

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2020**

EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING **5:30 P.M.**

REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING **6:00 P.M.**

The Board of School Trustees met before a special public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 5:30 P.M. at the Switzerland County Administration Building located at 1040 W. Main Street, Vevay, Indiana for the discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans and systems. This is in compliance with the following Indiana Code: I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(e)(3).

Those in attendance: Board Members: Collier, Bennett; Deck, Bosaw, Cole, Combs and Sullivan. Others in attendance: Superintendent Hite, Board Attorney, Matthew Hocker.

The Board discussed no subject matter in the Executive Session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice. The Executive Session adjourned.

The Board of School Trustees met for a regular public meeting in the Board Room of the Switzerland County Administration Building located at 1040 W. Main Street, Vevay, Indiana, beginning at 6:00P.M.

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

President Collier called the meeting to order and asked for the silencing of all communication devices. Superintendent Hite led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Collier, President:	<u>Present</u>	Mr. Deck, Vice President:	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Bennett, Secretary:	<u>Present</u>	Mr. Bosaw, Member:	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Cole, Member:	<u>Present</u>	Mrs. Combs, Member:	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Sullivan, Member:	<u>Present</u>	<i>Mr. Hite, Superintendent:</i>	<u>Present</u>

Others in attendance: Matthew Hocker, John Sieglitz, Patti Kappes, Ashley Kitts, David Todd, Sean McGarvey, Tony Spoores, Greg Curlin and Dana Keith.

OVERALL AGENDA:

The overall agenda was presented to the Board for approval. Motion to approve: Bennett/ Second: Cole / Vote: Unanimous. Mr. Sullivan asked about the YMCA agreement stating that he thought that it was approved in September. Mr. Hite explained that it was approved in September to take the request to the Endowment however, the Endowment will not be funding this request at this time and plans to revisit in the future.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS RECOGNITION:

Valerie Smith High School Teacher, Casie Jesop Middle School Teacher and Marlene Jones Switzerland County Elementary Teacher were selected as Educator of the Year by the American Legion Post 185. These individuals will be recognized formally at a later date.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *This portion of the meeting is limited to fifteen (15) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. Anyone wishing to speak is required to identify themselves, keep comments to three minutes and address comments only to the Board President. If this isn't enough time, they are free to submit the balance of their comments in writing. The Board will take comments under advisement. If a written response is requested, they may leave an address with the Administrative Secretary. Commenters are advised that specific names should be withheld from comments without that person's written consent.*

The floor was opened for public comments, hearing none, public comments were closed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

It was recommended the Board approve the following Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion: Deck / Second: Bosaw / Vote: Unanimous Approved items are as follows:

- Meeting Minutes: Regular Board Meeting 10/19/20;
Executive Session 10/19/20
- Monthly Financial Report: September 2020
- Payroll/Vendor Claims: Voucher #'s: Prewritten: 58709-58775
New: 58776-58845

Payroll: October 23, 2020
November 6, 2020
- Approval of Grants/Donations:
 - \$647,267.78 - IDOE Title I Grant for the 2020-2021 school year.
 - \$100,000.00 - CFSCI Technology Fund Grant for the 2021-2022 school year.

- \$ 93,977.91 - IDOE Title IIA Grant for the 2020-2021 school year.
 - \$ 53,604.58 - IDOE TAG Grant for 2020-2021 school year.
 - \$ 9,800.00 - CFSCI Endowment Fund Grant for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - \$ 2,135.00 - CFSCI Grant for purchase of Pacer Band xylophone from the George and Martha Robbins Fund. (This is reissuance of grant previously approved for the Marching Band trip to Disney and Universal Studios.)
 - \$ 1,900.00 - CFSCI Grant for the 2020-2021 school year for the Pacer Band Fund created by the Vevay Switzerland County Foundation.
 - \$ 900.00 - CFSCI Grant for the 2020-2021 school year from the Kevin McSwain Memorial Fund.
 - \$ 400.00 - CFSCI Grant for the 2020-2021 school year from the Debbie Minch memorial Fund for the FFA leadership trip to Washington D.C.
 - \$ 200.00 - CFSCI Grant for the 2020-2021 school year from the Switzerland County FFA Fund.
 - \$ 200.00 - CFSCI Grant for the 2020-2021 school year for the Switzerland County Elementary School Library from the Charles & Carol Seymour Fund.
- ECA Fundraisers: 2020/2021:
 - SCHS, Boys Varsity/JV Basketball, Switzerland County Basketball Apparel Sales, 11/17 - 11/27, 2020
 - SCHS, Sophomore Class, Marion Kay Spices Sales, 11/23-12/4, 2020

REPORTS

Board Committee Reports:

Facilities & Grounds: (Bennett/Cole): Superintendent Hite reported that the crosswalk is finished and that we have applied with the Indiana Department of Transportation for the flashing light to be installed in 2023. A Thank You was received from Community Mental Health. Mr. Hite thanked Mr. Rod Dickerson for his efforts in taking care of the opposite side of the highway.

Endowment: (Superintendent Hite): Superintendent Hite reported that the cash balance is \$208,967.28 and the long term investment balance is \$1,426,010.06.

Negotiations / Discussion: (Collier/Deck): Mr. Hite reported that the Bargaining Status Form has been submitted in Gateway.

Athletic Council: (Sullivan/Bosaw): Mr. Sullivan reported that the Athletic Council met following the October board meeting and much of the discussion was COVID-19 related and pertained to attendance and the safety measures in place.

PERSONNEL:

It was recommended that the Board approve the following Extra Curricular Activity resignations as presented: Motion: Bennett / Second: Bosaw / Vote: Unanimous

- Stacy Sams as HS/MS Archery Co-coach.
- Darren Byrd as MS Track Assistant Coach.

It was recommended that the Board approve the following Extra Curricular Activity assignments as presented: Motion: Sullivan / Second: Cole / Vote: Unanimous

- Kasey Brabant as HS Archery Co-coach for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Kasey Brabant as MS Archery Co-coach for the 2020-2021 school year.

It was recommended that the Board approve the employment of the following personnel as presented: Motion: Cole / Second: Combs / Vote: Unanimous

- Stephanie Riley for the Deputy Treasurer position.
- Angela Swanson for the Transportation Secretary position.
- Katie Hughes for the part-time SCES Nurse Aide/Instructional Assistant position.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was recommended that the Board approve the revised 2020-2021 school year calendar as presented with a change of graduation date from Sunday, 5/30, 2021 to Saturday, 5/29, 2021. Motion: Bosaw / Second: Combs / Vote: Unanimous

It was recommended that the Board approve the 2021-2022 school year calendar as presented. Mr. Hite commented that open house will be on Thursday, August 5th for all buildings and school will be out of session the entire week of Thanksgiving. Mr. Hite also commented that the Career Center met to set a consistent Fall break schedule as the second full week in October in 2021 and for on-going years. Motion: Deck / Second:

Sullivan / Vote: Unanimous Mr. Sullivan requested an explanation on the use of “late arrival”. Mr. Hite explained that the State used to give professional development time for teachers but that is no longer funded. Late arrival times provide an opportunity to still meet the requirements for additional development and curriculum training during the teacher contract hours.

It was recommended that the Board approve the bond for the following school personnel:

Motion: Deck / Second: Bosaw / Vote: Unanimous

- Stephanie Riley, Deputy Treasurer: \$75,000.00

NEOLA Policy Updates: Special Updates July 2020 for the School Board Policy Manual were presented for first reading by the Board. They will be presented for final approval at the December 14, 2020 Board Meeting. Mr. Cole inquired about the specific COVID-19 related language and will these policies only be in effect during a certain period of time? Mr. Hite responded that NEOLA will update the policies when that particular language no longer applies.

It was recommended that the Board approve the Substance Abuse Policy for employees with a commercial driver license as presented. Motion: Bosaw / Second: Sullivan / Vote: Unanimous

It was recommended that the Board approve the annual YMCA Agreement for \$32,500 as presented. The agreement was presented and approved previously during the September board meeting as an Endowment Board request. Motion: Sullivan / Second: Cole / Vote: Unanimous

It was recommended that the Board approve the addition of five (5) Elementary Title I Instructional Assistant positions. Motion: Sullivan / Second: Cole / Vote: Unanimous Mr. Hite commented that the Title 1 funds this year were more than anticipated, therefore will provide funding for the additional Instructional Assistants.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 11/16 - 11/24, 2020 will be E-Learning days

Mr. Hite commented that COVID-19 cases within our community continue to rise and our state has record setting numbers almost daily. As we evaluated our current situation,

we determined it is necessary to go to E-Learning until November 30th. Mr. Hite further commented that while we feel students follow the safety protocols put in place currently at school, we also know that positive cases brought to the school may put other families or our most vulnerable population at risk as the students return home. Mr. Hite explained that out of an abundance of caution, we feel this temporary seven school day E-Learning trial will allow us to analyze if temporary E-Learning is beneficial in reducing our community spread. These next sixteen days will allow all our current quarantined students and those who tested positive to return to school on Nov. 30th along with our general population of students. With the sharp increase in community spread, we feel it is necessary to take these steps in an effort to explore options for the winter months ahead while we have a built in Thanksgiving break.

Mr. Hite also stated that currently, 9 of our 1,433 students are home with a positive COVID-19 case. This is a small fraction of our student population at just over one half of one percent. These most recent cases have developed since last Thursday. Knowing it is a small percentage of students, all extracurricular practices will continue but be closed to spectators and events will be limited to two family members only. Mr. Hite added that we are no longer allowing outside organizations the use of facilities at this time and will be revisited in January 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT):

Superintendent Hite made the following announcements:

- Next Endowment Mtg.: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Building
- Next Regular Board Mtg.: Monday, December 14, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M. which is one week earlier than previously scheduled due to Christmas break.
- A Homework Assistant Program is being developed and teachers will be also available to assist students all day during contract hours. If students or parents have questions regarding assignments, they can reach out directly to the teachers or the school secretaries to relay a message to the teacher.
- Food Pantry: Thursday, November 19, 2020 from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the MS and the Patriot Town Hall.. Any parent that would like to be a part of the food distribution is asked to contact Fred Ross at the Central Office or Casie Jesop at the MS.
- Meal kits (consisting of 10 breakfasts and 10 lunches) will be delivered to all K-12 students prior to Thanksgiving via an outside vendor. These meals will be delivered via UPS. After November 30, 2020, meal kits will continue to be delivered to K-12 virtual students.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:30 P.M.

Motion to adjourn: Combs / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous. The Meeting was so adjourned.

Kathryn Collier, President

Josh Deck, Vice President

Joseph Bennett, Member

Greg Bosaw, Member

Adam Cole, Member

Amy Combs, Member

Tye Sullivan, Member

(Board approved: 12/14/20)