

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
August 1, 2024**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on August 1, 2024, in the Board Room at Hobart High School, 2211 East Tenth Street, Hobart, Indiana.

ROLL CALL: President Terry Butler asked Board Members to log in. The following Board Members and Administrators were present or absent as noted:

Board Members:

Terry D. Butler
Rikki A. Guthrie
Sandra J. Hillan
Frank Porras
Karen J. Robbins
Donald H. Rogers
Stuart B. Schultz
Kayla Davis, HHS student representative
Isis Fleming, HHS student representative

Administrators Present:

Peggy Buffington
Christopher N. King

Administrators Absent:

Bob Glover
William J. Longer
Jonathan Mock
Tim Krieg

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Butler indicated that the Board did not meet in executive session prior to the regular session meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Terry Butler, President, called the meeting to order around 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Butler led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE: The following were present in the audience:

Bradley Keehn, Joan Martin School and Hobart Middle School parent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the work session, executive session and regular session minutes of July 18, 2024. Frank Porras seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: President Butler indicated there were no financial reports.

COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: President Terry Butler asked for comments on the listed agenda items. There were none.

PERSONNEL: In the absence of Jonathan Mock, Director of Human Resources and Compliance, Dr. Peggy Buffington indicated the Personnel Report and Personnel Report Addendum were included in the electronic meeting information for the Board's consideration.

Dr. Buffington recommended approval and requested Board action.

Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the Personnel Report as presented. Donald Rogers seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

The approved personnel items are as follows:

Extracurricular Club Duty Contract –

Cortney Harris, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/Social Butterflies, 2024-2025 school year, \$567.00

Sara Tinoco, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/Jump Start, 2024-2025 school year, \$567.00

ECA Resignations –

Brock Allen, Veterans Elementary @ Mundell/5th grade level contact, July 25, 2024

Shaun Zoladz, Hobart High School/assistant varsity football, July 24, 2024

Resignations –

Tammie Duncan, Service Center/school bus driver, effective July 18, 2024

Natalie Otero, Veterans Elementary @ Mundell/teacher, effective July 25, 2024

Danielle Zaradich, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/aide-student supervision, effective July 24, 2024

Dahlia Cooper, Service Center/Transportation Dept., school bus driver, effective July 22, 2024
Sara Lindsay, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/food services, effective July 29, 2024
Brandi Thornton, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/aide-recreation, effective August 1, 2024

Custodial Department – Adjustments of position, hours, and/or pay rate –

Melissa Winicky transferring from Veterans School @ Mundell to Hobart Middle School, Class I custodian position at the same pay rate, \$16.38 per hour, effective July 22, 2024

Food Services Department – Adjustments of position, hours, and/or pay rate –

Sara Ford transferring to Elementary Café Manager at the Early Learning Center @ George Earle, with a new pay rate of \$16.50 per hour, hours increased from 5 to 8, effective July 29, 2024

Seasonal Employee –

Service Center/Buildings & Grounds:

Nina Serrano, summer grounds/custodial helper, effective July 19, 2024, \$13.00 per hour

New Employee –

Service Center/Transportation Department:

Tyan Geissler, school bus driver, effective August 1, 2024, \$21.14 per hour

Supplemental Services Teacher Contracts –

Hobart High School/summer band, June 2/August 9, 2024:

Brandon Dinkins, 11 days, \$3,172.02; and Lauren Teykl, 11 days, \$3,119.82

Hobart Middle School/summer band, July 29/August 9, 2024:

Kelly Rehlander, 8 days, \$3,476.06; and Jamie Edwards, 8 days, \$2,546.53

ECA Assignments –

Hobart High School:

Sharon Autterson, Special Education Department Chairman, 2024-2025 school year

Leonardo Guzman, football: assistant varsity, 2024-2025 school year

Transportation Department – Adjustments of position, hours, and/or pay rate –

Nina Serrano transferring to activity bus driver position and new pay rate of \$16.68 per hour, effective August 1, 2024

Teacher Contracts - Salary Adjustments –

Scott Buhmann, Hobart High School/JROTC, 2024-2025 contract salary adjusted to \$118,472.16

Brian Carroll, Hobart High School/JROTC, 2024-2025 contract salary adjusted to \$92,568.96

Teacher Contract – 2024-2025 –

Amanda Viator, Veterans @ Mundell/teacher, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025, \$54,466.00

Contract for Extracurricular Services (Club Duties) –

Ryan Williams, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/Social Butterflies, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025, \$567.00

POLICY CONSIDERATION: Second Reading of Resolution Adopting Updates for Hobart School

Board Policy: In the absence of William Longer, School Board Attorney, Superintendent Buffington presented Resolution No. 2024-22 for updates to Board policy. She explained the changes and adoption process of changes in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart." She indicated this was the second reading for the proposed changes with the possible adoption at this meeting and said there were no changes since the first reading. There was no objection from Brad Keehn, audience member, for Sandra Hillan to only read the title of the resolution.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title of Resolution No. 2024-22 aloud, as follows:

School City of Hobart
Board of School Trustees

Resolution No. 2024-22

A Resolution Approving Amendments to the Bylaws and
Policies of the Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart

President Butler then called for a motion and roll call vote.

Karen Robbins moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-22 for the bylaws and policies changes in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart". Seconded by Donald

Rogers. Vote on motion: Secretary Sandra Hillan called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Nay – No one. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

A copy of Resolution No. 2024-22, as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room, and adopted, is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS: The Board received the following information:

- ▶ School Information – Registration and Back to School Orientations – registration and back-to-school open houses for the 2024-2025 school year. Dr. Buffington indicated that everything was going very well and school would be starting soon.

COMMENTS: From the administration, Peggy Buffington expressed her thanks and appreciation to Beth Black for all of her work with the retreat, to the administrators who assisted her by doing presentations at the retreat, and to Chris King for all everything he did for retreat. Chris King thought the retreat was excellent and commented that things were going well for the coming school year.

From the Board, Don Rogers hoped the school year gets off to “a good start.” Karen Robbins mentioned that she was fortunate to be with Don Rogers when some of his former students shared stories about him, and the impact he had on their lives. She said the comments were heartfelt, and she felt it was important to note and recognize him. Stu Schultz extended his compliments for all of the work that has been done. Kayla Davis extended her thanks to everyone for all the preparations for the start of the school year and was looking forward to working with different clubs. Isis Fleming was looking forward to being able to finish projects that that were started last year and seeing them completed this year. Dr. Buffington asked Kayla and Isis to assist in finding some students to assist at an upcoming NIRPC (Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission) event. She mentioned she had emailed Mrs. Lucas and Mr. Horjus about it, and she said she would forward the email to them with the particulars. She commented that this year was Hobart’s turn to provide student helpers for them. Sandi Hillan thanked Mrs. Robbins for mentioning the service of Don Rogers as an educator and said he would never mention this himself, and she thanked her for mentioning his service as an educator and coach. In addition, she mentioned that she contacted one of our administrators for a reference check, and she enjoyed speaking with the administrator. Rikki Guthrie wished all of the district’s employees “good luck” and to have “wonderful the first day of school.” Terry Butler extended his congratulations to Peggy Buffington for being one of oldest longevity-wise superintendents in the state. Dr Buffington mentioned that there was a lot of turnover of superintendents and said it not only affects Indiana but across the country. She said it was a reminder that the job was one of public service and was more than a 9-5 job. Mr. Butler mentioned that he had read the letters from the Indiana colleges/universities regarding the proposed diploma changes from the Indiana Department of Education. He commented they were not in favor of the changes, and if approved, high school graduates would not meet the entrance requirements for the colleges/universities in Indiana. Karen Robbins extended her thanks to Brad Keehn and his family for stapling information to the donation bags for the upcoming Kiwanis city-wide food drive for the Hobart Food Pantry. Mr. Keehn commented they still 900 bags to finish up.

From the audience, Brad Keehn commented that his children were ready and excited about upcoming school year.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Butler adjourned the meeting around 7:12 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular session meeting is August 15, 2024.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

By _____
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

By _____
Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: August 15, 2024