

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2020**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 9, 2020 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Justin Wininger, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Joel Dalton, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman were present. Dr. Trevor Apple, Mr. Kyle Neukam, and Mrs. Amy Orr were also in attendance.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, collective bargaining, school safety and security, 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 6:00 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Mr. Jeff Kerby, Mr. Jason Russell, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

Mrs. Shipman made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 10, 2020 board meeting, and the vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Orr thanked her staff who participated in a recent fundraising event at Dairy Queen. She recognized students Aubrey Corn, Landon Cheatham, Lydia Gossett, and Addi Moffatt for their participation in the county-wide spelling bee, and congratulated Addi for being the overall winner. The Family First weekly meetings, which teaches the Strengthening Families Curriculum, started recently and Mrs. Orr thanked Kacie Shipman, Kris Tarr, and Amber Dorsam for their assistance with this program. The Tri-Kappa Art contest was held February 28<sup>th</sup>, and artwork will be on display at the Fine Arts Night on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Nurse Kearsten Ingle has organized a Mobile Dental Outreach which will be at the elementary school on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The third grading period will end on March 13, with reports cards to be sent home on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Indiana third grade assessment, IREAD, will begin on March 16. Spring Break is scheduled for March 23-27. Kindergarten Round-Up will be held on March 31 and April 1<sup>st</sup>, with all students turning five on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> eligible to enroll. Mrs. Orr reminded parents of the upcoming Census Day.

Mr. Russell congratulated Jewel McCormick on being selected to the East/West HBCA and the North/South All-Star games, and earning All-State honors with both the HBCA and IBCA. He thanked office and custodial staff, administrators, and community members who helped make hosting last week's boys' basketball sectional a success. Seniors Cameron Money and Ellison Burton will be signing letters of intent within the next few weeks to continue their sports careers. Spring sports will be starting soon, with the first track meet and a softball scrimmage game to be held next week. Mr. Russell stated that he will be taking a group of 55 people to Washington, DC over spring break, and thanked board members for their support of this student opportunity. He stated that Amanda Dalton has agreed to coordinate the student trips after his departure.

Mr. Neukam recognized the spelling bee contestants of the Orange County Spelling Bee, stated both schools were well represented, and congratulated Addi Moffatt on her victory. Students Georgia Chatman, Kimberly Gentry, and Jasmine Portillo competed at the FCCLA Leadership Conference in Muncie this past weekend. He thanked Mrs. Taylor Chastain and our FFA Chapter for providing the junior-senior high school staff with a taco bar in celebration of National FFA Day. Mrs. Taylor Chastain and students hosted a dodgeball tourney recently which brought in 17 teams. Students Karson Dalton and Jenna Cates placed third in Plant and Soil Science, and Gwen Parker was second in Natural Resources at the FFA District 11 Leadership contest. The first part of ISTEP+10

was held last week and the second part will be finished the week of April 6-9. Mr. Neukam thanked local businesses and individuals who donated snacks and drinks to our sophomores during last week's test. ILEARN testing for junior high students will be held the week of April 20<sup>th</sup> with state assessment testing the following week. Five students qualified for state solo and ensemble competition which resulted in all gold, one silver, and two distinctive awards. The jazz band received a gold rating at the ISSMA Jazz Festival this weekend at Terre Haute, and students Tre Toliver, Carter Rayls, and Ella Gadau received solo distinction awards. Four junior high students were awarded Patriot Pens for their accomplishments in their English class. The second set of house winners in our junior high reading program were awarded a trip to the movies last Friday. Freshman orientation is set for tomorrow evening at 6:30 in the auditorium. A Skills Fair is being planned for the afternoon of April 17<sup>th</sup> on-campus, and Mrs. Stacy Denbo is finalizing details for this event. The weight room project is complete, and students are enjoying the additional equipment pieces with their workouts. Mr. Neukam thanked our entire community, Mr. Russell, Ms. Kelly Schmitt, and everyone here at Springs Valley for their efforts in hosting the boys' sectional tournament.

Dr. Apple advised that bus inspections were held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and all corporation buses and contracted drivers' buses passed inspection. He thanked Wes McNeely and Larry Burton for their efforts in getting the buses ready.

No patrons addressed the board.

Dr. Apple informed the board that Mrs. Jennifer Burton has submitted a letter of resignation as elementary teacher effective May 21, 2020, and Ms. Kaitlin Tincher has resigned as elementary instructional assistant effective March 20, 2020.

Dr. Apple presented the following consent agenda items: 1) Recommend Tim Weisenberger to replace Kaitlin Tincher as Assistant Girls Track coach at the non-certified schedule Area 4 Level A at \$1250; 2) Recommend hiring Jessica Matheny as elementary instructional assistant effective March 30, 2020 at a rate of \$10.90 per hour; 3) Approve transfer of sick days to bring Mrs. Sheila Cooper to the maximum of 95 allowed by the non-certified contract. Therefore, 95 support staff sick days will be credited to her from the certified days she had acquired as a teacher; and 4) Richard Stackhouse has resigned as corporation bus driver effective February 28, 2020. John "Fred" Carnes will replace him on bus #1 at the same daily rate of \$80 per day, effective March 3, 2020. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve the items as stated. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Regarding the search for an elementary principal, Dr. Apple advised that some interviews have been held, more interviews are scheduled, and they hope to fill the position before the next board meeting.

Dr. Apple stated that Mrs. Amy Orr, who resigned last month as elementary principal, will return to the classroom for the 2020-21 school year at Level S on the Masters' salary column at the amount of \$65,725. Mrs. Shipman motioned to approve Mrs. Orr returning to the classroom at the salary as stated, and Mr. Farris seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised section one of the high school roof project should be complete over Spring Break.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of the quote from Michael Cooper to build two new softball dugouts for the amount of \$25,685. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mr. Farris seconded. Discussion was held, and the motion then passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended Performance Services as the provider for our upcoming HVAC and other energy savings projects. Mr. Burton made the motion as requested. Mr. Marshall seconded. Discussion followed, including the topics of the selection process, projects at other local schools, timeline of the HVAC project, and budgeting. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Russell addressed the board on the proposed high school gym flooring project, and advised that he has been working with two companies on the matter. He stated that he received one quote from Cincinnati Floor Company for an upgraded flooring which provides added safety features for student athletes, and was advised that a lower-grade floor would be approximately \$15,000 to \$18,000 less. The initial quote from Martin

Flooring was for a lower-end floor, and he has not received a second quote as requested for their upgraded floor system. Mr. Russell stated that board members Mr. Burton and Mr. Farris, as well as Dr. Apple and Mr. Neukam, had joined him for presentations by the flooring companies. Discussion was held on the topics of the different floor grades, the scope of the project, auxiliary work to be done by Cincinnati Floor, a timeline of the project, and life expectancy of the proposed flooring. Mr. Russell advised that he would prefer the upper-grade flooring system from Cincinnati Floor. Dr. Apple then made a recommendation to accept the quote from Cincinnati Floor Company of \$111,000 to replace the high school gym floor. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mr. Marshall seconded. Further discussion was held on the possibility of recouping some of the cost by selling pieces of the old floor. The motion was then passed 7-0.

Mr. Wininger stated that he would suggest establishing guidelines for future facility projects to include a timeline for board approval. Board consensus was that projects over the amount of \$50,000 will need to be presented for review at the first meeting, then discussion to follow at the second board meeting, with the project to be voted on at the third meeting. Dr. Apple agreed the guidelines should be followed when feasible, and he was instructed to complete a list of future facility needs so that board members could have an idea on upcoming projects.

Dr. Apple advised that Dr. Kerby has placed the order for the bus GPS equipment and software from Kajeet, and installation will be scheduled for Spring Break or soon thereafter. Dr. Kerby commented that he would expect the installation to be done following Spring Break.

Dr. Apple presented the following items for approval: 1) Overnight field trip for Mrs. Cindy Chastain and three students to attend a HOSA Leadership Conference in Indianapolis on April 13, 2020; and 2) Summer School category one course offerings which are funded by the DOE, including our traditional high school courses toward graduation and grades 1-5 reading/math courses as we have offered in the past. Summer school dates are June 1 through 19 from 8 AM to 11 AM, with a grab-n-go lunch provided free of charge in the high school cafeteria from 11:00 to 11:30 daily pending approval of the lunch program by the Indiana Department of Education. Mrs. Shipman so moved. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that he had sent a letter to patrons regarding steps taken on the COVID-19 Coronavirus issue, and read excerpts from the letter. He stated that even though there are no known cases locally, the corporation is taking a proactive approach to address the issue and is following guidelines established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as Indiana Department of Education, and emphasized that the safety of our students is our highest priority.

Dr. Kerby provided information on E-rate funding for the internet service and category two services, and advised that we have a great opportunity to upgrade some equipment at this time with 80/20 funding in which the corporation would pay for all expenses up front and then be reimbursed for 80% of the expenditures. He requested permission to proceed with the category two project utilizing the reimbursable grants, in which the corporation's final liability should not exceed \$8,100. Mrs. Lynch motioned to allow the purchases as described. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Justin Wininger, director of Hoosier Hills PACT, addressed the board regarding their school-based intervention programs offered at Springs Valley Junior/Senior High School, including the behavioral monitoring, in-school suspension, day-reporting out-of-school suspension, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade life skills. He requested support of the programs for the 2020-21 school year in the amount of \$30,000. Mr. Neukam stated that the PACT employees Desiree Smith and Cassidy Daugherty are assisting Mrs. Stacy Denbo in different areas, and feel that their presence is beneficial for his students. Dr. Apple recommended continued funding of the Hoosier Hills PACT programs. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to allow the \$30,000 funding to Hoosier Hills PACT for the 2020-21 school year. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Marshall provided a legislative update on current matters, including the house bill 1065 which concerns referendum on TIF districts.

There was no other business presented before the Board.

Dr. Apple presented the updated Alcohol and Controlled Substance Testing Policy for Commercial Drivers’ License (CDL) Employees tonight for the second reading and advised the policy was first read at the February meeting. He requested approval of the updated policy as stated. Mr. Farris motioned as stated, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Burton motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

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