

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2015
REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Board President, Mr. Daugherty, called the regular meeting to order, asking that all communication devices be turned off or silenced, and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE:

Board members in attendance were Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Deck, Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Cord, and Mrs. Peters.

Others in attendance were Mr. Michael L. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Greg Curlin, Matthew Levell, Cory Bougher, Tony Spoores, Matthew Hocker, Pat Lanman, Sean McGarvey, Josh Rogers, Lance Collier, Katie Collier, Janet Hendricks, Josh South, Ryan Jesop, Joanne Sullivan, Stacey Mathews, Abby Galbreath, Lisa Cutshall, Adam Cole, Rhonda Pennington, Holly Patz, Sally Weales, Kenny Riley, and Margaret Ann Riley

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mrs. Cord made a motion to approve an amended agenda, with the addition of a Use of Facilities Application, Endowment Request, and the moving of the recommendation for the new Board Member position from a Personnel item to the first item under New Business. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. The amended agenda was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The amended Board Minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Peters made a motion to approve the minutes with a typographical correction and the revision of a statement from a member of the Board. Mrs. Cord seconded the motion. The Board's vote to approve the minutes, reflecting the changes, was unanimous.

FUND REPORT:

The Financial Report for November, 2014, was presented to the Board for approval by Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango. Mr. Deck moved to approve the report. Mr. Bennett seconded. Mrs. Swango reminded the Board that the Corporation is waiting for grant fund reimbursements from the state for the fund accounts now reflecting negative

balances. Mrs. Peters wanted to know if the amount in the Capital Projects Fund 149 is what is left for the year, or whether it has already been accounted for. Mrs. Swango said the amount is as of the end of November, so the accurate amount will be reflected in the December report. The tax fund amounts showing on the December report for Capital Projects, Transportation Operating and Bus Replacement, will be cash balances available for use in the new year. The Board's vote to approve the report as submitted was unanimous.

CLAIMS:

The following payroll and vendor claims were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mrs. Cord:

Payroll Claims: 01/16/2015

Prewritten Claims: #48139-#48171; 47154

New Claims: #48172-#48199; #48200

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve Katie Collier to fill the vacated position on the Board representing Pleasant Township. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bennett. The Board's vote to approve was unanimous.

Legal Counsel for the Board, Matthew Hocker, administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Collier. Mrs. Collier then took her place on the Board and participated as an active member for the remainder of the meeting.

Architect, Terry Lancer of Lancer+Beebe, Inc. gave a presentation to the Board regarding the outdoor facilities for home and guest locker rooms, restrooms, and concessions behind the High School. He showed the Board conceptual drawings of the plans, according to current A.D.A. building codes, he felt was desired by the Board members and staff for a safe, cost efficient facility. Board members had questions regarding the materials used in the construction of the inside and outside of the facilities, dimensions of the rooms, door placements, etc. Mr. Lancer explained that by using alternative materials, reducing the size, and changing the design, he has been able to reduce the estimated cost for the total project to \$475-\$575,000. This reflects a \$125,000 reduction from the original plan cost estimation. Since the project is over \$300,000, a common construction wage is required and needs to be set. It was his hope that the Board would approve the project for public bidding in order to get the project completed prior to the Corporation's fall sports schedule. He explained there will be no penalty if the bid is not awarded. Mr. Bennett felt the need for more time to review the project plans. He did not feel the project should be rushed just to meet an August 1st deadline. There was further discussion regarding funds already allocated for the bleacher project and what options the Board has for covering the cost of the athletic facilities project. Mr. Daugherty revealed that he did not want the pressure of rushing to approve something the Board would be sorry for later. He wanted to set up a meeting of the Facilities/Ground

Committee to review and discuss the plans more thoroughly to decide what recommendation should be made to the Board regarding the project. A date of February 2, 2015 at 3:30 P.M. was suggested for a possible committee meeting date. Mr. Lancer said he would be available on that date if the Board wanted him to meet with the committee to answer any questions they might have. Mrs. Peters wanted to make it clear that only three members of the Board could attend the meeting without it being considered a public meeting. She asked that if any other Board members wished to attend, please let her know 48 hours prior to the meeting in order for it to be posted as a public meeting. Advertising the meeting as a public meeting was suggested in the event a quorum was present. Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Jones agreed.

Instructional Resource Teachers, Matthew Levell, Holly Patz, and Cory Bougher, presented an update on the Technology Communication Plan being practiced in the buildings. Five-Star Solutions have been coming in once a month for Professional Development Workshops on Google Drive, One Drive and My Big Campus. Each month, data is obtained from teacher surveys to assess what details need to be covered more thoroughly, such as g-mail and their thoughts on the effectiveness of the Professional Development. When the data from the survey is retrieved, the Instructional Resource team looks over the data, and decides which areas the teachers need more training. A Five-Star audit report will be presented at the March Board meeting which will provide information to help guide the Professional Development plans for the next school year. Besides Five-Star, they also have Tech Tuesdays which are used to assess any issues with google classrooms, chrome extensions, google docs, google sites, and Skyward, the student management system. At the elementary schools, Fall sessions were held for teachers to prepare for I-Pads coming into the classrooms used for technology integration and differentiating instruction. When requested, they provide classroom demonstrations for teachers and their students, or one-on-one sessions with individual teachers, or with a set of teachers of a certain grade level. Middle School has gone from one-on-one with the I-Pads to one-on-one with the chrome books. Those I-Pads have been made readily accessible and sets of nine have been sent to grades 2, 3 and 4 at the elementary schools. Curriculum guidelines have been worked on. At the secondary level, Project Lead the Way has now received certification. Other discussions will be held regarding 2015-2016 plans for grades K-3 one-to-one devices; expanding college credit online options; digital citizenship, K-12; electronic registration at each building; one-to-one chrome books for grades 5-12, and tentatively for 4th grade. Technology outlets are being implemented for more and better communication between staff and parents.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve a list of early graduates submitted by High School Guidance Counselor, Marla Edwards, pending completion of their required credits. Mr. Deck seconded the motion. The list consists of students, who, for varying reasons, wish to graduate at an earlier date than normally required. Discussion ensued regarding the large number of students on the list, followed by an explanation of why the list was being brought to the Board for approval. The Board voted unanimously to approve the list as presented.

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve a grant from the Vevay-Switzerland County Foundation in the amount of \$1,800 for HS Robotic Team Competition expenses. Mrs. Peters seconded. The Board's vote to approve the grant was unanimous.

Mrs. Peters moved to approve a \$76,679 grant from Title 11, Part A Program for Improving Teacher Quality and Effectiveness. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deck. Mrs. Cord asked how this reduces class sizes. The Board's vote to approve the grant funds was unanimous.

Mrs. Hendricks gave a presentation to the Board regarding the \$30,064 grant from IDOE for 2014-2015 State High Ability Grant Program. She explained that the funds are used on such things as classroom supplies and professional development expenses. Mrs. Cord wondered about the great disparity in the amounts between the High School and the elementary schools. Mrs. Hendricks explained that at the High School level, the grant was only designated for English and Math and only three teachers at the elementary school level qualify for this grant as High Ability teachers. Mrs. Cord made a motion to approve the grant as submitted. Mrs. Collier seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Several ECA fundraisers were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Cord and seconded by Mr. Bennett. They are as follows:

- SCES Gr. 2 - Kids Against Hunger PBL Project, Mar. through April, 2015
- HS Girls Basketball – Sale of Pink-Out T-Shirts for Summer Camp fees, 1/20-1/28, 2015
- HS Girls Basketball – Sale of Soup & Sandwiches for Summer Camp fees, 1/20-2/6, 2015
- SCES PTA – Sale of Pacer Shopper Bags, Feb. 2 until sold out
- HS Drama Club – Pizza & Flower Bulb Sales for Spring production cost, 2/10-2/27, 2015

A Board/Staff Communication Policy was presented to the Board for approval as submitted. Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(Anyone wishing to speak is asked to state their name and keep comments to 2 to 3 minutes. If this isn't enough time, participants should feel free to submit the balance of their comments in writing. The Board will take comments under advisement. Anyone wishing a written response should leave their name and address with the Administrative Secretary).*

Mr. Daugherty opened the floor to comments from the public.

Connie Wallace stated that she was the mother of a wrestler. She relayed her frustrations with the many safety and health issues plaguing the current wrestling conditions. She wanted to make sure the new facility adequately represented the sports being housed in the facility and did not believe that to be the case. She asked if the facility could be used as a FEMA facility in the event of a disaster. Mr. Lancer explained that the facility does not meet the standards for a FEMA facility, such as being tornado resistant.

Shona Bladen, the parent of a senior wrestler, also relayed her issues with the current conditions of the wrestling facility.

PERSONNEL:

A resignation request from Adrienne Shaw from her SCES Title 1 Instructional Assistant position, effective January 30, 2015, was unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Peters and seconded by Mr. Deck.

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve the resignation of Carrie Ficklin from her Title 1 Instructional Assistant position, effective February 2, 2015. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Deck moved to approve additional pay for Mr. Curlin second semester for picking up an extra class. Mrs. Collier seconded the motion. Mr. Curlin explained that due to Mrs. Seaver retiring, he is using his prep period time and lunch time for record keeping and doing follow-ups for the Co-op Business students he is teaching after school. The Board's vote to approve the additional compensation was unanimous.

Several 2014-2015 Extra-Curricular Activities position recommendations were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Deck and seconded by Mr. Bennett. They are as follows:

- Michelle Detmer – MS Assistant Track Coach
- Amanda Alford – MS Boys Track Coach
- Brian Grigsby – MS Boys Golf Coach
- Cindy Grigsby – MS Girls Golf Coach
- Jimmy Meyer – Gr. 7 Girls Basketball Volunteer Coach
- Kodi Thayer- HS Business Department Head (change from D. Seaver, who retired)

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES/FIELD TRIPS:

Mrs. Collier made a motion to approve 26 Business Professionals Association students, (BPA), to attend a State competition in Indianapolis, Indiana, March 15 to March 17, 2015. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

USE OF FACILITIES:

The following Use of Facilities application was unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mrs. Peters:

- SCHS Café/Gym: S. Mathews for After-Prom activities, from 5:00 P.M. on Friday, April 10, 2015 to 6:00 A.M., Sunday, April 12, 2015.
08/04/2014

ENDOWMENT REQUEST:

Mrs. Peters made a motion to approve a \$5,000 Endowment Request from Mr. Todd to cover After-Prom activity expenses. Mr. Bennett seconded. Mr. Bennett asked if Rainy Day funds could be used for this purpose. Mrs. Swango did not believe those funds can be used in this case, as this is an extra-curricular activity as opposed to a school activity. The Board voted unanimously to approve the request as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

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

- Next Endowment meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Office
- Next Regular Board Meeting, Monday, February 16, 2015 at the Administration Office with the Public Session beginning at 5:00 P.M. and an Executive Session scheduled for 4:00 P.M. at the same location
- Friday, February 13, 2015, a Collective Bargaining Seminar will be held at the Marriott North at Keystone in Indianapolis, Indiana. Board Members should see Cindy Haskell regarding registration/reservation arrangements.
- The 75th Annual National School Board Association Conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, March 21-25, 2015. Any interested Board member should contact Cindy
- Legislative Report: We have two representatives: Randy Frye in House and Jim Smith in the Senate. Specific information on bills concerning education will be provided in February.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:Committee Reports:

Facilities/Grounds Committee: Mrs. Peters reported that a meeting was held on January 16, 2015. Mr. Jones, Mr. Goewert, Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Peters were in attendance. Discussions were held on the topic of watershed issue; talked to private property owners about cleanup; discussed the concept of a pole barn being more economical; discussed cleaning up of the grounds, especially around the water line; and discussed coming up with a five-year vision plan. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2 at 3:30 P.M. at the Administration Building which is open to administrators, coaches, and the public.

Endowment Committee: First meeting of 2015 will be held on February 26, 2015

Negotiations Committee: Have not met yet.

Individual Comments by Board Members:

Mrs. Peters asked when the NEOLA Policy Company will begin work with the Corporation. Mrs. Swango said the Agreement is being looked at before it is signed.

Mrs. Peters also mentioned that she hopes members of the Negotiations Committee will attend the Collective Bargaining Conference on February 13th, as the state has made changes in recent years.

Mrs. Collier is looking forward to working with Board members, administrators, staff and parents.

Mrs. Cord welcomed Katie to the Board. She reported that she attended the last wrestling match and believes she understands and appreciates the comments that were made earlier in the evening regarding the conditions.

Mr. Deck would like to thank Mr. Grice and students for coming to the aid of the man that had the house fire downtown.

Mr. Roberts welcomed Katie Collier to the Board.

Mr. Daugherty noted that there were a lot of things going on just in the past month. He thanked those in attendance for their interest. He urged people to bring the Board's attention to things going on that they may not be aware of in order to give individuals the recognition they deserve.

ADJOURNMENT: (7:00 P.M.)

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Deck. The meeting was so adjourned.

Wayne Daugherty, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Josh Deck, Secretary

Joseph Bennett, Member

Katie Collier, Member

S. Jill Cord, Member

Nancy Peters, Member