

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
February 16, 2021
5:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, with all members present. Also in attendance was Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Asst. Superintendent; Amy Dunwiddie, Corporation Secretary; Steve Baker, Rick Mettler and Schlaura Linderwell, Administrators; Colin Andrews of Andrews & Crell PC; and Steve Frettinger and Chere Frettinger, interested patrons.

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

President Thompson opened the meeting by acknowledging "Buckets for Santa" for providing lunch to the faculty and staff at each school building, commending the Tiger Athletes for reaching a high level of success in their designated sports and thanked the district maintenance and custodial staff for their efforts during all the inclement weather conditions.

During the public comment section, Dr. Yates recognized Colin Andrews from Andrews & Crell PC which handles the legal business of the school district.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on January 11, 2021, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Minutes for the Board of Finance Meeting held on January 11, 2021, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of January 12, 2021, through February 16, 2021, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for January was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for January was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on COVID-19 dates, curriculum updates and a virtual learning update.

Dr. Yates updated the Board on district projects, a debt management plan update, school board professional development, school safety updates, district marketing campaigns, and ESSER I and ESSER II (CARES Grant) efforts.

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

Jennifer Borrer
Twyla Bice

ES Head Cook/Asst. Food Director
ES Food Service

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

Bev Balash	Mentor to Heather Kyriss
Holly Mishler	Transfer from Grade 1 to EL Teacher of Record (start 2021-22 school year)
Madeline Wenger	ES Spec. Ed Instructional Asst.
Tristan Dick	Transfer from Spec. Ed Instructional Asst. to Title 1 Instructional Asst.
Karen Kelly	Interim ES Classroom Instructional Asst.
Zoey Smith	Interim ES Classroom Instructional Asst.
Annie Craighead	Transfer to ES Head Cook/Kitchen Mgr.
Jerica Bergdall	ES Food Service
Tammy Moore	ES Food Service
Hunter Cunningham	ES Summer School Teacher
Sarah Jackson	ES Summer School Teacher
Taylor Reed	ES Summer School Teacher
Jenny Lambert	ES iREAD Summer School Teacher
Jill Bollenbacher	HS Summer School Teacher
Jim Bueter	HS Summer Marching Band
Ashton Trout	Long Term Substitute (M. Weldy)
Lori Williamson	Long Term Substitute (H. Keller)
Ashlee Campbell	MS Asst. Boys Track Coach
Tiffany Tonner	MS Asst. Boys Track Coach
Jackson Lambert	HS Asst. Boys Track Coach (½ stipend)
Adam Atkins	HS Asst. Boys Golf (volunteer)
Schlaura Linderwell	MS Asst. Girls Swim Coach (volunteer)
Bryan Bowman	HS Asst. Girls Tennis Coach
Stephanie White	MS Girls Track Coach
Allison Harter	MS Asst. Girls Track Coach
Erin McKinley	MS Asst. Girls Track Coach
Ben Powers	Head Softball Coach
Matt Moore	HS Asst. Softball Coach
Rick Meyer	HS Asst. Softball Coach (½ stipend)
Chelsea Meyer	HS Asst. Softball Coach (volunteer)
Aries Petty	HS Asst. Softball Coach (volunteer)
Lauren Brinneman	HS Asst. Softball Coach (½ stipend)
Vicki Van Matre	HS Asst. Girls Track Coach (volunteer)
Hazel Clark	Substitute Teacher
Cassie Goodwin	Substitute Teacher
Alyssa Osborn	Substitute Teacher

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

Melody Moyer	1/4/21 - 2/15/21
Kylie Hermanson	1/18/21 - 2/26/21
Diana Ebbinghouse	1/25/21 - 3/18/21
Lorie Baumgartner	1/28/21 - 4/23/21
Mel Carpenter	2/1/21 - 4/5/21
Renee Vitatoe	2/8/21 - 3/18/21
Hope Keller	3/11/21 - 5/27/21
Megan Weldy	3/29/21 - 5/27/21

The Board approved policy DIDA (Fixed Asset Inventory) on second reading as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White Sheets passed unanimously.

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.

- BCG – School Attorney
- BDDC – Agenda Preparation and Dissemination/Public Participation
- BDDD – Quorum
- BDDE – Rules of Order
- BDDF – Voting Method
- DO – Materiality Threshold

Mayor Whicker, in conjunction with the City of Bluffton, requested that the Board of School Trustees recommend a member of the Board to fill the vacancy on the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) replacing Heath Schlagenhauf as per Indiana Code 36-7-14-6.1. The Board unanimously recommended Angie Sheets to fill this position. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Trent White passed by a vote of 4-0 with Angie Sheets abstaining from the vote.

On a motion by Mike Murray and second by Angie Sheets, the Board approved voiding 10 outstanding checks totaling \$254.24 as presented according to state statute (IC 5-11-10-5.2). The motion passed unanimously.

Senate Enrolled Act 515, codified in IC 6-8.1-9.5, allows local governmental units to submit debts of at least \$25.00 to the Indiana Department of Revenue and offset personal income tax refunds commonly referred to as TRECS which stands for Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System. Through TRECS, the district has the ability to fully recover outstanding debts through a matching process with the debtor's state income tax refund. TRECS has provided a memorandum of understanding (Correlated File #2021-22) for governmental units to complete in order to begin participation in the system. The motion to participate by Angie Sheets and second by Trent White passed unanimously as presented.

The Bluffton-Harrison Teachers Association ratified the Master Teacher Contract in October, 2020, and Section 4.1.3.1 was added to pay a \$250 appreciation stipend for Certified teachers that were employed in the corporation for at least 120 days of the current contract year. Dr. Yates made a recommendation to extend this compensation to all classified personnel who either work on a full-time basis or part-time basis and have worked 120 days in the current contract year. The \$250 stipend will be prorated for part-time status (e.g. ½ time staff will receive \$125). The payment of both certified and classified stipends would be expended through the district's Rainy Day Fund. In addition, Dr. Yates recommended an additional stipend of \$250 to all personnel which will be paid out of the CARES Act Grant. The purpose of this stipend is to compensate all staff for their preparation of supplemental learning options and increased duties due to safety and health requirements prescribed by the Center for Disease Control, state health department, and the county health department. The \$250 stipend will be prorated for part-time status (e.g. ½ time staff will receive \$125). The motion to approve by Bruce Holland and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously as presented.

In other business, Dr. Yates reminded the Board members that the training scheduled for Executive Session this evening will be rescheduled to the March board meeting.

With there being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M. on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Bruce E Holland
Julie A. Shuman

Agnes A. Auer
Mike Murray
Trent White