

March 14, 2011

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2011**

EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING	4:00 P.M.
OPEN WORKING SESSION BOARD MEETING	5:00 P.M.
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING	5:30 P.M.

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 4:00 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. Truitt, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Peters, and Mr. Phipps. Mr. Waltz was unable to attend the meeting. 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.

OPEN WORKING SESSION: (5:00 p.m.)

Mr. Hocker spoke to the board regarding letters from Mr. Ball, the Architect who oversaw the roadway project behind the schools. He said the paving of the bus lot and adding a finish surface and striping to the student parking lot were among the alternates listed on the bid sheet for the Traffic Safety Improvement Project last year. He said prices have fluctuated since last year but it should be under \$100,000. Mr. Hocker said Mr. Ball's letter indicated the initial design of the street lighting was paid for under the TSIP completed in 2010 and should cost around \$250,000. He said the layout of the lighting of the student parking lot will need to be changed since they were originally supposed to be placed in the center of the lot when it was being paved and will now have to be set around the edges. Mr. Hocker said Mr. Ball projected a cost of \$50,000 to sod the soccer field, and to add parking in front of both venues, another \$75,000 would be needed. He said the pads for those projects were constructed under the TSIP, but now fine grading and surface engineering, as well as solicitation and construction administration would be necessary. Mr. Hocker said Mr. Ball also felt he could provide a proposal for the design of new dugouts that would be attractive, functional and maintenance free for many years. He said Mr. Ball had indicated, however, this project would need a state design release and will need to conform to state drawing submittal requirements. Mr. Ball estimated the construction cost for each dugout to be \$25,000, with Mr. Ball's 9% fee estimated to be \$4500. Mr. Hocker said Mr. Ball indicated if the board wished to accept his proposal, the project would be scheduled for the 2011 summer construction period.

Dr. Jones said she wanted to have this working session in order to find out if the board was interested in moving forward with the plans for the lighting, the paving of the bus lot,

March 14, 2011

and the rest. She said if the board was interested in completing those things this year, she needed to take the projects to the Endowment the following night to get things going. She said she could ask the Endowment to cover the total cost or just part of it for now.

Mr. Truitt said he was not interested in the tennis courts. He said he was more interested in the soccer program. Mr. Truitt said he felt the lighting was needed as well as the cap on the student parking lot and the practice soccer field. He said those things were more important to take care of right now than the tennis courts. Mrs. Moore felt the tennis courts could be postponed as well. Mr. Phipps said he felt we needed to go ahead and finish the projects that were already started, such as the student parking lot, the lighting, and paving the bus lot. He said the practice soccer field and the tennis courts were also part of the original plan and felt the Endowment would be happy to help out with those projects. Mr. Truitt said he just didn't see the need for the tennis courts right now and wondered if there would be enough interest in starting a new sports program. Dr. Jones said her thought was to start teaching tennis in the Physical Education classes at the High School. She said she felt it could provide someone with a life long sport much like golf. Mr. Roberts asked how many tennis courts were in the plan. Mr. Hocker said there were two sets, making it four in the original design. Mr. Hocker explained the board would not be bound to that, but that's what was laid out in the drawing. Mr. Daugherty asked if the \$50,000 would cover putting the sod on the soccer field. Mr. Hocker said that amount would not cover the sod. He said the sod was put in as an alternate, so that amount would probably double if sod was chosen. Mr. Truitt asked if he was right in thinking changes could be made as the projects went along. Mr. Hocker said that could be done, but additional engineering costs would be incurred. Mr. Roberts said he felt like the bus lot and the student parking lot needed to be completed, but that is where he would stop. Mr. Daugherty agreed with Mr. Roberts and added that he did not see how all of those things listed could be done this summer even if the Endowment agreed on everything. Mr. Hocker said he had spoken with Mr. Ball who felt like everything could be completed by the end of the summer if the process were started right away. Mr. Daugherty said if that was the case, he felt the practice soccer field needed to be finished since that area had already been committed for that and was useless the way it was. Dr. Jones said she was hearing that there was a consensus from the board to go ahead with having Mr. Ball oversee the lighting, the student parking lot, the paving of the bus lot and the soccer field, as far as drawings. She said the practice soccer field and the tennis courts could be done at a later time.

Dr. Jones said there would be a report on the Middle School Wrestling later in the meeting but wanted Mr. Todd to express his views on expanding the sport and starting a program at the High School next year, as he had a prior commitment that evening and needed to leave. Mr. Todd said there are some valid reasons for doing this. He said he felt the upsides to starting the program at the High School level outweighed the downsides but there were some downsides. Dr. Jones asked if he meant that the downsides meant having to go to the Endowment. Mr. Todd said they would have to go to the Endowment quite a bit. He said they had no mats. He said they would have to be creative when it came to practices, as most schools had a wrestling room, and eventually he would like the school to have something like that. He said it would not be the ideal

March 14, 2011

situation to have to go into the cafeteria every time and move the tables out of the way and move them back. He said those things would just have to be figured out. He said they would definitely have to go to the Endowment for help with obtaining equipment. Mr. Daugherty asked if it was possible to move into the next level as a reserve sport. Mr. Todd said wrestling was a little different than a sport such as football. He said in football you may have a kid who is 110 lbs. playing against another who is 200 lbs., whereas in wrestling, you wrestle in weight classes. Mr. Todd said in order to participate in a sectional, the team must be in a minimum number of meets each year, and we would have to meet that minimum. Mr. Todd said there were four or five students who would be coming to the High School next year who wanted to participate, and he has also spoken with some High School students who have expressed interest in it, although they have never wrestled before which presents somewhat of a problem. He said it will just take some time to build and he didn't see anything positive coming from making those eighth graders coming over to the High School sit out a year.

Mrs. Moore asked Mr. Todd if any students had asked about tennis. Mr. Todd said he had not had any kids come to him and ask about tennis. He said personally he thinks it is a great sport and it is a relatively easy sport to have and it is very cost efficient. He said that being said, no students have approached him about starting up the sport. Mr. Noel said he just wanted to mention that if kids haven't been taught tennis in physical education classes, they are not going to go up to other kids and say let's go play tennis, especially when there are no courts in the county. Mrs. Moore said she was just trying to get the facts to see what should be done.

Mr. Truitt mentioned that the next discussion topic should be covered quickly in order to continue with the regular meeting. Dr. Jones said she was responding to a request that the topic of where the sixth grade should be housed next year be discussed after receiving the document from Educational Services last month. She said the board had heard the report and wanted to know if they wanted to respond now or if they wanted to set aside a couple of hours next month for more discussion. Mr. Truitt said he felt that was what it was going to take. Mrs. Peters concurred. Mr. Phipps said he felt it was important to get a break down of the census data before the meeting. Dr. Jones said she would get the data out to them as soon as it was available.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: (Regular Meeting)

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

ATTENDANCE:

The board members present were Mr. Truitt, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Peters and Mr. Phipps. Mr. Waltz was unable to attend.

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Matt Hocker, Ginny Reeves, Janet Hendricks, Dan Noel, Karen Noel,

March 14, 2011

Melissa Patrick, Kody Patrick, Kim Enyart, Mark Hall, Keli Gabbard, Tylor Thomas, Kane Vinson, Jennifer Druba, Robert Maust, Lesa McGarvey, Christina Grenat, John Druba, Darrell Mahoney, Scott Woodward, Shona Thomas, Cassandra Woodward, Dalton Woodward, Tony Spoore, Steve Sebree, Rita Sebree, David Todd, Travis Griffith, Kinsley Griffith, Rick Wallace, Connie Wallace, Jackie Washnock, Cody Wallace, Mike Jones and Greg Curlin.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

The board unanimously approved the agenda with the inclusion of a Non-Certified position resignation and the employment of a Grounds Coordinator under Personnel and the withdrawal of two Professional Leave requests. The motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mrs. Moore.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2011 with changes to the wording in the paragraph under New Business. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

FUND REPORT:

The board voted unanimously to approve the January Fund report as submitted in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mrs. Swango said she hoped to have February and March's fund report available for the board meeting in April since it will not be held a week earlier as has been the case for this meeting as well as the previous meeting.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the Vendor Claims #40813 through #40938, as well as an additional claim to Dream Woodworks for \$720.00 and Payroll Claims for 02/18/2011 and 03/04/2011. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. Mrs. Swango asked to approve the additional claim due to not receiving it before the board packets went out because it was an early board meeting and it was a local vendor. Mr. Truitt asked what it was. Mrs. Swango said the doors under the stage at the High School which is used for storage needed repair, but when the vendor came in, it was decided they weren't really worth the repair work, so he agreed to replace the doors at the same cost. Mrs. Peters asked about claim# 40896 to J&L Electric, Inc. for \$6,800. Mrs. Swango said each year there is a person from the insurance company that inspects the buildings and after this inspection, the recommendation was made to replace the old Gym's electrical panel and noted that it was something that needed to be done in order to be compliant. Mrs. Peters also asked about Claim #40903 to Lyrics Alive, Inc for \$1500.00. Mrs. Swango said this was a company that came to Jefferson-Craig and put on educational performances for the kids for testing and remediation purposes. Mrs. Peters asked if the performance was for all

March 14, 2011

students at that building. Mrs. Swango said it was only for the sixth grade. The board's 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 Truitt presented each student with a medallion and a congratulatory handshake for their achievements. The nominees are as follows:

Jefferson-Craig Elem.: Peter Isfort, gr. 6, nominated by Mr. Maust

Switz. Co. Elem.: Kinsley Griffith, gr. 4, nominated by Ms. Druba

Switz. Co. Middle School: Kane Vinson / Mark Hall, gr. 8, nominated by Mr. Spoores

Switz. Co. High School: Kody Patrick, gr.11, nominated by Mrs. Hansel

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board unanimously approved the mid term graduation of Jessica Douglass in a motion by Mrs. Moore and seconded by Mr. Roberts.

Mrs. Moore moved to approve the 2011-2014 On-Line Technology Plan as submitted. Mr. Roberts seconded. Technology Coordinator, John Sieglitz, explained that the state required the corporation's Technology Plan to be updated every three years and needed to be submitted before April 15, 2011. Dr. Jones said it was not a policy change or anything. Dr. Jones said it was basically an update on the corporations technology goals and strategies for the next three years. Mr. Phipps asked why the corporation was using Facebook as a social media. Mr. Sieglitz said this seemed to be a hot item right now and one of the reasons for starting our own home page on Facebook is to beat someone else to it. He said someone else could start a home page, using the corporation's name, and put anything they wanted on it. Mr. Sieglitz said it was extremely popular with students as well as parents. Mr. Todd said they have found it very useful at the High School in gathering information for different things. Mr. Phipps asked how successful we were at the website. Mr. Sieglitz said he did not have information on how many hits we get, but he could certainly get the information. Mr. Phipps said this comes up from time to time and it would be nice to put out a survey on line and have people respond that way versus coming to a board meeting. Mr. Sieglitz said that could be done. Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Truitt, and Mrs. Moore voted to approve the plan. Mr. Phipps abstained.

The board voted unanimously to approve a 3/14/2011 Vending Machines Resolution in a motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Peters. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS there is a vending machine located in the lobby of Switzerland County High School,

WHEREAS the machine is the responsibility of the Athletic Department,

WHEREAS the machine is serviced and maintained by an outside vendor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the proceeds from the vending machine go to the Extra

March 14, 2011

Curricular Account for the Athletic Department of the Switzerland County High School.

WHEREAS there is a candy vending machine located in the lobby of Switzerland County Middle School,

WHEREAS the machine is the responsibility of the Athletic Department,

WHEREAS the machine is serviced and maintained by an outside vendor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the proceeds from the candy vending machine go to the Extra Curricular Account for the Athletic Department of the Switzerland County Middle School.

WHEREAS there is a water vending machine located in the lobby of Switzerland County Middle School,

WHEREAS the machine is the responsibility of the Custodial Staff,

WHEREAS the machine is serviced and maintained by the Custodial Staff,

BE IT RESOLVED that the proceeds from the water vending machine go to the General Extra Curricular Account of the Switzerland County Middle School.

Approved this 14th day of March, 2011.

Three Endowment Requests were presented to the board for approval by Technology Coordinator, John Sieglitz. The board unanimously approved the requests in a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mrs. Peters. They are as follows:

- \$16,387.23 for the replacement of keyless entry system at the High School
- \$31,758.19 for new DVR's and outdoor PTZ cameras and replacements for the High School, Middle School, and Jefferson-Craig
- \$19,183.34 for the replacement of 9 cameras and the addition of 5 cameras to problem areas at the High School

A Wrestling report was submitted by Middle School Athletic Director, Tony Spoores, and Coach, Rick Wallace. The main purpose of the report was to present evidence for the board to decide whether it would be feasible for the sport to be continued on at the High School level. Mr. Spoores said he had no idea what to expect from this sport going in, but he was very pleased with how it had all unfolded. Shannon Vinson said she appreciated the opportunity for her son to participate in the sport this year. She said she was very proud of him as well as all of the kids involved. Ms. Vinson said the kids performed well and she was very proud of all of them. She said she hoped the board would give the kids the opportunity to continue in Wrestling at the High School. Keli Gabbard said this sport was important for kids such as her son because everybody has a chance to participate. She said in basketball, the student might sit on the bench the entire season, but with this sport, each child would have a chance to participate and improve himself. Shona Thomas said she hoped the board would do whatever was necessary in making this a High School sport because in this sport, there are no losers, there are only wrestlers and learners. She said there were over thirty kids now participating in Little League Wrestling that would love the chance to do this. Mrs. Thomas said these kids have learned self-discipline, mental toughness, dedication, equality and a host of other skills that will serve them well in any walk of life. She said she has seen tremendous change in her son since finding this sport. She said he has an incentive now to keep his grades up and it has also been a great thing for his health. Coach Wallace thanked the

March 14, 2011

school board for the chance to work with these boys at the Middle School and said it has been an honor to work with them and see how they have come out of their shells. He said they have gained the self confidence to know they can handle what is dealt to them and to know that if they work hard, they will succeed. He said they have also learned some life lessons through interpersonal relationships with the other kids.

Mr. Truitt said the board did not have a problem with Wrestling program being expanded to the High School level. Mr. Daugherty asked if it would be appropriate to go ahead and give them the okay so they could get started. Dr. Jones said she just wanted to get their opinion tonight because nothing had been put on this agenda and there would be other steps that would need to be done. Mr. Phipps suggested having things ready for the next meeting. Mr. Todd said there would have to be a coach recommendation with eventual CTA approval and Endowment requests for mats and uniforms and all of that would be hard to put together for the next meeting. He said he would work on it and try to have something ready for the next meeting.

Mr. Truitt interrupted the regular meeting and called to order a public hearing regarding the High School's PL221-Academic Probation Category.

- *Mr. Noel presented a four year School Improvement Plan for Student Growth. Mr. Noel said this was an ongoing process. Some of the points Mr. Noel said would be addressed are as follows: more work needs to be done for differentiation of instruction to reduce the major gap between special education students and general education students; groundwork with McREL will continue; methods to enhance student achievement will be explored to reduce the gap between paid lunch students and free and reduced students; implementation of research based strategies for teaching reading across the curriculum; Math Matters Project Based Learning fully implemented by all math teachers; and emphasis on Algebra I; additional efforts in Visual literacy at every grade level; continuation of Alternative School to improve the drop out rate; return to the 7 period day; offering of remediation class for English 9 and two sections of Math remediation; offering of credit recovery every period; honors class for each Core subject; desktop data for every student on every teacher's computer; SAT class for English and Math for first and second semester; examine teacher quality for the subject area; implementation of Five-Step Walk-Through of Teacher's classes; and the implementation of 8 Step Process used for Turn Around Schools.*
- *Mrs. Peters asked if there would be any way to begin tracking students in Kindergarten so that principals and teachers could see the educational strands. Mr. Sieglitz said he was working on getting prices from a number of different companies to put the PSA2, ISTEP, and SAT scores into electronic format unless we wanted to key all of that in by hand. He said they would not talk to him as the Technology Director, but will only speak to the Guidance Officer in the building. Mr. Sieglitz said he and Marla Edwards and Dawn Powell may just try to key all of that in by hand as we have paper copies going back decades. Mrs. Pennington said we do have some tracking right now with STN. Mr. Noel said the corporation also had the ISIS Program and wanted to add that tracking student proficiency was very important so teachers and administrators know what to work on. Mr. Jones said that a lot of times*

March 14, 2011

the student goes home and there is no one there to help that child with his homework or even see that it is completed. Dr. Jones said in answer to Mrs. Peters question, all students are given a number called an STN which connects that child to the state. She said if that child is here one week and in Rising Sun the next, that child can still be academically tracked for 12 years, so we do have some tracking. Mrs. Moore said it was important to keep students motivated but she also worried about the teachers. She said they are wonderful and wondered how they could be kept motivated and informed about how to help students succeed as well as how proud we are of them. Mr. Noel said a teacher's success is based on the students' success so we have to provide them with the tools necessary for that. Mr. Daugherty said he just wanted to make the statement that Ben Davis was on probation as well as North Central and Lawrence North. He said something has changed. He said he did not see how a student could take English 10 before they could pass English 9. Mr. Daugherty said an Academy was talked about where a student couldn't go on to the 9th grade until he could show that he could pass the 8th grade. Mr. Druba said the state was making it very difficult to retain a student right now because each failed student counts against the school as a whole. Dr. Jones said what the state is saying is that if a student sits in a classroom for a whole year, that student should show a growth of at least 3%. Dr. Jones said the data shows that for our school corporation, the students that have not excelled are not the low students which we have worked very hard with but the average student. She said even our top kids did not excel to expectation. She said she wanted our top students to go to top colleges and they aren't able to do that unless they excel and do well on the SAT and ACT. Mr. Phipps said Mr. Jones had mentioned this but he wanted to say again that education starts at home. He said we could do everything in the world while they were in school, but if there is no parent involvement, it's all for nothing so that needs to be worked on. Mr. Phipps said the board struggles sometimes with professional development and records are kept about who is going where and how many times. He said that professional development was very important to him where he works and he would applaud any efforts along those lines. Mr. Phipps said he would like to be fed this type of information all year, every couple of months, not just once a year. Mrs. Peters made the comment that she agrees with getting parental involvement but with the after school program that she is involved with, they offer free meals and that type of thing and only one parent showed up the first night, so she doesn't know how the connection is going to be made.

- *There being no other public testimony, Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn the public hearing. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.*

The regular meeting resumed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

PERSONNEL:

The board voted unanimously to approve the following ECA recommendations in a motion made by Mr. Phipps and seconded by Mr. Daugherty:

March 14, 2011

- Angela Grubbs – HS Assistant Track Coach
- Jeff Mullins – Girls Varsity Soccer Assistant
- Natalie Wheeler / Kodi Thayer – Volunteer HS Softball Assistants
- Casie Jesop / Vickie Bear – Volunteer Track Assistants

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the recommendation of Randy Davis for the position of Grounds Keeper. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion on the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the resignation of Melissa Reynolds from her non-certified position as submitted. Mr. Daugherty seconded and the vote was unanimous.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve a BPA field trip requested by Business teachers, Seaver and Thayer for 4 students to attend a National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., May 3 or 4 through May 9, 2011 providing the funds are available. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

USE OF FACILITIES:

The board unanimously approved two requests to use school facilities in a motion by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Moore. They are as follows:

- Old Gym: Funeral Services for L.W. Sullivan, requested by Pat Lanman, for 3/06/11 (retroactive approval)
- JC: Requested by C. Wallace for Good News Club meetings, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 5/3, & 5/10, from 2:50 to 4:45p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Dr. Jones announced that the next Endowment Meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 and the next regular board meeting would be held on April 18, 2011.

Dr. Jones said she wanted to speak a few moments about the Evidence Based State Behavior Model which was inquired about at the last meeting. She said that each school corporation was required to have a plan in place and July, 2011 is the date that is being targeted. Basically, Dr. Jones explained, this is the HEA-1419 which has seven areas that need to be in the plan. She said there were several things that are being done to improve the safety in our schools. She said we have an Alternative School which is helping us keep the kids in school and graduate rather than expelling them and sending them home. She said it was grant funded and hoped to continue with that another year. She said we are using NovaNet plus a licensed teacher and said it has been very successful. Dr. Jones said the NovaNet will be very key in the way the school operates in the future. Dr. Jones said the state says we should have a 90% graduation rate. She said that means we can only lose ten students over four years from 100 in a Freshman class. She said we have implemented a Credit Recovery class which is helping to ensure a student can pick up the credits they have missed out on in order to graduate. Dr. Jones said we have been

March 14, 2011

working on research. She said there has been a direct correlation shown between ISTEP scores and the number of suspensions and expulsions. She said those students being suspended or expelled have probably been unsuccessful in their early years. She said Switzerland County Elementary School has really been the pilot on RTI which has been very effective and why the scores were so good this year. Dr. Jones said Jefferson–Craig would have it next year. She said she the school would benefit the same way as the other school did in showing a greater amount of growth in one year. Dr. Jones said the school corporation has partnered with Community Mental Health Services to provide services to students through a grant. She said Zero tolerance is practiced in our schools. She said the corporation works with local juvenile courts and the local police and other law enforcement are very cooperative and supportive. Dr. Jones said she is working with local law enforcement to secure a Resource Officer for the High School and Middle School and to also speak with elementary students about drugs and that sort of thing. Dr. Jones said we also work with numerous organizations, such as Kings Daughters Hospital, and the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Coalition that has Elizabeth Auxier who meets with students who have been caught with cigarettes or chewing tobacco.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Daugherty said he would like to see a spreadsheet for Endowment Meetings in each board packet so all of the board members would know where we are financially.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Moore seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (8:10 p.m.)

Andy Truitt, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Tonya Moore, Secretary

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Nancy Peters, Member

James Phipps, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member