

**SPRINGS VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2022**

Executive Session

The Springs Valley School Board met in Executive Session at 5:00 PM on Monday, August 8, 2022 in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. Board members Mr. Chris Burton, Mr. Justin Wininger, Mr. Dustin Farris, Mr. Joel Dalton, Mrs. Cheryl Lynch, Mr. Todd Marshall, and Mrs. Jennifer Shipman were present. Dr. Trevor Apple was also in attendance, as well as Dr. Kyle Neukam and Dr. Matt Williams.

During the Executive Session, the Board received information about prospective employees, and discussed job performance evaluation, 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 6:07 PM in the Springs Valley High School Auditorium. All of the above, as well as Dr. Jeff Kerby, Doug Soltwedel, Mrs. Felicia Wolfington and Mrs. Peggy Simmons were present.

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

Mrs. Shipman made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 11 and July 26, 2022 board meetings, and vouchers and claims. Mr. Wininger seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Williams welcomed back our students and staff and hoped everyone had a great summer break. He thanked the teachers, maintenance and custodial staff for all the hard work they put in getting everything ready for the upcoming school year. He also thanked the various business partners in the area that donated back-to-school supplies. He announced the elementary choir will begin meeting on Tuesday, August 30th from 3:05 - 4:00 PM. Third grade students will continue a pen pal project with Dubois Elementary. Lastly, Dr. Williams thanked all of the staff for the great start we had to the 2022-23 school year.

Dr. Neukam thanked the entire staff for bringing a fantastic energy into the building to start the school year. He said everyone has been excited, positive and focused on structuring the best educational environment possible for our students. He also thanked the maintenance team, cafeteria staff, and office ladies for always stepping up to get the job done.

Dr. Apple thanked the Town of French Lick for their substantial monetary donation to support our new SRO Doug Soltwedel. He said we are fortunate to have partnerships with both West Baden and French Lick towns and for that he was very grateful.

SRO Doug Soltwedel expressed his appreciation to the board for the opportunity to work with our school system. He thanked Dr. Williams, Dr. Neukam, Mr. Pritchett and Dr. Apple for the structure and discipline that he has observed. He said the entire staff has been wonderful and his first week has been great.

Mr. Burton stated he had heard nothing but good things about Officer Soltwedel.

No patrons addressed the board.

Under personnel matters, Dr. Apple recommended the board approve Stephanie Herrera as elementary teacher for the 2022-23 school year, level A on the bachelor scale, at \$40,300; approve Lynley Bennett as a 10-month custodian effective August 1, 2022 at \$13.00 per hour; approve Susan Knies as preschool instructional assistant at \$12.50 per hour, 28 hours a week; Jessica Pfau as National Honor Society sponsor and Freshman Class chairperson; Amber Dorsam as Students Against Destructive Decisions sponsor; Kristal Painter as volunteer Jr. High Cross Country coach; Jason Hunt as volunteer Jr. High Cross Country coach; Lori Harris as volunteer Jr. High Cross Country coach; Adrienne Phelps as volunteer Volleyball coach. Mr. Marshall made the motion. Mr. Farris seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple announced he had accepted the following resignations: Kyra Harrell effective May 18; Cari Kirby effective July 19; Andrew Kendall effective July 18, Hannah Pendley effective July 14; Amy Burton effective July 27. Mrs. Burton was paid a severance of \$7,625.00 for her unused leave days.

Dr. Williams informed the board that the Elementary School had 22 teachers who were rated effective and 2 teachers highly effective for this past school year. Dr. Neukam stated he had 25 teachers at the Jr.-Sr. High School who were rated effective and 5 highly effective.

Dr. Apple informed the board that the five Elementary School HVAC replacement units have been installed and the project is complete. The units are working great and look good. He also stated the softball field will need some renovations this fall to repair the drainage and irrigation issues, and re-crown the infield. In addition, there are several roof issues that need looked into. Dr. Apple will gather more information to present at a later time.

Dr. Apple recommended the board approve the advertising of the 2023 Budget. It was recommended the board approve that advertising of Budget Form 3, the Bus Replacement Plan Notice to Taxpayers and the Capital Projects Fund Notice to Taxpayers. The Bus Replacement Plan and the Capital Projects Plan will be posted on our school website. Form 3 will be posted on Gateway. A public hearing will be held on August 22, 2022 at 6:00 PM in the High School Auditorium on the budget. Mr. Wininger made the motion. Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended approval of Springs Valley Community Schools participating in the Universal Free Breakfast program. Currently, SVCS is seeking approval to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision program, which would mean free breakfast and lunch for all students. If SVCS qualifies for the CEP program, we would transition to that program at that time. If not, we will continue the free breakfast program throughout the year. More information will be provided to families in the coming days. Mrs. Shipman made the motion to participate in Universal Free Breakfast program. Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Williams provided the Elementary School's iLearn scores from last year. Of the eight subject areas that were tested, two were below the state average, 4th grade Science and 3rd grade Math. Corrective steps are planned to improve scores in those areas. Dr. Neukam stated the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade English and Math scores were below the state average.

Dr. Apple recommended that due to the October 10, 2022 board meeting occurring during fall break, the board consider moving the October meeting to October 17, 2022. Mr. Wininger made the motion. Mrs. Shipman seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple recommended the board approve an overnight trip to Nashville, Tennessee on November 13 and 14 for Mrs. Summer Sneed-Mueller's band students and chaperones. Mrs. Shipman made the motion. Mr. Marshall seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Dr. Apple clarified some COVID related attendance scenarios and procedures. He stated these absences are handled the same way other illness absences are handled.

Dr. Apple recommended pursuing an Indiana Department of Homeland Security funding for the locker room/tornado shelter project. If the project is funded, the board will have the opportunity to accept or decline at that time. Mr. Marshall made the motion. Mrs. Lynch seconded. The motion passed 5-2. Mr. Wininger and Mr. Dalton voted against it.

With no other business before the board, Mrs. Shipman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Wininger seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

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