

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 31, 2014**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2014 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 Mr. Larry Kalb. 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 6:11 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members, Mr. Whitaker, Mr. Troy Pritchett, Mrs. Julie Woolsey, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Edith Pinnick were present.

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

Mr. Whitaker stated that the regional Indiana School Boards' Association spring meeting was held recently, with board members Mr. Allstott, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Purkhiser, and himself attending. He congratulated Mr. Galloway and Mr. Purkhiser on receiving the Level One CAP award.

Mr. Jason Russell stated that the spring break trip to Washington, D.C. for junior high students was very successful. He added that it was a rewarding trip for the students, and he thanked the board, administrators, and great chaperones for their support.

Mr. Whitaker announced that the Winter Percussion Ensemble participated in the Indiana Percussion Association State Finals on March 22nd, earning the State Champion Runner-Up award. This is the highest level of achievement in school history for the percussion ensemble.

Mr. Whitaker also congratulated the junior/senior high school on receiving the Support Music Merit Award from The NAMM Foundation. Our school was one of 97 schools across the nation to receive this prestigious award, based on demonstration of outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

Mr. Russell stated that he was asked by teachers to address the board regarding suggestions for the deficit financing issues. Mrs. Cherish Wininger distributed and discussed information regarding the General Fund budget for Springs Valley and three other local school corporations. Mr. Russell then spoke, offering several suggestions for reducing expenditures such as: combining bus routes, contract out extra-curricular bus driving to eliminate overtime, payment of certain custodial salaries from Capital Projects Fund, more efficient scheduling of maintenance staff and possible elimination of custodian positions upon vacancy, implementation of "comp time" instead of overtime pay for non-certified staff, elimination of fully-paid insurance for administrators (which Mr. Russell noted was done with the recent hiring of the elementary grant writer/test coordinator/title one coordinator position), possibly require retired administrators to use all of their VEBA funds before school contributions for their insurance would begin, and retirement incentives. He also stated that administrative wise, he felt that the possibility of having a high school principal with no assistant, and a middle school principal with no assistant, would be in the best interest of the students without adding an extra administrator position. Mr. Russell then questioned if all corporation salaries are frozen, as the teachers' salaries have been frozen for two years. He added that he believes the teaching staff is about as thin as they can go, and would like to come to common ground on these matters. Mrs. Lynch thanked Mr. Russell and Mrs. Wininger for their input.

Mr. Whitaker recommending accepting the resignation of Mr. Troy Pritchett as high school principal, effective June 30, 2014. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion passed by the vote of 6-1, with Mr. Kalb voting against the motion.

Mr. Whitaker informed the board that Hoosier Uplands has been approved to receive an after-school grant in the amount of \$275,000 from the Indiana Department of Education for programs at Springs Valley and other area schools. He added that the after-school program that is currently offered at the elementary school has a nominal charge, so the grant will assist with those parent costs.

A request has been submitted by Mr. Luke Aylsworth for the purchase of band and guard uniforms with Casino Revenue funds. Mr. Whitaker recommended the purchase of 90 band uniforms and 20 guard uniforms at a cost of \$40,302.50. Mr. Purkhiser made the motion to approve the purchase as recommended. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Kerry Lueken, math department chairperson, has requested the use of Casino Revenue funds for the purchase of calculators totaling \$16,260.60. The calculators will be kept in the classrooms, and can be used on some of the assessment testing. Mr. Galloway motioned to allow the purchase of calculators as requested from Casino Revenue. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Galloway motioned to adjourn. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

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