

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
June 17, 2024
6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Monday, June 17, 2024, with all members present except Bruce Holland. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Steve Baker, Administrator; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Administrative Assistant; Jessica Bricker, Communications Specialist; Mark Cobb, interested patron; and Jonathan Snyder, News-Banner representative.

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

Vice President Sheets congratulated Phil Kurut for being selected as the Indiana School Resource Association Regional Exceptional Service Award recipient for Region 3. Mrs. Sheets also recognized the following student athletes for their success in recent spring state tournaments: Jude Baumgartner, Tavin Frees, Juan Cruz, Austin Geimer, Eli Bertsch, Trey Bustos, Tyler Godwin, Maksym Laishevkin, Sophie Schwartz, Corina Rader and Alexandria Koby all competed at Regionals in Track, and Juan Cruz finished 14th at the State Championship. Our Golf Team finished 3rd at Sectional and played a competitive round at Regionals. Finally, Mrs. Sheets wished the very best to our graduates of the Class of 2024.

Vice President Sheets noted there were no registered public commenters to speak at the meeting.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on May 13, 2024, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of May 14, 2024, through June 17, 2024, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for May was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for May was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mr. Baker reported on Bluffton High School being identified as a Performance Qualified High School for 2024-2025 School year.

Dr. Yates reported on financial information, a new special education clerical support role, debt service payments, BHMSD as the 4th of July host site and Area 18 CTE.

Dr. Yates reported on the annual school nurse end of year reports.

Ms. Bricker reported on district communications.

Dr. Yates reported on the school nutrition program review.

Dr. Yates reported on the Middle School Roof Replacement and Improvements Project. The science room renovations and roof access improvements have begun and are planned to be completed prior to August 1. Barton Coe Vilamaa has resubmitted designs for restroom renovations for State approval. Following approval, the district will obtain quotes for 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade restrooms to be renovated. The timeframe for restroom renovation is unknown.

Dr. Yates reported that the High School Building Envelope Project continues on schedule as the roof replacement is fully underway. The canopy improvements have begun and will continue around the building. Window replacements are scheduled to begin in July as the block, mortar and brick work continues until that point in time.

Dr. Yates reported on the Athletic Facility Needs, stating the turf and track replacement process has been operating on or ahead of schedule. The existing track has been milled and re-asphalted to begin the 30 day cure timeline prior to the new track surface being installed.

Dr. Yates reported on the Our Town Safety Village Project. The groundwork is scheduled to begin in early July. The district recently sought bids from contractors to erect the various structures to finalize the safety village.

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

Laken Etzler	MS Digital Citizenship Teacher
Jason Pierce	Grade 4 Teacher & Head Baseball Coach
Kierra Kinsey	MS Intense Intervention Instructional Asst

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

Grace Dunmoyer	Grade 3 Teacher
Tammy Funk	Mentor to Grace Dunmoyer
Amy Shane	Speech Language Pathology Assistant
Darcy Isch	Summer Work Hours
Annette Clark	BHES Summer Camp Instructional Asst
Karen Kelly	BHES Summer Camp Instructional Asst
Nikki Nash	BHES Summer Camp Instructional Asst
Paris Davis	BHES Summer Camp Instructional Asst
Tiffany Winebrenner	Full Time PreK Instructional Asst
Rachel Kinsey	HS Special Education Instructional Asst
Jolleen Turner	HS Library Instructional Asst / ISS Supervisor
Sue Elzey	MS Special Education Instructional Asst
Brent Kunkel	HS Head Football Coach
Brent Kunkel	Summer HS Head Football Coach
Todd Morgan	HS Football Asst Coach
Bryan Bowman	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)
Casey Kolkman	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)
Adam King	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)
Tim Millspaugh	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)
Alex Schantz	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)
Bryce Bonewit	HS Football Asst Coach (4/5 FTE)

Jeremy Fendel	MS Football Coach
Jacob Summers	MS Football Coach
Ty Kinsey	MS Football Coach
Brandon Lockwood	MS Football Coach
Scott Ribich	MS Football Coach
Intent to Employ	MS Football Coach
Intent to Employ	MS Football Coach
Robert Vanderkolk	HS Boys' Tennis Head Coach
Hunter Cunningham	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach
Spencer Schwartz	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach
Jared Grandlienard	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Ashlee Xayyachack	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Adam Atkins	HS Boys' Golf Head Coach
Steve Abbett	HS Boys' Golf Asst Coach
Brent Kunkel	HS Boys' Track Head Coach
Michael Vanderkolk	HS Boys' Track Asst Coach
Tara Cocanower	HS Girls' Golf Head Coach
Jody Ault	HS Girls' Golf Asst Coach (1/2 FTE)
Krista Baxter	HS Girls' Golf Asst Coach (1/2 FTE)
Caylee Pyle	HS Volleyball Head Coach
Intent to Employ	HS Volleyball Asst Coach
Intent to Employ	MS Volleyball Coach
Intent to Employ	MS Volleyball Coach
Doug Curtis	HS Girls' Summer Basketball Head Coach
Erica Bluhm	HS Cheerleading Head Coach
Sara Runyon	HS Cheerleading Asst Coach
Abigail Fillers	HS & MS Cheerleading Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Michaela Rinehart	HS & MS Cheerleading Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Cheyenne Penrod	MS Cheerleading Coach
Emily Burchett	MS Cheerleading Asst Coach
Tyler Sonnigsen	HS Softball Head Coach
Lauren Brinneman	HS Softball Asst Coach
Karley Nash	HS Softball Asst Coach
Luke Petty	HS Softball Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Jeff Olson	HS Softball Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Sebastian Baxter	HS Boys' Track Head Coach
Bob Dahl	HS Boys' Track Asst Coach (2/3 FTE)
Tara Cocanower	HS Boys' Track Asst Coach (2/3 FTE)
Robert Vanderkolk	Assistant Athletic Director
Michael Vanderkolk	HS Cross Country Coach
Bob Dahl	HS Cross Country Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Bethany Clem	MS Cross Country Asst Coach
Kim Gerber	Childcare Supervisor
Lydia McConnell	Substitute Teacher
Mitchel Bertsch	Substitute Teacher
Intent to Employ	Grade 4 Teacher

The Board approved the following employment recommendation as presented. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Mike Murray passed with a vote of 3-0 with Trent White abstaining from the vote.

Stephanie White MS Cross Country Head Coach

The Board approved a performance stipend for the Superintendent in the amount equal to 5% of the Superintendent’s base salary for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved the following donations as presented. The motion by Mike Murray, with much gratitude, and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

Dicky’s Partners Bluffton, LLC	\$250 to HS for Student Needs & \$100 for MS Color Run Sponsorship
Bluffton Psi Otes	\$300 United Art & Education Gift Card for ES Art Class Supplies
Nutrition Loft / Nicolette Jo Dabb	\$100 for MS Color Run Sponsorship
Bluffton Parks Dept	Arch for MS Color Run
Stockton Mortgage	\$100 for MS Color Run Sponsorship
Family Ford of Bluffton	\$100 for MS Color Run Sponsorship
Meyer Building, LLC	\$100 for Preschool Construction Experiential Classroom
Pharoah’s Car Club of Bluffton	Three (3) LifeVac Kits for each Cafeteria

The Board approved the Region 8 Food Service Bids for 2024-2025 (Correlated File #2324-45) as presented on a motion by Julie Thompson and second by Trent White. The motion passed unanimously.

Milk & Dairy	Prairie Farms
Cafeteria Food, Supplies, Pass Thru Value Added Commodities & Bakery	Gordon Food Service
Produce	Piazza Produce, LLC

The Board approved the following policies on first reading, as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

<u>New Policy #</u>	<u>New Policy Name</u>	<u>Current Policy #'s to Delete</u>
A300	Responsible Use of Technology	GEA; IIBGA; IIBGAA; IBGB
A300-E		
B200	Membership	

C125	Legal Settlement	JBCA
C125-R		
C125-E		
C150	Homeless Students: Rights and Services	JFJ
G360	Data Breach and Protection Policy	

The Board approved the following policies on first reading only as presented. Approval on first reading only was requested due to new legislative requirements as result of the 2024 Indiana General Assembly legislative session. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

<u>New Policy #</u>	<u>New Policy Name</u>	<u>Current Policy #'s to Delete</u>
A301	Wireless Communication Devices	
C175	Student Attendance, Academic Engagement, And Truancy Prevention Policy	JC; JED
C175-R		

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

<u>New Policy #</u>	<u>New Policy Name</u>	<u>Current Policy #'s to Delete</u>
A285	No Distracted Driving	
A325	Communicable Disease	JHCC
A350 & A350-E	Civility and Decorum	
C200	Anti-Bullying	JGD
C300	Programs For Students With Disabilities & LRE	IGBA
C350 & C350-R	Student Discipline	JG; JG-R; JGD
C375	Suspension and Expulsion of Students	JGD
C400	Use of Restraint and Seclusion With Students	JHFE
C575	Student Homework	

The Board approved changes to the 2024-2025 Classified Handbook. The motion by Trent White and second by Julie Thompson passed unanimously. Updated items of note include the following:

- ❖ Addition of flexible workweek schedules for 12-month personnel during the summer period
- ❖ Addition of remote working provisions
- ❖ Adjustment to paid time off from ½ and whole day increments to hourly increments
- ❖ Change paid holiday from President's Day to an additional day for July 4 holiday
- ❖ Adjustment to paid time off (vacation) accrual for new employees
- ❖ Additional provisions outlining employee professionalism
- ❖ 2% increase to wage levels

The Board approved a one-time stipend equal to \$500 for existing 12-month classified employees who began employment prior to the 2023-2024 school year under the former system

requiring the employee accrue vacation time throughout the first year of employment. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

The Board approved a 2% increase to the base wage and/or salary for Classified Work Agreements and Administrator Contracts as presented on a motion by Julie Thompson and second by Mike Murray. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2024-2025 Transportation Handbook as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved the district's UDOE Return to In-Person Instruction Plans (Correlated File #2324-46). The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Trent White passed unanimously. No changes were recommended to BHMSD's ESSER III plans and the Board reapproved the plans as presented as required by federal law every six months. BHMSD's in-person instruction plans are maintained online at www.bhmsd.org/notices. Dr. Yates welcomed any public commentary on our in-person instruction plans. There were no public comments.

The Board approved the resignation of Board Member Bruce Holland, with much appreciation for his service as a Board Member and former School Resource Officer. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Julie Thompson passed unanimously. As a result of the Board vacancy for the BHMSD District 2 Member, the Board appointed Angie Sheets, who is currently an At-Large School Board member residing in District 2 to the District 2 vacancy. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed with a vote of 3-0 with Angie Sheets abstaining from the vote. With the appointment of Mrs. Sheets to the District 2 position, the Board scheduled a special Board meeting for July 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to appoint a new At-Large Board member.

In other items, the Creative Arts Council will submit a proposal to the Board at the July 22 meeting.

With there being no additional business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M. on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Angie Sheets
[Signature]

Julie Thompson
Mike Murray