

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2006
7:30 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an open working session from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Switzerland County Middle School.

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

Others in attendance were Ann Geyman, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Candis Haskell, Derek Marshall, Darrell Hansel, Travis Althoff, Angie Althoff, Clay Althoff, Blake Althoff, Bill Lewis, Carole Lewis, Heather Fussnecker, Bridgett Washnock, Tabitha Arnoldy, Paula Washnock, Lisa Arnoldy, Brandon Arnoldy, David Todd, Rita Ross, Fred Ross, Morgan Ross, Scott Stewart, Tiffany Edwards, Diana L. Edwards, Mary Edwards, Shellie Fowler, Susan J. Cord, Angie Satterfield, Michael K. Berg, Carey Bennett, and Brittney Bennett.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a Use of Facilities Request by Boy Scout Troop Pack 777 for a pinewood derby race at Switzerland County Elementary School. Mrs. See seconded and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular school board meetings of December 19, 2005 and January 23, 2006 with a typographical correction to the January 23rd minutes regarding the date of next scheduled board meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Truitt with Mr. Phipps seconding.

FUND REPORT:

Mr. Cole moved to approve the fund report as submitted. Mrs. Swango seconded. The board voted unanimously to approve the report.

CLAIMS:

Claims #31834 through 31968 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole. Mrs. Swango asked about claim #31872 to Haflic Hardwood floors in the amount of \$90 for the cafeteria stage floor replacement at the High School. The amount was for the additional costs not covered by the endowment reimbursement. Mrs. Swango also asked about claim #31880 in the amount of \$125,000.00 for endowment reimbursement to the Community Foundation of Switzerland County. Mrs. Geyman explained that this was for funds that the endowment agreed to give us. There were matching funds from the Cape grant. Mr. Ranz asked about claim #31936 to NETech Corporation in the amount of \$3,971.00 for Repaired Cisco AP connectivity problems with laptops. Mr. Ranz felt like this was a high amount. Mr. Gullion said this was for Cisco. Mrs. Swango then asked to view claim #31919 to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development for unemployment benefits for January, 2006. Mrs. Geyman showed the claim to her. There being no more questions, the board then voted unanimously to approve the claims as presented.

CELEBRATE SUCCESS:

In the Celebrate Success part of the meeting, the school board recognized the nominees for each of the schools. Board President, Ranz, congratulated each student with a pin and a handshake. The nominees are as follows:

Switz. Co. High School: Morgan Ross, gr. 10, nominated by David Todd.

Jefferson Craig Elem.: Mary Edwards, gr. 7, nominated by Shellie Fowler

Switz. Co. Elem.: Clay Althoff, gr. 2, nominated by Michael Berg

Switz. Co. Middle School: Chelsey Bennett, gr. 4, nominated by Michael Berg

OLD BUSINESS:

The board voted unanimously to table a request from Kathy Williams to serve as co-sponsor of BPA along with its current sponsor, Mrs. Seaver. The position is currently vacant due to the resignation of a former employee. The motion to table the request was made by Mrs. See and seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Caddell presented information to the board regarding the band and choir programs as they related to their trip request to Hawaii in the spring of 2007. He suggested that these programs increase their performances in the community and in state and regional contests. He also suggested that their membership numbers increase. Mr. Caddell said that if these goals could not be reached, other less expensive reward/educational trips should be explored.

Mrs. See made a motion to deny the 2007 Hawaii band/choir trip request as recommended by the superintendent. Mrs. Swango seconded. Those opposing the motion were Roberts and Truitt. Those in favor were Ranz, See, Phipps, Swango and Cole.

NEW BUSINESS:

Information was presented to the board regarding declining student enrollment and the impact on the school corporation. In 2004-2005, there were 1545 students enrolled. At the beginning of the 2005-2006 year, there were 1530.5 enrolled. At the present time, the current ADM count is 1460.5. Data was presented by Mr. Gullion using bar graphs to show each school's numbers of entries, numbers and reasons for withdrawals, and where the students went after leaving the corporation. Mr. Roberts asked if anyone had compared the student enrollment in February of last year. Mr. Gullion said that he had not done that, as yet, but would try to do so and let Mr. Roberts know the results.

The school corporation's Accounting System Disaster Recovery Plan was updated on February 20, 2006. As this was the first reading, no action was taken by the board. Suggestions were made by the board to change some wording to the document which they deemed to be vague regarding the locations of the backup data. The document will be changed for the next regular meeting, at which time the board will vote on the updates.

Schmidt Associates made a presentation to the board regarding the roof project at Switzerland County Elementary School. The roof is in great need of repair. Several different types of materials were presented for the board to view, as well as the pros and cons of each type of materials, including costs and warranties. A tentative schedule for the project's bid process was also presented for the board's review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

PERSONNEL:

The board voted unanimously to approve several personnel requests in a motion by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Roberts. The requests were as follows:

- FMLA request from Dawn Ransdell for 4 to 6 weeks.
- Janet Splain, Pep Club Sponsor at the High School.
- Adam Dennis, Girls Varsity Track Coach
- Joe Creager, Girls Assistant Track Coach
- Vern Waltz, letter of retirement

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

None.

USE OF FACILITIES:

In a unanimous decision, the board approved nine applications for the use of school facilities in a motion made by Mrs. See, seconded by Mr. Truitt. They are as follows:

Donna Graham: HS gymnasium on April 8-9 for After Prom

Danny Hon: Any gyms available for 7-8 grade basketball, February through April

Kirk Works: HS Cafeteria for Republican Lincoln Day Dinner, 5pm to 9pm

Joy Briggs: HS Cafeteria for Class of '53 reunion on September 16

Joy Briggs: HS for Relay for Life on June 16th and 17th

Joy Briggs: HS Cafeteria for Alumni Luncheon on Aug. 26th from 10:30am to 4:30pm

Katie Collier: HS Cafeteria for 4-H Queen Pageant on June 16th from 5pm to 9pm

Brian Morton: HS for Vevay Police Department Training on Feb. 18th 8am to 1pm

Tim Hensley: SCES for Boy Scout Troop 777's Pinewood Derby Race on March 18th

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve the application for use of any available gym made by John Turner for softball practice for children 14 years and younger. The times given were from 5:00 to 7:00, but no specific dates were requested. Mrs. Swango seconded the motion. There was some discussion regarding concerns of accidental damages to the facilities. As it was determined that the balls used for the practices would present no real threat of damage, the board's vote to approve the request was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Caddell announced that the next regular board meeting would be held on March 20th, 2006 at the High School.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned.