

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9
Piasa, Illinois 62079

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2011

The Southwestern Board of Education met in regular session on June 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Commons Room in Piasa, Illinois. Rodney Bailey-President asked Don Little-Secretary to call roll showing those members present were: Rodney Bailey-President, Steve Reed-Vice President, Don Little-Secretary, Brad Gillespie, Randy Gallaher, Tim Baker, Mike Wegener, Brad Skertich-Superintendent and Rose Bagley-Recording Secretary. Visitors' sign-in sheet is attached.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Brad Gillespie to approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting and the closed session meeting of May 17, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Randy Gallaher to approve the May bills and the consent agenda bills as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to approve the imprest bills and the extra pay and substitute pay as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little and Gillespie.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Randy Gallaher to approve the financial report as presented for May, 2011 with fund balances in the Education Fund as \$2,461,166, Operations and Maintenance Fund as \$732,912, Transportation Fund as \$-64,173 the Working Cash Fund as \$1,309,431. Mr. Skertich reported that we have been getting our general state aid each month. We are \$66,000 shy of getting what we should have gotten for the Early Childhood/Pre K program. They are saying that we should still get this. As of now, the state owes us \$787,933.72. We are hopeful that we will receive that by December, but there is talk that we may not get it.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence:

An appreciation note from the Juanita Peterson family was read. A thank you note from the family of Mary Sauls was read. Mr. Bearly recognized Jacob Meisner for being elected as State Secretary of the FFA. He will take a year off from college to fulfill this honor. The School District is very proud of him.

Committee Reports:

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Brad Gillespie to accept the report of the Policy Committee Meeting on May 24, 2011. There was discussion on the small class sizes at Shipman Elementary and large class sizes at Brighton Elementary. It was brought up that we could possibly waive material fees if students from another school volunteered to go to Shipman to reduce class sizes at Brighton and increase class sizes at Shipman. Each request will be looked at separately to make sure that class sizes don't get too large at Shipman.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey and Gallaher.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to accept the report of the Policy Committee Meeting held on June 9, 2011 where they went over the Student Handbook agreeing to the changes. The principals suggested that a one page keynote changes be given out at registration stating all of the changes so everyone will know what was changed without reading the whole handbook. That way no one will be caught off guard.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher and Baker.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Report:

Resignations:

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to accept the resignation of Brian Hanslow, High School Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, effective June 3, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Randy Gallaher and seconded by Rodney Bailey to accept the resignation of Tracy Rothe, Van Driver, effective June 3, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to accept the resignation of Denise Bick, District Librarian, effective June 3, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Brad Gillespie to accept the resignation of Elaine Sanders, Bus Driver, effective June 7, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little and Gillespie.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Retirement:

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to accept the retirement of Patricia Jedlicka, Teacher, effective June, 2016.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie and Bailey.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Employment:

Employment was tabled until after Executive Session.

Recalls:

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Tim Baker to recall Tim Ballard, Bus Driver; and Grace Vandygriff, Van Driver, for the 2011-12 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey and Gallaher.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Steve Reed to recall Jan Kessinger, Terry Hines, Susan Harris, Janice Childress and Becky Woods as Teacher Aides for the 2011-12 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher and Baker.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Tim Baker and seconded by Randy Gallaher to recall Gayle Simpson, as Laundry Aide for the 2011-12 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Volunteer: None

Leave of Absence:

A motion was made by Rodney Bailey and seconded by Mike Wegener to approve a leave of absence for employee A.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Substitute List: None

Enrollment and Suspension:

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to approve the District Enrollment report and the Suspension Summary report as presented by Brad Skertich and attached. To date district enrollment is 1683. The ADA for the year ended with 1605 students. There were 22 suspensions in May. There were 137 suspensions and 2 expulsions in the district for the 2010-11 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Mark Bearley, High School Principal, gave a summary of the ACT results. The junior class took the ACT in April. They also took Explore test their Freshman and Sophomore years. These scores were compared with the ACT scores from this year. The scores did go up. Students are making progress but the scores could still be better. The goal is to increase the number of students that score between 22 and 28. We are going to decrease math class sizes so the student can have more one on one help, reorganize the English Department and increase Science credits from 2 to 2.5 to graduate. We also want to decrease the number of students in the lower range. We have to find where the student's strengths and weaknesses are and then put the student in the most appropriate class that will challenge them but they will also be successful.

Diane Milner, Principal of Medora and Shipman Elementary schools; Christy Willman, Principal at Brighton North and Brighton West; and Scott Hopkins, principal at Middle School, gave a report on the ISAT results. By looking at the individual scores we can find those students that did not meet in certain areas and get them extra help. To meet AYP, we have to have 85% of the students meet or exceed in a testing area. These are not final scores. The preliminary scores are: Third Grade – 77% Reading, 84% Math. Fourth Grade – 75% Reading, 91% Math, 86% Science. Fifth Grade – Close to 85% in Reading and 85% Math. Sixth Grade – 87% Reading, 92% Math. Seventh Grade – 85% Reading, 93% Math and 93% Science. Eighth Grade – 88% Reading and 91% Math.

Public Comment:

Sue Betts stated her concern of Middle School teacher placement for next school year.

Old Business:

There was discussion as to whether to reinstate Bowling and Cross Country for the 2011-2012 school year. The Conference would allow us to return. In bowling, there are two divisions, but we don't know which division we would be in. It is projected that there would be between 10 to 15 students interested in bowling. The cost would be approximately \$7,863.00. Although Mr. Skertich would like to offer bowling to students, he recommends we not offer bowling next year. It was brought up that possibly bowling could be a club with volunteers for coaching and parents being responsible for transportation. They need to have at least 6 bowling meets to be eligible for Regionals. A motion was made by Rodney Bailey and seconded by Tim Baker to reinstate Bowling and Cross Country as school sports dependent upon volunteer coaches and parental transportation to and from matches.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little and Gillespie.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Rodney Bailey to keep the Closed Session Minutes from July, 2010 through December, 2010 closed.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher.

A motion was made by Tim Baker and seconded by Brad Gillespie to approve the 2011 Prevailing Wage Act as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher and Baker.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Rodney Bailey and seconded by Mike Wegener to approve the Pest Management Bid as presented from Garella Pest Services.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Tim Baker to approve the Waste Systems Bid as presented from Merritt Waste.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to approve the Custodial Supplies Bid as present.

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to waive textbook fees for students who volunteer to attend Shipman Elementary for the 2011-2012 school year to reduce class sizes at Brighton North and Brighton West where needed.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

The approval for the Superintendent's Contract Resolution was tabled until after closed session.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Rodney Bailey to approve the Handbook changes for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie and Bailey.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Rodney Bailey to approve technology purchases in the amount of \$27,800.00 to update the Middle School computer lab and provide wireless internet access to the High School and Middle School.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey and Gallaher.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to withdraw from Egyptian Trust on August 30, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher and Baker.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Tim Baker to go with Baugher Financial as employee benefits consultant.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. The board went into closed session at 9:13 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

At 10:53 p.m. a motion was made by Brad Gillespie and seconded by Mike Wegener to open the meeting to regular session.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Employment:

There was no action taken on employing the 1st Grade Elementary Teacher.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Randy Gallaher to employ Kendra Campion as 6th Grade Elementary Teacher.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener and Reed.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to employ Michelle Walden as Middle School Art Teacher.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed and Little

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Randy Gallaher and seconded by Steve Reed to employ Dan Grimes as High School Math Teacher.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bailey, Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little and Gillespie.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

The employment of a High School Math Teacher, Middle School Cheerleading Coach, High School Assistant Volleyball Coach, and High School Assistant Football Coach was tabled until the next meeting.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Brad Gillespie to employ Laura Laird as High School Special Education Teacher.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Gallaher, Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie and Bailey.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Rodney Bailey to employ Michelle Walden as Middle School Assistant Volleyball Coach.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey and Gallaher.

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Rodney Bailey and seconded by Randy Gallaher to employ Spencer Saal as Middle School 7th Grade Basketball Coach.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher and Baker.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Rodney Bailey and seconded by Brad Gillespie to employ Brian Madson as High School Assistant Boys Basketball Coach.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Tim Baker to approve the Superintendent's Contract Resolution as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Baker, Wegener, Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey and Gallaher.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Other: None

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Mike Wegener to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Reed, Little, Gillespie, Bailey, Gallaher, Baker and Wegener.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Rosemary Bagley
Recording Secretary

Board President

Board Secretary