

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
May 1, 2025**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on May 1, 2025, in the Board Room at Hobart High School, 2211 East Tenth Street, Hobart, Indiana.

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

Board Members:

Rikki A. Guthrie
Sandra J. Hillan
Frank Porras
Donald H. Rogers
Bradley Keehn
David W. Kostbade
Stuart B. Schultz

Board Members Absent:

Kayla Davis, HHS student representative
Isis Fleming, HHS student representative

Administrators Present:

Peggy Buffington
Christopher N. King
William J. Longer
Patrick Ryba

Administrators Absent:

Bob Glover
Jonathan Mock
Tim Krieg

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Guthrie indicated that the Board met in executive session prior to the regular session. As published, the meeting was held in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(1) where authorized by federal or state statute; (7) for discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute; and (9) to discuss job performance evaluation of individual employees.

CALL TO ORDER: Rikki Guthrie, President, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

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

AUDIENCE: The following were present in the audience:

Chris Wells, Hobart Middle School teacher
Heather Clay, parent and boys soccer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bradley Keehn moved and Frank Porras seconded that the Board approve the executive session and regular session minutes of April 17, 2025. Vote on motion: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Hillan, Porras, and Guthrie. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: President Guthrie noted there were no financial reports.

COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: President Rikki Guthrie 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 with the electronic meeting information for the Board's consideration.

Dr. Buffington recommended approval and requested Board action.

Bradley Keehn moved that the Board approve the Personnel Reports, as presented. Donald Rogers seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Hillan, and Guthrie. Abstain – Porras. Motion carried 6-0 in favor with one abstention.

The approved personnel items are as follows:

Contract for Extracurricular Services –

Hobart High School, April 25, 2025/June 6, 2025: Katie Albertin, Track MS Girls 4, \$3,061.00

Contracts for Extracurricular Services (Club Duties) –

Joan Martin School, August 14, 2024/June 4, 2025: Erika Duncil, Fifth grade choir (spring 2025), \$297.00; and Nicole Leonard, Girls and boys basketball, \$675.00

Liberty School, August 14, 2024/June 4, 2025: Nathaniel Lacny, Talent show, \$135.00; Jennifer Reno, Chess, \$216.00; Alaina Richter, Fourth grade ILEARN math, \$270.00; and Charlene Zager, Talent show, \$135.00

Veterans @ Mundell, August 14, 2024/June 4, 2025: Audrey Amsler, Ukulele, \$216.00; Sharon Castellanos, Brainy Brickies, \$189.00; Tatiana Hulser, Ukulele, \$216.00; and Ellie Welsch, Brainy Brickies, \$189.00

Hobart Middle School, August 14, 2024/June 4, 2025: Kenneth Evans, Weightlifting, \$742.50

Hobart High School, August 14, 2024/June 4, 2025: Nanelle Harston, We the People, \$2,025.00

Retirement Resignation –

LTC Scott Buhmann, Hobart High School/JROTC instructor, effective June 30, 2025

Extracurricular Club Duty Contracts –

Joan Martin School, 2024-2025 School Year: Elizabeth Heim, Fifth grade dodgeball, \$216.00; Jennifer MacDonald, Fifth grade dodgeball, \$405.00; and April Young, Fifth grade dodgeball, \$405.00

Resignations –

Jennifer James, Hobart Middle School/secretary-treasurer, effective May 2, 2025

Tracey Mitchell, Service Center/Transportation – bus aide, effective April 22, 2025

Jessica Pierce, Joan Martin School/Food Services – café manager, effective April 21, 2025

Brickies from the Start –

Nicole Tamayo, in addition to her student supervisor-aide assignment at the Early Learning Center, will be working, as needed, as a Child Care Assistant, part-time, two to three hours per week up to ten weeks for Brickies from the Start beginning April 2 through June 11, 2025. Her hourly rate will be \$15.00 per hour to be paid from the Early Learning Indiana Grant.

New Employees –

Cy Jones, Hobart High School/custodian, \$16.38 per hour with a 90-day probation period effective April 29, 2025

Nicole Lewis, Joan Martin School/custodian, \$16.38 per hour with a 90-day probation period, effective April 28, 2025

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

Chrissy Franks, Hobart Middle School transferring to the Principal's Secretary/Bookkeeper administrative assistant position, full time, new pay rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective April 30, 2025

Amparo Porras, Hobart Middle School transferring to the Student Services administrative assistant position, full time, new pay rate of \$18.04 per hour, effective April 30, 2025

Extra Duty Contract –

Diane Perigo, Hobart High School/Vocal Director – Children's Play, March 20/May 5, 2025, \$530.00

PRESENTATION: Hobart Middle School Hall of Fame: Dr. Peggy Buffington welcomed Chris Wells, Hobart Middle School teacher, and said he had an amazing idea and started a Hall of Fame for former middle school teachers. Mr. Wells told the Board that he was at a football game at another school and saw that they had a Hall of Fame, and he decided he would like to do it here at the middle school. He mentioned former staff members who have been selected for their Hall of Fame, as follows: Mary Cezus, Jackie Sawyer, Rich Lain, Sue Buha, Steve Balash, Kris Stelzner, Betty Whiting, and Janet Deal. He outlined the criteria that has been established and told the Board that this year's recipients were Peggy Kaiser, Vicky Thompson, and Dave Grabczak. He highlighted information about each of the recipients on why they were chosen. He noted that the families of the recipients were all pleased and honored for their family members. He invited Board members to join a little presentation at 10:30 a.m. and to attend the school's staff luncheon on June 4. Mr. Wells had spoken to family members of this year's honorees, and he was hoping they would be able to attend the presentation and luncheon. In addition, Dr. Buffington told Mr. Wells that if he forwarded information to her, she would include it in the district's weekly newsletter and on its social media sites. She mentioned that Chris King could assist him with any technology issues. Mr. Wells was thanked for his efforts with this project and for coming to the Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: John Anderson Foundation Grant: Superintendent Peggy Buffington highlighted this year's grant from the John Anderson Foundation in the amount of \$5,000.00. The grant was for two purposes with the first for \$1,000.00 for the Hobart High School Theatre Department to use towards lighting and microphones for the theatre, and second was for \$4,000.00 that will be used to purchase new VEX IQ upgrade kits for the robotics programs in the elementary schools. A copy of the grant, as well as

the email grant award notification from the Directors of the John Anderson Foundation, were included with the electronic meeting information. She said it was a team effort in getting the grant completed, and she thanked Pat Schoon and Chris King for collecting the required information, the grant verbiage, and completion of the grant. She extended the district's appreciation for the continued support from the John Anderson Foundation for our performing arts program, for our STEAM curriculum, and the growth of our robotics programs. In addition, she expressed her appreciation to Coach Rogers for his connection with the foundation. Dr. Buffington mentioned that since 2010, the district has received \$63,000.00 in grant awards from the foundation.

David Kostbade moved and Donald Rogers seconded that the Board accept the John Anderson Foundation Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 and authorize the superintendent to execute any necessary documents for the grant award.

In the discussion, Don Rogers mentioned there may be a change in the leadership at the foundation but thought there would still be a connection with them.

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

PRESENTATION: 2025 Summer Food Service Program: Dr. Peggy Buffington welcomed Patrick Ryba, Food Services Director, to the meeting to highlight this year's summer feeding program. Mr. Ryba highlighted the 2025 summer feeding, as follows:

- The summer feeding has seen quite a few changes over the years. From visiting the parks, cooking on the grill, to handing out thousands of meals as a drive-through service. The USDA extended their Rural mapping to encourage schools to adapt the non-congregate summer feeding method for summer 2024. After a lot of consideration, it was decided to try the non-congregate program at the district's only possible site, Hobart High School. The program was immensely successful and caught the attention of the USDA themselves. He referenced that in prior years, at the parks, they averaged approximately 4,000 meals fed to children over the course of the summer, but last year, they gave away over 40,000 meals.
- After doing some administrative paperwork changes, the USDA encouraged them to continue the same program again this year, but under USDA's new marketing name: Sun Meals. Mr. Ryba noted that with Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) guidance and help within our district, this year's summer feeding plans were finalized. For the public, our program will be almost identical to last year with the exception of the new name of Sun Meals. Hopefully, this familiarity will continue the success seen last year. Three main flyers have been prepared for the public: Our main informative flyer (in English and Spanish), our Drive-Through/non-congregate flyer, and the weekly menu. Dr. Buffington mentioned that the flyers were colorful and well done.
- Mr. Ryba indicated that his department has limited the public meal access to two sites this year: Drive-Through and Veterans Elementary (during summer school dates only—times separate from students). The YMCA and Genesis Church were removed from general public access. Those programs will still continue, but they will feed those children, as a closed/enrolled site. This was done at the suggestion of IDOE, to encourage more families to utilize our Drive-Through service. He noted that local families that rely on those two sites have not been forgotten. Bus transportation will be continued, and the Ridge View YMCA program was added as a bus stop where children can get on and taken to receive the Drive-Through meals and then returned to their home.
- Mr. Ryba said the Sun Meal Program will begin immediately with the summer school and Ridge View sites. The Drive-Through service will begin on Friday, June 13th, and end on Friday, August 1st. Drive-Through times will be Monday's and Friday's only from 10:00 am-12:00 noon. He hoped to this year's program would be as successful as last year's.

In the discussion, Mr. Ryba told the Board that last summer they had no idea how many meal packets needed to be prepared for the first day of pick-up. They ended up with 1,600 at the beginning and made more during the day, but they had to turn away a few families that day and ended up doing up to 2,000 meals in a single day. Don Rogers told Mr. Ryba that he should be prepared for an increase because the families have increased at the Hobart Food Pantry. Families would still be able to have lunch at Veterans, during the summer school dates, with free meals for children 18 years old and younger, and a nominal fee for an adult lunch.

The Board thanked Mr. Ryba for coming to the meeting and his presentation, and he was excused from the meeting.

CONSIDERATION: Trademark License Renewal Agreement for Hobart Pop Warner Little Scholars, Inc.: Dr. Peggy Buffington presented a renewal trademark license agreement with Hobart Pop Warner Little

Scholars, Inc. to use the Yohan logo in connection with the uniforms worn by their athletes and on their coaches' shirts for the term of the agreement. She indicated that Hobart Pop Warner now has a spring flag football season so Exhibit A was amended to reflect both seasons with the uniform requirements being the same for the use of the Yohan logo on the coaches' shirts (either on front left chest or center tag line on back) and the pants of the uniforms (front waist line). She said the new agreement was for one year and will expire on April 30, 2026. She noted that Pat Schoon works with the parties in preparing the trademark agreements and sometimes agreements are not returned in a timely manner. Dr. Buffington said everyone realizes and understands they are parent volunteers. She mentioned that Pop Warner was a great "feeder system" for football.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

Frank Porras moved that the Board renew the trademark license agreement with the Hobart Pop Warner Little Scholars, Inc. as presented and authorize the superintendent to sign the agreement on behalf of the School City of Hobart. Sandra Hillan seconded.

In the discussion, Dr. Buffington commented that sometime ago the group was using the Yohan logo on their store items without the Board's permission, and the products they were selling were taking funds away from the Athletic Department. After this happened, they requested a separate trademark agreement for use of the logo on spirit wear products they were selling.

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

OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP: HHS JROTC 2025 Cadet Leadership-Academic Bowl National Finals: Superintendent Peggy Buffington presented and recommended approval for cadets to attend the 2025 JROTC Cadet Leadership-Academic Bowl (JLAB) National Finals being held at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC from June 14 to June 19, 2025.

JLAB is a six-day resident competition for 96 cadets from twenty-four high school JROTC programs throughout the world. The Hobart JROTC entered a leadership team into the national qualifying rounds of JLAB, and the team earned a trip to the national finals. The JLAB team members representing Hobart High School are Wyatt Trinosky, Matthew Peterman, Nevaeh Nazimek, and Bella Zajac.

Dr. Buffington said that there was no cost for the cadets. The College Options Foundation is a sponsor of JLAB and pays for all air and ground travel, lodging and meals. The cadets will be staying and eating in the dorms of The Catholic University of America. The trip combines the JLAB finals, leadership education and training, as well as educational tours of Washington, D.C. The only cost for cadets will be for incidental items and for souvenirs.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action for the overnight/extended trip for the JROTC.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board approve the overnight/extended trip to attend the JROTC 2025 Cadet Leadership-Academic Bowl National Finals, as presented. Bradley Keehn seconded.

In the discussion, it was noted that the JROTC was a great group, and they worked very hard to get to that level. They do many things for the school, the district, and the community. Many of the cadets have outstanding GPAs like the student athletes. Dr. Buffington mentioned to Board members that their awards banquet was a great evening to celebrate the cadets and was worth attending especially if they had not ever attended.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

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

OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP: HHS JROTC 2025 Cadet Leadership Challenge Summer Camp: Dr. Peggy Buffington presented and recommended approval for the 2025 JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge (JCLC) Summer Camp to be held at Camp Atterbury near Edinburgh, Indiana. The camp runs from June 16 to 21, 2025. The focus of the camp was leadership development and adventure training, not combat training, and the activities will include rappelling, map reading, land navigation, water survival, and physical fitness. There will be a one to ten ratio of certified JROTC instructors to cadets. The Director of Army Instruction for the Indianapolis Public Schools is the Camp Commandant and his staff has the primary responsibility for planning and execution. There will be 14-20 cadets in grades 9-11 attending the competition, and if there are more than 14 cadets attending, they will travel in a district school bus. If the group is less than 14, they will travel in an activity bus. The cadets will stay in troop barracks and will eat in the military dining halls. There is no cost for the cadets. The Army furnishes all meals and lodging.

Board action was requested for the overnight trip for the JROTC.

Bradley Keehn moved that the Board approve the request for the JROTC 2025 Cadet Leadership at Camp Atterbury, as presented. Seconded by Donald Rogers.

In the discussion, it was noted the JROTC was a great program. Dr. Buffington told the Board they may want to attend this year's awards banquet because something huge was happening at it. She indicated that she could not say anything more because it was "a military secret."

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

OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP: HHS Wrestling Team Summer Camp: Dr. Peggy Buffington reviewed the request from Zack Johansen for the boys wrestling team to attend the ISI Team Wrestling Camp in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, from June 9/June 12, 2025. The camp will benefit the wrestlers' team building and wrestling skills, as well as college exposure. It was hoped the athletes will become better wrestlers that will equal more school exposure in social media. They are planning for around 20 student athletes to attend, and the group plans to travel in two district's activity buses, and varsity coach Mr. Johansen would be in charge with the assistance of Eric Keith, and Nathan Harrell, assistant coaches.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

David Kostbade moved that the Board approve the overnight/extended summer camp trip for the Hobart High School boys wrestling team, as presented. Seconded by Frank Porras. Vote on motion: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Porras, Hillan, and Guthrie. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP REQUEST: HHS Boys Soccer Camp: Dr. Peggy Buffington presented information for an overnight student trip request submitted by Coach Keith Lutell for the boys soccer team to attend a soccer camp at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana. Coaches and varsity/junior varsity team members will leave Hobart on July 14 in a school bus, and they will return on July 16. In addition to Coach Lutell, volunteer coaches Steven McDowell and Matt Gutyan will be attending.

Superintendent Buffington recommended approval and requested Board approval.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board approve the overnight field trip for the Hobart High School boys soccer team. Donald Rogers seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Porras, Hillan, and Guthrie. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP: HHS World Language Student Trip to Switzerland, Italy, France, and Spain: Superintendent Peggy Buffington told the Board that after this year's trip in Europe, the sponsors, Heidi Polizotto and Guillermina Freytes, were approached by students wanting to do another trip in 2026. The sponsors spoke with Dr. Buffington, and she asked them to survey their students to see how many were interested in another trip and to let them know the estimated costs involved. They did the survey and had 60 students signed up. The teachers screened the students, and there were 22 that were approved.

Dr. Buffington presented the trip request from Heidi Polizotto and Guillermina Freytes, high school world language teachers, for up to 35 high school students enrolled in World Language 2 classes or higher to travel to Europe during the next school year. Students learning about the cultures of the countries they are visiting would promote better citizenship. The trip would take place either during spring break of 2026 with the possibility of students missing up to four days of school or up to two days if the trip was taken at the end of the school year. In addition to the two sponsors, one other teacher would be chaperoning. The tentative itinerary was included with the trip information that was included with the electronic meeting information for the Board's review. Mrs. Polizotto and Mrs. Freytes are working with Educational Tours, and the estimated cost of the trip was \$4,589.00 if taken at spring break and \$4,989.00 if taken the first week in June. The funding options for students are to fund raise through EF or select a monthly payment plan. In addition, it was noted EF offers scholarships and discounts.

In the discussion with the sponsors, Dr. Buffington mentioned that, if the Board did approve the trip, they would have to re-open the sign-ups in the fall for new students, as well as for some students who were not approved in the spring. She noted that some students were upset because they were not approved, and this will allow them to correct whatever caused them to not be approved so they could possibly redeem themselves. The teachers are hoping to be able to take 30-35 students. It was also mentioned that the superintendent would be authorized to cancel the trip at a later date if travel alerts/warnings and/or health alerts are issued by the US government.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board to approve the trip Europe.

Sandra Hillan moved that the Board approve the extended trip request, as presented, and the Superintendent is authorized to cancel the trip at a later date if travel alerts/warnings and/or health alerts are issued by the US government. Frank Porras seconded. Vote on motion: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Porras, Hillan, and Guthrie. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: SCOH Educational Foundation Grants: In the absence of Jonathan Mock, Grants Committee Chair of the Hobart Educational Foundation (HEF), Superintendent Peggy Buffington highlighted the two grants that were approved by the School City of Hobart Educational Foundation that totaled \$2,773.57, and she mentioned that the check to fund the grants had been received from the educational foundation. One grant in the amount of \$480.00 was awarded to Jon Brumley for his high school physics students to attend Physics Day at Great America. In addition, to the students having a fun day, they will be doing projects dealing with the roller coasters. The second grant in the amount of \$2,293.57 was awarded to Brian Wesley to enhance the strength training program at the high school. The grants flow through the central office bookkeeping process. Dr. Buffington mentioned that there were three other grant applications, but those were funded another way.

In addition, Dr. Buffington mentioned that the grant application process was revitalized this year to focus on Classroom Enrichment & Innovation. Their focus will be on classroom enrichment and innovation that supports project-based learning and classroom enrichment initiatives that are directly impacting student learning. Their goals are to support creative and engaging classroom experiences, fund innovative educational projects that are aligned with curriculum standards, providing students with meaningful hands-on learning opportunities, and encouraging collaborative learning experiences beyond traditional instruction.

Dr. Buffington also said that HEF approved \$5,000 for the Brickies from the Start Program, will be giving \$1,500 for the Hall of Scholars, and \$6,500 for scholarships for high school students. She acknowledged the incredible work of the HEF membership who work tirelessly for the benefit of the students and teachers in the School City of Hobart.

Dr. Buffington asked the Board to accept the donations from the Hobart Educational Foundation to fund the approved grants.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board accept the grants and donations from the School City of Hobart Educational Foundation, as presented. David Kostbade seconded.

Sandi Hillan inquired whether the Joan Martin baristas group applied for a grant and was told they had not. Dr. Buffington noted they still have an opportunity to apply for a grant.

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

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: PLTW (Project Lead The Way) Grants: Superintendent Peggy Buffington highlighted the PLTW (Project Lead The Way) grants that the district received. There were three grants awarded for a total of \$16,800.00. The high school's grant will be used for their PLTW engineering program, and the middle school received two grants. One was for \$2,400.00 for their PLTW engineering program, and the other grant was for \$4,800.00 for the PLTW Gateway Program. In addition, the Board received information about the grants received last year from the PLTW Program that Tammy May compiled. Dr. Buffington noted that Tammy May had received her doctorate degree, and she expressed her thanks and appreciation to her for her dedication in writing the PLTW grants for the school district.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board accept the PLTW grants totaling \$16,800.00, as presented, and authorize the superintendent to execute the grants. Frank Porras seconded.

In the discussion, the Board appreciated receiving the grants and the work that was done to receive them. Dr. Buffington mentioned that Chris King and Dr. May keep track of the coursework that the PLTW teachers have, what courses they need, and where they have to go to complete them.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: Amended Lease Agreement between the Hobart Bldg. Corp and School City of Hobart: President Rikki Guthrie indicated that on March 20, 2025, the Board scheduled a lease hearing as required by Indiana Code. Public notice of the lease hearing was published in the NWI Times and Post Tribune on March 28 and April 4, 2025.

President Guthrie opened the public hearing on the amended lease at 8:03 pm. and opened the floor for public comment on the amended lease. There were no comments from the Board or audience so Mrs. Guthrie closed the public hearing at 8:04 pm.

CONSIDERATION: Resolution to Amend the Lease Agreement Between the Hobart Bldg. Corp and School City of Hobart: President Guthrie asked Attorney William Longer whether it would be okay if only the title of Resolution 2025-15 was read aloud, and he indicated it was.

Secretary Frank Porras read the Resolution 2025-15, as follows:

RESOLUTION 2025-15 OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
OF THE SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART APPROVING AMENDMENT
TO LEASE AND FORMS OF BOND FINANCING DOCUMENTS

President Guthrie requested Board action and a roll-call vote.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board approve Resolution 2025-15. Bradley Keehn seconded. Vote on motion: Secretary Frank Porras called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Kostbade, Rogers, Keehn, Schultz, Porras, Hillan, and Guthrie. Nay – 0. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

Resolution 2025-15, 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:

- Appointment to IHSA Student Advisory Committee – Dr. Peggy Buffington announced that Alex Tatum, a Hobart High School student, was appointed to the IHSA Student Advisory Committee beginning next school year. It is a two-year appointment, and it is an honor to be selected. There were around 90 applicants, and he was selected as one of nine that were selected this year. She indicated that he will be invited to a future Board meeting for recognition of the appointment.
- School Information – weekly agendas from all of the schools, the weekly BricksCenter newsletter, the May and June activity calendars from the Early Learning Center, and the JROTC newsletter, Cadet Life.
- Upcoming Activities/Events – the latest list of upcoming activities/events. Dr. Buffington highlighted the upcoming activities, as follows:

April 14- May 9 – ILEARN Test Window for Third to Eighth Graders

May 2 – Food Services Employees Recognition Day

May 4 – Joan Martin and Liberty PTO's, Brickie-Bolt, 3K Run/Walk Event,
HHS Brickyard, Gates Open @ 11:30 am and Race Starts @ 1:00 pm

May 5-16 – ILEARN Biology Test Window for HMS and HHS students enrolled in
Biology

May 6 – Election Day for Referendum

May 6 – E-Learning Day (Students attend classes via live Zoom and attendance is mandatory.) Dr. Buffington explained that the three asynchronous days for this school year were used because of school closings due to weather conditions so this day had to be live.

May 6 – Sixth Grade Orientation for incoming sixth graders (during the day)

Parent Night for incoming sixth graders, HMS Auditorium @ 5:30 pm

May 7 – Recognition Days for Teachers and School Nurses

May 15 – First Grade Orientation at the elementary schools @ 5:00 pm

(For all incoming first graders accompanied by at least one parent)

May 15 – Hobart Bands Turning 100 Concert, HHS Theatre @ 6:30 pm

(Alumni Reception in the Great Hall @ 5:30 pm, RSVPs requested)

COMMENTS: From the administration, Peggy Buffington told the Board about the Too Good For Drugs Graduation for all of the district's fifth graders that was held at the high school. Chris King was the Master of Ceremonies, the PTO's donated the tee shirts, and the SRO's celebrated the students. She said it was a wonderful event and indicated it was very well attended. She "hoped they can keep their pledge to be drug free." Dr. Buffington said that there had been many things happening in the school district and causing "a lot of stress for teachers and students" and the most significant one was ILEARN testing. Chris King extended his appreciation to Tammy May for all that she does and assists him with. He noted the John Anderson Foundation grant will be used for the robotics programs at the elementary schools and said the module upgrades were needed. He told the Board about the Esports State Competition that was held at Ball State University last weekend. Four teams competed, and two are state champions, one was a runner-up, and one placed third. He was super proud of all of them. He noted there was a sea of purple at the competition because in addition to teams and coaches, there were other Hobart people there to cheer on our teams, including the middle school's Esports team. They were really excited about the police escort when they got back to Hobart. The bus driver took video of the escort down 61st Avenue. Mr. King told the Board that the two first place teams will be representing Indiana at the National Competition in Wisconsin on May 31st. He said the teams were so excited and proud to be representing their state at the competition. Rikki Guthrie asked about Davion Holmes, and Chris King said he was a member of one of the first-place teams, but he also travels independently and recently placed 8th in a high school competition. He noted that Xavier Torres was at the

same competition and placed 9th and said Xavier also competed individually. Mr. King said that due to the eclectic makeup of the teams, some of them did not want to do the parade at the high school, but he told them they were going to participate in the parade. Mr. King expressed his appreciation to Mike Black who arranges the parades and noted due to nervousness, the students went the wrong way, but everything turned out great. Mr. King said they deserved the recognition. He mentioned that one of the team members had noted on his personal social media account that his school had a parade, and he had to participate in it. He got many comments from other gaming students saying their high school does not do that and other responses about it being a cool thing to do. The responses gave the student a different and new perspective about the recognition. He thanked Mike Black for his support of esports like he does of band and choir. At some schools it's all about athletics, but Mr. King said that is not true here and was "really grateful for that." Bill Longer commented that May 1st has been recognized as Law Day since 1958. He indicated that the Rule of Law was the founding principles in the Constitutions of the state of Indiana and the United States. He extended his appreciation to Colin May and the other teachers in the school district for teaching government to our future leaders. He commented that looking to the future, they might be able "to correct some of the mistakes we have made."

From the audience, Heather Clay mentioned she attended the meeting for the soccer trip and the European trip that her son wants to go on. She told the Board all of the schools were amazing, and they and the staff were "doing a great job."

From the Board, Dave Kostbade complimented the lunch program for making sure Hobart kids are fed. He reported on the Hobart Educational Foundation meeting and said they have five new members. They are discussing possible changes to their major fundraiser Harvest Home, formerly Taste of Autumn. A suggestion was made that changing the venue to the Great Hall at the high school to "eliminate a lot of overhead" so the event would make more profit. He extended "kudos" to Chris King for having "special connection to the kids." He extended his congratulations to the Esports' coaches and teams for their outstanding success at state competition this year. Dr. Buffington told the Board that the coaches and Esports teams have been invited to attend a Board meeting, and she was waiting to hear back from Mr. King on a date. Brad Keehn offered his congratulations to the Esports teams and their sponsors. He thanked Bill Longer for letting them know about Law Day and for helping them not to break any state laws. He extended his appreciation for the grants and the hard work that was done to prepare them. Stu Schultz congratulated Chris King, the other coaches, and all of the players for such an outstanding accomplishment. He thanked the administration for all of the hard work they had done this school year and knew that the work did not slow down for the summer because Dr. Buffington was already planning for next school year. Frank Porras offered congratulations to the middle school's three Hall of Fame teachers. He thought it was nice that they were being recognized. Mr. Porras mentioned that the European trip was "a once in a lifetime trip experience." He offered his congratulations to the Esports' teams and coaches. Sandi Hillan extended her kudos to Chris King and the Esports teams. She admitted that she was not happy with her son who was into video gaming when he was in middle school and told him there was no future in video gaming. She noted he still likes gaming. She complimented Mr. King on his relationships with the esports students and the program's acceptance of all students. Mrs. Hillan thought the middle school's Hall of Fame recognition of former teachers was "so special," and she appreciated that "teachers in the arts" were selected because so often they are not chosen for recognition. She noted it was principal's day, and teachers' and school nurses' days next week. Dr. Buffington mentioned that all of the administrators are recognized in the fall. Rikki Guthrie thanked Mr. Longer for the information about Law Day. She congratulated the Esports teams and their coaches and was happy the Board will get to celebrate them. She mentioned that LaPorte was starting esports there. She offered her congratulations to Alex Tatum and thanked everyone to her left for all of the work they do for the students and the community. Mrs. Guthrie expressed her displeasure with the new law that makes school boards political and thought it was unfortunate. She noted that was not why she chose to serve the children here in Hobart.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Guthrie adjourned the meeting around 8:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular session meeting is May 15, 2025.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

By _____
Rikki A. Guthrie, President

ATTEST:

By _____
Frank Porras, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: May 15, 2025

**RESOLUTION 2025-15 OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL CITY
OF HOBART APPROVING AMENDMENT TO LEASE AND FORMS
OF BOND FINANCING DOCUMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees of School City of Hobart (the “Board” and the “School Corporation,” respectively), finds the following:

1. The Board has previously examined a form of Sixth Amendment to Lease (the “Sixth Amendment to Lease”), which amends a Lease dated as of August 10, 2005, as amended by a First Amendment to Lease dated as of September 3, 2009, a Second Amendment to Lease dated as of June 28, 2016, a Third Amendment to Lease dated as of September 1, 2016, a Fourth Amendment to Lease dated as of July 23, 2020 and a Fifth Amendment to Lease dated as of June 23, 2021 (collectively, the “Original Lease”, together with the Sixth Amendment to Lease, the “Lease”), between the Hobart Bldg. Corp. (the “Building Corporation”) and the School Corporation, which Sixth Amendment to Lease is proposed by the Building Corporation to permit capital improvements to maintain the facilities of Hobart High School, Hobart Middle School, Joan Martin Elementary School, Veterans Elementary School, Liberty Elementary School, Early Learning Center, Service Center and Administration Building, consisting of improvements thereto including but not limited to paving, parking lot repair, painting, fencing repairs, stage repairs, HVAC/chiller/boiler repairs, carpeting/door improvements, roof repairs, athletic upgrades, safety and security upgrades, technology upgrades, as well as bus replacement and transportation upgrades, and all related improvements in connection therewith (collectively, the “Project”), and the leasing by the School Corporation from the Building Corporation of the school buildings described in the Lease to enable the financing of the Project (herein the “Leased Premises”).

2. Notice of a hearing on the Sixth Amendment to Lease with respect to the Project was published in accordance with Indiana Code 5-3-1 and Indiana Code 20-47-3-9 in the *Post Tribune* and the *Northwest Indiana Times*, and the hearing has been held in accordance with such notice.

3. The Board has, following two (2) separate public hearings thereon, previously adopted a preliminary determination resolution in respect of the Project and entering into the Lease in connection therewith and has published, posted and mailed notice of such preliminary determination in accordance with Indiana Code 5-3-1 and Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.1 in the *Post Tribune* and the *Northwest Indiana Times*.

4. The Board has been advised that, subject to the completion of all applicable legal requirements, the Building Corporation proposes to issue its Ad Valorem Property Tax First Mortgage Bonds, Series 2025 (the “Bonds”), in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$19,810,000 to provide funds to finance the costs of the Project, capitalized interest, if necessary, and cost of issuance of the Bonds.

5. In connection with the issuance of the Bonds, the Board finds that it is necessary to approve such Bonds and certain financing documents in connection therewith as hereinafter described.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

1. The Sixth Amendment to Lease with the Building Corporation, as Lessor, and the School Corporation, as Lessee, provides for a fair and reasonable rental for the Leased Premises in connection with the construction of the Project, and execution of the Sixth Amendment to Lease is necessary and wise. The Secretary of the Board (or if the Secretary is not available, the President or Vice President) is authorized and directed to initial and date a copy of the Sixth Amendment to Lease and to place it in the minute book immediately following the minutes of this meeting, and the Sixth Amendment to Lease is made a part of this resolution as if set forth herein. The President and Secretary of the Board (or if either is not available, the Vice President) are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Sixth Amendment to Lease on behalf of the School Corporation. The Secretary of the Board (or if the Secretary is not available, the President or Vice President) is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of the execution of the Sixth Amendment to Lease, in the form attached to this resolution, as soon as possible after the Sixth Amendment to Lease is executed, all in accordance with Indiana Code 20-47-3-11 and Indiana Code 5-3-1.

2. The issuance of the Bonds by the Building Corporation in the principal amount not to exceed \$19,810,000 to finance the costs of the Project, capitalized interest, if necessary, and cost of issuance of the Bonds is hereby approved.

3. The President and Secretary of the Board (or if either is not available, the Vice President) are hereby authorized to deem a Preliminary Official Statement for the Bonds, to be prepared by Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated (the "Underwriter"), as "nearly final," for purposes of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Commission (the "Rule"), except for the omission of information permitted by paragraph (b)(1) of the Rule without further action by this Board, and are hereby authorized and directed to approve such changes as are permitted by the Rule and to evidence such approval by executing the final Official Statement.

4. Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of this resolution, the Sixth Supplemental Trust Indenture, to be dated as of the first day of the month in which the Bonds are delivered (the "Sixth Supplemental Indenture"), between the Building Corporation and the trustee for the Bonds, which supplements the Trust Indenture and Mortgage, dated as of April 1, 2006, as supplemented and amended by the Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 1, 2009, the Second Supplemental Trust Indenture, dated as of June 1, 2016, the Third Supplemental Trust Indenture, dated as of November 1, 2016, the Fourth Supplemental Trust Indenture, dated as of July 1, 2020, and the Fifth Supplemental Trust Indenture, dated as of September 1, 2021, is hereby approved substantially in the form submitted at this meeting, a copy of which Sixth Supplemental Indenture is attached hereto and incorporated herein and in the minute books of the Board.

5. Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of this resolution, the Bond Purchase Agreement with respect to the Bonds (the "Purchase Agreement"), among the Underwriter, the Building Corporation and the School Corporation, and the Continuing Disclosure Undertaking Agreement of the School Corporation (the "Continuing Disclosure Agreement"), are hereby approved substantially in the forms submitted at this meeting, copies of

which Purchase Agreement and Continuing Disclosure Agreement are attached hereto and incorporated herein and in the minute books of the Board.

6. The Board hereby authorizes the assignment of any construction contracts and architect's contracts for the Project to the Building Corporation subject to obtaining funding acceptable to the Board and all statutorily required approvals. The officers of the Board are authorized to take all actions necessary to effect this assignment.

7. The President and Secretary of the Board (or if either is not available, the President or Vice President) are hereby authorized to execute an addendum (the "Addendum") to the Sixth Amendment to Lease. The Addendum will provide that the rental under the Sixth Amendment to Lease be reduced in accordance therewith after the sale of the Bonds, and that the Addendum will be attached to the Sixth Amendment to Lease.

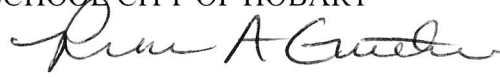
8. The forms of the Sixth Amendment to Lease, the Sixth Supplemental Indenture, the Addendum, the Purchase Agreement and the Continuing Disclosure Agreement attached hereto or described herein and approved and adopted hereby are substantially final forms, and the Board hereby authorizes the President and Secretary to approve such changes in form or substance to such instruments and documents as may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this resolution, the issuance of the Bonds by the Building Corporation and the construction and equipping of the Project by the Building Corporation, with any such approval to be conclusively evidenced by such authorized execution of such instruments or documents (except the Indenture to be executed by the Building Corporation).

9. The President and Secretary of the Board are hereby authorized to perform any and all actions and to execute any and all documents which may be necessary to provide for the issuance of the Bonds and the construction and leasing of the Project, including without limitation, securing a rating on any or all of the Bonds from one or more national credit rating agencies and obtaining municipal bond insurance for the Bonds. In the event either the President or Secretary of the Board is not available to sign any document herein authorized, the Vice President of the Board may sign such document.

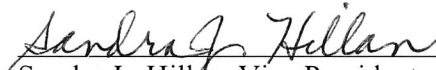
10. The resolution shall be effective upon passage.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2025.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART



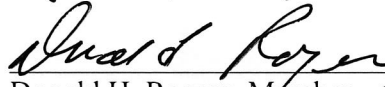
Rikki Guthrie, President



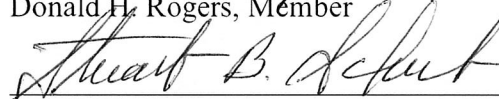
Sandra J. Hillan, Vice President



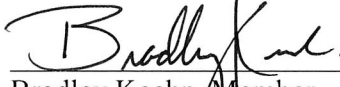
Frank Porras, Secretary



Donald H. Rogers, Member



Stuart B. Schultz, Member



Bradley Keehn, Member



David Kostbade, Member

Form of Notice of Execution of Sixth Amendment to Lease

**NOTICE OF EXECUTION OF
SIXTH AMENDMENT TO LEASE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of School City of Hobart ("Board" and "School Corporation", respectively) on May __, 2025, executed on behalf of the School Corporation, a Sixth Amendment to Lease (the "Sixth Amendment to Lease") between the School Corporation and the Hobart Bldg. Corp. (the "Building Corporation"), which amends a Lease originally dated as of August 10, 2005, between the School Corporation and the Building Corporation, as thereafter amended by various amendments. The Sixth Amendment to Lease permits capital improvements to maintain the facilities of Hobart High School, Hobart Middle School, Joan Martin Elementary School, Veterans Elementary School, Liberty Elementary School, Early Learning Center, Service Center and Administration Building, consisting of improvements thereto including but not limited to paving, parking lot repair, painting, fencing repairs, stage repairs, HVAC/chiller/boiler repairs, carpeting/door improvements, roof repairs, athletic upgrades, safety and security upgrades, technology upgrades, as well as bus replacement and transportation upgrades, and all related improvements in connection therewith, and including the cost of financing thereof. Approval and execution of the Sixth Amendment to Lease were made following the publication of notice and a public hearing made and held in accordance with Indiana Code 20-47-3-9. This notice is provided in accordance with the provisions of Indiana Code 20-47-3-11.

EXECUTED this ____ day of May, 2025.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL
CITY OF HOBART