

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BUDGET HEARING
PUBLIC HEARING

Administration Building
September 19, 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, September 19, 2022, with all members present. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Asst. Superintendent; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Administrative Assistant; Jessica Bricker, Corporation Communications Specialist; Steve Baker, Rick Mettler, Schlaura Linderwell, Administrators; Jeff Kyle, Karen Burke and Steve Frettinger, interested patrons; and Holly Gaskill, News-Banner representative.

The first order of business was to hold a Budget Hearing and Dr. Yates led the Board Members through the process. With no discussion forthcoming, President Thompson asked for any public comment. Hearing no comments from the public, the Budget Hearing was adjourned at 6:04 P.M. Copies of the district's plans were available on the district website.

President Thompson called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. A request was made by President Thompson to make an amendment to the agenda with consensus by the Board.

President Thompson opened the meeting by thanking the BHS Athletic Boosters for providing a meal and for the Athletic Department for providing entry into the football game during our annual Forever Tigers night on September 9. We had 258 attendees, comprised of current faculty and staff, retirees and their families. During halftime at Forever Tigers night, Midwest America Federal Credit Union presented a check for \$6,000 to BHMSD as part of the Affinity Card Program. President Thompson also commended Mr. Bueter and the Bluffton Bengal Brigade for hosting the annual *Banks of the Wabash* competition for 16 bands, and expressed gratitude for the continued support of our student athletes by our coaches, parents, and fans at our sporting events. President Thompson provided a special highlight to our high school girls' golf team for advancing to the Regional for the first time in school history and expressed appreciation for 5th Grade Teacher, Mrs. Clarissia Tijerina, for organizing a letter campaign in which all 5th grade students wrote letters to Honor Flight veterans to receive upon returning from their upcoming flight on September 28.

President Thompson called for any public comment. Steve Frettinger addressed the Board and asked if lights could be turned on in the parking lots after football games.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on August 15, 2022, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of August 16, 2022, through September 19, 2022, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for August was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for August was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on our High Ability program, thanked Mrs. Linderwell and Mrs. Osborn for participating in the annual Park's Department Touch-a-Truck event by providing a yellow school bus for over 800 patrons to explore, and described some upcoming professional development for our faculty members on September 23.

Dr. Yates reported on district projects, IDOE Federal Accountability Report Cards, Indiana Teacher of the Year candidate, Tara Cocanower, and our district communication initiative.

Dr. Yates reported enrollment numbers for the official Count Day Average Daily Membership on Friday, September 16th were 1,706.16 students. The official count is still under review for any possible conflicts with other schools.

Mr. Murray, Legislative Liaison, presented the Indiana School Board Association's priorities for the year, which include but are not limited to: Increased tuition support in the state budget, more funding for school safety grants, increased support for mental health concerns in schools, and increased penalties for school bus stop arm violations.

Dr. Yates updated the Board on the Middle School Roof Replacement and Improvements Project and the High School HVAC Guaranteed Energy Savings Project. R. Adams Roofing intends to move forward with the middle school roof replacement in the spring of 2023. Shawnee will complete middle school carpet and casework installation over Fall Break, and there will be some electrical upgrades over the fall and winter breaks. There is no further progress to report on the High School HVAC Guaranteed Energy Savings Project, as future work will be completed in 2023.

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

Stephanie Miller	HS English Teacher (end of the 2022-2023 school year)
Kelli Kistler	ES Treasurer
Loretta Miller	Spec. Ed. Bus Aide

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

Candas DeHoff	ES Treasurer
Natasha Harlamert	MS Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
April Studabaker	MS Spec. Ed Instructional Asst
Lisa Leising	Long Term Substitute Teacher for Taylor Reed
Cary Raesner	Long Term Substitute Teacher for James Suhrer
Mike Novell	HS Boys' Basketball Asst Coach
Grant Prible	HS Boys' Basketball Asst Coach
Mark Prible	HS Boys' Basketball Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Matthew Sturgeon	MS Boys' Basketball Coach
Javon Johnson	MS Boys' Basketball Coach

Marcus Morgan	MS Boys' Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Brett Bothast	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Spencer Harris	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Brian Lambert	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Jackson Lambert	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Kyle Reinhard	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Scott Ribich	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Aaron Sturgeon	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Matt Beste	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Javon Johnson	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Marcus Morgan	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Grant Prible	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Matthew Sturgeon	Boys' Future Tigers Coach
Andy Ault	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Dakota Flowers	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Kyle Gerber	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Eric Kiefer	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Mark Prible	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Brad Yates	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Clint Renner	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Philip Heer	Boys' Future Tigers Coach (Volunteer)
Eric Kiefer	Travel Team Coordinator
Justin Uptgraft	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Josh Smith	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Eric Mounsey	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Brad Yates	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Philip Heer	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Clint Renner	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Spencer Harris	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Matt Beste	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Kyle Reinhard	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Scott Ribich	Travel Team (Volunteer)
Tim Zeis	HS Wrestling Asst Coach
Brady Johns	HS Wrestling Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Nick Krinn	MS Wrestling Coach
Brian Lambert	HS Boys' Swimming Asst Coach
Kristi Searles	MS Girls' Swimming Coach
Jenny Boyd	MS Girls' Swimming Asst Coach
Bryan Bowman	HS Girls' Basketball Asst Coach
Abby Ault	HS Girls' Basketball Asst Coach
Tim Garrett	Lady Future Tigers Coach
Maddy Wenger	Lady Future Tigers Coach
Kelli Kistler	Lady Future Tigers Coach
Alyssa Burchett	Lady Future Tigers Coach
Chrissy Craig	Lady Future Tigers Coach
Zoey Smith	Lady Future Tigers/Travel Coach (Volunteer)

Jenny Lambert	Tiger Cubs Coordinator
Danielle Kunkel	Lady Future Tigers/Travel Coach (Volunteer)
Jaci Moser	Lady Future Tigers/Travel Coach (Volunteer)
Monroe Heller	Lady Future Tigers/Travel Coach (Volunteer)
Robert Dahl	Substitute Teacher
Holly Jefferson	Substitute Teacher
Brittany Grayson	Substitute Teacher
Autumn Frank	Substitute Teacher
Kendall Crist	Childcare Employee

The Board approved Mrs. Brittany Kloer's request for contracted services by Travis Theurer to perform the functions of "Area 18 CTE Career Coach" for the 2022-2023 school year. The contracted services will be paid through Area 18 CTE via the federal Perkins grant. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

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

Taylor Reed	9/1/22 – 11/7/22 (extended by one week from previous request)
James Suhrer	10/24-22 – 12/23/22

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

Lutheran Health Network & IN District 3 Healthcare Coalition	17 "Stop the Bleed" Kits for ES, MS and HS Staff
Pretzels, Inc.	2 boxes of school supplies to the elementary school
Helen Steffen	Clothing for elementary students in need
Gay Saunders	A book for every kindergarten student and \$500 to the elementary school library
Walmart	School supplies to the elementary school and a \$20 gift card to the district for providing a bus for their Stuff the Bus school supplies campaign

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

GDPCA	Retirement of Classified Employees (Authorizing Agent for Creditable Service)
IA	Mission Statement

The Board approved changes to the following policies on first reading as presented, as part of an ongoing review of existing board policies. The motion by Trent White and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

HE	Board Negotiating Agents
IAB	Student Achievement Policy
IGAD	Vocational Education
IGBA	Programs for Handicapped Students/Least Restrictive Environment

Policy IIBGA (Student Internet and Technology Responsible Use Policy) was updated to address a clerical issue within the policy. Within the policy, the replacement cost for a device is inaccurately noted by fiscal years, which may not be appropriate if a student’s device is newer or older than anticipated due to prior replacements. The recommended change is to align the replacement cost with the actual age of the student’s device: less than 365 days, less than 730 days, less than 1,095 days, or more than 1,095 days. In addition, Policy KG-R1 (Rental Schedule Guidelines) was updated to implement new facility rental rates, including an update to fees associated with facility rentals to align with updated compensation levels for custodial, food service, and aquatics personnel. The motion to approve by Bruce Holland and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously as presented.

Dr. Yates presented the revised 2021-2023 collective bargaining agreement between the Bluffton-Harrison Teachers’ Association and Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District for discussion by the Board. Following the tentative agreement meeting, BHTA and BHMSD will have the opportunity to ratify the agreement at a future meeting prior to the November 15 deadline. Dr. Yates thanked the teacher representatives for their service on the BHTA Negotiations Team: Mrs. Kim Mayer, Ms. Vicki Van Matre, Mr. Kevin Powell, and Mrs. Becky Stotlar. In addition, Dr. Yates thanked President Thompson for her time and insights throughout the negotiation process. Mrs. Thompson stated she appreciates working with the BHTA. No action was taken tonight, as this was a chance to review the tentative agreement and allow the Board to meet pursuant to IC 20-29-6-19(a). The current plan is for the ratification to be considered by the Board on October 10.

The Board approved the 2022-2023 School Improvement Plans as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2022-2023 High Ability Program as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved a revision to the 2022-2023 school calendar to include December 23 as a non-student day (Correlated File #2223-05) on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Bruce Holland. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2023-2024 school calendar (Correlated File #2223-06) on a motion by Trent White and second by Angie Sheets. The motion passed unanimously.

President Thompson reported the Indiana School Boards Association has drafted a resolution to align local school corporations with the recently announced statewide commitment to early

literacy. The Board approved the Resolution (Correlated File #2223-07) on a motion by President Thompson and second by Bruce Holland. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Yates informed the Board of the upcoming BHES PTO Board Candidate Forum on October 11 and the Board meetings on October 10 and 24, noting the October 24 meeting will only be necessary if the master teacher contract cannot be finalized on October 10.

Dr. Yates also added that the HS Boys' tennis team had just won the ACAC tournament for the first time since 2008.

With there being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M. on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Bruce Holland. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Julie A. Longor
Bruce E. Holland

Mike Murray
Bruce Holland
Joe Hill