

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
May 18, 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, May 18, 2026, with all members present except Trent White. 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, Communications Specialist; Paige Walker, new Administrator; Charlotte Payne, student; Mark Cobb, Ryan Schisler, Lori & Derek Payne interested patrons; and Jonathan Snyder, News-Banner representative.

President Thompson congratulated the following recent student successes:

- ❖ High School eSports Team State Final individual and team championships with State Runner-Up in Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, State Runner-Up in Rocket League, State Champion in Overwatch and individually, CyberTigers placed 2nd, 3rd and 4th in Tetrio.
- ❖ High School Girls' Track Team won the conference championship for the first time since 2001.
- ❖ High school and Middle School Academic Super Bowl teams earned championships: Middle School Science Team earned 3rd place, Middle School Social Studies Team earned 3rd place, and the Middle School and High School Interdisciplinary Teams were State Champions

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting and Public Hearing held on April 20, 2026 were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of April 21, 2026, through May 18, 2026, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for April was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for April was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Linderwell presented a National Math Stars Award certificate to 3rd grade student Charlotte Payne who earned the award after scoring in the top 2% of students her age on recent math assessments.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on district communications and shared a video of an online reading service for elementary students this summer called SORA, as well as a video of the district's recent Walk & Roll Day.

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, the staff end of year luncheon scheduled for May 29, the Spring legislative session, the district's managed investment account, and bond issuance options for 2027.

Dr. Yates reminded the Board of the Class of 2026 Graduation scheduled for Friday, May 29.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Paving Project. The district and paving contractors will meet for a pre-construction meeting to plan out the construction schedule for this summer. Access to the building will remain open throughout the summer, but specific entry/exit points will be limited throughout the project.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Lighting & HVAC Project. Progress on the high school chiller project has progressed as planned following the delivery of the unit. The system start-up and testing was completed for the initial start-up of the system. Additional work continues as scheduled as we move into the summer break period. Parking lot and drive light replacements are underway. The replacements are scheduled to be completed prior to the end of the month.

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

Kristen Thompson	HS Guidance Secretary
Tony Raber	HS Electrical CTE Teacher
Ashlee Xayyachack	MS Mild Interventions Teacher
Kathryn Penrod	MS Mild Interventions Teacher
Rachel Kinsey	Bus Driver
Rebecca Rains	MS Food Service
Karen Kelly	ES Intense Interventions Instructional Asst

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

Paige Walker	ES Principal
Gabrielle Williams	ES Physical Education Adjunct Teacher
Robert Vanderkolk	HS Math Teacher
Megan Johnson	MS Mild Interventions Teacher
Rhea Yoder	HS Nurse
Dharma Dynes	Transfer from ES Grade 3 Teacher to MS Grade 5 English Language Arts Teacher
Caleb Geimer	MS PCC Long Term Substitute Teacher
Nelda Rich	MS Food Service
Tammy Funk	ES Summer School Teacher
Taylor Reed	ES Summer School Teacher
Jenny Tudor	ES Summer School Teacher
Zella Walborn	ES Summer School Teacher
Sarah Jackson	ES Summer School Teacher
Joey Villanueva	ES Summer School Teacher
Sarah Moser	ES Summer School Teacher
Staci Hunt	ES Summer School Teacher
Hunter Cunningham	ES Summer School Teacher
Peggy Brooks	ES Summer School Substitute Teacher

Kyle Linton	HS Summer School Teacher
Kylie Hernandez-Castaneda	Tiger Tots Childcare Supervisor
Felicia McElveen	Childcare Adult Supervisor
Raleigh Bates	Childcare Adult Supervisor
Josie Nash	Childcare Worker
Intent to Employ	Tiger Tots Childcare Supervisor
Intent to Employ	ES Summer School Instructional Asst (up to 3)
Jennifer Cook	Transfer from ES Title I Instructional Asst to HS Athletic Secretary

The Board approved FMLA for Tara Longenberger from 5/1/26-5/15/26 as presented as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved the following donation as presented. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

Yonker Family Trumpet and clarinet for HS Band program

The Board approved the following policy updates and two new policies on first reading, as presented. The motion by Tim Drayer and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

Updated Policies:

A200	Firearms, Weapons and Destructive Devices
A275	School Wellness
A300	Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Use Policy
A301	Wireless Communication Device Policy
C175	Student Attendance, Academic Engagement, and Truancy Prevention Policy
D126	Teacher Evaluation and Development Plan
F125	Purchasing Procedures and Capital Assets
G325	Free and Reduced-Price Meals
H125	Corporation-Support Organizations
H150	Public Records

New Policies:

F101	Budget Adoption and Implementation
F101-R	Budget Adoption and Implementation Administrative Guidelines

The Board approved the appointment of Mike Murray as a Bluffton-Harrison MSD Wells County Public Library Board Appointee for a four-year term. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Tim Drayer passed with a vote of 3-0, with Mike Murray abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Yates reported on the Natural Gas Consortium Review and the Board approved a request for the district to join the East Central Indiana Natural Gas Cooperative as presented (Correlated File #2526-21). The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

With there being no additional business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 P.M. on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Julie A. Thompson
Mike M

Angel Des
JH