

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2010
EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING 5:00 P.M.
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 5:00 at the Switzerland County School Corporation's Administration Office to discuss I.C.5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

The board members present were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Truitt, Mr. McKay, Mr. Waltz and Mrs. Moore. Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Superintendent, School Board Attorney, Ron Hocker, and Matthew Hocker were also in attendance.

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

The Executive Session adjourned and the meeting was opened to the public.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Mr. Phipps called the regular meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag.

ATTENDANCE:

The board members present were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. McKay, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Truitt and Mr. Waltz.

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Matthew Hocker, Mike Jones, Dan Noel, Rhonda Pennington, David Todd, John Druba, Tony Spoores, Greg Curlin, Rahe Jean Griffin, Tom Crabtree, Theresa Crabtree, Donna Crabtree, James Crabtree, Thomas Crabtree, Frances Weaver, Rylee Hankins, Debbie Kappes, Frank Kappes, Casey Hankins, Cody Hankins, Cory Hankins, Karrie Rayls, Sean McGarvey, Jean Thurnall, Darrell Thurnall, Bre Hinman, Tracy Hinman, Mark Boggs, Missy Judy, Judy Judy, John Sieglitz, Jill Cord, Nancy Peters, Jerry Peters, Peggy Eckerty, and Kathy Williams.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

The board unanimously approved an amended agenda with the inclusion of a field trip request (item M.2.b.), and the omission of two Endowment Requests, (item I.2.b. and I.2.c), in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the school board meeting of September 13, 2010 were approved unanimously in a motion by Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

FUND REPORT:

The board voted unanimously to approve the September fund report as submitted in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Waltz. Mrs. Swango explained to the board that Federal grants are now reimbursable so they are showing up as negative numbers. She said claims are submitted and then the corporation gets reimbursed after the fact, so they will probably continue to run as negative numbers. Mrs. Swango said the Title 1 Stimulus Grant was a two-year grant, so any money that was not spent the first year, Mr. Hansel had to resubmit for approval for the second year, and the corporation is still waiting on state approval for that. Mr. McKay commented that he noticed the Textbook Rental fund was showing a positive number and that was great.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve payment for vendor claims #40025 through #40258 with the addition of a claim to Midwest Transit for a full size bus in the amount of \$71,507.00, and Payroll claims for September 17, October 1, and October 15, 2010. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion. Mrs. Swango explained that the bus from Midwest Transit was being delivered to the school on Tuesday or Wednesday and they wanted a check at the time of delivery. Mr. Phipps asked about the status of the bus that was recently damaged during an accident. Mrs. Swango said the claim had been submitted to the insurance company and is now being processed. She said the insurance adjuster had deemed the bus repairable and is having a person in the county do the repairs. Mrs. Moore said the copy of the claim she had for Midwest Transit had mini-bus written on it. Mrs. Swango apologized and said that even though the mini-bus was also on the purchase order, the claim really was just for the 66 passenger bus. The vote to approve the claims was unanimous.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS:

In the Celebrate Success part of the meeting, the school board recognized the nominees for each of the schools. Board President, Mr. Phipps, congratulated each student by shaking their hand and presenting them with a medal. The nominees are as follows:

- Jefferson Craig Elem.: Cody Hankins, nominated by Mrs. Pennington
- Switz. Co. Elem.: Rylee A. Hankins, nominated by Ms. Eckerty
- Switz. Co. Middle School: James Crabtree, nominated by Mrs. Cole
- Switz. Co. High School: Bre Hinman, nominated by Mr. Boggs

Board President Phipps called for a ten minutes recess before resuming the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

A Revised Tuition Transfer Policy, presented for first reading at the September 13, 2010 meeting, was approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Waltz. The policy reads as follows:

The Switzerland Co. School Corporation is required to provide a free education for the residents of the school district, which includes residents of Switzerland Co. The corporation is also aware that in some circumstances student/s from areas outside the corporation boundaries may have a desire to attend Switzerland Co. School Corporation. The corporation regards this as a tribute to the quality of our school system. However, any student/s not physically residing within the corporation boundaries is required to provide compensation (tuition) to the Switzerland County School Corporation. With few exceptions provided by state law, the student/s and parent/s or guardian/s must have a verifiable address and physically reside at said address within the corporation boundaries to be considered a resident of the corporation. The parent/s or guardian/s may be asked to provide documentation of said legal address/residence in the form of a utility bill, cable bill, phone bill, etc. upon request from the SCSC Board of School Trustees or their designee.

Students who are residents of Indiana and enroll prior to the Membership Enrollment date (count day) shall be permitted to attend free of charge. Transfer students who do not enroll prior to the enrollment date shall pay prorated cash transfer tuition to compensate the corporation for unpaid state aid.

Those students required to pay tuition shall pay an estimated amount based on the previous year's actual tuition. Tuition must be paid in advance. Arrangements may be made for monthly installments at the request of the parent/s or guardian/s and with the approval of SCSC Business Manager. The SCSC Business Manager will calculate the actual amount of the tuition based on School Form 515, Transfer Tuition Statement, at the end of the school year. If the actual tuition is more than the estimated tuition, bills will be sent for the amount due. If the actual tuition is less than the estimated tuition, refunds will be sent.

In the event the student/s meet/s the residency requirement after tuition has been paid, the tuition will be pro-rated on the date their residency becomes effective. This amount will be calculated based on the number of days the student/s were not a resident of SCSC compared to the actual number of days in the school year.

The first reading of an Endowment Request for athletic facility improvements was held at the August 9, 2010 regular board meeting. The request for \$5,873.00 for the painting of the softball fence was approved unanimously by the board in a motion made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Truitt.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board was presented with a first reading of an Endowment Request for \$12,700 to cover transportation costs for the annual 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.. Middle School Principal, Mr. Druba, spoke of his earnest belief that this was undoubtedly the most important field trip of a student's life. He said that everyone should have the chance to visit the Nation's Capital. He said they were also aiming to visit Gettysburg on this trip. The estimated cost per person, Mr. Druba explained, will be around \$509 per person. He said any adults going on this trip will be paying this amount. He said he felt like every student who wanted to go on this trip should get the chance to go, which is why he was asking for assistance from the Endowment. He said the cost for each student will be \$380 if the board and the Endowment approved. Mr. Druba said at this lower amount, he could make the trip happen for those who could not come up with the money. He asked the board to consider the fact that he would not be able to help those students without means who wished to go on the trip at the full amount. Mr. Phipps asked Mr. Druba if they were using the same vendor as in previous years. Mr. Druba said he had checked with other vendors and no other vendor could beat that price and their service had proven excellent in the past.

Mr. McKay moved to approve a School Safety Plan for the corporation which was presented by Mr. Todd and Mr. Spoores. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Todd said that every year, Jim Roberts from Indiana Insurance gives the schools recommendations on how to make them safer and stay in compliance with state safety standards. Mr. Todd said after he and fellow Safety Specialist for the corporation, Tony Spoores, consulted with Mrs. Swango, they came up with this proposal for the safety plan based on those recommendations as well as information they have derived from Safety Specialist meetings and suggestions from the Safety Committee.

Mr. Waltz moved to approve a 2010-2011 High Ability Grant in the amount of \$31,033.41. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The grant application was completed by High Ability Coordinator, Janet Hendricks. Once approved by the state, grant funds will be used to cover expenses directly related to providing differentiated programs or services for high ability learners such as professional development, substitute teacher payment while those coaches are attending meetings, supplies, transportation, training for the staff, and testing materials. The board voted unanimously to approve the grant.

School Improvement Plans were presented to the board for approval by each building's principal. Dr. Jones explained that every third year, major revisions were required for the School Improvement Plans, but this year was an alternate year, so only minimal revisions needed to be made. Mr. Druba said he updated his plan with current ISTEP information. He said he included information regarding the Middle School reaching AYP status for the first time since 2005, which means the school data showed improvement in 17 different categories. Mr. Druba said he had removed the sixth grade information and updated all of the teacher information for his school. Mrs. Pennington said that she had included sixth grade information and updated all teacher information in her plan. She said Jefferson-Craig was continuing all of its existing programs. Mr. Jones said Switzerland County

Elementary School said all staff and testing data were updated. One change Mr. Jones noted was that the free and reduced lunch status had changed to 65% which would qualify the school for more financial assistance, but also presented them with a greater challenge. Mr. Noel said the High School's plan was 114 pages so he put it on a disc. He said the plan was updated with 2010 test score information, graduation rates, personnel data, and workshop information. Mr. Daugherty moved to approve each of the School Improvement Plans as submitted. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mrs. Jill Cord said as a Title 1 teacher at Jefferson-Craig this year, she has had the opportunity to examine the daily schedules of all of the sixth grade students there. Based on those schedules, Mrs. Cord said it seemed to her that it would be impossible for the sixth grade students to receive 14,000 additional minutes of Language Arts or Math or any other kind of instruction as the reconfiguration plan guaranteed. Mrs. Cord said she had asked the principal ten days ago through an email how these 14,000 additional minutes were being achieved. She said as yet, she had not received a response. She said since a good deal of time, effort, and possibly money has been spent on transferring 6th graders to Jefferson-Craig for instructional purposes, she was very curious as to what type of report the school board has received on how 14,000 additional minutes of instructional time are being delivered to those students. She said she would very much appreciate the board responding to this if possible and maybe even doing the math for her on how the additional minutes were derived. Board President Phipps asked for and received verification that Mrs. Cord's question was being duly recorded.

Kathy Williams said she wanted to thank the school board for the new transportation road behind the schools. She said she had been sub bus driving for the corporation and had observed that the new traffic plan was working very well and she felt it was a much safer operation than last year.

Mr. Noel said he wanted to point out some good things that were happening at the High School. He said the Marching Band had received first place in competition at Fort Vallonia and the Flag Corps had received second place. Also, he said he was happy to have been able to go to Branson, Missouri where Mrs. Fancher was honored for being the Runner-Up National Rural Teacher of the Year. Mr. Noel said that because of Mr. Curlin, Dr. Case from the US Department of Education as well as others from FFA organizations spent most of a day going over the CASE model being taught in our High School's classroom and had expressed their enthusiasm about what was happening here and their hope that this program would continue. Mr. Noel also thanked the board for allowing a company called CMC from the Advanced Manufacturing Group to come here and give instruction to three students and one parent in the program they are running. He said two of them had already been to Indianapolis for interviews and they are being guaranteed a job within a fifty mile radius which he thought was very exciting. Mr. Noel also mentioned that due to Mr. Curlin's connections, two of our students were able to

attend the World Food Summit in Iowa. Mr. Noel said it was a credit to our teachers and our school board that all of these things are being made possible.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. Waltz moved to approve the ECA resignation from Brianne Dayadharum as a High School Junior Varsity Cheerleading coach. Mr. McKay seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board approved several ECA recommendations for the 2010-2011 school year. They are as follows with the corresponding motions and votes:

<u>Motion / Second / Vote:</u>	<u>Recommendation:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Moore / Waltz / Unanimous	Pam Yates	M.S. Builders Club Sponsor
Daugherty/Roberts/ Unanimous	Veronica Chapman	H.S. Drama Club Sponsor
Truitt / Waltz / Unanimous	Shaun Holliday	M.S. Track Assistant Coach
Moore / Waltz / Unanimous	Ashley Chase	M.S. Girls Track Coach
Truitt / Daugherty / Unanimous	Tom Stow	Gr. 6 Boys Basketball Coach
Moore / Waltz / Unanimous	Brianne Dayadharum	Gr. 6 Cheerleading Sponsor
McKay / Roberts / Unanimous	Rick Wallace	M.S. Vol. Wrestling Coach
McKay / Waltz / Unanimous	Corey Lay	Gr. 7 Boys Basketball Coach
Truitt / Roberts / Unanimous	Michelle White	H.S. Soc. Stud. Acad. Coach

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

The following Professional Leave requests were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Roberts:

- Phyllis Weaver: Indiana School Counselor Association Convention in Indianapolis, IN November 9-10, 2010
- Aaron McKim: (Plus Students Andrea Brogan & Olivia Hewitt) to World Food Summit in Des Moines, Iowa, October 13-16

The following Field Trip requests were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Waltz.:

- Shaun Holliday: 9 Student Council members to Garrett, IN, Nov.13-14, 2010
- Mark Boggs: Cross Country Team to Brown Co. for Semi-State, Oct. 23-24

USE OF FACILITIES:

The board unanimously approved several Use of Facility Requests in a motion by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mr. Truitt. They are as follows:

- Adm. Bldg. Brd. Rm.: Ron Robertson, Tues., Oct.19, 7:30a.m.-4:00p.m. for State Board of Accounts Meeting / Retiree Recognition
- SCES Parking Lot: Diane Johnson , Sat., Oct. 30, 4:30p.m.-8:00p.m. for Trunk or Treat
- SCES: Amy McAllister, PTA Pres., Sat., Nov. 20, 7:30a.m.-5:00p.m. for Summey Photography

- SCES Café.: Betty Chase, Thurs., Nov. 25, 11:a.m. to 7:00p.m. for Thanksgiving Dinner
- JCES: Connie Wallace, Tuesdays, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 2:50pm-4:45pm for Good News Club meetings
- New Bus Road: John Pritchard, Wed., Nov. 3, 4:30p.m.-11:00p.m., for Vevay Police Dept.'s Emergency Vehicle Operation Training
- SCES: Debra Turner, Tuesdays, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m. for Good News Club meetings

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Superintendent, Dr. Elizabeth Jones, said she had attended both the Jefferson-Craig Elementary Book Fair and Switzerland County Elementary School Fall Festival which were a lot of fun for the schools and were really helpful for the children. She said she wanted to take a few minutes to thank both PTA's for their assistance. Dr. Jones said this year, the elementary schools have a record high poverty rate and the PTA's have really been stepping up to the plate to help with fund raising for such things as Kids in Transition at Jefferson-Craig to help with lunches and milk for those students who don't yet qualify for food stamps, but cannot afford to pay for their meals. Also, at SCES, she said, the money raised at the fall festival goes to help buy school supplies for the students. Dr. Jones said she wanted to personally thank Switzerland County Elementary PTA President, Amy McAlister; Vice President, Laura Williams; Secretary, Melissa Stow; Treasurer, Colleen Lay, and Jefferson-Craig PTA President, Connie Brindley; Vice President, Connie Wallace; Secretary, Crystal Parham; and Treasurer, Jackie Chatham for their understanding of the needs of the elementary school children in this county.

Dr. Jones then spoke about the poverty issue. She said she receives a lot of letters, but this one was very moving to her. She said one of the 6th grade's Science projects called Edible Cells required the students to bring a vegetable or fruit to class. Dr. Jones said the teacher was confused when one of her best students failed to bring her vegetable to school. She said when the teacher expressed concern to the parent regarding the missed assignment, the mother responded with a letter which said that her husband had just been laid off and there were no groceries in the house for her child to take to school for her project. Dr. Jones said she felt that the school community needed to be aware that people in our county are in need. Dr Jones said this was a different day. She referred to a letter that she had received from Mr. Grigsby that said the highlight of the 6th grade transition experience for him was that he was able to know the students so much better. Dr. Jones said she felt this was an important factor when considering all of the students needs. She said she wanted to congratulate all of the sixth grade teachers for their increased awareness of each student's situation.

Dr. Jones said she wanted to announce that on Tuesday she would be traveling to Indianapolis to cheer on Mrs. Fancher who would be receiving the Governor's Award for Academic Excellence.

Dr. Jones said she was very proud of the Girls Cross Country Team for going to Semi-State, as well as the Band and Flag Corps for their wins in Ft. Vallonia.

Dr. Jones announced that the next Endowment meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010 and the next regular school board meeting would be held on November 15, 2010.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mrs. Moore said she wanted to remind people about a quote from Abraham Lincoln that states if you try to find the bad in someone, you will surely find it. She said if someone sets their mind to finding something bad in what the board or the administration does, then surely something will be found. Mrs. Moore expressed her concern for someone laboring on the task of finding fault with the board, the administration and the staff, especially if they are using school time and resources to do so. She said if someone did this on their own time that was fine and dandy. She said the board members were here for the good of the students and staff. Mrs. Moore also expressed concern about the amount of whispering in the back during meetings. She said at times it made it difficult for her to hear. Mrs. Moore challenged everyone to look for the good in the board members and staff so that they could help them do an even better job.

Mr. Waltz said he had heard all of the great things that are happening in each one of the schools. He challenged everyone to do a better job of publicity to let those out there in the community who are complaining about the bad things about our schools know of all of the good things that are going on.

Mr. McKay said he appreciated everyone coming to the meeting. He said he wished more people would attend so they would be better informed but did not know how this could be accomplished.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (7:35 p.m.)

James Phipps, President

Wayne Daugherty, Vice President

William Roberts, Secretary

Virgil McKay, Member

Tonya Moore, Member

Andy Truitt, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member