

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 14, 2014**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, April 14, 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 6:15 PM in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members, Mr. Whitaker, 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.

Minutes from the March 10th and March 31st, 2014 board meetings were approved with a motion by Mr. Galloway. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Galloway made the motion to approve vouchers and claims as presented. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker recognized the cheerleaders in grades 7 through 12 who participated in the "Handsprings for Hope" fund raiser for the American Cancer Society. Donations in the amount of \$1,221.98 were raised in honor of or in memory of students, staff, and alumni.

Mr. Whitaker extended congratulations to the high school band for receiving a gold rating at a recent ISSMA competition. He reported that one judge scored the band one-half a point below a perfect score. The group also earned a gold rating in Sight Reading, which is extremely difficult.

No one from the public addressed the board.

Mr. Whitaker requested approval of summer school teachers as recommended by Mr. Troy Pritchett and Mrs. Julie Woolsey: Mrs. Kristina Allen, Mr. Luke Aylsworth, Mr. Kevin Knies, Mrs. Monica Wolford, Mrs. Gina Webster, and Mrs. Tiffani McGee. He stated these teachers would be utilized in category one classes, which are reimbursable by the state. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mrs. Carnes seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Provided that funding is available from United Way, Mr. Whitaker recommended the following personnel be employed by United Way for the Kindergarten Countdown program: Mrs. Amy Orr as director and Miss Erica Bledsoe - teaching assistant. He stated that eligible students would be identified based on data collected from the recent Kindergarten Roundup. Mr. Purkhiser so moved. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Based on recent discussion with the board and Mr. Jason Russell, Mr. Whitaker stated that he had looked at different administrative structural possibilities at the high school and middle school. After discussing the matter with area superintendents, principals, and assistant principals, he concluded that keeping the administrative positions as currently in place is best for Springs Valley. He therefore requested permission to post the opening of high school principal. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Allstott made the motion to employ Mrs. Beth Emmons as junior high softball coach, as recommended by Mr. Mark Hammond. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that due to the continuing reduced funding, he is recommending the reduction of one teacher using the Springs Valley Community Schools' Reduction in Force policy. He stated that he will begin working with Principals Pritchett and Woolsey to determine which individual(s) will be affected by this process. Mr. Galloway made the motion to allow Mr. Whitaker to utilize the Reduction in Force policy. Mr. Allstott seconded the motion. Discussion was held, and the motion passed 5-2 with Dr. Carnes and Mrs. Carnes voting in the negative. Further discussion was held, and then board members were polled for their vote. At that time, Mr. Kalb, Dr. Carnes, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Lynch, Mr. Purkhiser, Mr. Galloway, and Mr. Allstott all voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Whitaker advised that Coach Jim Jones has submitted his resignation as boys' basketball coach. Mr. Galloway made the motion to accept Coach Jones' resignation, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that Mr. Pritchett has recommended Mr. Rick Scholl be employed as the varsity boys' basketball coach/director of boys' basketball operations. He added that Mr. Scholl has worked with our program the last couple of years as an assistant coach, and has recently accepted a position with the Lost River Career Cooperative and will be teaching at Springs Valley next year. Mr. Allstott so moved. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

As requested by Mr. Jeff Kerby, Mr. Whitaker requested permission for students Nathan Apple, Kade Hinkle, Kyler McNeely, and Tristan Parmesley, and coaches Mr. Jeff Kerby and Mr. Chad Goldman to travel and participate in the Seaperch National Competition at the University of Southern Mississippi the weekend of May 16 – 18 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mr. Purkhiser motioned as requested. Mr. Galloway seconded, and the motion passed 7-0. Discussion was held, and board members requested a presentation by members of the seaperch team at a future meeting.

Mr. Tim Garver of Choice Mechanical Services addressed the board concerning maintenance, service, and other potential projects. Mr. Garver stated there are two different ways to provide air conditioning in the high school gym, either by chiller or heat pump. He added that he would recommend the heat pump option, as that would be easier to be maintained while the chiller option would require additional inspection costs, and the operational costs of the heat pump would be more efficient. Mr. Garver also provided a cost for burner replacement on the second boiler, stating that the first boiler had been upgraded a few months ago, adding that the burner replacement provides cost savings in fuel and efficiency. He presented information on current heat pump units, and stated that with such, we could prioritize the need for replacement of those units. In addition, Mr. Garver presented a proposed chiller service agreement. In follow up to a meeting held recently with Mr. Whitaker, Mr. Wes McNeely, and himself, Mr. Garver stated that he had previously looked at some lighting issues and added that he could contact a lighting company and look for rebate offers. Mr. Galloway questioned any grant possibilities for this work. Mr. Garver also mentioned a possible roofing project on the high school gym, as had previously been discussed. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Whitaker recommended acceptance of the chiller service agreement as presented, with the cost of \$3,464.00 to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund. Mr. Garver stated this is a three-year agreement, with the second and third year costs set at \$3,567.00 and \$3,674.00; however, Springs Valley Schools would only be committed to the agreement for one year. Mr. Galloway made a motion to accept the chiller service agreement with Choice Mechanical Services. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Further discussion was held on the information provided by Mr. Garver, and he added that the quotes provided would be acceptable at the May meeting, although he will go back to the manufacturers to possibly obtain even more savings.

Mr. Whitaker advised that 40 students have signed up for the driver's education program, which would make the program self-sustaining, adding that Mr. Darren Kerns and Mr. Justin Scheller will be the instructors. Mrs. Carnes so moved, and Mr. Purkhiser seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reported the dates for the elementary summer school will be June 2 through June 19, as dictated by the state’s IREAD testing requirements, the kindergarten countdown program would be held June 30 through July 25th, and high school classes will be on various dates to be determined by course selection. Mr. Galloway so moved, and Mr. Allstott seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

With school cancelled on April 4th due to flooding conditions, Mr. Whitaker recommended the addition of 15 minutes to each school day beginning April 21st through May 28th by starting each school day 15 minutes early. He stated that this change would make up the lost instructional time, without disrupting after-school activities, and would cause slight adjustments to the bus pick-up schedules. Mr. Allstott motioned to add 15 minutes to the school day as recommended. Mr. Purkhiser seconded, and the motion was approved 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker reported that 55 preschoolers participated in the Kindergarten Roundup held recently at the elementary school. He added that these numbers are in line with the current Kindergarten structure with three teachers.

Mrs. Erin Carnes, head volleyball coach, has requested \$1,350.00 of Casino Revenue funds to purchase a volleyball tutor practice machine. Mr. Allstott motioned to approve said funding, and Mr. Galloway seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker advised that he will advertise for bids on the vocational school route and bus route #12, and present bids for approval at the May 12th board meeting.

Mr. Galloway made the motion to approve the revised Student Out-of-District Transfer form, as revised by Mr. Whitaker removing the school year dates. Mr. Allstott seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Whitaker stated that he will provide additional information at the May board meeting regarding the After School Teen Program, which has previously been funded by grants and outside agencies, and the pre-kindergarten program administered by Hoosier Uplands, who has requested an increase in funding.

With no other business before the board, Mr. Galloway motioned to adjourn. Mrs. Carnes seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

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