

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 13, 2016**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, June 13, 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.

A second Executive Session was held, and dismissed at 8:55 PM. All board members and Mr. Whitaker were present at the second Executive Session.

During the Executive Sessions, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, personnel, and litigation. No subject matters were discussed in the Executive Sessions other than the subject matters specified in the public notice.

Regular Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Regular Session at 6:21 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All of the above, as well as Mr. Jim 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 May 9th and May 26th, 2016 board meetings were approved with a motion by Mr. Galloway, and second by Mrs. Shipman. The motion passed 7-0.

Vouchers and claims were approved as presented, with a motion by Mr. Galloway. Dr. Carnes seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker congratulated members of the Boys Golf team for winning the county meet on May 26th. They also placed second in the PLAC conference meet, and Logan Russell, Carson Stailey, and John Pinnick earned all-conference honors. The team placed 4th at the Jasper sectional this year in a very strong field, and Carson Stailey advanced to regional action by winning a playoff.

Four members of the Girls Track team had a very good showing at the IHSAA Girls State track meet on June 3rd. Mr. Whitaker stated that Caitlyn Reynolds placed 16th in the 300 hurdles and 20th in the 100 hurdles. He also recognized the 4x100 relay team of Alanna Nelson, Sherine Munroe, Caitlyn Reynolds, and Shenay Francis, which placed 20th.

Mr. Chad Goldman addressed the board regarding the student experiences at the National Seaperch Challenge, adding that every Springs Valley team placed in the top 50% out of 95 high school teams and 91 middle school teams. He thanked the board for funding the seaperch activities, and said the students are eager to get started on next year's projects. Student Reed Tarr stated he had a lot of fun, and appreciated the opportunity to go places. Mr. Goldman said that next year's invitational will be held in February, and invited everyone to the event. Mr. Whitaker said that he is very proud of the students, and appreciated Mr. Goldman's efforts.

No patrons addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker announced that Mrs. Teresa Apple has submitted her resignation as high school librarian effective July 1, 2016. The position has been posted.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Mr. Bob Greger has resigned as varsity Cross Country coach effective today, June 13, 2016.

Upon recommendation by Athletic Director Mr. Mark Hammond, Mr. Whitaker requested the following coaches for the fall and winter seasons: Cross Country – Derek Freeman (head coach), and Boys Basketball – Jason Russell (junior varsity coach), Tracy Tucker (volunteer coach), and David Grable (volunteer). Mr. Galloway motioned as recommended, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Galloway then made a motion to hire Ron Carnes as freshman Boys Basketball coach. Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Carnes abstaining.

After posting the high school treasurer position, screening applications, and conducting interviews, Mr. Bush recommended hiring Mrs. Shannon Meehan as junior/senior high school

ECA treasurer at the starting salary of \$14.25 with other benefits as stated in the Classified Staff handbook beginning June 28, 2016. Mrs. Shipman so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Bush recommended Mrs. Amanda Dalton for the junior high English teacher position beginning with the 2016-2017 school year at the starting salary of \$37,603. Mr. Galloway made the motion as recommended. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that all three county schools have adopted the Casino Revenue resolution supporting the 45-30-25 split as previously discussed. The signed resolutions have been submitted to the Orange County treasurer, and we are now waiting for the funds to be released.

Mr. Scott Stenftenagel updated Mr. Whitaker and board members on the status of current improvement projects, including the main gymnasium concessions/restrooms/locker room HVAC VRF installation, bus garage roof replacement, main gymnasium HVAC improvements 2016 project – installation of HVAC VRF system to heat and cool gymnasium, main gymnasium improvements – additional lighting improvements, bus garage exterior improvement project, press box roof replacement project, and security improvement project.

Mr. Whitaker asked for authority to accept a quote on the security improvement project with replacement of doors and door hardware, in order to comply with the terms of the Secured School Safety Grant whereby the grant funds of \$35,000 and matching grant money for \$35,000 must be spent by June 30, 2016. Mr. Whitaker stated this project started out as just replacing the hardware in the doors; however, due to the age and condition of the doors at the high school, specifically the louvers, it was determined the doors should also be replaced to provide added security protection. This has not been a smooth process because of the project changes. Mrs. Shipman made a motion to allow Mr. Whitaker permission to expend the \$35,000 Secured School Safety Grant funds and \$35,000 in matching funds by June 30th upon receipt of a successful proposal for the door leafs and hardware, door access software, and security options. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he met recently with Dr. James Halik of NEOLA, and has begun the NEOLA policy handbook process. First drafts of several policies were included in the board packet for board members' review. He added that no action will be taken tonight, but asked board members to look through the policy templates, reviewing the choices presented on the first drafts. Approval of these updated policies will begin at the next meeting, and Mr. Whitaker stated the handbook could possibly be completed by December.

Following a review of the National School Lunch Program conducted at the junior/senior high school on December 2 & 3, 2015, findings were noted that the adult lunch and a la carte item prices are too low. As a corrective action, cafeteria manager Mrs. Kelly Weisenberger recommended to raise the adult lunch meal price to \$3.30, which is the minimum requirement, and noted that a la carte items will be priced at the minimum requirements beginning with the 2016-17 school year. The USDA's weighted average lunch price requirement is calculated to be \$2.31 for Springs Valley, with the optional rounded down price to \$2.30. According to meal cost calculations, Mrs. Weisenberger recommended to raise the adult breakfast price from \$1.50 to \$1.75, and maintain the current student breakfast price of \$1.15. Mr. Whitaker supported Mrs. Weisenberger's recommendation, stating these price increases are not required by Springs Valley Schools but rather by federal guidelines. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Shipman motioned to approve the independent contract with Warren Owens for coordination of the After School Teen Program for 2016-2017 school year with compensation at \$13,500, as recommended by Mr. Whitaker. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended approving the independent contract with Jeanie Carnes as the Assistant to the Director of the After School Teen Program for 2016-2017 school year for the amount of \$4,750. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

As the superintendent's representative to the Springs Valley Education Foundation, Mr. Whitaker reappointed Mr. Roger Fisher.

Mrs. Carnes made a motion for the reappointment of Ralph Purkhiser and Todd Marshall as school board's appointees to the Springs Valley Education Foundation. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker requested approval of the Junior/Senior High Student Handbook and Elementary Student Handbook as presented. Discussion was held regarding the proposed changes. Mr. Galloway then made a motion to approve both handbooks as presented. Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker provided information about the Kindergarten Countdown class, which is to be sponsored by The United Way and at no cost to us. The program will be in session from

Tuesday, July 5 through Friday, July 29 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, with students eating lunch at 11:30 at the Summer Food Service Program. Seventeen students have been enrolled in this program. Mrs. Shipman made a motion that Mrs. Amy Orr teach this class with the assistance of Mrs. Jill Elkins, as recommended by Mr. Whitaker. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

As previously discussed, Hoosier Uplands has discontinued their support of preschool services at Springs Valley Learning Center. Mr. Whitaker has communicated with Mrs. Megan Lowe, preschool teacher, the options in moving forward. We feel we can continue this program without increased cost, and possibly at a lower cost to the school as we had contributed \$10,000 to the program in past years. Information was provided on the estimated costs for the program for the 2016-2017 school year, based on data gathered at preliminary registration. Mr. Whitaker recommended Mrs. Megan Lowe be hired as preschool coordinator/teacher at an hourly rate of \$13.00 for the 2016-17 school year, and stated he would have a recommendation for the preschool teaching assistant at the next meeting. Mrs. Purkhiser so moved, and Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Mr. Hammond has requested the school corporation again purchase athletic tickets for all students in grade K – 12, and he recommended the cost of approximately \$35,000 be paid from the Casino Revenue Fund. Mr. Galloway so moved. Mrs. Carnes seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recommended offering teachers a \$100 stipend to attend a professional development workshop provided by Five Star on July 21st and \$100 per day for curriculum work. Mr. Galloway made the motion as requested, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed by the vote of 6-0-1, with Dr. Carnes abstaining.

As per our adopted budget calendar, Mr. Whitaker advised there will be a board meeting on Wednesday, August 24 to conduct a public hearing on the 2017 proposed budget.

Mr. Whitaker stated that our students’ textbook rental fees will no longer be paid for by the Orange County Community Foundation Supporting Organization following the recent legislative changes involving Casino Revenue funding. He added that Radius Indiana will provide some funding toward the textbook rental fees, but not all of the cost. Mr. Whitaker said that with the school’s Casino Revenue Fund at a healthy balance, he felt this is an opportunity for Springs Valley Schools to provide textbook rental funding for our students, and is a very good use of casino revenue funds which must be used for educational attainment. He stated the matter would need to be re-evaluated every year, and will communicate the textbook rental funding information to parents. Mr. Purkhiser made a motion to approve funding the students’ textbook rental fees for the 2016-17 school year. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he and Mrs. Carnes recently attended the ISBA School Law seminar, which was a very good, informative program.

Mrs. Lynch stated the board and Mr. Whitaker would be returning to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

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