

SOUTH SPENCER COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
July 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

School Board President, Melissa Middleton, called the meeting to order. Everyone in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Board Members attended:

- Melissa Middleton - President
- Chris Brown – Vice President
- Janet Stoermer - Secretary
- Matt Bunner – Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda of the July 12, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees were approved as presented.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, were approved as presented.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Eric Harpenau – Talked about CTE and college bound students, he was there to advocate for all students. Would like to see the corporation explain or continue the CTE programs. Request the board make a motion to replace the role vacated by David Taylor and maintain or expand the CTE at the middle school and high school.
- Valerie Vogel – Supported what Eric had to say and talked about how important FFA is to our students. We might not see that for years.
- Blake Bunner – Spoke about the Superintendent’s contract and how much Dr. Rutherford has done for South Spencer to make the corporation be a better place. He suggests the board extend Dr. Rutherford’s contract for as long as possible to allow the school system to continue to move forward. Suggest that the board does this with haste.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Transfer Rebecca McCaffery at Luce Elementary from 5th Grade Teacher to the Intervention Teacher.
- Transfer Lori Wilson at Luce Elementary from 4th Grade to 1st Grade Teacher.
- Alan Meunier – President of Spencer County Catalyst, Inc. – Start a task force to sell off part of the schools property.
- John Hurley – CTE, Ag Classes and FFA
- First Day of School August 4, 2021.
- At this time masks will be optional for staff and students, even on the bus.
- Eating breakfast and lunch in cafeteria.
- Breakfast and lunch will be free this year thanks to the USDA Food and Nutrition Services.

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Approved the payroll claim dockets and the accounts payable claims numbered 4373 – 4472.
2. Approved the Treasurers' financial report.
3. Approved the monthly transfer from the education fund to the operations fund, per board resolution.
4. Accepted the resignation of the following, approved to post the positions and granted permission to hire:
 - a. Katherine Duerk – SSHS Archery Sponsor – Effective June 3, 2021
 - b. Alexis Quin – Rockport Elementary Pre-K Teacher – Effective June 17, 2021
 - c. Alicia Haaff – Luce Elementary 1st Grade Teacher – Effective June 21, 2021
 - d. Scott Dugas – SSHS 10 month custodian – Effective June 28, 2021
 - e. Scott Dugas – Bus Driver – Effective June 30, 2021
 - f. Kristi Lantrip – SSMS Cook – Effective June 29, 2021
 - g. Eryn Jochim – SSHS Cheer Coach Assistant – Effective July 1, 2021
 - h. Heath Grose – SSMS Activities Director – Effective 2021-2022 school year.

Motion: Janet Stoermer

Second: Chris Brown

Vote: 4-0

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Megan Scaparro, Rockport Elementary Special Education Assistant, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Janet Stoermer

Second: Matt Bunner

Vote: 4-0

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Andrew Hagan, South Spencer High School Special Education Teacher, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Jake Barclay, Luce Elementary 4th Grade Teacher, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Ashley Masenick, Luce Elementary Special Education Assistant, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Hope Warsinsky, Luce Elementary Special Education Assistant, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Alexis Holder, Luce Elementary 5th Grade Teacher, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Kim Nelson, Saint Bernard Title I Teacher, starting with the 2021-22 School Year.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

- 8.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Nathan Tucker, South Spencer Middle School Archery Sponsor, starting with the 2021-22 School Year.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

- 9.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Abraham Bartlett, South Spencer Middle School 7th Grade Football Coach, starting with the 2021-22 School Year.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 3-1 (Nay – Janet Stoermer)

- 10.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Terry Britt, South Spencer County School Corporation Mechanic, starting July 19, 2021.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

- 11.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the employment of Audrey Mehling, South Spencer Middle School Teaching Assistant, starting August 3, 2021.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

- 12.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, created and granted permission to hire a Rockport Elementary Kindergarten teacher.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

- 13.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved to correct the position of the Remediation Specialist to Remediation Monitor and granted permission to hire.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

- 14.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved to correct the position of the Reading Intervention Teacher to Elementary Intervention Teacher.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

- 15.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to hire the South Spencer Middle/High School Social Worker.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

- 16.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to hire a South Spencer High School Special Education Teacher.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

- 17.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to post the position of Head Cook for South Spencer Middle School.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

- 18.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to hire Rockport Elementary Pre-K teacher.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

- 19.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to hire a 10 month, 5 hour a day custodian at South Spencer High School.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

- 20.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to hire a 12 month, 8 hour a day custodian at South Spencer Middle School.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

21. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, granted permission to create and post the position of Concession Director.

Motion: Chris Bown
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

NEW BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2021-2022 curricular material fees as presented:
 - Luce Elementary
 - Rockport Elementary
 - South Spencer Middle School
 - South Spencer High School

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following 2021-2022 handbooks as presented:
 - Rockport/Luce Elementary
 - South Spencer Middle School
 - South Spencer High School

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following 2021-2022 emergency/safety plans:
 - Luce Elementary
 - South Spencer Middle School

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the before & after school plan at Luce Elementary effective with the 2021-22 school year.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Matt Bunner
Vote: 4-0

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2021-2022 Back to School Plan.

Motion: Janet Stoermer
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the Engagement between South Spencer County School Corporations and Bose, McKinney & Evans LLP for representation, relative to discussion training as a condition of the ULP mediation agreement.

Motion: Chris Brown
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the Noncertified Employee Salary schedule for 2021-2022 to take effect August 1, 2021.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Chris Brown
Vote: 4-0

8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the agreement between South Spencer County School Corporation and Exceptional Children's Co-Op.

Motion: Matt Bunner
Second: Janet Stoermer
Vote: 4-0

INFORMAITON ITEMS

These were written reports to the Board.

1. Technology Report
2. Maintenance Report
3. Transportation Report
4. New Volunteers Report

STATEMENTS/CONCERNS OF THE BOARD

Chris Brown – "I want to say that the views are his and not those of the board. He has sat and listened to the CTA representative, Veronica Hobbs attack this board and Dr. Rutherford in the most unethical way. The public's opinion is very low and makes our teachers sound like a bunch of whiners. After the most trying year that we have ever lived through and being able to come together and give kids instruction, I think is our finest hour. The comments that Ms. Hobbs is saying in public meetings are negative comments and half-

truths in order to get public persuasion that our problem is Richard Rutherford. The problem is that this is the same pattern that was used for our last Superintendent, if you do not get your way, you change the Superintendent. The spread of rumors and her opinion in order to create controversy at every meeting has to stop. I want to make it clear, if there is a grievance there is already a process in place and public comment in a school board meeting is not that place. Contract negotiations happen later this year. If you want to make changes in our relationship that contract is where it needs to happen. I had a chance to talk with other board members from neighboring school district that went through a ULP that was filed by Veronica Hobbs, which seems to be another pattern. The amazing comment from that board member was that now that Veronica is gone we have the best relationship that we have ever had with our CTA. I am asking the leadership of the CTA to come together, stop with the drama and making our teacher look bad in the public, when they are defiantly not the problem. We have so many positive things happening. High School math scores have risen dramatically. We are 61st out of 351 schools. We have balanced our general fund and our educational fund is going up. We have had live elearning and virtual days. We have Chromebooks in every grade, 1 through 12. We have had many athletic facilities updates, a full-time resource officer, and I could go on forever. This negative crap is going to stop or I am going to call it out at every meeting.”

NEXT MEETING DATE

Special meeting of the board will be Monday, July 26, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the multipurpose room at South Spencer High School.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the multipurpose room at South Spencer High School.

ADJOURNMENT

Time: 7:47 PM

Motion: Matt Bunner

Second: Chris Brown

Vote: 4-0

DOCUMENT SIGNING

All Students - All the Time