

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2018**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Dustin Farris, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, and Mr. Justin Wininger were present. Mr. Tony Whitaker was also in attendance. Mr. Trevor Apple, Mr. Kyle Neukam, and Mr. Daniel Wolford were present for a portion of the meeting. Board members Mr. Chris Burton and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman were absent from the meeting.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, personnel, and litigation. 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 6:04 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Mrs. Kathy Allstott and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

As motioned by Mr. Wininger and seconded by Mrs. Lynch, Mr. Marshall opened the floor for nominations of officers. Mr. Wininger nominated the following slate of officers: himself for the office of President, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman for Vice-President, Mr. Dustin Farris as Secretary, and Mr. Todd Marshall for Legislative Liaison. Mr. Purkhiser motioned to close the nominations, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. With no other nominations, the officers were approved 5-0.

Mr. Marshall made the motion to adopt the School Board Code of Ethics, as prepared by the Indiana School Boards Association. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements were signed by board members Mr. Marshall and Mr. Wininger.

Mr. Wininger recommended the appointment of Mrs. Kathy Allstott as Corporation Treasurer and Mrs. Peggy Simmons as Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Farris so moved and Mr. Marshall seconded. With no discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Marshall motioned to retain the current meeting date, time and location, with the meetings to continue being held the second Monday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Wininger stated that board compensation is currently \$2,000 annually with \$100 per monthly meeting and \$50 per diem per special meeting, with dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. Mr. Marshall moved for board compensation and benefits to remain the same. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed with the vote of 5-0.

Mr. Wininger stated that an appointment to the Lost River Career Cooperative Board is needed at this time. Mr. Whitaker advised the position is currently held by Mr. Ralph Purkhiser, and recommended continuing that appointment. Mrs. Lynch motioned to reappoint Mr. Purkhiser to the Lost River Career Cooperative Board. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of the December 11th, 2017 board meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Purkhiser, and second by Mr. Marshall. The minutes were approved 4-0-1, with Mrs. Lynch abstaining since she was absent from that meeting.

Mr. Purkhiser made a motion to approve vouchers and claims as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Allstott presented the Allowance of Transfers Report for year-end transfer of appropriations. She stated that transfers were necessary within the General, Capital Projects, Transportation, and Rainy Day Funds when closing out the 2017 financial records, and permission had been granted for said transfers at the September 12, 2016 board meeting. Mr. Farris motioned to accept the transfer of appropriations as presented. Mr. Marshall seconded, and the motion passed 5-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Whitaker recognized our athletic department and administration for their efforts in running our boys' holiday basketball tournament, adding that many positive comments were received on this event.

The girls' basketball sectional will be held on January 30, February 2, and 3 at Wood Memorial.

Mr. Apple recognized Mrs. Lori Chestnut, Mrs. Camille Rathfon, and their students for their recent musical performances. He commented that the second semester was off to a smooth start at the elementary. First grade students will be singing the National Anthem at the January 23rd Girls' Varsity basketball game.

Mr. Neukam stated that the first eLearning days occurred recently at the high school, using the first semester final exam days as eLearning days for students whose attendance met the established guidelines. He thanked Mrs. Abby Laux and Mr. Chad Goldman for creating the insert highlighting Springs Valley activities, which was used in the holiday tourney programs.

Mr. Wininger complimented the IT department for their recent work on the school website. Mr. Wininger relayed a message from Mr. Jason Russell, who spoke on behalf of the classroom teachers' association, and thanked the board and Mr. Whitaker for the opportunity for negotiations.

Mr. Wolford announced the December athletes of the month were Elizabeth Stemle and Zach Carnes.

No patrons addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker presented the following personnel items for approval under the consent agenda: 1) resignation of Ashley Lubovich as elementary teaching assistant effective December 20, 2017; 2) employ Brooke Parker effective January 3, 2018 as elementary teaching assistant; 3) approval of Dave Stephens as volunteer off-season softball conditioning coach effective today, January 8th until the beginning of softball season, tentatively March 2nd, 2018; and 4) name Jason Russell as athletic director for the 2018-19 school year beginning July 1, 2018, stating that he will continue teaching four periods per day with the remainder of the school day to be filled with athletic director responsibilities, with salary and days as per the teachers' master contract. Mr. Marshall so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Wininger stated that with the hiring of the athletic director, Mr. Wolford will assume the assistant principal's duties only, and the corporation will experience a savings of approximately \$5,000 with this hire by eliminating the athletic events supervisor position and the extra work days previously paid for the athletic director. The motion was then approved 5-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that following the December 11th board meeting, Hoosier Hills PACT was unable to fill the family consultant position at the elementary school for this second semester, citing that a one-year commitment was needed from the corporation. He advised that in order to fill the much-needed position of an elementary counselor/social worker, he will post that job opening and then work with Youth First and Regional Opportunity Initiative representatives on securing the Lilly Endowment Counseling Grant. Board consensus was for Mr. Whitaker to move forward as discussed.

Mr. Whitaker recommended acceptance of the low quote from Indiana Door and Hardware Specialties in the amount of \$25,865 for the dock door project, which includes installation of four doorways. The price does not include painting or possible retrofitting of existing duct-work located in the transom panel of the mechanical room door opening and minimal concrete work that may be required in the water heater room. Mr. Whitaker stated that all payment for the door project could be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

Mr. Marshall made the motion to approve the quote as presented. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

The concrete bleacher pads have been poured at the baseball field. Extra dirt from that project has been moved to the playground area, and will allow work there to be finished. Mr. Whitaker has met with committee members and flooring experts to explore tile/carpet options and color choices. He plans to present information at the February or March meeting so that we can proceed with that project. Discussion included the front-end cost of tile for virtually maintenance-free flooring.

Mr. Whitaker requested approval of the 2018-19 school calendar as presented, stating that he had prepared this calendar with input from a committee of teachers. Second semester make-up days are scheduled for January 21st and February 18th, with the last student day set for May 21st and graduation on May 25th pending no additional make-up days needed. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. Discussion included the use of Martin Luther King Day on January 21st as a day of community service rather than a school make-up day, the ineffectiveness of adding make-up days at the end of the school year, and the possibility of holding a student convocation on MLK Day if school is in session that day to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of Dr. King. With no further discussion, the school calendar was adopted as presented 5-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Purkhiser moved to continue the practice of student early dismissal on Wednesdays during the 2018-19 school year as recommended by Mr. Whitaker, with elementary students to be dismissed at 2:35 and junior/senior high school students to be dismissed at 2:40 each Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Whitaker stated that good quality professional development has been received this year, and both principals are in favor of this schedule. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Legislative updates were provided by Mr. Whitaker concerning proposed legislation that would affect public schools, specifically the school calendar proposal to not start the school year until the last Monday in August and a bill concerning cursive writing curriculum requirements. He advised that the state's budget for the basic grant was miscalculated by approximately 6,000 students, resulting in a difference of approximately \$11 per student.

Mr. Marshall advised that four legislative bills are pending which would impact the education foundation, including one that would allow tax credits for donations to public school corporations.

Mr. Whitaker requested adoption of the following policies as presented for first reading at the December 11, 2017 board meeting: 1520, 1520.08, 1521, 1619, 1619.01, 1619.02, 1619.03, 2623, 3120.08, 3121, 3124, 3419, 3419.01, 3419.02, 3419.03, 4120.08, 4121, 4419, 4419.01, 4419.02, 4419.03, 5111, 5340, 5460, 5530, 5830, 6605, 6700, 8120, 8121, 8330, 8340, 8400, 8405, 8455, 9700, 1220, 1521, 2221, 2262, 2623.01, 3121, 3131, 3220.01, 4121, 5200, 5330, 5350, 5460, 5630.01v1, 5730, 6152, 8120, 8121, 8330, 8462, 8600, and 8800. Mr. Marshall made the motion to adopt these policies as presented, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Purkhiser motioned to adjourn. Mr. Marshall seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Board of Finance

The Springs Valley School Board met at 6:40 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Wininger, Mr. Farris, Mr. Marshall, Mrs. Lynch, and Mr. Purkhiser were present, along with Mr. Whitaker, Mrs. Allstott, and Mrs. Simmons.

Mr. Wininger stated that an annual Board of Finance meeting is required by law, with the appointment of a president and secretary. Mrs. Lynch made a motion for Mr. Marshall to hold the office of Board of Finance President and Mr. Purkhiser as Secretary. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Allstott presented the 2017 Report of Investments to board members and Mr. Whitaker for their review. Investments are held at Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company and Hoosier Hills Credit Union. (copy attached)

With no other business, Mr. Wininger made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Farris seconded, and the meeting for the Board of Finance adjourned at 6:43 PM.

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