

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2013**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING      4:00 P.M.**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING      5:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 4:00 P.M. at the Switzerland County Administration Office to discuss collective bargaining as well as the initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing in compliance with Indiana Codes, 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(A) and 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B), respectively.

The Board members present were Mrs. Peters, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Truitt, Mr. Daugherty, and Mr. Deck. Mrs. Hayes & Mr. Waltz were unable to attend. Mr. Michael L. Jones, Superintendent and Matthew Hocker were also in attendance.

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

The Executive Session adjourned.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Mrs. Peters called the public meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board members in attendance were Mrs. Peters, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Truitt, Mr. Daugherty, and Mr. Deck. Mrs. Hayes and Mr. Waltz were unable to attend.

Others in attendance were Mr. Michael L. Jones, Matthew Hocker, Cindy Haskell, Mona Crabtree, Greg Curlin, Josh South, John Druba, Rhonda Pennington, John Sieglitz, Gregg Goewert, Joshua Carr, Fred Ross, Sally Weales, Brooke Levell, Ruth Lohide, Katie Collier and Angela Grubbs.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of an employee achievement recognition, the omission of an employee resignation, a recommendation for employment, the addition of two professional leaves, and the addition of three Use of Facilities applications. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2013 school board meeting in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Deck.

**FUND REPORT:**

The July, 2013 financial report was unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Deck.

**CLAIMS:**

The following claims were presented to the Board for approval in a motion by Mr. Truitt, seconded by Mr. Daugherty:

Payroll Claims: 9/13/13

Vendor Claims: #45465, #45548 - #45569, and #45570 - #45583

Mr. Truitt asked if the claim for Mrs. Moore was for substitute teaching. Deputy Treasurer, Cindy Haskell, confirmed. With no other questions, the Board's vote to approve the claims was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve a limited mutual release agreement with RQAW regarding the Fire Alarm Change Order as presented. Mr. Truitt seconded. The Board's vote to approve the agreement was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve an ECA Bowlathon fundraiser on September 14, 2013, to help raise money to cover startup costs for Bowling. Mr. Deck seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

Josh South gave a presentation on the new website. He explained that if the Board chose to go forward with the new site, the Principals or other designated persons would be able to post to the website in order to keep it updated with events relative to their buildings. He felt teachers should also be able to post things. Mr. South also mentioned that it was up to staff members to keep the new website updated and if they weren't going to do that then he would not recommend implementing it.

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve a 2013-2014 Transportation Agreement with Madison Consolidated School Corporation. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion. The agreement assures shared financial responsibility for providing transportation for students in both

districts to meet a bus provided by Greater Clark twice a week as needed. The Board's vote to approve the agreement was unanimous.

A \$200 Arts & Education Mini-Grant from the Vevay-Switzerland Bicentennial was unanimously approved by the Board for Switzerland County Elementary School fourth grade students to observe various historical homes and amphitheater and learn how they fit into the history of the state of Indiana. Mr. Truitt moved to approve the grant. Mr. Roberts seconded.

~~A Memo of Understanding regarding~~ The revision of the Teacher Evaluation Model of the RISE program for this school year only was presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Deck motioned to approve. Mr. Truitt seconded. Mrs. Peters mentioned that the model had been vigorously revised by a committee made up of teachers, CTA members, Board members, and principals/building administrators. It was asked if a teacher will be notified ahead of time that the principal will be observing their classroom in order to evaluate them. Mrs. Weales said the visits were basically unannounced, but she might let all teachers know that she will be making classroom visits that week. The Board's vote to approve ~~the MOU~~ was unanimous.

An Endowment Request from Switzerland County High School for \$3,772.50 for the purchase of JV/Varsity **cheerleader** uniforms was presented to the Board for approval in a motion by Mr. Truitt, seconded by Mr. Deck. Mr. Daugherty said he thought the Endowment was set up in order to consider one time need projects. His concern was that other entities will want the Endowment to pay for their new uniforms. The motion passed in a five to one vote with Mr. Daugherty voting against the request.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve an Endowment Request for \$35,000 for materials plus \$15,000 for plumbing expenses from the Switzerland County High School for updating the Agriculture labs. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion. Mr. Curlin said the requisition was written up in three phases to enable the Endowment to make payments at different intervals. The Board's vote to approve the \$50,000 request was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve an Endowment Request for \$11,349 for new Band instruments for both elementary schools. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion. After many questions arose whether this was a total for both schools or a total for only one school, Mr. Truitt withdrew his motion until more information could be obtained. Mr. Daugherty concurred. The request will be considered at a later date.

ISTEP Coordinator, Fred Ross, gave a presentation to the Board regarding plans for Intercession remediation. Mr. Ross presented Plan A as the first option with 36 days of after school remediation during October, November, December, January, February, and April from 3:30-5:30. March was not included so the students could focus on ISTEP testing and because of Spring Break. Plan A calls for 16 additional bus trips with drop off points. In Plan B, there will be six hour days during Spring Intercession. Some of the disadvantages of plan B are that some students will not attend their own school or be taught by a teacher from a different school and grade level; teachers are unwilling to

teach during intercession or unwilling to teach older or unfamiliar students. Mr. Ross said he had conferred with each building and the Superintendent and their recommendation for the Board was to approve Plan A. Mr. Daugherty moved to approve Intercession Plan A. Mr. Deck seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

The Board recognized Deputy Treasurer, Cindy Haskell, for achieving Certification from the Indiana Association of School Business Officials. Mrs. Haskell earned her certification through attending conferences and seminars hosted by the organization. It is not a requirement for her position but a distinguished objective an educational business official can pursue.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve Archery and Bowling as new Extra-Curricular Activity Clubs. Mr. Deck seconded the motion. There was a question as to whether these were part of Physical Education classes or considered extra-curricular clubs. Mr. Goewert said that bowling could be part of the physical education classes, but the sponsors were going to be paid through extra-curricular stipends. He said they have already been added to the list of extra-curricular activities and will be part of the Master Contract after negotiations. He said the clubs were added at the suggestion of the Student Leadership Advisory Council. The Board voted unanimously to approve the clubs.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** *(Board members will take comments under advisement.)*

Katie Collier wanted to know how much to date has been spent or allocated for the new football program. She has two young children and it seems every time she turns around, someone is selling more candles or candy. She thinks having so many fundraisers puts a burden on businesses, parents and grandparents. She wanted to clarify that she is not against football or any other sport. She thinks there are just too many fundraisers for these activities.

**PERSONNEL:**

Custodian, Willis G. Parks, submitted a notification of retirement to the Board to be effective November 1, 2013. Mr. Deck moved to approve Mr. Parks' retirement. Mr. Roberts seconded. The Board's vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve Joshua Carr to fill the Extra-Curricular Band Assistant position at Switzerland County High School. Mr. Deck seconded the motion. The Board's vote was unanimous.

**PROFESSIONAL LEAVES/FIELD TRIPS**

The following professional leaves were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Deck:

- D. Seaver – Overnight stay for ACTE Conference in Indianapolis, IN, 9/27/13
- T. Beitzel- Percussive Arts Society Convention in Indianapolis, IN, 11/14 & 11/15, 2013

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

The following Use of Facilities applications were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Roberts:

- SCHS Café: T. Conroy for Democrat Fish Fry, Nov. 2, 2013 5:00-9:00 P.M.
- SCES Café: M. Stow for Girl Scouts Mtgs., 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, Sept., 2013-May, 2014, 3:30-5:00 P.M.
- SCHS Band Room: M. Jackson/T. Beitzel/J. Grice for Community Band Practices, 9/19, 9/26, 10/03, and 10/06, 2013, 5:00-6:30 P.M.
- SCES Café: K. Zimmerer for 2013-2014 Cub Scout Meetings, September, 2013 to September, 2014, on the third Monday and first and last Tuesdays of each month, 5:00-7:00 P.M.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)**

Superintendent, Michael L. Jones, made the following announcements:

- Next Endowment Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Building
- Next Special Board Meeting for Budget Hearings will be held on Monday, September 30, 2013 at 5:00 P.M.
- Superintendent's Roundtable Discussion Meeting will be held on September 26, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. at Mammy's Kitchen

**BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:**

Mr. Daugherty said someone had called him about the water shed project. He said she reported that lots of semi-trucks have been going in and out of the property behind the schools and wanted to know if there are any plans for the Corporation to clean up our side of the property. He said he wanted to keep that in our thoughts as we proceed with all of the other property development.

Mrs. Peters mentioned that the October 22, 2013 Career Center Meeting has been rescheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (6:45 P.M.)

Mr. Roberts made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Truitt and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was so adjourned.

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Nancy Peters, President

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Wayne Daugherty, Member

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William Roberts, Vice President

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Josh Deck, Member

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Andy Truitt, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unable to Attend  
Tammy Hayes, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unable to Attend  
Vernon Waltz, Member