

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

December 17, 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 Administration Building with respect to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6(b)(5), followed by an Open Working Session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to discuss trimester schedules and non-certified /administrative salary increases.

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, Pat Lanman, Amber Reed, Debbie Graybill, Donna Chambers, Tom Chambers, Elizabeth Jones, Beverly Curlin, Judy Kinne, Leon Kinne, Adeli Kinne, Audrey Kinne, Steve Kinne, Brook Williams, Renda Mills, Nancy Stearns, Michael Jones, Richard Hale, Jennifer Hale, Dan Hart, Isaac Hart, Trina Hart, Melody Smith, Mike Rider, Sheila Gault, Denise Loaring, Tifanie Rider, Janet Hendricks, and Candis Haskell.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a recommendation for an interim Superintendent and the acceptance of a \$1000 donation, and the recommendation to table the Trimester Scheduling, and the withdrawal of item #I-7, as it was a duplication of a preceding item. 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 November 26th and the special meeting of December 06, 2007. Mr. Cole made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McKay seconded.

FUND REPORT:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the fund report as submitted. Mr. McKay seconded. Mr. Caddell pointed out that the Endowment had not been charged for the textbooks, yet, but that would be done soon, and the Cafeteria fund had not yet been reimbursed from the

state. There being no further questions, the board voted unanimously to approve the report.

CLAIMS:

Claims # 35031 through 35167 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mr. McKay. Mr. Truitt said the description in claim #35118 listed the ice machine at Jefferson Craig as being replaced for \$700, which he felt was extremely low. Mrs. Swango looked and said that it was actually for replacement parts for the existing ice machine. 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.: Adeli Kinne, gr. 5, nominated by Konna Padgett

Switz. Co. Elem.: Jaclyn Hart, gr. 5, nominated by Travis Griffith

Switz. Co. Middle School: Brook Williams, gr. 8, nominated by Sheila Gault

Switz. Co. High School: Tifanie Rider, gr. 12, nominated by Janet Hendricks

OLD BUSINESS:

The board unanimously approved an Endowment Fund Agreement. Mr. Cole made the motion to approve the agreement which was seconded by Mr. Phipps. The agreement makes sure the school corporation receives the funds to which it is entitled if the Endowment Corporation dissolves.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Use of Facilities form as submitted with two additional items concerning issues of insurance. Mr. McKay seconded. There was discussion concerning the intention of the two additions and what might be best for the corporation. Dr. Caddell mentioned that even if the form were approved, and an organization could not provide proof of insurance, the board could always approve the request on an individual basis. The board voted unanimously to approve the revised form.

In a unanimous decision, the board voted to approve the 2008-2009 calendar as presented. The motion to approve the calendar was made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Cole. The first day for staff is set for August 14, 2008; Spring Break will be from March 23-27, 2008; the last day for students is scheduled for May 29, with graduation on June 7, 2008. All of these dates, as usual, will depend on whether any days must be made up due to weather or other circumstances causing school closings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Endowment Requests were presented for the board's approval.

Myron Browning submitted an Endowment Request for the repair and/or replacement of heat pumps at Switzerland County Elementary School. The board voted to approve the request unanimously in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Waltz.

The Jefferson Craig Elementary Staff members submitted a request for the Endowment for the replacement of desks, chairs, shelves, and other equipment at a total cost of \$31,796.80. Dr. Jones felt like their equipment was so antiquated that it definitely needed replacing and pointed out to board members that if they decided to build a new school, all of that equipment could be transported to the new facility.

The board voted unanimously to approve designating Maverick Sales Solutions, Inc. as its agent for contractual purposes in regards to natural gas discussions and decisions. The motion to approve this agent designation was made by Mr. Daugherty and was seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to accept the midterm graduate requests from Alixandra Shank-Mulligan, Amberly Biddle, and Alicia Peelman. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve a 2 ½ percent raise for administrators and non-certified personnel across the board. In the same motion, Mr. Phipps nominated Wayne Daugherty, Duane Cole, and Bill Roberts to serve on a committee with treasurer, Wilma Swango, to study a non-certified salary schedule and bring recommendations to the board to be approved, no later than July 1, 2008, with the non-certified and administrative pay increases retro-active to July 1, 2007. Mr. McKay seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

The board unanimously approved a resolution to adjust the financial report in order to reconcile the bank ledger with the fund report. The total amount of the adjustment is \$9,221.01, with the breakdown as follows: General Fund (47.5%)-\$4379.97; Debt Service (19.8%)-\$1825.76; Capital Projects (8.5%)-\$783.79; Transportation Operating (13.7%)-\$1263.28; Transportation Bus Replacement (10.5%)-\$968.21. The motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. McKay and seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve an Indiana Bond Bank Resolution. Mr. McKay seconded. The board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve a Year End Resolution as presented. Mr. Waltz made the motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Roberts seconded. The passing of this resolution allows the corporation to transfer funds from one major budget classification to another within the same budgeted funds.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to table a bus bid document until a meeting to be held on January 2, 2008. The motion was seconded by Mr. Waltz. The cause for hesitancy on the part of some board members to go ahead and approve the document was item #5

regarding the age of the buses. The document would add two more years to the age of the bus. Without the change, the corporation would see a 10% to 15% increase in cost.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Gullion said he just wanted to publicly thank Dr. Caddell for his leadership and the opportunity he's given him and the trust he had placed in him. He truly appreciated that. He also thanked the board for the trust they have placed in him.

Mr. Daugherty said that he was listening to the news today and he is hearing about all of the steroid use in sports, he thinks Dr. Caddell made a good decision to do the drug testing in school sports even though many were not happy about it at the time. He implemented it and saw it through and it was the right thing to do.

Mr. Cole said that he got on the board six years ago when Dr. Caddell was already here. He said that as a board, they said that they wanted to improve the facilities, they wanted to improve the ISTEP scores, they wanted to get the lowest possible tax rates for the citizens, they wanted to make a working environment for school employees that was resourceful and bring their pay up to state average. He said that, in his opinion, all of that has happened. Under Tracy Caddell's watch, all of those things have happened. He went on to say that he found it sad that all of those things were overlooked because of negative political overtones and comments in the media, because of one issue that happened. Yes, he said that it did happen under Tracy Caddell's watch, but it was under the board's watch too, and he thought the superintendent became a sacrificial goat, for lack of a better term. He said that Dr. Caddell maintained a very high standard of professionalism through it all and he felt like that said a whole lot about his character. Mr. Cole said that he thought this school corporation was going to miss him greatly, and he personally wanted to thank him for what he's done for this school corporation.

Mr. Waltz said that there have been some tough times together, good and bad times, and he just wished Dr. Caddell all the best in his future endeavors.

Mr. McKay said that he thought Dr. Caddell would do well wherever he was going. He said that he had only been on the board a short time, but he had witnessed quite a bit, and he was proud of him.

Dr. Caddell thanked each one of them for their comments.

PERSONNEL:

Board President, Truitt, presented retiree, Donna Chambers, with a plaque in honor of her years of service to the Food Services Department.

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the request for a FMLA from Sara Rodgers. Mrs. Roberts seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve Doctor Caddell's recommendation that the board make an addendum to Assistant Superintendent, Darin Gullion's contract, naming him as Acting Superintendent for a 6-month period, with the same benefits as the Superintendent's position with the exception of vacation days. Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the addendum. Mr. Roberts seconded.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

None.

USE OF FACILITIES:

There were three requests for the use of facilities. Two were approved and one was tabled until the January 02, 2008 meeting. The Lady Scotts Soccer team must resubmit their application for the use of the Middle School gym at the next board meeting. The two that were approved in a motion by Mr. Waltz, seconded by Mr. McKay, are as follows:

- M.S. parking lot by Scenic Road Rallies for road tour stop on 3/15/08
- SCES gym by Tom Stow for adult basketball, Dec. through March.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Caddell announced that there would be an Endowment meeting on Wednesday, instead of Tuesday, at 6:00.

He said that he also wanted to announce that there would be a special board meeting on January 2, 2008.

Dr. Caddell said that this was his last school board meeting. He said that the last few months have been not been as much fun as the first 6 years of serving as the Superintendent. He said that he sincerely appreciated the opportunity to serve the board and his community. He said that this was his hometown. He said he loved Switzerland County and the community and that even though he would be gone, his heart would always be here. He said that if there was anything he could do for the community, the board or the school corporation, he would certainly be at it's beck and call. He said, again, that he appreciated the opportunity to serve.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Board President, Truitt, said that he would like to present Dr. Caddell with a plaque on behalf of the school board. He said that he could not say a big enough Thank You for everything he's done. He said that he as far as he was concerned, it has been a rough road, but that things were going to be a lot tougher without Dr. Caddell here.

ADJOURNMENT:

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