

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JULY 8, 2019**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, July 8, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. Board members Mr. Justin Wininger, Mrs. Jennifer Shipman, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Todd Marshall, Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Joel Dalton, and Mrs. Cheryl Lynch were present. Dr. Trevor Apple and Mrs. Amy Orr were also in attendance. Mr. Jason Russell was present for a portion of the meeting.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, school safety and security, 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 6:14 PM on Monday, July 8, 2019 in the Learning Center Board Room. All board members were present, along with Dr. Apple, Mrs. Orr, Mr. Jason Russell, Mrs. Kathy Allstott, and Mrs. Peggy Simmons.

Mr. Wininger called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve the minutes for the June 10, 2019 board meeting, along with the claims and vouchers as presented, as well as Fair Landscapes the amount of \$299.39 and Land Improvement Solutions for \$1,640.00 with those two payments from Operations Fund, and approval of the Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company resolution to add Mrs. Amy Orr as authorized signer on the elementary school ECA account. Mr. Burton seconded the motion. Following discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Orr reported that summer school ended on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and she thanked each summer school teacher for planning and providing a fun-filled learning experience for the students. She also recognized French Lick Springs Resort and Jeremiah Johnson for allowing our teachers and students to participate in a Luau themed scavenger hunt at the resort, adding that the trip to the hotel was a first-time experience for many of our boys and girls. She thanked Missy Campbell and the cafeteria staff for providing lunch each day for students and members of our community. Mrs. Tiffani McGee and Ms. Heather Tucker were recognized for attending a four-day training on reading intervention. Mrs. Orr also thanked all teachers who participated in professional development training on the new reading series and a Dyslexia screener being implemented this coming school year.

On behalf of Mr. Kyle Neukam, Dr. Apple stated they had a great turn out for summer school grades 6 through 12 in the classrooms, summer band, and athletic camps. Forty-two students attended summer school for high school English, online algebra, and junior high remediation courses. Band and athletic camps are continuing at this time. A thank you was extended to the entire maintenance staff for their efforts in the summer clean-up of classrooms. Online registration will start on July 12<sup>th</sup>, with office registration the week of July 22 through 26. Administration and the counselor will be available any time during that week or before school to assist with registration or address questions regarding enrollment at Springs Valley Schools.

Mr. Russell thanked Marty Goldman for all his hard work on the softball field this past spring, the custodial crew for their hard work this past school year as they were a big help to the athletic department, and a special thanks to Larry Burton, Howard Knight, and Wes McNeely for their help this spring with the baseball field, locker room, and softball concession areas. Some Pepsi machines have already been installed, and all machines will be up and running at the start of school.

Mr. Wininger thanked Larry Burton for his efforts on pressure washing the exterior areas of our facilities.

No patrons addressed the board.

Mrs. Shipman made a motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Elizabeth Schipp as high school moderate/severe special education aide. Mr. Marshall seconded, and the motion passed 7-0. Dr. Apple stated that Mr. Neukam will be working to fill this position prior to the start of the school year.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of bus driving contracts as follows: Richard Stackhouse – route 1 for \$80 daily, David Noble – route 5 at \$80 per day and vocational route for \$40 daily, and Larry Flick – special education bus route for \$105 per day. Mr. Burton so moved, and Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple stated that Mrs. Sheila Cooper has requested a one-year personal leave from her employment as elementary teacher for the 2019-20 school year. He recommended approval of the leave with no benefits and no pay, with the terms that Mrs. Cooper be eligible to return for the 2020-21 school year at her current rate of pay. Dr. Apple also stated that Mrs. Cooper must notify him by March 1, 2020 of her intentions to return for the 2020-21 year. Mr. Marshall motioned as recommended, and Mr. Burton seconded. With no discussion, the motion was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that the old chromebooks have been shipped out and are being processed for purchase. The new chromebooks have arrived and will be ready for students and teachers at the start of the school year.

Dr. Apple stated that information will be distributed to parents and students regarding the consolidation of bus routes, which will result in changes to the bus route numbers. The information will be sent home during the registration process and available on the school website.

As discussed at a prior board meeting, parents will be responsible for 30% of the amount owed for textbook rental costs this year. Dr. Apple stated that for parents of students on the free and reduced lunch program, their 30% amount will be calculated after receipt of other textbook contributions so parents will be notified later in the school year of the amount due. The 30% for students on the paid meals program will be determined at registration with payment expected at that time.

Dr. Apple asked for clarification on a motion from the June 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting, Mrs. Shipman motioned to appoint Mr. Marshall and Mr. Luke Aylsworth as board representatives to the Springs Valley Education Foundation. However, a second to the motion was not recorded. Mrs. Shipman again made the motion to appoint Mr. Todd Marshall and Mr. Luke Aylsworth as board representatives to the Springs Valley Education Foundation. Mr. Farris seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 6-0-1 with Mr. Marshall abstaining.

The following project updates were provided to board members: 1) The door hardware project for wireless electronic entry will be ready for the start of the school year; 2) Final grading will be done on the football field this week with drainage to be installed, and then turf should be laid next week; 3) Mr. Russell has secured a donation of two 30-foot goal posts from a supplier in New Albany, and will work to have those delivered, installed, and painted soon. He thanked Tenbarger Seed and Mr. Wininger for their assistance; 4) Painting has been done in the elementary kitchen area, doorways and trim, and the football facilities; and 5) Evaluation and testing of the high school gym sound system was done recently by Acorn Sound. Dr. Apple and Mr. Russell provided information on the proposal. Dr. Apple received a quote today for the amount of approximately \$84,000, which he will share with board members for further review. Discussion included the possibility of doing the project in phases and satisfaction guarantee.

Corrosion on the elementary ramp has created safety concerns and the ramp has been closed for repair. Architect John Hawkins and contractor Mark Lindsey have met to discuss the matter, and have submitted a combined solution of approximately \$22,000 to re-pour the entire deck area, and install a support post underneath the ramp to support existing I-beams. Mrs. Shipman motioned to approve the repair project as described. Mrs. Lynch seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Apple advised that Mr. Russell has requested \$10,000 for the Athletic Department from Casino Revenue funds to start the school year. Mrs. Lynch so moved, and Mr. Burton seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

Dr. Apple reported that an audit of school records for the Indiana Public Retirement System for the period of 2017-18 was held recently, with no audit findings to report.

A transportation contract will again be necessary for the Hickman family to transport their children for the 2019-20 school year.

Mr. Jim O’Connell is working to secure a grant from the United States Tennis Association on behalf of Springs Valley Schools to renovate surfaces on both the tennis courts and basketball court.

Dr. Apple addressed board members, stating that recent judicial developments have placed the corporation in a difficult position in which the legal system determined that former employee Kari Buchanan should be allowed on school property in order to pick up or drop off her children as long as she stays in her vehicle, as well as attend athletic events, provided that a current SV student involved in the case was not in attendance at the event. This resolution would place school personnel in a difficult spot as it would require us to be enforcers of a court ruling. He added there are many gray areas involved with enforcing the requirements, is not comfortable having the corporation bear this burden, and stated student safety and well-being are our top priorities. He stressed that his recommendation in no way should be considered punitive against Mrs. Buchanan, but is simply the best decision for the students and staff of Springs Valley Community Schools at this time. Dr. Apple then recommended that we seek to prohibit Mrs. Kari Buchanan from being on Springs Valley Community Schools’ property from now until the end of the 2019-20 school year. Mrs. Lynch made the motion to approve Dr. Apple’s recommendation. Mr. Farris seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Shipman moved to allow Dr. Apple to fill any open position that we may have between now and the next school board meeting. Mr. Burton seconded. The motion was approved 7-0.

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

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