

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2009**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 9, 2009 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. John Carnes was present for a portion of the meeting.

All board members and Mr. Todd Pritchett returned to Executive Session following the Regular Session, and adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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 6:06 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members and Mr. Todd Pritchett were present, as well as Mr. Gary Boyd, Mr. Tony Whitaker, 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 February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Board Meeting. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Vouchers and claims were approved as presented, with the motion by Mrs. Brothers. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Board members were invited to the basketball awards banquet, which will be held next Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00.

Mr. Marshall distributed information regarding the CAP professional development points attained by board members, and stated that the Springs Valley School Board has again been recognized as an Outstanding Board by the Indiana School Boards' Association. A regional professional development meeting will be held at Jasper on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Marshall, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Owen, and Mr. Larry Pritchett stated that they will be attending the meeting, along with Mr. Todd Pritchett.

No patrons addressed the Board.

Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that Miss Gina Schuetter has submitted her letter of resignation as English teacher, effective at the end of the school year. Mr. Owen motioned to accept the resignation. Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed by the vote of 6-1, with Mr. Kellams voting against the motion.

Mrs. Brothers moved to post a social studies teaching position to fill the vacancy as recommended by Mr. Todd Pritchett. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that Mr. Jerry Zehr has submitted his letter of retirement, to be effective August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mr. Owen made a motion to accept Mr. Zehr's letter. Mrs. Brothers seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made a motion to post the job opening for the plant operator position to assume building operations. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Due to the nature of the reorganization and restructuring of staff, Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended naming Mr. John Carnes as Building & Grounds Supervisor, which entails

oversight of all custodial and maintenance employees, at an hourly rate of \$21.39 effective July 1, 2009. Mrs. Brothers so moved, and Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended approval of an independent contract with Mr. Kevin Smith for landscaping, mowing, and field preparation (excluding the football field) from April 6<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, with payment from Capital Projects Fund for the contract amount of \$8,750.00. Mr. Larry Pritchett so moved, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett presented the 2009-2010 school calendar for adoption. Mrs. Brothers so moved, and Mr. Owen seconded. Following discussion regarding built-in days, the motion passed 7-0. (copy attached)

The AYP and PL 221 results were reviewed. Springs Valley Elementary School and Springs Valley Community Schools Corporation both met AYP. Springs Valley Junior/Senior High School, which did not meet AYP, was placed in Phase I for Improvement, as this is the second consecutive year to not meet AYP. The elementary school attained the highest PL 221 level of Exemplary in Progress. The corporation was ranked Commendable, and the junior/senior high school was rated in the Academic Watch category.

Mr. Boyd advised that the high school met 9 of the 13 categories for AYP, with all math categories on target. Plans are being made for steps toward improvement in the English department. He also discussed the ISTEP testing process, and is unsure of the effect of the move from Fall to Spring testing dates. Mr. Whitaker stated that elementary staff members are excited and relieved with the testing results. Teachers in his building are looking forward to new writing projects and differentiated instruction workshops. Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that state and federal guidelines include breaking scores down by categories such as race and free/reduced lunch; however, we see students in categories of need, not the state and federal groups. He congratulated teachers for their hard work. Discussion was held.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised board members that the Senate bill on school consolidation was never voted on, and was opposed by members of the proposing party.

Mr. John Hawkins presented drawings, requested approval of the plans and permission to receive bids on the gym renovation project, stating the project has been broken down into 9 bid items. Mr. Hawkins requested help with the pink water fountains, and displayed window and insulation samples. He stated that he would hope to have bids back by the April board meeting. He also noted that a future project might need to include a wheelchair ramp or lift to the locker rooms. Discussion was held, including clarification on the elementary restroom project, re-grouting of tile in the gym public restrooms, and replacement or resurfacing of the water fountains. Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended approving items 1 through 9 and to move forward with bidding. Mrs. Brothers so moved. Mr. Owen seconded. Further discussion was held concerning enclosure of the vestibule. The motion then passed 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett has received two quotes for replacement of the folding doors in the elementary cafeteria/gym, with the first quote from Architectural Sales for \$43,600 and the second quote from U.S. Specialties for \$21,510. He recommended accepting the quote from U.S. Specialties with an additional \$4,815 for an STC rating of 47 (sound-proofing), bringing the total to \$26,325. Mrs. Brothers so moved, and Mr. Owen seconded. Mr. Todd Pritchett clarified that the original doors are mechanical, but the replacement doors would be manual operation. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised board members that delivery of the new mini-bus had been delayed until late March or early April.

Under New Business, Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that Springs Valley Schools is projected to receive \$155,000 per year for Title IA and IDEA Special Education funding in the amount of \$223,000 under the two-year Federal Stimulus package.

Graduation has been tentatively set for Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, pending any additional missed school days.

Mr. Todd Pritchett stated that he has received one quote for painting at the elementary building, and requested permission to receive at least one additional quote and to move forward with the lowest and most responsive bid and to receive an alternate quote for the elementary cafeteria/gym. Mrs. Brothers so moved. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett recommended using Utility Auditing Company, Inc. to audit all utility bills to find possible savings. Terms of the contract would be for 21 months, with Utility Auditing to receive 60% of the savings and the school to receive 40% of the savings. Mr. Owen so moved. Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. Discussion was held, and the motion then carried 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett advised that the new student software system has the capability of placing mass phone calls, text messages, and e-mails to staff members and parents within approximately three minutes in the event of emergency situations and school closings. More information will be provided at a future meeting.

Mr. Todd Pritchett has looked into the possibility of refinancing the school’s debt service bonds, and advised that none of our bonds are eligible for refinancing.

Mr. Galloway made a motion to approve Mrs. Debbie Burton’s request for \$6,000 in funding from Casino Revenue for elementary library books and encyclopedias. Mr. Owen seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Hoosier Uplands has requested \$10,000 of Casino Revenue funds for continuing the preschool partnership for the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Owen so moved, and Mr. Larry Pritchett seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. John Kuss of Hoosier Hills PACT has requested \$25,000 Casino Revenue funding for continuing the Day Reporting program and life-skills instruction for next year. Mr. Larry Pritchett so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. Mr. Marshall requested a presentation by the group at a future board meeting. The motion then passed 7-0.

Mr. Larry Pritchett made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2005 John Deere lawn mower from Reynolds John Deere Golf Equipment. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Todd Pritchett requested approval of Ms. Stephanie Linette as Varsity Softball Assistant coach. Mr. Owen so moved, and Mrs. Brothers seconded. Mr. Galloway questioned if any staff members were interested in the position. The motion then passed 7-0.

With no further business before the board, Mr. Larry Pritchett made the motion to adjourn at 7:36 and return to Executive Session. Mr. Owen seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

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