

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
November 26, 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 6:00 p.m. at the Switzerland County High School. Following the Executive Session, there was an Open Working Session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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. Roberts, Mr. Cole, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. McKay, Mr. Waltz, and Superintendent Caddell.

Others in attendance were Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Melissa May, Mark Lohide, John Sieglitz, Nancy Stearns, Candis Haskell, Elizabeth T. Jones, Mike Jones, Louis Bullock, Tabitha Arnoldy, Brandon Arnoldy, Richard Arnoldy, Lisa Arnoldy, Sunshine Hartwell, Nancy Peters, Gerry Peters, Tammy Gregory, Katie Lustig, Janelle Lustig, Emma Brandon, Monty Brandon, Vincent Aleman, Susan Aleman, Charlie Reynolds, Melissa Reynolds, Doug Hudson, Victoria Miller, and Ashley Miller.

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 October 15, 2007. Mr. Phipps made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Waltz seconded.

FUND REPORT:

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

CLAIMS:

Claims # 34825 through # 35030 and Payroll Claims for 10/26/2007 and 11/09/2007 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Waltz. Mr.

McKay asked about claim #34870. Treasurer, Wilma Swango, said that this claim was voided due to an incorrect amount. Mr. Phipps asked about the payroll claims. He said that he was wondering about the check numbers and why they were so different. Mrs. Swango said that the lower numbers were automatic deposit advices, while the larger numbers were actual payroll checks. 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.: Charles Reynolds, gr. 5, nominated by Mr. Gault; Mrs. Padgett Switz. Co. Elem.: Kaitlyn Lustig, gr. 2, nominated by Mrs. Gregory Switz. Co. Middle School: Ashley Miller, gr. 8, nominated by Mrs. Gault Switz. Co. High School: Brandon Arnoldy, gr. 9, nominated by Mrs. Hartwell

OLD BUSINESS:

A presentation was given regarding the Internal Controls Policy by the following committee members: Travis Martin, Melissa May, Wilma Swango, and Virgil McKay. After many of the matters of the new Policy were presented, Mrs. Swango added that she wanted to mention that other schools of this corporation's size do not have anything like this in place. She went on to say that after the State Board of Accounts reviewed the document, they wanted to know if the corporation would be willing to share the information with other schools. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the Policy, with Mr. McKay seconding. The board's vote was unanimous. Mr. Daugherty said that in speaking with other schools, he knew that the bond we had in place in the amount of \$100 thousand was right on track, as most of them are set at \$50 thousand, as ours used to be. Mr. Waltz wanted to thank all of the members of the committee for their time and hard work to make this happen. Mr. Caddell announced that he had copies of the policy if anyone would like one after the meeting and if there were not enough to go around, they could leave their name and address with Mrs. Crabtree so that a copy could be mailed to them or they could stop by the office for a copy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Endowment Requests were presented for the board's approval:

The sixth grade teachers at the Middle School requested \$8,750 for incentive trips to help students apply their new knowledge to real world experiences. Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the Endowment request. Mr. Waltz seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The principals of all four schools submitted an Endowment Request for \$10,078 to be used for tangible rewards for students' efforts in supporting the mission of the schools.

They hope to improve attendance rates and academic achievement using various methods. Mr. Cole moved to approve the request. Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Roberts seconded. The vote was unanimous.

An Endowment Request from Meagan Meadors in the amount of \$4,743 for a mini-language lab for her classroom was unanimously approved by the board in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Waltz. With this lab, the students will be able to practice independently on their pronunciation and vocabulary.

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve an Endowment Request from Darin Gullion for Interactive Presentation Managers that teachers can incorporate into their daily curriculum to help keep students focused. The amount requested for the IPM's is \$17,444.75. Mr. Cole seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve an Endowment Request in the amount of \$25,750 for mobile laptop computer labs for the Middle School and High School. Mr. Waltz seconded. In the description, it was mentioned that multiple computers would be available for checkout. Mr. Phipps wondered what that meant. Mrs. Stearns said that the laptops were on a mobile cart that the teachers would check out from the media center so they could be used by several students in a classroom at one time. The board voted unanimously to approve the request.

The board voted unanimously to approve an Endowment Request for upgraded Windows versions of Komputrol's extra-curricular software for the Middle School and High School in the amount of \$4,150. The motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Waltz and was seconded by Mr. McKay.

A comparison with other schools of pay rates for substitute teachers was presented for consideration. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve a new salary schedule for substitute teachers to begin the second semester. Mr. Cole seconded. The vote was unanimous. The new rates are as follows:

- Non-Degreed, H.S. Diploma with substitute license - \$60
- 4-yr. degree or Expired Teaching license (w/sub. lic.) - \$62
- Current Indiana Teacher's License - \$65

A contract for participation in Project Zhongwen was unanimously approved by the board in a motion by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole. The Mandarin China grant would pay for equipment and materials to be used to teach Chinese to elementary school students.

A slide-show presentation was given by FFA members, Emily Lanman, Jamie Phipps and Ariel Clark, showing monthly projects that they and other members have completed during the past year.

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve a Dow Corning Foundation grant donation of \$5000 for a new Honors Chemistry II class for lab equipment and supplies. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to accept the High Ability Services Grant from the Indiana Department of Education's Division of Exceptional Learners in the amount of \$32,166. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve the grant donation. Mr. Cole seconded.

A modification of the Facilities Request Form was tabled by the board in a unanimous decision. The motion to table the changes to the form was made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mr. Daugherty said that he felt like the proposed changes regarding the requesters insurance and liability should be discussed and re-considered next month. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve a bid for corporation property and casualty Insurance to Cole Bakes Insurance for the amount of \$83,541 for the year, beginning December 15, 2007. The coverage will be exactly as last year's coverage with the recommendation that the property values be reviewed and updated during the term of the policy. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to table the 2008-2009 calendar adoption until the following meeting, as there was a discrepancy in the proposed calendars and the calendars which the board received for review. The motion to table the calendar was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Waltz.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the appointment of the corporation's head librarian, Virginia Reeves, to the Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority (INCOLSA) board. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

In a unanimous decision, the board voted to table the approval of an agreement between the School Corporation and the Community Foundation. Motion to table the agreement was made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Phipps.

An agreement with the Indiana Virtual Academy to provide online courses to SCSC students for online credit recovery was approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Phipps.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. McKay made a motion to approve two personnel requests. Mr. Waltz seconded and the vote was unanimous. They are as follows:

- Retirement request from Donna Chambers to begin January 1, 2008

- Recommendation for a temporary teacher's contract for Sunshine Hartwell

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES/FIELD TRIPS:

Several workshops and field trips were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Phipps, seconded by Mr. Cole. They are as follows:

- A. Grubbs – HECC workshop in Indianapolis; 11/29-11/30
- W. Swango, M. May - IASBO Annual Conf. in French Lick ; 5/7-5/8, 2008
- A. Bovard, M. Jones, E. Jones – National Literary Conf. in Columbus, OH; 2/11-12, 2008
- K. Williams and P. Hewitt, - 8th gr. trip to Washington, DC; 5/7-11, 2008
- K. Temple – 2008 NCSS Great Lakes Regional in Indianapolis, IN; 2/28-29, 2008
- L. McGarvey, S. Fowler – Gifted/IDOE Formula For Success Conf.; 2/11-12, 2008

USE OF FACILITIES:

The board unanimously approved two requests for the use of corporation facilities in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Roberts. They are as follows:

- HS Cafe.- Campbell/Jesop wedding reception on Feb. 23, 2008
- HS Computer Lab – IVY Tech for January 8 through May 15, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Caddell announced that the Endowment meeting, which is usually held on Tuesdays, would be held on Wednesday, November 28th at 6:30 at the Administration Office.

Dr. Caddell said that he hoped to be able to make an announcement during this meeting regarding his acceptance of another position, but that he would not know anything until the end of the week. He said that he would let staff and board members know as soon as he knew something.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

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