

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2015**

Executive Sessions

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, August 10, 2015 in the Learning Center Board Room. The following were present: Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, Dr. Ryan Carnes, Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, Mr. Kevin Allstott, Mrs. Linda Carnes, Mr. Tony Galloway, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman. Mr. Tony Whitaker was also in attendance. Mr. Jim Bush and Mrs. Julie Woolsey were also present for a portion of the meeting.

A second Executive Session was held following the Regular Session, and concluded at 8:00 PM. All board members and Mr. Whitaker were present.

During the Executive Sessions, the Board discussed prospective employees, job performance evaluations, collective bargaining, personnel, and litigation. No subject matters were discussed in the Executive Sessions other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:11 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members and Mr. Whitaker, as well as Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

Mrs. Lynch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Minutes of the July 13th, 2015 board meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Purkhiser, and second by Mr. Galloway. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway motioned to approve vouchers and claims as presented. Dr. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recognized the entire staff for the smooth start to the school year, and thanked everyone for a great job. He also reported the fall sports seasons have started with volleyball, football, band, and cross country participants preparing for their upcoming contests.

Mr. Todd Marshall of the Springs Valley Education Foundation addressed the board. He stated the Chuck Akers Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, August 23rd at the Donald Ross Golf Course. Mr. Marshall also advised that plans are continuing for a memorial to be erected at the high school flagpole in honor of the four local servicemen who died in the Vietnam War, stating that they hope to have the memorial in place for Veterans' Day 2015. The four individuals, Arnold Abel, Mark Allstott, Charles Beals, and Richard Wolfington, will be inducted into the Springs Valley Education Foundation Hall of Fame on Wednesday, November 11th of this year. Mrs. Lynch thanked Mr. Marshall and the education foundation for their efforts.

Mr. Whitaker presented athletic coaching recommendations from Mr. Mark Hammond as follows: Boys Basketball/varsity assistant – Jason Russell, volunteer coach – Tracy Tucker, 8th grade – Devon Harrell, 7th grade, Curtis Crow, 6th grade – Kyle Crews, and 5th grade – Randy Chaplin; and Girls Basketball/varsity assistant – Brad Bledsoe, freshman – Leigh Ann Kluesner, 8th grade – Chris Burton, 7th grade – Joe Crow, 6th grade – Gail Johnson, and 5th grade – Barry Wilson. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made the motion to approve Ron Carnes as Boys Basketball freshman coach, as recommended by Mr. Hammond. Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Carnes abstaining.

Mr. Shipman moved to accept the resignation of Kimberly Massingill as teaching assistant, effective August 3rd, 2015. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Carnes made a motion to accept the resignation of Charlene Brown, cafeteria worker, effective August 7th, 2015. Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Teresa Apple, high school librarian, has requested a leave of absence for this school year, with the Family Medical Leave Act allowing her a 12-week leave and the rest of the time off without pay. Mr. Whitaker advised that he will be working with Mrs. Apple on the FMLA time frame. Mrs. Shipman motioned as requested. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Kristina Allen has requested an adoption leave beginning approximately September 2nd, and has asked to use family illness and sick days for this time period as she did her last adoption leave. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Per Mrs. Woolsey's recommendation, Mr. Whitaker requested Shawn Willett, Alexis Pierce, and Angela Ragains be hired as elementary teaching assistants with salary per the non-certified pay schedule. Mrs. Carnes motioned as recommended. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker presented Mr. Bush's recommendation for the following extra-curricular sponsors: Rita Hinkle and Lindsay Mendel – junior class sponsors, and Amanda Dalton as high school student council

sponsor. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve sponsors as recommended. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that due to the increased number of enrolling kindergarten students, he recommended hiring another kindergarten teacher for the 2015-16 school year. At one point, we had 79 students enrolled, which would have been 26/27 students in each of the three classrooms, and the current enrollment is 84 kindergarten students. After screening applications and conducting interviews, Mrs. Woolsey recommended Janelle Crews be employed as kindergarten teacher on a one-year temporary contract at the salary of \$34,870. Mrs. Carnes so moved, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

As recommended by Mr. Bush, Mr. Whitaker requested Amanda Dalton be hired as a non-certified employee for the 2015-16 school year, to cover Mrs. Apple's leave. He added that Mrs. Apple will continue to help as she can, and that she plans to return for the 2016-17 school year. Mrs. Shipman motioned to employ Amanda Dalton as library aide on a one-year agreement. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members of the budget hearing to be held on Wednesday, August 26th at 6:00 PM in the Learning Center Board Room, as scheduled in the 2016 budget timeline. He stated the executive session will begin at 5:00 PM.

In consideration of needed improvements to our facilities, Mr. Whitaker advised that AMERSCO had previously presented their findings and worked on an energy savings contract. As directed, he has explored other options and contacted Mr. Scott Stenftenagel of Stenftenagel Group. Mr. Stenftenagel previously met with Mr. Galloway, Dr. Carnes, Wes McNeely, John Carnes, and Mr. Whitaker, and was at the meeting tonight to discuss facility improvements. Mr. Stenftenagel thanked board members for the opportunity, and congratulated our maintenance staff on the well-maintained facilities. He advised that his firm works only with school corporations, offering facility management plans, which gives his group a unique advantage to hand-pick the architects and engineers to fit our needs. He stated his group would develop plans for each project, as well as obtain rebates for the owner, citing HVAC at the high school gym and pool area, and lighting issues as areas of deficiencies. Mr. Stenftenagel recommended doing one project at a time to fit our schedule and budget, and recommended the use of Schmitt and Associates (architect/engineering firm) for the plans and specifications. Discussion was held on possible projects, and board consensus was to move forward on facility improvements. Mr. Whitaker recommended that we proceed with Stenftenagel Group on this matter. Mr. Purkhiser motioned to accept the recommendation. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

In regard to the 2016 budget process, Mr. Whitaker advised that decreased state funding and declining enrollment continue to mean less state funding for our General Fund. These matters had previously been discussed by former superintendents Mr. Todd Pritchett and Dr. Jerrill Vandeventer. He stated that the General Fund Task Force continues to work toward solutions, and the school is making gains in this area. Mr. Whitaker advised that he is working with Dr. Tom Miller in developing the 2016 calendar year budget, and asked for a motion to advertise the Budget Form 3, Bus Notice to Taxpayers, and the Capital Projects Fund Notice to Taxpayers. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Mrs. Lynch, Dr. Carnes, Mr. Jason Russell, and he met with State Representative Lloyd Arnold and Cook Group representative Gretchen Gutman to discuss the current casino legislation. He felt that the meeting was very productive and the information shared was very beneficial, and he will continue to work on these initiatives.

Mr. Whitaker informed board members that he and Dr. Carnes met recently with superintendents and board members from the other two Orange County schools to discuss the expected casino revenue and possible formulas for distribution. He felt the dialogue was productive, and stated another meeting is planned for Wednesday. He added that the state could possibly divide the money for us if no resolution is reached. Discussion was held.

Mr. Whitaker had distributed information for the Indiana School Boards Association Fall Conference, which is scheduled for September 28 and 29 in Indianapolis, and the ISBA Region 9 Meeting set for October 26th in Huntingburg. Anyone wishing to attend either event was instructed to notify Mrs. Allstott for registration.

Mrs. Lynch announced the board would be returning to Executive Session.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Allstott motioned to adjourn. Dr. Carnes seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.
