

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

APRIL 19, 2004

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 included Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Cole, Mr. Phipps, and Superintendent Caddell.
- Others in attendance were Mona Crabtree, Ann Geyman, Pat Lanman, Ron Hocker, Darin Gullion, Janet Hendricks, Donna Paige, Pam Jones, Jackie McAlister, Jerry Fisher, Lisa Fisher, Stasia Wiseman, Lory Kier, Rachel Gurley, Jennifer Gurley, Christina Ahaus, Jennifer Scudder, Allen Scudder, Sandy Bowling, Eli Bowling, Paul Hewitt, Sandee Hewitt, Jordan Hewitt, Sally Nay, Morgan Nay, Jeanne Bragg, Bethany Bragg, Brennan Bragg, Kayla Nay, Laura Nay, Louan Nay, Becky Phipps, Denise Loaring, Linda Jones, Christian Miller, Marcella Cole, Donna Paige, Luan Nay, Peggy Eckerty, Elizabeth Jones, Darrell Hansel, Bill Schirmer, Ruth Schirmer, Emma Schirmer, Vernon Waltz, Derek Marshall, John Haskell, Mark Lohide, Jenny Abbott, and Beth Abbott.
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA Mr. Truitt moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of a presentation by Mrs. Hendricks and selected students of Life on the Ohio. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mrs. See moved to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2004 meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phipps with the vote being unanimous.
- FUND REPORT A motion was made by Mr. Cole to approve the fund report as submitted and seconded by Mrs. See. The vote was unanimous.
- CLAIMS Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve claims for payment as submitted, with Mr. Truitt seconding. Mr. Phipps questioned Claim #28449 to Swiss Air because it seemed rather high. Treasurer, Ann Geyman,

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presented the claim with the attached bill for his review. Mr. Ranz questioned the claim to Overhead Door. Mr. Caddell explained that the payment was for vandalism done to a door at the high school and it is practice to pay the vendor before the insurance payment is received. Voucher #28543 to Nading Mechanical was also questioned. Mr. Caddell explained that this was for showers at the High School. The vote to approve claims as submitted was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ranz presented pins to the winners of the Celebrating Success program for each school. The following students were named:

SCHS: Becky Phipps, nominated by Mrs. Fancher

SCES: Tim McAlister, nominated by Mrs. Eckerty

JC: Alex Houser and Alexandre Uboldi, nominated by Mr. Hansel.

SCMS: Rachel Gurley and Stacy Hickman nominated by Mrs. Jones. (Stacy was unable to attend)

Janet Hendricks gave a presentation of Life On the Ohio project winners which included computer generated posters, drawings, paintings, wood flat-boat miniatures, paddle-wheel boat miniatures, essays, and poems. Some of the project winners were in attendance. Mrs. Hendricks introduced each student present as they stood by their projects. They were given a round of applause by all in attendance.

Mrs. See opened the one tobacco lease bid received by the school board. Motion was made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Truitt to accept the bid as presented at \$ .55 per pound. Mrs. See asked what we did last year. Mr. Phipps said that he thought it was a little low and that we didn't have to make a decision until July 1. The vote to accept the bid was as follows: AYES: See, Roberts, Truitt, Daugherty, Ranz. NAYS: Phipps, Cole.

Each of the Endowment Requests were presented and discussed. The first request considered was a \$24,000 Bob Cat to be used by all schools for various projects. The

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request was presented by Danny DeBaun and Derek Marshall. Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the request, with Mr. Roberts seconding. Mrs. See asked about the insurance and if we would use it enough to warrant buying it. Mr. Marshall said that only a few people would be trained to use it and they could be insured and he thought that we would definitely get our money's worth out of it. Mr. Daugherty said that he was concerned about safety issues regarding its use. He also asked how long the bid would be good for. Mr. Marshall responded that the bid was good for 90 days. Mr. Ranz asked if the equipment would be used strictly for school use. Mr. Marshall said that was up to the board. The vote was as follows: AYES: Robers, Phipps, Cole, Ranz. NAYS: Daugherty, See, Truitt.

A request for Endowment funds in the amount of \$111,505 to renovate restrooms at the Middle School. Mr. Caddell suggested tabling the request until such time as Mrs. Jones could provide more information on the project. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to table the request. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The next Endowment fund request was presented by Mr. Gullion. This was for Learning/Technology software called PLATO in the amount of \$90,000. Mr. Waltz and Mr. Marshall said that as teachers, they really appreciated it. Many questions followed. Mr. Truitt asked if the price included training and how long the quote was good? Mr. Gullion said this did include training, and the price was only good for 90 days. The training would take two, 90 minute periods over the course of two days. Mr. Daugherty wanted know if this company had any connections to the one that we purchased a previous student management program from that went bankrupt. Ann said she had gotten certified accountant information that they were okay. Other questions included whether all of the principals agreed on it, when it would be up and running. Mr. Gullion said all of the principals supported this request and that it would be ready for use next year. Mr. Phipps wanted to know if this program was widely used. Mr. Caddell said that currently, North Vernon, Seymour, and Jennings

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County were using the program. Mr. Cole asked if the program was Network based. Mr. Gullion said that it was. Mr. Phipps and Mrs. See wanted to know if it would be possible to see a demonstration. Mr. Gullion said he could have a representative of the company give a demonstration at the April 26, 2004 meeting. Due to the many questions surrounding the program, Mr. Daugherty made a motion to table the request with Mr. Cole seconding and the vote being unanimous.

Mr. Caddell then advised the board to table all other endowment request schedule for the meeting until more information could be gathered. Mrs. See made a motion to table the other requests. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt motioned to approve all of the endowment donations as presented. These included \$25,000 for YMCA support for students; \$5,049 for books & book cases for SCES; and \$58,074 for debt service for excise taxes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the summer school plan as presented, giving the superintendent the authority to hire personnel as needed. Mrs. See seconded the motion and the the vote was unanimous. The summer school plan includes Jump Start from July 19 to July 30, 2004 for grades K-5 at each elementary schools, grades 6-8 at the middle school, and 2 English and Math classes at the high school level. Credit Classes will be offered from June 7 to July 2, 2004.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to retroactively approve bid specifications and to name Mr. Caddell, Mr. Gullion, Mr. Green, and Mr. Roberts to the transportation committee to hold a meeting on April 21, 2004 to receive, record, and negotiate bids. The committee would then make their recommendations to the board during a special meeting scheduled for April 26, 2004 at 7:30 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Mrs. See with the vote as follows:  
AYES: Ranz, Phipps, Daugherty, See, Truitt, Cole  
ABSTAIN: Roberts.

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Mrs. See moved to adopt Mathematics Textbooks chosen from the State Adoption List as presented for use through 2010 as follows:

Grades K through 5: Harcourt

Grades 6,7, and 8: Glencoe

Algebra 1 and 2: Glencoe

Geometry: Glencoe

Invest. Geometry: Glencoe

Pre-Calculus: Thomson, Brooks/Cole

Calculus: Thomson, Brooks/Cole

Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt moved to table the acceptance of \$15,000 for a technology mini-grant as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts with the vote being unanimous.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the revised YMCA contract as presented. Mr. Daugherty seconded. The vote was AYES: Cole, Daugherty, See, Roberts, Phipps, Truitt  
ABSTAIN: Ranz

Mr. Caddell presented a report from the Indiana State Board of Education regarding the determination of Accreditation for our schools. All schools in the corporation were in compliance with the standards of accreditation.

The board voted unanimously to table the first reading of the student handbooks for the 2004-2005 school year in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Cole.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stacia Weisman of the Vevay Music Club left the meeting earlier and asked Mrs. Hendricks to read it on her behalf. The letter stated that the club wanted to voice their concerns regarding cuts that had been made to the art and music departments while athletic programs continued to flourish.

After the letter was read, Mr. Caddell said that while the board was not required to respond at this point, and in fact usually did not do so, he wanted to make it clear that the letter was inaccurate. He said that as Superintendent, he supported the arts and was well aware of the overall academic benefits of a well-rounded curriculum. He went

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on to say that he had not made cuts to the departments and that any reduction in staff was a result of student sign-up. He said he would be responding to the music club's concerns with a letter with facts he hoped would quell their concerns. He also stated that he had no prior knowledge of their concerns and would have been happy to discuss these concerns with them on a more personal level.

#### PERSONNEL

In a motion made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Roberts, the board unanimously voted to retroactively approve the FMLA requests made by Betty Chase, Rosemary Bovard, and Carl Hutchinson.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve a 3% salary increase for all non-certified staff beginning July 1, 2004. The motion was seconded by Mr. Truitt with the vote being as follows: AYES: Ranz, See, Roberts, Truitt, Phipps, Cole. ABSTAIN: Daugherty.

Mrs. See seconded a motion made by Mr. Phipps to approve the employment of Jamie Cohen as a High School custodian. The vote was unanimous.

#### PROFESSIONAL LEAVE/ FIELD TRIPS

In a unanimous vote by the board, Treasurer, Ann Geyman and Deputy Treasurer, Melissa May, were granted permission to attend the State School Business Officials Seminar in Evansville from May 11 to May 14, 2004. The motion was made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mrs. See.

#### USE OF FACILITIES

Mr. Truitt moved to approve two requests for use of school facilities. The Vevay High School Alumni requested to use the High School Cafeteria for a meeting on August 28, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the Pep Club requested to use the Old Gym for a Lock-In on April 30, 2004 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. The motion to approve both requests was seconded by Mr. Roberts, followed by a unanimous vote.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Mr. Caddell gave a brief presentation on the 2002-2003 Annual Yearly Progress State Release of the No Child Left Behind program. He said that we are doing what needs to be done to meet state guidelines. He went on to say that at some point, we may fail to meet those guidelines, but we will not fail the students.

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BOARD REPORTS  
AND COMMENTS

Mr. Truitt commented that the Plato software system requested from the endowment committee sounded like a really good idea.

Mr. Daugherty said that he appreciated all the research that was done on the software program. He knew that it took a lot of time, and that the system sounded very good to him.

Mr. Cole said he felt Mrs. Hendricks deserved a lot of thanks for the presentation and that she had recognized everyone but herself and wanted to point that out.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Mr. Cole seconding and the vote being unanimous.