

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
July 18, 2024**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on July 18, 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 Present:

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
Bob Glover
Christopher N. King
William J. Longer
Jonathan Mock
Tim Krieg

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Butler indicated that the Board met in a work session and an executive session prior to the regular session meeting. As published, the executive session 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 7:03 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
Amanda Guthrie, high school student

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Rikki Guthrie moved and Sandra Hillan seconded that the Board approve the regular session minutes of July 3, 2024. Vote on motion: Aye – Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Abstain – Porras. Motion carried 6-0 in favor with one abstention.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Bob Glover, Business Manager, presented the vouchers for July 18, 2024, and recommended the Board's approval, and he noted the monthly budget reports for June were available for the Board's review. He asked the HHS student representatives to read the voucher summary.

► Vouchers for July 18, 2024 – Kayla Davis and Isis Fleming, HHS student representatives, shared the reading of the accounts payable voucher summary with Isis reading the first portion and Kayla the last portion, as follows:

School Education \$874,278.51
Exempt Operating – Post 2009 \$33,429.59
Debt Service \$5,410,614.00
Referendum Debt – Post 2009 \$890,500.00
School Operations \$475,045.18
Construction 0700 \$456,707.23
Construction Projects \$320,730.43
School Lunch \$77,024.25
Curricular Materials \$85,655.75
Self-Insurance Fund \$356,677.74
Building Brickies \$564.74
SCOH Educational Foundation \$1,675.00
SCOH Ed Fdn Legacy Grants \$225.00
Pope Family Donation Fund \$1,062.50
Title IV Part A \$773.55
Medicaid Reimbursement Federal \$827.80
Title II Part A FY 2024 \$3,178.05
Explore, Engage, Experience \$6,443.53

ESSER III \$75,745.59
Clearing Accounts \$493,488.63
Self-Insurance Clearing \$59,793.67
Clearing/Flexible Benefits AF \$23,651.78
Clearing/Ins. Account \$5,357.01

for vouchers totaling \$9,653,449.53, with a transfer of \$120,744.00 from the Exempt Operating – Post 2009 Fund for the repayment of tax anticipation warrants. The June payroll distribution by Tracy Brumley, the school corporation's treasurer, was \$1,078,656.84.

Frank Porras moved and Karen Robbins seconded that the Board approve payment of the vouchers for July 18, 2024. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

The Board complimented the student representatives on their first reading of the vouchers.

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 and Personnel Report Addendum were included in the electronic meeting packet for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Mock recommended approval and requested Board action.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board approve the Personnel Reports 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:

Extra Duty Contracts –

Catie Ramierz, Hobart High School/costume designer, fall, September 15/November 18, 2023, \$530.00

Catie Ramierz, Hobart High School/musical costume designer, January 9/March 17, 2024, \$530.00

Supplemental Services Teacher Contracts –

Hobart High School, Summer School – Session II, July 8/July 25, 2024:

Rylee Beshears, physical education, 13 days, \$4,169.10; Aaron Butcher, physical education, 13 days, \$4,506.06; Mark Leto, health, 13 days, \$5,533.32; Josh Mehay, physical education, 13 days, \$4,955.34; Cathy Nelson, English, 13 days, \$5,533.32; Michael Pickett, world history, 13 days, \$4,709.64; Valentine Torres, economics, 13 days, \$5,165.16; and Brian Wesley, physical education, 13 days, \$4,332.90; and Stephanie Waldron, credit recovery (Edmentum), 13 days, \$5,564.52

Request for Leave of Absence –

Emily Palm, Liberty School/teacher, FMLA, effective August 12/November 11, 2024, and unpaid medical leave, effective November 12/December 20, 2024

Resignation –

Hailee Rompca, Administration Office/floater for teachers on leave, effective July 15, 2024

Seasonal Employees –

Service Center/Buildings & Grounds:

Dahlia Cooper, summer grounds/custodial helper, effective July 16, 2024, \$13.00 per hour

Brenda Velasco, summer grounds/custodial helper, effective July 15, 2024, \$13.00 per hour

New Employees –

Brickies from the Start:

Beatriz Ayala, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/Parent Educator, effective August 12, 2024/June 3, 2025, \$19.00 per hour for 29 hours per week

Custodial Staff:

Madison Blowers, Service Center/Floater custodian, effective July 15, 2024, \$16.38 per hour with 90-day probation period

Teacher Contract – 2024-2025 –

Kaitlyn Pecoski, Veterans @ Mundell/teacher, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025, \$50,000.00

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: Volkswagen Settlement Grant: President Terry Butler noted that a grant was received from IDEM from the Volkswagen Settlement. The grant is for \$77,188.00 and will be used towards the purchase of two propane powered school buses. A copy of the email confirming the grant award was included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's consideration.

Board action was requested.

Karen Robbins moved that the Board accept the IDEM grant, as presented, and authorize the superintendent or her designee to execute all necessary documents for the grant. Stuart Schultz seconded.

In the discussion, Mr. Butler indicated that the Volkswagen Company had been penalized for misrepresenting emissions information for their vehicles. In an effort to reduce emissions in the state, these grants are awarded for purchasing cleaner air, powered vehicles. He mentioned that there are problems with the batteries for electrical powered vehicles, especially in cold winter areas, and he thought propane was the better choice. It was noted that the grant funds would not pay the total cost of the buses. Dr. Buffington expressed her appreciation to Mat McKee for following through with this grant. She said the cost of buses had increased exponentially since COVID, and Mr. Glover mentioned their cost had increased around 50%. In addition, it was noted that no buses could be purchased during that time. Mr. Butler mentioned that the district should try manage the age of the bus fleet because the cost of maintaining older buses was greater. Karen Robbins wondered how the bus inspection went, and Dr. Buffington said it must have been okay because Mr. McKee would have let her know if it was not. Mr. Butler said one of the state police officers told him that everything went well with the inspection.

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

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: Legacy Foundation Donation from the Pope Family Fund: Superintendent Buffington recommended acceptance of a \$3,000.00 donation from the Pope Family Fund for the enhancement and support of music programs. A copy of the grant award letter from the Legacy Foundation was included with the meeting information for the Board's review. To date the Pope Family Fund has donated \$9,157.00 plus \$1,500.00 received from a daughter and a grandson to the school district for a total of \$10,657.00.

Their parents were Shirley M. Lankford Pope and Kenneth W. Pope and both graduated from Hobart High School. All five of their kids did, too. Mr. Pope was especially involved in the band and played sax and clarinet during the big band era. He continued to play well into his 70's in the "Rusty Pipes" in Hobart. He passed away in August of 2002. Their mom eventually married again to Bill Hahn, a Purdue graduate who was active in the glee club. They met in church choir and lived in Hobart. Mrs. Hahn has since passed away. She always enjoyed attending the senior citizen activities that were held at Hobart High School.

Dr. Buffington told the Board that this family was a Brickie family and was proud of where they came from. They are marathon runners and always compete as "Hobart Brickies when they run." She was grateful for their support and the legacy they are leaving in the memory of their parents. In addition, Dr. Buffington mentioned that the family celebrated their mom's 100th birthday this year. She sent them a banner to add to their celebration, and they sent her some pictures back of them with the banner.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

Donald Rogers moved and Stuart Schultz seconded that the Board accept the donation from the Pope Family Fund, as presented. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: IDOE – David C. Ford Funds – Digital Learning Grant: Dr. Peggy Buffington highlighted information pertaining to the award of the David C. Ford Funds for a \$50,000.00 grant for digital learning from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) that was included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's review. She indicated the funds will be used for Khanmigo. She expressed her appreciation and thanks to Tim Krieg for his work on the grant. Because of a partnership between Khan Academy and Microsoft, basically, all teachers in the United States will get free access to Khanmigo. In addition, she indicated that because Hobart was a pilot school for Khanmigo, the district receives a discount on the cost of the program.

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board accept the IDOE David C. Ford Funds digital learning grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 and authorize the superintendent to execute the necessary documents for the grant. Seconded by Karen Robbins.

The Board extended their thanks to Dr. Buffington and Dr. Krieg. Kayla Davis and Isis Fleming noted that Khanmigo had assisted them when needed and with SAT tutoring.

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

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: Lake County Supporting Addiction Free Environments (SAFE)

Grant: Superintendent Peggy Buffington reviewed the Lake County Supporting Addiction Free Environments (SAFE) Grant that was awarded to the district in the amount of \$400.00, and the award information was included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's review. She noted that last year's grant was \$19,500.00 and did not know why the amount was so much less this year. However, she said that more entities were applying for grants, and that could be a reason. She said the grant would support Pro Dad chapters in the schools. She extended her thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Debbie Matthys, Director of Social Emotional Learning, for applying for the grant. She said there would be chapters in each of the schools except the Early Learning Center and the middle school and high school will have a combined chapter. Dads from the Early Learning Center are able to attend the group at their home elementary school. The group leaders of the chapters are, as follows: Joan Martin School – Mike Webber; Liberty School – Art Azcona; Veterans School – Ryan Williams, and the middle school and high schools – Tony Curatolo and Josh Reno. The training for the program was done this summer. The goal of the chapters was to “help dads to be the best dad to their children.”

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

Frank Porras moved that the Board accept the Lake County Supporting Addiction Free Environments Grant, as presented, and authorize the Superintendent to execute the grant documents. Karen Robbins seconded.

In the discussion, there was a question as to whether this was the same group that had wanted to be in the schools a few years ago. Dr. Buffington said it was not. She noted this is a national organization that was well-scripted and non-political and said the school district contacted them so their curriculum could be used in our schools.

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

PERMISSION TO SUBMIT TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANT POLICY: Dr. Peggy Buffington noted that School Board policy 3220.01 - TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANTS was included in the electronic meeting information for the Board members to review. The policy states, "The School Board shall adopt an annual policy concerning the distribution of teacher appreciation grants." This policy further states that it "shall be reviewed annually by the Board and shall be submitted to the Indiana Department of Instruction (IDOE) by the Superintendent." September 15 is submission deadline each year. Dr. Buffington stated the law distinguishes between Highly Effective and Effective teachers with Highly Effective teachers receiving a stipend that is 25% more than Effective teachers. She indicated that our Board policy was in compliance with the law and reflects this difference, and when the grant funds are received, they will be distributed in that manner.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board for approval so she could submit the policy.

Sandra Hillan moved that the minutes of the meeting reflect that the Board did review School Board Policy 3220.01 TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANTS, and authorizes the superintendent to submit the policy to the Department of Education in accordance to IC 20-43-10-3.5. Stuart Schultz seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

PRESENTATION: Teacher Evaluation Plan: Superintendent Buffington discussed the teacher evaluation plan for the 2024-2025 school year. She noted the Evaluation Plan must be in writing and prior to evaluations being conducted in accordance with IC 20-28-11.5-4 (e) (1) and (2) Process for ensuring the evaluation plan is in writing and will be explained to the governing body in a public meeting before the evaluations are conducted. The Teacher Evaluation Plan was included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's review.

Dr. Buffington stated that the Teacher Evaluation Plan has to be submitted to the state, and the district has to go over the plan with the Hobart Teachers Association. She noted there have not been any changes to the plan for a couple of years, but this year there were a few minor changes. Those were discussed with the HTA, and the changes will be reviewed with the teaching staff at the beginning of the school year. In addition, Dr. Buffington indicated she had made a podcast that teachers could review. The biggest change will be in the domain scoring area. The weights of some items have been changed and now the scores will be averaged. Teachers used to receive the highest evaluation domain score, but now they will be averaging domain scores. In addition, because the higher domain scores were taken, more teachers were placed in the Highly Effective category when actually they should be in the Effective category and working towards being Highly Effective with the guidance of their administrators. She said her team was “trying to help teachers be the best teachers they can be.” Dr. Buffington said the administrators work diligently with the evaluation process and were doing a great job.

Dr. Buffington indicated that no Board action was required.

CONSIDERATION: Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Real Estate for Future School Purposes:

Attorney William Longer presented Resolution No. 2024-21 for the Board's consideration that was included with the electronic meeting information. He indicated that the Board had previously authorized the superintendent to explore the purchase of a parcel of land for future school purposes and to negotiate the purchase of the parcel of land. In addition, the Board authorized the superintendent to proceed in acquiring the real estate as long as all of the conditions in the agreement were met. This has been done, and an agreement for the purchase was executed

setting forth the price and the dimensions and size of the real estate parcel. The resolution ratified the actions of the superintendent and agreed to the purchase of the 23.55 acres of land that was described in the exhibit attached to the resolution. In addition, the resolution authorized the superintendent to tender the purchase price set in the agreement at closing upon receipt of clear title satisfactory to the Board Attorney and receipt of an a satisfactory environmental study. He noted a negative environmental study could affect the sale of the land. Because the original land value appraisal was based on a per acre value, Mr. Longer explained the price per acre remained the same, and the price of the land would be adjusted for the new acreage.

Mr. Longer asked the Board to approve the resolution and to proceed with the purchase without any further Board action. The Secretary was asked to read the title of the resolution aloud.

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

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-21

Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Real Estate
For future School Purposes

Stuart Schultz moved and Karen Robbins seconded that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-21, as presented, and to proceed with the purchase without any further Board action.

In the discussion, Mr. Longer mentioned that the owners of the land probably could get more money for the land if they sold it to a developer, but they support education and “liked the idea of the property being used for school purposes.” Karen Robbins said that she will be proud when a school is on the property because this Board had the foresight to plan for the future as did the Board who purchased the land the high school now sits on. In addition, it was noted that the wife was a retired educator and founding member of the School City of Hobart Educational Foundation, and the husband farms and was into real estate.

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. 2024-2, as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room and adopted, is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

BOARD POLICY CONSIDERATION: First Reading of Resolution Adopting Updates for Hobart School Board Policy: William Longer, School Board Attorney, presented Resolution No. 2024-22 for updates to Board policy. He explained the changes and adoption process of changes in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart." This was the first reading for the proposed changes, and the second reading and possible adoption will be an agenda item at the August 1, 2024, Board meeting. He mentioned the Board reviewed the updates at a work session earlier in the evening and said the changes were to be complaint with changes in the law. There were three exhibits, and he mentioned that Exhibit 1 pertained to Bylaw Definitions, Exhibit 2 related to Personal Communication Devices, and Exhibit 3 affected Attendance.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title of Resolution No. 2024-22, 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 called for Board action and a roll call vote.

Rikki Guthrie 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" and move the second reading and possible adoption to the August 1, 2024, Board meeting. Seconded by Frank Porras.

In the discussion, President Butler explained to the student representatives that having two readings on proposed policy changes allows for modifications to it before the second reading. Dr. Buffington told the student representatives she was going to need their assistance in letting their peers know that the changes affecting personal communication devices and student attendance were state law and were not something the Board or administrators could change. She knew that students and parents were going to be unhappy about the changes that have been made. Kayla Davis volunteered to do a video explaining the process that was involved so her classmates would understand that the Board and/or administration did not make these rule changes, but they do have to comply with them because they are now state law. Kayla knows most of the students do not understand

the intricacies involved with decision making and/or the legislative process. Sandi Hillan complimented Kayla on her great idea.

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 – information pertaining to registration and back-to-school open houses for the 2024-2025 school year.

COMMENTS: From the administration, Peggy Buffington told the Board the Victory4Kidz summer school program that was held this summer at Veterans School @ Mundell just finished. She extended her appreciation to Dr. Regina Beard who received a grant through the Urban League and Indiana Department of Education. Over 100 students participated and some of our staff members were part of the program. The students loved the program and had a great time. Dr. Buffington said one of the staff members even cried when one of the students read a story at their end of school program. It was hoped that the students are prepared and will do well with IREAD testing. She mentioned that all administrators would be back next Monday for a week of professional development for the coming school year. All of administrators had received their assignments for their participation in the retreat, and some were making podcasts in the studio that has been set up in the Board Office. Chris King commented his department was working on technology, thought the retreat professional development was fun, and said the new podcast machine was awesome. Bill Longer mentioned he had been able to visit the new Crisis Center that Southlake Mental opened in Merrillville. He commented that services would be of great assistance to Hobart residents in a mental health crisis. The program will provide comprehensive crisis support and will be available on a 24/7 basis. There is a separate area for these patients, and he thought the rooms have a calming effect. He said the services “were very well thought out,” and he hoped it “will live up to its potential.” Sandi Hillan hoped it would add more services for children. Dr. Buffington commented that there is a mental health emergency to find services for children. Jon Mock mentioned that he had hired 22 substitutes and food services employees at his recent job fair. In addition, he said he and Dr. Buffington met with the student custodians this afternoon to get them ready for the coming school year. Dr. Buffington commented they had a great meeting that lasted for 15-20 minutes and said good things were happening with the program. Tim Krieg commented it has been busy getting ready for next week and also mentioned those working behind the scenes getting ready for the coming school year. In addition, he expressed his appreciation for teachers who came in for curriculum mapping this summer.

From the Board, Frank Porras welcomed the student representatives since he was not at the last meeting. He mentioned that when he left Hobart, it was hurricane weather where he was going and came back to tornado weather here. Don Rogers noted the administrators on the other side of the room have been very busy working and getting ready for the upcoming school year, and he wished them the best of luck. Karen Robbins thanked the administrators “for all they do for the school system.” She mentioned that the district might not be the best kept secret any more, but she said the district does not get the recognition that it should. Terry Butler concurred and noted that the district does not have a public relations person on staff like other school districts do. Stu Schultz concurred with everyone’s comments. Kayla Davis was excited about the coming school year and her work with the student council at the high school. She mentioned the importance of having a mental health counselor so students can reach out to them. Some students are embarrassed to seek out assistance and noted the need to provide these services. Dr. Buffington said they have tried using a kiosk for anonymity and mentioned work was being done on having a QR code. She noted by law, the district does work with an outside agency, but that has to be done on a referral basis. In addition, she said there are certain circumstances that the school district was required to report to Child Protective Services, such as endangerment and/or safety to the student. Both Kayla and Isis volunteered to assist Dr. Buffington with any podcasts she needed assistance with. Isis Fleming mentioned the summer camps and the number of attendees each had that she was involved with this summer. She was pleased to hear about the new mental health facility and mentioned she had a family member who could have used their services, and the person would have so appreciated having a facility like it. Sandi Hillan complimented Dr. Buffington on the professional development retreat she does each year with her administrators and noted most districts only do a day. She appreciated the fact that the retreat not only covered school business but also professional development and personnel and was inspiring. Rikki Guthrie remembered when Board members had been invited to the retreat and was able to see the preparations that were being done for the upcoming school year. She thanked everyone on her left, especially Dr. Buffington for setting the example of leadership that comes from the top down and the preparations she does for her team and expressing her expectations. Dr. Buffington mentioned she would do an ice cream personality test and thought it was pretty spot on for her. Some Board members thought they needed to do it also. On behalf of the Hobart Food Pantry, Terry Butler thanked the School City of Hobart for the use of the building they use, all of the help that is offered to them, and he mentioned some of the local and area businesses that should be thanked for their product donations to them, such as Strack and Van Til, Red Lobster, Gordon Foods, Marilyn’s Bakery, Avalon Manor, Longhorn, Chick-fil-A, and Little Caesar’s Pizza. He mentioned that the food pantry was serving around 150 families every week. He also noted that local farmers share fresh produce with them. Karen Robbins said the

food pantry buys meat, eggs, and milk. Dr. Buffington mentioned that she had been approached to approve a flyer for the city-wide food drive that said people could drop food items at the local schools, and her response was that they could not do this because she did not want strangers on school property. It was suggested that they use the local fire departments. The flyer was changed, and she has approved its distribution in the schools. Karen Robbins noted the food pantry always appreciates that the schools do a cereal drive for them and commented that almost all of the families like to get a box of cereal.

From the audience, Brad Keehn extended his thanks and appreciation to the directors for all of the work they have done.

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 August 1, 2024.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

By _____
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

By _____
Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: August 1, 2024

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-21**

**Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Real Estate
for future School Purposes**

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart previously indicated its interest in acquiring land for future school purposes, and authorized its Purchasing Agent to secure two appraisals to determine the fair market value of the property being considered, and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees subsequently authorized the Superintendent to negotiate in good faith for the purchase of the real estate at a price not to exceed the average of the two appraisals; and

WHEREAS, an agreement for the purchase of real estate has been negotiated, setting forth the purchase price, terms of purchase and dimensions and size of the real estate to be purchased; and

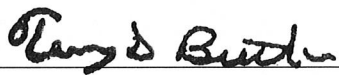
WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees desires to authorize the Superintendent, consistent with board policy, to proceed with the acquisition of the real estate, if the conditions precedent contained in the agreement are fulfilled;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT Resolved, that the Board of School Trustees ratifies the actions of the Superintendent, and agrees to the purchase of the real estate described in Exhibit 1 on the terms set forth in the attached Agreement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the Superintendent to tender the purchase price set forth in the agreement of Five Hundred Twelve Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-One and 25/100 Dollars (\$512,321.25) for 23.55 acres at closing, upon receipt of evidence of clear title satisfactory to the Board Attorney, and upon receipt of satisfactory environmental survey results.

Adopted this 18th day of July, 2024.

School City of Hobart
Board of School Trustees

By: 
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:


Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

EXHIBIT "1"

PLAT OF DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT PARCEL DESCRIPTION

Part of the SW 1/4 of Section 8, Township 33 North, Range 01 West of the Second Principal Meridian in the City of Ellettsville, Lake County, Indiana. More particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the corner of the said Southwest Quarter being the Southeast corner of Lot 1, in Lake George Plats 1 and 8 and also the northeast corner of Plat Book 18, Page 40 in the Office of the Recorder, Lake County, Indiana, corner South 100 feet from the East line of said Section 8, 18 feet 10 inches South 55 degrees 53 minutes 37 seconds East to the west end of a 60 foot South of the said section line, a distance of 60 feet to the East line of the said Section 8, thence South 20 degrees 30 minutes 18 seconds East along the said East line, a distance of 139.38 to a corner 660 feet from the northeast corner of the Section 8, to the East line of the said Section 8, thence South 21 degrees 30 minutes 18 seconds West along the said East line, a distance of 109.18 feet to the intersection of the South boundary of the Ellettsville State Park in the Borough Addition in the City of Ellettsville, Lake County, Indiana as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 18, Page 40 in the Office of the Recorder, Lake County, Indiana, thence North 81 degrees 02 minutes 53 seconds East along the said South boundary of the Ellettsville State Park, a distance of 110.00 feet to a corner on the North line of said Southwest Quarter and the northeast corner of said Lake George Plats, Lot 1 and 8, thence South 88 degrees 31 minutes 27 seconds East along the said North line, a distance of 489.18 feet to the point of beginning containing 0.225 acres, more or less.



CONVEYANCES

Shore & McGee, LLC
Surveyors

TORRENGA SURVEYING, LLC
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
507 RIDGE ROAD, MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321

PLAT OF DESCRIPTION
ELLETTSVILLE PARCEL
PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER
SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 33 NORTH, RANGE 01 WEST,
CITY OF ELLETTSVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

SHEET 1 OF 1

SUBJECT PARCEL DESCRIPTION

All the part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 6, Township 35 North, Range 07 West of the Second Principal Meridian, in the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana, more particularly described as follows: beginning at a point on the North line of the said Southwest Quarter being the Southeast corner of Lot 8, in Lake George Plateau, Unit 6, as per plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 88, Page 40 in the Office of the Recorder, Lake County, Indiana; thence South 00 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds East, a distance of 60.18 feet; thence South 85 degrees 53 minutes 27 seconds East parallel with and 60.00 feet South of the said North Line, a distance of 470.80 feet to a point of the East line of the said Southwest Quarter; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 29 seconds East along the said East line, a distance of 799.98 to a point 660.00 feet North of the centerline of Bracken Road as measured along the said East line; thence South 88 degrees 23 minutes 30 seconds West, parallel with the said centerline, a distance of 1208.18 feet to the intersection of the Southerly extension of the Easterly line of Lot 1 in The Backwoods Addition to the City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 116, Page 05 in the Office of the Recorder, Lake County, Indiana; thence North 04 degrees 10 minutes 53 seconds East along the said Southerly extension and the East line of said Lot 1, a distance of 868.13 feet to a point on the South line of a parcel of land described in a Warranty Deed dated March 15, 2023 and recorded March 29, 2023 as Document Number 2023-509166 in the Office of the Recorder, Lake County, Indiana; thence South 85 degrees 53 minutes 27 seconds East along the said South line, a distance of 198.05 feet to the Southeast corner of said Document Number 2023-509166; thence North 04 degrees 06 minutes 33 seconds East along the East line of said Document Number 2023-509166, a distance of 110.00 feet to a point on the North line of said Southwest Quarter and the monumented South line of said Lake George Plateau, Unit 6; thence South 85 degrees 53 minutes 27 seconds East along the said North line, a distance of 469.48 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 1,026,076 square feet, 23.555 acres more or less.

**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**

The Board of School Trustees having reviewed recommended changes and additions to its Bylaws and Policies and having received and reviewed the recommendations of Board Counsel and the Superintendent, does hereby find that it is in the best interest of the School City of Hobart to amend the Code of Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart as reflected in Exhibits 1 through 3 attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

It is Therefore Resolved, that the Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart are hereby amended by adding the language in bold and deleting the stricken language, to amend existing Sections, or by adopting new policies, as set forth in said Exhibits.

Be it Further Resolved, that Board Counsel is hereby directed to cause the foregoing amendments and additions to be incorporated in the codification of Bylaws and Policies previously adopted.

Passed on first reading this 18th day of July, 2024.

Passed on second reading this ____ day of _____, 2024.


Adopted this 18th day of July, 2024.

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES



Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:



Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Exhibit 1

Bylaw 0100 - Definitions (Revised)



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Policies for Board - June 2024
Title	Copy of DEFINITIONS
Code	po0100
Status	Work Session
Adopted	May 20, 2010
Last Revised	November 21, 2019

0100 - **DEFINITIONS**

As used in the School Board's bylaws and policies and the Superintendent's administrative guidelines, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

Administrative Guideline

A written statement adopted and approved by the Superintendent which is consistent with Board policy to outline and prescribe procedures to be used in implementing Board policy.

Apps and Services

Apps and services are software (i.e., computer programs) that support the interaction of personal communication devices (as defined below) over a network or client-server applications in which the user interface runs in a web browser. Apps and services are used to communicate or transfer information or data that allow students to perform actions or tasks that assist them in attaining educational achievement goals and objectives, enable staff to monitor and assess their students' progress, and allow staff to perform other tasks related to their employment. Apps and services also are used to facilitate communication to, from, and among and between staff, students, and parents, Board members, and/or other stakeholders and members of the community.

Board (School Board)

The Board of School Trustees, which is the governing body of the **School** Corporation as defined in I.C. 20-18-2-5.

Bylaw

A rule of the Board for its own governance adopted by a Board vote at a meeting.

Certificated Employee

An employee of the Board in a position that requires a license or permit from the Division of Professional Standards of the Indiana Department of Education. See Indiana Code 20-29-2-4. The term includes teachers, and all administrators in positions requiring a license or permit from the Division of Professional Standards of the Indiana Department of Education.

Classified Employee

A non-certificated employee as defined in these definitions. Synonymous with "support" and "non-professional."

Corporation

The School City of Hobart.

Due Process

Procedural due process requires an established rule or standard, notice of facts of an alleged violation and the applicable rule or standard (accusation), and an opportunity to respond before a decision is made.

Executive Session

A meeting from which the public is excluded, except the Board may admit those persons necessary to carry out its purpose. The Board also may admit an individual who has been elected to the Board but has not been sworn in as a member of the Board.

Full Board

All members of the Board.

Individualized Education Program or IEP

"Individualized education program" or "IEP" means a written document, developed, reviewed, and revised by the case conference committee ("CCC") in accordance with Title 511, Article 7 of the Indiana Administrative Code that describes the following:

- (1) How a student will access the general education curriculum, if appropriate.
- (2) The special education and related services needed to participate in the educational environment.

The required components of an IEP are contained in 511 IAC 7-42-6.

A transition IEP is an IEP that is:

- (1) developed in accordance with 511 IAC 7-43-4; and
- (2) in effect when the student enters into grade 9 or becomes fourteen (14) years of age, whichever occurs first, or earlier if determined appropriate by the CCC.

Information Resources

The Board defines Information Resources to include any data or information in electronic, audio-visual or physical form, or any hardware or software that makes possible the storage and use of data or information. This definition includes but is not limited to electronic mail, voice mail, social media, text messages, databases, CD-ROMs, DVDs, web sites, motion picture film, recorded magnetic media, photographs, digitized information, or microfilm. This also includes any equipment, computer facilities, or online services used in accessing, storing, transmitting or retrieving electronic communications.

May

A statement providing that an action is permitted but not required.

Meeting

~~A gathering of the majority of the members of the Board for the purpose of taking "official action" on "public business" of the School Corporation. See Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-2(c) and (d).~~

A gathering of a majority of the Board for the purpose of taking official action upon public business. It does not include any of the following:

- A. Any social or chance gathering not intended to avoid the Open Door Law.
- B. Any on-site inspection of any:
 1. project;
 2. program; or
 3. facilities of applicants for incentives or assistance from the Board.

- C. Traveling to and attending meetings of organizations devoted to the betterment of government.
- D. A caucus.
- E. A gathering to discuss an industrial or a commercial prospect that does not include a conclusion as to recommendations, policy, decisions, or final action on the terms of a request or an offer of public financial resources.
- F. An orientation of members of the Board on their role and responsibilities as public officials, but not for any other official action.
- G. A gathering for the sole purpose of administering an oath of office to an individual.
- H. Collective bargaining discussions that the Board engages in directly with bargaining adversaries, provided that the Board has not appointed an agent or agents to conduct collective bargaining on its behalf.

See Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-2(c), (d), (e) and -3.5.

Non-Certificated Employee

An employee of the Board employed in a position that does not require a permit or license issued by the Division of Professional Standards of the Indiana Department of Education. See Indiana Code 20-29-2-11. Synonymous with "classified employee" and "support employee".

Official Action

Board action to receive information, deliberate, make recommendations, establish policy, make decisions, or take final action. See Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-2(d).

Parent

The natural, adoptive, or surrogate parent(s) or the party designated by the courts as the legal guardian or custodian of a student. Both parents ~~will~~ shall be considered to have equal rights once paternity is established (by a court if in question) unless a court terminates parental rights.

Personal Communication Devices

Personal communication devices ("PCDs") include computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular or mobile phones, smartphones, gaming devices, telephone paging devices (e.g., beepers or pagers), and/or other web-enabled devices of any type.

Policy

A general, written statement approved by the Board which defines its expectations or position on a particular matter and authorizes appropriate action that must or may be taken to establish and/or maintain those expectations.

President

The chief executive officer of the Board of School Trustees (see Bylaw 01-700171.1).

Principal

A professional employee who is assigned to be the educational leader and head administrator of one or more Corporation schools. The term is synonymous with the building administrator in charge of a facility. The use of the term includes a delegate unless the law, policy or guideline specifically prohibits delegation. "Vice Principal" or "Assistant Principal" means an administrator assisting a Principal with the performance of all or a portion of the duties assigned to the Principal.

Professional Employee Staff Member

An employee of the Board in a position that requires a license or permit from the Division of Professional Standards of the Indiana Department of Education. See Indiana Code 20-29-2-4. The term includes teachers, and all administrators in positions requiring a license or permit from the Department of Professional Standards of the Indiana Department of Education.

Public Business

The performance by the Board of a function upon which it is specifically authorized to take official action, or not statutorily prohibited from performing. See Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-2(e), Indiana Code 20-26-3, and Indiana Code 20-26-5-4.

Relative

The mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, child, parent of spouse, grandparents, grandchild, or dependent residing in the immediate household of a person.

Secretary

An officer of the Board of School Trustees (or Education) responsible for preparation of minutes of Board meetings and custody of the Records of the Board (see Bylaw 01700171.3).

Shall

Expressing non-discretionary required action or action, synonymous with "will" or "must".

Social Media

Social media are online platforms where users engage one another and/or share information and ideas through text, video, or pictures. Social media consists of any form of online publication or presence that allows interactive communication, including, but not limited to, text messaging, instant messaging, websites, weblogs ("blogs"), wikis, online forums (e.g., chat rooms), virtual worlds, and social networks. Examples of social media include, but are not limited to, Facebook, Facebook Messenger, Google Hangouts, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Flickr, Instagram, Pinterest, Skype, and Facetime. Social media does not include sending or receiving e-mail through the use of Corporation-issued e-mail accounts. Apps and services shall not be considered social media unless they are listed on the Corporation's website as Corporation-approved social media platforms/sites.

State-Mandated Assessment

Assessments (including but not limited to ILEARN, I AM, ISTEP+ Grade 10, IREAD-3, End of Course Assessments, and WIDA) for which the participation of all Indiana students is required.

Student

A person who is officially enrolled in a school or program of the Board.

Superintendent

The chief executive officer of the School Corporation. The use of the term includes a delegate unless the law, policy or guideline specifically prohibits delegation.

Support Employee

A non-certificated employee as the term is used in Indiana Code 20-28-2- 11, and as defined in these definitions.

Teacher

A professional person whose position in a school corporation requires certain educational preparation and licensing and whose primary responsibility is the instruction of students. The term includes a superintendent who holds a license under I.C. 20-28-5, a principal, a teacher, a librarian, school psychologist and a school counselor. See I.C. 20-18-2-22

Technology Resources

The Board defines Technology Resources to include computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular or mobile telephones, smartphones, web-enabled devices, video and/or audio recording equipment, SLR and DSLR cameras, projectors, software and operating systems that work on any device, copy machines, printers and scanners, information storage devices (including mobile or portable storage devices, such as external hard drives, CDs, DVDs, USB thumb drives and memory chips), the computer network, Internet connection, and online educational services and apps.

Vice-President

The Vice-President of the Board of School Trustees (see Bylaw 01700171.2).

Voting

An action by which a member of the Board indicates approval or rejection of a motion by a Board member that has been seconded by another Board member at a meeting convened in compliance with all applicable laws including the Indiana Open Door Law (Indiana Code 5-14-1.5). Also see Bylaw 0167.1.

Revised 7/21/11

Revised 2/5/15

Revised 6/18/15

Revised 3/3/16

Revised 4/6/17

Revised 8/3/17

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Legal

I.C. 5-14-1.5-2(c), (d), (e)

I.C. 5-14-1.5-3.5

I.C. 20-26-5-40.7(b)

Exhibit 2

Policy 5136 – Personal Communication Devices (Revised)



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Policies for Board - July 2024
Title	Copy of Replacement Policy - Special Update - June 2024 - Legislative Changes - PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Code	po5136
Status	Work Session
Adopted	May 20, 2010
Last Revised	August 3, 2017

Replacement Policy - Special Update - June 2024 - Legislative Changes

5136 - PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The School Board believes that attendance at school should occupy a student's full attention and that the educational process should be safe and free from distraction and disruption.

Personal communication devices (PCDs) as used in this policy are defined in Bylaw 0100 - Definitions.

[DRAFTING NOTE: SELECT OPTION A, B, OR C.]

[OPTION A]

[DRAFTING NOTE: OPTION A BROADLY PERMITS PCD USE AT SCHOOL EXCEPT AS PROHIBITED BY I.C. 20-25-5-40.7. CHOOSE THIS OPTION TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO USE CELL PHONES AND OTHER PCDs ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, IN SCHOOL VEHICLES, OR AT SCHOOL EVENTS EXCEPT DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME.]

~~Students are prohibited from using a PCD during instructional time except that:~~

- ~~A. a teacher may allow a student to use a PCD for educational purposes during instructional time;~~
- ~~B. a student may use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency; or~~
- ~~C. a student may use a PCD if the use of a PCD is included in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.~~

~~Students otherwise are permitted to use PCDs in school, before and after school hours, on School Corporation property, during their lunch break, between classes, during after-school activities (e.g., extra-curricular activities), and at school-related functions as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption or otherwise interfere with the educational environment. Use of a PCD on Corporation property that results in a distraction, disruption or otherwise interferes with the educational environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on Corporation property.~~

~~Students may use PCDs while riding to and from school on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle, or on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle during school sponsored activities. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle.~~

[END OF OPTION A]

[OPTION B]

[DRAFTING NOTE: OPTION B GENERALLY PERMITS PCD WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE OPTIONS SELECTED. CHOOSE THIS OPTION TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO USE CELL PHONES AND OTHER PCDs OUTSIDE OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME WITHIN A NARROWED SCOPE.]

Students are prohibited from using a PCD during instructional time except that:

- A. a teacher may allow a student to use a PCD for educational purposes during instructional time;
- B. a student may use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency; or
- C. a student may use a PCD if the use of a PCD is included in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.

Students otherwise are permitted to use PCDs ~~(↔) in school~~, before and after school hours, ~~(↔) on School Corporation property~~, during their lunch break, between classes, during after-school activities (e.g., extracurricular activities), and at school-related functions (end of options) as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption or otherwise interfere with the educational environment. Use of a PCD on Corporation property that results in a distraction, disruption or otherwise interferes with the educational environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on Corporation property.

[DRAFTING NOTE: SELECT OPTION 1 OR 2.]

[OPTION 1]

[DRAFTING NOTE: CHOOSE OPTION 1 TO GENERALLY PERMIT STUDENTS TO USE CELL PHONES AND OTHER PCDs ON CORPORATION VEHICLES.]

Students may use PCDs while riding to and from school on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle or on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle during school-sponsored activities (end of option) at the discretion of the bus driver or classroom teacher or sponsor/advisor/coach (end of options). Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle.

[END OF OPTION 1]

[OPTION 2]

~~**[DRAFTING NOTE: CHOOSE OPTION 2 TO GENERALLY PROHIBIT STUDENTS FROM USING CELL PHONES AND OTHER PCDs ON CORPORATION VEHICLES.]**~~

~~Students are prohibited from using PCDs while riding to and from school on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle, on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle during school-sponsored activities except that:~~

- ~~A. a student may use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency; or~~
- ~~B. a student may use a PCD if the use of a PCD is included in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.~~

~~Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle.~~

~~**[END OF OPTION 2]**~~

[END OF OPTION B]

[OPTION C]

~~**[DRAFTING NOTE: OPTION C PROHIBITS PCD USE WITH LIMITED EXCEPTIONS. CHOOSE THIS OPTION TO GENERALLY PROHIBIT STUDENTS FROM USING CELL PHONES AND OTHER PCDs AT SCHOOL.]**~~

~~Students are prohibited from using PCDs at school during school hours, before and after school hours while on School Corporation property, during their lunch break, between classes, during after-school activities (e.g., extracurricular activities), and at school-related functions except that:~~

- A. a teacher may allow a student to use a PCD for educational purposes during instructional time;
- B. a student may use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency; or
- C. a student may use a PCD if the use of a PCD is included in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.

In addition, students are prohibited from using PCDs while riding to and from school on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle, on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle during school-sponsored activities except that:

- A. a student may use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency; or
- B. a student may use a PCD if the use of a PCD is included in the student's individualized education program or Section 504 plan.

Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment shall not be tolerated and may result in the loss of use of the PCD while on a Corporation bus or other Corporation vehicle.

[END OF OPTION C]

Students are prohibited from using PCDs, including but not limited to those with cameras (i.e., devices that take still or motion pictures, whether in a digital or other format), in any school situation where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists. These locations and circumstances include but are not limited to gymnasiums, locker rooms, shower facilities, restrooms/bathrooms, swimming pools, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage of undress. The Superintendent and building principals are authorized to determine other specific locations and situations where use of a PCD is absolutely prohibited. If a student needs to use a PCD to manage the student's health care or in the event of an emergency, the student should go to an area where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy does not exist, except where the emergency prevents the student from leaving the area.

Except as authorized by a teacher, administrator or IEP team/case conference committee (CCC) or Section 504 committee, students are prohibited from using PCDs to capture, record and/or transmit the words or sounds (i.e., audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person in school, before and after school hours, on Corporation property, during after-school activities (e.g., extra-curricular activities), and at school-related functions. Using a PCD to capture, record and/or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without proper consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted.

Students who violate this policy and/or use a PCD to violate the privacy rights of another person (~~→~~ shall) may (end of options) have their PCD confiscated and held until (~~→~~ the end of the school day) a parent/guardian picks it up, () and may be directed to delete the audio and/or picture/video file while the parent/guardian is present (end of options). If the violation involves potentially illegal activity, the confiscated-PCD may be turned over to law enforcement.

When the use of PCDs is permitted, all PCDs must be placed in silent mode and must be stored out of sight when directed by the administrator or sponsor.

When the use of PCDs is prohibited, all PCDs must be powered off completely (i.e., not just placed in vibrate or silent mode) and stored out of sight.

Students may not use PCDs to access and/or view Internet websites that otherwise are blocked to students while in school, on Corporation property, or at a school-sponsored activity.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of PCDs while at school or on Corporation property, including school buildings, other Corporation facilities, and Corporation buses or other Corporation vehicles.

Students shall not use a PCD in any way that reasonably might create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated. See Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior. In particular, students are prohibited from using PCDs to: 1) transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation/transgender identity), disability, age, religion, ancestry, or political beliefs; and 2) engage in "sexting" - i.e., sending, receiving, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form. Violation of these prohibitions shall result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, such actions shall be reported to local law enforcement and the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS), as required by law.

Students also are prohibited from using a PCD to capture, record, and/or transmit test information or any other information

in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using PCDs to receive such information.

Possession of a PCD by a student in school, before and after school hours, on Corporation property, during their lunch break, between classes, during after-school activities (e.g., extra-curricular activities), and at school-related functions is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy or otherwise abuses this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the PCD. The building principal also shall refer the matter to local law enforcement or DCS if the violation involves an illegal activity (e.g., child pornography, sexting) or child abuse. Discipline will be imposed on an escalating scale ranging from a warning to an expulsion based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of or circumstances surrounding a particular violation. If the PCD is confiscated, it will be released/returned to the student's parent/guardian unless the violation involves a potentially unlawful activity, in which case the PCD may be turned over to local law enforcement. A confiscated device will be marked in a removable manner with the student's name and ~~(-) kept in a designated area in the teacher's classroom until the end of class or the end of the school day, as appropriate, for minor violations, or (end of option)~~ held in a secure location in the building's central office until it is retrieved by the parent/guardian or turned over to local law enforcement. School officials will not search or otherwise tamper with PCDs in Corporation custody unless they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of the law or other school rules. Any search will be conducted in accordance with Policy 5771 – Search and Seizure. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring a PCD to school for a designated length of time or on a permanent basis.

A person who discovers a student using a PCD in violation of this policy is required to report the violation to the building principal, facility administrator, or Superintendent.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their PCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for damage to or theft, loss, misuse, or unauthorized use of PCDs brought onto Corporation property.

[DRAFTING NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS ARE OPTIONAL]

] Parents/Guardians are advised that use of school phones is the best way to communicate with their child during the school day.

] Students may use school phones to contact parents/guardians during the school day.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

I.C. 20-26-5-40.7

CROSS REFERENCES

po0100
po5517.01
po5771
po7540.03

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Legal I.C. 20-26-5-40.7

Cross References po0100 - DEFINITIONS
po5517.01 - BULLYING
po5771 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE
po7540.03 - STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Exhibit 3

Policy 5200 - Attendance (Revised)



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Policies for Board - July 2024
Title	Copy of ATTENDANCE
Code	po5200
Status	Work Session
Adopted	May 20, 2010
Last Revised	May 10, 2018

5200 - ATTENDANCE

The School Board, as an agency of the State, is required to enforce regular attendance of students. The Board recognizes that ~~the presence~~~~being present~~ in the classroom enables ~~the student~~~~students~~ to participate in instruction, class discussions, and other related activities. As such, regular attendance and classroom participation are integral to instilling incentives for the student to excel.

Attendance shall mean ~~to be~~~~being~~ physically present in a school or at another location where the school's educational program is being conducted during regular school hours on a day ~~on~~~~in~~ which the educational program in which the student is enrolled is being offered.

Attendance shall be required of all Corporation students, except those exempted under other provisions of ~~Federal or State~~ law, during the days and hours that ~~the school~~ is in session or during the ~~attendance~~ sessions to which ~~s/he~~~~the student~~ has been assigned.

[DRAFTING NOTE: The Board may select one, both, or none of the following options]

~~[] Attendance need not always be within Corporation facilities, and a student will be considered to be in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board.~~

~~[] The Board shall consider each student assigned to a program of other guided learning experiences, authorized under Policy 2370, to be in regular attendance for the program provided that s/he reports () daily () weekly [END OF OPTION] to such staff member s/he is assigned for guidance at the place in which s/he is conducting study, and regularly demonstrates progress toward the objectives of the course of study.~~

[END OF OPTIONS]

Exceptions to Compulsory Attendance/Excused Absences

Exceptions to compulsory attendance that shall be recognized by the ~~school~~ Corporation as provided by State statute are:

- service as a page or honoree of the general assembly (I.C. 20-33-2-14)
- service on a precinct election board or helper to a political candidate ~~or a political party~~ on the date of an election (I.C. 20-33-2-15)
- subpoena to appear in court as a witness in a judicial proceeding (I.C. 20- 33-2-16)
- service in active duty with the National Guard for not more than ten (10) days (I.C. ~~20-33-2-17~~~~20-33-2-16~~)

- E. participating as a member of the Indiana wing of the ~~civil air patrol~~ Civil Air Patrol for not more than five (5) days (I.C. 20-33-2-17.2)
 - F. exhibiting or participating in the Indiana State Fair for educational purposes by a student or member of the student's household for not more than five (5) school days provided that the student is in good academic standing as determined by the Corporation, the student's parent has requested the absence in writing, and the school principal has provided written approval for the absence (I.C. ~~20-33-2-17.7~~ 20-33-2-17.7).
- ~~The student must be in good academic standing as determined by the Corporation. Parents must request the absence in writing, it must be approved in writing by the principal, and it may not exceed five (5) days.~~
- G. participating in an educationally related non-classroom activity ~~which that~~ is consistent with and promotes the educational philosophy and goals of the ~~School~~ Corporation and the State Board of Education, facilitates the attainment of specific educational objectives, is part of the goals and objectives of an approved course or curriculum, represents a unique educational opportunity, cannot reasonably occur without interrupting the school day, and is approved in ~~advance~~ writing by the school principal (I.C. 20-33-2-17.5)

For any of these exceptions, a student shall not be recorded as absent from school.

Additionally, the Board shall allow a student to attend a school for religious instruction that is conducted by a church, an association of churches, or an association that is organized for religious instruction and incorporation under Indiana law for not more than 120 minutes per week for the student to receive religious instruction if the student's parent makes a written request for such absence to the school principal (X) and the ~~school principal~~ Superintendent or Designee approves that request [end of option], as provided in Board Policy 5223 - Released Time for Religious Instruction. A student who is receiving religious instruction as indicated herein shall not be recorded as absent from school.

The Superintendent shall require, from the parent of each student or from an adult or emancipated student who has been absent for any reason, a (X) verbal statement (for parent/guardian verified absences) or (X) written statement (for excused absences) [end of option] of the cause for such absence. The Board reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each absence.

The Board considers the following as reasons for excused absences:

- A. illness verified by a note from a physician
- B. recovery from accident verified by a note from a physician or documented by medical records
- C. required court attendance by subpoena or court order
- D. professional appointments – Parents are encouraged to schedule medical, dental, legal, and other necessary appointments other than during school hours. When appointments are necessary during the school day, the student shall report back to school immediately after the appointment with a signed statement from the doctor, dentist, lawyer, counselor, etc., as applicable
- E. death in the immediate family
- F. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday in accordance with Policy 5223 verified by a note from the parent
- G. maternity leave for _____ () weeks following the birth of the student's child or pregnancy complications verified by a note from a physician or documented by medical records
- H. military connected families' absences related to deployment and return
- I. (X) educational vacation during the school year requested by the student's parent and approved by the Principal
- J. such other good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent or permitted by law

Unexcused Absences

~~An unexcused absence is~~ Unexcused absence shall mean any absence not covered under the definition of excused absence or an exception to compulsory attendance as stated above. An out of school suspension shall not be considered an unexcused absence.

Repeated instances of unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action up to suspension or expulsion of a student.

Truancy and Habitual Truants

Truancy shall mean an is defined as absence from school without permission of the parent, that is not an excused absence as stated above or that is not an absence under a parent request that has been filed with the school.

Habitual Truant shall mean a student who has been absent ten (10) days or more from school within a school year without being excused or without being absent under a parental request that has been filed with the school.

The Superintendent or an attendance officer having jurisdiction shall report a child who is habitually absent from school to an intake officer of the juvenile court or the Department of Child Services. The Superintendent, Corporation attendance officer, a security police officer appointed under I.C. 36-8-3-7, or a Corporation police officer appointed under I.C. 20-26-16 shall report a child who is a habitual truant to the prosecuting attorney in the county in which the student resides by filing an affidavit as provided in I.C. 20-33-2-26. Each of the aforementioned individuals has an independent duty to file such an affidavit under State law. The Superintendent or Corporation attendance officer also shall report a student who is habitually absent from school in violation of the compulsory school attendance law to an intake officer of the juvenile court of the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS).

Attendance need not always be within the school facilities, but a student will be considered to be in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board.

[DRAFTING NOTE: Choose one of the following two options.]

[OPTION 1]

A student who is a habitual truant shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities.

[OPTION 2]

A student who is a habitual truant shall not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities.

[END OF OPTIONS]

Truancy Prevention

Truancy Prevention Measures shall mean actions designed to address truancy before a student becomes a habitual truant and to minimize the need for referrals to a voluntary truancy prevention program or reports to a juvenile court.

For purposes of the Corporation's truancy prevention measures, absent student shall mean a student in Kindergarten through Grade 6 who is absent from school five (5) days within a ten (10) week period without being excused or absent in conformity with a note on file from the student's doctor, therapist, or other authorized professional requesting frequent absences be excused under the student's individualized education program (IEP), service plan developed under 511 IAC 7-34, choice scholarship education plan developed under 51 IAC 7-49, or Section 504 plan. When a student is identified as an absent student under this policy, the school that the student attends shall:

A. Immediately provide written notification to the student's parent that:

1. The student has been identified as an absent student based on the student's school attendance.
2. The parent is responsible for monitoring the student's school attendance and ensuring the student attends school, in accordance with compulsory attendance laws.
3. The school will be initiating truancy prevention measures for the student.
4. The parent is required to attend an attendance conference regarding the truancy prevention measures that the school will be implementing for the student.
5. If the student meets the definition of a habitual truant:
 - a. the Superintendent or Corporation attendance officer is required to report the student to an intake officer of the juvenile court or DCS in accordance with I.C. 20-33-2-25
 - b. the juvenile court may determine that the student is committing a delinquent act as provided under I.C. 31-37-2-3; and

c. the student's parent may be subject to prosecution under I.C. 35-46-1-4.

B. Hold an attendance conference with at least the following individuals to discuss the student's absences and establish a plan for the student to prevent future absences:

1. A representative of the school.
2. A teacher of the student.
3. The student's parent.
4. A representative chosen by the student's parent who may provide insight into the student's absenteeism if the student's parent makes a request to the school that the representative attend and provides notice to the school regarding the identification of the representative at least forty-eight (48) hours before the attendance conference.

The attendance conference shall be held not more than five (5) instructional days after the student's fifth absence in a ten (10) week period regardless of whether the parent or the parent's chosen representative is able to attend the conference. The school shall make all reasonable efforts to hold the attendance conference on a date and at a time that works with the schedule of the student's parent.

C. At the attendance conference, establish a plan for the student to prevent future absences that may include the following:

1. Any wraparound services that are able to be provided to the absent student to ensure the absent student attends school.
2. A specific description of the behavior that is required or prohibited for the absent student.
3. The period for which the plan will be effective, not to exceed forty-five (45) instructional days after the date it is established.
4. Any additional disciplinary action the school will take if the absent student does not comply with the plan.
5. If applicable, a referral to counseling, mentoring, or other services for the student.
6. If applicable, whether a parent is expected to attend the counseling, mentoring, or other services with the student.

The school representative shall ask the absent student's parent to sign the plan indicating the parent's agreement to comply with its terms.

D. Offer additional counseling services to an absent student if the school determines that the student's absences are related to any of the following:

1. The student's pregnancy.
2. The student is in foster care (as defined in I.C. 31-9-2-46.7).
3. The student is homeless.
4. The student has a severe or life-threatening illness or related treatment.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the attendance of students which:

- A. ~~ensure provide~~ a school session ~~which that~~ is in conformity with the requirements of the law;
- B. ~~ensure that~~ permit students absent for any excusable reason ~~to~~ have an opportunity to make up work they missed;
- C. govern the ~~keeping maintenance~~ of attendance records in accordance with the rules of the State Board;
- D. ~~ensure that any student who, due to a specifically identifiable physical or mental impairment, exceeds or may exceed the Corporation's limit on excused absence is referred for evaluation for eligibility either under the~~

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provide that any student who, due to a physical or mental impairment, exceeds or may exceed the Corporation's limit on excused absences is to be referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility under either the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504).

Such guidelines ~~should~~ shall provide that a student's grade in any course is based on his/her performance in the instructional setting and is not reduced for ~~reasons of conduct~~ misconduct. If a student violates the Corporation's attendance policy or other school rules, of the school, s/he ~~should~~ the student shall be disciplined appropriately for the misconduct, but his/her grades ~~should~~ shall be based upon what the student can demonstrate s/he has been learned.

Such guidelines also shall provide for the reporting to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles those students who have been suspended for the second time during a school year, are expelled, or ~~excluded for misconduct~~ are considered dropouts under I.C. 20-33-2-28.5.

The Superintendent shall ~~ensure that the~~ develop administrative guidelines on attendance that properly address the matter of truancy by including a process which:

- A. identifies the habitual truant, that is, a student who ~~is chronically absent by having unexcused absences from school for more than ten (10) school days in one (1) school year~~ has been absent ten (10) days or more from school within a school year without being excused or without being absent under a parental request that has been filed with the school;
- B. investigates the cause(s) of his/her the student's truant behavior;
- C. considers, when appropriate, modification of his/her the student's educational program to meet particular needs which that may be causing the truancy;
- D. ~~ensures that truant students are disciplined~~ provides for the discipline of truant students in accordance with the Corporation's policies and administrative guidelines on student discipline;
- E. provides for reporting to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles those students who are habitual truants. habitual truants as provided in I.C. 20-33-2-11. **[DRAFTING NOTE: The Board must choose whether it will require a report to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles when a student is a habitual truant. See I.C. 20-33-2-11]**
- F. ~~() provides for determining whether a habitual truant may participate in extracurricular activities. [DRAFTING NOTE: choose this option if the Corporation chose OPTION 3 under Truancy and Habitual Truants above.]~~

The Superintendent also shall ensure that the Board's policy on attendance and the Corporation's administrative guidelines are made available to all parents and adult students. The Superintendent shall make available to all parents and adult or emancipated students the Board's policy and the Corporation's administration guidelines on attendance.

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Legal	I.C. 9-24-2-1
	I.C. 9-24-2-4
	I.C. 20-18-2-6.5
	I.C. 20-26-16
	I.C. 20-33-2-11
	I.C. 20-33-2-14
	I.C. 20-33-2-15
	I.C. 20-33-2-17
	I.C. 20-33-2-17.5
	I.C. 20-33-2-17.7

I.C. 20-33-2-25

I.C. 20-33-2-26

I.C. 20-33-2-28.5

I.C. 31-9-2-46.7

I.C. 31-37-2-3

I.C. 36-8-3-7

511 IAC 1-3-1

511 IAC 6-7.1-8

511 IAC 6--7.1-9