

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Tuesday September 21, 2021
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
7:00 P.M. – ELEMENTARY WORKROOM
SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE OBSERVED

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Springfield School District was called to order by Larry Duncan, Board President, at 7:05 p.m.
- A. ROLL CALL:
 - 1. MEMBERS PRESENT: Clinton Arbuthnot (arrived at 7:10 p.m.), Larry Duncan, Jennifer Esch, and Kay Maes.
 - 2. MEMBERS ABSENT: Tyler Gibson
 - 3. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Richard Hargrove, Kyle Lasley, Leah Crane, Carey George and Pam Hartley.
 - 4. GUESTS PRESENT: Quinten George, Jennifer Maxwell and Colby Cogburn.
- II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None
- III. APPROVE THE AGENDA: Kay Maes made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- IV. ROUTINE ITEMS:
 - A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE August 23, 2021 Regular Meeting. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - B. FINANCIAL REPORTS: The board reviewed the financial reports.
(Clinton Arbuthnot arrived at 7:10 p.m.)
 - C. CLAIMS PAYABLE – September 21, 2021: The board reviewed the claims payable report. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the September 21, 2021 claims payable as presented. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT: Jennifer Maxwell addressed the board about her concerns with what COVID mandates might be forthcoming, primarily related to vaccination. She inquired about preparations that the school district might be considering if these types of mandates were to become a reality. Mr. Hargrove addressed her concerns by stating at this specific time the district has not received any notification in regards to vaccination mandates and the status of any future mandates is unknown. Quinten George and Colby Cogburn each shared that they also wanted to express similar concerns and interest in what policies the district might have or be considering.

IF YOU ARE HERE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING:

Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation time with the Springfield School District RE-4 Board of Education. A sign-up sheet was provided at the entrance to the Board meeting for all persons wishing to address the Board. It is requested that comments be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner that is consistent with the respect and dignity that should be part of a Board of Education public meeting. The Board will require that speakers and audience members adhere to basic standards of civility and, with limited time available, as the Board President, I may need to limit or terminate discussion to maintain decorum or to give as many people as possible the opportunity to speak. The Board will not take any action during this time. It is the preference of the Board that comments concerning District personnel be addressed in executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in executive session. Please inform the Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in executive session.

- A. CORRESPONDENCE: None
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. COVID-19 UPDATE: Superintendent Hargrove spoke about different things the district is doing to try and avoid large quarantines with minimal effect on students' school days. He stated that the health department has been helpful in giving ideas and working with the school in situations that have arisen. The board shared some concerns and ask questions in regards to the school's role in quarantining.

- B. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Asbestos abatement started today. This is expected to take 3-4 weeks to complete. Cost saving efforts are continuing and there has been some minor success with lower bids in a couple of areas. Mr. Hargrove reported that in light of a few other BEST recipients sharing similar funding shortfalls, the BEST grant committee is beginning to realize that our shortage is not specific to Springfield. Construction will run behind schedule, but the delay will be balanced by allowing time to hopefully see some decrease in construction cost. The district is also working to find ways to secure additional funding opportunities.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. DISCUSS AND APPROVE MOU WITH SOUTHEASTERN BOCES. Mr. Hargrove presented the Memorandum of Agreement Concerning Special Education Programs and Processes that the district needs to approve annually with BOCES. He recommended that the board approve this agreement for the 2021-2022 school year. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve the MOA with the Southeastern Board of Cooperative Educational Services for 2021-2022. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- B. OCTOBER STUDENT COUNT: Official Student Count Day for Springfield will be enrollment on Thursday, September 30. Current projections are looking to be several students less than 20-21 count. Mr. Hargrove shared that if this were a “normal” year, these numbers would be concerning in regards to the budget. However, the state has stipulated that they will not be funding any district less than they were funded in 20-21.
- C. ACT ON FFA PRESENTATION ON NATIONAL CONVENTION: In the absence of any FFA representation, Mr. Hargrove reviewed the request that members of FFA were scheduled to present to the board. The FFA chapter members were planning to ask for approval to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in October, 2021. A written itinerary was available in the board packets for directors to review. Mr. Hargrove shared numerous factors to be considered before granting approval. After discussion Mr. Hargrove made the recommendation that the trip be canceled for this year. The board agreed. The suggestion to attend the Western Stock Show as an alternative will be considered.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) f: The board, Mr. Hargrove, Mr. Lasley and Mrs. Crane moved to executive session at 7:52 p.m. The board returned to regular session at 8:02 p.m.

IX. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hargrove made the following recommendations for coaching positions:

Jr. High Boys Basketball Assistant – Daniel Heath
Jr. High Girls Basketball Assistant – Tom Jacobs
High School Boys Basketball Assistant – Mike Jaco

Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the hiring of Daniel Heath as Jr. High Boys Assistant Basketball Coach, Tom Jacobs as Jr. High Girls Assistant Basketball Coach and Mike Jaco as High School Boys Assistant Basketball coach. Clinton Arbuthnot seconded the motion. Motion carried.

X. REPORTS

A. JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH PRINCIPAL REPORT – KYLE LASLEY: Mr. Lasley, Jr/Sr High School Principal, reviewed his September board report with the board. He shared that fall sports are continuing, not always as first scheduled, but even with multiple changes sports seasons are progressing. The first mid-term has been reached and reports are being sent to parents this week. Knowledge bowl season has geared up and teams will be attending competitions. Some meets are limiting number of participants so this will present a challenge in scheduling. Homecoming has come and gone. It was a week full of fun activities. Mrs. Walker has made arrangements for the juniors to do ASVAB testing in October.

B. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT – LEAH CRANE: Leah Crane, Elementary Principal, outlined several ongoing activities at the elementary. Small reading groups started this week. Fifty-three students completed their summer workbooks and will be taking a reward trip to the Red Barn Farm. The AIM Wellness presentations have started in the elementary and dental screenings will be done in October. The monthly Student-of-the-month assemblies will begin in October as well as the monthly Family Reading Nights. She reported that Friday school has started and parents have been receptive to this concept. The new Discipline Policies are being used, and at this point there have been some positive attitude changes observed.

C. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – RICHARD HARGROVE: Superintendent Hargrove wanted to publicly thank Joel Roberson, transportation director and his small crew for keeping student transportation needs running smoothly. Joel has worked through the challenges to keep buses running and getting students where they need to be. He is still needing another route driver, but no recent interested job applicants. The elementary staff is to be commended for their dedicated approach to the implementation of the new elementary literacy curriculum. There have been challenges with receiving the materials, but they are working through things. Mr. Hargrove discussed the BOCES need for new office space and the possibility of the purchase of a new location. This has been needed for a long-time and hopefully will be a reality very soon.

XI. OTHER ITEMS TO DISCUSS: None

XII. BOARD MEETING DATES:

1. REGULAR BOARD MEETING – October 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

XIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD: Clinton Arbuthnot mentioned the number of activities that were going on during Homecoming Week. His observation was that there were several out-of-town sporting events and students and parents weren't able to participate in many of the actual homecoming activities.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus of the board at 8:12 p.m.

Larry Duncan, President

Kay Maes, Secretary

Clinton Arbuthnot, Vice-President

Tyler Gibson, Treasurer

Jennifer Swanson, Director