

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2014
EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING 4:00 P.M.
REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 5:00 P.M.

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 4:00 P.M. at the Switzerland County Administration Office to receive information about prospective employees, in compliance with Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5).

The Board members present were Mr. Truitt, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Deck, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Hayes, Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Schroer. Mr. Michael L. Jones, Superintendent, and School Board Attorney, 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.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mr. Truitt called the regular 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 Mr. Truitt, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Deck, Mr. Daugherty, Mrs. Hayes, Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Schroer.

Others in attendance were Mr. Michael L. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Matthew Hocker, Tony Spoores, Rhonda Pennington, John Sieglitz, Gregg Goewert, Sally Weales, Lance Collier, Angela Grubbs, and Brooke Levell.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve an amended agenda with the addition of discussion of the 2013 Calendar, regarding makeup days, under Old Business; and the addition of contractual agreements under New Business. Mr. Deck seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board voted unanimously to approve the amended Minutes of the January 27, 2014, following a motion to do so by Mrs. Peters, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

FUND REPORT:

The Financial Report for December, 2013, was presented to the Board for approval by Corporation Treasurer, Wilma Swango. Mr. Deck moved to approve the report as submitted. Mrs. Hayes seconded the motion. Mrs. Peters wanted an explanation regarding Tech Funds. At the last meeting, the Board approved the acceptance of a substantial amount of money for Technology. Mrs. Swango said the checks were received last week and that is why it was not showing on this report. Mr. Daugherty wondered about start up funds for football and then got another grant in January. Mrs. Swango said that was correct and there were other donations coming in for that as well. Mrs. Swango said she wanted to point out that the cash balance for the end of the calendar year is an important thing as we look forward to future planning. Also, this report reflects the previously approved transfers to the Rainy Day Fund. The Board's vote to approve the report 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. Daugherty, seconded by Mrs. Schroer.

Payroll Claims: 01/31/2014 and 02/14/2014

Prewritten Claims: #46213; (#46304-#46305 approved 1/27/14);

#46306 - #46331; #46332 - #46347; #46348 (Transfer)

#46349 - #46358

New Claims: #46359

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion regarding the 2013 Calendar and makeup days for weather related school closings. The schools have been closed a total of twelve days, but some have been waived and others will be covered by built in makeup days. Mr. Jones indicated that the Superintendent of Instruction came under some criticism from the Legislature when she announced the waiver for two days. Mr. Jones said he felt she was sympathetic to the plight of local schools due to all of the bad weather we have had, but was not going to offer more waivers for fear that the legislature would take the authority away from the State Department of Education. A couple of options given to the school corporations were to add days at the end of the school year or lengthen the school day. Since our Corporation is already lengthening its day for remediation purposes two days a week, this did not seem feasible. The Southeastern Career Center has already decided to use that first Spring Break week for makeup days. Mr. Daugherty wanted to know about the feelings of the staff on the subject. The survey put out by Mr. Curlin showed that most of the staff agreed that the first week of Spring Break was the best choice. Mr. Daugherty asked the Principals how many staff members already had plans for that week. They were unsure, and agreed there were situations with staff members that needed to be considered if this was the case. After more discussion, Mr. Jones made the recommendation to make up the weather related closings the whole five days of the first week of Spring Break, based upon what was in the best interest of the students. Mrs.

Peters made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Schroer seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Swango presented a Detailed Report of Allowance of Transfer of Funds for Board approval. The Board voted unanimously to approve the report as submitted in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Deck.

The following Extra-Curricular Activities Fundraisers were approved unanimously by the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Deck:

- JC Drama Club – Donations at door to cover production costs for performance, date yet to be scheduled
- JC Students– 100cent collections for donations to American Cancer Society; dates pending approval.

A 2013 Title II – Part A Grant reimbursement was presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the reimbursement of the Improving Teacher Quality grant. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion and the Board's vote to approve was unanimous.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the Rainy Day Transfer Amounts as submitted to the Board. Mr. Roberts seconded. It was mentioned that the Resolution had already been approved. Mrs. Swango explained that the Resolution was previously approved without the dollar amounts of the transfers. The Board voted unanimously to approve the following Rainy Day Fund transfers:

General Fund:	\$700,000.00	Capital Projects Fund:	\$184,000.00
Transportation Fund:	\$138,000.00	Bus Replacement Fund:	\$ 6,000.00
Total Transfer of Rainy Day Fund: \$1,028,000.00			

A recommendation was made to the Board to approve a 1-credit Speech Class to be incorporated into the English/Language Arts curriculum requirements for an Academic Honors Diploma in 2016. Mrs. Hayes moved to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Schroer seconded. Mrs. Peters asked why Mr. Goewert was only requiring the class for just honors diploma. Mr. Goewert explained that this was needed to prepare college bound students. He said it was an elective, but wanted the requirement only for students going for honors diplomas because the number of teachers that would be available to teach the class was limited. The Board's vote to approve the recommendation was unanimous.

Mr. Deck moved to approve an agreement with CenturyLink Sales Solutions, Inc. for Products and Services for Internet access and Ethernet services for 2014-2017, pending the approval of School Board Attorney, Matthew Hocker. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion. Mr. Sieglitz said we will be expanding the band width with a savings of around

\$2,000 a month. He said this agreement guaranteed 24/7 service. The Board approved the agreement pending Mr. Hocker's approval, as specified in the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

PERSONNEL:

Mr. Roberts moved to approve the employment of Cynthia Welch to fill the open Transportation Secretary/Administration Receptionist position. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion. The Board's vote to approve the employment was unanimous. Mrs. Welch will begin her duties at the Administration Office on Monday, March 3, 2014.

After some discussion regarding pro-rated stipends, the following 2013-2014 ECA positions were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion by Mrs. Peters, seconded by Mr. Daugherty:

- Rob Maust – Gr. 6 Boys Basketball Coach
- Carrie Barwick – HS Drama Club
- Rosemary Bovard – HS Pacer Post

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES/FIELD TRIPS

The Board unanimously approved the following Professional Leave requests in a motion made by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mrs. Hayes:

- Michael L. Jones –IAPSS (Superintendent's Assoc.) Winter Seminar, Plainfield, IN, Feb.19-20, 2014
- Cole, A. Grubbs, M. Levell, J. Sieglitz – Technology Google Summit for chromebook training with the location and date, as yet undetermined.
- Matt Jung – PLTW Gateway Design & Modeling Training at St. Cloud University, Minnesota, May 2-May 16, 2014

Two field trips were brought before the Board for consideration. Mrs. Schroer moved to approve the trips. Mrs. Hayes seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous. They are as follows:

- Rock 'n Roll/Music History Classes – Rock and Roll Museum, in Cleveland, OH, 4/24-4/26, 2014
- Business – BPA Students to Indianapolis Marriott Downtown for Competitions, 3/16-3/18, 2014

USE OF FACILITIES:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

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

- Tuesday, February 18, 2014, Board members will participate in a tour and dinner at the Southeastern Career Center at 6:00 P.M.. The Activity Bus will leave the Administration Building at 5:15 P.M.
- Special Board Meeting will be held on Monday, February 24, 2014. An Executive Session is scheduled for 4:30 P.M., followed by a Public Session at 5:00 P.M.
- Next Endowment meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 5:00 P.M. at the Switzerland County Elementary School
- A Special Open Working Session Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 1:00 P.M. at the Administration Office to discuss future facilities plans
- Next Regular Board Meeting, Monday, February 17, 2014 at the Administration Office, with an Executive Session at 4:00 P.M. and the Public Session at 5:00 P.M.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Daugherty wanted a report on the gym floor at the High School. Mr. Goewert reported that there was water on it again on Sunday, though it was not in the same spot. A gentleman was scheduled to come the following day to sand off the high spots. It was undecided whether or not the scheduled game with South Ripley would still be held in the High School gym.

Mr. Hocker spoke about the bleacher situation at the Jefferson-Craig Gym. The old bleachers were destroyed when they were being taken out. He conveyed that Mr. Druba is looking into getting replacement bleachers with the ability to provide the desired capacity, but does not feel this is possible without being on the floor. He further explained that after a couple of phone calls to the company, they wish to meet here at the gym to look over their attempt to fix the problem. Mr. Jones said he is unwilling to sign off on any payments to the company yet, as he is not in agreement with what they are saying.

Mr. Daugherty suggested that a sketch of the building at which the person worked be given to a retiring employee as a gift from the Corporation. Also, Mr. Daugherty mentioned that he like the idea of putting the flag at half-staff during the day of the funeral of a retired Corporation employee. Mr. Jones said he checked with the Governor's office on this matter and was told that this was basically a local community's decision.

Mr. Daugherty said he wanted to start a Switzerland County Sports Hall of Fame, which would include Patriot, Vevay, and Switzerland County High School. He said he did not know where to start on this. He would like to bring it forward for a motion at the next meeting. Mr. Hocker told Mr. Daugherty it would work best if he drew up a proposal of

what he wants done and brings it to the Board for approval. Mr. Jones felt there should be more representatives of authority from the involved entities to weigh in on what they would like to have done. Mr. Daugherty said he would like to have the Board approve the concept of it before it goes any further.

Mr. Daugherty said some Social Studies topics are being completely left out because the teachers run out of time to go over them. He would like to propose that two American History courses be included in the curriculum to ensure that students know why and how we got here.

Mr. Daugherty wanted to know if the bus drivers were aware of the GPS system going in the buses. Mr. Jones assured him that they did. Mr. Sieglitz said Roger has given his blessing to put it on their buses.

Mr. Daugherty wanted to make sure the yearbook is getting done. Mr. Goewert said the students don't have any interest in it anymore, so Mrs. Higgins is taking on the task of gathering information and making sure the school has a yearbook.

Mr. Daugherty asked about the date of an upcoming ISBA meeting. Mr. Jones said he wasn't positive, but felt it was in late March or early April.

Mrs. Peters was asking about a STAG event. Mr. Jones explained that it was a name for a sports fundraiser. He said he had no specifics yet, but the goal was to have one this year. He has gotten a commitment from Belterra to be able to hold it there. He said Eric Robbie also wants to be involved with this.

Mrs. Peters asked if the Corporation has such a thing as a PR person to inform the public about things that they don't know. Mr. Jones said that was in his job description as the Superintendent and felt that was his responsibility in that capacity. He said if there was something a Board member wanted to let the public know about, just let him know and tell him to get it done.

Mrs. Peters asked Mr. Jones to give a brief description of the law seminar he just attended with Mr. Hocker. Mr. Jones said a few school corporations were represented. He said he brought back some compensation plans. Mrs. Swango said she felt it was confirmed that our Corporation was doing some things right. Mr. Jones said one of the issues brought up was that much of what was supposed to be in the compensation plan this past year wasn't because the schools did not get their information back to the state in time for them to do an analysis of test scores. He went on to say that as far as taking things out of the contract that shouldn't be in there, we are pretty much where we should be.

Mr. Truitt asked Mr. Sieglitz if data was already being collected from the buses that had the GPS system installed. Mr. Sieglitz confirmed.

ADJOURNMENT: (6:00 P.M.)

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mr. Daugherty. The meeting was so adjourned.

Andy Truitt, President

Nancy Peters, Vice President

Josh Deck, Secretary

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Tammy Hayes, Member

William Roberts, Member

Laura Schroer, Member