

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2011
EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING 4:00 P.M.
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 5:00 P.M.**

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

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Matt Hocker, Sheila Gault, Michael Jones, Rhonda Pennington, Dan Noel, David Todd, John Druba, John Sieglitz, Gretta Yazel Marzon, Kodi Thayer, Debbie Seaver, Paige Ridener, Chloe Griffin, Celby Kinney, Logan Todd, Greg Curlin, Aaron McKim and Paul Hewitt.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve an amended agenda to include items L3 and L4 under Professional Leave and Field Trip Requests, and M2(b), M3, M4 and M5 under Use of Facilities Applications. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve **Vendor** Claims #41672 through #41806 and **Payroll** Claims for 09/02/2011, and 09/16/2011. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Mrs. Peters asked about Claim #41744 to Cutter Landscaping for \$1,000. Mrs. Swango said a partial payment was approved for them at the last meeting and this amount was held to make sure the school was pleased with the job. Mrs. Peters also asked about claim #41790 to Southeastern Career Center for \$44,501.46. Mrs. Swango explained that each participating school in the Career Center program pays them based on their number of students and this was our part for the 4th quarter. Mrs. Moore asked about claim #41731 to Batteries & Butter for \$153.33. Mrs. Swango said the Technology Department purchased batteries for equipment. Mrs. Moore asked about claim #41750 to Enviroscape for \$1,000. Mrs. Swango said this was an amount held back for payment for Jefferson-Craig's landscaping until the job was completed to the school's satisfaction. Mrs. Peters inquired about claim #41769 to MSD of Lawrence Township for \$3,629.76. Mrs. Swango said this was tuition payment for a special needs student that we are able to count because he is a Switzerland County resident, but is attending a facility that is able to meet his specific needs. Mr. Truitt asked about claim #41736 for \$255.00 to CJ's Autoglass & More, Inc. Mrs. Swango said this was for the replacement of glass in the emergency door on Bus #25. Mr. Daugherty said he knew the mileage rate just went down and asked what we pay. Mrs. Swango said we pay the IRS rate. The board's vote to approve the claims as presented was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

Public Hearings regarding the Capital Projects Plan, Bus Replacement Plan, and 2012 Budget were held at the September 06, 2011 board meeting. The 2012 Budget estimates, as presented by Mrs. Swango, are as follows:

- General Fund: \$10,496,249.00
- Debt Service: \$ 538,176.00
- Capital Projects: \$ 2,550,499.00
- School Transportation: \$ 1,410,000.00
- School Bus Replacement: \$ 121,000.00
- Budget Total: \$15,115,924.00

The total tax rate for the 2012 Budget is 0.8107, with the individual fund tax rates being as follows:

- Debt Service Fund: 0.0844
- Capital Projects fund: 0.4167
- School Transportation: 0.2699
- School Bus Replacement Fund: 0.0397

Mr. Waltz moved to approve a Resolution to Adopt the 2012 Capital Projects Fund Plan as presented. Mrs. Moore seconded and the vote was unanimous.

A Resolution to Adopt the Year 2012 School Bus Replacement Plan was approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mrs. Peters.

Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve a Resolution of Appropriations and a Resolution for Tax Rates for the 2012 Budget. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Jones indicated to the board that other schools associated with the Career Center have either already gone to a “Balanced” Calendar or are seriously considering doing so in the future. She said the school year would begin approximately one week earlier, the first student day being August 2nd and would end later, the last student day being June 7th. She said there was one week for Fall break, one week for inter-sessions and a number of makeup days built in. Dr. Jones said there would still be 180 student days and 183 teacher days. She said she realized this would be a major adjustment for some folks, but it would be a sizeable benefit for students in the Vocational Program. Mrs. Peters asked how many students were enrolled in classes at the Vocational School. Mr. Noel said there were currently 48 students of 422 going to the Career Center. Dr. Jones said if we don’t go to this calendar next year, our kids would still need to go to the Career Center somehow during the times our school is not in session. Mr. Waltz said attendance at the Career Center is very important because there is very little homework, especially in automotive or cosmetics classes. He said if they miss school, they really miss out. Mrs. Moore asked Mr. Curlin for his thoughts on the matter who voiced concerns about the two week lapses. Mrs. Peters said she did not want to make a hasty decision about this. She said she wanted more survey feedback from people in the community as well as school personnel. After more discussion, it was decided to bring the balanced calendar back for a closer look after more information was gathered and presented to the board.

School Improvement Plans for each school were presented by the building Principals. Mr. Jones said with a mobility rate of 39% and 65% of students qualifying for free and reduced lunches, Switzerland County Elementary faces daunting educational challenges. He said along with already implemented programs, he feels scheduling and administrative changes shown to be successful in accomplishing the task are common planning time, vertical planning, Critical Friends Group, monthly building round table meetings, everyday Kindergarten, and departmentalization in fifth grade. Mrs. Pennington said the reconfiguration of Jefferson-Craig Elementary went extremely well. She said a curriculum mapping committee comprised of teachers and administrators has been established and will work to modify the curriculum guides as needed to be tailored to the needs and interests of the students. Both elementary schools will be using STAR Early Literacy and STAR Reading Assessment and STAR Math programs. Mr. Druba said the goals of the Middle School were not changed because they are working for them. He said there will be more emphasis on Language Arts. Mr. Druba said to improve their attendance rate, for each unexcused absence, a student will be assigned an after school

tutoring session to make up the missed work. Mr. Noel said at the High School, they have implemented a Character Development Program and are continuing with Credit Recovery classes and NovaNet that can be done from home which should be online and running in a couple of weeks. He said an SAT Prep Class and Pacing Guides that have been put into place should also help students achieve their goals.

Members of the Switzerland County High School Business Professionals Association gave a presentation to the board members, thanking them for recently approving grant funds to purchase a kiosk. The BPA members explained some of this school year's upcoming activities which will involve the kiosk. Classroom Teachers, Mrs. Seaver and Mrs. Thayer, were also on hand to answer any questions from the board and to convey some of the group's activities and accomplishments.

Mr. Waltz made a motion to approve the 8th Grade Class Trip to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C., April 19 through April 23rd, 2011. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board unanimously approved an Endowment Request for \$11,900.00 to help cover the cost of transportation for the Eighth Grade Class Trip in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Peters. Mr. Druba explained that each parent or volunteer on the trip would pay the full price. He said with the transportation costs being paid, each student will pay \$350, as opposed to \$500 without assistance.

Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve the Chili Supper ECA Fund Raiser for the Middle School. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Mr. Druba said this event was scheduled the same night as the Parent/Teacher Conferences with hopes of boosting parent participation. The board's vote to approve the fund raiser was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to accept the resignation of board member, Vern Waltz, from his position on the Negotiations Committee. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion. Mr. Waltz abstained from the motion while all other board members present voted to approve the resignation.

Mr. Waltz moved to appoint Nancy Peters to the Negotiations Committee. Mr. Daugherty seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to appoint the following staff in a motion by Mrs. Peters, seconded by Mrs. Moore:

- Michelle Detmer: JC – Instructional Assistant (Special Education)
- Sydney Sefton: SCES – Instructional Assistant (Special Education)

- Jennifer South: SCES – Instructional Assistant (Prime Time)
- Stephanie Adams: SCES – Title 1 Teacher

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

Two Professional Leaves and three Field Trips were approved unanimously by the board in a motion by Mrs. Peters, seconded by Mr. Waltz. They are as follows:

Professional Leaves:

- A. Findley – Indiana Library Fed. Annual Conf. in Ft. Wayne, Nov. 15-16
- P. Weaver – 2 days for National 4-H Dairy Conf. in Madison, Wisconsin, Oct. 2-6

Field Trips:

- A. McKim – 2 students (by Purdue Bus) to Global Ag. Issues Seminar in Des Moines, IA, Oct. 11-15
- Curlin/McKim – 16 students to National FFA Conv. in Indianapolis, Oct 19-22
- Weaver – 5 Ladies to National 4-H Dairy Conf. in Madison, Wisconsin, Oct.2-6

USE OF FACILITIES:

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

- HS Café by D. Griffin for Class of '51 reunion, Oct. 6, 5-10pm
- SCE by D. Turner for Good News Club, Mondays, Oct. 3 through Nov. 14, 2:30-5:30pm
- JC by C. Wallace for Good News Club, Tuesdays, Oct. 18-Nov. 22, 2:50-4:45pm
- HS Cafe by R. Lohide for Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Oct. 11, 5-9pm
- JC Café by P. Lanman for Surprise Birthday Celebration, Sept. 30, 3-4pm
- Bus Route to Hwy by J. Pritchard for Vevay Police Dpt. Training, Oct. 18, 4pm-12am

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Dr. Jones announced that the next Endowment meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 and the next regular School Board meeting would be held on Monday, October 10, 2011. She said the October school board meeting was a week earlier than usual and there would not be a meeting on the 17th.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mrs. Moore said she appreciated the hard work done by the Principals, Mr. Sieglitz and Mr. Curlin.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Waltz seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (7:40 p.m.)

Andy Truitt, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Tonya Moore, Secretary

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Nancy Peters, Member

James Phipps, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member