

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**Unofficial MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2013**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING      5:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met for a regular public meeting beginning at 5:00 P.M. at the Switzerland County Administration Office, located at 1040 W. Main Street, Vevay, Indiana.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Board President, Nancy Peters called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board members in attendance were Mrs. Peters, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Truitt, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Deck, Mrs. Hayes and Mr. Waltz.

Others in attendance were Mr. Michael L. Jones, Matthew Hocker, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Greg Curlin, Josh South, John Sieglitz, Gregg Goewert, Matthew Drake, Brooke Levell, Sally Weales, Katie Collier, LeAnn Lozier, Josh Rogers, Lance Collier, Rhea Powell, Mark Powell, Vicki Bear, Rita Sebree, Sheri Hookey, Sara Bowling, William Carpenter, Nancy Johnson, Judy Lozier, and LoriAnn Lozier.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2013 school board meeting in a motion made by Mr. Deck and seconded by Mr. Truitt.

**FUND REPORT:**

The financial report of August, 2013 was recommended for approval by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mr. Truitt. Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango, explained that some of the funds, such as Title program accounts, are showing negative amounts now because they are reimbursable federal programs that were being closed out for the year and starting again for the new year. The Board's vote to approve the report as presented was unanimous.

**CLAIMS:**

The following payroll and vendor claims were presented to the Board for approval and approved by a unanimous vote in a motion by Mr. Truitt, seconded by Mrs. Hayes:

Payroll Claims: 10/11/13

Transfer to Payroll: #45729

Prewritten Claims: #45682-#45700, #45701 - #45705;  
#45708 - #45728; and #45730-#45739

New Claims: #45740 - #45822

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Board unanimously approved a Teacher Liability Policy presented for first reading at the September 30, 2013 meeting in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Daugherty. The approved policy reads as follows:

*The Corporation shall keep in force liability insurance to cover the teacher who must use a personal or Corporation-owned vehicle, either as part of his/her teaching program or in furtherance of extra-curricular activities or other after school duties. The exact terms of such liability coverage shall be specified in the contract of insurance between the Corporation and the insurance carrier.*

*The Corporation shall keep in force general liability insurance to cover the teacher while performing his/her professional responsibilities as an employee of the Corporation. The exact terms of such liability coverage shall be specified in the contract of insurance between the Corporation and the insurance carrier.*

A Teacher Admission to Activities Policy was recommended for approval in a motion by Mr. Deck, seconded by Mr. Waltz. The policy, which was presented for first reading at the meeting of September 30, 2013, was unanimously approved by the Board as follows:

*“All teachers may attend, free of charge, all Switzerland County School sponsored school activities, including athletic events. This policy does not include meals, dinner theater, or any activities not on Switzerland County School Corporation sites.”*

The implementation of a new Corporation website, introduced at a previous meeting, was recommended for approval to the Board in a motion by Mr. Deck, seconded by Mrs. Hayes. The Board’s vote to approve the website was unanimous.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Bus Driver, Judy Lozier, was recognized by the Board for her performance in a recent situation that threatened the safety of the students on her bus when a wheel bearing caused a fire in the wheel well. The students safely exited the bus under her directions. Mrs. Lozier gave credit to the eight students on board who listened to her instructions and reacted in a calm and orderly manner. She mentioned the names of Shala Booth, Bre Bullock, Austin and Kaitlyn Stewart, Dylan, Tyler, and Kayla Ellis, and Patty Miller. Josh Hemmingway was the student who noticed the fire and informed Mrs. Lozier while waiting to enter the bus.

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve several Extra-Curricular Activities fundraisers from the FFA, Junior Class, and Jefferson-Craig Student Council. Mrs. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board's vote to approve the following fundraisers was unanimous:

- JC Stud. Council: \$1.00 Hat Day rights sales, 11/15/13; 1/17, 2/28, 4/11, & 5/16/14 for Red Ribbon Week incentives
- JC Stud. Council: Popcorn Party Classroom Competition for Food Pantry Donations, 11/18
- JC Stud. Council: Collection of donated items for military troops abroad, 11/1 – 11/11/13
- JC Stud. Council: .50 sales of Relay for Life Love Lights, 12/9-12/13, 2013
- JC Stud. Council: .50 "foot" sales for 5/31/14 Mini Relay for Life (1/2 hr.) sponsorship, 5/19-5/23/14
- FFA: Annual Fruit Sales for FFA trips & dues, 10/21/13-11/30/13
- Junior Class: Sale of Pacer Discount Cards for Prom supplies, 10/23-11/30/13

*Board President, Mrs. Peters, broke from the regular meeting in order to hold a hearing on the 2013 Capital Projects Fund Additional Appropriation and Reduction Resolution/Ordinance. She opened the hearing and asked Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango, to take the floor. Mrs. Swango explained in the hearing that the resolution was being presented in order to add \$102,000 to the Land Acquisition / Development Classification of the Capital Projects Fund and for the reduction of \$102,000 from the Building Acquisitions, Construction and Improvements Classification. Hearing no comments from the Board or public, Mrs. Peters closed the hearing and resumed the regular meeting.*

Mr. Waltz moved to approve the 2013 Capital Projects Fund Additional Appropriations and Reduction Resolution/Ordinance as presented. Mrs. Hayes seconded the motion and the Board's vote to approve was unanimous.

*Mrs. Peters broke from the regular meeting in order to hold a hearing on the Amendment of the 2013 Capital Projects Fund Plan Resolution. She opened the hearing and called on Mrs. Swango. Mrs. Swango explained that an amended resolution needed to be filed with the Department of Local Government Finance in order to allow the corporation to use the cash balance and redistribute previously approved additional appropriations for use for physical education fields for Jefferson-Craig Elementary School, Switzerland County Middle School and Switzerland County High School and for building improvements at Switzerland County High School to include plumbing upgrades and repairs to the agriculture classrooms. Mrs. Peters opened the floor for comments. Hearing none, she closed the hearing and resumed the regular meeting.*

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the 2013 Capital Projects Fund Plan Amendment Resolution as presented. Mr. Truitt seconded. The Board's vote to approve the amended resolution was unanimous.

Mrs. Hayes moved to approve the Adoption of the 2014 Budget as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The Board’s vote to approve the budget as follows was unanimous:

	Adv.	Estimated	
<u>Fund:</u>	<u>Rate:</u>	<u>Levy:</u>	<u>2014 Budget:</u>
General Fund	0%	0	11,000,000
Debt Service	.0815	370,519	547,774
Capital Projects	.4722	2,146,842	2,431,301
Transportation	.2370	1,077,460	1,382,562
Bus Replacement	.0419	190,487	211,800
Totals:	.8326	3,785,308	15,573,437

The Capital Projects Fund Plan for 2014, 2015 and 2016, was presented to the Board for approval. The total combined estimated amounts for each building’s CPF plan for each year is as follows: \$2,431,301 (2014); \$2,948,801 (2015); and \$3,392,300.55 (2016). The Board’s vote to approve the three-year CPF plan was unanimously approved by the Board as presented in a motion made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Waltz.

Mr. Truitt moved to approve the Bus Replacement Plan for 2014 as presented. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The Board’s vote to approve the plan with an amount of \$211,800 for 2014 was unanimous. The twelve year plan estimates the number of buses to be replaced each year with the estimated cost as follows:

2014 = 1	\$90,000	2020 = 3	\$270,000
2015 = 0		2021 = 2	\$184,000
2016 = 4	\$284,000	2022 = 1	\$60,000
2017 = 5	\$408,000	2023 = 0	
2018 = 1	\$57,000	2024 = 1	\$92,000
2019 = 4	\$325,000	2025 = 2	\$120,000

Mrs. Hayes moved to approve an Endowment Request for \$12,300 travel expenses for the annual eighth grade trip to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. Mr. Daugherty felt this was one of the more valuable requests the Endowment grants as all of the students are able to go if they want to and it may be the only chance they have of taking a trip like this. Mr. Waltz said he and Mr. Daugherty went on the trip last year. He felt it was very worthwhile for the students who were very well behaved and attentive and the sponsors should be commended for their part in organizing and managing the trip. The Board’s vote to approve the request was unanimous.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve an Endowment Request for \$11,349 for new Band instruments for both elementary schools. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion. The request was tabled by the Board twice after many questions arose whether this was a total for both schools or a total for only one school after the first presentation and the lack of more than one quote rather than the required three after the second presentation. The total amount being requested is \$11,349 for both schools and the additional two quotes have now been provided. There being no further questions, the Board’s vote to approve the request as presented was unanimous.

The 2013-2014 School Improvement Plans for Jefferson-Craig Elementary School, Switzerland County Elementary School, Switzerland County Middle School and Switzerland County High School were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Jones stated that a lot of work goes into these plans by ciphering through data and deciding what changes need to be made for the school's benefit as well as making sure state guidelines are met. Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve all of the plans as presented. Mr. Roberts seconded. Mrs. Peters said she had the same question for each of the schools regarding Professional Development and technology and began by asking Mr. Goewert about plans to improve technology at the High School. Mr. Goewert said every fourth Wednesday, from 2:55, after students leave, until 3:30, the technology team will meet to discuss issues, but as of right now, plans for those meetings for the whole year have not been set. He said he is inviting Mr. Cole, Mr. Sieglitz and Mrs. Grubbs to talk to teachers about some of their concerns regarding the use of lap tops. Mrs. Peters then asked about the use of technology at the elementary schools. Mr. Spoores explained that they have already had seven Professional Development meetings so far with some involving technology. He said they have had one about acuity testing, one on accelerated math, one on accelerated reading, and one about the students' usage of I-pads in the classroom. He said there have been some issues with equipment such as introducing a new reading series on the I-pads and the teachers being able to access and use all of the materials they

should have available with it. Mrs. Peters wanted to verify that every elementary school student goes to a computer lab once a week to learn keyboarding and wanted to know what grade level it started with. Mrs. Weales said in the computer labs at SCES, students have a curriculum for each grade level and must be able to do a power point presentation incorporating what they learn. She said in the first grade, students learn to copy and paste pictures into a text document and do a power point presentation on it. The computer labs start at the Kindergarten level. There being no further questions, the Board's vote to approve the School Improvement Plans as presented was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** *(Board members will take comments under advisement.)*

Katie Collier said she had come to one of the Board meetings a while ago asking how much to date has been spent or allocated for the new football program. She said she has not received an answer yet. Mr. Jones said the information was being compiled for him & asked her to give him a week to email that information to her.

Hearing nothing further, Mrs. Peters announced that public comments were closed.

**PERSONNEL:**

Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve the resignation of Jessica Rene Bowling as submitted. Mrs. Hayes seconded the motion and the Board's vote to approve was unanimous.

Mrs. Hayes moved to approve Sara Bowling to fill the Instructional Assistant position at the High School as Graduation Coach. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The Board's vote to approve the employment was unanimous.

Matthew Drake was approved by a unanimous vote from the Board to fill the Alternative School Instructional Assistant position at the High School. The motion to employ Mr. Drake was made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Roberts.

A motion was made by Mrs. Hayes to approve the employment of Sheri Hookey as a High School Math Teacher. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deck. The vote to approve the employment is as follows: Mr. Roberts abstained from the vote while all other Board members voted to approve the employment.

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mark Powell to serve as a driver for an express route for students involved in afternoon sports activities from Switzerland County Elementary School to Switzerland County High School in a motion made by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mr. Truitt.

The Board unanimously approved the following personnel to fill the corresponding Extra-Curricular Activities positions for the 2013-2014 school year in a motion made by Mrs. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Deck:

- Ryan Jesop - HS Varsity Football Coach
- Matt Levell – HS Offensive Football Coach
- Adam Pietrykowski – HS Defensive Football Coach
- Kyle Woolston – HS Archery Club Sponsor
- Matthew Jung – HS Bowling Club Sponsor
- McKenzie Wright – MS FFA Sponsor
- Devin Scudder – MS 6<sup>th</sup> Gr. Girls Basketball Coach
- Zach Stewart – MS Football Coach
- Dustin Bentz – MS Football Coach
- Dawn Ransdell – JC Spell Bowl
- Sheri Hookey – HS Key Club

Mrs. Weales was appointed chairperson of the Calendar Committee by Board President, Nancy Peters. Mr. Jones said Mrs. Weales volunteered for the position. Mrs. Weales and other committee members, including Mr. Roberts, Mr. Daugherty, and Mrs. Hayes, will be looking at sample draft calendars from surrounding educational institutions to see what will best serve the needs of our students. Mr. Jones said he would like to make a recommendation at the November meeting.

Mrs. Peters asked for a Board member volunteer to serve on the Insurance Committee to discuss life, long term disability, and dental/vision insurance for the upcoming year. Mrs. Hayes volunteered for the position and was so appointed by Mrs. Peters.

**PROFESSIONAL LEAVES/FIELD TRIPS:** None.

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

The following Use of Facilities application was unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Truitt:

- SCMS: J. Pritchard of Vevay Police Dept. for Active Shooter Training, Nov. 16, 2013, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)**

Superintendent, Michael L. Jones, made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Monday, November 18, 2013 at the Administration Building at 5:00 P.M., with an Executive Session to be held at 4:00 P.M. the same day.
- Next Superintendent's Community Roundtable Discussion Meeting will be held on an as yet undetermined day in November at the East Enterprise Fire House.
- Next Endowment Meeting is normally scheduled for every fourth Tuesday of the month, which would be October 22, but due to some conflicts of schedules, the meeting may be a week later than usual and will be announced as soon as that date is confirmed by Mr. Lohide.

**BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Peters said she wanted to schedule an Open Working Session on a Monday, either November 25 or December 2, with the time of the meeting to be 10:00 A.M. or 1:00 P.M. to devise an evaluation rubric for the Superintendent and Administrators, and to discuss job descriptions, grounds, and emergency responses. After discussion with the Board, Mrs. Peters said the majority rules with most members being able to attend a meeting on December 2, 2013 at 1:00 P.M.

Mr. Truitt welcomed Sheri Hookey, Matthew Drake and Sara Bowling to the staff.

Mrs. Hayes thanked Mrs. Weales and Mr. Spoores for working together on staff events and other things.

Mr. Daugherty said he felt compelled to speak about a few issues. He said he appreciated the interest people outside the Corporation are taking in what the Board is doing. He wanted the Board to be transparent in its operations and was thankful for the people who took time to come to the meetings.

Mr. Daugherty said he wanted to publicly say he felt the job descriptions that were distributed tonight did not apply to the school and what our personnel was doing in their positions. He said the other Board members should read and consider them very carefully.

Mr. Daugherty asked Mr. Goewert about the purpose of the new barn addition out by the track. Mr. Goewert answered that it was currently being used for general additional storage. He said it was not organized yet, but there is new shelving and they will be sorting out and deciding what to do with some of the surplus items after the new construction at the High School is complete. Mr. Daugherty wanted to bring attention to the fact that the blue barn was built to store hurdles and high jump and pole vaulting equipment, and ended up housing a bush hog and many other things. He felt it was a waste of money and space if the barn is not being used for the purpose for which it was intended. He said he did not think it was built for storing unused, outdated equipment instead of soccer equipment and other items that are currently in use. Mr. Goewert said in two weeks, during the first week of November, the work at the High School should be completed and he would like to go through the facility with Mr. Daugherty then.

Mr. Daugherty also wanted to make it known that the Board does not spend Corporation money frivolously. He said in 1967, there was a brick school at Pleasant and Quonset huts at Allensville and Florence, and a decent brick building at Patriot. He felt that to see proof of what past and present Superintendents and Board members have done, all a person has to do is look at the present facilities and think about what the students have available to them now that they didn't have then. He said he personally feels that some of the questions about how the Board spends Corporation money and carries out its' business have been disrespectful.

Mr. Daugherty also pointed out that the community started the football program, not the Board. He said the Board has taken a lot of criticism from the public about this subject. He said the Corporation has been very important to him from the very beginning and it always will. Mr. Daugherty said he had no children or grandchildren in football and had nothing to gain by voting for it. He said the bottom line of the Board's job is doing what is good for the kids.

Mrs. Peters commented that she had voted against football because she did not know how the Corporation could pay for it, but it is an opportunity some kids have not had before. She added that it has already been proven that both grades and student behavior have improved since football began. She stated that it is a choice and if you are afraid your child will be hurt playing football, then you should not allow the child to play.

Mr. Roberts said when he was an administrator for the High School, there used to be a very high dropout rate and felt if those kids had been given the opportunity of something like football, perhaps it would have kept them in school and given them an incentive to get better grades. He said since it was voted in, he has had people tell him they are upset with him for spending all that money on football. His question to them has been why wouldn't you spend money if you thought it would keep students interested in school. Kids can get hurt playing football, but they can get hurt doing anything.

Mr. Waltz agreed with Mr. Roberts that a child can get seriously hurt doing almost anything and if playing football or going to games gives a child an interest outside of the classroom and home, then that may make a world of difference for that child.

Mrs. Hayes said she wanted to put on her mom hat and explain that her son is now playing football with a group of kids he has never associated with before and the camaraderie between team members and the support they have received, such as pre-game meals provided by team mothers, has been amazing. She encouraged people to go to the games and witness for themselves the value of this program. She is thankful the students have been given the opportunity of football.

Mr. Daugherty said he also wanted to mention that each year, upon the recommendation of the Board, the Endowment has paid for Debt Service and for student textbooks which has helped the people in the community tremendously. He said because of this, Switzerland County has the lowest or close to the lowest tax rate in the state.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (6:15 P.M.)

Mr. Roberts made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Hayes seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was so adjourned.

---

Nancy Peters, President

---

Wayne Daugherty, Member

---

William Roberts, Vice President

---

Josh Deck, Member

---

Andy Truitt, Secretary

---

Tammy Hayes, Member

---

Vernon Waltz, Member