

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
February 16, 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, February 16, 2026, with all members present except Angie Sheets. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Assistant Superintendent; Stacy Morrison, Schlaura Linderwell, and Stacy Herrold, Administrators; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Administrative Assistant; Jessica Bricker, District Communications Specialist; Amy Foreman, Faculty Member; Alainna Wilfong, Rylynn Thurman, Emmaleigh Heiniger, Aubrey Wilfong and Gracie Mayne, students; Ashley Mayne, Mark Cobb, Samantha Wilfong, Alyssa Thurman, Joshua Wolf, Megan Rice, Bree Scott, Haleigh Osborne and Ryan Schisler, interested patrons; and Jonathan Snyder, News-Banner representative.

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

President Thompson thanked Mrs. Sommerfeld and grade 4 students Beau King, Bayli Pitman, Hayden Cassenta and Payton Swann for recently singing the National Anthem at a home basketball game, congratulated the boys' swim team for winning the ACAC conference title and wrestlers Will Frettinger, Jake Boots and Parker Barnes for qualifying for semi-state, with Parker Barnes advancing to the state finals.

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting and Board of Finance Meeting held on January 12, 2026 were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of January 13, 2026 through February 16, 2026, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for January was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for January was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Reports were approved by consensus.

Ms. Foreman and four elementary students presented a new piece of artwork to the Board. Students Rylynn Thurman, Emmaleigh Heiniger, Aubrey Wilfong and Gracie Mayne thanked the Board Members for their service to our district.

Mr. Murray, in his role as legislative liaison, provided an update on the work of the Indiana General Assembly.

Ms. Bricker reported on a new feature to our website, which is a chat icon allowing patrons to type questions for help in finding information on the BHMSD website.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on our preschool earning a Level 3 Paths to Quality rating, ILEARN Checkpoint 2, EL WIDA Testing, professional development for instructional assistants and our school nurses preparing for an upcoming CPR training for our employees.

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, ADM Second Count Day, which is at 1730.4 students, participating in the recent IAPSS/IDOE Secretary of Education Advisory Committee at the Statehouse, our recent audit of the building ECA's and an upcoming set of structured guidelines for emerging sports/athletic clubs.

Dr. Yates reported on finalization of projects. The baseball/softball facilities are scheduled to be fully complete prior to the spring athletic season. The improvements dramatically improve the quality and long-term use of the fields. The last portion of the facility improvement will be completed once the winter weather subsides. Pfister Sprinkler Systems will be updating the irrigation system on both fields.

Dr. Yates reported on the high school drives and parking lots. Planning for the site improvements/pavement project are proceeding on schedule.

The Board approved the retirement requests from Margaret "Peggy" Brooks, Grade 2 Teacher (52 years) and John Price, High School Biology Teacher (31 years) as presented. The motion by Tim Drayer and second by Mike Murray, with much appreciation, passed unanimously.

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

Khadeja Jamil	ES Title I Instructional Asst
Trudy Arnett	MS Food Service
Shirah Bennet	HS Track Asst Coach

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

Mitchel Bertsch	Transfer from Special Purpose Bus Driver to City Route Bus Driver
Samantha Brickley	Special Purpose Bus Driver
Grayson Christal	Long Term Substitute Teacher for Krista Baxter (Gr 7 Preparing for College & Careers Class)
Sara Parks	Transfer from MS Food Service to HS Food Service
Karen Slusher	Transfer from HS Food Service to MS Food Service
Patricia Rodriguez	MS Food Service
Dakota Frauhiger	HS Strength & Conditioning Adjunct Teacher
Chelsea Pursiful	Girls' Lady Tigers Volleyball Travel Coach (Volunteer)
James Agler	HS Co-Ed Track Asst Coach
Ashlee Xayyachack	MS Co-Ed Tennis Coach
Juliet Coppler	Substitute Teacher
Susan Swain	Substitute Teacher
Derek Miller	Substitute Teacher
Brianna England	Substitute Teacher
Intent to Employ	ES Title I Instructional Asst

The Board approved the following FMLA requests as presented. The motion by Tim Drayer and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

Heather Stinson	1/20/26 – 2/23/26
Adrienne Fullenkamp	2/11/26 – 4/9/26 Half Days 4/10/26 – 9/8/26 Full Days
Allison Norman	3/2/26 – 5/29/26
Kayla Graber	3/20/26 – 5/29/26
Jacob Summers	3/30/26 – 4/10/26
Taylor Evans	Intermittent Leave as Needed

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

Bluffton Rotary Club	Dictionaries for every Grade 3 student
Rhonda & Dan Brewer	2 Clarinets for ES Music Class / Student Use
Bea Weberg	4 Book Bags for ES student needs
Anonymous	Gloves & socks for ES students in need
Living Water United Church	\$416.67 for Lunch IOU's
Wells County Foundation	\$25,000 for Area 18 CTE CDL Training Program
The Dayton Foundation/ Berne Ready Mix	\$1,000 for Area 18 CTE CDL Training Program
National Oil & Gas, Inc.	\$1,000 for Area 18 CTE CDL Training Program
Adams County Economic Development Corp.	\$10,000 for Area 18 CTE CDL Training Program

The Board approved an update to Policy C525 on first reading as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved the Food2Schools food bids for 2026-2027 (Correlated File #2526-19) as presented on a motion by Mike Murray 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	Gordon Food Service
A La Carte	Commercial Food Systems, Inc.

On a motion by Tim Drayer and second by Trent White, the Board approved voiding seven (7) outstanding checks totaling \$209.26 as presented according to the state statute (IC 5-11-10-5.2). The motion passed unanimously.

With there being no additional business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 P.M. on a motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:






