

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2017**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, August 14, 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. Kyle Neukam was 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, 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 6:24 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members and Mr. Whitaker, as well as Mr. Kyle Neukam, Mr. Daniel Wolford, 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.

Mr. Wininger made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> and July 13<sup>th</sup> board meetings, and the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated the school year is off to a good start, and recognized the entire staff for the smooth beginning. He stated the staff has done an outstanding job in preparation for the new school year, and was encouraged to see the effort and hard work of our students and staff. The opening of school with two new principals has been a smooth transition.

Mr. Whitaker thanked Megan Lowe for her efforts in directing the preschool program, which has 52 students enrolled this year.

The Running Start Program with help from Jennifer Hill and Alicia Brown served 50 students prior to the start of school. Vision, dental, and scoliosis screenings were provided, along with haircuts, backpacks, shoes, clothing, and school supplies. Many people and businesses, as corporate sponsors, stepped up to fund the program. Mrs. Hill especially wanted to thank Dave Childers of Chicago's Pizza for his contributions to this event. Many staff members and a couple of board members also helped with this program.

Mr. Apple thanked parents for the large attendance at the Open House prior to the start of school and staff members who made the event a success. He thanked the custodial staff for the cleanliness and overall outstanding condition of the elementary building. Mr. Apple also thanked Smithville Telephone for their large donation of school supplies and other items for his students.

Mr. Eugene Pinnick had signed up to address the board, but stated he can not comment at this time as he's not sure of the board's position on items to be discussed later.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following personnel recommendations: i) Melissa Campbell as Food Service Cafeteria Director at the salary of \$14.76 per hour with other benefits as per the non-certified handbook. ii) Approve internship for Logan Bruner in Athletic Department. Logan, a Springs Valley graduate, is a senior at Ball State University. iii) Following interviews by Mr. Apple, employ elementary instructional assistants Randy Simmons, Ashley Hall, and Nicole Rosenbaum effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, and Andrea Smock as special education aide effective August 21<sup>st</sup>. iv) Hire high school instructional assistants as recommended by Mr. Neukam – Tiffany Burton and Kim Massingill effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, and Mariah Brinkman/August 3<sup>rd</sup>. v) Employ Nicholas Herron to fill the maternity leave of Vanessa Masden. vi) Correction in the contract amount for Rebecca Elkins at step 10 on the salary schedule from \$46,083 to the current amount of \$46,933 per the 2016-17 Master Contract. vii) Fall coaching positions: Cross Country – Ben Syberg, volunteer assistant, and Tim Weisenberger, junior high coach, Volleyball – Jill Hammond and Kari Buchanan, junior high coaches, Football – Jadon Hinkle, varsity assistant, and Jason Lowe and Rob Land, junior high coaches, and Cheerleading – Karen Crews, junior high coach. Mr. Wininger made the motion as recommended. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Following discussion with Mr. Apple and Mr. Neukam, Mr. Whitaker recommended hiring Erin Carnes for the position of Testing (ISTEP) Coordinator. Mr. Purkhiser so moved and Mr. Burton

seconded. The motion carried by the vote of 5-2-0, with Mrs. Shipman and Mr. Wininger voting in the negative.

Mr. Whitaker recommended adding 30 days to Mr. Wolford's current contract to compensate for his added athletic director duties. His contract will expire after the 2017-18 school year. The additional 30 days would be a salary increase of \$9,107.14. Mr. Burton made the motion as stated and Mr. Marshall seconded. Discussion was held, including the number of days that would be fair for the job. Mrs. Shipman then made a motion to lay the original motion over until the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow for further discussion with Mr. Wolford. Mrs. Lynch seconded Mrs. Shipman's motion. The motion carried 6-1-0, with Mr. Burton voting in the negative.

Due to state test scores having not been released and school letter grades not yet assigned, Mr. Whitaker advised the evaluation numbers will be shared at a later date.

Mr. Whitaker stated that extracurricular salaries had previously been paid as a part of certified teachers' contracts, but we will now begin paying those salaries separate from their teacher pay. He has discussed this with Mr. Jason Russell of the local teachers' association, and advised there would be no difference financially for the corporation.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he accepted Tony Clements' resignation as bus driver for route 7, effective August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Mr. Whitaker provided an update on the summer projects, including the pool project, painting, and shelter house. He stated the old HVAC unit from the pool has been tested for asbestos, and was clear of any asbestos residue. The first swimming classes were held today. All classrooms at the elementary school have been painted, and additional areas and the hallways will be painted at a later date. Concrete has been poured at the elementary playground shelter house, and Mr. Whitaker stated that top soil will be hauled in and grass seed sewn to complete the project. Lots of positive compliments have been received on the shelter house. Discussion was held about future projects.

Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to approve changes in the high school handbook as presented, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Whitaker advised the changes would be posted on the school website within the very near future. With no other discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Wolford addressed the board regarding his recent trip to Littleton, Colorado to attend a school safety conference held at Columbine High School. Presenters included the principal and SWAT team leader at the time of the 1999 Columbine shooting. Mr. Wolford discussed changes made to safety procedures, and added that attending this conference was his most powerful experience as an educator. He thanked Mr. Whitaker and board members for the opportunity to attend the conference.

Mr. Neukam advised the security camera system project is proceeding on schedule.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members of the budget hearing to be held on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:00 in the Learning Center Board Room. An executive session will be held prior to that time.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following items as new business: i) Requested permission for Kevin Knies and FFA students to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis on October 25-27, 2017. The overnight stay would be funded by the FFA. ii) Approval to advertise the 2018 budget with Budget Form 3, Bus Replacement Fund Notice to Taxpayers, and the Capital Projects Fund Notice to Taxpayers. Mr. Whitaker stated the budget information has been provided to board members. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Wininger seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

A copy of the cooperative agreement for the South Central Area Special Education Cooperative was given to board members for their review. Mr. Whitaker advised that the document has been approved by the governing board of the cooperative, and now must be approved by each participating school board. Mr. Whitaker recommended approval of the document as presented. Board consensus was to hold the document for clarification of some matters.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Mr. Marshall has been working with RockStar Event Productions to resolve the sound issues in our high school gymnasium, and provided a copy of a quote from them for a new mixer. Mr. Burton made the motion to approve the quote from RockStar Event for the amount of \$2,149 for the new mixer, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. Discussion included plans to change the location of some speakers. Mr. Marshall stated that RockStar has stated they would stand behind their work and would make it right if the mixer doesn't improve the sound quality. The motion was then carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended approving a contract with Kovert Hawkins Architects, Inc to develop design options for high school locker rooms and possible auxiliary gym options with cost analysis of each option, at an estimated fee of \$7,500. Mr. Purkhiser motioned as recommended, and Mr. Burton seconded. Mr. John Hawkins was present and answered questions from board members.

Following discussion, the motion was approved by the vote of 5-2-0 with Mrs. Shipman and Mr. Wininger voting against the motion.

The Indiana School Boards Association Fall Conference is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Indianapolis. Any board member wishing to attend was instructed to notify Kathy for registration. Mr. Purkhiser stated this is a very good conference which helps board members make informed decisions.

Resolutions were signed to add administrators to the high school and elementary bank accounts located at Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company.

Discussion was held regarding a policy for the Teacher Appreciation Grant funding as required by state mandate. A policy will be considered for adoption at the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Wininger motioned to adjourn. Mr. Farris seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

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