

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2003

- 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 included Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Cole, and Superintendent Caddell.
- Others in attendance were Mona Crabtree, Ann Geyman, Ron Hocker, Pat Lanman, Meredith Luhrs, Sarah Thompson, Jamie Darbro, Larry Darbro, Debra Darbro, Elizabeth Jones, Joe Carfield, Michelle Darbro, Courtney Carfield, Anne Findley, Patience Meyer, Bob Meyer, Debbie Meyer, David Hewitt, Christy Hewitt, Olivia Hewitt, Drew Hewitt, Arthur Ashcraft, Becky Ashcraft, Marlene Jones, and Candis Haskell.
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA Mr. Roberts moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting as amended. Mr. Daugherty seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mr. Daugherty moved to table the approval of the minutes of the October 20, 2003 meeting as some members did not receive them in time to review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole and the vote was unanimous.
- FUND REPORT A motion was made by Mr. Phipps to approve the fund report as submitted. Mr. Cole seconded. Mr. Ranz asked how the book rental collections were going. Mrs. Geyman stated that parents were regularly being billed and reminded of what they owe and that some were making payment arrangements if they thought they could not pay before their deadline at the end of the fiscal year. She also stated that she had just made a deposit of around \$1000. The vote to approve the fund report was unanimous.
- CLAIMS Mr. Cole made a motion approve the claims for payment as submitted. There was a second by Mrs. See. Some of the claims were questioned. They included claim #27695 to Sorpema for roof warranty at the High School, #27750 to Brown's Implement for mower repairs, and #27717 to Modern Office Methods for copier masters. After

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satisfactory answers from Mr. Caddell and Mrs. Geyman, the vote to approve the claims was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

There were students from each school in the corporation nominated for a Celebrating Success award. They were as follows:

SCES:	Drew Hewitt	nominated by Marlene Jones
JCES:	Courtney Carfield	nominated by Sandy Jones
SCMS:	Jamie Darbro	nominated by Phyllis Weaver and Rinda Lattire
SCHS:	Patience Meyer	nominated by Derek Marshall and Vern Waltz

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the endowment requests as presented to the board with the exclusion of one request made by Middle School Librarian, Mrs. Ward. Mr. Caddell felt more information was needed concerning this request. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Daugherty to approve the deletion of a list of policies from the policy manual which were considered no longer necessary. The list included policy numbers 5.0-8, 5.0-22, 5.0-26, 5.0-27, 5.0-29, 5.0-32, 5.0-38, 5.0-41, 5.0-42, 6.0-9, 6.0-26, 6.0-30, 6.0-35, 6.0-36, 6.0-39, 6.0-62, 6.0-69, 6.077, 7.0-2.2, 7.0-2-3, 7.0-25, 9.0-4, and 9.0-5. The motion was seconded by Mr. Truitt. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve Draft #2 of the three calendars presented for the 2004-2005 school year. Mrs. See seconded. Mr. Daugherty asked about October 21 and 22 being set aside for Fall Break. Mr. Caddell said that it would be very difficult to get the teacher's association to agree to the elimination of those days and that they had already agreed to Draft #2 which did include those days off. The board voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Phipps moved to suspend the use of corporal punishment in the school corporation for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Daugherty seconded. This subject was

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discussed thoroughly, with Mr. Caddell citing reasons for doing so, including the main reason which is that it sends children a mixed message. Other points brought up for consideration were that most schools in Indiana have abolished corporal punishment; the state legislature asked in 1994 that it be used only as a last resort and that school corporations consider abolishing it; health concerns; unnecessary liability created for schools and administrators; there is no research supporting evidence that it deters bad behavior at school; most parents at the elementary level have signed permission slips allowing its use. Mr. Daugherty said that he remembers the last person he paddled in 1981. He said he knows that person remembers it, too. He had mixed feelings about it, as did some of the other board members. Mr. Phipps wants to make sure this topic is revisited and a more permanent decision made before school starts next year. Mr. Roberts was not in favor of its abolishment. He felt that by eliminating this step of the discipline process, suspensions would surely increase. The motion passed with the vote being as follows: AYES: Ranz, See, Daugherty, Phipps. NAYS: Roberts, Truitt, Cole.

A motion to declare the Nautilus Weight equipment at the High School a surplus item was made by Mr. Truitt. It was seconded by Mr. Cole. Mr. Caddell explained that the Treasurer, Ann Geyman, needs to declare it a surplus item before it can be donated to a non-profit organization. She explained that Shawe was interested in it if they were going to be disposed of. She said that we have tried to no avail to sell the equipment and that the Switzerland County 4-H Fair Board wants us to move it off of the fairgrounds where it is currently being stored. Discussion followed regarding the corporation's liability. Ann said that she could have the recipient sign a release form, which the board members agreed would be an excellent decision. The motion passed unanimously.

The motion was made by Mr. Truitt to employ Educational Services to conduct a Transportation Study for the school corporation at a price of \$7000, plus expenses not to exceed \$1000. Mr. Daugherty seconded with the added stipulation

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that the study be completed before the next bus contract bidding occurs. The vote on their conditional employment was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PERSONNEL

Mr. Daugherty moved to accept the resignation of Michael Carter as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole with the vote being unanimous.

Mr. Timothy Arradondo was unanimously approved for employment as an I.S.S. (in school suspension) supervisor in the Old Gym in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mr. Daugherty brought up the subject of the Fire Marshall codes for interior rooms where the classroom is located in the Old Gym. He said he hoped this wouldn't pose a problem. Mr. Caddell said that he would check on it.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to continue the contract of Labor Relations Advisor, Marvin Liberson, seconded by Mrs. See. The contract would be for the same length of time at the same rate of pay. Mr. Daugherty asked Superintendent Caddell if he really thought Mr. Liberson's services were needed at this time since the teachers' contracts have already been negotiated. Mr. Caddell said he probably calls Mr. Liberson an average of once a week for his advice on various teacher related issues. Mr. Roberts commented that his advice was given only in a layman's capacity and he didn't feel that his opinions warranted the amount of money he was being paid. The motion passed with votes of AYES from Ranz, See, Truitt, Phipps, Daugherty and Cole, and a NAY from Roberts.

**PROFESSIONAL LEAVE/
FIELD TRIPS**

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the professional leave of Superintendent Caddell to attend an annual meeting of Superintendents in Indianapolis on December 4 and 5, 2003, and a Student Services Advisory Committee Meeting in Indianapolis on December 2, as well as a professional leave request by Mr. Curlin to attend a National Agriculture Conference in Orlando, Florida on Dec. 10-12, 2003. The motion was seconded by Mrs. See with the vote being unanimous.

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USE OF FACILITIES

A motion was made by Mr. Cole to approve the use of the the Old Gym by the Olive Branch Baptist Church on February 7 and 8, 2004, for a 3 on 3 tournament to benefit SCHS students to attend a summer Christian camp and to waive the rental fee. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND REPORTS:
(SUPERINTENDENT)

Mr. Caddell announced that the School Endowment Committee would be meeting on November 25, 2003.

Mr. Ranz mentioned to Treasurer, Ann Geyman, that he needed to see a one page spreadsheet summary with corresponding project numbers when sending information regarding the Endowment proposals. He said that the other information she was sending was not necessary. Mrs. Geyman said that she would do that from now on.

Mr. Caddell announced that this year's IHSAA girls' basketball sectional, which was previously scheduled to be held at Switzerland County, has been changed. It was discovered on a website that the event would be hosted by Milan. Mr. Caddell learned that the unanimous decision was overturned due to geographical reasons.

Mr. Caddell said that Mr. Marshall and he were going to Indianapolis to speak their opposition to this decision on Tuesday and asked if the board wanted to send a representative. Mr. Daugherty said he would do it, but wondered if Mr. Roberts wanted to go. Mr. Roberts said that Mr. Daugherty would do a fine job.

Mr. Lanman brought up the fact that North Decatur would have to travel just as far to get to Southwestern to play, which is where the sectional is scheduled to be held next year. So, if the reasons for not having it here this year was based solely on geographical reasons, the spokespersons could use the argument that next year's sectional location should also be changed.

BOARD REPORTS
AND COMMENTS

Mr. Daugherty mentioned that Buck White passed away. He said that Buck was well known throughout our community as well as in surrounding communities as the

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#1 Pacer fan. Mr. Daugherty went on to say that he was a special person that needed special recognition and for that reason wanted to make sure that Buck received some type of eulogy at the next ballgame.

Mr. Daugherty also mentioned that he appreciated the kids coming out tonight and he was proud of them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to discuss, Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John S. Ranz, President

Andy Truitt, Vice President

Laurice See, Secretary

William Roberts, Member

James Phipps, Member

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Duane Cole, Member