

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 16, 2015
REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 5:00 P.M.**

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

Board President, Mr. Daugherty, called the regular meeting to order, asking that all communication devices be turned off or silenced, and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE:

Board members in attendance were Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Deck, Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Collier, Mrs. Cord, and Mrs. Peters.

Others in attendance were Mr. Michael L. Jones, Cindy Haskell, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Kathy & Abby Cole, Angela Grubbs, John Sieglitz, Cory Bougher, Holly Patz, Rhonda Pennington, Matt Levell, Lane Penick, Sally Weales, Alisha Detmer, Michelle Detmer, Tony Spoores, Lance Collier, William Carpenter, Gregg Goewert , Deb Archer, Greg Curlin, Janet Abrams, Ryan Jesop, Travis Griffith, Marcus Duckworth, Jonathan Grice, Sean McGarvey, RaheJean Griffin, Pat Lanman, and Rebecca Lieland.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Deck made a motion to approve an amended agenda, with the addition of the acceptance of a monetary donation for the Archery Team under New Business. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 25, 2015 meeting. Mr. Bennett seconded. The Board's vote to approve the Minutes of the meeting was unanimous.

FUND REPORT:

The Financial Report for January, 2015, was presented to the Board for approval. Mrs. Peters moved to approve the report. Mr. Deck seconded. The Board's vote to approve the report as submitted was unanimous.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS:

The following students were recognized by the Board for their academic successes:

- Hunter Zorn: gr. 11 nominated by Mr. Grice for ISSMA solo/ensemble silver medal
- Anna Lockwood: gr. 11 nom. by Mr. Grice for ISSMA solo/ensemble gold medal
- Josh Sippel: gr. 10, nom. by Mr. Grice for ISSMA solo/ensemble gold medal
- Erin Davies: gr. 5, nom. by Mr. Duckworth for ISSMA solo/ensemble gold medal
- Abby Cole, gr. 6, nom. by Mr. Duckworth for ISSMA solo/ensemble gold medal
- SCES Math Bowl team, nom by Mr. Griffith for their division win:
gr. 4: Carly Bennett, Kali Watson / gr. 5: Alisha Detmer, Peyton Fixmer,
Haley Hines, Brennan Loudon, Colton Skaggs, Skylar Scudder / gr. 6: Abby Cole,
Gilbert Davis III, Aiden Day, Nick Gatto, Audrey Griffin, Sarah Griffin, Tyler
Lieland, Michael Scranton.

CLAIMS:

The Board voted unanimously to approve following payroll and vendor claims as presented in a motion made by Mrs. Peters and seconded by Mrs. Collier:

Payroll Claims: 02/27/2015 and 03/13/15

Prewritten Claims: #48337-#48367; #48368-#48378; #48379 (payroll transfer)
 #48380-#48388

New Claims: #48389-#48436

SUPERINTENDENT'S LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Mr. Jones gave an overview of senate bills and house bills that may affect education.

House Bills to watch are the following:

Senate Bills: SB 1 ; SB 130; SB 233; SB 267; SB 398; SB 403; SB 443;
 SB 476; SB 469; SB 491; SB 495; SB 500; SB 538; SB 566; SB 1609.

House Bills: HB 1001; HS 1009; HB 1005; HB 1028; HB 1056; HB 1068;
 HB 1108; HB 1188; HB 1194; HB 1414; HB 1483; HB 1635; HB 1636; HB
 1637; HB 1638.

House Bill 1001 deals with moving away from a yearly Kindergarten grant and counting each of the kids as half a student, and go with them counting as a whole student. If the Senate and House can't come to an agreement, they will have to work out their differences in a Conference Committee. That is the one that everyone is watching because it deals with the budget revenue that can be spent throughout the year.

Senate Bill 1 and 1609 are still alive. They would allow the Board of Education to elect a chair person from their membership. Presently, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as chairman of that committee. Bill 1028 is one that Mr. Jones believes the majority of schools are in favor of as it removes expirations on the authority of schools to use Capital Projects money to pay insurance. Another Bill of concern is one that would give \$1,500 more ADM money to charter schools than to public schools.

OLD BUSINESS:Board Committee Reports:

Negotiations Committee: Mr. Jones stated that there have been no meetings with teachers yet, so there is no information to report.

Endowment Committee: The After-Prom request for \$5000 was approved at their last meeting. The committee is waiting for more information before deciding on the requests for funds for wrestling shorts. The next committee meeting will be held on 3/17/15.

Internal Controls Committee: The State Board of Accounts are currently conducting their regular audit for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years. The Internal Controls Committee will conduct an internal audit and will be looking at ECA ledgers, deposits, and verification of all transactions of how the money was spent.

Facilities & Ground Committee Report: Mrs. Peters reported that the previously scheduled committee meeting will be changed from Monday, April 13 to Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. It will be open to the public for the discussion of the short and long term needs of the Corporation. It was decided that Mr. Terry Lancer, of the architectural company, LANCER+BEEBEE, Inc., will be asked to provide drawings for a building that housed just restrooms and concessions, with the ability to make additions. It was felt this might be a good place to start. Mrs. Peters and Mr. Bennett have met a number of times with various staff members and Administrators. The question of whether or not more classrooms are needed at Jefferson-Craig should be thoroughly discussed. This would be a major priority, if the current influx of students continues or increases. Also, all extra-curricular activities schedules should be looked at to determine whether or not an auxiliary gymnasium would be a necessity as a long term need.

Mrs. Peters moved to approve the acceptance of a storage/concession building from Rod Dickerson. Mr. Roberts seconded. Discussion followed regarding possible issues regarding climate control, lack of plumbing, and drainage problems. Mr. Jones said it will need to be leveled which would be done by an in-kind donation by Joe Parham. The Board's vote to approve was unanimous.

Mrs. Pennington gave a report on the following grants: 21st Century Learning is on hold; Rural School Grant; Title 1 grant has been submitted; 79 extra personnel in event of additional students in lower levels; Stem oriented grants from Toshiba and Honda; Lilly; Homeland Security. The total of possible grants she is currently working on comes to \$130,000 to \$2 million. Mr. Bennett asked about the total in grants received last year. Mrs. Pennington said she would have to get that information for him. Mr. Bennett also mentioned the Brownstone and Blight grants that might be available for plans for the Old Administration Building. Discussion was held regarding that building as well as the Old Administration Building. Mrs. Swango suggested that the buildings should be kept in mind for future plans. In response to a question from Mrs. Peters as to the value of the

use of OdysseyWare compared to textbook rental, Mrs. Pennington reported that OdysseyWare is less expensive and you get more for your money.

NEW BUSINESS:

Three ECA fundraisers were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Collier and seconded by Mrs. Cord. They are as follows:

- HS/MS Football: sale Pacer tumblers, (Adrenaline Fundraising) for summer football camp expenses, 3/22-4/08, 2015
- HS Drama Club/Music Dptmt.: Tickets for Music Mystery Theater, 4/1-4/17
- SCES gr. 6: Sale of Balloons for Balloon Pop Game Prizes to fund Whitewater Camp admissions, 3/30-4/3, 2015

A School Provided Device and Electronic Usage Policy (Acceptable Use Policy) was presented to the Board for a first reading. There were questions regarding grade levels and what was owed by the students as textbook rental fees. The policy will be considered for final approval at the next regular Board meeting. Mr. Jones mentioned that he was very proud and happy of the work the Technology Team has been doing.

A revised High School Credit Re-take Policy was presented to the Board for first reading. High School Principal, Gregg Goewert doesn't like the idea of students taking four and five classes because they have a "C" in order to get an Academic Honors Diploma, which is governed by state rules. Some sentiments were that a grade earned is a grade earned. There should be one rule for all. Discussion was held regarding grade replacement versus grade averaging. The policy will be further reviewed and will be considered at the next regular meeting.

The 2015-2016 Student/Parent Handbooks for Jefferson-Craig Elementary School and Switzerland County Elementary School were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mrs. Collier and seconded Mrs. Cord. First readings of the elementary and Middle School handbooks were held at the February meeting. The Middle School handbook will be considered for approval at the next regular meeting.

A \$5,300 Grant from the Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc. for the Rachel's Challenge, Start a Chair Reaction Program was presented to the Board for approval. Mrs. Peters moved to approve acceptance of the funds as submitted. Mrs. Collier seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

The Board voted unanimously to accept a \$1,030 donation to the Archery Team for equipment and tournament costs from the Laughery Creek Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. The motion to approve was made by Mrs. Collier and was seconded by Mr. Deck.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(Anyone wishing to speak is asked to state their name and keep comments to 2 to 3 minutes. If this isn't enough time, participants are encouraged to submit the balance of their comments in writing and those wishing a written response are asked to leave their name and address with the Administrative Secretary).*

Mr. Daugherty opened the floor to comments from the public.

Jefferson-Craig Elementary School Principal, Tony Spoore, said that he was very proud of the accomplishments of the students honored earlier in the meeting. He also mentioned that Deb Archer was awarded District 9 American Legion Teacher of the Year, along with High School teacher, Donna Baker as Secondary School. He announced that his school's drama club performance will be at 1:15 P.M. or at 6:00 P.M. the day following the Board meeting, 3/17/15 and all were welcome to attend.

Greg Curlin said he was blessed to work with the Certified Teachers' Association. He said the bargaining team and the teacher's bargaining team and the administrative bargaining team worked well with one another and still respected each other at the end of the night.

Sally Weales, Principal at Switzerland County Elementary School thanked Mr. Griffith and Mr. Duckworth for taking the initiative in working with the students that received the ISSMA awards. She was happy they were pushing the kids to participate and achieve higher accomplishments.

PERSONNEL:

The Board unanimously accepted the retirement of Jefferson-Craig Elementary School Title 1 teacher, Sara Pavey, in a motion made by Mr. Roberts and seconded by Mrs. Cord. Mrs. Pavey has been an employee of the Corporation for forty-two years.

Two Extra-Curricular Activities Resignations were presented to the Board for approval. Action was taken as follows:

- David Todd, JV Girls Basketball Coach -
Motion: Peters / Second: Cord / Vote: Approved Unanimously
- Evan Morgan, JV Baseball Coach-
Motion: Peters / Second: Bennett / Vote: Approved Unanimously

Several Extra-Curricular Activities position recommendations were unanimously approved by the Board in a motion made by Mr. Deck and seconded by Mrs. Peters. They are as follows:

- RaheJean Griffin – MS Softball Volunteer Coach
- Stacy Streett – MS Softball Volunteer Coach
- Pam Yates – MS Softball Volunteer Coach
- Steve Houchen – HS Baseball Volunteer Assistant
- Kelszie Phillips – HS Summer Volleyball
- Sean Cook – JV Baseball Coach
- Ryan Peters – HS Baseball Volunteer Assistant

The following employment recommendation was approved unanimously by the Board as follows:

- Donna Raiser, 4-hour per day cafeteria Motion: Deck / Second: Collier

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

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

- Next Endowment meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Office
- Next Regular Board Meeting, Monday, April 20, 2015 at the Administration Office with the Public Session beginning at 5:00 P.M.

SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Discussion was held regarding the present school calendar and how the snow days will be made up. Mr. Jones said the aim was to do what works best for students and teachers. Five days will be made up this week, with one additional day to make up. Mr. Curlin said the majority of teachers are in favor of using Good Friday, April 3, for that additional day, rather than making it up at the end of the school year. Mr. Jones said he was sensitive to those who already have plans, but was not in favor of going on Good Friday. Mrs. Collier made a motion to approve changing April 3, 2015 as a day off to being a PMD, for the additional makeup day. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Cord thanked those in attendance and said that she appreciates input from people as it makes for better decision making.

Mrs. Peters wanted to point out the date change of the Facilities and Grounds Committee meeting, open to the public, to Tuesday, April 14 at 6:00P.M., and wanted to make sure Mr. Lanman was aware of the change for the newspaper.

Mrs. Peters suggested that Administrators have 2-year contracts. She feels that if you treat employees like they make a difference they will. She believes there is \$20,000 in Capital Projects Funds for a new mower, which is not needed. The money will be used for a bucket front loader and fork instead.

Mrs. Collier congratulated the BPA, the Archery team, and the FFA for their accomplishments.

ADJOURNMENT: (7:12 P.M.)

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

Wayne Daugherty, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Josh Deck, Secretary

Joseph Bennett, Member

Katie Collier, Member

S. Jill Cord, Member

Nancy Peters, Member