

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING/ BUDGET HEARING
September 10, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees held a special public meeting and budget hearing beginning at 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 led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others in attendance were Wilma Swango, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Steve Sebree, Herb Rohmann, Ruth Lohide, Kathryn Williams, Pat Lanman, Dr. Elizabeth Jones, Jill Cord and Greg Curlin.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Caddell presented two Endowment requests for approval.

The first one was for reimbursement of textbook rental and fees for the 2007-08 school year in an amount up to \$170,000. Mr. Phipps asked whether book rental and fees were paid by the cash transfer students and not the Endowment. Mr. Truitt asked how much we were reimbursed last school year.

The second one was for an emergency compressor replacement for Jefferson Craig. The low bid was Koch Mechanical in the amount of \$17,833. Mr. Cole asked whether we are changing refrigerant with the new compressor.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve both requests, seconded by Mr. Phipps. They were unanimously approved.

Mr. Caddell presented a request from Virginia Furnish of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service to offer the School Enrichment programs Project LEAD, My Pyramid with Professor Popcorn and Harassment Hurts: Gossiping, Taunting and Bullying at Jefferson Craig and Switzerland County Elementaries. Mr. McKay asked who organizes the programs. Motion to approve by Mr. Roberts, second by Mr. Cole, unanimous.

The Board unanimously approved a request from Harrison County Exceptional Learners Cooperative for special transportation services to Visually and Hearing Impaired students to Indianapolis for the 2007-08 school year. Motion by Mr. Waltz, second by Mr. Phipps. Mr. Phipps asked the number of students participating and Mr. Cole requested that the agreement dates be updated for this year.

ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING:

Mr. Truitt opened the meeting for the hearings for the Annual Budget and the Capital Projects and Transportation Bus Replacement Fund plans. He said that public comments could be made at the end of the hearing.

Mr. Caddell presented the budget for each fund reviewing appropriations, estimated revenue and cash balances. He reviewed the Capital Projects plan for each building and reported the Bus Replacement plan to purchase six additional buses since this is a contract bid year and the corporation may have to run additional routes that were contract routes for the past four years. Wilma Swango reviewed new account numbers and object codes that begin January 2008. She stated that salaries and benefits make up approximately 89% of the budget. Mr. Roberts asked whether payment of debt for lease rental of Switzerland County Elementary could be paid early.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING BUDGET:

Pat Lanman asked whether an insurance cooperative for group health insurance is an option. Ruth Lohide asked if the enrollment is down, why is there a need to purchase six new buses. Herb Rohmann asked how students would be identified for the new state required gifted and talented and high ability programs. Kathy Williams asked whether there is a repair and replacement fund. She also asked what a self insurance fund is.

There being no more questions, President Truitt closed the time for comments and the hearings for the annual budget and Capital Projects and Bus Replacement plans.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

The Board unanimously approved for Mike Jones to attend the fall conference for Indiana Association of School Principals November 19th and 20th. Motion by Mr. Waltz, second by Mr. Cole. Mr. Cole asked whether administrators have a limit on the number of days available for professional days.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Caddell announced that there would be a Regular Meeting on September 24th which would include the Budget Adoption and that the next Endowment meeting would be on Tuesday, September 25th.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. McKay reported that the Internal Controls committee will offer a proposal on the 24th. Mr. Phipps thanked Mr. Caddell and Mrs. Swango for their detailed presentation of the 2008 budget. Mr. Waltz commented that the side bars were a welcome addition. Mr. Daugherty would like the opportunity to compare this year's numbers with last year's.

ADJOURNMENT:

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