

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

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

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

**Board Members Present:**

Terry D. Butler  
Rikki A. Guthrie  
Sandra J. Hillan  
Frank Porras  
Karen J. Robbins  
Donald H. Rogers  
Stuart B. Schultz  
Madelyn Burton, HHS student representative  
Angelina Zepeda, HHS student representative

**Administrators Present:**

Peggy Buffington  
Bob Glover  
Christopher N. King  
William J. Longer  
Jonathan Mock  
Tim Krieg  
Michael Black  
Craig Osika

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** President Butler indicated that the Board met in executive session prior to the regular session. As published, the meeting was held in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(1) where authorized by federal or state statute; (2) for discussion of strategy with respect to: (D) A real property transaction including: (i) a purchase; (ii) a lease as lessor; (iii) a lease as lessee; (iv) a transfer; (v) an exchange; or (vi) sale by the governing body up to the time a contract or option is executed by the parties; and (7) for discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry Butler, President, called the meeting to order around 7:08 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  
Carole Carlson, *Post-Tribune*  
Josh Huddleston, Mayor of the City of Hobart  
Eric Schreiber, high school teacher, his wife, Sierra, and their four children  
Family members and friends of Mr. Schreiber  
Unidentified adults and students

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the work session, Board of Finance, and regular session minutes of January 18, 2024. Seconded by Frank Porras. 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 financial reports for the Board's consideration.

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

**PERSONNEL:** Jonathan Mock, Director of Human Resources and Compliance, indicated the Personnel Report was included in the electronic meeting information for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Mock recommended approval and requested Board action.

Sandra Hillan moved that the Board approve the Personnel Report as present. Seconded by Rikki Guthrie. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

Dr. Buffington welcomed Mike Black, Athletic Director, and Eric Schreiber, high school teacher and the new varsity football coach. Mr. Black thanked Dr. Buffington and the Board and introduced Eric Schreiber who will be the next varsity football coach. He said Mr. Schreiber began coaching in Hobart two years ago and said his life was similar to his own. Mr. Black's father was a long-time educator and coach and so is Mr. Schreiber's. Mr. Schreiber knows about the life of an educator and a coach and what is involved with that. His coaching experience included Hammond Central, Homewood-Flossmoor, and was the head coach at Gary West Side. Mr. Black commented that Craig Osika tried to get Mr. Schreiber to come to Hobart earlier, but because of his dedication and drive, he did not want to let down his team. Mr. Black said Hobart was fortunate to have him as

an educator and coach and noted that Mr. Schreiber understands what being a Brickie is. He indicated that candidates from inside and outside the district were interviewed for the position, and Mr. Schreiber was the choice to “take over the reins” of the football program.

Dr. Buffington offered the audience members (students and adults) a chance to make any comments about Mr. Schreiber, but no one took the opportunity to do so. Dr. Buffington noted that after the position was posted Mr. Schreiber worked on a plan that he shared and was pleased with his level of commitment. Dr. Buffington was glad to have Mr. Schreiber as a coach but noted that on the educator side of things, he was asked to get his master’s degree so he could teach sociology in the Early College Program. Being the dedicated team person that he was, he went back to school and completed his degree. Dr. Buffington was proud to have someone of his caliber as the head football coach. Craig Osika noted when Hobart was winning a lopsided football game with West Side, he noticed how the West Side football players kept their composure and sportsmanship throughout the game, and he thought that spoke highly about Coach Schreiber’s relationship with them. The first time he approached Mr. Schreiber about coming to Hobart, he turned down the offer because he felt he still had a commitment to them. After that time, Mr. Osika continued to reach out to him, and he finally accepted a teaching position in the district. Mr. Osika was looking forward to what Mr. Schreiber will be doing with the football program. Don Rogers thanked Craig Osika for the outstanding job he did with the program. Dr. Buffington commented that Mr. Osika had balanced both of his positions and had done a good with each of them. Craig Osika commented that he had enjoyed coaching and had no regrets with his decision. He enjoys being a high school principal, and he thanked the Board for the opportunity. Josh Huddleston commented that his experience with Mr. Schreiber was the first day of a Pop Warner practice and said he was all in. Mayor Huddleston noted that he has a high schooler, and the students have a lot of respect for Mr. Schreiber. He just wanted to come and extend his congratulations to him.

Eric Schreiber thanked the Board and Dr. Buffington and several others for this opportunity. He introduced his family members who were present and noted that he had had the opportunity to meet Craig Osika’s grandmother, Big Mama, at a Hobart Bingo night. She surprised him with all of the football statistics that she knew about him. He and his wife like the family atmosphere of the Hobart community, and together they decided they wanted to be here and hoped to be here for a long time. Terry Butler welcomed Mr. Schreiber and extended his appreciation to him for accepting the job. He noted Hobart fans can be tough, but he told him that he had “the support of the Board and administration.”

President Butler thanked the audience members for coming to the meeting. He then invited them to stay for the rest of the meeting, but he excused anyone who needed to leave. Mayor Huddleston said that he played football for Coach Wally McCormack, who was not from Hobart, and he came to the meeting to offer support to Coach Schreiber. The Board thanked him for coming to the meeting. Only Mr. Keehn remained in the audience.

The approved personnel items are as follows:

Supplemental Services Teacher Contracts –

Hobart High School, June 27/August 11, 2023:

Brandon Dinkins, Band Camp, 14 days, \$3,482.26; Lauren Teykl, Band Camp, 14 days, \$3,421.56

July 31/August 11, 2023:

Jamie Edwards, Band Camp, 8 days, \$2,294.52; and Kelly Rehlander, Band Camp, 8 days, \$3,343.03

Contract for Extracurricular Services (Club Duties) –

Hobart Middle School, August 15, 2022/June 5, 2023:

Kenneth Evans, Summer Football/Weightlifting, \$351.00

Roland Swafford, Summer Football/Weightlifting, \$351.00

Hobart High School, August 15, 2022/June 5, 2023:

Christopher King, Esports, \$3,328.00

Early Learning Center @ George Earle, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:

Cynthia Helminski, Lego, \$1,080.00

Nicole Kelly, Jump Start, \$520.00

Hannah Lucas, Social Butterflies, \$520.00

Alyssa Skertich, Jump Start, \$520.00

Joan Martin School, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:

Kendell Buckley, Yoga, \$486.00

Kaitlynn Davis, Student Council, \$972.00

Jamie Edwards, Choir, fall, \$216.00

Jamie Edwards, Drama, grade 4, \$1,512.00

Nicole Leonard, Yoga, \$486.00

Nicole Leonard, Volleyball, \$378.00

Michelle Mecha, Crazy 8’s math, \$216.00

Heather Paulson, Study tables, \$2,025.00

Heather Paulson, Brickie leaders, \$1,080.00  
 Rachel Sieffert, Crazy 8's math, \$216.00  
 Rachel Sieffert, Brickie leaders, \$1,080.00  
 Erica Ward, Choir, fall, \$216.00  
 Beth York, Study tables, \$2,025.00  
 Liberty School, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:  
 Nathaniel Lacny, Ukulele, \$486.00  
 Nathaniel Lacny, Drama, grade 4, \$1,512.00  
 Susan Moore, Brickie leaders, \$945.00  
 Jennifer Reno, Chess, \$540.00  
 Veterans School @ Mundell, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:  
 Audrey Amsler, Drama, \$1,255.50  
 Audrey Amsler, Choir, \$486.00  
 Tatiana Hulser, Crochet, \$162.00  
 Stefanie Osika, Drama, \$1,255.50  
 Hailee Rompca, Game, \$486.00  
 Hobart Middle School, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:  
 Cameron Adams, Math homework, \$675.00  
 Matthew Atherton, Cross country supv, \$1,890.00  
 Dianna Atrosh-Ciszewski, FACS, \$405.00  
 Jane Clemmons, ELA homework, \$864.00  
 Joshua Reno, Chess, \$1,350.00  
 Michael Roccoforte, Math homework, \$864.00  
 Michael Roccoforte, Math homework (additional), \$162.00  
 Erin Swafford, Natural Helpers, \$823.50  
 Scott Swanson, Natural Helpers, \$823.50  
 Ryan Williams, Wrestling, \$1,890.00  
 Hobart High School, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024:  
 Eden Alexander, HOSA Future Medical, \$1,755.00  
 Madelyn Bartsch, Slam Poetry Club, \$972.00  
 Nanelle Hairston, We the People, \$1,296.00  
 Alice Hunt-Lounges, Brickie Cove Book, \$972.00  
 Kristen Musall, Dungeons and Dragons, \$1,296.00  
 Tiffany Parrish, HOSA Future Medical, \$1,755.00  
 Nathaniel Sloan, Dungeons and Dragons, \$1,296.00

Extra Duty Contracts –

Hobart Middle School/

Jody Gawthrop, Spell bowl, September 11/December 21, 2023, \$550.00  
 Rebecca Williams, Girls basketball – 8th grade, January 22/March 12, 2024, \$2,589.00

Extracurricular Club Duty Contracts –

Early Learning Center @ George Earle, 2023-2024 School Year:

Michelle Frazee, Lego, \$1,080.00  
 Michelle Frazee, Friendship, \$540.00  
 Cortney Harris, Friendship, \$540.00  
 Cortney Harris, Social Butterflies, \$520.00  
 Sara Tinoco, Jump Start, \$520.00

Joan Martin School/2023-2024 School Year:

Tina Anderson, Drama, grade 4, \$1,512.00  
 Elizabeth Heim, Chess, \$837.00  
 April Young, Maker's, \$1,188.00  
 April Young, Volleyball, \$189.00

Veterans School @ Mundell, 2023-2024 School Year:

Suzanne Tucker, Cooking, \$108.00  
 Suzanne Tucker, Lego, \$162.00  
 Suzanne Tucker, Crochet, \$162.00  
 Nicole Zymbak, Lego, \$162.00  
 Nicole Zymbak, Cooking, \$108.00

Hobart High School, 2023-2024 School Year:

Sallie Thomas, Multicultural, \$1,080.00

Request for Leave of Absence –

Sabrina Fletcher, Veterans @ Mundell/Instructional aide, extension of unpaid medical leave, effective January 30 until on or about February 19, 2024

ECA for 2024-2025 –

Eric Schreiber, Hobart High School/Varsity Football Coach, August 5 to November 30, 2024

**RESOLUTION: School Resource Officer Appreciation Day:** Dr. Peggy Buffington presented Resolution No. 2024-2 recognizing National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day on February 15, 2024. The resolution recognized our School Resource Officers' commitment to keeping Hobart students, staff, and community safe each day. President Butler asked Attorney Longer whether it would be acceptable if Secretary Hillan only read the title and first paragraph of the resolution, and he said it was okay, as well as did Mr. Keehn, audience member.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title and first paragraph of the resolution aloud, as follows:

Resolution No. 2024-2

National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day

Whereas, the National Association of School Resource Officers (SRO's) has designated February 15, 2024, as School Resource Officer Appreciation Day;

President Butler requested Board action and a roll call vote.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-2, as presented. Rikki Guthrie seconded.

In the discussion, the Board was thankful to have a SRO in each of the schools. President Butler remembered when he told Dr. Buffington the time would come when education funds would be needed for school security. It was that the SRO's were a worthwhile investment. Karen Robbins mentioned that the SRO's interact with the students outside of school and "the kids love them." It was also mentioned that they participate in additional safety training. Dr. Buffington noted that after Sandy Hook, she, Mayor Brian Snedecor, and Clerk-Treasurer Deb Longer met and worked together to begin the SRO program here in Hobart. Dr. Buffington said that Greg Bialata, Director of Safety & Operations, applies for a Homeland Security Department grant annually. The cost of the SRO's is split 60-40 with the city, and the Homeland Security Department grant is for \$100,000 that assists with the school SRO salaries. Dr. Buffington is thankful every day that the SRO's are in the schools. Someone suggested that another Scout was needed.

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

Resolution No. 2024-2, as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room, and adopted is as follows:

Resolution No. 2024-2

National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day

Whereas, the National Association of School Resource Officers (SRO's) has designated February 15, 2024, as School Resource Officer Appreciation Day; and

Whereas, the school district is fortunate to have SRO's in our schools; and

Whereas, the SRO's bridge gaps between youth and law enforcement and embrace a triad concept of school policing, serving in informal counseling, education and law enforcement roles to support students and communities they serve; and

Whereas, the SRO's are valuable and essential members of the education community who go above and beyond and deserve unwavering respect and support from the public in the pursuit of keeping schools and students safe;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that February 15, 2024, is designated as National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board urges the entire community of Hobart to recognize and appreciate the impact that our SRO's and Hobart law enforcement has on the lives of our students and staff, as well as the Hobart community.

Dated this 1st day of February, 2024.

Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

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Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

**BOARD DELEGATES AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:** President Terry Butler made the Board delegate/committee assignments for the 2024 calendar year, as follows:

- Negotiations – Rikki Guthrie and Karen Robbins
- Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative (NISEC) – Frank Porras with Terry Butler being his alternate
- ISBA Voting Delegate – Frank Porras
- School City of Hobart Educational Foundation Board of Directors – Karen Robbins
- Insurance Committee – Rikki Guthrie and Karen Robbins
- Policy Committee – Donald Rogers and Stuart Schultz
- Student Handbook Committee – Sandra Hillan and Stuart Schultz
- Hobart Park Board – Sandra Hillan with Rikki Guthrie being her alternate
- Student Representatives – Karen Robbins and Sandra Hillan
- Facilities Naming Committee – Stuart Schultz and Donald Rogers
- Hobart Redevelopment Commission – If this appointment is still open for us, Stuart Schultz would continue to serve.

President Butler asked Mrs. Schoon to send this year's assignments to all the Board members.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: IDOE Early Literacy Achievement Grant:** Dr. Peggy Buffington highlighted the Indiana Department of Education Early Literacy Achievement Grant for SY 23-24 and noted the grant total was \$20,641.92. She explained that the School City of Hobart would be distributing the Early Literacy Achievement Grant to certified teaching staff responsible for improving students' foundational reading skills through 3rd Grade. A cohort model for 3rd Grade I-READ 3 students during the 2022-2023 school year would be utilized to determine eligible staff members. The cohort includes the following:

- 2022-23 School Year – 3rd Grade Teachers
- 2021-22 School Year – 2nd Grade Teachers
- 2020-21 School Year – 1st Grade Teachers
- 2019-20 School Year – Kindergarten Teachers MTSS Interventionists, EL Teachers of Record, and the Literacy Coach during the 22-23 school year are also eligible.

Additionally, Dr. Buffington noted that a proportionate share of grant dollars would be distributed to the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative (NISEC) teachers placed at School City of Hobart Elementary Schools responsible for the primary grades during the 2022-23 school year. She commented that when the grant was released the guidelines from the state were not definitive, and school districts had many questions. Not all the questions were answered so school districts were more or less on their own for distribution, and she indicated the school district chose to distribute the grant in a similar manner as they did the Teacher Appreciation Grant. She said some school districts were not including their special education teachers. She indicated that she worked with Jon Mock and Bob Glover in figuring out which teachers would be included in this cohort.

Dr. Buffington indicated all eligible recipients would receive an equal distribution amount. All staff members who are eligible for distribution are currently employed by the School City of Hobart or NISEC for the 2023-24 school year. All eligible staff members were employed for 100% of the 2022-23 school year, therefore, no percentage adjustment was necessary, and each eligible staff member would receive the gross amount of \$396.96.

Dr. Buffington recommended acceptance of the grant and noted the funds were ready to be distributed, and she requested Board action.

Karen Robbins moved that the Board accept the Early Literacy Achievement Grant and approve the distribution plan and authorize the Superintendent to sign any necessary documents to execute the agreement. Seconded by Frank Porras.

In the discussion, the Board thanked the administration their work with this grant.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

**OVERNIGHT STUDENT TRIP: JROTC 2024 Marksmanship National Championship Competition:**

Superintendent Peggy Buffington presented and recommended approval for JROTC cadets to attend the 2024 Marksmanship National Championship Competition at Camp Perry, Ohio, on February 14-17, 2024. Four JROTC cadets will compete with 200 other cadets from around the country, and the competition consists of shooting a three-position air rifle course over a three-day period. The cadets will leave after school on February 14 in a district activity bus and will stay three nights in Port Clinton, OH. The cadets will return to Hobart on February 17, 2024. There was no cost for the cadets other than incidental expenses and snacks along the way. Their lodging and meals would be paid from JROTC funds.

Dr. Buffington highly recommended approval and Board action was requested for the overnight student trip for the JROTC.

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board approve the overnight student trip for JROTC to attend 2024 Marksmanship National Raider Competition at Camp Perry, Ohio, as presented. Stuart Schultz seconded.

In discussion, it was noted that the JROTC cadets have done very well at their competitions and wished them good luck.

President Butler called for the vote on the motion.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

**CONSIDERATION: Overnight/Extended Student Trip Request for HHS Business Professionals of America State Competition:**

Dr. Peggy Buffington presented a request from Valentine Torres, high school teacher and sponsor for the Business Professionals of America (BPA), for seven high school students to attend the state BPA competition in Indianapolis. The group will stay at the JW Marriott, and the students will compete in business competitions. The competitions allow the students to enhance their business knowledge and employment skills. Ms. Torres and the students will travel in a School City of Hobart activity bus leaving Hobart on March 10 and returning home on March 12, 2024. Dr. Buffington indicated that Ms. Torres “does a terrific job,” and her students made a presentation at the Hobart Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Buffington indicated that Ms. Torres and her students “make us proud,” and it was noted the students did well at last year’s state competition.

Board action was requested.

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board approve the overnight/extended trip for Business Professionals of America to attend their state competition, as presented. Seconded by Stuart Schultz.

In the discussion, Terry Butler suggested having Valentine Torres around when submitting a proposal because he was sure her smile could get it approved.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

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

- School Information – weekly agendas for all the schools except Joan Martin and Veterans Schools, and the month activity calendar from the Early Learning Center.
- Upcoming Activities/Events – the latest list of upcoming activities/events. Dr. Buffington highlighted the following upcoming activities/events, as follows:

January 15 – February 26 – Lake County Public Library READ-a-THON

February 7 – School Counselor Appreciation Day

February 8 – HOSA Annual Blood Drive, HHS Field House, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm. Dr. Buffington noted that the Red Cross needs blood and hopes this will be well attended.

February 8 – Showcase of Preschools, Early Learning Center, 5-6:30 pm. Dr. Buffington indicated she was proud of the Early Learning Center for offering this program to parents so they are able to see what the preschools in the district have to offer them.

February 13 – Brickie Kidz Preschool Open House, 5-6:30 p.m. at either or both the Early Learning Center, 400 North Wilson Street and Hobart High School (Door 1), 2210 East 10th Street – Dr. Buffington said that ideally it would be nice if child had the opportunity to attend a preschool before they enter kindergarten.

February 15 – SRO National Recognition Day

March 2 – JROTC Annual Mattress Sale, Hobart High School Great Hall, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

March 14 – Hobart University Parent Night @ HHS Board Room, 6-7:00 pm, Enter Door 1

April 10 – Brickie Makers & Innovators Showcase

**COMMENTS:** From the administration, Peggy Buffington noted that she has had “an extraordinary couple of weeks” and was glad they were over. She extended her thanks and appreciation to the teaching staff, and she commented it had also been difficult for the students who willingly did “what they were supposed to do.” She told the Board about the Army’s presentation of the first-place trophy to our own JROTC Raider Team in front of the whole student body. Due to a judging error during one of the events in November, the incorrect team was awarded the first-place trophy for the Mixed Division of the Challenge Category. In addition to the presentation, Maj. Gen. Antonio Munera presented a \$200,000 scholarship to Hobart’s Cadet Battalion Commander Jackson Ray. Dr. Buffington said this was a total surprise to everyone, especially to Jackson who will be attending Wabash College where he will also be playing football. Co-Principal Craig Osika took the Army dignitaries on a tour of the high school, and Dr. Buffington told the Board that the Army representatives were very complimentary of the school facility, the JROTC program, and all of its opportunities for students. Dr. Buffington also commented on the last Cooking with Dr. Buffington and Friends. A professional development representative from Sal Khan’s organization, who works with us, stopped by the high school on her way to Hanover Central. Mr. Osika was able to take her on a tour of the high school, and she was able to see firsthand what was being done at the school. She was very impressed and said it was “a great place for students,” and she recognized the “family atmosphere” of the school. Dr. Buffington said it was nice to hear the affirmation of the school’s culture and of its caring staff and the opportunities available to its students. Dr. Buffington said the cooking Voice and Choice was more hectic than usual, said the group was a little larger, and another oven was needed. However, she said everyone had a great time, and the oven shortage was being rectified. Angelina Sanchez commented that all of the food was great and thought it had the best menu to date. She liked the pull-a-part pizza and Dr. Buffington’s cheesecake. She even took samples for a foreign exchange student. Dr. Buffington commented that the original date for this Voice and Choice had to be re-scheduled because Bonnie Foster had 36” of snow so she could not grocery shop for them. Dr. Buffington explained the math lessons the students had while making her cheesecake. Mrs. Robbins mentioned the original Foreman School Cookbook and said her copy was worn and tattered, but it was her favorite cookbook. Dr. Buffington mentioned that she thought she had sent her an electronic copy. Mrs. Robbins said she did, but she still prefers using the original cookbook. A suggestion was made that a compilation of the Cooking with Dr. Buffington menus be put together and sold at the *Taste of Autumn*, as a fundraiser. She noted that one of the vendors from the high school also heard about Cooking with Dr. Buffington and wanted to participate. She questioned him about cooking skills, and he indicated he was a good cook. She told him to check the upcoming dates with Mrs. Black. Mrs. Guthrie commented that no other superintendent interacts with the students like Dr. Buffington, and Karen Robbins concurred. Bob Glover commented on the Hobart High School Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Mark Leto and Amanda Corral. He noted that Mr. Leto was an outstanding athletic trainer. He worked closely with him and said he always had the best interests of students when working with them. In addition to the Athletic Hall of Fame recognition, Mr. Leto has been recognized at the state level by the state athletic trainers, and Ball State University, his alma mater. Mr. Glover noted that Amanda Corral had a remarkable girls basketball career at the high school and was “one of the very best student athletes at the high school.” In addition, she was an outstanding college athlete. He appreciated the enthusiasm that Eric Schreiber has for the football program and noted that someone does not “have to be borne here to be a Brickie.” Chris King commented that the SRO recognition was “so well deserved.” They not only work at the schools, but they are invested at their respective school and are part of the school’s culture. They interact and are involved in their students’ lives. Bill Longer extrapolated on what Chris King had said. He noted that the SRO culture with the students will extend to the community, as well. He mentioned a time when a community activist visited the community and at a community meeting was seeking to have audience members speak about their interactions with the police department. He said, “No one said anything.” He thought that said volumes about that police department’s relationship with the community. He noted the relationship with the students will “last beyond the schools.” They will always remember their SRO’s and would “turn to them when help is needed.” Jon Mock extended his congratulations to Eric Schreiber and noted he was “well respected by the student athletes,” and noted the SRO recognition, as well. He commented that he was at Joan Martin yesterday and was able to watch the interaction of their SRO with the students, and he said our schools were lucky to SRO’s at each of schools. Dr. Buffington remembered the interview with the SRO and said he was doing a great job, and she said his relationship with the students was wonderful. Tim Krieg extended his appreciation to the Board and Dr. Buffington for their vision for the future. He said he remembered when Craig Osika decided he wanted to become an educator, moved in with his family, and accomplished his goal. Dr. Krieg noted that he knows Eric Schreiber and his family. He noted Mr. Schreiber knows the responsibility he is undertaking, and his wife was also an amazing person. Dr. Krieg appreciated that the new mayor also took his time to come and support Mr. Schreiber.

From the audience, Bradley Keehn, parent, was appreciative of the recognition for the SRO’s because of their impact on students. He commented that he and his family were here from the beginning when Scout first served the school district, and he is remembered fondly by his family.

From the Board, Frank Porras appreciated the recognition of the SRO’s and was pleased to have Eric Schreiber as the football coach. He was looking forward to the wrestling regional at Hobart this weekend and wished the wrestlers good luck. Don Rogers told a little story about Eric Schreiber. He was not going to bring his kids because of how they acted the last time they were here. Mr. Rogers told him that it was okay if they wandered around, so he texted him and told him “to bring the kids” because the Board “was in the business of kids.” He spoke about Mr. Schreiber’s interview and everyone agreed that he was the best person, educationally and as well as a coach. He noted that Ragen Hatcher and several other state legislators were holding a meeting for their

constituents on February 10. He thought maybe it would be beneficial to attend and be able to speak with them about school issues. Dr. Buffington mentioned one time when the Study Council set up a meeting to speak with the legislators, and none of them showed up. Karen Robbins expressed her appreciation for the SRO's and extended her congratulations to Eric Schreiber. Stu Schultz noted, "Everything had been said." Madelyn Burton extended her congratulations to Jackson Ray and said he was "so deserving" of the scholarship he received and said he was shocked. Angelina Zepeda extended her congratulations to the JROTC, and she noted the amazing amount of effort and work they do. In addition, she congratulated Madelyn Burton on going to BPA state competition and wished her good luck. She enjoyed the last Cooking with Dr. Buffington and thought it was one of the best sessions. Sandi Hillan noted "everything had been said," and Rikki Guthrie concurred.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, President Butler adjourned the meeting around 8:17 p.m.

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

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: February 15, 2024