

**Steelton Highspire School District
Financial Recovery Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes September 2, 2025**

- I. Harry Mathias called the meeting to order at 4:00
- II. Present: George Ioannidis, Calvin Johnson, Willie Slade, Micheal Wanner (via Zoom), Megan Armstead (via Zoom), Tia Taylor (via Zoom), Andrea Saia (via Zoom), Ben Henry, Harry Mathias
- III. Mr. Mathias welcomed all the members and thanked them for their agreeing to serve on the committee.
- IV. Each member introduced themselves to the group.
- V. Mr. Mathias reviewed the State Statute regarding Financial Recovery and reviewed the timeline so far for Steelton Highspire.
 - Placed in Financial Recovery March 2025
 - Financial Recovery Plan approved by the School Board and Acting Secretary of Education August 2025
- VI. Mr. Mathias handed out a copy of the Initiatives and Action Steps in the Financial Recovery Plan (Appendix G of the FRP).
- VII. The Committee answered the following questions:
 - What are good things about the community and School District?
 - The community and school work well together to address issues
 - The school has numerous innovative partnerships
 - Being a small school, there are not a lot of levels that need to be addressed to solve problems
 - What are the challenges SHSD is/will be facing?
 - Finances
 - Lack of internal controls—the district doesn't follow up on issues
 - Don't have an opportunity to increase/grow the tax base
 - Changing demographic: rentals v. ownership; steel mill shutdown
 - Tax Base
 - Structural budget deficit
 - What cost savings ideas do you want to share?
 - Stay on top of expenditures
 - Identify Covid expenditures
 - Be lean—in source or out source depending on what is best
 - Look at all contracts
 - Look at staffing
 - Look at Special Education costs
 - Look for consortia opportunities/programs; office functions
 - Cyber Charter expenses
 - Hybrid programs
 - What ideas do you have to help balance the budget?

- Look at state funding
- Healthcare component—look at future increases
- Contracts
- Consider contracting out various services
- What ideas do you have for educational improvement?
 - Address curriculum—implement with fidelity
 - State standards aligned
 - Turn over of staff
 - Uncertificated staff/coaching/training/emergency certifications
 - How we train/Framework for Teaching
 - Quality early education programs in the community...look for partnerships

VIII. There was no public comment

IX. Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 7, 2025; 4:00PM; District Office Board room

X. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.