

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2020**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, October 5, 2020 in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. Board members Mr. Justin Winger, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Joel Dalton, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman were present. Dr. Trevor Apple and Mrs. Renee Childress 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 6:13 PM in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. All of the above, Dr. Jeff Kerby, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

Mr. Farris made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 board meeting, and vouchers and claims as presented. Mr. Burton seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mrs. Childress advised the elementary staff had their final Miss Kendra training on September 24th, and will begin the program building-wide upon return from Fall Break. She thanked Missy Campbell for working extra hours these last couple of weeks to make sure our students were served a healthy breakfast and lunch, and to keep the cafeteria running smoothly. The French Lick/West Baden Lions Club presented dictionaries to each third grade student recently. Elementary students will be participating in the national Socktober Program during a two-week period in October, collecting donations of new socks which will be shared with community members in need. Judging for a pumpkin decorating contest will be held on October 30th, with prizes to be awarded in various categories. Officer Andy Burkhardt will begin the 8-week DARE Program with 5th grade students on October 23rd.

On behalf of Mr. Neukam, Dr. Apple thanked the French Lick Resort for their donation of gift cards totaling \$1,200. The gift cards will be used to assist students in buying essential items such as hygiene products, clothing, snacks, and other items needed to help our students succeed. We have completed the first nine-week period of the 2020-21 school year, gaining much needed experience on the different educational options for our students. He thanked all the teachers and support staff for their hard work and determination. Missy Campbell, Barb Hibdon, and Gail Allen were recognized for their commitment to the well-being of our students' dietary needs. Dr. Apple thanked Ms. Kelly Schmitt and Coach Janna Foxx for their efforts in presenting two senior nights for fall athletes, adding that both of them and their supporting casts did a great job of recognizing our seniors.

No patrons addressed the board.

Dr. Apple recommended Lori Harris for the Tech Support Assistant position effective September 28, 2020, with employment at 29 hours per week and \$15.00 per hour. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended Erin Meehan for elementary teaching assistant. The position is effective October 6, 2020, at 29 hours per week for twelve weeks, moving to 32 hours per week thereafter at the hourly pay rate of \$10.90 with associated benefits. Mr. Burton made the motion as stated. Mr. Marshall seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple presented the following consent agenda regarding ECA positions: 1) Landon Harner as 6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach at the contract amount of \$1,000; 2) Ryan Carnes – 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball Volunteer Coach, and 3) Adjustment of contracts to be grandfathered in on the old pay scale with years of experience: Wes McNeely – 5th Grade Girls Basketball Coach/grandfathered rate of \$1,063 (different amount from the 07/13/20 board meeting approval), and Jessica Roberts – 6th grade Girls Basketball Coach/grandfathered rate of \$1,597 (different amount from the 01/13/20 board meeting approval). Mr. Burton so moved, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. With no discussion, the motion was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised the service work on the high school gym basketball goals has been completed, with the installation of new winches, cables, and safety straps.

Some preliminary preparation work has been performed on the high school HVAC project. The air handling unit for the library should be shipped by the end of October, and the classroom units are to ship by December 14th.

Dr. Apple stated that all budget forms and resolutions have been submitted to Gateway for the 2021 budget process.

Dr. Apple provided updated statistics on COVID, advising that we currently have 13 students and one teacher in quarantine, with one positive case for a virtual student.

A link to the Indiana COVID dashboard has been added to our school's website. Dr. Apple advised that the dashboard now provides school-specific data, and he thanked Dr. Kerby for posting the link.

Dr. Apple presented updates to the Back to School Plan, including revisions to elementary recess, elementary breakfast, high school lunch, and added requirements to participate in virtual option 1 including attendance and academic performance requirements. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mr. Farris seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended payment of the following staff stipends: \$1,100 for each member of the Back to School Planning Committee, \$1,000 to each additional certified staff member, and \$300 for each non-certified staff member, for a total of \$70,300 to be paid from the School Improvement Grant and CARES Grant funds on December 4th payroll, excluding staff who were previously given payments from CARES Grant funds. Mr. Wininger made the motion to amend the motion from the July 13, 2020 board meeting that stated staff who served on the Back to School Committee were to receive \$350 stipends, all other staff members - \$250, Principals – equivalent of 10 extra days pay each to Mrs. Childress (\$3,777) and Mr. Neukam (\$4,022) to now read as follows: COVID-related stipends for staff and principals – Due to the extra burden on teachers and administrators, I recommend the following payments to be made from CARES Act funds: Staff who served on the Back to School Committee - \$1,100, Each additional certified staff member - \$1,000, and all support staff - \$300. Mrs. Lynch seconded the motion as stated. Mr. Marshall stated that he was not in favor of amending the previously adopted motion at this time, thus changing the numbers from the July meeting, and he felt the difference of stipend amounts for the certified and non-certified staff needed to be closer. Further discussion included limitations on the CARES Grant funding. The motion was then approved 5-1-1, with Mr. Wininger, Mr. Burton, Mr. Farris, Mrs. Lynch, and Mrs. Shipman voting in the affirmative, Mr. Marshall voting in opposition, and Mr. Dalton abstained.

Based on the outstanding work from Dr. Kerby and Mr. Lionel Brown, and for the substantial amount of hours they have worked above their normal schedule, Dr. Apple recommended that each of them receive a stipend of \$2,000. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Marshall seconded. With no discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

The policy numbers 3112, Board/Staff Relations, and 3220.01, Teacher Appreciation Grant, were presented for the second reading. Mr. Burton made the motion to approve the revised policies as presented. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

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