

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

July 26, 7:30 p.m.

- CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG** President Ranz called the meeting to order and lead the group in the pledge to the flag.
- ATTENDANCE** Board members in attendance were Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Phipps, Mrs. Swango and Mr. Cole and Superintendent Caddell.
- Others in attendance included Mona Crabtree, Pat Lanman, Ron Hocker, Shannon Barger, Jennifer Schlaudroff, Dean Schlaudroff, John Harkness, Mark Smith, Don Neal, James Lake, John Britton, Mike Howard, Jerry Firestone, Ivan Green, Denise Andrews, Elizabeth Jones, Gayla Bullock, K.C. Banta, Kent Dunning, Bob Boyd, Darin Gullion, Page Semmel, Debbie Christman, Darrel Hansel, Candy Haskell, and Sarah Hempstead.
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA** Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a recommendation to proceed with the Sprint agreement for a new phone system. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole and the vote was unanimous.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** A motion was made by Mr. Roberts to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2004 meeting as submitted. Mr. Truitt seconded. The vote to approve the minutes with the correction of a typographical error was unanimous.
- NEW BUSINESS** Mr. Caddell introduced Dr. Robert Boyd, the coordinator of the Feasibility Study for the expansion of Jefferson-Craig, to the board members and others in attendance. Dr. Boyd had presented a written report on the data and results of the study. Mr. Caddell had made copies of the report which were given to the board members. He thanked those persons who served on the committee for their participation. He then turned over the floor to Pat Lanman.
- Mr. Lanman named the members of the committee. The members included teachers from all schools of the corporation, Switzerland County Council members, local business owners, and other community members. Many of the members were in attendance. Mr. Lanman talked about the meetings and their objectives of solving the

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overcrowding issues and what would best serve the needs of all students in the corporation. He mentioned that even though the enrollment data collected showed no great increase in the student population, the educational programs mandated by the state determined the need for additional space. The floor was then turned over to Steve Crabtree. Mr. Crabtree explained that in the tour of the buildings he saw that children with special needs that needed one-on-one instruction had to do so in book storage areas or in the cafeteria. He also mentioned that the computer lab at Jefferson Craig was being held in a portable classroom. He said these were just a few of the things that were not acceptable to him and other members of the committee. Mr. Crabtree said that not everyone agreed on the same things, but that the one area in which there was an overwhelming consensus was that the sixth graders should be moved out of the Middle School, and placed back into the elementary schools and more rooms added to both of these buildings to serve as classrooms and storage areas. He went on to say he felt like the teachers were doing a great job of adapting to the current conditions, but that something really needed to be done to help make the learning process for these students much easier. Other recommendations that were mentioned in the study included an enhanced kitchen/cafeteria facilities, an enhanced media center, an enhanced physical education, community activity and student assembly space, a faculty planning space, and additional small group instructional and/or conference areas for Jefferson-Craig Elementary students.

K.C. Banta, a member of the committee, wanted to make mention that the custodians were doing a good job at the schools. He said that when the committee toured the buildings, they looked great. Mr. Banta went on to say that as a County Commissioner, he strongly advised the board to go forward with plans for expansion.

Dr. Boyd then made a summary of the report and recommended to the board that another committee of administrators and teachers be formed to make decisions regarding the specifications for the additions and changes to be made at each or all of the schools which could be sent

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to architects for bidding. He also recommended that consideration be given to a new Administration Building. He said that the approximate tax rate increase for the project would be 2 ½ cents per million.

The board took these recommendations under advisement. No action was taken by the board.

A ten minute break was then called to allow an exit for those in attendance who could not stay for the remainder of the meeting.

When business resumed, a motion was made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mrs. See to award the milk, bread, diesel fuel and gas, oil, trash removal, snow removal, and bus replacement bids as follows:

Milk:	Prairie Farms	
Bread:	All bids rejected	
Diesel Fuel/Gas:	Bullock Oil, Inc.	
Oil:	Laughery Valley Coop.	
Trash:	Rumpke	
Snow:	Paul H.Rohe	
Bus Replacement:	66 Passenger:	Kerlin Bus Sales
	14 Passenger:	Speedway
	14 Passenger w/lift:	Speedway

The board's decision to approve the above bid awards was unanimous. The bid comparisons and recommendations for the board were made by a committee which included Superintendent, Tracy Caddell; Cafeteria Director, Gayla Bullock; Transportation Director, Ivan Green, Secretary, Mona Crabtree; and Board Members, Andy Truitt and Laurice See. The recommendations were agreed upon at a meeting held on July 26, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the corporation office where the bids were opened and read aloud. Some discussion regarding the milk bids concerned the lower prices of Prairie Farms products in comparison to the availability of more products from Trauth. The decision to reject the bread bid was based on a 23 cent increase from last year's bread quotes. There was also some discussion about the bus bids regarding engine types and knowledge of their performance. The bid comparisons are as follows:

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A motion was made by Mr. Truitt to approve the Endowment request by Mr. Caddell for \$136,108.95 to pay for each student's 2004-2005 book bill. Mr. Phipps seconded. Mrs. Swango expressed concern that parents might expect this practice every year. Mr. Caddell said that great effort would go into making all parents aware that this might be a one-time procedure. Mrs. Swango then asked if the textbook rental fund was still in the red and if so, would it be more feasible to ask the Endowment Corporation to pay for that amount. Mr. Caddell said that he took that request to the Endowment three years ago, but they had turned it down because they did not want to pay for people who neglected to pay for their children's book bills. The vote to approve the request was as follows: Ayes: Phipps, Truitt, Roberts, Ranz, See, Cole. Nays: Swango.

Mrs. See moved to table requisitions to the Endowment from Denise Andrews for televisions and DVD players and from Middle School Science teachers for DVD's and DVD players as there was no one there to answer any questions the board might have regarding these projects. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion. Mr. Truitt was concerned that by tabling these projects, the board feels they are not important. Vote to table: Ayes: Cole, Ranz. Nays: See, Roberts, Truitt, Phipps, Swango.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to present the previous mentioned requests to the Endowment, with Mrs. Swango seconding. The vote to present: Ayes: See, Roberts, Truitt, Phipps, Swango. Nays: Cole, Ranz.

A motion was made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Phipps for the school corporation to continue with Main Source Bank for its cash management system. The recommendation was made by Treasurer Ann Geyman after receiving information from Main Source Bank and Heritage Community Bank. The interest rate payment at Heritage Community Bank was set at 1.50%, while at Main Source Bank it is 1.60%. Also, the annual fees at Main Source was lower at \$473.57, while at Heritage it would be \$2,476.90. The vote to approve this recommendation was unanimous.

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Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve a contract with Sprint for the school corporation's new phone system, pending the approval of school attorney, Ron Hocker. It was seconded by Mr. Phipps. Questions about funding and contracts were voiced. Mr. Truitt asked how long it would take to be put in. Mr. Gullion said that it would probably take around three weeks. Mr. Cole asked if we really wanted a five-year maintenance agreement. He was concerned that in the event the company changed, we would be out that money. Mr. Gullion said that the phone lines covered by the agreement are from Sprint, the primary provider of the phone service in this area for many years, so he didn't see that as a problem. Mrs. See asked how much money we would be out for making sure everything would be compatible for the new system. Mr. Gullion said that he believed everything was already done there, also. There might be a few adjustments that Mr. Sieglitz might need to take care of. Mr. Caddell said that in the end, the new system would cost the corporation around \$4,000. The vote to approve the Sprint contract pending Mr. Hocker's review was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Lanman said that he wanted to make it clear that what was recommended to the board as a result of the Feasibility Study was based on what was best for the schools regardless of Riverboat Funding.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the resignation of the Alternative School teacher at the Middle School, Susan Reuber. Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote was unanimous.

In a unanimous decision, the board approved Jennifer Spiker-Schlaudroff as the new High School English teacher and Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach. The motion was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Roberts moved to approve Shannon Barger as the new High School Social Studies teacher, with Mr. Phipps seconding. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve the ECA assignments at Switzerland County Elementary School as recommended

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by Elizabeth Jones, Principal. The motion was seconded with the vote being unanimous. They are as follows:

Elem. Volleyball – Kathy Keith
Cheerleaders – Amy Bovard
Student Council – Missy Morris / Tammy Gregory
Yearbook – Sharon Barbour / Marilyn Devers
Newspaper – Travis Griffith
K-5 Music – Tammy Beitzel
Drama Club – Rob Banta / Michael Berg
Math Bowl – Cynthia Griffith
Spell Bowl – Tammy Tankersley

In a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Truitt, the resignation of Helen Stroud as an instructional assistant at the Middle School was unanimously approved.

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the Jump Start summer program contracts as submitted by the program directors, Mike Jones and Kyle Weaver, with Mr. Phipps seconding and the vote being unanimous.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORTS AND
COMMENTS

Mr. Caddell urged everyone to please come to the Endowment meeting on the following evening if they are interested in supporting any of the requests approved at the meeting, particularly the textbook payment request. He said he thought this would be a great benefit to everyone in the community.

He welcomed the new staff members to the school corporation.

BOARD REPORT AND
COMMENTS

Mr. Cole wanted to welcome the new teachers as well as thank the Feasibility Study Committee members for their service and work.

Mrs. Swango also wished to welcome the new employees.

Mr. Phipps wanted to welcome the teachers to the school corporation.

Mr. Truitt welcomed each of the new teachers to the corporation, as well.

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Mr. Roberts wanted to say the same as the others in welcoming the new teachers to the staff.

Mrs. See wished to personally thank Mr. Caddell on some of the new school corporation projects and for positively handling some sticky situations that could have turned out very differently. She also welcomed the new teachers.

Mr. Ranz wanted to wish the new teachers the best of luck and hoped to see them at the Orientation on the 16th of August.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phipps made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Roberts seconded, the vote being unanimous.