

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building  
April 18, 2022  
6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Monday, April 18, 2022, with all members present. Also in attendance was Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Asst. Superintendent; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Human Resources; Steve Baker, Rick Mettler and Schlaura Linderwell, Administrators; Cindy Brooks, Staci Hunt, Allison Harter and Stephanie White, Faculty Members; Colin Andrews, Corporation Attorney; Steve Frettinger, Andrea Dimond, Richard Bricker, Jinny Broderick, Jessica Bricker and Marci Klopfenstein, interested patrons; Eli Brooks, student and Dave Schultz, News-Banner representative.

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

President Thompson opened the meeting by noting the BHS Boys and Girls Track Teams won the county track meet against Norwell and Southern Wells. President Thompson highlighted that seniors Leslie Sprankles and Gus Martinez won the 2022 Bob Dahl High Point Awards. Gus Martinez tied the 100M record, broke the long jump record by jumping 20'5, and Lauren Reiff broke the discus record by throwing 122'. President Thompson also congratulated the BHS Choir and Mr. Mellen for receiving a gold rating at the ISSMA contest. Mrs. Thompson reported that the Indiana School Boards Association selected recipients for the Exemplary Governance Awards for 2021. Mr. Murray received Exemplary status and Mr. Holland and Mrs. Thompson each received Advanced Distinction.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on March 14, 2022, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of March 15, 2022, through April 18, 2022, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for March was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for March was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Linderwell recognized Grade 4 student Eli Brooks in Mrs. Staci Hunt's classroom for being the regional winner of a Flag Essay contest. After a recent American Flag presentation by Mr. William Billings of the American Legion, students were asked to write an essay about their feelings when they see the flag and what it means to them. His essay will be submitted to compete at the state level.

Middle School Counselors Mrs. Stephanie White and Mrs. Allison Harter reported on College Go Week. This is an annual event organized at the middle school to provide resources for students to learn about their options after middle school and high school, such as enrolling in

college, enlisting in the military, or finding employment. The counselors showcased their virtual counselling office, which students may access as needed from their devices. They also shared photos of fun and engaging activities students experience during College Go Week, such as a door decorating contest, scavenger hunt, and a visit from the high school CTE teachers with demonstrations about different types of careers.

Dr. Yates presented information on the proposed Education Professions CTE program at Bluffton High School.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on the registration progress of our upcoming summer school and summer camp opportunities for students, transportation staffing needs, a new grant to assist homeless students and partner with Grace & Mercy Transitional Housing, two outstanding insurance claims, and the recent School Safety Reunification Drill.

Mrs. Meitzler presented information about the district's mathematics curriculum review process.

Dr. Yates reported on district projects, School Employees' Benefit Trust, BHMSD Technology and the state and local partnerships in which he and Mrs. Meitzler serve as members.

Dr. Yates informed the Board that Bluffton High School has achieved the status of Performance Qualified High School for the 2022-2023 school year. In order to achieve this distinction, a high school must receive an "A" grade for the previous school year. Dr. Yates also pointed out that Bluffton High School was mentioned in the latest edition of the US News and World Report of Best High Schools. Dr. Yates congratulated Bluffton High School, as well as Bluffton-Harrison Elementary School and Bluffton-Harrison Middle School for their past efforts in preparing students for high school success.

Dr. Yates updated the Board on the MS Roof Replacement and Improvements Project stating that the bids received in March were limited in reply, as a majority of the bid packages were received from only one vendor. In addition, the total cost for the scope of work from bids received exceeded the preliminary budget for the renovation project. Bid proposals will be reissued to the market and an updated timeline will be established once the rebidding process is finalized.

Dr. Yates reported that no new information is available regarding the high school HVAC project at this time.

The Board approved the following resignations as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

Chaise Troxel	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teacher (end of school year)
Eden Noble	HS FACS Teacher (end of school year)
Teresa Buskirk	HS Custodian
Madison Bowman	ES Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
Bryan Bowman	HS Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
Amy Reineck	ES Food Service

Katie Downing MS Instructional Asst

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

Anjie Hartman	Corporation Treasurer
Jessica Bricker	Communications Specialist (Start Date 7/1/2022)
Ashton Trout	ES Title I Reach Room Teacher (22-23 school year)
Zella Walborn	Mentor to Ashton Trout
Kathryn Penrod	MS Mild Intervention Teacher (22-23 school year)
Allie Payne	MS Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
Mindy Yates	HS Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
Tim McKnight	Transfer from City Route Driver to Country Route Driver
Annabelle Johnson	Childcare Worker
Ashley Bowling	Childcare Worker
Katelin Wilson	Childcare Worker
Jaci Moser	ES PAT Member
Lauren Smith	ES PAT Member
Megan Weldy	ES PAT Member
Lindsay Schroeder	ES PAT Member
Tammy Funk	ES PAT Member
Gretchen Grau	ES PAT Member
Erica Bittner	ES PAT Member
Zella Walborn	ES PAT Member
Danielle Kunkel	MS Track Asst Coach
Cole Fryback	HS Baseball Asst Coach – Volunteer
Allison Harter	Change from MS Track Asst Coach stipend to MS Track Coach stipend
Intent-to-Employ	Bus Driver

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

Sales of the book,	
“Angel with Broken Wings”	\$145.00 to BHS Buckets for Santa fund
Bluffton Elks Lodge 796	\$100.00 to Class of 2023 Fund to assist with prom
Anonymous Donors	\$1,200.00 to BHS eSports team for equipment and supplies
Sally Thomas	Clothing for students in need
Elks Lodge	\$250.00 for transportation costs for circus field trip

The Board approved FMLA for the following personnel as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

Amber Park	5/2/22 – 5/25/22
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The following policy was approved on first reading as presented per a recommendation from Dr. Yates. The only change made was an update to the committee member names. The motion by Bruce Holland and a second by Trent White passed unanimously.

AFC Teacher Evaluation and Development Plan

The following policy was approved on second reading as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Angie Sheets was passed unanimously.

GBA Equal Opportunity Employment

The following policy was approved on second reading as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Bruce Holland was passed unanimously.

DFC Grants and Donations

The following policies were reviewed, with no changes necessary, as part of an ongoing review of existing board policies. The motion to approve by Bruce Holland and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously as presented.

- GBEB Prevention of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Hepatitis B (HBV)
- GBEB-E2 Prevention of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Hepatitis B (HBV) Vaccination Report
- GBEB-E3 Incident Report for Exposure to Blood or Other Bodily Fluids

The Board approved the Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Superintendent Addendum Employment Contract (Correlated File #2122-49). The motion to approve by Bruce Holland and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously as presented.

The Board approved the addition of the \$250 School Bus Driver Training Stipend to also include regular school bus drivers upon completion of training requirements. This stipend will be added to the Classified Handbook. The motion to approve by Bruce Holland and second by Trent White passed unanimously as presented.

With there being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M. on a motion by Bruce Holland and second by Trent White. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

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*Angie Sheets*

*Julie A. Thompson*  
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*Bruce E. Holland*  
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*Trent White*