

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2008**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 8, 2008 in the Learning Center Board Room. The following were present: Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Larry Pritchett, Mrs. Deborah Brothers, Mr. Willard Owen, Mr. Kevin Allstott, Mr. Tony Galloway, and Mr. Eddie Kellams. Mr. Todd Pritchett was also in attendance. Mr. Gary Boyd and Mr. John Emmons were present for a portion of the meeting.

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed strategy with respect to collective bargaining, received information about prospective employees, and discussed individuals over whom the governing body has jurisdiction. No subject matters were discussed in the Executive Session other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:20 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above were present, as well as Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Edith Pinnick.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Marshall, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Mr. Owen made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10th, 2008 Board Meeting. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway motioned to accept the vouchers and claims as presented, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Allstott requested special permission to pay invoices as received for the remainder of December, 2008, subject to approval by Mr. Todd Pritchett. Mr. Owen so moved. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Todd Pritchett congratulated the FFA Forestry Judging Teams who advanced to State Competition, including junior team members: James Fields, Levi White, Kristi Brooking, and Kelby Godden, and senior team members: Amber Tinkle, Rafe Emmons, and Tylor Martin. Sponsor Mr. Kevin Knies also requested permission for approval of an overnight stay for team members on Friday, December 12th, 2008 at Purdue in order to attend the competition on Saturday, December 13th. Mr. Larry Pritchett so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that due to a small number of students participating in certain extra-curricular events, sharing of transportation arrangements are sometimes made with area schools. He has been advised by our insurance agent that this practice is acceptable under our liability insurance coverage.

Our corporation, in partnership with Hoosier Uplands, has been awarded the 21st Century Grant, which is for a 4½ year grant with a total award of \$865,856.00. This grant will be used to fund the after-school enrichment programs for elementary and junior high students, with the programs available at no cost to students. Appreciation was extended to Ms. Susie Owen, Mrs. Sharon Burton, Mrs. Mindy Pendley, and Mr. Warren Owens who have staffed the programs in absence of the grant, as well as multiple partners including the Town of French Lick.

Mr. Todd Pritchett displayed a picture of appreciation that he has received from the Drum & Bugle Corp, thanking Springs Valley Schools for allowing the use of our facilities as they participated in the Drum Corp International 2008 DCI World Championships at Bloomington, Indiana.

Mr. Boyd spoke on recent and upcoming activities at the elementary and junior/senior high schools, including the 4th grade Christmas musical to be held on Thursday,

December 11th at 7:00, Spell Bowl Team placed first at regional competition, Acuity Testing has been completed in English, Science, and Social Studies, and the NCA team met last week in preparation for the January 21st Professional Development Day. Also, student council members will be selling candy canes with proceeds to go to a charitable organization, as well as collecting food for the community food pantry. A manmade disaster drill was conducted for all students, and administration felt this drill was very successful. Mr. Boyd and Mr. Tony Whitaker recently attended the Indiana Association of School Principals' Fall Conference. Mr. Boyd thanked Mrs. Barbara Renner and FCCLA students for hosting the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Language Arts teachers have received another round of training in writing curriculum. Mr. Boyd commended Mr. Chad Goldman, Mrs. Jessica Roberts, and Mrs. Leslie Crow for conducting the Middle School Science Fair. A financial aid workshop is scheduled for January 27th.

No patrons addressed the Board.

Mr. Larry Pritchett made the motion to approve the Spring Coaches List dated November 19th as presented. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended approval of the Leave of Absence request by Mrs. Janelle Crews for the time period January 5th through February 27th, 2009 to allow completion of her student teaching. Mr. Larry Pritchett so moved, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

A brief review of ISTEP scores was presented by Mr. Todd Pritchett, in which he stated that our Math scores were above the state average and the English/Language Arts overall scores improved 4%. Detailed information will be provided at a future meeting. Discussion was held, including the possibility of employing teacher aides with casino revenue funds.

Mr. John Hawkins, of Kovert/Hawkins Architects, discussed potential renovations to the high school gym, including the public restrooms, locker rooms/restrooms, doors & hardware, windows, ceilings & trusses and wooden bleachers, boiler replacement, and hospitality room, as well as the concession and trophy areas. Discussion was held including separation of the project areas and appearance of the completed facility. Mr. Hawkins stated that he could proceed with preparing a package on the first seven items, and alternatives for the concession and trophy areas.

Mr. Todd Pritchett presented a slide-show review of recent renovation projects, as well as possible future projects. Mr. Larry Pritchett made a motion to add additional fencing on the baseball field, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. Discussion was held. Mr. Marshall clarified that the motion was to obtain quotes and add fencing at the baseball field. The motion then carried 7-0.

Mr. Galloway motioned to approve the contract for Mr. J.C. Tucker's services in 2009 with no changes from the 2008 contract. Mr. Owen seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Regarding the employee health insurance, Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended accepting the quote by SIHO with the structural change to include coverage under the Health Savings Account. He stated that approximately \$100,000 to \$120,000 in run-out claims would need to be paid from the Self-Insurance Fund, and recommended a school contribution from the Self-Insurance Fund of \$500.00 for Single Plans and \$1,000.00 for Family, Employee/Spouse, and Employee/Children Plans. Mrs. Brothers so moved, and Mr. Owen seconded. Discussion followed. The motion then passed 7-0.

Mr. Owen made a motion to approve the sign project at the superintendent's office, per Mr. Todd Pritchett's request. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. During discussion, it was stated this project would be paid from the Casino Revenue Fund. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway and Mr. Owen stated that they will be attending the ISBA School Law Seminar, which will be held this Friday, December 12th.

Mr. Owen made a motion to change the January meeting from the 12th to the 3rd Monday of the month, January 19th. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway questioned the possibility of the school board minutes being added to the school's website. Mr. Boyd stated that the school website is currently being redesigned, and possibly the minutes could be added with other changes.

With no other business, Mr. Larry Pritchett motioned to adjourn at 7:31. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

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