

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

January 14, 2008

7:15 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, followed by an Open Working Session to discuss the Financial Report.

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, and Superintendent Gullion.

Others in attendance were Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Darin Gullion, Pat Lanman, Shannon Barger, Gerry Peters, Nancy Peters, Marty Galbreath, Desirae Griffin, Martina Rice, Sara Pavey, Peggy Scudder, Justin Chatham, Jackie Chatham, Ashley Thornton, Debbie Seaver, Pam Jones, Marlene Jones, Jade Dickerson, Michelle Dickerson, Randy Dickerson, Amy Bovard, Michael Jones, Kelly Roark, Dalton Roark, Dennis Roark, Virginia E. Furnish, Julie A. Furnish, Robin Furnish, Rob Furnish, Melissa Furnish, Kevin Kelly, Elizabeth Jones, Candis Haskell, Dennis Roark II, Travis Martin, Greg Curlin, Mike McClure, Mark Boggs, Mike Crussell, and Ron Galbreath.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the recommendation for Trimester scheduling and an increase for non-certified and administrative personnel. Mr. McKay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the status quo for the officers' positions. Mr. Cole seconded. The board's vote was unanimous. The status quo is as follows: Andy Truitt, President; James Phipps, Vice-President; William Roberts, Secretary.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to nominate Wilma Swango for corporation Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole. The board's vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Swango made the recommendation to the board to reappoint Melissa May for the Deputy Treasurer position with the added request that Angie Powers and Cindy Haskell

be authorized to perform Melissa's duties during her leave for child birth. Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. McKay seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve the nomination of Ron Hocker for the School Board Attorney position in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

Mr. Roberts moved to approve the recommendation of Mr. Gullion to hold the regular school board meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7:15 in the evening, with Open Working Sessions to be held from 7:00 to 7:15 before each meeting in order to receive instructions on how to read financial reports. Mr. Cole seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve the school board salaries as follows: \$112 for each regular meeting and special meeting; \$112 for each executive session that is not held prior to a regular meeting; \$62 for each committee meeting; and an annual salary of \$2000.

With a unanimous decision, the board voted to approve the bonding of school personnel in a motion made by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Roberts. They are as follows:

- Kim Stout, SCHS ECA: \$10,000
- Melody Smith, JCES ECA: \$ 5,000
- Donita Cole, SCMS ECA: \$ 5,000
- Marilyn Devers, SCES ECA:\$ 5,000
- Wilma Swango, Treasurer: \$100,000
- Melissa May, Dep. Treas.: \$ 75,000

The board voted unanimously to approve conflict of interest statements from Mr. Roberts, Mr. Cole, Mr. Daugherty, and Mr. Waltz in a motion by Mr. Cole. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion.

Mr. Cole made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. McKay as representative of the board on the School Endowment Committee. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular school board meetings of December 17, 2007 and January 02, 2008. Mr. Phipps made the motion to approve the minutes, with Mr. Daugherty seconding.

FUND REPORT:

Mr. Roberts 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 # 35168 through #35328 and Payroll Claims for 12/21/07, 12/28/07, and 01/04/08 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Cole. Mr. Cole asked about claim #35260 in the amount of \$1,368.02 for SCSC Section 125 for December Flex One reimbursements. Mrs. Swango explained that the 900 number meant that it was an employee account. 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.: Ashley Thornton, gr. 12, nominated by D. Seaver
- Switz. Co. Elem.: Justin Chatham, gr. 2, nominated by D. Archer, and J. Lanman
- Switz. Co. Middle School: Marty Galbreath, gr.7, nominated by M. Boggs
- Switz. Co. High School: Dalton Roark, Jade Dickerson, Melissa Furnish, gr. 3, nominated by Amy Bovard, and Marlene Jones.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mrs. Haskell presented a revised Trimester Scheduling proposal. She said the public meeting went very well and the public participation was good and positive. She said that there have been changes made and that there are still minor changes to be made. Most of the changes to the scheduling policy would be only one word's difference. Mr. Daugherty asked if this could be evaluated at the end of the term. Mr. Gullion said that he wanted to look at a lot of things, including the financial aspects. Mr. Roberts asked how this would affect those students attending Vocational School. Mrs. Haskell said that it would actually benefit them, as they could get their core classes in before they go and then they could take the classes they wanted to because of the extended time period. Mr. Cole wanted to know how this would affect the minimum credits needed for graduation. Mrs. Haskell said that the trimester committee would make that determination, but that one of the reasons for going to trimesters is to provide the opportunity for those students struggling in some classes to retake them, so they will increase the number of credits, but not to the degree that this would be a hindrance. Mr. Roberts said that he wanted to make sure that the elementary schools would not be affected as far as the staff's time spent with the students. Mrs. Haskell said that they have looked at this, and they may be affected in a very small way, but that they tried to utilize the staff the same way as they are being used right now. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the Trimester scheduling policy for the 2008-2009 school year. Mr. Phipps seconded. The policy was approved by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Gullion explained that it was customary to nominate the board president and secretary to the Board of Finance. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to nominate Mr. Truitt and Mr. Roberts as President and Secretary of the Board of Finance. Mr. Truitt and Mr. Roberts abstained from the vote. Phipps, Cole, Daugherty, and McKay voted to approve the nominations.

Treasurer, Wilma Swango, presented a review of the corporation's investment report and the investment policy. Mrs. Swango said that the investment policy currently being used is the same as the State's and recommended that the board continue to use this policy.

The board voted unanimously to approve Main Source Bank and Friendship State Bank as depositories for the corporation in a motion made by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

Each principal presented their school's ISTEP results to the board. At the Middle School, significant gains were made by the eighth grade. At Switzerland County Elementary, the fifth grade showed gains in Math. The third grade scores at Jefferson Craig Elementary showed them to be #1 in the State of Indiana. At the High School, the results showed that the students were either increasing their scores or holding their own.

Ron Hocker explained to the school board that the corporation was responsible for incurring the expenses for the auctioneer's services for the public auction being held to recuperate some of the monies lost by Ann Geyman's embezzlement of corporation funds. Mr. Phipps moved to approve an auction contract with Bobby Owings. Mr. Owings commission would amount to 10% of the auction's proceeds. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve the 2007-2008 contract settlement with the CTA. The contract included a 2.5% increase on the salary schedule and .5% off the salary schedule. Mr. Daugherty made the motion to approve the contract. Mr. Cole seconded.

A .5% off the salary schedule increase for non-certified personnel and administrators was unanimously approved in a motion by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Roberts. The same personnel received a 2.5% on the salary schedule increase for the 2007-2008 year in December.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nancy Peters said that she was at a meeting on Thursday regarding the Trimester scheduling. She said when she went, she was skeptical, as she did not like change, but she said that the meeting was very organized, informative, and professional. She went on to say that she was very impressed with the enthusiasm of the teachers.

PERSONNEL:

The board unanimously approved requests for a leave of absence for child birth from Michelle Mattox and from Julee Cole in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

The board voted unanimously to approve two professional leave requests in a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Phipps. The requests are as follows:

- S. Barger, C. Mattox to IHS Baseball Coaches Assoc. Clinic – Jan.17, 18 in Indianapolis
- T. Spoores, B. Roeder, B. Ford, Grigsby to HASTI Science Conf. – Feb. 7, 8 in Indianapolis

USE OF FACILITIES:

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve two requests for Use of Facilities. Mr. Phipps seconded. The board unanimously approved the requests as follows:

- JC gym: Roy Leap- Open Gym Soccer- Jan., Feb., Mar., 2008
- SCES Cafe.: Janice Meadors- Patriot Alumni Mtg./Dinner – Mar. 27, 2008, 4:00pm to 9:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Gullion announced that there would be an Endowment Meeting on January 29, 2008, at the Superintendent's Office.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Daugherty said that the meeting he attended regarding the non-certified staff positions and salaries was a positive, productive meeting and he appreciated the work that was put into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Andy Truitt, President

James Phipps, Vice President

Mr. Roberts, Secretary

Duane Cole, Member

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Virgil McKay, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member