

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

April 21, 2008

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..

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. Roberts, Mr. Cole, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Mckay, Mr. Waltz, and Superintendent Gullion.

Others in attendance were Melissa May, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Pat Lanman, Candis Haskell, Michael Jones, Nancy Stearns, Elizabeth Jones, Debbie Allen, Bert Allen, Rosiland Harrell, Denise Maxwell, Clint Anders, Amy Anders, Leah Anders, Mike Williams, Maxwell Stokes, Jill Cord, Greg Curlin, Nancy Peters, Gerry Peters, Janki Patel, Jerry Patel, Alka Patel, Madeline Gullion, Noeline Gullion, Anthony Gullion, and Zachary Gullion.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Waltz made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a Use of Facilities Request and an additional item under New Business. Mr. Cole seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The board voted to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting of March 17, 2008 with Mr. Waltz abstaining from the vote as he was absent from the meeting and all others voting to approve in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

FUND REPORT:

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

CLAIMS:

Vendor Claims #34643 through 35806 and Payroll Claims for 3/25/08 and 4/08/08 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Waltz. Claim

#’s 35640, 35641 and 35642 were voided due to printer error. 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.: Maddie Gullion, gr. 3, nominated by Sandy Jones

Switz. Co. Elem.: Leah Anders, gr. 1, nominated by Debbie Allen

Switz. Co. Middle School: Janki G. Patel, gr. 7, nominated by gr. 7 Teachers’ Team

Switz. Co. High School: Emilee Waldron, gr. , nominated by Rosalind Harrell, Eng.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the changes to the 2008-2009 High School Student Handbook. Mr. Daugherty seconded. Most of the changes made to the handbook dealt with Trimester requirements. Mr. Waltz asked when, potentially, the seniors could graduate. Mrs. Haskell said it was possible that a senior could graduate 12 weeks after school started. Mr. Cole said that he noticed that the no-drop, no-add policy was August 15th, which was the actually the first day of school. He said he was concerned for new students and special circumstances. Mrs. Haskell said that all students would be given the opportunity to change their schedules if they had legitimate grounds to do so. The vote to approve the handbook was: AYES: Roberts, Daugherty, Cole, Waltz, McKay. NAYS: Truitt

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Roberts moved, with Mr. Cole seconding, to approve an updated Graduation Requirements Policy, 5.0-1, as presented. Presently, the school corporation does not have a general diploma. Core 40 is the lowest diploma that we have. The updated policy follows the Indiana Core 40 OPT-OUT provision for students with an IEP, enabling them to obtain a General Diploma. The vote to approve the updated policy was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve an affiliation agreement concerning placement of Indiana Wesleyan University/College student teachers, practicum students or participants in the school corporation as part of their preparation for entering the teaching profession. The motion to approve the agreement was made by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Daugherty moved to pay retirement benefits to the estate of James May as presented. Mr. Roberts seconded. Mr. May had already begun the process of applying for retirement benefits at the time of his death. The board’s vote was unanimous.

Mr. Waltz moved to table the student handbooks from Jefferson-Craig Elementary, Switzerland County Elementary, and Switzerland County Middle School, as this was the first reading for each. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to table Jefferson-Craig Elementary's School Improvement Plan, as this was the first reading. Mr. Daugherty made the motion to table, while Mr. Cole seconded.

Mr. McKay moved to approve an Out of Court law settlement with Jill Cord as presented. Mr. Daugherty seconded. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Denise Maxwell said that she and her daughter, Alyssa, who is developmentally delayed, did not understand that the rules regarding the restriction of older guests attending the Jr./Sr. Prom had been changed and posted in the school lobby. Mrs. Maxwell said that because of this, Alyssa had planned on going to the dance with her date, but was unable to attend. Mrs. Maxwell said that Alyssa had been greatly disappointed by the turn of events. Mrs. Maxwell requested that in the future, any changes in school policies be made known in advance to the parents, especially those students with disabilities. She also said she would like to see policy changes that were being considered go before the public for their input.

PERSONNEL:

The board unanimously approved requests from employees regarding personnel matters in a motion by Mr. Waltz, seconded by Mr. Roberts. They are as follows:

- Resignation Request from R. Jessop from MS Spell Bowl and MS Builder's Club at the end of the 2007-2008 school year.
- Employment Resignation Request from SCES teacher, Tammy Gregory

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

The board unanimously approved a professional leave / field trip request from D. Seaver and T. Martin plus 6 students to go to a Business Professional Association's National Leadership Conference in Reno, Nevada, in a motion by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Waltz. Some of the expenses of the trip, scheduled from May 7 through May 11, will be funded with donations from organizations such as the United Fund, and Belterra, and possibly two other organizations.

USE OF FACILITIES:

Several applications for the Use of Facilities were unanimously approved by the board in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Roberts. They are as follows:

- Old Gym: Boy Scout Troop 41 for dodge-ball tournament on 5/3/08 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm by Debbie Meyer

- HS Cafe. and Old Gym: 4-H Queen Pageant on 6/27/08 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm by Katie Collier
- HS Cafe.: 1953 Class Reunion on 9/20/08 from 2:30 pm to 7:30 pm by Joy Briggs
- HS Cafe.: Vevay High School Alumni Reunion on 8/23/08 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm by Joy Briggs
- HS Cafe. Ovens: Preparations for Republican Dinner on 4/26/08 from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm by Gayla Bullock

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent Gullion announced that the next Endowment Meeting was scheduled for April 29, 2008 at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Gullion said that he would like to publicly congratulate Tammy Gregory on her new position. He said she was a fine young lady, a great teacher, and her leaving was great loss to the corporation.

Mr. Gullion also announced that there would be a Special School Board Meeting on May 5, 2008 to consider only Endowment Requests and a Regular Board Meeting on May 19, 2008.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Waltz said that he wished Tammy Gregory much success in her new employment and that he certainly could not blame her for not passing up such an opportunity.

Mr. Truitt said that he also wished Mrs. Gregory all the best and that she would be greatly missed.

Mr. Daugherty said that he would like to make honorable mention of James May who was a long time, faithful employee of the school corporation, as well as his wife, Charlene. He also expressed thanks for Mrs. Gregory’s service and said that he also felt her leaving was a great loss to the corporation.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

_____ Andy Truitt, President	_____ James Phipps, Vice President	
_____ William Roberts, Secretary	_____ Duane Cole, Member	_____ Vern Waltz, Member
_____ Wayne Daugherty, Member	_____ Virgil McKay, Member	