

**SOUTHWESTERN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
March 12, 2025**

Members Present: John Blue, Jonathan Deater, Blake Newkirk, Dustin Simpson, Brad Stamper, Derrek Tennell and Daryl Thomas

I. Call to Order

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

President Tennell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Southwestern Consolidated Administration building. He led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

B. Welcome, introductions and recognitions

Dr. Wilkins welcomed everyone in attendance.

Students of the Month for February from the Jr/Sr High School were presented to the board members by principal John Tindall. These students included High school student Chloe Purdue and Jr High student Casen Brittain.

Students of the month for December from the Elementary School were presented by principal Beth Hoeing. These students included:

Jagger Wilhite, Weston Herman, Meredith Fuchs, Scarlett Verseman, Gracie Muellen, Bruce Sears, Evelyn Pine, Bailey Adams, Gunner Wyman, Colby Routier, Avery Tennell, Breilla Bryant, Olivia Lockhart, Maddix Wilhite, Raylynn Goodrich, Monroe Buis, and Ava Vorhies.

II. Agenda Modifications

Two items added under section D in new business looking for approval to add two new positions.

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Consent Items and Claims

A. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

B. Approval of accounts payable vouchers

Mr. Deater moved and Mr. Stamper seconded for both items A and B. Carried 6-0-1. Mrs. Newkirk abstained.

V. Business and Financial Reports

A. Financial and Cafeteria Reports

B. Extracurricular Account Report

Dr. Wilkins informed the board that the financial reports were in their packets. No questions were asked regarding the report.

VI. New Business

A. Recommend the acceptance of donations and grants

- a. Donation from Mt. Auburn Christian Church in the amount of \$50 for the Spartan Food Pantry.
- b. Donation from the Whitehouse family in the amount of \$2,630.00 for the Angel Fund.
- c. Donation from Blue River Foundation; 2025 Wortman Grant in the amount of \$13,257.00 for Ag Drone for Educational Program.
- d. Donation from Casey Pruitt in the amount of \$1,000 for the Angel Fund. Mr. Stamper moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

B. Recommend approval for the contract between Southwestern Consolidated School District and Tecton Construction Management for roof replacement on both schools.

Mr. Deater moved and Mr. Stamper seconded. Carried 7-0.

C. Recommend approval to clear outstanding checks over 2 years

Mr. Stamper moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

D. Other

- The monthly overtime report was presented to the board members
 - Recommend adding a new position of additional third grade teacher
- Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Simpson seconded. Carried 7-0.
- Recommend adding a new position of special education teacher at the high school level.

Mr. Stamper moved and Mr. Deater seconded. Carried 7-0.

VII. Reports and Presentations

A. Technology Director Report

Mr. Zachary Sprout spoke with board members about the need to replace switches and AV equipment in both schools in the future. Mr. Sprout let board members know that the contract the school had with ENA would be expiring after this year and he did not plan to renew. If the contract is not renewed, Southwestern would need to purchase the equipment to replace what ENA currently provides. He explained to board members that ENA is our current internet provider, and that was on a separate contract. He also discussed staff devices, student chromebooks, Papercut system for printers, and cafeteria department equipment in the high school.

B. Presentation on new ELA Curriculum

Ms. Ashley Fivecoat explained to the board members that curriculum is adopted on a six year rotation and that the upcoming year would require adoption of new ELA curriculum. She informed the board the the DOE had limited the choice of curriculum that would be used in the upcoming school year. She explained that staff members had visited other schools that currently used the new curriculum as well as attending McGraw-Hill training around the Open Court curriculum. She explained that this material would be used for grades K through 5, and that 6th grade

would be on a middle school curriculum. - - - - -

VIII. Personnel

A. Leaves/Resignations/Terminations

None

B. Recommendations to Hire

- a. Recommend to hire Ryan Gierman as Speech Facilitator at \$13.75 not to exceed 27.5 hours a week.
- b. Recommend to hire Jed Relleke as Technology Data Manager at \$25 per hour not to exceed 40 hours per week.
- c. Recommend to hire Brett Andrews as Head Varsity Track Coach at \$2325 for the 24/25 School year.
- d. Recommend to hire Kendall Mangrum as Assistant Varsity Track Coach at \$1860 for the 24/25 School year.
- e. Recommend to hire Leslie Parker as Head Jr. High Track Coach at \$1163 for the 24/25 School year split with assistant coach.
- f. Recommend to hire Brittany Butterfield as Assistant Jr. High Track Coach at \$1163 for the 24/25 School year split with head coach.
- g. Recommend to hire Brian Ebersold as Head Varsity Girls Tennis Coach at \$2325 for the 24/25 School year.
- h. Recommend to hire Sydney Abbott as Head Varsity Boys Golf Coach at \$2325 for the 24/25 School year.
- i. Recommend to hire Gary Muldoon as Volunteer Assistant Varsity Boys Golf Coach for the 24/25 School year.
- j. Recommend to hire Colton Brown as Head Varsity Baseball Coach at \$3720 for the 24/25 School year.
- k. Recommend to hire Scott Brown as Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach at \$1860 for the 24/25 School year.
- l. Recommend to hire Vanessa Mcmanaway as Head Varsity Softball Coach at \$3720 for the 24/25 School year.
- m. Recommend to hire Ethan Rather as ELA Coach at \$730 for the 24/25 School year.
- n. Recommend to hire Kendall Mangrum as Math Coach at \$730 for the 24/25 School year.
- o. Recommend to hire Zach Cunningham as Social Studies Coach at \$730 for the 24/25 School year.
- p. Recommend to hire Katie Gray as SADD Sponsor at \$655 for the 24/25 School year.

Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Deater seconded. Carried 7-0

IX. Superintendent Comments

Dr. Wilkins thanked everyone for the time change of the meeting that night to allow board members and himself to attend the Dinner and A Show being held at the high school that evening. He also shared a presentation concerning class size trends. Currently enrollment at the elementary school had increased while the high school enrollment had decreased. Dr. Wilkins shared that it may become necessary sometime in the future to move the 6th grade classes to the

Jr. High area of the high school to make additional classrooms available at the elementary school.

Dr. Wilkins also shared the results of recent surveys completed by community members, staff, and students. Overall he was impressed with the number of positive responses and the pride people feel around our school district. He shared several areas of strengths and areas of growth from each survey. Dr. Wilkins informed everyone that the survey results were available on the school website.

X. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Newkirk reported that she had recently attended an award ceremony held by the chamber of commerce and that Southwestern student Noah Schoolcraft had been honored. She explained that Noah was the basketball team manager and that several members of the varsity and jv basketball teams had attended the ceremony in support of Noah. She was extremely impressed with the players' attendance and attitudes. She stated that she received several compliments about their attendance. Mrs. Newkirk thanked Jerry and Fay Petro, Butch Gorrell, Kyle and Rachael Barlow, and Rosie Pung for paying for the tables that allowed the players to attend. Dr. Wilkins also stated that he was truly proud of the behavior of the players who attended the banquet.

Mr. Tennell thanked everyone for attending the meeting and congratulated the students of the month.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Tennell adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.











