SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Monday, February 17, 2025
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00 PM @ 475 W. 5th Avenue, Springfield School District, MakerSpace Lab

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Darrell Mackey, Board President, called the February 17, 2025, Regular Board meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

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

C. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Shelly Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Pam Hartley, Christa Ricker, Carey George, Van Walker and Deb Sharpe.

D. GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Jamie Smith, Julie Benge, Tyanne Miller, Colin Swanson and Quinten George.

II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Superintendent Swayne requested the addition of Item C. to Discussion and Action Items: Discuss and approve proposal from School Links.

III. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. APPROVAL of AGENDA
B. ROUTINE ITEMS:
1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
a) Regular Meeting: January 27, 2025
b) Special Meeting: February 10, 2025
C. FINANCIAL REPORTS
D. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Heath Piper made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the addition of Item C: Discuss and Approve School Link Proposal to VII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS. Larkin Smith 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.***

Mrs. Jamie Smith and Mrs. Julie Benge presented the school with a new 8' X 12' US Flag to be displayed in the new gym. Mr. Mackey accepted the flag and thanked them for their donation.

V. Curriculum Corner

a. Colorado Academic Standards: Superintendent Swayne and Principal Walker provided the board with the link on the CDE website where information on all Colorado Academic Standards is listed. They visually reviewed some of the areas on the site that are used by teachers and administration in developing lesson plans curriculum and graduation requirements. They shared that some of our classroom instructors have participated in the routine review process of these state standards.

b. Kindergarten School Readiness: Springfield Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Christa Ricker spoke about the state mandated KSR (Kindergarten School Readiness) assessments that must be completed with all kindergarten students within the first 60 calendar days after school starts. The students are assessed on 6 different domains: Cognition, Language, Literacy, Math, Social & Emotional and Physical. The district uses Teaching Strategies Gold, a state approved testing platform. Mrs. Ricker told the board that our students receive excellent kindergarten preparation through our preschool program. Most students score well on readiness skills, with Math and Literacy being the lower scores.

VI. Board Forum

A. Accountability Committee Update- A. Keenan: Director Keenan reported that the Accountability Committee is trying to get acquainted with what accountability is responsible for. There was discussion on parent engagement for 5th – 12th grades. The next meeting will be March 10.

VII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Legally Required Policies, sections A-K

In an effort to try to move forward with the task of updating board policies, board members reviewed the legally required policies in Section A.
Jennifer Esch made a motion to rescind previous policies AE, AC-E-1, AC-R-1, AC-R-2, AC-R-3, ACA, AD, ADC, ADD, ADF and AED and to approve first reading to adopt the legally required policies as presented by CASB:
AC. Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
AC-E-1, Nondiscrimination/equal Opportunity (Sample Notice)-Exhibit
AC-R-1, Harassment and Discrimination Investigation Procedures for Students
AC-R-2, Harassment and Discrimination Investigation Procedures for Employees, Applicants for Employment and Members of the Public
AC-R-3, Sex-Based Harassment Investigation Procedures – Regulation
ACA, Name Changes
AD, School District Mission
ADC, Tobacco-Free Schools
ADD, Safe Schools
ADF, School Wellness
AED, Accreditation
Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. 2025- 2026 School Calendar

Superintendent Swayne presented 3 options for the 2025-2026 calendar and reviewed feedback from staff and students. Following discussion about various aspects of each option, the board chose Calendar 1 with changes. Heath Piper made a motion to approve Calendar Option 1 with changes: Parent Teacher K – 12 conferences will move back to the traditional Thursday schedule on 02-12-26, no school on Friday, 02-13-26 and a regular school day on 2-16-2026. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. **SchoolLinks Proposal**

Principal Walker spoke to the board about SchoolLinks. It is a system that allows every student to have access to interest inventories, industries, colleges, and careers during their 7-12 years. LCC has discontinued the program we have been using. SchoolLinks has been around for several years but has never been very affordable to smaller districts until now. SchoolLinks has submitted a proposal for $2500 per year, with yearly price locked in for 3 years. Students could access immediately, but won't be invoiced until July making it a 2025-26 budget expense. Darrell Mackey made a motion to approve the $2500.00 per year proposal from SchoolLink for the 2025-26 budget year. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-yes, Esch, Keenan, Mackey, Piper and 1-no, Smith.

VIII. Administrator Reports

A. Springfield Preschool: Mrs. Sharpe provided the board with a written report and reviewed some of the information. February is a busy month with Child Find, valentine parties and parent-teacher conferences. She reported that they are expecting a visit from the new licensing specialist, a guest from another district will be coming to observe our program and UPK enrollment is closed, but will reopen next month. Preschool enrollment is 38. She shared an updated list of facility needs.

B. Springfield Elementary School: The board reviewed Mrs. Montoya's written report showing attendance rate at 94% in K-5 and student count is 122. February activities include valentine parties, parent-teacher conferences and student of the month ceremony. Family Reading Night for February was canceled due to weather and sickness. Ms. Swayne will be doing a short trauma training on the next teacher work day.

C. Springfield Jr/Sr High School: Mrs. Walker's written report provided the board with the current 3rd qtr. daily attendance rate of 88.7%, 20 discipline log entries for 2nd semester and 44 tardies in 1st & 6th hours since the first of February. Springfield FCCLA hosted district competition and several FBLA members have advanced to state competition. Activities this month included FCCLA cookie sales, the FFA hired hand sale, snowcoming, parent-teacher conferences and state wrestling.

D. Superintendent: Ms. Swayne's written report updated the board on the implementation of Leader in Me in 6-12 grades and provided them with a breakdown of costs and revenue to be expected to continue the LCC Construction Trades program in our district as the grant from LCC comes to a close. Campus construction still has ongoing warranty work with one roof leak and continuing HVAC problems. She also reported that the preschool dishwasher is expected within the next 3 weeks and the work with Abacus during the absence of a business manager has been a bit chaotic in the beginning, but should smooth out as we get Abacus onboard and brought up to speed.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Session 1: The board will convene in an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss personnel matters for the purposes of evaluations and contracts of the Superintendent, SES Principal, and SHS Principal.

Recommend attendance session 1: BOE, S. Swayne Supervisor

Session 2: 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 Custodian, Coaching, and Paraprofessional positions.

Recommend attendance session 2: BOE, G. Walker - Admin, J.A. Montoya - Admin, S. Swayne - Supt.

Heath Piper made a motion to go in to executive session. Larkin Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The board entered Executive Session 1 at 7:45 p.m. and ended at 8:52 p.m.

The board entered Executive Session 2 at 8:58 p.m. and ended at 9:00 p.m.

The board returned to Regular Session at 9:03 p.m.

X. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)

a. Retirements, Resignations:

b. Employment Recommendations:

c. Other:

Superintendent Swayne made the following hiring recommendations:
Ray Schmidt, Custodian
Taylor Birdsong, JH Track Assistant Coach

Heath Piper made a motion to approve the hiring of Ray Schmidt as a custodian and Taylor Birdsong for a Junior High Assistant Track Coach. Andrea Keenan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Darrell Mackey, President

Larkin Smith, Vice President

Jennifer Esch, Secretary

Heath Piper, Treasurer

Andrea Keenan, Director