SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Monday, October 21, 2024
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00 PM @ 475 W. 5th Avenue, Springfield School District, MakerSpace Lab

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL: The October 21, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Springfield School Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President, Darrell Mackey.

B. MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

C. MEMBERS ABSENT: None

D. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Shelly Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Pam Hartley, Julie Benge, Tiffany Hume, Van Walker, Jeff Mort, Tanisha Hinds, Starla Westphal, Carey George, and Deb Sharpe.

E. GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Jamie Smith, Tyler Gibson, Damon McGeary, Quinton George, Corby Mackey and James Brenner.

II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Superintendent Swayne requested the addition of Item F. Review of Grounds Bids and Ideas to VII: Discussion and Action Items and addition of regarding evaluation: fall coaching to Executive Session: II.

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of Agenda: Heath Piper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with the addition to Discussion and Action Items: Item F. Review of Grounds Bids and Ideas and the addition of regarding evaluation of fall coaching to Executive Session II. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. ROUTINE ITEMS:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
   a) Regular Meeting: September 16, 2024
   b) Special Meeting: September 30, 2024
   c) Special meeting: October 04, 2024

C. FINANCIAL REPORTS

D. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve consent agenda items B, C, D. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM:

Please Note: ***Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation 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. Comments are requested to be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner 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 an executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in the executive session. Please inform the Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in the executive session.***

Mr. Randy Cooper asked permission to invite all students from both participating teams to meet in the middle of the football field after the football game.

Tiffany Hume read a prepared statement that addressed athletics as part of the school culture.

Jamie Smith spoke about the JH sports program, coaching styles and the hiring process.

Van Walker asked what is the single reason we play sports. He presented interesting data taken from numerous studies done with students and parents and the disconnect that exists between student reasons and adult thinking.

James Brenner shared his philosophy of school sports based on his background as a competitor at college level. He also asked for clarification on the school's crisis management procedures.

Cory Mackey expressed his concern that when vetting coaching candidates, they should, at minimum, have knowledge of the fundamentals of the sport.

Thomas Schmidt gave a presentation on his trip to Orlando, Florida to attend and participate in the National FBLA Leadership Conference.

Mrs. Kathy Self thanked the board for the financial support the district provides to allow students to attend the FBLA & FCCLA National Conferences. She also read a thank you note written by one of her students for Boss's Day.

V. Action Items: Organization of the Board: Jennifer Esch made a motion to ratify all officer positions as they now exist with Larkin Smith filling the vacant position of Vice-President. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A. Election of Officers

1. **President -** Darrell Mackey
2. **Vice President -** Larkin Smith
3. **Secretary** - Jennifer Esch
4. **Treasurer -** Heath Piper
5. **Director -** Andrea Keenan

B. Organization of Bank Accounting

1. **Approve signature cards and electronic signatures as necessary based on the election of officers.**

Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve signatures on bank accounts at Community State Bank as per the list provided (Funds #1 - 6), Capital Reserve Fund at Frontier Bank and Money Market funds at Colo Trust.

Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

a. Community State Bank:

1. GENERAL FUND CHECKING - 205000827: Requires 3 signatures. Authorized Signers: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

2. LUNCH FUND CHECKING – 205000835: Requires 3 signatures. Authorized signers: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

3. PRESCHOOL FUND CHECKING – 205000843: Requires 3 signatures. Authorized signers: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

4. LUNCH FUND SAVINGS CD – 206000634; no checks. Authorized to complete transactions: Julie Benge, Pam Hartley and Shelly Swayne.

5. ACTIVITY FUND CHECKING – 205000851: Requires 2 signatures. Authorized signers: Shelly Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Jeff Mort and Brooke Hartley.

6. ACTIVITY FUND SAVINGS CD – 206000683; no checks. Authorized to complete transactions: Julie Benge, Pam Hartley and Shelly Swayne.

b. Frontier Bank:

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND. Requires 3 signatures. Authorized signers: Jennifer Esch, Andrea Keenan, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Larkin Smith.

c. Colo Trust:

GENERAL FUND MONEY MARKET and PRESCHOOL FUND MONEY MARKET. No checks. Authorized to complete transactions: Julie Benge, Pam Hartley and Shelly Swayne.

6. APPROVE AUTHORIZATION OF FACSIMILE SIGNATURE PLATE:

Motion to approve authorization of facsimile signatures of the current board officers for the AptaFund check signing process:
President, Darrell Mackey
Secretary, Jennifer Esch
Treasurer, Heath Piper

VI. Board Forum

Darrell Mackey suggested the board look at a more expedient way to get the board policy updates approved.

Jennifer Esch publicly commended City Police Chief Griffin for his expert and professional handling of his duties. She also stated that it is her desire to improve the sports schedules by scheduling games on Friday and Saturday and to avoid weekdays.

Heath Piper raised the question if now that PS-12 are all in one building, should all students get free admission to games.

Andrea Keenan asked when Leader in Me would be implemented in High School & Jr. High.

VII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. SPRE4 Accountability Committee Appointment

Director Andrea Keenan as the board liaison to the Accountability Committee, presented member recommendations for the board to appoint to the Accountability Committee:

Recommendations:

Julie Benge (local patron)

Aaron Close (local business owner)

Tanisha Hinds (elementary staff, parent)

Dustin Hume (parent)

Katie Shaw (parent)

Jamie Smith (local patron)

Shawnee Wait (parent)

Jennifer Esch made a motion to appoint all 7 recommended persons as members of the Springfield School District Accountability Committee. Darrell Mackey seconded the

motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Budget Review for Fiscal Year 2025

The board reviewed budget reports provided in their board packets. Members expressed their desire for a training to help with their understanding of the school budget.

C. October 01 Count Day Review

Board members were provided with a folder that contained data showing the enrollment trends of Baca County schools, district of attendance, and 2024 October 1 count data for SPRE4.

D. Cooperative Sports Agreement: Baseball

CHSAA requires that any schools that cooperatively field team sports enter into board-approved agreements for the sport. Superintendent Swayne recommended that the board approve the cooperative agreement with Walsh for Baca County Baseball for the 2025 and 2026 seasons.

Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the cooperative agreement between Springfield and Walsh for Baca County Baseball for the 2025 and 2026 seasons. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Supplemental Assignments, Part 2

At the September regular meeting the board approved supplemental assignments for staff for junior and senior high activities or assessments. After approval details were reviewed an error was found in the transition of the pay schedule from last year to this year. An updated document was presented for reconsideration.

Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the updated payments for supplemental assignments. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Review of Grounds Bids and Ideas

Damon McGeary presented information on John Deere equipment for the board to consider to aid with snow removal on the school campus.

Jeff Mort shared what type of equipment and man-power that may be needed for the maintenance of the school grounds.
Two proposals were read:

1. Larry Duncan
2. Lucky Outdoor Services

The board discussed the various proposals and felt that more information was needed. No action was taken.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Springfield Preschool
   Mrs. Sharpe highlighted some items on her written report that was included in the BOE Board Packets and asked if members had any questions.
B. Principal Reports
   Elementary Principal, Jerri-Ann Montoya spoke about items on her written report.
   Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Ginger Walker reported a good month in the Jr./Sr. High School and reviewed items from her BOE written report.

C. Superintendent Report
Superintendent Swayne invited questions from the board about any items on her October BOE written report. She highlighted the upcoming Ribbon Cutting on October 25 and on the scheduled Cedar Street repair project. She also reviewed the summary of the weight room equipment purchases as previously requested by the board.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Session 1: The board will convene in executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(g)and 24-72-204(3)(a)(XI)(a) to consider documents protected by the mandatory non-disclosure provision of the Colorado Open Records Act. The particular matter(s) for discussion is the content of letters of reference & recommendations for substitute staffing and custodial staffing.

Session 2: The board will convene in executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss personnel and evaluation matters concerning the superintendent of schools and fall coaching.

Session 3: The board will convene in executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(c) to discuss contract items and negotiations for Springfield School District employees.

Session 4: The board will convene in an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(h) to discuss matters involving student(s) where public conversation will violate the privacy of individual student(s).

Heath Piper made a motion to move into Executive Sessions as defined on the agenda with the following persons invited as listed:

Session 1: Superintendent Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya.

Session 2: Superintendent Swayne and Jeff Mort only for fall coaching evaluation.

Session 3: Superintendent Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya.

Session 4: Superintendent Swayne, Ginger Walker.

Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The board entered into Executive Sessions at 8:35 p.m. The board returned to Regular Session at 11:01 p.m.

X. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)

a. Retirements, Resignations:

b. Employment Recommendations:

Superintendent Swayne made the following hiring recommendations:

Brenda Brooks – approve as substitute

Ryan Clark – approve as elementary custodian and maintenance

Alayah Meltabarger – approve as junior high girls' basketball assistant

Heath Piper made a motion to approve Brenda Brooks as a substitute and the hiring of Ryan Clark, elementary custodian and Alayah Meltabarger as junior high girls' basketball assistant. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Swayne recommended the board approve the resignation of Michelle Cheek, elementary custodian and Brittney Martin, preschool early childhood educator. Jennifer Esch made a motion to approve the resignations of Michelle Cheek and Brittney Martin. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed

unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Andrea Keenan made a motion to adjourn. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Darrell Mackey, President

Larkin Smith, Vice President

Jennifer Esch, Secretary

Heath Piper, Treasurer

Andrea Keenan, Director