

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2004
7:30 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an open working session from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. An executive session was held immediately following the regular meeting to discuss an individual employee and student policy.

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 were Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Cole, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Swango, and Superintendent Caddell.

Others in attendance included Mona Crabtree, Ann Geyman, Ron Hocker, Pat Lanman, Candis Haskell, Elizabeth Jones, Darin Gullion, Steve Crabtree, Bonnie Fancher, Denise Loaring, Matt Levell, Judy Lozier, Tammy Gregory, Susan Nierlich, Devon Chase, Judy Chase, Billy Joe Nierlich, Jennifer Gurley, Rachel Gurley, Greg Curlin, Roy Leap, Brooke Levell, Angela Even, Donita Cole, Jon Maxwell, Mary Beth Auxier, Shelby Auxier, Summer and Debbie Sabath, Gina Kincaid, Keegan Kincaid, Olivia Hewitt, Christy Hewitt, David Hewitt, Shanda Rose, Matthew Wegman Sr., and Matthew Wegman, Jr.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented in a motion by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Truitt moved to adopt the minutes of the meetings of November 15th and November 29th, 2004. Mrs. See seconded. Mrs. Swango pointed out a typographical error in a maturity date of a bond as well as the omission of the vote of one of the motions in the November 15 minutes. The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes with the stipulated corrections.

FUND REPORT:

A motion was made by Mr. Cole to approve the Fund report as submitted. Mrs. Swango seconded. Mrs. See asked about the Greenhouse hours. She said she would like to see a

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sign posted, letting the public know specific hours when it would be open and when it would be closed. Mr. Curlin said that there is already a sign in front, saying that it was open daily, but that he could add set times as well. The board voted unanimously to approve the fund report.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve claim #s 29771 through 29890 as submitted. Mrs. See seconded.

Mr. Ranz said that he noticed in the explanation for claim #29818 to Commercial Parts and Services, Inc. in the amount of \$428.60, that the company had cleaned and attempted to repair the steamer, but that it needed to be replaced. Mr. Caddell said that the steamer had exploded and they paid the company to come and clean it and see if they could get it in some type of working order. The company worked on the steamer, but they were unsuccessful in repairing it and said that it would need to be replaced.

Mrs. See then asked about claim #29823 to DECO for \$815 for HS Science lab tables. Mr. Marshall said they were for table tops. Mrs. See asked if these were tables that the students used. He said they were.

Mr. Ranz asked about claim # 29829 for \$38.48 to Lisa Fisher for travel reimbursement for Varsity game and IU game. Mrs. Geyman said this was for the cheerleaders. Mr. Ranz wanted to know if personal vehicles were used. Mr. Caddell said that the issue had been addressed, but that he was correct. Personal vehicles were used.

Mr. Ranz then asked why we had paid King's Daughters Hospital \$170 for chest X-rays for a cafeteria worker in claim #29853. Mrs. Geyman explained that this individual could not take a required hepatitis shot due to a previous adverse reaction, so she needed to have the alternative chest X-ray. Mr. Ranz wanted to know how often this was required. Mrs. Geyman said that it was a yearly requirement.

Mrs. Swango asked about claim #29790 for \$1905.69 to Master Card. She said she was just curious as to why these things were paid in this way instead of using a purchase order. Mr. Caddell said that it just depended on the situation. Sometimes, things are needed right away, and could not be postponed. Mrs. Geyman said that a purchase order was always filled out, but she could get some items at a much better price if they were ordered on-line and charged to a credit card.

Mr. Truitt asked about claim #29869 to Oriental Trading for JC and SCES music supplies for \$365.32. Mr. Caddell said this was for items used in their Christmas music programs. Mrs. Swango asked if we charged the students for these items. Mrs. Geyman said these items were covered in the book fees.

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Claim #29838 to Christy Hewitt for tennis balls in the amount of \$52.40 was also questioned by Mr. Truitt. Mrs. Geyman said that half of a tennis ball was put on the bottom of each chair leg in order to prevent the new tile from getting damaged and to keep down the noise when students scooted the chairs on the floor.

The vote to approve the claims as submitted was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ranz presented pins to each of the attending students nominated by their schools for the Celebrating Success award this month. They are as follows:

MS: Rachel Gurley, nominated by Jon Maxwell.

HS: Matt Wegman, nominated by Greg Curlin.

SCES: Keegan Kincaid, Chelsea Duvall, Olivia Hewitt, Lori Ann Lozier, Devon Chase, Billy Nierlich, Summer Sabath, and Shelby Auxier, nominated by Tammy Gregory.

JC: Jefferson Craig's nominated student was unable to attend this meeting. His nomination will be re-submitted at next month's meeting.

Three requests were presented to the board for consideration to be taken to the Endowment Committee for approval.

Mr. Caddell recommended that the board table the request for defibrillators as requested by Head Nurse, Carolyn Sears. Mrs. Sears is checking into the possibility of obtaining grant money to purchase them. Mrs. Swango motioned to table the request. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Roberts, the board voted unanimously to approve a \$6,000 request from Mrs. Ely for two laptops for the teaching staff of Switzerland County Elementary as loaners for the staff to check out and take home to work on grades or to prepare for and make presentations at other school corporations. Mr. Cole said that he was all for the idea, but that he remembered that about 10 months ago, there was another request for laptops and if they were the same ones needing to be replaced, there needed to be some stricter controls on their use. Mrs. Geyman said that a similar request had been submitted by Mr. Hansel for Jefferson-Craig, so they were not the same laptops.

Mrs. See moved to table the \$5,915.34 request for Middle School library furniture, with Mrs. Swango seconding. The vote was unanimous. Mrs. See said she felt some of the

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prices for the things presented were too high, and that a complete itemized list needed to be included with the information.

High School Science teacher, Bonnie Fancher, was presented with a \$1000 Teacher Innovation Award by Steve Crabtree, on behalf of the Dow Corning Foundation. Mrs. Fancher's application was considered the best of more than 70 received by the company. Her monetary award was presented in the hopes that it would facilitate continued work on watershed sampling and analysis. Mr. Truitt made a motion to accept the donation as presented, with Mr. Cole seconding. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Roberts moved to approve the mid-term graduation requests from Carla Seal and Shelby Poling. Mrs. See seconded the motion. The vote was as follows. AYES: Ranz, Roberts, See, Swango, Truitt, Cole. ABSTAIN: Phipps.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to adopt Core 40 as the default curriculum for all students beginning with the freshman class of 2005-2006. Mr. Cole seconded. Mr. Cole wondered if some struggling students would decide it might be easier to drop out. Mr. Caddell said that Rising Sun has this curriculum in place and has not seen an increase in their dropout rate. Mrs. Loaring said that that the G.E.D. test was a 7½ hour test. Mr. Marshall said that some students are not good test takers and that he felt a High School diploma should not depend on one test.

The board voted unanimously to approve the adoption of a new Bible Literature course as well as an Integrated Chemistry and Physics course. The motion was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve a Resolution to borrow funds from the bond bank. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Mrs. See made a motion to approve a Resolution to transfer appropriations for the end of the year budget categories as needed, within the same fund. Mr. Cole seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve a resolution to transfer money from the debt service fund to the transportation fund per state statute on a motion made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Truitt.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve LAT & L for casualty/property insurance who are the current holders of the insurance. Mrs. See seconded the motion. After some discussion, the motion was passed with a split vote. AYES: Ranz, See, Phipps, Swango, Cole. NAYS: Truitt, Roberts.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS :

Pat Lanman wanted to mention that if there was a conflict of interest on any vote in which the board member abstained, there needed to be a statement signed by that person.

Mr. Phipps wanted to say that he just does not believe in early graduation. This was the reason for his abstaining on the motion for mid-term graduations.

PERSONNEL:

The board unanimously approved the employment of Brooke Levell as the Alternative placement teacher. The motion was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Roberts.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the resignation of Jennifer Schlaudroff as a High School English teacher. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.

In a unanimous decision, the board approved the posting of a Secondary English position at the High School. Mr. Truitt made the motion and Mrs. See seconded.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE/FIELD TRIPS:

None.

USE OF FACILITIES:

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve four requests for use of school facilities. Mr. Roberts seconded. After some discussion and the decision to waive fees for the requests involving students, the board voted unanimously to approve all requests as follows:

-JC parking lot by Beverly Glassmeyer of Scenic Road Rallies from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. on March 19, 2005.

-SCES Cafeteria by Julie Williams for girl scouts on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m..

-JC gym for indoor soccer practice one night per week from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., starting January 1, 2005 through March 31, 2005 by coach Roy Leap.

-HS Cafeteria by Kiwanis Club on January 21, 2005 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. for a fundraiser for Key Club and Sharon Wright's Life Skills class.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (Superintendent)

Mr. Caddell announced that the Endowment Meeting was scheduled for December 21, 2005. He wanted to mention that Belterra had refused to pay for the school corporation's share of Endowment monies, pertaining to the Development Agreement, since October. The school corporation is still accepting requests, but the Endowment Committee will hold off on payments until they begin receiving payments again. Some items, we will

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pay for out of our own funds and then ask the Endowment committee to reimburse the corporation for these costs.

Mr. Caddell also announced that Switzerland County Elementary was one of eight public schools in Indiana that had been nominated to the National Blue Ribbon Program. The 2005 National No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools will be announced in the fall of 2005.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Phipps welcomed Brooke Levell to the teaching staff.

Mrs. Swango said that she was glad to hear of Switzerland's County Elementary's nomination to the Blue Ribbon program. She thought it was great and she was proud of them.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. See moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Jack Ranz, President

Andy Truitt, Vice President

Laurice See, Secretary

William Roberts, Member

James Phipps, Member

Wilma Swango, Member

Duane Cole, Member