

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
BUDGET HEARING

Administration Building
September 16, 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, September 16, 2024, with all members present. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Assistant Superintendent; Steve Baker, Schlaura Linderwell and Stacy Herrold, Administrators; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Administrative Assistant; Jessica Bricker, Communications Specialist; and Holly Gaskill, News-Banner representative.

The first order of business was to hold a preliminary determination hearing regarding the lease agreement and issuance of bonds for construction or renovation of a school building.

Dr. Yates explained the purpose of the hearing, the educational need for the project and how the project meets the educational needs, cost and timing. Specifically the following items on our capital project list to be addressed through this project are:

- 1) Elementary Playground Improvements
- 2) Middle School Upper Gymnasium Floor Improvements
- 3) High School Parking Lot & Drive Improvements
- 4) Other deferred maintenance and improvement items listed on the Capital Projects Plan

Mr. Jim Elizondo of Stifel Public Finance explained how the project will be financed, as well as the effect on the typical property tax payer.

President Sheets invited members of the public to come forward with any comment.

With there being no public commenters present, President Sheets moved forward to entertain a motion for the Project Resolution as presented (Correlated File #2425-07). On a motion by Preston Kaehr and second by Mike Murray, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Yates explained the Preliminary Determination Resolution (Correlated File #2425-08). On a motion by Mike Murray and second by Julie Thompson, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Yates explained the Reimbursement Resolution relating to the financing of the project (Correlated File #2425-09). On a motion by Julie Thompson and second by Trent White, the motion passed unanimously.

Excerpts of Minutes from the public hearing are contained in Correlated File #2425-10.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:14 P.M. by consensus.

Following the Public Hearing, and prior to the regular meeting, Dr. Yates presented a budget overview for the 2025 calendar year. President Sheets asked for any public comment. Hearing no comments from the public, the Budget Hearing was adjourned at 6:16 P.M.

President Sheets called the meeting to order at 6:17 P.M.

President Sheets reported the Bengal Brigade welcomed 16 bands to compete at the annual Banks of the Wabash event; Bluffton High School completed Fall Festival week and student-athletes have had a successful start to their seasons. President Sheets also thanked the school community for continued support of Riley Children's Hospital, as our schools were recognized as a Red Wagon Corporation. BHMSD is the only school corporation in Indiana to receive this designation every year since the program began in 2007.

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on August 19, 2024 and the September 9, 2024 Public Hearing and Board Work Session were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of August 20, 2024, through September 16, 2024, 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 district communications, the CTE program, grants and transportation.

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, collective bargaining, the upcoming SEBT Trust meeting and the middle school pool repair.

Dr. Yates reported enrollment numbers with our average ADM count of 1734.84 K-12 students.

Dr. Yates announced the Bluffton Lady Tigers Basketball Program has scheduled their first annual Holiday Shootout, which will take place over winter break.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Building Envelope Project. FCI continues to make progress and the project is on schedule for completion in November or December.

Dr. Yates reported on the Athletic Facility Needs. The new track surface is nearly finished and Mr. Thompson has provided a designated safe play area for our younger fans during the games. The area is named "Future Tigers Field" and is a lined field directly across from our home stands.

Dr. Yates reported on the Our Town Safety Village Project, which is nearly complete and the district will host an official ribbon cutting event on Friday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m.

The Board approved retirement requests from Brenda Clamme, Corporation Accounts Manager/Deputy Treasurer (27 years) and Gary Schwartz, Director of Maintenance (32 years) as

presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Preston Kaehr passed unanimously with much gratitude for their many years of service.

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

Lindsey Leonhard	Area 18 CTE Career Coach
Todd Morgan	HS Health & PE Teacher/Asst Football Coach/Asst Baseball Coach
Shane Leimgruber	MS Custodian

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

Justin Uptgraft	Bus Driver
Jill Heintzelman	ES Special Education Instructional Assistant
Kevin Leising	Long Term Substitute Teacher
Grace Sommerfeld	ES Vocal/Music Production Sponsor
Kathryn Penrod	Mentor to Betsy Needler
Spencer Schwartz	HS Health Class during prep period
Adam Atkins	HS PE Class during prep period
Brent Kunkel	HS PE Class during prep period
John Price	HS PE Class during prep period
Alyssa Moser	ES Robotics/STEM Club Sponsor
Erica Bluhm	ES Chess Club Co-Advisor
Ashlie Campbell	2 Bus Driver Recruitment Bonuses
Haley Onweller	Substitute Teacher
Thomas Kizer	Substitute Custodian
Craig Teagle	Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach
Chad Grieser	HS Boys Basketball Assistant Coach
Luke Reust	HS Boys Basketball Assistant Coach
Mark Prible	HS Boys Basketball Assistant Coach (Volunteer)
Matthew Sturgeon	MS Boys Basketball Coach
Brett Bothast	MS Boys Basketball Coach
Scott Ribich	MS Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Eric Mounsey	Future Tigers Coordinator
Aaron Sturgeon	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Patrick Pearson	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Clint Renner	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Matthew Sturgeon	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Matt Beste	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Jackson Lambert	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Stacy Herrold	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Ben Burman	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Vic Reinhard	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Justin Uptgraft	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Luke Reust	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Phillip Heer	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Chad Grieser	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Denny Squires	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)

Ben Sprunger	HS Wrestling Head Coach
Tim Zeis	HS Wrestling Assistant Coach
Elliott Jimenez	HS Wrestling Assistant Coach (Volunteer)
Nick Krinn	HS Wrestling Assistant Coach (Volunteer)
Ryan Thomas	HS Wrestling Assistant Coach (Volunteer)
Brady Johns	HS Wrestling Assistant Coach (Volunteer)
Justin Uptgraft	HS Boys Swimming Head Coach
Steve Linderwell	HS Boys Swimming Assistant Coach
Doug Curtis	Girls Varsity Basketball Head Coach
Jaci Moser	HS Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
Bryan Bowman	HS Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
Abby Ault	HS Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
Jeff Blair	MS Girls Basketball Coach
Lauren Brinneman	MS Girls Basketball Coach
Jaci Moser	Future Tigers Coordinator (1/2 FTE)
Kelli Kistler	Future Tigers Coordinator (1/2 FTE)
Marah Hill	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Erin Roush	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Tristan Dick	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Zoey Smith	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Kelli Kistler	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Chrissy Craig	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Felicia McElveen	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Keri Stahly	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Brady Green	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Hunter Cunningham	HS Girls Swimming Head Coach
Kristi Searles	HS Girls Swimming Assistant Coach
Kristi Searles	MS Co-Ed Swimming Head Coach
Jenny Boyd	MS Co-Ed Swimming Assistant Coach
Intent to Employ	ES Title I Instructional Assistant
Intent to Employ	Accounts Manager/Deputy Treasurer
Intent to Employ	HS Health/Physical Education Teacher
Intent to Employ	MS Custodian
Asst Football Coaches	Remaining 2/3 of vacated full time assistant football coach ECA stipend to be distributed equally among remaining part time assistant football coaches on staff.

The Board approved the following employment recommendation as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed with a vote of 4-0 with Preston Kaehr abstaining from the vote.

Wendy Kaehr	Future Tigers Girls Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
-------------	--

The Board approved the following employment recommendations as presented. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Mike Murray passed with a vote of 4-0 with Trent White abstaining from the vote.

Trent White	Future Tigers Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Trayton White	ES Chess Club Co-Advisor

The Board approved the following administrative leave as presented. The motion by Preston Kaehr and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

Administrative Leave With Pay

Clayton Fry	August 26-30, 2024
Todd Morgan	September 3, 2024

Administrative Leave Without Pay

Clayton Fry	August 31, 2024 until further notice
-------------	--------------------------------------

The Board approved the following FMLA request as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Preston Kaehr passed unanimously.

Kimberly Gerber	9/10/24 – 10/7/24
-----------------	-------------------

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

Anonymous	\$1,000 to Football program
Anonymous	\$500 for Football Pork Chop Dinner Expenses
Park Community Church	\$1,500 for Lunch IOU's
Gay Saunders	\$2,014.41 to buy one book for each Kindergarten student and one for the ES library
1 st Church of the Nazarene	500 mini tubes of toothpaste for ES Gr 3 & 4 students

The Board approved the 2025-2026 school calendar as presented. The motion by Preston Kaehr and second by Julie Thompson passed unanimously.

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

<u>New Policy #</u>	<u>New Policy Name</u>	<u>Current Policy #'s to Delete</u>
A175, A175-R & A175-E	Whistleblower Protection	
C400, C400-R	Use of Restraint and Seclusion with Students	JHFE
C500, C500-E1 & C500-E2	School Trips and Privately Sponsored Activities Involving Corporation Employees and Students	
C500-R	School Trips Administrative Guidelines	
C525, C525-R	Medical Needs at School	JHCD
E150, E150-R	Programs for High Ability Students	
E225	College and University Programs	
F176	Unpaid Meals	
F275	Gifts and Donations	
G350	Audio, Video, and Digital Recording of Meetings	

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

<u>New Policy #</u>	<u>New Policy Name</u>	<u>Current Policy #'s to Delete</u>
A275-R	School Wellness (Administrative Guidelines)	
C100, C100-R	Entrance & Age Requirements	JEB
C600, C600-E	Withdrawal From School	JECE; JECE-R
D275	Drug-Free Workplace	GBCBA; GBCBA-E
D525	No Distracted Driving	
E175, E175-R & H225-R	Student Records	JO
G150, G150-R	Registered Sex or Violent Offenders	
G275, G275-E	Animals on Corporation Property	EDB-2; EDB-3
G325	Free and Reduced Price Meals	EF-R; EFB
G425	Pledge of Allegiance and Moments of Silence	ECF

The Board approved the 2024-2025 School Improvement Plans as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Julie Thompson passed unanimously.

The Board approved to convert the accrued vacation days of our current Director of Maintenance to a lump-sum contribution to the employee's 403b retirement plan as presented. The motion by Preston Kaehr and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

With there being no additional business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M. on a motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:









