

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

May 21, 2007

7:00 P.M.

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an open working session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Switzerland County Administration Building.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Mr. Truitt called the meeting to order and lead the group in the pledge to the flag.

ATTENDANCE:

Board members in attendance were Mr. Truitt, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Cole, Mr. McKay, Mrs. Swango, Mr. Waltz and Superintendent Caddell.

Others in attendance were Melissa May, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Michael Stearns, Nancy A. Stearns, Rachel L. Compton, Judy Martin, Marilyn Goodner, Rolland Goodner, Betty Chase, Rita Works, Debbie Allen, Burt Allen, Chester Meisberger, Michael Jones, Marlene Jones, Roy Boling, Janett Boling, Haley Williams, Sharon Barbour, Ruth Lohide, Rosalind Harrell, Amanda Hon, Candis Haskell, David B. Todd, Branden Roeder, Lisa Asher, Sarah Asher, Elizabeth T. Jones, Darin Gullion, Stacy Mathews, Makenzie Mathews, Jack Mathews, Susan Jill Cord, Sharon Hansel, William Darrell Hansel, Pat Lanman (Vevay Newspapers), Allie Mathews, Nancy Peters, and Gerry Peters.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting of April 23, 2007 with a correction to a motion. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Mr. McKay seconded.

FUND REPORT:

Mrs. Swango moved to table the fund report. Mr. Cole seconded. There being no further questions, the board voted unanimously to table the report.

CLAIMS:

Claims #33909 through #34038 were presented for approval in a motion made by Mr. Waltz, seconded by Mr. Cole. There being no further discussion, the board voted unanimously to approve the claims as submitted.

CELEBRATE SUCCESS:

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

Jefferson Craig Elem.: Makenzie Mathews, gr. 3, nominated by Mrs. Downing
Switz. Co. Elem.: Tess Stoops, gr. 5, nominated by T. Griffith, was not present.
Switz. Co. Middle School: Susan Asher, gr. 8, nominated by Branden Roeder
Switz. Co. High School: Amanda Hon, gr. 12, nominated by Rosalind Harrell

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Endowment Requests were presented for the board's approval:

Mr. Roberts moved to approve a request for \$20,135 from Myron Browning and Elizabeth Jones for the replacement of the hot water heater at SCES. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve sending a request from Mrs. Stearns for \$20,756 to the Endowment for the replacement of the stairway at the Middle School. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve the request with Mr. McKay seconding. Mrs. Swango asked if there was another option besides carpet on the stairs. Mrs. Stearns said that the carpet was actually on the walls, but the stairs themselves had Terrazzo. She said they were trying to match the existing carpets as much as possible.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the Endowment Request of \$8,600 from Mrs. Stearns for new trophy cases for the Middle School. The old ones are completely full and in need of repair. Mrs. Stearns said the cases would also be used to display student projects. Mr. McKay seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

Dr. Jones submitted an Endowment Request for \$43,731 for the replacement of exterior windows at Switzerland County Elementary School with better quality, energy efficient windows. Mr. Waltz moved to approve the request. Mr. McKay seconded. The board's vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Waltz to approve the request from Dr. Jones for the amount of \$5,731 for new shelving units for the proper storage of textbooks at Switzerland County Elementary School, as well as a new camera for taking

pictures to send to the newspaper office and Child Protective Services. The board voted unanimously to approve sending the request on to the Endowment Committee for approval.

Mrs. Swango moved to approve each school's 2007-2008 improvement plans as presented. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve the annual Letter of Agreement for the School Nutrition Program. Mr. Roberts made the motion to approve the agreement, with Mr. Cole seconding.

Mr. McKay moved to approve a new application form submitted by Mr. Caddell which had additional questions regarding the applicants' involvement in any past or present criminal litigation. Mr. Cole seconded the motion. Mrs. Swango questioned the wording on one of the questions. Mr. Caddell said that he would check it, but that attorney, Ron Hocker, had reviewed and given his okay to the application. The board voted unanimously to approve the application.

The board voted unanimously to table the cancellation of some outstanding checks that were two years or older, on a list presented to them by Mr. Caddell. Mr. Caddell recommended tabling the list until more information could be gathered. Mr. McKay moved to approve tabling the list until the following month. Mr. Cole seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Judy Martin wanted to know if anyone here thought that the Superintendent was responsible for the money that had gone missing on his watch.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. Cole moved to accept the Separation Agreement with Jon Maxwell as presented. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

Mr. Waltz moved to approve the employment of David Todd as Assistant Principal / Athletic Director at the High School. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion. Mr. Todd would initially receive a 2 year contract with administrative salary and benefits. The board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Todd's new position.

Board President, Mr. Truitt, presented Mrs. Marilyn Goodner with a bell in recognition of her retirement from teaching for the Switzerland County School Corporation. Dr. Jones, Principal of Switzerland County Elementary School, said they have enjoyed Mrs. Goodner's good sense of humor and her report with the kids. Mrs. Goodner has taught for 38 years, with the last 22 years spent here in Switzerland County.

The board voted unanimously to accept several resignations from extra-curricular positions in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mrs. Swango. They are as follows:

- Tara Justice as Middle School Volleyball Coach
- Tara Justice as Middle School Spell Bowl Coach
- Tara Justice as Middle School Builder's Club leader

Mrs. Ann Geyman offered her resignation from the position as Corporation Treasurer, on May 9th, but the superintendent recommended that the board terminate her employment due to gross misconduct. Mr. Waltz moved to terminate her employment as recommended. Mr. Roberts seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Cole moved to terminate the employment of Robert Jason O'Day as an at-will employee, effective May 18, 2007. Mrs. Swango seconded the motion. Mr. O'Day performed custodial duties at the High School during his employment with the school corporation. The board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Darrell Hansel as Jefferson-Craig Elementary School Principal. Mr. Roberts made the motion to accept the resignation. Mr. McKay seconded.

Mr. Waltz made a motion to approve the employment of Darrell Hansel for the 2007-2008 school year as a part-time consultant for the school corporation, with the primary duties being Title I coordinator, elementary attendance officer, and ensuring compliance with the NCLB legislation. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve a Resolution to remove the name of former Treasurer, Ann Geyman, from the Certificate of Deposit at Friendship State Bank. Mr. McKay seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

The board unanimously approved several professional leave and field trip requests in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mrs. Swango. They are as follows:

- Kyle Weaver: Ag Workshop at Purdue – June 11-13
- K. Weaver: State FFA Convention @ Purdue – June 17-21
- K. Weaver: Region IV Ag Teachers Workshop in Detroit – June 24-27
- J. Thurnall: Student Services Summer Institute – July 23-25
- B. Bowen: IU Boys (20-25) Basketball Camp – June 30-July 1

USE OF FACILITIES:

NONE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Mr. Caddell said that he wanted to make a statement about the recent events concerning the Treasurer's actions. He said that he did take responsibility for being unaware of the misappropriated funds during the 4 and ½ years that Ann Geyman was Treasurer. He wanted to let everyone know that no programs are going to be cut as a result of her actions. He said that the corporation's April 30th bank balance of \$3,195,370 is what the corporation actually had. He went on to say that the school corporation was currently being audited and will be working closely with the State Board of Accounts to do whatever was possible to recover as much of the tax payer's dollars as possible.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Roberts wished Mrs. Goodner well in her retirement.

Mr. Waltz said that he also wanted Mrs. Goodner and Mr. Hansel to know that their participation in the school system has been appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT:

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