

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 14, 2016**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 14, 2016 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.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluations, 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 6:09 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Mr. James Bush, Mrs. Julie Woolsey, 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 February 8, 2016 board meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Galloway, and second by Mrs. Shipman. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Purkhiser made a motion to approve vouchers and claims as presented. Mrs. Shipman seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

As board secretary, Mr. Purkhiser signed resolutions authorizing Mr. Jim Bush and Mr. Daniel Wolford to represent Springs Valley High School in the Small Claims Division of the Orange County Superior Court. (copies attached)

Mr. Whitaker recognized Mrs. Kris Tarr, Mrs. Janelle Crews, and Elementary Math Bowl team members Larron Childers, Xander Cook, Karson Dalton, Noah Owens, Alan Marshall, Molly Tucker, Kaci Mahan, Alan Ward, Logan McWilliam, Nora Fontenot, Ella Gadau, Jack Dalton, Jessalyn Mahan, Ethan Edwards, Nick Yeckering, Wyman Smoot, Davionna Lanham, and Chaeli Vernon. He congratulated them for their victory in the regional math bowl competition, edging out county rivals Throop Elementary and Orleans Elementary. Mrs. Woolsey added that as a former math teacher, she was very excited for the students' success.

Mr. Whitaker complimented band students who participated in the county wide band concert held on February 22nd at Paoli High School. The All-County Bicentennial Concert was very well done, and he congratulated directors Mr. Luke Aylsworth, Mr. Terry Burton, and Mr. Bill Laughlin for bringing the students together and creating an outstanding event. Mr. Aylsworth added that the Springs Valley Winter Percussion Ensemble remains undefeated, and state finals are to be held on April 2nd.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated 5th grade student Cole Hall for placing third in the county wide spelling bee held on February 27th.

Mr. Whitaker announced that senior Hunt Reynolds has been named to the Academic All-State football team.

The following girls' basketball players were recognized for their accomplishments this past season: Kiana Wininger – All-State and PLAC All-Conference, Olivia Carnes – Academic All-State and PLAC All-Conference, Morgan Meehan – Honorable Mention All-State and PLAC All-Conference, and Caitlyn Reynolds – Honorable Mention All-State and PLAC All-Conference. Mr. Whitaker also recognized Hector Walker for making the PLAC All-Conference team.

Springs Valley Sea Perch held an invitational on Saturday, March 5th, with Springs Valley, Oolitic, North Daviess, and Owen Valley participating. A total of 41 teams competed, while 17 of those teams with 81 students were from Springs Valley. Mr. Whitaker thanked everyone who helped make this another successful event. First, second, and third place awards were given in the Sprint, Obstacle Course, and Challenge Course events, with Springs Valley teams achieving all but two awards.

No one from the public addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker recommended approval of Mrs. Shelly Reynolds' request for two days off without pay. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion was carried 7-0.

Mrs. Barbara Renner has requested a six-week medical leave beginning on Monday, March 28, 2016. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve Mrs. Renner's request, as recommended by Mr. Whitaker. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended accepting the resignation of Mr. Jack Hinkle as custodian and varsity boys track coach, effective March 11, 2016. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that the custodian job opening has been posted, but no replacement is being named at this time. The successful applicant will be required to obtain their CDL school bus license. Other staff members will be used to cover Mr. Hinkle's duties until a replacement is found.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Mrs. Delores Allen has submitted her retirement notice effective at the end of this school year, tentatively June 3, 2016. Mr. Allstott motioned to accept Mrs. Allen's retirement notice. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Carnes made a motion to accept Mrs. Delores Skaggs' resignation as administrative band assistant, effective February 12, 2016. Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he is working with administrators in looking at options to combine some of these positions as cost-saving opportunities. Recommendations will be presented to the board at a later meeting.

Mr. Whitaker supported Mr. Mark Hammond's recommendation to hire Tim Weisenberger as varsity boys track coach, replacing Jack Hinkle. Mrs. Shipman motioned as requested. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

As previously directed, Mr. Whitaker stated that information was provided to board members concerning the non-certified staff pay schedule. Suggested changes are made to make salaries more competitive in order to retain staff in those positions. Mr. Whitaker added that we have a lot of turnover in the teaching assistant position, and not much interest in the custodial position which requires a CDL school bus license. He reminded board members that any increases will add to General Fund expenses. He will continue to review the matter, and make a recommendation at a future meeting.

In regard to the casino legislation, Mr. Whitaker advised that Orleans Community Schools has now agreed to the permanent solution of 50% of casino funding amounts to Springs Valley and 25% to Orleans and Paoli Schools. He stated that the Paoli school board is meeting tonight, and would update the board of any action taken on this matter by the Paoli board.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Springs Valley Schools received a performance award in the amount of \$14,436.04 from the Indiana Department of Education. This money was divided among teachers receiving an effective or highly effective rating on their 2014-15 evaluations, with eligible teachers receiving \$294.27 or \$295.27.

Mr. Scott Stenftenagel of Stenftenagel Group advised that both the Gym VRF HVAC project and Bus Garage Roof Replacement are nearing completion, and he hopes to complete the punch lists within the next week or so. He added that a lot of rusted areas were discovered when replacing the roof, which required installation of new decking material.

Mr. Stenftenagel and Mr. Duane Dart, from Schmidt Associates, presented bids for the Main Gym VRF HVAC and Lighting Improvement projects. Mr. Stenftenagel advised that they were very pleased with the turnout and bids received. He said three bids were received for the Main Gym VRF HVAC project, and recommended acceptance of the low bid from Huntingburg Machine Works in the amount of \$596,577, with an alternate bid 1 for \$10,456 for pad and UG. Mr. Whitaker advised that three sources can be used to fund the projects, including money received from the bond refinancing, Capital Projects Fund, and Rainy Day Fund. Discussion was held regarding the bids as submitted, change orders, and contingency amounts as part of the bids. Four bids were received for the Lighting Improvement project. Mr. Stenftenagel recommended accepting the low bid of \$212,713 from Precision Piping & Mechanical of Evansville, Indiana for the base bid, and alternates 1, 2, 3, and 3A. He added that substantial rebates will be available on the lighting changes, along with significant energy savings. After further discussion, Mr. Whitaker recommended that the board accept the bid of \$596,577 from Huntingburg Machine Works and the total bid of \$212,713 by Precision Piping & Mechanical, with a hold on the Huntingburg Machine Works alternate 1 price of \$10,456. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to proceed and accept the low bids as stated. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Kevin Knies and students Addie George, Olivia Hinkle, and Katherine Hamlin addressed the board. Addie invited board members and Mr. Whitaker to the FFA banquet, scheduled for April 1st. Katherine requested permission for FFA students to attend the University of Kentucky FFA Field Day, which will allow students to compete in agricultural events. Mr. Whitaker recommended approval of the FFA trip to University of Kentucky on April 21st. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded the motion, which was approved 7-0. An FFA parent who was present thanked board members for the opportunities provided to his daughter and the other students.

Dr. Jim Halik presented information to board members on the policy development services offered by NEOLA. Discussion was held regarding the various services available. Mr. Whitaker advised that he has talked with school attorney JC Tucker regarding the matter, and he felt we should utilize NEOLA for these services. Mr. Whitaker recommended the on-line policy services by NEOLA, and wait on using the Administration Guideline. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Jeff Kerby advised the board that he has worked with AdTec, our e-rate consultant, to prepare requests for proposals for category one and two e-rate services, including network infrastructure upgrade. This would allow us to do some much needed updates, including adding more wireless in some rooms, purchase a new firewall to replace the current one which is 12 years old, and possibly purchase a new router. He added that the internet bandwidth subscription had been increased to 100mb before adding Chromebooks, but needs to be increased more to avoid connectivity issues. The State Connectivity Grant can now be used with providers other than the state-contracted provider, which will allow for more competitive pricing. Mr. Kerby stated that the category two request for proposal is due back later this month, and he will request action at the April meeting.

Due to days missed because of weather cancellations and in order to meet the 180 day state requirement, the last day of school is tentatively set for May 25, 2016. Graduation will be scheduled for Saturday, May 28, 2016.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Hoosier Hills PACT has requested a \$25,600 contribution for their school-based prevention and intervention programs for the 2016-17 school year. He feels this is a very good program, and said that Mr. Bush believes the program is definitely a benefit to our students. He recommended the funding come from the Casino Revenue Fund. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended approval of the summer school category one course offerings which are funded by the Department of Education. He stated the intent would be to offer our traditional high school courses and grades 1-3 reading courses as offered in the past. Mr. Galloway motioned as recommended. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

In regard to the summer school driver's education classes, Mr. Whitaker said that Babcock Motors has agreed to the rental of vehicles for this purpose. He thanked Mr.

Darren Kerns for his efforts in securing this agreement. Mr. Whitaker recommended offering the summer school driver’s education class, at a cost of \$320 per participant, with Mr. Kerns and Mr. Justin Scheller to be the instructors. Mr. Purkhiser so moved. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Hoosier Uplands has informed him they will discontinue their support of the preschool services offered to Springs Valley students. In talking with Mrs. Megan Lowe, our preschool teacher, to determine the options in moving forward, Mr. Whitaker said they feel the program can be continued without increased cost, and possibly at a lower cost to the school. He will continue to work with Mrs. Lowe on this matter, and report back to the board. Discussion was held regarding the preschool program.

Mr. Whitaker reported that ISTEP testing has been completed with very few issues, other than a delay in beginning the paper portion of the math test due to an insufficient supply of booklets for the third and tenth grade. No technology problems were encountered during the testing.

School bus inspections were held recently. The inspection went well and all buses were approved, with the exception of one activity bus that was off-campus that day. Mr. Whitaker thanked our staff and contracted drivers for their work, adding that the officers were very complimentary of our fleet.

The ISBA Region Meeting will be held on Monday, April 18 at Huntingburg. Anyone wishing to attend was instructed to notify Mrs. Allstott.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Galloway motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

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