

**SWITZERLAND CONTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JULY 18, 2005
7:30 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an executive session from 6:30 to 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 were Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Cole, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Swango and Superintendent Caddell.

Others in attendance were Mona Crabtree, Ann Geyman, Gayla Bullock, Candy Haskell, Ann Roller, Ryan Cummings, Wayne Howell, Lisa K. Rosenberger, Suzy Deacon, Kent Dunning, Derek Marshall, Darin Gullion, and Pat Lanman.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

In a motion by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mrs. Swango, the board voted unanimously to approve an amended agenda. The approved agenda included the addition of an Old Business item regarding a review of a \$1 addition to the bus driver contracts and a renewal of the YMCA contract under New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20th and July 11th meetings as submitted. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

FUND REPORT:

The board voted unanimously to approve the fund report as submitted in a motion made by Mrs. Swango and seconded by Mr. Cole. Mr. Caddell wanted to compliment Gayla Bullock for the cafeteria fund being in the black in the amount of \$22,000.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Cole moved to approve claims # 30772 through 30890 for payment as submitted. Mr. Phipps seconded. The vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

The board voted unanimously, in a motion by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Truitt, to award surplus bus bids as follows:

Bruce Hutcherson	#61	\$161.00
Bruce Hutcherson	#62	\$162.00
Bruce Hutcherson	#65	\$ 51.00
Bruce Hutcherson	#66	\$ 51.00
Bruce Hutcherson	#6	\$251.00
Wayne Howell	#89 Dodge Van	\$600.00
Weldon Norfleet	#88 Ford Van	\$110.00
Bruce Hutcherson	#88 Chevy Van	\$ 51.00
Samuel Goff	#20 (16 Pass. GMC)	\$500.00

The bids were recommended to the board by the Bid Committee which met at 2:00p.m. on the same day.

Mrs. Swango made a motion to approve the Parent Involvement Policy for the Title 1 schools, Switzerland County Elementary, and Jefferson Craig Elementary and the Corporation. Mr. Phipps seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the student handbook fee of \$15 and the PE uniform fee of \$5 at the High School which would be added to the text book rental bills under class fees. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Mr. Caddell reminded board members that each student's book rental bill is being sent to the Endowment Corporation for consideration. Mr. Marshall said that having the uniforms increased P.E. participation and cut down on theft in the locker rooms. Mrs. Swango asked if the \$5 for the handbooks was the actual cost. Mr. Marshall said that last year, the handbooks cost well over \$5 each, but he had gotten around a 22% credit due to some complaints he had with the way the company printed them. He said the High School made no money off the handbooks. The board voted unanimously to approve the fees.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board voted unanimously to approve the Milk, Bread, Trash removal, Fuel and Oil delivery and Snow removal bids as recommend to the board by the Bid Committee. The motion was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Truitt. The bids were awarded as follows:

Mr. Phipps asked about the gas clause, or lack of one, in the last contract. He asked Mr. Caddell if it was a possibility that the bus drivers could buy their gas directly from us. Mr. Caddell said that he had checked with the School Corporation's lawyer, Mr. Hocker, who indicated that this would not be a legal practice. He said that he overlooked the additional Old Business item of adding the extra dollar, and would actually like to wait until the August 15th meeting until he could check with other area superintendents to see what, if anything, they are doing for their bus drivers regarding the rise in gasoline prices. Mr. Phipps asked which vehicles were using the bio-diesel fuel. Mr. Caddell explained that the bio-diesel fuel was a soy bean based product and the thought was that it would help the local farmers, it would cut down on dependence on foreign oil, and that since it burns cleaner and more efficiently than other fuel products, it would be safer for the environment. The problem now is that it is 12 to 15 cents a gallon more expensive. He went on to say that Mr. Gullion has been working on a grant that would reduce that cost significantly, down to 4 to 6 cents a gallon difference. With this grant, we would also get our own fuel tanks. Mr. Gullion added that diesel fuel is a problem for children with asthma, so that was a big factor for looking into a grant for a cleaner burning fuel. Mr. Caddell said that one thing the corporation would have to consider is that if we got the grant, we would not need to purchase the regular diesel fuel. The company awarded that bid might not want to deliver the 87 cetane and the 89 octane. He said if that were the case, the corporation could buy them from the other bidding company at a higher price, but that we wouldn't need big quantities. Mr. Gullion said that we should know something by the end of the month. Mrs. Swango asked if the vendors understood that we've accepted their bids in this way. Mr. Caddell said that it would be explained to them. Mrs. Swango expressed concern over the legality of breaking up the bids. Mr. Hocker said that with supply bids, the specification estimates sent to the vendors is based on past history and is sent to them for their advisement, but does not obligate the school corporation to purchase certain quantities from them. He said this was true only for supply bids.

Mr. Caddell presented a Vending Machine board policy for the first reading, asking that the board take action on the policy at the August meeting. The policy is regarding the provision of healthy beverages and foods in vending machines available to the students.

There were three Endowment Requests that were presented to the board for approval. Mrs. Roller, Mrs. Fancher, and Mrs. Jones of the High School's Science and Math Departments presented itemized supply and equipment orders for their classrooms and labs in the amount of \$27,063.18. The amount would cover materials needed for existing classes as well as for a couple of new courses that are being offered this year. Mr. Cole moved to approve the request, with Mr. Truitt seconding. Mrs. Swango asked about things that might get broken. Mrs. Roller explained that they would probably be able to replace those things that might eventually get broken, but they really needed the money for equipment for the initial set up. Mrs. Swango also asked about the calculators to be used in the classrooms. She said she knew that they sometimes got stolen and asked if they were prepared to deal with that. Math teacher, Ryan Cummings said the calculators were going to be kept in the classroom and were not for individual students to home. Mrs. See asked if we hadn't just bought some of these scientific calculators. Mr. Cummings

said that he had the calculators for some of his classrooms, but was making sure that he he had enough for all of the classroom settings. The vote to approve the request was unanimous.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the request of \$6,031.00 for new carpet in the High School's administrative office, presented by Mr. Marshall. Mr. Cole seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the application for QZAB Bonds, (Qualified Zone Academy Bond Financing Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phipps. The program would allow school corporations to obtain interest free financing for the purpose of establishing "qualified zone academies". A Private Entity would donate 10%. The Endowment Corporation would qualify as this entity. The corporation's eligibility numbers for free or reduced-cost lunch program would need to be at least 35% of the participating students. Mr. Caddell said that he would like to replace the roof on the Switzerland County Elementary School building with these funds. The board voted unanimously to approve the bond application.

Mr. Caddell recommended to the board the continuation of suspension of corporal punishment for the 2005-2006 school year. Mr. Truitt made a motion to table the suspension until more data could be collected regarding the effectiveness of the alternative measures. Mrs. See seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Ayes: Truitt, See, Cole, Swango, Roberts, Ranz. Nays: Phipps.

Mr. Caddell recommended the tabling of the YMCA contract renewal until the August 15th meeting. The board voted unanimously to table the contract in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mrs. Swango.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Roger Christman asked if the board knew if he would be able to buy gas from the school corporation, since the prices were so much lower than what the bus drivers have to pay. Mr. Caddell said that, as stated before, Mr. Hocker had advised the board that this would not be a legal practice. Mr. Caddell said that perhaps Mr. Christman might contact the bidding companies himself and they might work something out. Mr. Christman said that he would certainly look into that.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. Truitt moved to accept the resignation of Larry Gault as Girls Varsity Track Coach. Mr. Phipps seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve the FMLA leave for Shirley Scott in a motion made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mrs. Swango.

Mr. Truitt made a motion to give the superintendent the authority to hire personnel to fill the Middle School English, Middle School Science, Middle School Math and Director of Health Services positions prior to the August 15th meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. See. Mr. Caddell said that he would discuss the qualifications of the individuals with board president Ranz prior to offering them a position. Mr. Cole asked if the nursing position required a Bachelor's degree in nursing and in school nursing. Mr. Caddell said a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing was needed, as mandated by the state.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

None.

USE OF FACILITIES:

A request was presented from Farm Bureau to use the High School Cafeteria for their annual District 10 meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on September 8, 2005. Mr. Phipps moved to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Roberts. The vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS (Superintendent):

Mr. Caddell announced that the next Endowment meeting would be held on July 26, 2005 at 6:30 p.m..

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mrs. Swango said that she had not heard results of the Bus Inspection and wondered about our performance. Mr. Caddell said that is was the best that we have ever done. Congratulations were given to the transportation department.

ADJOURNMENT:

The board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting, in a motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Truitt.