

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2012

The Southwestern Board of Education met in regular session on May 15, 2012 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 Randy Gallaher to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of April 17, 2012.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Randy Gallaher and seconded by Don Little to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting and the Closed Session Meeting of April 17, 2012.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Brad Gillespie and seconded by Mike Wegener to approve the April bills and the consent agenda bills as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Brad Gillespie to approve the financial report as presented as of April 30, 2012 with fund balances in the Education Fund of \$2,809,161, Operations and Maintenance Fund of \$1,029,124, Transportation Fund of \$-13,216 and the Working Cash Fund of \$1,371,622.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence & Recognition:

The School Board has received a Letter of Demand to Bargain from Betty Schiller, SEA Union President, dated May 4, 2012.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Skertich reported on the Policy Committee Meeting of May 9, 2012. There was a Handbook Committee consisting of teachers, parents and administrators that went through the handbook and made some changes. There will be a handout at registration with the major changes in the handbook. A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Randy Gallaher to accept the Policy Committee Report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Report:

Resignations:

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Steve Reed to accept the resignation of Caitlin Heitz, HS Assistant Volleyball Coach, effective April 29, 2012.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Retirement: None

Employment was tabled until after Executive Session.

Volunteer – None

Leave of Absence: None

Substitute List: None

Enrollment Report:

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Don Little to accept the Enrollment and Suspension Report showing the enrollment as of April 30, 2012 at 1690. There were 5 expulsions and 19 suspensions in April.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

District Highlights:

Scott Hopkins, Middle School Principal, reported the Middle School Band received a "1<sup>st</sup>" and "Best of Show" at the Riverton band contest. Middle School had their first "Art Show" this year. Mike Nolte qualified at Regionals for the State Track meet.

Mark Bearley, High School Principal, reported that the juniors improved on the ACT scores compared to last year's juniors. They were offered a trip to Six Flags if they averaged higher than 19.1. They averaged 20.5 so they will be going to Six Flags.

Mary Craig, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Shipman Elementary, gave a power point presentation on how her students work their AR program. It has been very successful in getting non readers reading and those below grade level readers up to and beyond their grade level. Diane Milner, Principal at Medora and Shipman reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades at both schools enjoyed the Elementary Track Meet and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders especially enjoyed the tour of the Middle School after the Track Meet.

Gwen Barcum, Special Education Coordinator, reported that the "Child Find" screening for Pre-K will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup>. They have 30 screening scheduled with 6 on the waiting list. Special Education is servicing 274 students at this time. There are 17 out of district students, 136 students that have Speech only, 11 students with a 504 and 177 in Special Ed.

Christy Willman, Principal at Brighton North and Brighton West Elementary Schools, reported that 6<sup>th</sup> grader Sydney Sinks and Middle School student Blaine Beard won the Macoupin County Spelling Bee in Carlinville. Brighton North held "Family Art Night". The First grade students went to Brighton North to visit where they will be going to school next year. The Kindergarten classes have been visiting different businesses all over town. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders held their 1<sup>st</sup> Cardboard Boat Races with 14 entries. They hope this will be an annual tradition. Congratulations to Stiver Kirsch who won first place and Alec Bowman who took second.

Public Comment:

Hayden and Amanda Powers and Holly Strohbeck have heard that Shipman Kindergarten and First Grade students might be bused to Brighton next year and they expressed their concern about this. They feel like students that young will be on the bus too long if they live very far from Shipman and they will also lose educational time in the classroom.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Brad Gillespie to approve the Transportation changes for the 2012-13 school year to include: eliminate Golf Transportation to away matches and all Saturday Transportation to away Extra-Curricular Events with the exceptions deemed by the discretion of the Administration.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

The re-employment of extra-curricular non-coaching staff was tabled until after Executive Session.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Steve Reed to approve the Handbook changes for the 12-13 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Wegener, Reed, Little, Bailey and Gallaher

Nays: Gillespie and Baker

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Rodney Bailey to Approve a Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$8,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2012 of the Southwestern Community Unit School District #9, Macoupin, Jersey and Greene Counties, Illinois, for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Closed Session:

At motion was made by Mike Wegener and seconded by Randy Gallaher to go into closed session for "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."

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

The board went into closed session at 8:36 p.m.

At 11:12 p.m. a motion was made by Brad Gillespie and seconded by Randy Gallaher to open the meeting to regular session.

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 employ Wade DeVries as High School Math Teacher for the 2012-13 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Randy Gallaher to employ Christopher Redfern as High School Science Teacher for the 2012-13 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Randy Gallaher to employ Amanda Constable as Brighton North Custodian.

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 Tim Baker to employ Christopher Redfern as the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Basketball Coach for the 2012-13 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Abstains: Bailey

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Steve Reed and seconded by Randy Gallaher to employ Wade DeVries as 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Basketball Coach for the 2012-13 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Employment of a Middle School Cheerleading Coach was tabled.

A motion was made by Don Little and seconded by Mike Wegener to re-employ the following extra-curricular non-coaching staff for the 2012-2013 school year: Elwyn Mielke-Band K-12; Steve Stanford-Band K-6; Deb Gaffney-National Honor Society; Shannon Bowman-High School Student Council; Joe Behl-Middle School Student Council; Tim Reed-FFA Advisor; Susan Ruyle-School Annual; Rodney Knittel-Tool Maintenance; and Joe Buttitta-Tool Maintenance.

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 Brad Gillespie to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 p.m.

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Rosemary Bagley  
Recording Secretary

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Board President

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Board Secretary