

SOUTHWESTERN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
August 12, 2020

Members Present: Travis Beck, Michael Burbrink, Jerry Drake, Jim Emerick, Linda Isgrigg, Isaac Pile, and Susan Smith

**I. Call to Order**

**A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

President Jim Emerick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Office of Southwestern CSD of Shelby County. He led the pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

**B. Welcome, introductions and recognitions**

President Jim Emerick welcomed everyone in attendance.

**II. Public Comment**

Mr. Kyle Barlow spoke to the board about the proposed industrial solar farms coming to the area. Mr. Barlow covered several topics including some of the proposed locations and the negative impact that the solar panels could have on the environment, property values, and school enrollment. He also provided board members with handouts of pertinent information.

Mr. Justin Parker also spoke with board members in support of the information provided by Mr. Barlow.

Mr. Denny Harrold, school attorney addressed the attendees and congratulated them on the organization of their presentation. As school attorney, he advised that Southwestern Schools would not become involved in community political disputes, including the industrial solar funds.

Mr. Eddie Layton of Schmidt Associates gave an update on the fieldhouse construction and construction on the new weight room. Mr. Kyle Miller of Schmidt Associates informed the board that the contractor's superintendent had left the company but that a new person was now in charge of the build.

**III. Consent Items & Claims**

**A. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting**

Mr. Drake moved and Mr. Burbrink seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Carried 7-0

**B. Approval of accounts payable vouchers**

Mr. Drake moved and Mr. Burbrink seconded the motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented. Carried 7-0

#### **IV. Business & Financial Report**

##### **A. Financial Report**

Mr. Emerick informed the board that the financial report was in their packets. No questions were asked regarding the report.

##### **B. Extracurricular and Cafeteria Report**

Mr. Emerick informed the board that the extracurricular and cafeteria reports were in their packets. Mr. Chad Stringer asked about the availability of copies of these reports. He was asked to contact Mrs. Thopy for copies of the requested items. No questions were asked regarding the reports.

#### **V. New Business**

##### **A. Recommend the acceptance of donations and grants**

- (2) \$200 from the Karen Parmer family for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$100 from Mt. Gilead Baptist church for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$50 from Mt. Auburn Christian Church for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$50 (2) from the Whitis family for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$200 from the FRCC Benevolence Fund for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$125 from the Nading family for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$150 from the Nading family for the Spartan Cupboard
- \$1,200 from Lynda Petro for the Spartan Cupboard

Mr. Burbrink moved and Mr. Pile seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **B. Recommend adding \$1,500 to the base salary of our corporation Treasurer.**

Mr. Beck moved and Mrs. Smith seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **C. Recommend adding \$2.25 an hour to the ECA Treasurer position on the pay scale.**

Mr. Beck moved and Mrs. Smith seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **D. Recommend adoption of Policy 3220.01 - Teacher Appreciation Grant**

Mr. Burbrink moved and Mr. Beck seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **E. Recommend permission to post on the DLGF Gateway the Notice of Hearing on September 9, 2020**

Mr. Pile moved and Mr. Beck seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **F. Request permission to post Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan on the district website.**

Mr. Beck moved and Mr. Burbrink seconded. Carried 7-0

##### **G. Recommend the appointment of a board member to attend the ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference.**

No appointment was made.

## **H. Other**

### **Recommend approval of the SEEC resolution**

This resolution covers special ed excess cost, and allows Mr. Chase along with Mr. Emerick to sign documents.

Mr. Beck moved and Mrs. Smith seconded. Carried 7-0

## **VI. Reports and Presentations**

### **A. Principal's Report**

Mr. Edwards stated this was his eighth year at Southwestern and this year had been the smoothest start to a new school year. He pointed out that with the new administration and all of the new faces in the school it has gone extremely well so far.

Mr. Tindall reported to the board that as a first year administrator he had been very excited to begin the year and welcomed all of the students and staff back to school. He reported that the guidelines that had been put in place for compliance with the pandemic orders were being implemented and were going as well as possible. Mr. Tindall gave an update on the start of the athletic season and all that Mr. Days was doing to make sure that everyone was staying compliant.

### **B. Facilities Maintenance Director Report**

Mr. Cooper reported that his staff had worked hard to get the buildings ready for the return of the staff and students. This included deep cleaning on a more frequent than usual schedule, every high touch area in the buildings are cleaned multiple times per day. Mr. Cooper informed the board that all filters in the building that could be upgraded from a MERV 8 filter to a MERV 13 filter had been installed, and that they had been purchased at a lower price than the existing filters through a new supplier. He also updated the board on the new sod that had been installed in the baseball field. Mr. Cooper explained that the new drive pattern for student drop off was now working well.

### **C. Superintendent Report**

Mr. Chase updated board members on what was happening in state government that applied to school funding. He reported that right now funding was 100% for on site students and 85% for virtual students. Southwestern currently has 6.9% of students as virtual students. He also complimented staff on how well the lunch changes had been implemented and how smoothly they seemed to be going to help with contact tracing when necessary.

## **VII. Personnel**

### **A. Staff Leaves/Resignations/Terminations**

- Resignation of Emily Haugh as essential skills teacher, preschool teacher, and teacher of service for K - 2nd grade
- Resignation of Carolyn Temple as cafeteria worker
- Resignation of Shelby Claycomb from high school cross country

- Resignation of Chris Ingels as junior high cross country coach
- Resignation of Lisa Hounshell as cafeteria worker
- Resignation of Stephanie Emminger as co-senior class sponsor
- Recommend FMLA for Cathy Macaluso starting 8/3/2020 with an estimate end date of 9/28/2020

Mr. Beck moved and Mr. Pile seconded. Carried 7-0

#### **B. Recommendations to Hire**

- Recommend to hire Ali Fix as essential skills teacher, preschool teacher, and teacher of service for K - 2nd grade at \$35,000.
- Recommend to hire Koty Simpson as high school special education aide
- Recommend to hire Chris Ingels as high school cross country coach
- Recommend to hire Ethan Swift as junior high cross country coach
- Recommend to hire Katelyn Clark as an adult worker for CARE Club
- Recommend to hire Sarah Johnson as a cafeteria worker
- Recommend to hire Amy Pfanschmidt as fall concessions

Mr. Burbrink moved and Mrs. Smith seconded. Carried 7-0

#### **C. Other**

None

#### **VIII. Superintendent Comments**

Mr. Chase agreed with what the principals had reported about the smooth start to the new school year. He stated that he knew there would be tough days and decisions ahead but we are off to a good start.

#### **IX. Board Member Comments**

Mr. Beck commented that students were excited to be back in school.

Mrs. Isgrigg thanked everyone involved with the graduations and said what a wonderful job they had all done.

Mrs. Smith reported that she was glad to see all of the enthusiasm of the administrators as we begin the new school year. She also thanked everyone for all of the hard work that went into the graduation ceremonies.

Mr. Drake complimented everyone who was involved with the graduations and was impressed with how well it had all gone.

Mr. Emerick thanked everyone for all of their hard work in getting the school year started, and thanked Mr. Harrold for his help.

**X. Adjournment**

Mr. Emerick adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.
