

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
BUDGET WORK SESSION

Administration Building
August 17, 2020
6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Monday, August 17, 2020, with all members present except Mike Murray. Also in attendance was Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Asst. Superintendent; Amy Dunwiddie, Corporation Secretary; Steve Baker, Rick Mettler, and Schlaura Linderwell, Administrators; Craig Helfrich, new faculty member; Hank Koby and Steve Frettinger, interested patrons; and Devan Filchak, News Banner representative.

The first order of business was to hold a public hearing (Correlated File #2021-01) to receive testimony in regard to teacher compensation and collective bargaining according to IC 20-29-6-1(b) which states, *"before a school employer and school employees may privately negotiate the matters described in subsection (a)(1) [collective bargaining] during the time period for formal collective bargaining established in section 12 of this chapter, the parties must hold at least one (1) public hearing and take public testimony to discuss the items described in subsection (a)."* Dr. Yates opened the floor for public comment and with no dialogue forthcoming, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:03 P.M. on a motion by Bruce Holland and second by Brent Hiday. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the Public Hearing, and prior to the regular meeting, Dr. Yates presented a budget overview for the 2021 calendar year. With no questions from the Board, the Budget Work Session was adjourned at 6:15 P.M. on a motion by Heath Schlagenhauf and second by Bruce Holland. The motion passed unanimously.

In the absence of President Murray, Vice President Julie Thompson called the regular meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

Vice President Julie Thompson opened the meeting by commending all the faculty, staff and students for a positive start to the school year and the efforts to keep all students safe. Mrs. Thompson also praised the athletes, coaches, parents, and community for their support of new procedures in place for student athletic events.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on August 3, 2020, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of August 4, 2020, through August 17, 2020, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for July was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for July was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mr. Thompson outlined protocol regarding athletic events and facility mitigation plans.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on transportation updates, professional development activities, COVID-19 updates and pending insurance litigation.

Dr. Yates updated the Board on the certified personnel exchange, district projects, the Budget and Finance Seminar put on by the ISBA, IAPSS and IASBO, and the distribution of district T-shirts.

Dr. Yates informed the Board that the ADM enrollment count was 1,648.23 as of August 14th and reported on the past trending enrollment numbers.

The Board approved the following resignations as presented. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Brent Hiday passed unanimously.

April Crous	6 th Grade Science Teacher
Stephanie Crist	MS Instructional Asst.

The Board approved the following employment recommendations as presented. The motion by Heath Schlagenhauf and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

Craig Helfrich	Kdg. Teacher & HS Asst. Boys Basketball Coach
Gretchen Grau	Mentor to Dharma Steffen
Marah Hill	MS Team Leader
Chad Grieser	HS Asst. Boys Basketball Coach
Robert Vanderkolk	HS Asst. Boys Basketball Coach
Jeremy Fendel	MS Asst. Football Coach (1/2 stipend)
Emma Clines	HS Asst. Volleyball Coach (volunteer)
Sophia King	HS Asst. Volleyball Coach (volunteer)
Leah Gerber	Substitute Teacher

The Board approved the following donations as presented. The motion by Brent Hiday and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

United Way of Wells Co.	800 Lanyards for students
Markle Church of Christ	Backpacks & supplies for students in need
Kelly Kephart	Wheelchair for Nurse clinic
Six Mile Church	\$100 for MS student needs
Six Mile Church	\$100 for HS student needs

The Board approved policy GCB (Teacher Appreciation Grants & Compensation) on first reading as presented. Indiana Code 20-43-10-3.5 requires school boards to annually adopt this policy and submit the adopted policy to the Indiana Department of Education for approval. The Teacher Appreciation Grant will provide funding of \$37.50 per student as determined by the Fall ADM count. Grant funding can only be used for teachers rated effective or highly effective and employed by the district as of December 1. The district is expected to receive grant funding by December 5, 2020. There are no changes being recommended to the Policy GCB. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Brent Hiday passed unanimously.

The Board approved changes to the 2020-2021 student handbooks as presented. The new changes involve COVID-19 student mask wearing protocol. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Brent Hiday passed unanimously.

The Board granted permission for Dr. Yates to advertise the 2021 budget tax levy, budget, and notice to taxpayers of a public hearing - Budget Form 3 (Correlated File #2021-02) as outlined in the district's budget calendar (Correlated File #2021-03) as presented. The motion by Heath Schlagenhauf and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

With there being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M. on a motion by Brent Hiday and second by Heath Schlagenhauf. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:








