons to ask legislatures to fund the other half of full-day kindergarten expenses.

Mr. Allstott motioned to re-appoint Mrs. Suzanne Emmons and Mrs. Bonnie Burton-Taylor to the Melton Public Library Board for another four-year term, as recommended by Mr. Whitaker. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker requested approval to advertise the contracted bus route specifications for the 2015-16 through 2018-19 period. Discussion was held with Mr. Whitaker, board members, and Mr. Damon Robbins, who stated that he would appreciate it if board members would also be involved in the negotiation process. Mr. Galloway suggested that Mr. Whitaker keep the specifications as presented, with Mr. Whitaker doing the negotiating. Mr. Whitaker stated that he would like to advertise as presented, with the one change of bid packets to be picked up by 4:00 on October 31st, bids due back on November 5th by 4:00 and to be opened on November 6th at 2:00, with bids to be taken under advisement at that time and the superintendent given authority to negotiate. Mr. Galloway motioned to allow Mr. Whitaker permission to advertise as requested. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Carnes motioned to adjourn. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

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