

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, September 9, 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, Mr. Kyle Neukam, and Mrs. Amy Orr were also in attendance. Patrons were 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.

Collective Bargaining Public Hearing

The Springs Valley School Board met in Special Session at 6:09 PM on Monday, September 9, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members were present, along with Dr. Apple, Mr. Neukam, Mrs. Orr, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons.

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

Dr. Apple stated this public hearing is being held pursuant to Indiana Code 20-29-6-1(b) where we will take public testimony to discuss the following items: 1) the obligation and the right to bargain collectively the items set forth in Indiana Code § 20-29-6-4; 2) the right and obligation to discuss any item set forth in Indiana Code § 20-29-6-7; and 3) entering into a contract embodying any of the matters listed in Indiana Code § 20-29-6-4 which have been bargained collectively.

Dr. Apple opened the floor for the public to address the board, and no patrons spoke.

The hearing pursuant to Indiana Code § 20-29-6-1(b) was closed at 6:10 PM as motioned by Mrs. Shipman. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Regular Session

The Regular Session opened at 6:10 PM, with all of the above present.

Mrs. Lynch made the motion to approve the minutes for the August 12, 2019 and August 26, 2019 board meetings, along with the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Orr advised that progress reports were sent home last Friday as we are half-way through the first grading period. She welcomed back Mrs. Mallory Hall and Mrs. Virginia Neukam, and thanked Mrs. Robin Owen and Mrs. Jennifer Hill for doing an outstanding job in covering for Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Neukam during their absences. ILEARN test results have been released, and stated that she is very pleased with the results for Springs Valley Elementary. The annual PTSO fund-raising project has started, with those proceeds used to cover class field trips, other student activities, and special events. Study tables have begun for elementary students in grades 3 through 5, and will be offered every Tuesday and Thursday in the elementary library. Chromebooks have been delivered to classrooms in grades one through five, and she thanked Dr. Jeff Kerby and Mr. Lionel Brown for their efforts. Grandparents Day will be celebrated on Wednesday with cookies and lemonade sponsored by the PTSO. School nurse Miss Kearsten Ingle met with fifth grade students and discussed the importance of good hygiene practices, and distributed hygiene product bags and toothbrushes provided by Cave and Cave Family Dentistry, and Tri-Kappa. Miss Kearsten also met with elementary and pre-school classes to promote the importance of good sleep habits, and Mrs. Orr encouraged families to instill good nightly bedtime routines. School social worker Mrs. Kacie Shipman has been meeting with students to discuss bullying, what it is, how to respond to it, and how to report it. First grade teachers are planning a monthly family night for first-graders and their families to teach parents more about what happens in first grade, to provide teaching language used in first grade, to build positive relations with children and their teachers, and to learn new ways to help their children with homework. The same type of activity is being planned for fourth grade as well.

Mr. Neukam advised that no athletic report is available tonight, and expressed condolences to Mr. Jason Russell and family on the passing of his father.

Mr. Neukam stated that students have worked hard the first five weeks of school and are focused on their success. Student work is being displayed in the hallways, and visitors are encouraged to

stop and see what his students are working on. Teachers have been gathering student data to analyze where we need to continue growth with our lesson planning and will take the feedback from our state test results to generate engaging classrooms for all of our students. He stated that we have an understanding of the challenge put forth by the state assessments, and we accept that challenge as student success is always our number one goal.

Dr. Apple advised that ILEARN test results were released recently, reporting that our scores showed that students and teachers worked very hard this year as always. Statewide there was a very large dip in the testing scores, but fortunately Springs Valley's scores did not dip as much as other schools. Dr. Apple then read a cooperative letter from the three superintendents of the Orange County schools addressing the situation, with the letter to be published in the county newspapers this week.

No patrons addressed the board.

Dr. Apple presented the following consent agenda for coaching recommendations for board approval: Boys Basketball Coaches: 5th grade, Adam Carnes, \$1063; 6th grade, Rusty Parsons, \$1063; 7th grade, Matt Pierce, 1 year experience at \$1549; 8th grade, Jeremy Payton, 0 experience at \$1478; Volunteer Junior High coach - Jason Gossett; and Girls Basketball Coaches: 7th grade, Teresa Cox, 2 years at \$1612; 8th grade, Barry Wilson at no pay; Junior High Volunteer, Kyra Harrell, and Volunteer 6th grade coaches - Ryan Carnes and Jason Russell. Mrs. Shipman made a motion to approve the coaches as presented. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Discussion was held regarding uniforms for the custodial staff. Dr. Apple will ask for feedback from the staff and report back to board members at the next meeting.

Dr. Apple advised that he has received fabric samples for the acoustic panels for the gym ceiling and invited input on the color choices. Replacement of the high school gym sound system had been estimated to take four to six weeks, but will now take six to eight weeks for completion with ninety panels to be mounted above the lights.

Dr. Apple stated that we are in the exploratory phase of looking at replacement of the high school roof and HVAC system, adding that the roof will need to be replaced soon and the HVAC system is dated and in need of repair. He will provide updates as we move forward on the project.

Mrs. Trista Rue, director of the Melton Public Library, addressed the board and presented an architect's rendering of the building following their building project. She advised that the project began with demolition of the building next to the library, bids will be accepted within the next couple of months for the building project, and they hope to be completed by December 2020. She stated the library board was hoping that their parking lot on the Orange Street side of the building could be joined with the Ivy Tech parking lot, thereby creating a larger parking area for library and Ivy Tech patrons, and the community. Mr. Marshall motioned to allow the proposal of joining the two parking lots as discussed, with any changes to the site plan per Dr. Apple's approval. Mr. Burton seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that the school board is required to pass a resolution stating that we will use the 2% TRF savings from House Enrolled Act 1001, which is estimated at \$59,904.37 for the 2019-20 school year, for wages, salaries, and/or benefits of certified employees. Mrs. Shipman so moved. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple stated that the average daily membership count will be taken on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> for determination of the basic grant funding. As of today, our student enrollment was 874, which is up from the February 2019 enrollment of 817 and the September 2018 count of 834. This number includes eight full-time students enrolled in Springs Valley Academy.

Dr. Apple advised that pursuant to Senate Enrolled Act 2, which requires that by September 1, 2019 and each September 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter, school corporations, charter schools, and accredited non-public schools shall review bus routes and bus safety policies to improve safety of students and adults, Springs Valley has reviewed our bus safety policies and bus routes for this school year. Mr. Marshall requested an update on the current bus contracts following changes to the bus routes, and Dr. Apple stated that he will provide that information.

Regarding cafeteria meal prices, Dr. Apple recommended that student meal prices remain the same for the 2019-20 school year with paid-student breakfast at \$1.35 and paid-student lunch at \$2.50, with an increase to the adult lunch meal increasing from \$3.40 to \$3.50 effective tomorrow, September 10, 2019. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Farris seconded. The motion was carried 7-0.

Mr. Burton made the motion to approve the FFA field trip to the FFA National Convention for Mrs. Taylor Chastain, nine students, and chaperone from October 30<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, as recommended by Dr. Apple. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of an athletic funding request from Mr. Jason Russell for the amount of \$7,500. Mr. Farris so moved, Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that Springs Valley has been selected to participate in the 2019 Cohort Graduation Audit. Mr. Kyle Neukam is working with Mrs. Stacy Denbo and Mrs. Charla Godden to gather the necessary information, and will submit the requested information prior to the October deadline.

Dr. Apple stated the timeline for the 2020 Budget has been followed. Permission to advertise the budget was granted by the Board at the August 12<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. The School Bus Replacement Plan Notice to Taxpayers and the Capital Projects Plan Notice to Taxpayers have been posted on our webpage and the Form 3 has been published on Gateway making the budget process compliant with the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). The board conducted a public hearing, as required by law, in a special board meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup> to allow for public questions and comments. There was no input from the public. Tonight is the scheduled budget adoption meeting for the 2020 budget as advertised. The board will also adopt all resolutions required. Following the adoption I will ask the board to sign the required forms and resolutions. At this time I am asking for a motion from the board to adopt and sign all required documents and resolutions for the 2020 budget. Mr. Farris made the motion to approve the 2020 budget documents and resolutions as presented. Mr. Marshall seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple requested approval to employ John Fred Carnes as substitute bus driver as needed at the hourly rate of \$25.48. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mr. Marshall seconded. Discussion was held to clarify that Mr. Carnes will be a W2 payroll employee. The motion was carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple stated that a meeting is planned for Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss a possible tentative agreement between the Teachers’ Association and the board, with an executive session at 5:00 PM and the bargaining meeting to follow at 6:00 PM.

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> with an executive session at 5:00 PM and regular session at 6:00 PM, as discussed at a prior meeting.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Farris seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	