

SOUTH RIPLEY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

September 21, 2020

Versailles, Indiana

President Tim Taylor opened the Public Hearing on the 2021 Budgets at 6:30 PM Monday, September 21, 2020. Members present were: Jeff Cornett, Robert Garcia, Carol Holzer, Danielle McGee, Andy Miller, and Tim Taylor. Member Randy McIntosh was out of town due to required training for work. Robert Moorhead and School Attorney Merritt Alcorn were both present. The hearing was held in the High School Auditoria with seating accommodating the recommended social distancing space. There were no patron comments made, nor questions presented. Business Manager Lana Miller explained the budgets along with Forms 1-5, and the required Capital Projects and Bus Replacement Plans. It was stated for board acknowledgement that the percentage of transfers from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund is 10.4% for the 2021 Budget. The State recommends that this be no more than 15%. The budget hearing was closed with a motion by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

President Taylor said a prayer and then called to order the regular session. The agenda was approved as presented with one personnel item (#11) being removed. Motion was made to approve the agenda by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Under correspondence, a thank you note was received from the family of Betty Lauber, the grandmother of Ryan Lauber and Ashlee Miller. Betty was a long time employee of South Ripley and had been retired for many years. She was also the mother of former board member Barry Lauber.

Under recognition, Superintendent Moorhead thanked Lori Samples for her service as interim board member filling the military leave of absence of Robert Garcia from June 2019 to April of 2020. President Taylor presented a certificate of recognition and a small gift. Due to COVID-19, this recognition had been delayed. Lori thanked the board for the recognition and stated that she enjoyed her time serving on the board.

Under consent items, Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the minutes as submitted. Danielle McGee made the motion to approve, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

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Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the claims as presented. Motion was made by Jeff Cornett to approve, seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the Financial Report as presented by Business Manager Lana Miller. Motion was made to approve by Robert Garcia, seconded by Carol Holzer, vote 6-0.

Under personnel, Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the Winter ECA Coaching Assignments for 2020-2021 as submitted. Motion was made to approve by Danielle McGee, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval to pay Ms. Courtney McGuire Huntington a payment in the amount of \$2,500 for her work with the girls basketball team the last few months. Ms. Huntington served as a strength and conditioning coach. Funds for this payment will be reimbursed by the girls basketball account for her services. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Carol Holzer, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of Ms. Karen Burford to fill the SRES cafeteria manager position vacated from Vernice Stratton's retirement. Ms. Burford would receive the Year 2 established rate for the position. Approval was also sought to continue to pay Ms. Tracy Burns, interim cafeteria manager, the experienced rate through September 30, 2020 while she trains Ms. Burford in the transition. Motion was made to approve by Robert Garcia, seconded by Andy Miller, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended the employment of Mr. Chad Schwering as a corporation daily route bus driver, effective September 22, 2020. This assignment is paid a daily rate, is eligible for a life insurance policy, and receives five PTO days 30 days after hire date. Motion was made to approve by Danielle McGee, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended the employment of Mr. Bruce Clowers as a corporation daily route bus driver, effective September 22, 2020. This assignment is paid a daily rate, is eligible for a life insurance policy, and receives five PTO days 30 days after hire date. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett,

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seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0. Superintendent Moorhead extended his thanks to TBG Supervisor Gil Landwehr and Greg Gardner for the time spent training the two new bus drivers and assisting them with preparing for their CDL exams.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended the employment of Ms. Terri Redwine as a moderate room aide at South Ripley High School, with a retroactive hire date of September 1, 2020. Ms. Redwine will be paid Year 1 aide rate for a 7-hour day, approximately 183 days per school year. Motion was made to approve by Robert Garcia, seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of Ms. Erin Padgett as the Junior Class Sponsor for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion was made to approve by Andy Miller, seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended acceptance of the resignation of Ms. Kim Romack from the position of elementary receptionist, effective September 30, 2020. Motion was made to approve by Danielle McGee, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of Ms. Whitney Kirk, in the position of Elementary School Receptionist, effective October 1, 2020. Ms. Kirk will be started at the Year 2 Receptionist rate, and is eligible for the non-certified benefits package. Motion was made to approve by Robert Garcia, seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended acceptance of the resignation of Ms. Janet Schwanholt from a 4-hour school year custodial position, effective September 11, 2020. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Carol Holzer, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the Resolution for Suspension of School Board Policies Conflicting with Waivers or Extensions during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Motion was made to approve by Robert Garcia, seconded by Danielle McGee, vote 6-0.

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Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval to donate older data collection equipment from the PLTW classroom, to other PLTW classrooms in need. Fortunately the older equipment was replaced through a grant, and Mr. Howard would like to donate the older equipment to members of his teaching community that are in need. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Andy Miller, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the addendum to the Jr. High and High School student handbooks to bring them in alignment with wording of current board policy in regard to expulsion appeals to the board. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Carol Holzer, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval for the Senior Class of 2021 to participate in a "Senior Class Parade" on September 25, 2020. This has been approved by the Versailles Town Council, and the class sponsors are working with Ms. Roxanne Meyer in order to follow all town and law enforcement guidelines. School Attorney Merritt Alcorn has reviewed the waiver that will need to be signed by parents for each student to participate. Superintendent Moorhead thanked the Versailles Town Council and School Attorney Merritt Alcorn for their assistance in making this a safe and memorable event for our students due to the cancellation of the Pumpkin Show. Motion was made to approve by Danielle McGee, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the updated AEP Extended eLearning Attendance language to address any extended eLearning environment. Motion was made to approve by Jeff Cornett, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

Superintendent Moorhead recommended approval of the 2020-2021 Staff Performance Evaluation Plan including the Teacher Appreciation Grant Policy. This is an annual approval and the evaluation plan changed this year based on new legislation allowing us to move away from student growth and assessment results as a part of the evaluation. 90% will be based on the teacher rubric, and 10% comes from the school letter grade. There were no changes in the distribution of the Teacher Appreciation Grant. Motion was made to approve by Danielle McGee, seconded by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0.

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Under information items, Superintendent Moorhead was pleased to announce that South Ripley was awarded \$47,308 to be used for an electronic door access and locking system for the SRHS and SRJH. These monies will help match the funds received from the Indiana School Safety Grant Program which funds our contract with the Town of Versailles for the School Resource Officer. Superintendent Moorhead stated how fortunate we are to have the Tyson Versailles Fund. He also thanked Member Jeff Cornett who is a member on the Tyson Versailles Fund for such a generous donation to our school district.

Superintendent Moorhead thanked the CIVISTA Charitable Foundation for their \$500 donation for a live stream of a South Ripley event in the 2020-2021 school year. This will be used with the NOW Broadcasting Live Network as sponsorship for the livestream of South Ripley Athletic events.

Superintendent Moorhead informed the board that the Ripley County Community Foundation has awarded the South Ripley Raider Food Pantry a Proactive Grant in the amount of \$691.25. The funding received will be used to support the food pantry. Thanks were extended to the Ripley County Community Foundation for this generous donation.

Superintendent Moorhead was pleased to announce that South Ripley has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security for the Safety Project Round 8. This will be used to fund our School Resource Officer contract with the Town of Versailles. Superintendent Moorhead thanked Officer Ed Rodriguez and Business Manager Lana Miller for their work in applying for the grant.

Superintendent Moorhead shared a preliminary count on September 18, 2020 of 1,105. This is down 39 students from the Fall 2019 count. This count is not final as there are a few conflicts yet to be resolved concerning the placement of a few students. Most of the decrease in enrollment is due to graduating a senior class of 96, and enrolling a kindergarten class of 62 for 2020-2021. The final ADM count will be reported to the board at the next meeting.

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Superintendent Moorhead shared the revised and reviewed 2020-2021 Annual School Safety Plans for the Elementary building, and the Junior High and High School Buildings.

Business Manager Lana Miller informed the board of the lighting rebates received from Duke Energy in the amount of \$93,549.16. This was for the high efficiency lighting equipment that was purchased in the energy savings project with Emcor as the contractor. This money was placed in Construction Fund #0703 and will be used in the future toward this project or another project to be determined.

Business Manager Lana Miller shared with the board that a Certificate of Payment to Shambaugh & Son, LP in the amount of \$500,000 was processed as Contractor Draw #4. Superintendent Moorhead stated that a few Emcor workers are still on site finalizing the control systems between the two buildings along with balancing the heating and cooling within the buildings. The project is near completion and has gone very smoothly throughout the summer.

Superintendent Moorhead presented First Reading of Board Policies Vol. 32. No. 2 as per attached. Approval of these policies will be sought at the next board meeting.

Under other, Superintendent Moorhead informed the board of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO Program) offered to schools through the United States Department of Agriculture. South Ripley was quick to get approved for this free breakfast and lunch program for all students, and was able to get retroactive approval back to September 1, 2020, which allowed us to credit back over \$6,000 to our families for meals consumed and charged for the first few days of September. This SSO program will end on December 31, 2020, or whenever funds run out at the federal level. Superintendent Moorhead thanked Business Manager Lana Miller, Food Service Clerical Carol Holcomb, Food Service Managers Cindy Espelage and Tracy Burns, and Student Data Coordinator Kristen Hughes for their work in getting this program approved and up and running, along with crediting the families back to September 1, 2020. This is a great program for our students and families during times of COVID-19.

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Superintendent Moorhead explained the goals of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Grant (GEER Grant). The four Ripley County Schools applied for the grant and have been awarded \$250,000. Milan is the LEA of the grant and will handle all funds. South Ripley is in line to receive approximately 100 additional mi-fi devices from Verizon Wireless to be used by families that have no internet service or unreliable internet service. A survey was recently sent out to families asking about their internet services and reliability. This grant will provide the mi-fi devices for approximately 2 years. We are hopeful that within two years a better rural broadband service is locally available. This GEER grant is another example of Ripley County Schools coming together to help our local families.

Under other, member Jeff Cornett stated that Courtney McGuire did a fantastic job with the strength and conditioning program she ran for the Girls Basketball program. Jeff stated that he would like to see a similar program for all of our athletes and something more concrete put in place. This program is good for our students and will be a long term health benefit for them.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Danielle McGee, with a second by Robert Garcia, vote 6-0. A Public Hearing on the 2021 Budgets started at 6:30 PM, preceding the regular session. An executive session preceded the Public Hearing at 6PM regarding job performance evaluation of individual employees, and to receive information about prospective employees. No other topics were discussed.

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President

[Signature]

Member

Vice-President
Carol Holzer

Secretary

Andrew Miller

Member

Danielle McGee

Member

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Member