

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2019**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, August 12, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Justin Winger, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Joel Dalton, and Mrs. Cheryl Lynch were present. Dr. Trevor Apple, Mr. Kyle Neukam, and Mrs. Amy Orr 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.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:04 PM on Monday, August 12, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members were present, along with Dr. Apple, Mr. Neukam, Mrs. Orr, Mr. Jason Russell, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons. Mrs. Taylor Chastain and Mrs. Kacie Shipman were also present.

Mr. Winger 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 July 8, 2019 board meeting, along with the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Marshall seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Orr announced that Mrs. Stella Lowe began her duties as administrative assistant on July 16th. Student registration began July 22nd, with most registrations completed online. August 1st was the first official teacher workday, with Meet the Teacher Night held that evening. She thanked the janitorial, maintenance, certified, and non-certified staff for ensuring the building looked great. The Running Start program was held on Friday evening, August 2nd, with over 60 students receiving services. Mrs. Orr thanked community and staff members who participated in Chalk the Walk on August 4th, by decorating the sidewalks to welcome our students to the 2019-20 school year. She also thanked Mr. Wes McNeely, who dressed as the Blackhawk mascot, to welcome students as they were entering the building on the first student day, August 5th. Essential life rules, as taken from Ron Clark's Essential 55 list, are being incorporated in daily announcements and classroom discussion. Mrs. Orr thanked our families, bus drivers, and students for being patient as we have worked through the bus route changes this year. She stated that approximately 40 new students have enrolled at the elementary school.

Mr. Jason Russell thanked the custodial staff and Wes McNeely for their assistance to the athletic department, and Mrs. Amanda Parsons for her help. The girls' golf team has already started their season, and other fall sports will begin soon.

Mr. Neukam thanked teachers for providing our students and parents a great experience on Meet the Teacher Night. He also thanked the entire maintenance staff for all the work done this summer, office and guidance staff for their prep work toward registration and the start of school, and the tech department, Dr. Jeff Kerby and Mr. Lionel Brown, who had a full summer of responsibilities with the new chromebook distribution, regular computer maintenance, and many updates to the registration process. On behalf of the junior-senior high school, Mr. Neukam wished Mrs. Orr and the elementary school a great year, and noted many positive accomplishments had been achieved the last couple of years in our corporation.

Dr. Apple thanked all school employees, our families, and students for the great start to the 2019-20 school year. He also recognized our bus drivers, who have been outstanding and very cooperative, while dealing with needed route changes, and thanked them for the work they do and the service they provide our students.

Mr. Farris stated that he has received a lot of good feedback on teachers and administrators for the smooth start on the first week of school.

Mr. Winger added that he felt the implementation of the new bus routes went exceptionally smooth, and he thanked Dr. Apple for his efforts on the implementation.

No patrons addressed the board.

Dr. Apple presented the following personnel items for approval: 1) Employ Natasha Marks as special education aide in the high school moderate/severe classroom for the 2019-20 school year with the hourly salary of \$10.95 based on the Support Staff pay scale, retroactive to August 1, 2019. 2) Hire Tawana Lynch as elementary instructional assistant at \$10.45 per hour, retroactive to August 1, 2019. 3) Employ Beverly Dees as elementary cashier at \$10.45 per hour, retroactive to August 5, 2019. 4) Per Mr. Russell's recommendation, the following coaches: Boys Basketball/JV - Randy Chaplin at \$3849; Frosh - Kyle Crews and Jeremy Payton - to split the Frosh pay/\$2168 total so each would receive \$1084; Girls Basketball/JV - Brad Bledsoe @ \$3849; Frosh - Kiana Winger with zero years' experience @ \$1478; and Volunteer Assistants - Chris Burton and Riley Widdifield. Mr. Farris so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

In regard to staff performance evaluations, Mr. Neukam reported that based on classroom observations, four teachers at the junior/senior high school were rated highly effective, 22 teachers - effective, and no teachers at the other levels. Mrs. Orr stated that 15 elementary teachers were rated as highly effective, 13 teachers as effective, and none at the other levels.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of the bid from Acorn Sound Technologies for the installation of acoustical panels, speakers, and sound equipment for the high school gym with the bid amount of \$84,170 after the \$2,800 credit for prior acoustical testing. With the performance guarantee, Dr. Apple stated this was a great opportunity to correct the continual sound problems in the gym. Payment for the project would be from Casino Revenue Fund. Mr. Marshall made the motion to approve the bid from Acorn Sound, and Mr. Burton seconded. Discussion was held on the matter. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of the contract with Norris, Blessinger, and Wuebkenberg Orthopaedics and Spine to provide an athletic trainer for our student athletes in 2019-20, with Springs Valley to cover half of the salary (\$21.50 per hour) and Norris, Blessinger, and Wuebkenberg Orthopaedics and Spine to compensate half of the salary and benefits for the athletic trainer. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple requested approval to advertise the 2020 budget, including Budget Form 3, Bus Replacement Plan Notice to Taxpayers, and the Capital Projects Fund Notice to Taxpayers. The Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan will be posted on our school website, and the Budget Form 3 will be submitted on Gateway. The documents had previously been provided to board members for their review. Dr. Apple proposed a public hearing to be held on August 26, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Learning Center board room. Mrs. Shipman made the motion as recommended. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple thanked all parents for their patience and cooperation as we implemented the new bus routes. He stated that with the changes, parents may see multiple buses passing by their homes. The main reason for this is student safety whereby Senate Enrolled Act 2 mandates that buses shall not load/unload if it requires a student to cross any U.S. route or state route unless there are no other alternatives. By September 1, 2019 and each September 1 thereafter, corporations, charters, and accredited non-public schools shall review bus routes and bus safety policies to improve safety of students and adults. Dr. Apple stated that Springs Valley has adjusted bus routes to ensure that we comply with this new law.

There was some local concern recently regarding Springs Valley not participating in the Community Eligibility Provision program that some area schools have chosen to implement. The CEP is an alternative to collecting, approving, and verifying household eligibility applications for free and reduced price eligible students in high poverty local educational agencies (LEAs) for schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. For school corporations to be eligible to use CEP for school year 2019-2020, the corporation must have one or more schools having an identified student percentage of 40% or greater as of April 1, 2019. Based on the criteria used to calculate the percentage, Springs Valley was not eligible for the program. In the event that we qualify in the future, we will look into the possibility of participating.

Mrs. Taylor Chastain provided information on her summer externship where she worked at the corporate office of Premier Ag for two weeks. The externship program was coordinated through Lost River Career Cooperative. Mrs. Chastain stated that much of the knowledge she gained at

Premier Ag will be the focus in her classroom this year, and her students will benefit from the contacts she met through the externship program.

Mrs. Kacie Shipman, Youth First social worker, and Mrs. Ramona Osborn of Thrive Orange County and Southern Indiana Community Health Care addressed the board regarding trauma-informed behavior. Mrs. Shipman provided the results of an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) survey, which she conducted in May 2019 with 322 out of 339 Springs Valley junior/senior high school students participating. Mrs. Shipman advised how the negative experiences which were documented in the ACE survey will increase the risk for lifelong health and social problems. Mrs. Osborn stated that Southern Indiana Community Health Care has applied for a grant through IU Health Foundation using the ACE survey results, and the many possibilities that could benefit Springs Valley if awarded the grant.

Mrs. Shipman made the motion to move the October board meeting from the 14th, which is during Fall Break, to the 7th with the meeting to start at the regular time of 6:00 PM in the Learning Center board room and Executive Session at 5:00 PM. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Burton motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

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