REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
October 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, October 12, 2026, with all members present. 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, Corporation Communications Specialist; Jaci Moser, Jonathan Morgan and Ben Dailey, staff members; Ryan Schisler, interested patron; and Holly Gaskill, News-Banner representative.

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

President Thompson reported on the recent Tiger accomplishments, including:

- Bengal Brigade State Finals Qualifier
- HS Competition Cheer Invitational Champions
- HS Girls Cross Country ACAC Champions
- HS Boys Cross Country ACAC Champions
- HS Boys Tennis Regional Champions
- HS Boys Football ACAC Champions
- MS Boys Cross Country ACAC Champions

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

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting and Budget Hearing held on September 21, 2026 were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

The Fund Transfer Report was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Moser, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Dailey reported on Tiger Tots and the Childcare program.

Mrs. Meitzler reported on district communications, the fall athletics booklet, MS/HS student food survey results, Preparing for College & Careers professional development and special education professional development.

Dr. Yates reported on district financial information, campus signage, district projects and insurance claims.

Dr. Yates reported on our official Count Day enrollment numbers as of October 1. BHMSD's official count day enrollment is 1,751.94.

Dr. Yates, President Thompson, Mr. Murray and Mr. Drayer reported on their recent attendance at the ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference.

Dr. Yates reported on Alternative Energy Options. The contract for solar installation for our middle school and high school buildings has been finalized. The project is targeted to be substantially completed in the fall of 2027.

Dr. Yates reported on the Pool Underdecking Repair/Replacement project, providing the board members with general estimates of potential repair costs compared to replacement costs. A structural renovation budget estimate is $420,000 to $440,000 and a facility replacement budget estimate is $15,000,000 to $20,000,000. The Board will revisit the topic in November.

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

Jenny Boyd	MS Boys' Swimming Head Coach

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

Lindsey Fiechter	ES Nurse (Part-Time .5 FTE)
Jennifer Isch	ES Nurse (Part-Time .5 FTE)
Abby Pavlin	ES Mild Intervention Instructional Asst
Mary Nolan	Bus Driver Recruiter Stipend
Victoria Burkhart	Administrative Leave With Pay (9/28/26-10/9/26)
Sebastian Baxter	Coed HS Track Head Coach
Lauren Reiff	HS Track Asst Coach (5/6 FTE)
Chris Kruchkow	HS Track Asst Coach (5/6 FTE)
Ben Ramseyer	HS Track Asst Coach (5/6 FTE)
Bob Dahl	HS Track Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Brent Kunkel	HS Track Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Joe Taylor	HS Track Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Danielle Kunkel	HS Track Asst Coach (Volunteer)
Intent to Employ	HS Track Asst Coach (2 positions; 5/6 FTE each)
Jaci Moser	Girls' Basketball Youth Director/Future Tigers Director
Stacy Herrold	Boys' Future Tigers Travel Basketball Coach
Brent Kunkel	Boys' Future Tigers Travel Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Caleb Geimer	MS Boys' Swimming Head Coach
Intent to Employ	MS Boys' Swimming Asst Coach
Katy Renner	Future Tigers Girls' Travel Basketball Head Coach
Nathan Campbell	Future Tigers Girls' Travel Basketball Asst Coach (Two grade levels)
Isabella Stout	Future Tigers Girls' Travel Basketball Head Coach
Samantha Meyer	Future Tigers Girls' Travel Basketball Asst Coach
Erin Roush	Future Tigers Girls' Travel Basketball Head Coach

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

Madison Brown	10/17/26 – 1/31/27

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

Josh & Heather Barkley	$200 toward MS student field trip fees

Kristina Quinn	Paint sticks, play doh & toys for Tiger Tots Childcare

The Board reviewed the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement (Correlated File #2627-06) that has been reached between the district and the Bluffton-Harrison Teachers Association. A copy of the tentative agreement has been posted on the district's website and notice of the meeting was published in accordance with Open Door Law. The tentative collective bargaining agreement includes:

- Increase of base salary levels for all eligible teachers by $1,000
  - Results in the minimum base salary increasing from $46,359 to $46,750
- Increase to the Board's contribution to health insurance by 4%
- One-time $500 stipend for all eligible teachers
- One-time $750 conditional stipend for all eligible teachers
  - [if Education fund revenue excluding curricular materials exceeds expenditures by $250,000 for the fiscal year]
- Other minor contract language adjustments as mutually agreed upon

BHTA and BHMSD will have the opportunity to ratify the agreement at a future date prior to the November 15 deadline. The current plan is for ratification to be considered by the Board of School Trustees on Monday, October 26.

The Board approved the 2027 Budget, Capital Projects Plan, Bus Replacement Plan, Resolution to Adopt Capital Projects Plan, and Resolution to Adopt Bus Replacement Plan as presented (Correlated File #2627-07). The motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer passed unanimously.

The Board approved a new AI Use Policy on first reading, 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 6:55 P.M. on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Tim Drayer. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Julie A Thompson