Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees

Special Meeting August 17, 2026
12:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in special session on Monday, August 17, 2026. The meeting was held in-person. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin. Trustees participating were: Kallie Gatzemeier, Beth Herron, and Tom Cook. Trustees Scott Rouse, Rich Thornock, and Jacquelyn Ryan were absent for the meeting. Superintendent Molly Blakely and District Clerk Justine Reese were present for the meeting. There were no district staff participating in the meeting. There were no community members in attendance. There were up to 6 total guests/participants in the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at the meeting.

HEEA

There was no report by the HEEA.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

There was no recognition of students and staff at the meeting.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletter from OPI.

CLASSIFIED STAFF HIRING CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the hiring of the following classified staff:

- Masengo Amisi Patient-Custodian-effective date 8/20/2026
- Robyn Wining-Special Education Paraprofessional-effective date 8/24/2026
- Brigett Burgess-Special Education Paraprofessional-effective date 8/24/2026

The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemier. There was no discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Kallie Gatzemeier, Tom Cook, and Beth Herron. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Beth Herron to approve the resignation of Margaret Morigeau- Food Service Cook-effective 8/13/2026 (letter available in official board packet). The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. There was no discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Kallie Gatzemeier, Tom Cook, and Beth Herron. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE TRUSTEE FISCAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Kallie Gatzemeier to accept the Trustees Fiscal Summary (TFS) Report for the 2025-2026 school year with the understanding that the Hellgate Elementary Business Manager/District Clerk shall have the ability to slightly adjust the final TFS totals. The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. The district clerk provided an overview of the significant changes in the 2025-2026 school year (full presentation is available in official board packet). She reviewed the out-of-district impact, along with the county equalization legislation that will shift the State Guaranteed Tax Base payment from the state to the county level. The county equalization change resulted in a significant reduction in mills levied for the General Fund for fiscal year 2027, but did not reduce the overall revenue. She noted there was a slight decrease in taxable valuation leading to a slight increase in mills levied. She also noted at the end of fiscal year 2028, the 2016 refinanced debt service bond payment will sunset. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Kallie Gatzemeier, Tom Cook, and Beth Herron. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 BUDGET

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the following Hellgate Elementary 2026-2027 annual budget report with the understanding that the Hellgate Elementary Business Manager/District Clerk shall have the ability to slightly adjust the final budget totals. The motion was seconded by Beth Herron. The district clerk provided an overview of the recommended budgetary values for the 26-27 school year (full presentation is available in the official board packet). Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Kallie Gatzemeier, Tom Cook, and Beth Herron. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Superintendent Blakely provided an update regarding the Building 3 roof replacement project and water damage mitigation and repairs; both projects are near completion. The Childcare facility is accepting donations for outdoor play equipment. Flynn Lane has been under construction all summer and is finally open just in time for school to start.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee reports at the meeting.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

There were no Principal Reports at this meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting of the Board will be September 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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Tom McLaughlin, Board Chair Justine Reese, Business Manager/Clerk