

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2020**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 14, 2020 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 also present, as well as Mr. Kyle Neukam. Mrs. Kelly Schmitt and Mrs. Brandy Terrell were each present for a portion of the meeting.

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/Hearing for Additional Appropriations

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:15 PM in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. All board members, Dr. Apple, and Mr. Neukam were present, along with Dr. Jeff Kerby, and Mrs. Kathy Allstott.

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

Mr. Burton made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, December 3, and December 7, 2020 board meetings, and vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

On behalf of Mrs. Renee Childress, Dr. Apple shared the following comments. The elementary school is maintaining an average daily attendance rate of 85%, and students who can not join live are viewing their teacher's recorded instruction later in the day. Appreciation was extended to teachers for their desire to provide quality instruction for our students despite their own challenges due to COVID and quarantine. Teaching assistants are doing a wonderful job of providing supervision and structured engaging activities throughout the day for our staff members' children. The office staff and tech teams continue to collaborate to provide assistance for our staff and students. The school nurse is available throughout the day and evenings to provide guidance and answer questions. Our custodians are continuing to keep the building sanitized and safe for everyone every day. Team effort has been demonstrated throughout our district during these challenging times.

Mr. Kyle Neukam thanked students who assisted with dumping trash, and his staff for keeping their classrooms looking great during a time when school staff was short-handed due to quarantined workers. He recognized the office staff for filling many roles these last few weeks. Mr. Neukam stated this semester has been a full team effort, with students and staff accepting the challenges. He also thanked elementary staff, Mrs. Childress, Dr. Matt Williams, Dr. Apple, school board members, and the community for their support.

No patrons addressed the board.

Under Personnel matters, Dr. Apple presented the following consent agenda items: 1) Nikia Kalb has resigned from her preschool instructional assistant position effective November 24, 2020. 2) Mrs. Childress has recommended switching Donna Rastorfer from elementary instructional assistant to preschool instructional assistant position at the hourly rate of \$10.90 for 13 hours per week. December 22nd will be the last day for Ms. Rastorfer as an elementary aide, and she will begin in the preschool position on January 5, 2021. A replacement for the elementary position will be named at a later date. 3) Extend employment for Thurman Reed, Ryan Martin, and Brittani Ratliff for another nine weeks. Dr. Apple advised that we had received an additional \$10,000 allocation for the CARES grant recently. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple presented the following Spring Coaching Recommendations from Mrs. Schmitt: 1) Varsity Softball Coach - Jill Stephens (Area 2 Level D \$4300); 2) Varsity Assistant Softball Coach - Steven Matthew Weisensteiner (Non-certified Area 4 Level K \$1750); 3) Varsity Volunteer Softball Coaches - Marty Goldman, Shawn Kluesner, Hailey Goldman, Dustin Farris; 4) JH Softball Coach - Jason Hickman (\$1250); 5) JH Volunteer Softball Coaches - Wes McNeely, Nick Snider, Chris Meehan; 6) Boys Varsity Track Coach - Derek Freeman (Area 3 Level B \$2600); 7) Boys Varsity Assistant Track Coach - Colton Cassidy ((Non-certified Area 4 Level A \$1250); 8) Girls Varsity Track Coach - Timothy Weisenberger (Non-certified Area 3 Level B \$1600); 9) JH/Varsity Track Volunteer Coaches - Todd Marshall, Justin Harris, Evonnie Payne, Austin Collins; 10) JH Track Coach (2 paid positions) - Jason Gossett \$1500/Jennifer Gossett \$1500; 11) Varsity Baseball Coach - Rob Denbo (Grandfathered amount of \$4125); 12) Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach - Henry Cruz (Grandfathered amount of \$1936); 13) JH Baseball Coach - Jason Lowe (\$1250); 14) Volunteer JH Baseball Coach - Jeremy Payton; 15) Varsity Volunteer Baseball Coach - Broc Warner; 16) Varsity Boys Golf Coach - Brent Harner (Non-certified Area 3 Level G \$2100); 17) Varsity Boys Golf Volunteer Coach - Tim Leonard; 18) JH Golf Coach - Casey Millholland (\$1250); 19) 6th Grade Volleyball - Gina Webster (\$1000); 20) 5th Grade Volleyball - Janelle Crews (\$1000); and 21) Volunteer Trainer - Bill Harris. Mr. Marshall made a motion to accept the recommendations as stated. Mrs. Lynch seconded. Clarification was made that the coaching position for Jason Hickman is a non-certified position. The motion was then approved 7-0.

Mr. Farris made the motion to approve the three-year contract for Dr. Trevor Apple as presented at the December 7th hearing. Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Marshall clarified that the contract is posted on the school's website for review. The superintendent's contract was approved with the vote of 7-0.

Dr. Apple announced the resignation of Mark Hammond as varsity football coach.

The high school HVAC project is moving along nicely, and they should be starting to hook up the new units soon. Fair Landscapes recently did some landscaping around the Learning Center building.

Mr. Wininger opened the hearing for the additional appropriations of \$587,000 in the Education Fund and \$400,000 in the Operations Fund. Mr. Farris motioned to adopt the resolution to approve the additional appropriations as stated. Mrs. Shipman seconded. With no discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple provided an update on the CARES stipends which were paid on December 4th. The amount of \$64,290.68 was paid from the CARES grant and \$15,709.32 paid from the School Improvement Grant for a total of \$80,000.00.

COVID-19 updates included notification that letters were mailed recently to parents of elementary academy students regarding second semester enrollment. Attendance for the virtual live classrooms has been high with good student behavior reported. Dr. Apple stated that he has received many positive comments from teachers. Mr. Wininger advised that he feels the teachers have done an outstanding job during this period of virtual learning. He suggested that Dr. Apple look into the possibility of a tier system to keep some students in the classroom in the event of staff shortages, as virtual learning is difficult for students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Dr. Apple stated that he will do so, being mindful of licensure requirements and staffing needs.

The following New Business matters were presented as a consent agenda: 1) Approval of the contract with Tucker and Tucker to provide legal counsel for 2021 at the hourly rate of \$150. Dr. Apple advised that this rate is an increase from the current rate of \$120, which had been in effect for fourteen years. He thanked the staff of Tucker and Tucker for their outstanding service to our corporation. 2) Permission for Kathy Allstott to pay invoices as needed through the end of 2020 with approval by superintendent, and authority for superintendent to do emergency hiring subject to approval at the January board meeting. Mr. Marshall so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The consent agenda was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple reported that our school Youth First counselor, Kacie Shipman, has been trained in the Child Safety Matters and Teen Safety Matters programs, which cover both bullying prevention and sexual abuse training as required by the state. It is a

comprehensive and evidence-based program for grades K-12 and supported by the IDOE. This will be a three-year certification.

Dr. Apple stated that the Superintendent’s Advisory Council met on November 12th and discussed budget issues, general discussion on the needs of the corporation, strategy in going forward, and weaknesses in the areas of capital projects and instruction. Quarterly meetings are planned, and Dr. Apple thanked those employees who participated.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of policy number 5113, which was presented for the first reading at the November 9th board meeting. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The policy relates to the topic of Verification of Residency. The policy was then adopted by the vote of 7-0.

A revision of the policy number 8462, Child Abuse or Neglect, was presented for the first reading. The revision reflects new requirements established in SEA 295 that a school social worker and school psychologist are appropriate individuals to provide age-appropriate and research and evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse that must be annually provided for students in kindergarten through grade twelve.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.

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