

SOUTHWESTERN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
December 10, 2025

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

Member Not Present:

I. Call to Order

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

Superintendent Wilkins called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 November from the Jr/Sr High School were presented to the board members by Mr. Phillips. These students included High school student Julianna May, and Jr High student Isaiah Fanning. Mrs. Haehl presented the December students of the month from the Elementary School. These students included: Violet Alexander, Lucy Absalom, Cameron Simpson, Clay Rooks, Olivia Goodnight, Kathryne Eberhart, and Andrew Muldoon.

The annual Tip of the Spear award was presented by Dr. Wilkins to Rosie Pung for her contributions to the school district, alumni association and the community.

II. Agenda Modifications

None

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Consent Items and Claims

A. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

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

B. Approval of accounts payable vouchers

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

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 Scott Electrical Services in the amount of \$100 for Flat Rock YMCA Camp for 4th grade.
- c. Donation from Annie Nasby in the amount of \$100 for Flat Rock YMCA Camp for 4th grade.
- d. Donation from Sandcrest Dental Health in the amount of \$100 for Flat Rock YMCA Camp for 4th grade.
- e. Donation from MIBOR Realtor Association in the amount of \$800 for Spartan Food Pantry.
- f. Donation from Tindall Farm Trust Grant in the amount of \$3,500 for the backpack program.
- g. Donation from Shelby Farm Supply in the amount of \$350 for Thanksgiving Blessing Boxes.
- h. Acceptance of FY 26 IDEA Part B Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in the amount of \$160,159.
- i. Donation from Betty & Riley Nusbaum in the amount of \$250 for Spartan Food Pantry.
- j. Donation from Margaret Jones in the amount of \$200 for Spartan Food Pantry.

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

B. Recommend the Second reading of policies submitted by Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim.

Policy numbers:

- C525 - Medical Needs at School
- D300 - Controlled Substance and Alcohol Testing
- F100 – Internal Controls
- F125 – Purchasing Procedures and Capital Assets
- F176 – Unpaid Meal Policy
- F225 – Fundraising and Crowdfunding
- F325 - Debt Management Policy
- F350 – Cash Balance and Liquidity

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

C. Recommend approval of 2026 board meeting dates.

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

D. Recommend approval to pay a \$250 stipend before 12/20/25 and a \$250 stipend before 6/1/26 for any of the following that were rated as Satisfactory or Excellent during the 2024-25 school year: School Nurse, Food Service Director, Technology Director, Business Manager, or Facility Director.

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

E. Recommend approval to pay \$250 stipend before 12/20/25 and a \$250

stipend before 6/1/26 for any Principal or Assistant Principal who was rated as effective or highly effective during the 2024-25 school year.

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

- F. Recommend to add Facility Commissioning Group for third party commission services for HVAC project in the amount of \$36,800.00.**

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

- G. Recommend payment to Tecton for projects in the amount of \$12,500.**

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

- H. Other**

Board members received a copy of the overtime report. No vote required.

VII. Reports and Presentations

Mrs. Brisha Dunbar provided the board members with an update on the food service department. She thanked the school board members for their support for the food service program. Mrs. Dunbar recognized and thanked the food service staff for all of their hard work for the students and staff. She reported that during a recent bi-annual inspection from the board of health, both schools had zero findings. Mrs. Dunbar reported that the food service department was still offering a free universal breakfast to all students as well as offering a second chance breakfast at the Jr/Sr High School for students who did not have time for breakfast before school.

Mrs. Dunbar explained that she and Mrs. Topy were meeting monthly to go over the monthly cash flow. She also mentioned that post-pandemic there was a larger amount of cash available for the food service department than now. This is being monitored closely during the monthly finance meetings.

VIII. Personnel

A. Leaves/Resignations/Terminations

- a. Maternity leave for Tori Rockenbaugh starting 12/12/25

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

B. Recommendations to Hire

- a. Recommend to hire Patrick Moran as a long term substitute for Tori Rockenbaugh's maternity leave starting 12/12/25. Pay will be \$100 for the first 15 days and \$250 for the remainder of leave. Obtaining emergency license.
- b. Recommend to hire Tyler Franklin as volunteer assistant 7th grade boys basketball.
- c. Recommend to hire Lindsay Harrison as volunteer assistant 7th grade boys basketball.
- d. Recommend to hire Patrick Moran as Varsity Baseball Coach for 25-26 School year for \$3720.

e. Recommend to hire Chris Smith as volunteer assistant 6th grade boys basketball.

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

IX. Superintendent Comments

Dr. Wilkins offered condolences to the family of Gingi Crosby who had been a teacher at Southwestern for 39 years. Dr Wilkins mentioned that he had attended the National Technical Honor Society induction ceremony at Blue River Career Center. He stated that eight students from Southwestern had been included in the twenty two students that had been included.

Dr. Wilkins updated the board members on recent ILEARN checkpoint results. He stated that significant improvements had been made. He congratulated all of the Jr. High teachers who had helped the students achieve higher scoring.

Dr. Wilkins explained recent changes made to elearning instruction plans. These changes included live instructions and specific periods for each grade level. He stated that the changes would be monitored to verify improvements.

X. Board Member Comments

Mr. Thomas commented on Mrs. Crosby's influence on students during her time at Southwestern and that she would be missed. Mr. Simpson agreed that Mrs. Crosby had been a great influence on students for many years. Mr. Blue congratulated the students of the month and Mrs. Rosie Pung for receiving the Tip of the Spear award. He stated that she was very deserving of the award. Mrs. Newkirk agreed with Mr. Blue and she also requested that there be a session before the upcoming election period to provide information to anyone who might be interested in running for a seat on the board. Dr. Wilkins let everyone know that a representative from the Indiana School Board Association would present information during the February work session. Mr. Deater agreed with the other board members' comments. Mr. Tennell thanked everyone for attending and noted that the live stream would continue after adjournment to cover the activities including board members receiving a pie to their face.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Tennell adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Pat Diet

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