

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MAY 26, 2016**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Thursday, May 26, 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. Mr. Jim Bush and Mr. Mark Hammond were present for a portion of the meeting.

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 6:20 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members, Mr. Whitaker, and Mr. Bush were present, along with Mrs. Kathy Allstott.

Mrs. Lynch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated the following track participants for their recent successes: girls' sectional winners were Caitlyn Reynolds, Sherine Munroe, Shenay Francis, Alanna Nelson, Aliegha Punturi, and Stevie McNew, all of whom qualified for regional competition, and boys' regional qualifiers - Isiah Pantiere, Kolbe Lowe, Wyatt Purkhiser, O'Brien Selby, Garon Gadau, and Jacob Bates. Mr. Whitaker stated the girls' track team finished 3rd overall at sectional competition, and the boys' team finished 6th.

Mr. Whitaker recognized the Springs Valley SeaPerch program, which sent three high school teams and one junior high team to national competition held at Louisiana State University on May 21st. The high school team SeaHawks, consisting of Devon Roach, Austin Ashby, and Travis Allen won first place in the obstacle course, first place in the orbs challenge course, and eighth place in the poster presentation, resulting in the first place overall champion for high school division out of 95 high school teams competing.

Mr. Whitaker stated the end of the school year, which finished this week, went well.

Mrs. Kris Tarr addressed the board, and spoke about the pride of being a SeaPerch parent. She thanked Mr. Chad Goldman for the time, heart, and soul that he has given to the program, and Mrs. Keyly Watts for organizing the welcome home celebration. Mrs. Tarr also thanked the board and administration for their financial commitment in funding the trip. Dr. Carnes stated that the SeaPerch program is a very important program in our school. Mrs. Shipman suggested hosting an open house to honor the national champions, and allow the community a chance to see how the SeaPerch program works.

Mr. Gene Pinnick had signed up to address the board, but declined the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Jason Russell thanked the board for the staff appreciation dinner held recently. He stated that he has heard nothing but good, positive comments about the evening of great food and fellowship.

In support of Mr. John Carnes' recommendation, Mr. Whitaker requested the hiring of Mrs. Jonica Mills as daytime custodian beginning immediately to fill the vacancy created with Mrs. Amber Dorsam's resignation. Compensation will follow the non-certified salary schedule. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve the hiring of Mrs. Jonica Mills as recommended. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Mr. Bush has been working with Mr. Luke Aylsworth to fill the band/office administrative assistant position, and Mr. Bush has recommended hiring Mrs. Bonnie Stone to fill this position. Mrs. Stone will begin working in mid-June when Mr. Aylsworth returns to begin his summer work, with pay as per the salary schedule. Mr. Purkhiser so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Hammond, Mr. Bush, and Mrs. Julie Woolsey, Mr. Whitaker requested the board employ Mr. Michael Leitzman as elementary teacher and boys varsity basketball coach on a two-year contract at the beginning base salary of \$36,705 with \$6,994 coaching pay for a total contract amount of \$43,699. Mr. Galloway made the motion as recommended. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker announced that Mrs. Brenda Wyman has submitted her letter of retirement effective June 3, 2016. He added that the position of high school ECA treasurer has been posted, and we will work quickly to fill this position. Mr. Whitaker stated that Mrs. Wyman has worked for the corporation for 22 years.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Mr. Danny Land has turned in his letter of retirement effective July 22, 2016, after 34 years of employment as custodian/bus driver.

Mrs. Alexis Pierce has submitted her resignation as teaching assistant effective today. Mr. Whitaker stated that he will post that position.

Mr. Whitaker addressed the board by saying that in working to cut costs to become solvent in the General Fund by 2019, hard decisions must be made. He is doing that tonight by recommending the move of Mrs. Kris Tarr from the elementary counselor position into a classroom teaching position effective for the 2016-17 school year. He recommended her contract remain the same, other than the reduction of the five extra days allowed for the counselor position. Mr. Galloway motioned as recommended. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that enough high school students have signed up for summer school to make the offer feasible. He stated that Mr. Bush has recommended the board hire Mr. Henry Cruz as supervisor of summer school on-line credit recovery programs, adding that this is a category one summer school expenditure, which is eligible for reimbursement by the state. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that last month, we adopted a resolution for the distribution of the casino funds with the split of 45% for Springs Valley, and 27.5% for both Orleans and Paoli Schools as a permanent agreement. He added that board members and administrators from those two schools have been communicating, and have agreed to adopt the resolution with the split of 45% for Springs Valley, 30% for Paoli, and 25% for Orleans as a permanent solution. Mr. Purkhiser made a motion to adopt the new resolution with the split of 45% Springs Valley, 30% Paoli, and 25% Orleans on a permanent basis. Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed with the vote of 6-1, with Mrs. Carnes voting in the negative, who added that she still feels Springs Valley deserves 50% of the funds. (copy attached)

Mr. Whitaker presented a policy on losses, shortages, and theft of school corporation funds and assets, as required by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. He added that we obviously investigate any losses, shortages or thefts of school funds or assets, but are required to report anything over our determined threshold of \$2,500.00, and recommended approving the policy as presented. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion was approved 7-0. (copy attached)

Mr. Galloway made a motion to approve the FFA field trip to attend the Indiana State FFA Convention at Purdue University on June 14-16. Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reminded board members that graduation will be held this Saturday evening at 6:00, and asked board members to be there early.

Mr. Purkhiser advised that the Lost River Vocational School has hired a teacher for our construction trade class. He stated that Mr. Bob Hounshell had previously filled that position part-time at West Washington Schools, but will be a full-time employee for the Springs Valley program.

Dr. Carnes asked about the progress of the sidewalk for kindergarten students and street projects. Mr. Whitaker advised that the work to be covered by the French Lick Redevelopment Commission should be completed soon. All agreed the speed sign on Larry Bird Boulevard has been a good addition.

Mr. Whitaker informed the board that our special education cooperative director, Ms. Melissa Lancaster, has resigned, and added that interviews will begin within the next couple of weeks.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Carnes motioned to adjourn. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

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