

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2011**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING     4:00 P.M.**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING     6:15 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 4:00 at the Switzerland County School Corporation's Administration Office to discuss I.C.5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) and I.C.5-1-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

The board members present were Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Phipps and Mr. Waltz. Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Superintendent; School Board Attorney, Ron Hocker and Matthew Hocker and Dr. Robert Boyd were also in attendance. Mr. Truitt was unable to attend.

The board discussed no subject matter in the Executive Session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

The Executive Session adjourned and the meeting was opened to the public.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Mr. Roberts called the regular meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag.

**ATTENDANCE:**

The board members present were Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Phipps and Mr. Waltz. Mr. Truitt was unable to attend the meeting.

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Matthew Hocker, Rhonda Pennington, Ken Pennington, Dan Noel, John Sieglitz, Adam Cole, Brian Morton, Keisha Morton, David Todd, Tony Spoores, Joe Bennett, Laura Schroer, Abby Paradise, Ron Paradise, Chad Combs, Erin Keith, Brian Grigsby, Lesa McGarvey, Tara Justice, Kinley Morton, Emma Giglio, Emerson Schroer, Riley King, Kalli Morton, Sally Weales, Melissa Jones, Aaron Jones, Jacob Jones, Lowell Reynolds, Rebecca Whitaker, Connie Wallace, Woodie Reeves, Ginny Reeves, "Bear" Bladen, Galen Purnell, Mark Powell, Laura Pennington-Hinton, Robert Hinton, Amy Hoskins, Dick Risk, Matt Michael, Casey Jones, Mary Ann Jones, Allen Jones, Dustin Wallace, Martha Bladen, Juan Bevis, Tammy Bevis, Devon Bevis, Rita Sebree, Kim Giglio, Stephanie, Angela Grubbs, Bailey Bennett, and Brandon Bennett.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

Mrs. Peters made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded and the board's vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the school board meetings of September 19, September 30, October 10, and November 7, 2011 were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Phipps.

**FUND REPORT:**

The fund report for September, 2011 was unanimously approved by the board in a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

**CLAIMS:**

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve **Vendor** Claims #41838 through #42105, and #42113 and **Payroll** Claims for 10/14/2011, 10/28/2011, and 11/11/2011. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The board's vote to approve the claims was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A Grievance Policy, presented for first reading at the meeting of September 30, 2011 was approved by a unanimous vote in a motion made by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mrs. Peters. The policy contains the following information:

*TEACHER GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE*  
*SECTION 1: PURPOSE AND DEFINITION*  
*SECTION 2: PROCEDURE*  
*SECTION 3: HEARINGS*  
*SECTION 4: TIME LIMITS*  
*SECTION 5: MISCELLANEOUS*  
*GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM*

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the 2012-2013 balanced calendar as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Dr. Jones explained that the calendar was consistent with the Career Center and participating corporations which had already adopted the calendar. She said they all started approximately the same day and there were only slight differences in a day here or there from the other corporations. Mr. Daugherty asked how the breaks would go. Dr. Jones said there were two week breaks in October, two weeks in December for Christmas, and two weeks in March for Spring Break. Mr. Daugherty asked what would need to be done about transportation for those students needing remediation for those two weeks. Dr. Jones said the corporation would use what used to be called Summer School money for remediation during that time. She said the concept is to catch them as they fall behind, give them what they need and move them forward. She said Southwestern felt they would use their funding to bus the students. Mrs. Moore wanted to know if the staff's thoughts and feelings were surveyed and wondered what their thoughts were. Dr. Jones said she had conducted a meeting at each school and had two parent meetings and had invited participation in the survey monkey. She said those responses were positive, as the teachers' union's had been when she met with them a year

ago. Mr. Daugherty said he felt we would be odd man out if the corporation did not approve the calendar. Mr. Roberts said he felt the other corporations were dictating what was best for our kids and he personally didn't believe this was. He said that being the case, he agreed with Mr. Daugherty that if our corporation did not approve this calendar, our Vocational School students would suffer. Mr. Waltz agreed that we did not want to short change our Vocational School kids and their families by not approving the calendar. Mrs. Moore said she was not crazy about this calendar and did not like being pressured into approving it but felt there was no other choice to ensure the students did not lose out. Mrs. Peters said she did not feel the corporation had to go with this calendar because other schools were and was not for it. She said we should stay with the calendar we have and think outside the box to find a way to get the kids to the Vocational School. Mr. Roberts asked if it was possible to get the vocational students from here to out there during the times our schools were not in session. Dr. Jones said anything was possible. She said it would be very complicated to run twenty routes because basically we would need to bus them from their homes. The vote to approve the calendar was five to one as follows: AYES: Roberts, Phipps, Moore, Daugherty, Waltz. NAY: Peters

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Indiana Department of Education requires local school boards to adopt certain policies with changes relevant to their own school communities. Three state recommended policies which were presented for first readings and expected to be adopted at the December meeting include the Chemical Management Policy, Vehicle Idling Policy, and Animals in Classrooms Policy.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the acceptance of \$1,350 in grant funds from the Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc., submitted by Sally Weales for Family Fun Night-Make it and Take it Project. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Acceptance of \$4,250 in grant funds from the Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc., for the coverage of 2011-2012 lunch cost increases, submitted by Dr. Elizabeth Jones was unanimously approved in a motion by Mr. Waltz, seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

The board voted unanimously to approve the authorization of AdTec Administrative and Technical Consulting, Inc. to represent the corporation in the filing of FCC E-Rate forms for all E-Rate eligible Telecommunications Services, Internet Access, Internal Connections and/or Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections for Funding Year 2012 and in other responses to requests for information to the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company on our school corporation's behalf. The motion to approve the Letter of Agency was made by Mrs. Peters and seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

Technology Director, John Sieglitz, gave board members information regarding options to explore in order to accomplish paperless board meetings. Mr. Sieglitz said one option

is that the President of the board or whoever is in control of the meeting would have a laptop computer which would reflect the items of the agenda on the screen that everyone could see as the meeting progressed. He said the votes would be shown on the side and minutes of the meeting could actually be transcribed from the recordings. He said he found options for up to \$12,000 a year which he was not even considering as he felt this much too costly. He said if he could find something for one or two thousand dollars a year, he would go with that. Mr. Sieglitz said the meeting tonight consisted of around 76 pages which was an awfully lot to be thrown out at the end of a meeting every month. He said another option would be to set up each board member with a laptop which could be used to follow along each item instead of shuffling through papers but the audience would be unable to view.

Dr. Jones said last year, Educational Services had been asked to review the Switzerland County Elementary School to see if the school needed to be refurbished or whether the building needed additional rooms or that sort of thing. She said they had reported very definitely the cafeteria needed to be addressed as well as the gymnasium. Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve RQAW to develop a long range architectural plan for Switzerland County Elementary School. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Mrs. Moore said she wanted to make it known that she was all for the sixth grade going back out to Switzerland County Elementary so she felt this was long overdue. Mr. Waltz said he was in agreement. He said it has been two years now that the whole sixth grade was moved to Jefferson-Craig and at that time the agreement was to revisit the decision after one year. The vote to approve the company to develop the plans was unanimous.

A motion to approve an Education Jobs Funding Appropriation was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Daugherty. Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango, explained that this was a Federal program similar to the Stimulus fund that the corporation had last year. She said it originates with the US Department of Education but actually goes through and is administered by the Indiana Department of Education. Mrs. Swango explained that the funds for this program could only be spent in relation to instruction. She said our proposed use of the funds would be for salaries for positions that might otherwise be eliminated. She directed the board's attention to an Appropriation Report she had set up asking for permission to spend the funds for salaries and a page listing the names of employees more recently hired, not being paid from another special fund. She said it is a two year program which was not used last year even though it was available so the current agreement will run out at the end of this year. The board's vote to approve the Education Jobs Funding Appropriation was unanimous.

Dr. Jones said every four years, we go through the process of advertising bus routes and accepting bids for those routes. She said this time, there were 12 contract routes and 15 of our own. She said the route descriptions would be available for pickup on November 29 and the corporation will accept bids January 4, 2012. Mr. Phipps asked if some of the routes were going to be consolidated. Dr. Jones said one change was a consolidation of routes 18 and 30 and there could be more. She said Mr. Green and Mrs. Powell were diligently looking at each route and taking inventory of the number of kids on the routes. Mrs. Moore asked if there was an allowance of room for children of families that move in

after these routes are set. Dr. Jones said that was absolutely the case and added that even though a bus allows 66 passengers, there is never the maximum of students on that bus. She said the number was usually around 40 or so. Mrs. Swango said if our routes needed to be changed, a modification had to be done. Permission to accept bids for bus routes was approved unanimously in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Waltz.

Dr. Jones said she would like Mr. Cole to come forward with a presentation on what the students had been doing with the I-Pads. In his presentation, Mr. Cole explained how differently students of today learned compared to their predecessors. He said this use of digital technology instruction in the classroom will promote more organized, more productive students. Mr. Cole said one of the things about this is that digital information relevant to classroom subjects could change as he was teaching it. He said there was an infinite amount of information out there for the kids to access. He said whether we liked it or not, this was the way of the future. He said this was how the students will learn and that we need to get on board or be left behind. Mrs. Moore asked Mr. Cole if he ever worried about losing his job because of this. She said it was very sad to think that in twenty years, teachers would not even be needed because everything is right there. Mr. Cole said the role of teaching has changed and they are now motivators. He said it was their job to entice the students to stop playing their video games and go find that information and show them how to apply it. Mrs. Moore said she was old fashioned in that she believed students needed to know how to count money back, write a sentence, and write in cursive and she did not feel it would come from this. She said she did not want to lose people like Mr. Cole or Mrs. Pennington. Mr. Cole said he wasn't saying students shouldn't learn those things. He said they were just going to have to teach them a different way in order to keep kids interested.

At this time, students, guided by teachers, gave a presentation to the board and audience members showing their expertise with the I-Pads. Mr. Combs, Mr. Grigsby, Mrs. Justice, Mrs. McGarvey, and Mr. Cole were there to show board members what options were available to the students with the I-Pad and how they were applying them to their class work.

Each of the teachers gave praises to Mrs. Pennington for supporting this type of instruction and making it all possible.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jacob Jones read a letter to the board in which he urged them to provide transportation for him and his brother to and from school. He said he lived on Knox Ford Road and was told in two weeks, the school corporation would no longer be able to pick them up at that location. He said his parents were unable to provide them with transportation. He asked the board members what kind of help they could offer him and his brother so they would not miss school.

Lowell Reynolds asked why there would be no full time nurse at Jefferson-Craig. Mr. Reynolds said he had read the bullying policy several times. He said stricter guidelines

needed to be implemented so that videos of bullying such as kids getting spaghetti thrown at them don't show up on Facebook. He said this happened to his daughter. Mr. Reynolds challenged board members to attend more sporting events. He also wanted to know why so much work was being contracted out instead of most of the work being done in-house. Lastly, Mr. Reynolds said he was not happy about not having a freshman team this year because the numbers weren't there. He said other parents told him recruitment calls were made by the coach even after cuts from the team had been made.

High School Athletic Director, David Todd, said Mr. Lowell's last statement was not true. Dr. Jones also responded that there has been a full-time nurse on duty at Jefferson-Craig Elementary whose name was Judy Cole.

### **PERSONNEL:**

Several recommendations for Extra Curricular Activities positions were approved unanimously by the board in a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Waltz. They are as follows:

- Cassie Courtney: MS Boys & Girls Track Assistant Coach
- Mark Jackson: MS Wrestling Team Coach
- Chad Combs: Varsity Baseball Coach
- Ashley Chase: Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
- Wayne Ellegood: Varsity Assistant Girls Basketball Coach
- Scott Woodward & Scott Sainz: Wrestling Assistant Volunteers
- Dillon Deems & Adam Clark: Swim Team Assistant Volunteers

Mr. Phipps moved to approve Christine Douglas to serve as a Bus Monitor for the corporation for three hours daily. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board unanimously approved the resignation request of Lisa Burke as an elementary school Nurse in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Daugherty. Mr. Waltz said Mrs. Burke was a wonderful person as well as a good nurse and her leaving will be a big loss to the corporation.

Mrs. Moore moved to approve two requests for retirement requests. Mr. Waltz seconded and the board's vote was unanimous. They are as follows:

- Mr. Larry Stewart, Bus Driver – January 13, 2012
- Dr. Elizabeth Jones, Superintendent – June 30, 2012

Mrs. Nancy Peters was appointed to serve as the Board Policy Liaison for the corporation in a motion by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mrs. Moore. The vote was as follows:  
AYES: Waltz, Moore, Phipps, Roberts, Daugherty. ABSTAIN: Peters

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

The following requests for Use of School Facilities were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mrs. Moore:

- SCES: C. Lay, PTA Treas. – Summey Photography, 11-5-11, (retroactive)
- SCES: B. Chase – Cafeteria for Family Thanksgiving Dinner, 11-24-11, 11:00 - ?
- SCES: D. Turner for Good News Club Meetings, Mondays, for 6 wks. Starting 11-28-11 from 3:10pm to 5:15pm

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)**

Dr. Jones announced that the next Endowment Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 and the next Regular Board Meeting will be held December 19, 2011.

Dr. Jones said Yancy Unger from the Department of Education came to the corporation on Thursday to give a perspective on how other schools are using technology in their schools and possible applications for our corporation. She said Mr. Unger was very impressed with what our children are doing. Dr. Jones said a breakfast was held Friday morning in his honor which was attended by thirty-seven parents and community members. She thanked Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Moore for representing the board.

Dr. Jones said Greg Curlin, the National President of Ag Teacher Organization, had represented the corporation and our state well last week at a meeting in St. Louis. She said John Sieglitz was also recognized at that meeting. She said Mr. Noel was also recognized at the meeting as well as being a presenter. She said she had been unable to attend the meeting, so Mr. Daugherty had gone to represent the corporation.

**BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:**

Mr. Daugherty said he had both Mr. Curlin and Mr. Sieglitz in class. He said this was not a county meeting or a state meeting but a national meeting where these two had received recognition. He said the NAAE had presented the school with a plaque and wanted Mr. Noel to also come up to receive the plaque. Mr. Daugherty said this was a great thing and our corporation should be very proud.

Nancy Peters said she was glad to see so many people in attendance.

Mr. Waltz said the presentation made by the students was fantastic and he appreciated their attendance.

Mr. Daugherty said he was very impressed with the kids' enthusiasm for showing their expertise with the I-Pads.

Mrs. Moore said she wanted to mention that even though she was not able to attend every one of them, the schools' Veterans Day Programs were phenomenal and she wanted to commend everyone's efforts. Also, she said the students' presentations had changed her mind about the usage of I-Pads.

Mr. Daugherty said he wanted to second what Mrs. Moore said about the Veterans Day programs and thank whoever put the Veterans Dinner together.

Mr. Roberts congratulated John Sieglitz and Greg Curlin on their accomplishments. He said we have good quality of staff here. Mr. Roberts said he was technologically challenged and was very impressed with the students' presentations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Waltz seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (8:55 p.m.)

UNABLE TO ATTEND

Andy Truitt, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Tonya Moore, Secretary

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Nancy Peters, Member

James Phipps, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member