

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
 January 12, 2026
 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Monday, January 12, 2026, with all members present. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Assistant Superintendent; Stacy Morrison, Schlaura Linderwell, and Stacy Herrold, Administrators; Jessica Bricker, District Communications Specialist; Mark Cobb, interested patron; and Holly Gaskill, News-Banner representative.

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

Ms. Bricker administered the *Oath of Office* to all Board members present (Correlated File #2526-11).

Requirements for the meeting in January include the reorganization of offices and the floor was opened for nominations. Angie Sheets nominated Julie Thompson for President and Mike Murray seconded the nomination. Julie Thompson was elected President by a vote of 4-0 with Julie Thompson abstaining from the vote.

President Thompson opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. President Thompson nominated Mike Murray and Tim Drayer seconded the nomination. Mike Murray was voted Vice President by a vote of 4-0 with Mike Murray abstaining from the vote.

President Thompson opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. President Thompson nominated Angie Sheets and Trent White seconded the nomination. Angie Sheets was elected Secretary by a vote of 4-0 with Angie Sheets abstaining from the vote.

Board Members volunteered to serve on the following committees and were appointed as such:

Legislative Liaison	Mike Murray
Long Range Planning	Tim Drayer
Facilities Planning	Trent White
Negotiations	Julie Thomposon

On a motion by Julie Thompson and second by Angie Sheets, Anjeanetta Hartman was re-appointed as Corporation Treasurer and Keri Baker was re-appointed as Deputy Treasurer for the calendar year 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

The services of Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim were approved unanimously on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer.

President Thompson thanked Mrs. Sheets for her leadership and service as Board President, stated our second semester is off to a strong start and that she is excited to learn more about the several projects and potential programs planned for 2026.

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on December 15, 2025 were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of December 16, 2025 through January 12, 2026, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for December was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for December was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Reports were approved by consensus.

Mrs. Morrison reported on the 2025 Bluffton High School graduation rate. Bluffton High School was one of 32 high schools in the state with 100% of students graduating and this was the third year in a row for Bluffton High School to have a 100% graduation rate.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on our recent staff wellness day, preschool registration and the teacher creativity grant.

Dr. Yates provided Organizational Charts for Education and Operations (Correlated File #2526-12).

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, shared that the district is exploring the possibility of adding infant care on campus for BHMSD staff and shared that the district is exploring alternative energy options as a proactive approach to expected utility cost increases.

Dr. Yates announced the district will post for an adjunct faculty member in the search for a high school strength and conditioning teacher. Per Indiana code, an adjunct teacher may be hired to fill a vacant teaching position provided the school corporation implements a system of support to aid the adjunct teacher's success. This option has been available to Indiana schools since July 2022. One requirement of the adjunct faculty process is the requirement for the School Board to "announce adjunct teacher position vacancies at its meetings."

Dr. Yates reported that schools are awaiting finalization of an accountability model at the state level and with the help of our school administrators, a communication campaign will be released to share out expectations and guidelines in line with the new model.

Dr. Yates reported on finalization of the following projects:

❖ Middle School Restroom Renovation

Substantial completion has been achieved by contractors. The middle school restroom renovation is complete, and the project has dramatically improved the facilities for student and staff use.

❖ High School Building Envelope

Substantial completion of the project has been reached. Improvements to lighting for the high school is the last key element to the project. Lighting for the 'Tiger head' and 'Home of the Tigers' along with replacement lighting for the main gym and parking lots will be completed in the near future.

❖ Baseball/Softball Facilities

A substantial portion of the project has been completed with a few items still requiring completion: re-installation of fixtures in the restroom, flooring cove base and replacing the exterior door. In addition, the finishing of drywall/paint for the press boxes is being completed this week. The facilities are targeted for completion in late January. The replacement exterior door is scheduled to arrive on-site in early February.

Dr. Yates reported on Middle School & High School HVAC replacements. At the middle school, the specifications and scope of work for the pool HVAC replacement is being finalized. The district is awaiting finalized costs for additional duct work for the pool system that was not originally identified in the project planning phase. Once determined, the district will proceed with the pool system updates as planned. At the high school, the chiller plant demolition is underway for the high school's HVAC system. Following demolition, preparatory work will be completed ahead of the new chiller delivery in mid-March. Emcor Construction plans for the new system to be operational before the cooling season begins in late spring. After reviewing competitive quotes for site topographic and utility surveys, the district has engaged with Bertsch-Frank & Associates to complete the necessary survey work for the site. In addition, GME Testing will complete geotechnical engineering (soil borings and corings) to verify milling and overlaying options for the asphalt replacement.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Drives & Parking Lots. The district has developed a project schedule for the high school drives and parking lot work to be completed in the summer of 2026. Late March to mid-April has been identified as the bidding window for area contractors to complete the scope of work. As a result, the district, in partnership with Barton Coe Vilamaa, will finalize the scope and design for the project throughout January and early-March. Both reports will provide valuable information to the district to finalize the site layout for the high school.

The Board approved the resignation of Olivia Schreiber as presented. The motion by Tim Drayer and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

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

Jason Hyden	Long Term Substitute Teacher for Caylee Pyle
Connor Okey	Transfer from HS Custodian to HS Athletic Custodian
Kaden Gerber	Transfer from HS Custodian to MS Custodian
Ashley Sheetz	Transfer from MS Custodian to HS Custodian
Melissa Schwartz	Transfer from ES/MS Custodian to HS Custodian
Brianna Craighead	ES Mild Intervention Instructional Asst & Childcare Supervisor
Ben Sprunger	MS Wrestling Coach
Elliott Jimenez	MS Wrestling Asst Coach
Elliott Apps	MS Wrestling Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Spencer Schwartz	HS Girls' Tennis Head Coach
Dharma Dynes	HS Girls' Tennis Asst Coach
Kelli Kistler	HS Girls' Tennis Asst Coach
Hunter Cunningham	HS Girls' Tennis Asst Coach (Volunteer) & MS Diving Coach

Hannah Gerig	MS Tennis Coach
Erica Swanson	Unified Track Head Coach
Sara Runyon	Unified Track Asst Coach
Intent to Employ	ES/MS Custodian
Intent to Employ	ES/MS Substitute Custodian
Harper Craighead	Substitute Teacher

The Board approved the following FMLA request as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

Krista Baxter	2/9/26 – 5/29/26
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The Board approved the following donations as presented. The motion by Mike Murray, with much gratitude, and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously.

Park Community Church	\$3,000 for Lunch IOU's
Clean Fuels	\$4,181.41 for Lunch IOU's
The Arnold Family	Hand warmers for ES car rider staff
The Carroll Family	\$500 worth of snacks for ES classrooms
Anonymous	\$500 to MS Lunch IOU's, \$500 to HS Lunch IOU's and \$500 to ES Student Needs

The Board approved the following policy on second reading as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

F176 Unpaid Meals

The Board approved the Resolution to Approve Gift Card Program (Correlated File #2526-13) as presented. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2026 Expenditure Goals (Correlated File #2526-14) as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board granted permission to participate in standard state and federal grant programs including, but not limited to, Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2025 transfers as presented (Correlated File #2526-15) and will instruct the Secretary to file with the County Auditor a copy of the transfers and the Resolution for certification and transmission to the State Board of Tax Commissioners. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved the Resolution for Claims and Inner-Fund borrowing in 2026 (Correlated File #2526-16) as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously.

Dr. Yates informed the Board they will proceed with the annual Board of Finance meeting after adjournment of the Regular Board Meeting and then will proceed with a new Board Member group photo.

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 Tim Drayer. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Jill Simpson
Michelle

[Signature]
[Signature]
