

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building

July 20, 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, July 20, 2026, with all members present except Angie Sheets. Also in attendance were Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Julie Meitzler, Assistant Superintendent; Stacy Morrison, Stacy Herrold and Paige Walker, Administrators; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Administrative Assistant; Jessica Bricker, Communications Specialist; Mark Cobb, interested patron; and Jenna Schweikert, News-Banner representative.

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

President Thompson thanked the food service team for providing meal services to children in the community through the month of June. President Thompson also announced that the district's online student registration service is now open and the elementary registration day is August 3, while the middle school and high school registration day is August 6.

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on June 15, 2026, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of June 16, 2026, through July 20, 2026, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures were affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for June was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for June was approved by consensus.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Ms. Bricker reported on district communications.

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, preschool wall art, Tiger Tots childcare, district project information, the City of Bluffton's upcoming annexation meeting, a random school safety review of the high school by the Department of Homeland Security and he informed the Board that he will have information about the supplemental payment plan for faculty at the meeting in August.

Dr. Yates announced a vacancy for HS Strength & Conditioning Adjunct Teacher.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Paving Project. After the 4th of July celebrations, E & B Paving started the high school paving project with the target completion date of August 1. The week of July 6 demolition of existing concrete structures (walk paths, parking lot flumes) were completed. New concrete structures were formed and poured. During the demolition phase, contractors determined excessive groundwater leaching from under the student parking lot and draining into newly dug northeast flume areas. Upon further review and in consultation with our

engineering firm, the student parking lot's existing asphalt depth is a concern for the use of large milling equipment. Field reports indicate the depth of the asphalt is 3" instead of the expected 4"; thus, milling a full depth is not advised due to concern for the milling equipment rupturing the asphalt base, causing additional damage and repair expense. Alternatively, a partial mill and paving will be completed. The week of July 13 asphalt milling started with the plan to follow-up with new asphalt paving on target for a substantial completion by August 1. The district is exploring wayfinding signage throughout the campus as a coordinated part of the paving project. The additional signage will aid in guiding campus traffic for the school day as well as direct visitors toward event parking and designated entry points for the district's various events.

Dr. Yates reported on the High School Lighting & High School/Middle School HVAC Project. The lighting portion of the project is nearly completed. The installer is awaiting a replacement light for a single fixture. Upon completion, our maintenance team and key personnel will receive lighting control training to effectively manage the new lighting solutions. The high school HVAC project continues to move forward on schedule. Refrigeration piping and hydronic piping has been completed. Reheat coils for the system have been installed. The commons ceiling air duct is scheduled to be prepped and repainted this week. The middle school pool HVAC installation continues but duct work installation has been paused for a safety review. The concrete ceiling below the pool deck is crumbling during removal of the existing duct work. The district has engaged structural engineers to review the situation and provide safe solutions to address the issue.

Dr. Yates reported on Alternative Energy Options. Since the June Board meeting, the district's partner, Veregy, has worked to coordinate preparations with structural and electrical engineers to finalize the scope of work for the high school and middle school solar project being considered. In addition, the district and Veregy are coordinating with the City of Bluffton/Mayor's Office for utility calculation and billing reconciliation plans for the proposed incorporation of a solar project. The district's roof manufacturers ensure solar projects installation does not interfere with the existing roof warranties. Following the final scope planning phase, the August Board meeting is the target date for a contract for review and consideration of approval.

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

Evin Parker	Speech Language Pathologist
Hunter Cunningham	ES Mild Intervention Teacher
Michael Vanderkolk	HS English Language Arts Teacher
Ariel Mitchey	HS Intense Intervention Instructional Asst
Stephanie Crist	ES Intense Intervention Instructional Asst
Sara Parks	HS Food Service

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

Jaci Moser	Preschool Adjunct Teacher
Angie Ifer	ES Library Adjunct Teacher
Dakota Frauhiger	HS Strength & Conditioning Adjunct Teacher
Clayton Fry	MS Lead Custodian
Scott Irean	MS Custodian

Kendra Stutzman	MS Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Carson Sheets	MS Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Sidney Nash	ES Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Karissa Carpenter	ES Intense Intervention Instructional Asst
Amber Hollingsworth	ES Office Instructional Asst
Grace Sommerfeld	Mentor to Gabrielle Williams
Jill Buskirk	Mentor to Rachel Kinsey
Kemper Amstutz	MS Team Leader
Kim Mayer	MS Team Leader
Tyson Brooks	MS Team Leader
Liz Claghorn	MS Team Leader
Justin Uptgraft	MS Team Leader
Steve Abbett	MS Team Leader
Jeff Blair	MS Team Leader
Laura Xayyachack	MS Academic Team Head Coach
Amy Gerber	MS Academic Team Asst Coach
Liz Claghorn	MS Academic Team Asst Coach
Carla Alspaugh	MS Academic Team Asst Coach
Kemper Amstutz	MS Student Council Representative
Allison Harter	MS Student Council Representative
Ashlie Campbell	MS Yearbook Advisor
Tyson Brooks	MS Building Technology Specialist (1/2 Stipend)
Tiffani Tonner	MS Building Technology Specialist (1/2 Stipend)
Tiffani Tonner	MS STEM/Robotics Head Sponsor
Lillian Broderick	Part-Time Preschool Childcare Supervisor
Raleigh Bates	Part-Time Preschool Childcare Supervisor
Noah Zoll	MS eSports Head Coach
Jayden Suman	MS eSports Asst Coach
Dakota Frauhiger	HS After School Weights Training Sponsor (retroactive to 2025-26 school year and going forward for 2026-27 school year)
Robert Vanderkolk	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach
Hunter Cunningham	HS Boys' Tennis Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Joshua Swanson	HS Cheerleading Asst Coach (Volunteer) & Unified Track Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Jonathan Morgan	HS eSports Head Coach
Kurt Smith	HS eSports Asst Coach
Nathan Reinhard	HS eSports Asst Coach
Emme Johnson	HS Coed Cross Country Head Coach
April Schisler	MS Girls' Swim Asst Coach
Mason Shroff	MS Football Coach
Tom Michael	MS Football Coach
Travis Roush	MS Football Coach
Ty Kinsey	MS Football Coach
Rachel Kinsey	HS Student Teacher
Lily Offringa	ES Student Teacher
Peggy Brooks	Substitute Teacher
Tonya Isch	Substitute Teacher

Breanna Miller	Substitute Teacher
Katlynn Snider	Substitute Teacher
Intent to Employ	Elementary School Teacher
Intent to Employ	Middle School Teacher
Intent to Employ	High School Teacher
Intent to Employ	ES Mild Intervention Teacher
Intent to Employ	ES Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Intent to Employ	Alternative School Long Term Substitute Teacher
Intent to Employ	Speech Language Pathologist
Intent to Employ	MS Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Intent to Employ	HS Intense Intervention Instructional Asst

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

Krista Baxter 8/10/26 – 12/23/26

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

IUE-CWA Local 84802 Supply of Peanut Butter & Jelly for Lunch Program
WEG Electric

Wayne Pipe & Supply	\$250 to Girls' Volleyball Team
Double D Home Improvements	\$250 to Boys' Baseball Team
Edge Manufacturing	\$500 to Boys' Baseball Team
Extreme Auto – Gary & Lisa Napier	\$1,500 to Boys' Baseball Team
First Bank of Berne	\$1,000 to Boys' Baseball Team
E & B Paving	\$200 to Boys' Baseball Team
5S Building	\$500 to Boys' Baseball Team
Jostens	\$100 to Boys' Baseball Team
Ron & Jean Anderson	\$100 to Boys' Baseball Team
Elks Lodge #796	\$250 to Boys' Baseball Team
Nick Huffman	\$100 to Boys' Baseball Team
Extreme Auto Detailing	\$250 to Boys' Baseball Team

The Board approved the School Board Meeting calendar for 2027 as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved the Ed-Flex Waiver as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Trent White passed unanimously. The district has provided public notice of its intent to participate in the Ed-Flex Program, a federal initiative through the U.S. Department of Education (Correlated File #2627-01). Ed-Flex grants state education agencies the flexibility to waive certain statutory or regulatory requirements that may impede efforts to improve educational outcomes. BHMSD is applying for Waiver #2: Increased Flexibility in Paraprofessional Requirements to enhance our ability to recruit and retain qualified instructional assistants at our Title I Elementary School. This is an annual request by the district to continue flexibility programming for our paraprofessionals serving our students at Bluffton-Harrison Elementary School.

The Board approved the service agreement with Bowen Health Services as presented. The motion by Julie Thompson and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved the band instrument trade-in credit as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved the appointment of Mrs. Stacy Lehman as SEBT Trustee as presented. The motion by Tim Drayer and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

The Board granted approval for Hylant to serve as the district's Broker of Record to provide customized employee benefit solutions as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved the personnel one-time stipends as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Mike Murray 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:





