

Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation
239 S. Main Cross Street
Hanover, IN 47243

January 8, 2024

Finance Meeting

The School Corporation Board of Trustees conducted their annual Finance Meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Elementary Board Meeting Room located at 273 S. Main Cross Street, Hanover, IN 47243.

The following members of the Board of School Trustees were present:

Mr. Rick Stockdale
Mrs. Lacie Deputy
Mr. Jonathon Simpson

Mr. John Jones
Mrs. Misty Jacobs

Resolution 2024-05 (Establishment of Board of Finance for 2024)

Mrs. Boldery read Resolution 2024-05. Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simpson, the board voted by roll call vote, 5-0, and the motion carried to authorize the entire Board of Trustees to serve as the Board of Finance for the calendar year 2024.

Public Depositories Report

Mrs. Boldery presented the Public Depository Report to the Board. She stated that we are allowed by Indiana law to designate any public depository that is on the approved State Depositories List within the school corporation district. Our Depository for 2023 was German American Bank. They have served as our depository since July 2002. For 2020, we received \$18,866 in interest. For 2021, we received \$4,911. For 2022, \$18,075. We earned \$79,159. in interest in 2023. All interest received goes into the Education Fund. We also receive monthly revenue from the State for the Education Fund. Local revenue from property taxes is received twice a year, in June and December, and that money goes into the Debt Service Fund and the Operations Fund. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the board voted, 5-0, to continue to use German American Bank as our main depository for 2024.

Cash Balance Report

Mrs. Boldery presented the Cash Balance Report. She stated that our Education Fund cash balance had stayed close to the 10% proposed in Board Policy until January 2016, when it dropped to 5%. The State recommends having 8-10% of your budget as a beginning and ending cash balance. Our cash balance on January 1, 2022, without moving the 15% was 9.33%. and on January 1, 2023, the balance was 9.59% without moving the 15%. For January 2024, we are at 9.37% without moving the 15%. Mrs. Boldery then stated that she is trying to keep as much as possible in there as a cash balance since we have to meet 62% of the teachers' salaries out of the education fund now instead of the 45%. The Education Fund was increased as many of the accounts in the General Fund were transferred all into the Operations Fund and that's where the

15% comes from. We had to move the Central Office Staff, Maintenance, Custodians, Transportation and a lot of other expenses out of the funds that they closed and that all went into the Operations Fund but they didn't move the cash at the time. They set the budget and put it all into the budget and in order to have the cash to fund it we could move the 15% out of the Education Fund and put it in there. Again, she stated that she tries not to move any more than is necessary to keep the money in there for the teachers' salaries percentage that we need to meet.

We have been very conservative with our spending and will continue to do so in 2024. We did not move 15% this year. In March of 2023, we moved \$500,000. Then again when we got ready to close 2023, we moved another \$500,000. We are closer to the 15% but in 2024 we could move \$1,697,261.00 if we need to, but only if absolutely necessary.

Our Rainy Day fund currently has a \$300,000 balance. Mrs. Boldery stated that she was able to move \$600,000 from unspent appropriations into the fund which now brings our balance to \$900,000.

Investment Policy

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the board voted by roll call vote, 5-0, to approve keeping the current Investment Policy in place for 2024.

Resolution 2024-06 allowing us to invest in Certificates of Deposit outside the school district, within Indiana, if interest is higher is a 2-year resolution expiring January 2026. Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the board voted by roll call vote, 5-0, to approve the use of this resolution for 2024 through 2026.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted, 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Moment of Silence – The Southwestern Community has experienced a couple of losses; long time bus driver, Don Marshall and husband of our School Attorney, Mrs. Susan Traynor Chastain, both passed this past week. Mr. Stockdale asked that we observe a moment of silence in their memory.

Pledge of Allegiance

The School Corporation Board of Trustees conducted their Regular Board Meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 5:15 p.m. in the Elementary Board Meeting Room located at 273 S. Main Cross Street, Hanover, IN 47243.

The following members of the Board of School Trustees were present:

Mr. Rick Stockdale

Mr. John Jones

Mrs. Lacie Deputy

Mrs. Misty Jacob Mr. Jonathon Simpson

Reading of the Corporation Vision and Mission Statement

Vision – Equipping and empowering all students to reach their full potential.

Mission Statement - The mission of the Southwestern Schools is to be continuously committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment which equips and empowers all students to reach their full social, emotional, and academic potential.

Audience Call

None.

Election of Officers for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

Mr. Simpson made a motion to keep the current structure of Rick Stockdale as president, John Jones as vice-president and Misty Jacobs as secretary, seconded by Mrs. Deputy. The Board voted, 5-0, and all three motions were approved.

- President – Rick Stockdale
- Vice President – John Jones
- Secretary – Misty Jacobs

Trustee/Superintendent Appointments

Upon a motion made by Mr. Simpson, and seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the board voted, 5-0, to make the following appointments for 2024:

Madison Area Special Services Representative – Jeff Bates
Southeastern Career Center Board – Jeff Bates
Member of the Study Council – Jeff Bates
Wilson Education Center Governing Board – Jeff Bates
Policy Committee – Rick Stockdale and Jonathon Simpson
Negotiation Committee – John Jones and Misty Jacobs
Athletic Council for MS/HS – Rick Stockdale and Jonathon Simpson
Technology Committee – Lacie Deputy and John Jones
Transportation Committee – Rick Stockdale and John Jones

Appointment of School Corporation Attorney

Upon a recommendation by Mr. Bates and a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simpson, the board voted, 5-0, to appoint Susan Traynor Chastain as the Corporation attorney for the 2024 calendar year.

Appointment of School Corporation CFO/Treasurer/Assistant Treasurers

Upon a recommendation by Mr. Bates and a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mr. Jones, the board voted, 5-0, to appoint Laura Boldery as Corporation CFO/Treasurer, Penny Mahoney, and Theresa Scroggins as Assistant Treasurers.

Establishment of Regular Monthly Meeting Dates & Times

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mr. Simpson, the board voted, 5-0, to approve the following regular monthly board meeting dates and times for 2024:

- Monday, January 8 - @ 5:00 p.m. - Organization Meeting
- Monday, January 29 - @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, February 26 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 1 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 29 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 20 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 17 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 29 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, August 26 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, September 30 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 28 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, November 25 @ 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 16 @ 5:00 p.m.

Establishment of Board Members' Salary

According to Southwestern School Policy 2.09, when the board reorganizes, they are to set the annual trustee compensation, not to exceed \$2000, which is the maximum allowed by law. The board also receives a \$75.00 per meeting stipend to compensate for expenses for each meeting attended. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the board voted, 5-0, to set the board pay at \$2000 per year plus \$75.00 per meeting stipend.

Designation of Newspaper to Receive Legal Advertisement

Upon a recommendation by Mr. Bates and a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the board voted, 5-0, to approve the use of The Madison Courier to receive legal advertisement for the 2024 calendar year.

Presentation of Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements

Conflict of Interest Statements were submitted to Laura Boldery, Lacie Deputy, Misty Jacobs, John Jones, Penny Mahoney, Jonathan Simpson, Rick Stockdale, and Jason Watson. Upon a motion made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the board voted, 5-0, to approve all the Conflict of Interest Statements.

Performance Bonds

The request for performance bond coverage for 2024 was presented as follows:

Laura Boldery, CFO/Treasurer	\$100,000
Melissa May, part time	\$ 50,000
Penny Mahoney, Assistant Treasurer	\$ 50,000
Theresa Scroggins, Assistant Treasurer	\$ 50,000
Katie King, Director of Child Nutrition	\$ 50,000
Carie Adcock, Asst Director of Child Nutrition	\$ 50,000

Shannon Ritchie, High School ECA Treasurer	\$ 50,000
Blanket Bond*	Undetermined

(*this includes anyone else handling funds)

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the board voted, 5-0, to approve the performance bonds as presented for the 2024 calendar year.

Mileage Rate

The Internal Revenue Service has set the standard mileage rates for 2024 business miles driven at 65.5 cents. Upon a motion made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Jones, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the mileage rate.

Approval of the December 11, 2023, Minutes & Executive Session Verification

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the minutes from December 11, 2023, and the executive session as presented.

Consideration of Treasurer's Report

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the payment of claims listed below.

All Fund Claims #18518 - #18632 Payroll Claims #890, #891, #892, and #893

Donations

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the following donations:

- \$524.93 from The Pearl Plate for Cafeteria Donation
- \$170.00 to Gene Cloyd Memorial
- \$970.00 to Darryl Ritchie Memorial
- \$59.00 from Anonymous to SW Girls Basketball
- \$34.25 from Anonymous to SW Girls Basketball
- \$23.25 from Anonymous to SW Girls Basketball
- \$20.00 from Anonymous to SW FIN (Friends In Need)
- \$80.00 from Anonymous to SW Student Success
- \$41.75 from Anonymous to SW Prom
- \$500 from Farm Bureau to SW FFA

Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted, 5-0, to approve the following personnel issue:

FMLA – Roger Bickers – Maintenance effective date 1/8/2024

Conference Requests

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the following conference request:

Sandra Stodghill-Risk to attend the “Leveraging TI Technology for SAT Test Success” conference at the Wilson Education Center on 1/29/24. Conference is \$0 cost.

Proposal for E-Learning Day

Upon recommendation by Mr. Bates, and a motion made by Mrs. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted 5-0, and the motion carried to approve April 8, 2024, as an E-Learning Day for the Corporation.

- Due to a Total Solar Eclipse, our local area will most likely experience an influx of thousands of people to witness the historic event and in order to combat any transportation issues that may occur for our students, Mr. Bates recommends that we use this day as an E-Learning Day.

BUDGET/FINANCE

Mrs. Boldery presented the following:

- Cancellation of Outstanding Checks – Central Office only has 1 outstanding check this time for XR Technologies. The ECA has a few checks that Mrs. Ritchie will be re-issuing. Mrs. Boldery will be bringing some back for the January 29th meeting. Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted, 5-0, to cancel the one check submitted.
- Resolution 2023-13 - Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simpson, the Board voted by roll call vote, 5-0, to transfer \$600,000 from Education into the Rainy Day Fund.
- Resolution 2023-14 – Upon a motion by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted by roll call vote, 5-0, to transfer \$500,000 from Education into the Operations Fund.
- 2024 Budget – A copy of the 2024 Budget Order was submitted for viewing.
- Literacy 23 Achievement Grant – Upon a motion by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the distribution of the stipend.
 - The Dept of Education has allocated \$5,311.13 to Southwestern Elementary staff who were responsible for implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2022-23 school year and who maintain employment within the corporation on the date of distribution. Stipends may not be issued to administrators or office staff.

Audience Participation

None.

Superintendent’s Report

- Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deputy, and seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted, 5-0, to approve the employment:

8th grade English Teacher - Leslie Buchanan – hired for remainder of the semester. She will be paid as a substitute teacher until she receives an emergency teacher’s license, upon which she will then be paid as a 1st year licensed teacher.

Special Education Transportation – Substitute Bus Drivers

- Tina Hardy and Juanita Branham

Special Education Transportation – Bus Driver

- Jason Poteet

- Upon a motion Mr. Jones, and seconded by Mrs. Jacobs, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the purchase of the Wrestling sign from Tim Harmon at Timbers Custom Signs Co.

Wrestling coach, Mr. Gregory Cline and the Assistant Wrestling Coach, Michael Harmon both spoke on the quote from Timbers and addressed the teams desire to dedicate this sign to Mr. Tony Brawner as a cornerstone of the Southwestern Wrestling program.

The two coaches also spoke on their need for a wrestling mat.

- Upon a motion from Mr. Jones, and seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted 5-0 to approve for Ms. Narci Burress to form of a fundraising group for the Senior Trip.

Board Comments and Information

Future Board Meetings

Monday, January 29, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Deputy, the Board voted, 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Misty Jacobs, Secretary of the School Board of Trustees

JB/ts