

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
October 15, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Switzerland County Administration Building with respect to IC.5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(A) and 5-14-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(B).

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

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

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others in attendance were Melissa May, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Pat Lanman, Greg Curlin, Shain Street, Brad Street, Allyn Sizemore, Fred Sagester, John Sieglitz, Janet Splain, Nancy Stearns, Mike Stearns, Sr., Casie Campbell, Leslie Johnson, Jarrod VanWinkle, Diana Johnson, Nathaniel Christerson, Samantha Christerson, Rachael Christerson, Gerry Peters, Nancy Peters, Gary Scott, Rhonda Scott, Madeline Jordan, Helen Levell, Sheila Jordan, Jeff Jordan, Elizabeth T. Jones, and Candis Haskell.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the agenda with five additional items. Mr. Cole 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 August 20, 2007, and August 24, 2007. Mr. McKay made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Waltz seconded. Mr. Phipps asked about the timeliness of the posting of the minutes to the website. Mrs. Crabtree said she sent the minutes to Mrs. Grubbs for posting within the same week of the minutes being approved, but that they were always a month in arrears.

FUND REPORT:

Mr. McKay moved to approve the fund report as submitted. Mr. Waltz seconded. There being no further questions, the board voted unanimously to approve the report.

CLAIMS:

Claims # 34681 through 34824 and Payroll Claims for September 28 and October 12, 2007 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Waltz. The board voted unanimously to approve the claims as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Because this was the first reading, Mr. Waltz moved to table the Internal Controls Policy so that changes could be made after the board's thoughts and suggestions could be considered by the Internal Controls Policy committee, which consists of Virgil McKay, Darin Gullion, Melissa May, Wilma Swango, Travis Martin and Tracy Caddell. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion. Mr. Gullion said that he would e-mail the final draft to the board so they would have time to review the changes. Mr. McKay wanted to thank the other members of the committee for their time and efforts to make the policy the best it could be for the corporation.

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.: Madeline Jordan, gr. 5, nominated by Dr. Jones
- Switz. Co. Elem.: Samantha Christerson, gr. 4, nominated by Rhonda Scott
- Switz. Co. Middle School: Unable to attend
- Switz. Co. High School: Leslie Johnson, gr. 10, nominated by Mrs. Haskell

NEW BUSINESS:

A presentation was given by Dr. Fred Sagester from Indiana Virtual Academy of Versailles. Dr. Sagester said the goal of the Academy was to provide students with virtual educational opportunities. The cost of a credited course was \$295 per course which is facilitated by a licensed teacher. Non-credited courses are offered two days a week for six weeks. This could provide additional employment opportunities for interested Switzerland County teachers. Mr. Caddell said that it was his hope that the corporation could enter into a contract, using endowment money, to purchase credits that can be used for make-up recovery. If a student needed a few more credits to graduate that could not be worked into their schedule, this would be a good way to make it happen for them.

Mr. Brad Street of the Career Center spoke to the board about a Pre-Engineering Program in Switzerland County titled Project Lead the Way. The students would need a grade of C or better in Algebra to qualify for the program. There would also be courses for careers such as Dental Assistant that students could take. Mr. Caddell said that this was

another program that he would like to see opened up for the students of our school corporation.

Endowment Requests were presented for the board's approval.

High School Custodian, Janet Splain, presented an Endowment Request for new lights, folding tables, chair racks, and table racks for the High School at a cost of \$6,233.59 to be purchased from different vendors. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Phipps seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve a request for the Endowment Committee from the High School for outside bleachers and the necessary concrete. The bleachers were quoted at \$97,687 by the RK Company and the concrete from the Lee Company at \$11,441.50. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve, with Mr. McKay seconding.

A request was made by Janet Splain to declare three deep fryers in the High School kitchen as surplus. The equipment is considered unsafe and will be disposed of in a reasonable manner. Mr. Phipps moved to approve the request. Mr. Cole seconded. The board voted unanimously to approve the request.

Mr. Cole moved to approve a request to transfer public school records to the local Historical Society. Mr. Waltz seconded. The records consisted of 9 books of grade records from 1889 to 1935; 2 books of County Superintendent's Reports, 1890 and 1917; 2 books of School Laws, 1939 and 1946; and 1 book of Posey Financial records from 1931. The board voted unanimously to approve the request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nancy Peters thanked Mr. Phipps for questioning the process of making the minutes available to the public. She said she felt that they should be available in some kind of rough draft form after the meeting. She said that waiting for a month after the meeting, when the board could approve them was much too long for the public to have to wait to see them.

Pat Lanman mentioned that the corporation might look under Public Access of the Indiana Code book. He said he thought there was something that stated a memorandum of the meeting's proceedings should be made available after the meeting, even though it had not been board approved.

PERSONNEL:

Four employment recommendations were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. McKay. They are as follows:

- Resignation request from Brooke Levell
- ECA recommendation of Megan Lohide for gr. 6 MS cheerleading
- ECA recommendation of Steve Clark for gr. 6 MS boys basketball

- Employment of Dawn Powell for Computer Class

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

Mr. Waltz made a motion, with Mr. Cole seconding, to approve two Professional Leave/Field Trip requests. The board voted unanimously to approve the following:

- Pam Jones & Student Council to Loogootee HS on Nov. 9-11
- Casie Campbell & FCA Students to Chicago on October 18 -19

USE OF FACILITIES:

Several requests for the Use of School Facilities were unanimously approved by the board in a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole. They are as follows:

- Betty Chase- SCES Cafeteria on Nov. 22 for Thanksgiving Dinner at 11:00-?
- New Liberty Baptist Church- SCES parking lot for Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31
- Curlin- SCHS Gym for FFA Lock-In on Nov. 2, 5:30pm-6:30am.
- Waterfall Ministries- SCES Cafe. & Gym in afternoons for Drug Prev. Prog.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Caddell announced that the next school board meeting would be November 26, 2007.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Board President, Truitt, said at the last meeting he had been challenged to fill up a pop bottle with money for the African Well project and that he had done that and asked Mr. Lanman if he could get it to where it needed to be.

Mr. Waltz mentioned that he felt the approval of the Endowment Request for bleachers was great. He said that the Endowment Corporation has helped the school tremendously and that without it, the schools would not have been able to do a great many things and that we should all thank the members for their generosity.

ADJOURNMENT:

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