

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
June 20, 2024**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on June 20, 2024, in the Board Room at Hobart High School, 2211 East Tenth Street, Hobart, Indiana.

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

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

Board Member Absent:

Stuart B. Schultz

Administrators Present:

Peggy Buffington
Christopher N. King
William J. Longer

Administrators Absent:

Bob Glover
Jonathan Mock
Tim Krieg

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Butler indicated that the Board did not meet in an executive session prior to the regular session meeting, but it did meet in a work session meeting before the regular session meeting.

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

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

AUDIENCE: The following were present in the audience:

Bradley Keehn, Joan Martin School and Hobart Middle School parent
Devon Key, new varsity basketball coach and his family
Bobby Wineland, new varsity baseball coach and his wife, Mia
DeAnn Jennette, parent and Coordinator of the SCOH Brickies from the Start program
Jackie Keefe, NISEC high school teacher and coach of the unified track team
Kriste Bell, NISEC facilitator and coach for the unified track team
Twelve members of the unified track team
Tony Bailey, Madelyn Burton's step-father
Simon and Jacqueline Zepeda, Angelina Zepeda's parents, and her sister Dominique
Unidentified family/friends of the students being recognized

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the work session, executive session, and regular session minutes of June 6, 2024. Frank Porras seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Abstain – Robbins. Motion carried 5-0 with one abstention. President Butler commented that the abstention was because the member did not attend the meeting, and one Board member was absent this evening.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: In the absence of Business Manager Bob Glover, President Butler asked the Hobart High School student representatives, Madelyn Burton and Angelina Zepeda, to read the vouchers.

► Vouchers for June 20, 2024 – The HHS student representatives, shared the reading of the accounts payable voucher summary with Madelyn Burton reading the first portion and Angelina Zepeda reading the last portion, as follows:

School Education \$952,493.52
Exempt Operating - Post 2009 \$102,387.56
School Operations \$466,040.43
Construction 0700 \$81,599.07
Construction Projects \$304,101.00
School Lunch \$121,005.98
Curricular Materials \$15,840.70
Self-Insurance Fund \$842,899.92
Community Gifts and Donations \$2,086.15
Building Brickies \$2,014.64

SCOH Educational Foundation \$1,320.98
Pope Family Foundation \$1,385.00
Mindful Parent Connect Program \$262.29
SAFE Supporting Addiction Free \$80.00
Career and Technical Perf Grant \$1,210.11
Connectivity Grant \$4,064.89
Medicaid Reimbursement Federal \$522.00
Title II Part A FY 2024 \$1,178.04
Explore, Engage, Experience \$6,648.13
ESSER III \$37,159.83
Clearing Accounts \$475,272.65
Self-Insurance Clearing \$71,854.41
Clearing/Flexible Benefits AF \$51,898.40
Clearing/Ins. Account \$3,096.80
Credit Card Fee Clearing \$9,799.97

for vouchers totaling \$3,556,222.47, and the May payroll distribution by Dawn Powers, the school corporation's treasurer, was \$2,021,484.61.

Rikki Guthrie moved and Sandra Hillan seconded that the Board approve payment of the vouchers for June 20, 2024. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

In addition, the Board received copies of the following monthly budget reports, dated May 31, 2024, in their electronic Board packet: Analysis by Object, Estimated Revenue by Account, Summary of Balances by Account-Object, and Summary of Receipts and Expenditures.

President Terry Butler explained to the audience that Madalyn Burton and Angelina Zepeda, now alumni, had served as HHS student representatives on the Board this past year, and tonight was their last meeting. He noted they are not allowed to vote, but they can share their opinions in discussion of items at meetings. In addition, they shared ideas and concerns of their peers at the high school. He said the Board members valued their perspectives and comments and appreciated everything they did this past school year.

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

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

Dr. Buffington recommended approval and requested Board action.

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board approve the Personnel Reports as presented. Seconded by Karen Robbins. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

Athletic Director Michael Black thanked the Board for approving the new varsity baseball and varsity boys basketball coaches' contracts for the coming school year in tonight's Personnel Reports. He then introduced Bobby Wineland, the new varsity baseball coach. Mr. Wineland has served the baseball program for ten years in multiple positions and currently serves as the coach of the American Legion baseball program that allows Hobart baseball players to continue playing during the off season. Mike Black then introduced Devon Key, the new boys varsity basketball coach. He said he has known Devon since he was a freshman in high school, and he participated in the boys basketball program when Mr. Black was the varsity coach. He commented that Mr. Key was always "determined to be a difference maker" and always played that way. His senior year was the basketball program's most successful season. After graduating from Hobart High School in 2008, Mr. Key attended Ancilla College for one year, then attended Calumet College and received his bachelor's degree in 2012. In addition, he played college basketball at both schools. The Board extended their congratulations and thanked them for coming to the meeting

The approved personnel items are as follows:

Contract for Extracurricular Services (Club Duties) –
Veterans School @ Mundell, August 14, 2023/May 31, 2024: Erica McDermott, Girls on the Run,
\$1,350.00

Extracurricular Club Duty Contract –
Nicole Zybak, Veterans @ Mundell/boys basketball, 2023-2024 school year, \$324.00

ECA Resignation –

Matt Huguenard, Veterans School @ Mundell/Second Grade Level Contact for the 2024-2025 school year

Resignation –

Emily Lucas, Early Learning Center @ George Earle/teacher, effective June 12, 2024

Summer Food Service Program –

Dates of Program: June 3, 2024, through August 9, 2024/Compensation is per hour:

Beth Barney, \$15.00; Martha Bello, \$15.00; Donna Beres, \$15.00; Hayley Bradford, \$15.00; Tracy Coslet, \$16.50; Elizabeth Dombroski, \$17.80; Emanoulea Fejzuloski, \$16.25; Sara Ford, \$15.00; Katharine Garrett, \$15.00; Brittney Golecki, \$15.00; Caroline Gonzales, \$15.00; Rebecca Gutierrez, \$15.00; Jennifer Kaiser, \$15.00; Vicki Lane, \$15.00; Kristy Murchek, \$15.00; Anastasia Panousopoulos, \$15.00; Angela Pollock, \$16.50; Eric Pollock, \$15.00; Krisandra Rafael, \$15.00; Marlene Rivera, \$15.00; Michelle Smith, \$15.00; Patricia Steele, \$15.00; Ashley Crowell, \$15.00; Brittany Robison, \$15.00; and Jennifer Brum, \$15.00

Supplemental Services Teacher Contracts –

Hobart High School/Session I Summer School, June 10/June 27, 2024 (13 days): Rhylee Beshears, health, \$4,169.10; Aaron Butcher, physical education, \$4,506.06; Sydney Curatolo, physical education, \$3,854.76; Josh Mehay, physical education, \$4,955.34; Cathy Nelson, English, \$5,533.32; Michael Pickett, government, \$4,709.64; Stephanie Waldron, credit recovery (Edmentum), \$5,564.52; and Brian Wesley, physical education, \$4,332.90

Teacher Contracts – 2024-2025 –

Stephen Markos, Hobart Middle School/teacher, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025, \$53,406.00

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

Carrie Kietzman, Hobart High School/teacher, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025, \$61,400.00

Extra Duty Contracts –

Hobart High School:

November 11, 2024/March 29, 2025: Devon Key, varsity boys basketball, \$7,030.00

March 17/June 21, 2025: Bobby Wineland, varsity baseball, \$5,519.00

Terminations –

Becky Kuhn, Hobart High School/custodian, effective June 14, 2024

Terri Malatinka, Hobart High School/custodian, effective June 14, 2024

Sharon Wrenn, Hobart High School/custodian, effective June 14, 2024

PRESENTATION AND RECOGNITION of 2024 Unified Track Team at Hobart High School:

Superintendent Peggy Buffington welcomed the unified track team and their families to the meeting. She said it was very exciting to celebrate the accomplishments of this year's unified track team, and she thanked the students and their families for attending the meeting. She introduced Athletic Director Mike Black, and he then introduced Jackie Keefe and Kriste Bell, coaches. Mr. Black mentioned that due to the large number of spring sports athletes, the group was split in two, and the other spring sports athletes were recognized at the June 6th Board meeting. Coaches Bell and Keefe presented their Certificates of Recognition to their team members present, and on behalf of the Board and Dr. Buffington, Dr. Buffington with the assistance of the Madalyn Burton and Angelina Zepeda, HHS student representatives, presented Certificates of Recognition to the unified track athletes present at the same time. Certificates of Recognition for those unable to attend the meeting were given to the coaches to disperse. Those present are, as follows:

Andrew Navarro, Regional and State Qualifier, Academic All-Conference, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Cara Lawrence, Regional and State Qualifier; Clark Otero, Regional and State Qualifier; Colton Galliher, Regional and State Qualifier; Jayden Garrett, Regional and State Qualifier; Lindsey Neyhart, Regional and State Qualifier; Margo Page, Regional and State Qualifier; Marie White, Regional and State Qualifier, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, Academic All-Conference, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Maya Guzman, Regional and State Qualifier; Micah Jennette, Regional and State Qualifier; and Summer Luttrell, Regional and State Qualifier

Teammates unable to attend the meeting are as follows:

Adrian Morales, Regional and State Qualifier; Aidan Olague, Regional and State Qualifier; Aiden Burke, Regional and State Qualifier; NCC Scholar Team of the Year; Academic All-Conference, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Aldo Velasquez, Regional and State Qualifier; Amaia Jenkins Regional and State Qualifier; Andrew Renn, Regional and State Qualifier; Brandon Paulson, Regional and State Qualifier; Academic All-Conference, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, and UCAiN; Brianna Candiano, Regional and State Qualifier; Brooke Hawkins, Regional and State Qualifier; Delaney Williams, Regional and State Qualifier; Gamaliel Cruz, Regional and State Qualifier; Academic All-Conference, and NCC Scholar Team of the Year; Isaac Bloom, Regional and State Qualifier; Jack Guzman,

Regional and State Qualifier; Jackson Butler, Regional and State Qualifier; Jacob Ramirez, Regional and State Qualifier; James Landrum, Regional and State Qualifier; Jorge Navarro III, Regional and State Qualifier, Academic All-Conference, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Layla Henley, Regional and State Qualifier; Madison Allison, Regional and State Qualifier; Malcolm Manuel, Regional and State Qualifier; Marcus Fernandez, Regional and State Qualifier; Mason Jackson-Solomon, Regional and State Qualifier, Academic All-Conference, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Olivia Jones-McIntire, Regional and State Qualifier; Trent Brown, Regional and State Qualifier, Academic All-Conference, NCC Scholar Team of the Year, and UCAiN Academic All-State; Trinity Garcia, Regional and State Qualifier; and Zoe Johnston, Regional and State Qualifier, Academic All-Conference, and UCAiN Academic All-State

Mr. Black highlighted information about how the unified track program began. The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) Student Advisory Committee (SAC) researched options and unanimously requested that an official partnership be formed with Special Olympics Indiana as the most appropriate fit for education-based athlete servant leadership. Special Olympics Inc. supported Champions Together, as a model program, to activate schools through "Project Unify." Champions Together is a collaborative partnership between the Indiana High School Athletic Association and Special Olympics Indiana that promotes servant leadership among student athletes while changing their lives as well as the lives of those with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics International is supporting Champions Together as a model program to activate schools through "Project Unify." He noted Hobart has met the four goals of the program, including the fundraising component. Mr. Black noted that the most important thing that the program does is "change the culture of the school." Mr. Black highlighted their successes for the season, and they ended up being 10th out of 11 schools at the state competition. He mentioned that the high school has parades for athletes and teams that go on to compete at the state level and said many of the unified track teammates always enjoyed and participated in supporting those athletes. He said that the unified track team had their own parade this year and all of them were very proud.

In the discussion, Terry Butler mentioned that some of the team members volunteer their time at the Hobart Food Pantry and are a big help to them, and Karen Robbins concurred. In addition, he commented that he has known Coach Keefe since she was a girl and always knew that she would be helping students. Dr. Buffington extended her thanks and appreciation to Mr. Black and the coaches, student leaders, and the students for the great job they have done. The Board offered their congratulations to the team and their coaches for all of their accomplishments this year. Our student athletes achieve on the field and off, as well as being involved in service learning projects in the school district and community, and the Board and community are proud of their accomplishments, dedication, and efforts.

President Butler invited audience members to remain for the rest of the meeting, but he excused anyone who needed to leave.

RECOGNITION: 2023-2024 Student Board Representatives: The Board and Dr. Peggy Buffington recognized Madalyn Burton and Angelina Zepeda for their service as Student Board representatives this past year. Madalyn and Angelina kept the Board informed of events and concerns and were the student voices from the high school. Dr. Buffington told the student representatives that they had "done an amazing job this past year." She commented that she had spent more time with them than she did with previous board representatives. She so appreciated that they were always available whenever she needed their assistance for one of her "on the road shows." They were always willing to represent Hobart High School, as well as speaking about all of the opportunities that are available to its students, particularly the Early College opportunities available through Hobart University. Dr. Buffington noted that Madalyn Burton had earned 101 college credits. She noted that both representatives demonstrated how to be BEOP (**B**eing **E**xcellent **o**n **P**urpose) every day. She told them they were "phenomenal representatives," would miss them, and was very proud of both of them. Board members extended their thanks and appreciation to Madalyn and Angelina for their service. Some of their comments were as follows: "did a great job," went "above and beyond," "will be missed," "very proud of you," did "an outstanding job," were "role models," were asked "to write us," and so forth. Brad Keehn, audience member, extended his congratulations.

In appreciation of their service, Dr. Buffington gave each of them a gift from her and the Board in appreciation of their service. Each received a crystal rondure with a compass on the top and engraved with Leading by Example with each representative's name, the Yohan logo, and the Student Board Representative designation. Dr. Buffington noted the Leading by Example and the compass were so they would remember "their true North." In addition, they each received a card with a monetary donation. Madalyn and Angelina expressed their appreciation and thanked them for the gifts. Madalyn noted that she appreciated being able to serve on the Board this past year and said it was an amazing opportunity, and Angelina concurred with her comments. Both indicated they would stay in touch. In addition, the student representatives have served the community volunteering and leading by example and making a difference. The Board and Dr. Buffington thanked their parents for sharing their daughters with them and for being "amazing parents." Mr. Butler asked the Zepeda's whether Angelina ever stopped smiling. Her twin noted that Angelina was known as "the smiling twin." Madalyn's mother was out-of-town, but her stepfather recorded her recognition on his phone for her.

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

School Board Policy: School Board Attorney William Longer presented Resolution No. 2024-18 for updates to Board policy. He noted that the exhibit added language dealing with Artificial Intelligence (A-I) and indicated that Chris King could answer any questions they might have. There were no questions. It was explained that this was the second reading and possible adoption of changes in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart." President Terry Butler asked him whether it was acceptable for Mrs. Hillan to read only the title of the resolution aloud, and he replied that it was.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title of Resolution No. 2024-18, aloud, as follows:

School City of Hobart
Board of School Trustees

Resolution No. 2024-18

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

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

Frank Porras moved and Donald Rogers seconded that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-18 for the bylaws and policies changes in the comprehensive document entitled "Bylaws and Policies of the School City of Hobart". Vote on motion: Sandra Hillan, Secretary, called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Nay – No one. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

A copy of the resolution as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room, and adopted is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: Acceptance of Dairy, Bakery, GPO-Grocery and Produce

Proposals for 2024-2025: Dr. Peggy Buffington presented the NIESC (Northern Indiana Educational Services Center) milk and dairy, GPO-grocery, and produce proposals for the Board's approval, as required by the State Board of Accounts auditors. Dr. Buffington indicated that Nancy Smith, Food Service Director, recommendations were as follows:

- To accept the GPO-Grocery bid submitted by HPS-GDS for the 2024-2025 school year.
- To accept the bid for Milk and Dairy Products submitted by DFA, Schenkel's for 2024-2025.
- To accept the bid for Produce submitted by Piazza Produce for the 2024-2025 school year.

Dr. Buffington explained that the bids were requested by the Northwest Indiana Educational Services Center (NIESC), which included members of the Northwest Indiana Educational Service Center (NWIESC) of which Hobart is a member. Copies of bid information for the each of the categories, as provided by NIESC, and Mrs. Smith's recommendations were included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's review.

Dr. Buffington recommended Board approval to accept the bids, as presented, and requested Board action.

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board accept the bids for grocery, milk and dairy, and produce as recommended and presented. Karen Robbins seconded.

In the discussion, Terry Butler inquired if the pricing was for the entire school year, and Dr. Buffington said it was. She indicated that this NIESC does an outstanding job in seeking the RFPs and because of the number of school districts who participate, they get very good prices. Karen Robbins said that the Hobart Food Pantry was paying around \$5.00 for a gallon milk and said they serve around 150 families every week. It was explained that their cost was higher because the milk was delivered directly to their sight in a refrigerated delivery truck.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: 2023-2024 Donations for Early Learning Center at George Earle School, Joan Martin School, Liberty School, Veterans School at Mundell, Hobart Middle School, Hobart High School, Hobart High School Athletic Department, Hobart High School Aquatics Center, Building Brickies, Food Services Department, and School City of Hobart Administration Office:

Dr. Peggy Buffington reviewed the gifts/donations summary for the district for the 2023-2024 school year. The donations were from booster clubs, school PTO's, local businesses and grant organizations. The total amount of donations was \$196,716.74 and included donations from the School City of Hobart Educational Foundation in the amount of \$14,014.26. In addition, the Educational Foundation gave out \$4,000.00 in scholarships this year. She noted that gifts/donations with a value over \$500.00 or higher are acknowledged and need to be accepted by the Board.

Dr. Buffington highlighted the donations by building/program, as follows:

- Early Learning Center @ George Earle School – \$12,134.00
- Joan Martin Elementary School – \$20,291.83
- Liberty Elementary School – \$10,428.71
- Veterans Elementary @ Mundell – \$17,074.28
- Hobart Middle School – \$5,280.00
- Hobart High School – \$13,835.26
- Hobart High School Aquatic Center – \$20,000.00
- Hobart High School Athletic Department – \$78,530.47
- Brickies from the Start – \$5,000.00
- Food Services Department – \$3,842.49
- School City of Hobart Administration Office – \$10,299.70

Dr. Buffington said the school corporation was very appreciative and grateful for all of people and groups for their donor support for our staff and students and indicated that Recognition Certificates would be sent to each of the donors.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board to accept these donations/gifts.

Sandra Hillan moved that the Board accept the donations and gifts as presented, and Rikki Guthrie seconded.

In the discussion, Rikki Guthrie extended her thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly and gave of their time and monetary donations. Sandi Hillan offered her appreciation to all the individuals from the many organizations for giving of their time and donations, as well as those at the Board table who donate their time and efforts for the school and community. She appreciated their selflessness.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

RECOMMENDATION: Employee Assistance Program Contract Agreement: In the absence of Jon Mock, Director of Human Resources and Compliances, Dr. Peggy Buffington highlighted the contract agreement for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The term of the contract is July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A copy of the contract for the EAP with Employee Services LLC dba ESI Employee Assistance Group was included in the electronic meeting information. Dr. Buffington indicated this program was in addition to the district's health insurance program and was available to all employees and their family members. Everything is totally confidential, and the company does furnish reports periodically throughout the year of the number of people using the different services provided by the plan, but no names are included. She said the program provided "a great service" to the district's staff members.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board to approve the contract agreement, as presented.

Karen Robbins moved and Donald Rogers seconded that the Board approve the contract agreement for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) with Employee Services LLC dba ESI Employee Assistance Group and authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract.

In the discussion, Rikki Guthrie extended her thanks and appreciation for having this service available due to the many overwhelming things happening in today's world. Dr. Buffington indicated that this program has been effect for a very long time in the school district, and she was thankful for its availability. She thanked the Board for providing this service and noted it was "a very good program."

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

CONSIDERATION: Public Official Bonds: Dr. Peggy Buffington noted that Tracy Brumley was going to be the new district treasurer due to Dawn Powers' retirement. She noted that the Board needed to approve surety bonds for Tracy Petruska Brumley, Treasurer for the School City of Hobart, for a one-year term beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on July 1, 2025, and for Judith Henry, Deputy Treasurer, for a one-year term beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on July 1, 2025. The bonds were filed at the Lake County Courthouse.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board to approve the bonds, as presented.

Frank Porras moved that the Board approve the bonds of Tracy Petruska Brumley as Treasurer and Judith Henry as Deputy Treasurer of the School City of Hobart, as presented. Rikki Guthrie seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

AUTHORIZATION: Transfer of Funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund: In the absence of Bob Glover, Business Manager, Superintendent Peggy Buffington indicated that for the budget year 2024, \$5,936,055 was approved for transfer from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. To date, \$1,275,000 has been transferred. She indicated that Mr. Glover was requesting that \$1,500,000 be transferred from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. This would leave a balance of \$3,161,055 available for transfer

through the end of the calendar year. She noted that 15% was the maximum amount that can be transferred to the Operations Fund and said the Operations Fund cannot operate on the monies it receives.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the transfer as presented and authorize the Treasurer of the School City of Hobart to transfer \$1,500,000 from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. Seconded by Donald Rogers.

It was noted that things were so much easier before the state legislators changed everything.

Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

The Authorization to Transfer Fund from the Education Fund to the Operating Fund, as presented and approved, is as follows:

AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER \$1,500,000 FROM THE
EDUCATION FUND TO THE OPERATIONS FUND

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees is the governing body of the School City of Hobart, Lake County, Indiana, and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2023 the Board of School Trustees passed resolution 2023-28 authorizing up to \$5,936,055.00 to be transferred from the Education Fund to the Operations fund during the 2024 budget year, and

WHEREAS to date, \$1,275,000.00 has been transferred leaving \$4,661,055.00 available for transfer.

THEREFORE the Board of School Trustees authorizes the Treasurer of the School City of Hobart to transfer up to \$1,500,000.00 (one million two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars) from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund.

This authorization was approved by the Board of School Trustees on June 20, 2024.

President, Board of School Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of School Trustees

CONSIDERATION: Resolution Accepting Appraisals, Ratifying Prior Action, and Authorizing Negotiation of Purchase Price: William Longer, School Board Attorney, presented Resolution No. 2024-19 accepting appraisals, ratifying prior action, and authorizing negotiation of the purchase price. He noted that there had been some discussion pertaining to the possible acquisition of land for future construction of a school. He said the resolution outlined prior action that was taken, such as securing two appraisers to submit independent appraisals with thirty (30) days. He indicated that was done and the appraisals were received within the required time period. There was a negotiation pertaining to one appraisal, and after it was amended, the appraisal was a little higher. It was noted that a public-school purpose exists for the acquisition of the real estate. The Superintendent, in accordance with Board Policy, was authorized to negotiate an offer for the purchase of real estate not to exceed Fair Market Value for the property, and the resolution indicated that the amount should not exceed \$21,750.00 per acre, which is an amount that does not exceed the Fair Market Value for the property. The property was being purchased in anticipation of community growth. Mr. Longer noted that the value of the property would not decrease and probably would increase. It was noted that this property purchase would be similar to the land for the high school that was purchased prior to the school's construction and was not included in the bond issue that built the school. Mr. Longer commented that approval of the resolution authorized the Superintendent, in accordance with Board policy, to proceed with negotiations for the purchase of the property. He noted that Exhibit "1" was updated today and now included the legal Plat of Description from the surveyor and was included in the meeting's electronic information. He noted that when looking at the plat, the NIPSCO right-of-way was excluded and not included in the acreage.

Mr. Longer recommended that the Board approve the resolution.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title of Resolution No. 2024-19 aloud, as follows:

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-19

Resolution Accepting Appraisals, Ratifying Prior Action,
and Authorizing Negotiation of Purchase Price

Rikki Guthrie moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-19, as presented, and authorize the superintendent to execute the necessary documents. Seconded by Karen Robbins.

In the discussion, Mr. Longer explained that the appraisals that were done were on properties smaller than this one so a per acre Fair Market Value was established so that whatever the size of parcel the total cost would be figured by multiplying the number of acres times the per acre Fair Market Value. Since a Fair Market Value per acre was established, it was not necessary to determine another Fair Market Value to move forward with this possible purchase. Mr. Butler offered his appreciation to the Board that purchased the land for the high school for their foresight and thinking of the future. He also noted this was clean land with no buildings to be torn down. Mrs. Robbins noted there are not many large parcels of land like this left within the district's school boundaries.

Vote on motion: Sandra Hillan, Secretary, called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Nay – No one. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION: Concerning Alternative Services Agreements with the Indiana Department of Education and Private Education Agencies: Dr. Peggy Buffington presented Resolution No. 2024-20 for the Board's consideration. Annually, the Indiana Department of Education requires that NISEC (Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative) and its member school districts to adopt a resolution that allows the NISEC Director to sign contracts for students needing alternative or residential placements. Since Frank Porras is the Board's representative on the NISEC Board of Directors, she deferred to him for additional comments. He concurred that it was an annual resolution and should be completed in a timely manner.

Dr. Buffington recommended approval and requested Board action.

President Butler requested a motion and a roll call vote.

Donald Rogers moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-20, as presented. Frank Porras seconded. Vote on motion: Sandra Hillan, Secretary, called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Nay – No one. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

Resolution No. 2024-20 as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room, and adopted, is as follows:

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
32 East 7th Street
Hobart, Indiana 46342

RESOLUTION No. 2024-20

CONCERNING ALTERNATIVE SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH THE INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND PRIVATE EDUCATION AGENCIES

WHEREAS, the school corporation desires to ensure a full continuum of education placement options for its students, particularly those needing a therapeutic day or residential treatment program; and

WHEREAS, the school corporation is a member of the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative makes placement recommendations and applications for students who need a more restrictive placement than is available through its placement capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana Department of Education seeks to ensure that contracts for securing alternative service plans involving private education agencies to provide more restrictive services are finalized and approved within fifteen (15) days of application; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education may not be meeting within the fifteen-day period of the application; and

WHEREAS, the Board needs to delegate to the Director of Special Education for the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative authority to enter into alternative service contracts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Managers (the "Board") of the

School City of Hobart that it delegate to the Director of Special Education for the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative ("NISEC") authority to enter into alternative service contracts after consultation with the Superintendent on behalf of the President of the Board or his/her designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon entering into a service contract by NISEC; the contract will be forwarded to the Superintendent on behalf of the President of the Board for approval and Board ratification at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Dated this 20th of June, 2024.

ATTEST: SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary
Board of School Trustees

Terry D. Butler, President
Board of School Trustees

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

► Announcement: School City of Hobart Food Service's Program for the 2024-2025 School Year: Superintendent Peggy Buffington announced that Nancy Smith, Food Services Director for the School City of Hobart, has indicated that there will be no increase in meal costs for the 2024-2025 school year. As a requirement of the National School Lunch Program School Food Service-Account Revenue Amendments related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, school food authorities evaluate their paid lunch prices using the Paid Lunch Equity tool each year. She noted that Mrs. Smith completed this review, and she determined no increases were needed for the 2024-2025 school year because of the department's fund balance. The meal costs will remain the same as last school year and are as follows:

- Elementary paid lunch price \$2.80; breakfast prices \$1.75
- Secondary paid lunch price \$3.25; breakfast prices \$2.00
- Reduced breakfast and lunch prices \$0.30 and \$0.40
- Milk prices \$0.50
- Adult lunches \$4.75 and breakfasts \$2.75

In the discussion, Dr. Buffington was asked what would happen if food costs were to increase, and she indicated that Mrs. Smith could request an increase any time during the school year. It was mentioned that when Mrs. Smith came to Hobart, she had to request a sizeable increase in meal costs to sustain the program. Where if smaller increases had been made, it would have been so much easier for families to manage. Dr. Buffington said that since the district was a participant in the federal National School Lunch Program, the program was audited by the State Board of Accounts. They review how the meal prices are determined and check the fund balance. Dr. Buffington did mention that the ELC's kitchen was remodeled several years ago because of the fund balance.

COMMENTS: From the administration, Dr. Buffington noted that two weeks of summer school were completed. There are two elementary summer school programs at Veterans, and it was a little hectic to begin with. The Victory4 Kids program had some challenges, but she expressed her appreciation to Dr. Regina Beard who has gone "above and beyond" by offering this program for our students. There have been a few glitches along the way, and she thanked everyone who helped in working through the minor setbacks so everything kept moving along. She commented that for those who work year round, the summer passes quickly, and she appreciates the team work that is provided by the staff in getting ready for the next school year. It was noted that the next Board meeting would be held on July 3rd. Chris King wished Madelyn and Angelina the best of luck in college and knew they would be very successful because of everything they have done while serving their term on the Board. He noted that each of them were always willing to help others, especially the younger students and hoped they would continue to do so. He noted that several of the E-sports team members participated on the unified track team, and he commented that they were always more focused at E-sports after a practice. He thought the track program was a great program and makes a huge difference for them. Bill Longer offered his congratulations Frank Porras and Brad Keehn on being Board members next year. He noted that the Mayor in a state of the city address mentioned the planned economy for the city, and he specifically spoke about the quality of education that the school district offers such as the Early College Program and the amount of college credits students could earn, which in turn translates to the amount of money parents could save that would assist the city's economy. In addition, he gave Brian Snedecor, former mayor, a key to the city.

From the Board, Frank Porras extended his congratulations to Maddie and Angelina, thanked them for everything they had done, and wished them both good luck college. Don Rogers thanked Angelina and Maddie for being the voices of their peers at the high school and knew they would do very well in all of their endeavors. Karen Robbins also congratulated the student representatives and knew they would do very well in college, and she commented that she was not as accomplished as they are when she was their age. She mentioned that a couple of

the unified track athletes volunteer at the Hobart Food Pantry and said, "They are the sweetest kids." She extended congratulations to Frank Porras and Brad Keehn and said she had written checks totaling \$8,500.00 for scholarships that the Educational Foundation handles. She announced that Abby and Alex Keehn were having a Lemonade Stand this Saturday, June 22, with proceeds going to the Hobart Food Pantry. Mr. Keehn said they would be out all day, Lemonade was \$1.00 a cup, and patrons could also give monetary donations for the Hobart Food Pantry. Madalyn Burton thanked Board members and administrators, noted she appreciated having the opportunity to learn about the workings of the school district, and the opportunities that its students have. She knows that students in other districts do not have these opportunities and said Hobart was "an awesome school district." She appreciated having them, as role models, as well as having her parents and family support. Angelina Zepeda thanked the Board and administration for all of the opportunities she has had with her education, and she so enjoyed doing the Hobart University promos because it was an honor telling everyone why she loves "being a Brickie." Terry Butler asked her what grade she was in when she was recognized at a Board meeting. He thought it was third or fourth grade because he remembers saying that the Board would be seeing her again. She did not remember the exact grade but did concur it was in elementary school. Sandi Hillan told the student representatives they were amazing, and she would miss them. However, she was excited for their futures and what they will be and reminded them to be themselves. She was very impressed with the unified track program and its benefits for all of the student athletes. She remembered when she was in elementary school the special needs students had desks down by the boiler room, and she was so pleased with how far the opportunities have come for those students. She mentioned that she saw one of the student athletes holding hands with a buddy and noted that when the athlete was younger no one could have touched them. She said it was so nice to see the love that the group has for one another. Dr. Buffington commented that the high school students are caring of their partnerships with special needs students and have a Buddies Club at the school. She noted that they also participate in the Cooking Club at the high school and have a great time. She mentioned that one of the parents contacted her and told her they had tried some of the recipes at home. Mrs. Hillan mentioned that a colleague thought Dr. Buffington was one of the best superintendents in Indiana and would like to work for her. She appreciated the comments and thought, "It was nice that is the reputation our superintendent has." Her leadership is known in our area and the state, and she has her Board's support. Dr. Buffington expressed her appreciation for the Board's support. She commented that she has a great team that works with her, and she noted that whatever idea she feels should be done, her team will get it done. She noted the importance of continuance in leadership and governance. She said the district committed to technology and the use of technology the 1990's. She has had an experienced team that continues to assist her, and she thanked the Board for their support. Rikki Guthrie was impressed with the unified track team and the great relationships that are made and learning to be kind to one another. It is great that the team has been able to experience the success they have had. Terry Butler asked Angelina if she had heard anything on her scholarship and she had not. He told her to the Board know about it. v Terry Butler commented that Brad Keehn has attended more Board meetings than any Board member did before becoming a Board member.

From the audience, Brad Keehn enjoyed the recognition of the unified track team for going to state competition, and he appreciated Coach Black's presentations whenever the student athletes are recognized. He extended his congratulations to the unified track team members and their coaches. He congratulated Madelyn Burton and Angelina Zepeda for a successful year and all of their accomplishments they had received. He said they worked hard and "kept their noses to the grindstone" to achieve their rewards. He wished them good luck. Karen Robbins told Mr. Keehn that it was going to be his job to keep Coach Rogers in line next year.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Butler adjourned the meeting around 8:31 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular session meeting is July 3, 2024.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

By _____
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

By _____
Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: July 3, 2024

**School City of Hobart
Board of School Trustees**

Resolution No. 2024-18

**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 Exhibit 1 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.

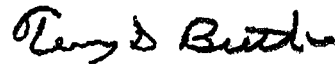
Be it Further Resolved, that Board Counsel is hereby directed to cause the foregoing amendments and additions to be incorporated in the codification of Bylaws and Policies previously adopted.

Passed on first reading this 6th day of June, 2024.

Passed on second reading this 20th day of June, 2024.

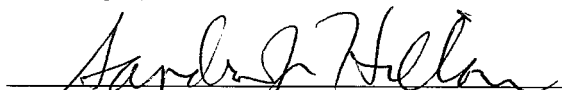
Adopted this 20th day of June, 2024.

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES



Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

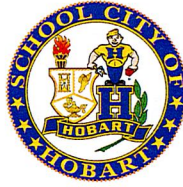


Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

Exhibit 1

Policy 7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)

Policy 7540.04 – Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Policies for Board - June 2024
Title	Copy of STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY
Code	po7540.03
Status	Work Session
Adopted	May 20, 2010
Last Revised	April 7, 2022

7540.03 - **STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY**

Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available through the Internet. The School Board provides Technology Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) to support the educational and professional needs of its students and staff. With respect to students, Corporation Technology Resources afford them the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. The Board provides students with access to the Internet for limited educational purposes only and utilizes online educational services/apps to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The Corporation's computer network and Internet system do not serve as a public access service or a public forum, and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its limited educational purpose.

The Board regulates the use of Corporation Technology Resources by principles consistent with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, the Corporation's educational mission, and articulated expectations of student conduct as delineated in the Student Code of Conduct. This policy, its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct govern students' use of Corporation Technology Resources and students' personal communication devices when they are connected to the Corporation computer network, Internet connection, and/or online educational services/apps, or when used while the student is on Corporation-owned property or at a Corporation-sponsored activity (see Policy 5136).

Users are prohibited from engaging in actions that are illegal (such as libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, and the like) or unkind (such as personal attacks, invasion of privacy, injurious comment, and the like) when using Corporation Technology Resources. Because its Technology Resources are not unlimited, the Board also has instituted restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using Corporation Technology Resources (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files, e-mails, and records of their online activity when using the Corporation's computer network and/or Internet connection).

First, the Corporation may not be able to limit access technologically, through its Technology Resources to only those services and resources that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Unlike in the past, when educators and community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection criteria (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students who would be exposed to them), access to the Internet, because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources that may not have been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

The Board prohibits the sending, receiving, viewing, or downloading of materials that are harmful to minors on computers and other technology related devices owned or leased by the Corporation or connected to the Corporation computer

network.

Pursuant to State and Federal law, the Board has implemented technology protection measures that protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using the Corporation Technology Resources if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under the Children's Internet Protection Act. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection measures will be subject to discipline.

The Superintendent or Director of Technology may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or online education services/apps containing appropriate material, if access to such sites has been blocked inappropriately by the technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protection actions of the technology protection measures.

Parents/Guardians are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services and/or resources on the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet.

Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:

- A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications
- B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information
- C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking", "harvesting", "digital piracy", "data mining", etc.), cyberbullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online
- D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information regarding minors

Staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above. Furthermore, staff members will monitor the online activities of students while at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

Building principals are responsible for providing training so that users of Corporation technology resources under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of Corporation Technology Resources. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social media and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. Users of Corporation Technology Resources (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students will be assigned a school email account that they are required to utilize for all school-related electronic communications, including those to staff members, peers, and individuals and/or organizations outside the Corporation with whom they are communicating for school-related projects and assignments. Further, as directed and authorized by their teachers, they shall use their school-assigned email account when signing up/registering for access to various online educational services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the student for educational purposes.

Students are responsible for good behavior when using Corporation Technology Resources - i.e., behavior comparable to that expected of students when they are in classrooms, in school hallways, on other school premises and at school sponsored events. Communications on Education Technology are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Corporation does not approve any use of its Technology Resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students may use Corporation Technology Resources to access or use social media only if it is done for educational purposes in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use.

Artificial Intelligence

As an emerging technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize how we teach and learn. School City of Hobart is committed to using AI ethically and in alignment with our vision and mission to meet students' needs. AI rules are defined as an app and service in policy and outlined below.

AI Tools & Systems

- **AI Output Review:** Always review and critically assess outputs from AI tools before submission or dissemination. Staff and students should never rely solely on AI-generated content without review.
- **Bias and Misinformation:** Be aware that AI-generated content may possess biases or inaccuracies. Always verify AI-produced results using trusted sources before considering them in academic work.
- **Safety & Respect:** Users must not use AI tools to create or propagate harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content.
- **Transparency:** Any use of AI to aid assignments, projects, or research must be declared.
- **Usage:** Misuse or malicious use of AI technologies will lead to disciplinary action.

AI Data & Privacy

- **Data Collection:** Parents, guardians, and students will be informed of specific data collection initiatives, and where applicable, consent will be sought. All AI-driven data collection will adhere to local data protection regulations and best practices.
- **Third-Party AI Tools:** The school's approved list of AI tools should always be consulted. Unauthorized AI tools might not adhere to data privacy standards and laws.
- **Personal Information:** Staff and students should never input personal, sensitive, or confidential data into any AI system without prior authorization, including any data related to student education records.

AI Assistance & Academic Integrity

- **Assessments:** AI tools may be used as a tutor or studying assistant to prepare for assessments, such as exams or quizzes, but not in the context of completing exams or quizzes unless explicitly stated.
- **Assignments:** Teachers are responsible for clarifying appropriate or prohibited uses of AI tools. Teachers might allow the limited use of generative AI on entire assignments or parts of assignments. They should articulate why they do not allow its use in other assignments or parts of assignments. Students are expected to follow the rules outlined by their teachers regarding the use of AI for assignments.
- **Bias & Critical Thinking:** Teachers and students alike should critically evaluate AI-generated content for potential biases or inaccuracies and understand the limitations of AI and the importance of cross-referencing with trusted sources.
- **Citations:** Students should always check with the instructor before using AI for coursework. If students use AI tools for course assignments, academic work, or other forms of published writing, special attention should be given as to how to acknowledge and cite the output of those tools in the work.
- **Plagiarism:** Students are expected to follow the rules outlined by their teachers regarding the use of AI for assignments. AI tools may be used for brainstorming or preliminary research, but using AI to generate answers or complete assignments without proper citation or passing off AI-generated content as one's own is considered plagiarism. Ethical use is expected.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them. Users are personally responsible and liable both civilly and criminally, for uses of Technology Resources that are not authorized by this Policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent and Director of Technology as the administrator(s) responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this Policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of Corporation

Technology Resources.

This policy shall be posted on the Corporation's website.

Revised 7/21/11

Revised 5/17/12

Revised 8/2/12

Revised 2/5/15

Revised 6/18/15

Revised 8/3/17

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Legal

P.L. 106-554 (2000), Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000

47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)

18 U.S.C. 1460

18 U.S.C. 2246

18 U.S.C. 2256

20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (2003)

20 U.S.C. 6777, 9134 (2003)

47 C.F.R. 54.500 - 54.523

I.C. 35-49-2-2

I.C. 20-26-5-40.5



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Policies for Board - June 2024
Title	Copy of STAFF TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY
Code	po7540.04
Status	Work Session
Adopted	May 20, 2010
Last Revised	July 7, 2022

7540.04 - **STAFF TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY**

Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available through the Internet. The School Board provides Technology Resources and Information Resources (as defined by Bylaw 0100) to support the educational and professional needs of its staff and students. The Board provides staff with access to the Internet for limited educational purposes only and utilizes online educational services/apps to enhance the instruction delivered to its students and to facilitate the staff's work. The School Corporation's computer network and Internet system do not serve as a public access service or a public forum, and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its limited educational purpose.

The Board regulates the use of Corporation Technology Resources and Information Resources by principles consistent with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, and the Corporation's educational mission. This policy, its related administrative guidelines, Policy 7544 and AG 7544, and any applicable employment contracts and collective bargaining agreements govern the staffs' use of the Corporation's Technology Resources and Information Resources and staff's personal communication devices when they are connected to the Corporation's computer network, Internet connection and/or online educational services/apps, or when used while the staff member is on Corporation-owned property or at a Corporation-sponsored activity (see Policy 7530.02).

Users are prohibited from engaging in actions that are illegal (such as libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, and the like) or unkind (such as personal attacks, invasion of privacy, injurious comment, and the like) when using Corporation Technology Resources and Information Resources. Because its Technology Resources are not unlimited, the Board also has instituted restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using Corporation Technology Resources and Information Resources (including but not limited to privacy in the content of their personal files, e-mails, and records of their online activity when using the Corporation's computer network and/or Internet connection).

Staff members are expected to utilize Corporation Technology Resources and Information Resources to promote educational excellence in our schools by providing students with the opportunity to develop the resource sharing, innovation, and communication skills and tools that are essential to both life and work. The Board encourages the faculty to develop the appropriate skills necessary to effectively access, analyze, evaluate, and utilize these resources in enriching educational activities. The instructional use of the Internet and online educational services will be guided by Board Policy 2520 – Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment.

The Internet is a global information and communication network that provides students and staff with access to up-to-date, highly relevant information that will enhance their learning and the education process. Further, Corporation Technology Resources provide students and staff with the opportunity to communicate with other people from throughout the world. Access to such an incredible quantity of information and resources brings with it, however, certain unique challenges and

responsibilities.

The Corporation may not be able to limit access technologically through its Technology Resources to only those services and resources that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Unlike in the past, when educators and community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection criteria (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students who would be exposed to them), access to the Internet, because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources which may not have been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Pursuant to Federal law, the Corporation has implemented technology protection measures that protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using Corporation Technology Resources if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under the Children's Internet Protection Act. Any staff member who attempts to disable the technology protection measures without express written consent of an appropriate administrator will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

The Superintendent or Director of Technology may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or online educational services/apps containing appropriate material, if access to such sites has been blocked inappropriately by the technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protective actions of the technology protection measures. The Superintendent or Director of Technology may also disable the technology protection measures to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Staff members will participate in professional development programs in accordance with the provisions of law and this policy. Training shall include:

- A. the safety and security of students while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- B. the inherent danger of students disclosing personally identifiable information online;
- C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking", "harvesting", "digital piracy", "data mining", etc.), cyberbullying and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online; and
- D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information regarding minors.

Furthermore, staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above, and staff members will monitor students' online activities while at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions; or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

The disclosure of personally identifiable information about students online is prohibited.

Building principals are responsible for providing training so that users under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of the Corporation Technology Resources. All users of Corporation Technology Resources are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Staff will be assigned a school email address that they are required to utilize for all school-related electronic communications, including those to students, parents, and other constituents, fellow staff members, and vendors or other individuals seeking to do business with the corporation.

With prior approval from the Superintendent or Director of Technology, staff may direct students who have been issued school-assigned email accounts to use those accounts when signing-up/registering for access to various online educational services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the students for educational purposes under the teacher's supervision.

Staff members are responsible for good behavior on Corporation Technology and Information Resources, i.e., behavior

comparable to that expected when they are in classrooms, in school hallways, on other school premises and at school-sponsored events.

Communications on Education Technology are often public in nature. The Board does not approve any use of its Technology Resources and Information Resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines and Policy 7544 and its accompanying guidelines.

Staff members may use Corporation Technology Resources to access or use social media only if it is done for Corporation educational or business-related purposes.

Staff members' use of Corporation Technology Resources to access or use social media shall be consistent with Policy 7544 and its accompanying guidelines.

An employee's personal or private use of social media may have unintended consequences. While the Board respects its employees' First Amendment rights, those rights do not include permission to post inflammatory comments that could compromise the Corporation's mission, undermine staff relationships, or cause a substantial disruption to the school environment. This warning includes staff members' online conduct that occurs off school property including from the employee's private computer. Postings to social media should be done in a manner sensitive to the staff member's professional responsibilities.

General school rules for behavior and communication apply.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked and disciplinary action taken against them. Users are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of Technology Resources not authorized by this Board Policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent and the Director of Technology as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to staff members' use of Corporation Technology and Information Resources.

Social Media Use

In addition, Federal and State confidentiality laws forbid schools and their employees from using or disclosing student education records without parent consent (see Board Policy 8330). Education records include a wide variety of information, and posting personally identifiable information about students is not permitted. Staff members who violate State and Federal confidentiality laws or privacy laws related to the disclosure of confidential student or employee information may be disciplined.

Nothing in this policy is intended to interfere with any school employee's rights under applicable law with respect to union organizing or collective bargaining.

Artificial Intelligence

As an emerging technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize how we teach and learn. School City of Hobart is committed to using AI ethically and in alignment with our vision and mission to meet students' needs. AI rules are defined as an app and service in policy and outlined below.

AI Tools & Systems

- **AI Output Review:** Always review and critically assess outputs from AI tools before submission or dissemination. Staff and students should never rely solely on AI-generated content without review.
- **Bias and Misinformation:** Be aware that AI-generated content may possess biases or inaccuracies. Always verify AI-produced results using trusted sources before considering them in academic work.
- **Safety & Respect:** Users must not use AI tools to create or propagate harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content.
- **Transparency:** Any use of AI to aid assignments, projects, or research must be declared.
- **Usage:** Misuse or malicious use of AI technologies will lead to disciplinary action.

AI Data & Privacy

- **Data Collection:** Parents, guardians, and students will be informed of specific data collection initiatives, and where applicable, consent will be sought. All AI-driven data collection will

adhere to local data protection regulations and best practices.

- **Third-Party AI Tools:** The school's approved list of AI tools should always be consulted. Unauthorized AI tools might not adhere to data privacy standards and laws.
- **Personal Information:** Staff and students should never input personal, sensitive, or confidential data into any AI system without prior authorization, including any data related to student education records.

AI Assistance & Academic Integrity

- **Assessments:** AI tools may be used as a tutor or studying assistant to prepare for assessments, such as exams or quizzes, but not in the context of completing exams or quizzes unless explicitly stated.
- **Assignments:** Teachers are responsible for clarifying appropriate or prohibited uses of AI tools. Teachers might allow the limited use of generative AI on entire assignments or parts of assignments. They should articulate why they do not allow its use in other assignments or parts of assignments. Students are expected to follow the rules outlined by their teachers regarding the use of AI for assignments.
- **Bias & Critical Thinking:** Teachers and students alike should critically evaluate AI-generated content for potential biases or inaccuracies and understand the limitations of AI and the importance of cross-referencing with trusted sources.
- **Citations:** Students should always check with the instructor before using AI for coursework. If students use AI tools for course assignments, academic work, or other forms of published writing, special attention should be given as to how to acknowledge and cite the output of those tools in the work.
- **Plagiarism:** Students are expected to follow the rules outlined by their teachers regarding the use of AI for assignments. AI tools may be used for brainstorming or preliminary research, but using AI to generate answers or complete assignments without proper citation or passing off AI-generated content as one's own is considered plagiarism. Ethical use is expected.

Revised 7/21/11
Revised 5/17/12
Revised 8/2/12
Revised 2/5/15
Revised 6/18/15
Revised 8/3/17
Revised 4/7/22

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Legal

P.L. 106-554 (2000), Children's Internet Protection Act
47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)
18 U.S.C. 1460
18 U.S.C. 2246
18 U.S.C. 2256
20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (2003)
20 U.S.C. 6777, 9134 (2003)
47 C.F.R. 54.500 - 54.523
I.C. 20-26-5-40.5
I.C. 35-49-2-2

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-19**

**Resolution Accepting Appraisals, Ratifying Prior Action,
and Authorizing Negotiation of Purchase Price**

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 wishes to ratify the action of Purchasing Agent in securing appraisers and receiving the independent report of two appraisers within thirty (30) days, and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees determines that a public school purpose exists for the acquisition of said real estate, and


WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees desires to authorize the Superintendent, consistent with board policy, to negotiate and offer to purchase the real estate described in Exhibit "1",

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT Resolved, that the Board of School Trustees ratifies the appointment of Jeff Vale and Randall Raynor to independently appraise the real estate described in Exhibit "1", and that it now confirms timely receipt of the appraisals of these appraisers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the Superintendent to attempt in good faith to purchase the real estate described in Exhibit "1" in an amount not to exceed Twenty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and 00/100 (\$21,750.00) Dollars per acre, an amount that does not exceed Fair Market Value for the property.

Adopted this 20th day of June, 2024.

School City of Hobart
Board of School Trustees

By: 
Terry D. Butler, President

ATTEST:

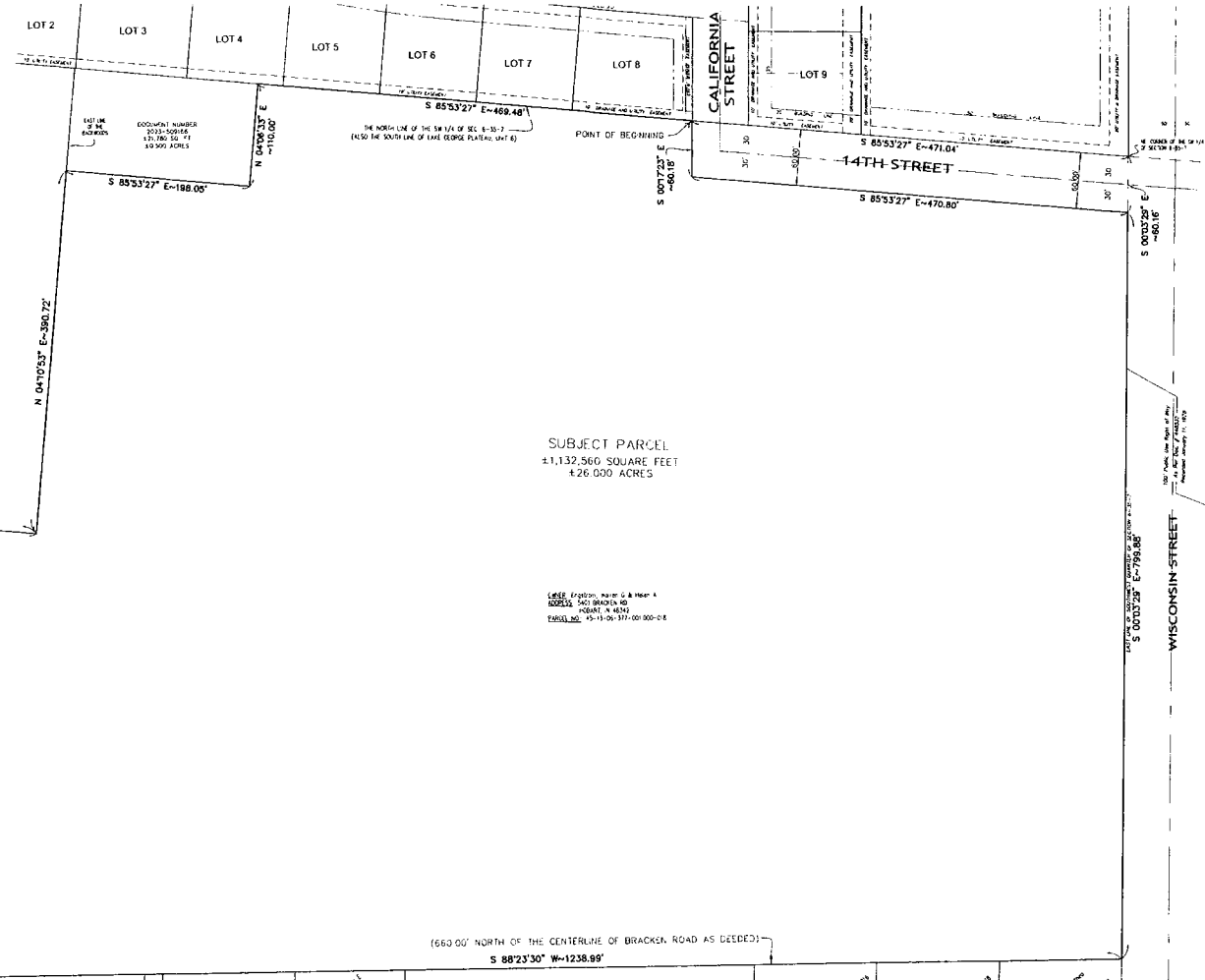

Sandra J. Hillan, Secretary

PLAT OF DESCRIPTION

Exhibit "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 Inrec'd, 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 759.58 to a point 560.00 feet North of the centerline of Gracklen 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 1238.99 feet; thence North 45 degrees 33 minutes 45 seconds West a distance of 304.58 feet; thence North 00 degrees 03 minutes 29 seconds West, a distance of 284.42 feet to a point on the South line of Lot 1 in The Badwoods 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 South 85 degrees 49 minutes 48 seconds East along the South line of said Lot 1, a distance of 284.12 feet to the Southeast corner of said Lot 1; thence North 04 degrees 10 minutes 52 seconds East along the East line of said Lot 1, a distance of 390.72 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 199.05 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 1,132,560 square feet, 26.000 acres more or less.



SUBJECT PARCEL
 1,132,560 SQUARE FEET
 26.000 ACRES

LEGAL DESCRIPTION, MAP G & MEAS A
 RECORDS 543 BRACKEN RD
 HOBART, IN 46342
 PARCEL NO. 45-13-06-177-000-000-018

WARRANTY STATEMENT
 THE SURVEYOR HAS CONDUCTED A VISUAL INSPECTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PARCEL DESCRIBED IN THIS PLAT AND HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS PLAT CORRESPOND TO THE ACTUAL BOUNDARIES OF THE PARCEL AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA. THIS IS NOT A BOUNDARY SURVEY.
 JOHN STUBBS ALLEN - Registered Land Surveyor No. LS9900011



DATE: JUNE 25, 2024
 CLIENT: CITY OF HOBART, INDIANA
 PROJECT: 2024-0235
 SHEET NO. 1 OF 1
 SCALE: 1"=60'



TORENGA SURVEYING, LLC
 PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
 907 RIDGE ROAD, MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321
 TEL. NO. (317) 835-8618
 WEBSITE: WWW.TORENGA.COM

PLAT OF DESCRIPTION
 ENGSTROM PARCEL
 PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER
 SECTION 06, TOWNSHIP 35 NORTH, RANGE 07 WEST
 CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

SHEET 1 OF 1

PLAT OF DESCRIPTION (Enlarged from Exhibit "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 1238.99 feet; thence North 45 degrees 33 minutes 45 seconds West, a distance of 304.58 feet; thence North 00 degrees 03 minutes 29 seconds West, a distance of 284.42 feet to a point on the South 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 South 85 degrees 49 minutes 48 seconds East along the South line of said Lot 1, a distance of 284.12 feet to the Southeast corner of said Lot 1, thence North 04 degrees 10 minutes 53 seconds East along the East line of said Lot 1, a distance of 390.72 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 1,132,560 square feet, 26.000 acres more or less.