

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**APRIL 26, 2010 MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING**  
**4:00 P.M.**  
**SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**5:05 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 5:30 at the Switzerland County Middle School Library to discuss I.C.5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

The board members present were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mr. McKay, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Truitt and Mr. Waltz. Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Superintendent; School Board Attorney, Ron Hocker; High School Principal, Dan Noel; Assistant High School Principal/A.D., David Todd; and Aerial Clark were also in attendance.

The board discussed no subject matter in the Executive Session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

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

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board members in attendance were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Mckay, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Truitt and Mr. Waltz.

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Michael Jones, Dan Noel, Brad Bender, Donald Ball, Lowell Reynolds, Missy Reynolds, Rhonda Pennington, John Druba, Jennifer Colyer, Nancy Peters, and Gerry Peters.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Mr. McKay made a motion to approve the agenda as amended to include a recommendation of an ECA coach, and the acceptance of VSCF grant funds for a Middle School class. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting of March 15, 2010. Mrs. Moore made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Waltz seconded.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango, gave a report on the corporation's financial status. Mrs. Swango presented the board members with a Bi-Annual Financial Report from July 1 to December 31, 2009; a 2009 Summary of Receipts and Expenditures by Fund; and a Calendar Financial Report for 2009. She also presented a Community Foundation Revenue and Expenditures report regarding the CAPE Grant; and a Capital Projects Plan Report by building as requested at a previous meeting. Mrs. Swango said the property tax rates, from what the corporation was asking from tax payers, have been steadily decreasing. Mrs. Swango said the goal is that the Capital Projects Plan will be right for 2011-2012.

**CLAIMS:**

Vendor Claims #38393 through #39406 and Payroll Claims for 3/19, 4/2, and 4/16 were presented for approval in a motion by Mr. McKay and seconded by Mr. Daugherty. Mr. McKay asked why two of the payrolls were fairly comparable and one was considerably less. Mrs. Swango explained that Spring Break was during the lower payroll. The board voted unanimously to approve the claims as submitted.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Dr. Jones said at the last meeting, the board voted to allocate funds for the Traffic Safety Project. She said that \$300,000 was set aside last year for the project and that she and Wilma had worked on it with the Endowment for the rest of the funding. Dr. Jones said the question had been asked if it was needed. She said the answer was "Yes". She said building a road to go behind the schools will improve safety and fulfill the vision of the board members who originally considered the plan. Dr. Jones said this is the best possible plan for the road that can be drawn for traffic safety as well as providing a means to tie in the future bus barn, soccer practice field and possible football field. Mr. Roberts said there had been 55 years with no injury and could not see the validity of changing what already works. He said the Jefferson-Craig teachers do a great job of getting the kids where they need to be. He said he was also concerned about the safety of the Middle School students with this plan. Mr. Truitt said during the worst case scenario there probably won't be 29 cars lined up at Jefferson-Craig. He said he felt timing is going to be an issue, so will have to agree with Mr. Roberts. Mr. Waltz said he knew, too, about Middle School students not being very observant. Mr. Daugherty said he was concerned about the playground being moved and asked how much space would be lost. Mr. Ball responded that there will be a 25% loss of space. Mr. Waltz asked if there was any provision for resurfacing the High School parking lot. Mr. Ball said that could be made an alternate bid, if that is what they would be interested in for the meeting on May 3. Mr. Daugherty asked whether the project will die if the cost is prohibitive, and the bids aren't accepted. Mr. Ball said that is correct. Mr. McKay moved to approve the specs for the Traffic Safety Project with addendums to be presented at the next meeting. Mrs. Moore seconded. The vote to approve the specs with the option of addendums was

approved with the following vote: AYES: Phipps, McKay, Waltz, Daugherty, Moore.  
NAYS: Truitt, Roberts.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The 2010-2011 student handbooks were presented for the first reading. The handbooks were sent to each of the trustees via email. Elementary School Principals, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Pennington, corroborated on making a few changes to the student handbooks. Some of the changes mentioned were an added tardy and attendance policy; a statement added in response to House Bill 1367, which addresses deficiencies and remediation, saying that retention is done as a last resort after all other measures are taken; added grading scale to include new technology; and new terminology to read High Ability instead of Gifted and Talented.

Mr. Waltz made a motion to approve the designation of Dr. Scott Frede as the Indiana Insurance's Workman's Compensation doctor for the corporation. Mrs. Moore seconded and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Hocker explained that the designation was being made not necessarily for treatment, but for evaluation for insurance purposes.

Mr. McKay made a motion to table the resolution to approve an amendment for a required legislative update for Pension Protection Act and HEART Act until the teachers' union had a chance to review. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion. The vote to table the corporation's 403(b) plan amendment was unanimous.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the acceptance of \$1,050 from the Vevay Switzerland County Foundation for Mr. Jesop's students' job shadowing grant. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jennifer Collier said she believed it was not right to kick children off the bus without twenty four hours notice. She said she had no written warning and no phone call and felt like her kids are being picked on.

Lowell Reynolds said his daughter is fearful because of gang activity at the High School and felt issues related to that should be addressed.

Mr. Phipps said their comments would be taken under consideration and closed public comments.

### **PERSONNEL:**

The board unanimously approved the resignation of Richard McClellan in a motion by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. McKay. Mr. McClellan was a custodian at the High School.

Mr. Waltz moved to approve the employment of Steven Konkle as the High School Varsity Volleyball Coach for 2010-2011 as submitted by Athletic Director, David Todd. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The vote to approve the ECA position was unanimous.

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

An application from Ron Paradise to use the High School cafeteria for a wedding reception on July 24, 2010 from 2:00p.m.to 8:00p.m. was unanimously approved by the board in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. McKay. Mr. Phipps asked if Mr. Paradise was aware that alcohol was not allowed during the event.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)**

Superintendent Jones announced that a board meeting would be held on May 3, 2010. Dr. Jones also announced that the next Endowment meeting would be held on April 27, 2010.

Dr. Jones also presented the board members with the first drafts of job descriptions for non-certified employees. She said that these were open for comments and suggestions. Dr. Jones said that the certified job descriptions needed to be given to CTA President, Greg Curlin, for union approval.

**BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:**

Mr. Waltz said he did not want to forget about the sixth grade situation at Switzerland County Elementary School.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (7:10 p.m.)

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James Phipps, President

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Wayne Daugherty, Vice President

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William Roberts, Secretary

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Virgil Mckay, Member

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Tonya Moore, Member

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Andy Truitt, Member

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Vernon Waltz, Member