INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Chad E. Ranney, General Counsel
Date: August 10, 2022
RE: Approval of Governing Body Change – Bluffton Harrison Metropolitan School District

Recommendation: Approve the proposed governing body plan change

Pursuant to IC 20-23-8, the Board of School Trustees of Bluffton Harrison Metropolitan School District ("Bluffton Harrison") adopted a resolution to initiate a change to Bluffton Harrison's governing body plan. After adopting the resolution, Bluffton Harrison submitted the attached materials for the Indiana State Board of Education's ("Board") review and consideration, in accordance with the requirements set forth in IC 20-23-8-15.

Indiana Department of Education ("Department") staff reviewed the attached material and determined that Bluffton Harrison's plan and the manner in which it was initiated satisfy the requirements set forth in IC 20-23-8. As such, Bluffton Harrison's new governing body plan is recommended for approval.

2/25/22

To:
Indiana State Board of Education
200 W. Washington Street, Room 228
Indianapolis, IN 46204
sboe_comment@sboe.in.gov

and

Wells County Clerk Beth Davis
102 W. Market Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714

Dear Board of Education & Clerk:
I am the school attorney for Bluffton Harrison Metropolitan School District located in Bluffton, Indiana. On November 15, 2021, the school board unanimously approved a first reading of a resolution amending the plan and the new plan will be amended to provide for school board member election according to "Residence Districts" rather than "Electoral Districts." The board formally adopted the amendment at the January 2021 meeting at the second reading. The amendment will comply with I.C. 20-23-4-35. Therefore, the school district will be in compliance with I.C. 20-23-4-35 *et seq* and formal certification of the amendment is attached as required by I.C. 20-23-4-35.5(b).

Thank You.

/s/ Colin Z. Andrews

Cc:
attachment

RESOLUTION FOR BOARD CANDIDATE VOTING PROCESS

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees is the governing body of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District, Wells County, Indiana, and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Board shall remain unchanged and shall be five in number.

WHEREAS, the manner of selection of Board members shall be elective with limitations on residence, terms of office and other qualifications to remain unchanged.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District authorizes the district's local counsel and superintendent to execute the legal proceedings necessary with the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana Secretary of State, Indiana State Board of Education, and any other state or local government unit or agency to reorganize the district's Governing Body Selection Plan, with an effective date of July 1, 2022, as follows:

a. Replace the existing Electoral Districts of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District with Residence Districts of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District.
b. Establish Residence Districts of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District to be equal in definition as the existing Electoral Districts of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District.
c. Permit all voters within Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District to vote for any and all candidates seeking election to the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District Board of School Trustees.
d. All other provisions of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District Governing Body Selection Plan as adopted by the Board of School Trustees, Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District, on November 9, 1978, and certified by the Commission on General Education, Indiana State Board of Education on March 7, 1979, shall remain in full force and effect.

This resolution was duly made, seconded and adopted this November 15, 2021.

Julie A Thompson
President

ATTEST:

Secretary

CORRELATED FILE #2122-36

Form Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

General Form No. 99P (Rev. 2009A)

Bluffton-Harrison MSD
(GOVERNMENTAL UNIT)

To: News-Banner Publications, P.O. Box 436, Bluffton, IN 46714

Wells County, Indiana

Legal Notice

PUBLISHER'S CLAIM

LINE COUNT

Display Master (Must not exceed two actual lines, neither of which shall total more than four solid lines of type in which the body of the advertisement is set) -- number of equivalent lines

Head -- number of lines..... 4

Body -- number of lines.....

Tail -- number of lines.....

Total number of lines in notice..... 1

COMPUTATION OF CHARGES

75 lines, 1 columns wide equals 75 equivalent lines at 0.4988 cents per line.....

Additional charges for notices containing rule or tabular work (50 percent of above amount).....

Charge for extra proofs of publication ($1.00 for each proof in excess of two).....

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIM.....

DATA FOR COMPUTING COST

Width of single column: 9p9
Number of insertions: 1
Size of type: 7 points

Pursuant to the provisions and penalties of IC 5-11-10-1, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is just and correct, that the amount claimed is legally due, after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type which was duly published in said paper 1 times. The dates of publication being a

18-Nov-21

Additionally, the statement check below is true and correct:

____ Newspaper does not have a Web site.
x Newspaper has a web site and this public notice was posted on the same day a published in the newspaper.
____ Newspaper has a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, public notice posted on _____.
____ Newspaper has a Web site but refuses to post the public notice.

Martha A. Poling

Martha A. Poling

Title Business Manager

Date 18-Nov-21

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Julie A Thompson
President

ATTEST:
Mike Murray
Secretary

nb 11/18
hspaxlp

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Administration Building
January 10, 2022
6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District was held on Monday, January 10, 2022, with all members present. Also in attendance was Dr. Brad Yates, Superintendent; Amy Dunwiddie, Corporation Secretary; Tammy Mechling, Corporation Human Resources; Steve Baker and Schlaura Linderwell, Administrators; Brittany Kloer, Area 18 CTE Director; and Jessica Bricker, News Banner representative.

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

Amy Dunwiddie administered the *Oath of Office* to all board members present (Correlated File #2122-40).

Requirements for the first meeting in January include the reorganization of officers and the floor was opened for nominations to elect a new President. Bruce Holland nominated Julie Thompson and Trent White seconded the nomination. Julie Thompson was elected President by a vote of 4-0 with Julie Thompson abstaining from the vote.

Re-elected President Thompson then opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Mike Murray nominated Bruce Holland and Angie Sheets seconded the nomination. Bruce Holland was elected Vice-President by a vote of 4-0 with Bruce Holland abstaining from the vote.

President Thompson opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Bruce Holland nominated Mike Murray and Trent White seconded the nomination. Mike Murray was elected Secretary by a vote of 4-0 with Mike Murray abstaining from the vote.

Board Members volunteered to serve on the following committees and were appointed as such:

Legislative Liaison	Mike Murray
Long Range Planning	Bruce Holland
Facilities Planning	Trent White
Negotiations	Julie Thompson

On a motion by Bruce Holland and second by Angie Sheets, Julie Meitzler was re-appointed as Corporation Treasurer and Brenda Clamme was re-appointed as Deputy Treasurer for the calendar year 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

The services of Andrews & Crell PC as legal counsel, with Colin Andrews as primary counsel, was approved unanimously on a motion by Trent White and second by Bruce Holland. The district will continue to use the legal services of the ISBA for most legal school matters and Barnes & Thornburg LLP and/or Church, Church, Hittle and Antrim for more extensive legal matters that warrant their expertise such as contract negotiations and employment law.

During the President's Prerogative portion of the meeting, President Thompson thanked the staff for a great start to the second semester and reported that Bluffton High School received an exemplary report from an IHSAA official following a wrestling match versus Bellmont.

Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on December 13, 2021, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed thereon.

Vouchers for the period of December 14, 2021, through January 10, 2022, were approved by consensus and appropriate signatures affixed on the voucher register.

The Fund Report for December was approved by consensus.

The Bank Statement for December was approved by consensus.

Mrs. Brittany Kloer updated the Board on the Don Wood Grant that was received for the Area 18 CTE Vocational Program. Bluffton High School's welding program, under the direction of Mr. Kevin Powell, received $119,083.56 to be used for equipment purchases and the total grant amount to be used throughout the Area 18 district totaled $1,012,812.78 for programming updates.

Mr. Baker reported on the 2021 Bluffton High School graduation rate. Bluffton High School ranked 13th out of all high schools in the entire state with 99.1% of students graduating.

Dr. Yates updated the Board on district projects, superintendent goals for 2021-2022, summer enrichment camp opportunities and upcoming district considerations.

Dr. Yates provided Organizational Charts for Education and Operations (Correlated File #2122-41) along with a flow chart outlining the district's order for succession as outlined in board policy CI (Temporary Administrative Arrangements).

Dr. Yates updated the Board on the Middle School Roof Replacement and Improvements Project by reporting that The CMc Team continues to refine scope in preparation for a busy spring and summer construction period. Barton Coe Vilamaa met with Shawnee Construction at the middle school for a follow-up walk-through of the building and R. Adams Roofing conducted pull tests on the middle school roof in preparation for the full roof replacement.
Updates on the High School HVAC Guaranteed Energy Savings Project include:

- Upgrades for Rooftop Units (Upper and Lower Gyms)
- Upgrades to HCUVs (40 classroom units)
- Upgrades to HCFCs (29 ceiling units)
- DDC Control System

The four focus points will provide new HVAC systems in all student occupied areas of the building along with upgrading the control system for improved operational efficiency.

The Board approved the following resignations as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously. The Board expressed their appreciation for Tami Wuest's years of service.

Tami Wuest	HS Social Studies Teacher
Cory Stewart	MS Custodian

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

Jim Suhrer	HS Social Studies Teacher
Tara Cocanower	HS Team Leader (1/2 stipend)
Ayron Oliver	Substitute Teacher
Estefania Rangel	Substitute Teacher
Spencer Schwartz	Boys Asst. Tennis Coach (Retroactive to Fall 2021 season)
Intent-to-Employ	MS Custodian

The Board approved a contracted services agreement for Megan Merrick for speech language services to be provided remotely for the remainder of the school year as presented. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The Board approved FMLA for the following personnel as presented. The motion by Trent White and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously.

Julie Meitlzer	12/30/21 – 3/24/22

The Board approved a donation of $1,000 to Bluffton High School from Family Ford to be used in the Buckets for Santa fund as presented. The motion by Mike Murray and second by Angie Sheets passed unanimously with much appreciation.

The Board approved policy BBB (School Board Member Selection) on second reading as presented. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

The following policies were reviewed, with no changes necessary, as part of an ongoing review of existing board policies. The motion to approve by Trent White and second by Bruce Holland passed unanimously.

EE	Vehicle Idling Policy
EEACD	Alcohol and Controlled Substance Testing Policy for Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Employees
EEAD	Special Use of School Buses

The following three policies were approved with changes:

EEAD-R	Special Use of School Buses Guidelines for Payment for Extra-Curricular Transportation
EGAA	Public Records – Designee and Copy Fees Policy
EGAA-E	Public Records Request

On a motion by Bruce Holland and second by Trent White, the Board adopted a resolution (Correlated File #2122-42) granting permission for inner-fund borrowing and approval to pay necessary claims between board meetings as permitted by the Indiana State Board of Accounts as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved the 2022 Expenditure Goals (Correlated File #2122-43) as presented on a motion by Mike Murray and second by Angie Sheets. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board granted permission to participate in standard state and federal grant programs including, but not limited to, Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV as presented. The motion by Angie Sheets and second by Trent White passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the BHMSD Healthy Operations Plan (Correlated File #2122-44) and approved recommended updates from the Wells County Health Department as presented. The motion by Bruce Holland and second by Mike Murray passed unanimously.

In final business of the evening, Dr. Yates recommended setting a date at the end of January for a special meeting to take any action necessary pending the Supreme Court's decision and further guidance provided by Indiana OSHA, ISBA, and other applicable agencies regarding OSHA ETS requirements to employers with over 100 employees.

With there being no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M. on a motion by Bruce Holland and second by Angie Sheets. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES:

Angie Sheets

Joe Yates

Julie A Singer

Bruce E Holland

Mike Murray