

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
September 19, 2024**

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on September 19, 2024, in the Board Room at Hobart High School, 2211 East Tenth Street, Hobart, Indiana.

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

Board Members Present:

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

Administrators Present:

Peggy Buffington  
Bob Glover  
Christopher N. King  
William J. Longer

Administrators Absent:

Jonathan Mock  
Tim Krieg

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry Butler, President, called the meeting to order at 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  
Amanda Guthrie, high school student

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Karen Robbins moved that the Board approve the executive session and regular session minutes of September 5, 2024. Seconded by Frank Porras. Vote on motion: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Bob Glover, Business Manager, presented the Vouchers for September 19, 2024, and recommended their approval.

► Vouchers for September 19, 2024 – Kayla Davis and Isis Fleming, HHS student representatives, shared the reading of the accounts payable voucher summary with Kayla reading the first portion and Isis the last portion, as follows:

School Education \$823,614.95  
Exempt Operating – Post 2009 \$59,893.47  
Debt Service \$750.00  
School Operations \$451,439.21  
Construction 0700 \$682,827.65  
Construction Projects \$284,645.37  
School Lunch \$174,964.55  
Curricular Materials \$37,733.34  
Self-Insurance Fund \$621,405.92  
Community Gifts and Donations \$6,668.77  
Building Brickies \$400.97  
SCOH Educational Foundation \$15.19  
SAFE Supporting Addiction Free \$40.00  
Indiana Literacy Cadre CELL \$476.08  
Medicaid Reimbursement Federal \$369.70  
Title II Part A FY 2024 \$592.16  
Explore, Engage, Experience \$104,202.01  
ESSERIII \$12,512.77  
Clearing Accounts \$520,085.53  
Self-Insurance Clearing \$55,739.06  
Clearing/Flexible Benefits AF \$27,942.03  
Clearing/Ins Account \$1,829.45  
Credit Card Fee Clearing \$4.44

for vouchers totaling \$3,868,152.62 with no transfers. The August payroll distribution by Tracy Brumley, the school corporation's treasurer, totaled \$975,091.49.

Karen Robbins moved and Rikki Guthrie seconded that the Board approve payment of the vouchers for September 19, 2024. Vote on motion: Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

In addition, the copies of the following monthly budget reports, dated August 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.

**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.

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

The approved personnel items are as follows:

**Homebound Teaching Contracts –**

August 26/December 20, 2024: Vanessa Chandler, ICP, one hour per week, \$53.75 per hour; Jill MacDonald, Algebra, one hour per week, \$68.20 per hour; and Eric Schreiber, World History, one hour per week, \$59.14 per hour;

August 26/December 20, 2024: Jill MacDonald, Algebra, one hour per week, \$68.20 per hour

September 9, 2024/June 1, 2025: Jill MacDonald, Algebra, one hour per week, \$68.20 per hour

**ECA Resignations –**

Michael Black, Hobart High School/varsity assistant girls track, effective September 16, 2024

Colin May, Hobart Middle School/7th grade boys basketball, A and B, effective September 17, 2024

**Requests for Leave of Absence –**

James Kammer, Hobart Middle School/ counselor, FMLA, beginning August 21, 2024, intermittent usage, up to 60 days

Michelle Mecha, Joan Martin School/teacher, FMLA, intermittent leave beginning August 30, 2024 (up to 60 days)

Stephen Wells, Service Center/bus mechanic, FMLA, June 24, 2024, until on or about September 12, 2024, (up to 60 days) and unpaid medical leave until on or about October 25, 2024

**Technology Department -Adjustment(s) of position, hours, and/or pay rate –**

Corinne Wenzel, Lane adjustment to Technology Associate, Level 3, from District Technician, Level 3, effective July 1, 2024, for a new salary of \$50,965,00

**Extra Duty Contracts –**

Hobart Middle School/Volleyball, August 9/October 17, 2024: Tricia Fisk, 8th grade, \$3,111.00

Hobart High School/Esports, August 12, 2024/June 4, 2025: Patrick Ryba, \$3,322.00

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

Kayla Chambers adjusting pay rate to \$14.25 per hour effective February 26, 2024

Mariah Guerrero transferring to Liberty School from Veterans School, new pay rate of \$13.25 per hour, hours increased to 5, effective September 9, 2024

Marlene Rivera transferring to another position at the Early Learning Center, pay rate increased to \$13.85 per hour, hours increased to 5.75, effective September 9, 2024

Carrisa Aspros transferring to another position at Veterans School, pay rate increased to \$13.25 per hour, hours remain the same at 5.5, effective September 9, 2024

**Retirement Resignation –**

Nancy Smith, Service Center/Director of Food Services, effective July 16, 2025

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

Madison Blowers transferring from Hobart High School to the Hobart Middle School, same pay rate of \$16.38 per hour and same hours, and probation period end date reset to December 16, 2024

Terminations of Employment –

Jerri Baum, Hobart High School/custodian, effective September 18, 2024

Kelly Smith, Hobart High School/custodian, effective September 18, 2024

**RESOLUTION: School Custodial and Maintenance Employees Recognition Day:** President Terry Butler noted Resolution No. 2024-25 recognizing school custodians and maintenance employees on October 2, 2024, and asked Brad Keehn, audience member, if he had any objection to the secretary only reading the title of the resolution, and he did not.

Secretary Sandra Hillan read the title of Resolution 2024-25, as follows:

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART  
Resolution No. 2024-25

School Custodial and Maintenance Employees Recognition Day

President Butler requested Board action followed with a roll call vote.

Karen Robbins moved and Donald Rogers seconded that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2024-25 recognizing School Custodial and Maintenance Employees Recognition Day.

In the discussion, the Board extended their appreciation to all of the custodial and maintenance employees for their hard work in taking care of the schools and the grounds. Because of the care given to the high school, Terry Butler commented that many people do not realize the age of the building. President Butler noted he was sure that Dr. Buffington would make sure that the employees would be receiving a treat on their recognition day, and she acknowledged they would.

Vote on motion: Secretary Sandra Hillan called roll on the vote, as follows: Aye – Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

Resolution No. 2024-25, as presented, displayed on the screens in the Board Room, and adopted, is as follows:

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART  
Resolution No. 2024-25

School Custodial and Maintenance Employees Recognition Day

WHEREAS, clean and properly maintained facilities are an essential part of the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, Hobart’s custodial and maintenance staffs are committed to providing properly maintained facilities to the district’s students; and

WHEREAS, the custodial and maintenance staffs who prepare and care for school buildings help nurture our students through optimal environmental and climate conditions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that October 2, 2024, is designated *School Custodial and Maintenance Employees Recognition Day*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School City of Hobart expresses its deep appreciation to these valuable employees and commends their excellence in work on behalf of all of our students and employees.

DATED this 19th day of September, 2024.

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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

ATTEST:

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

**RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: IDOE RoboKind Grant:** Dr. Peggy Buffington highlighted the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) RoboKind Grant that was awarded to the school district. Originally, she thought the grant was for another robot, but it is a second-year grant connected with the original robot. The grant was for \$12,000.00, and the funds will be used for social skills curriculum, an onsite session, and an optional virtual session. She said that Tammy May, Technology Professional Development Coordinator, prepared and

submitted the grant. The grant was sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education to allow schools to purchase robots and curriculum and to provide professional learning for teachers using these tools with students. Robokind has been endorsed by CASE, the Council of Administrators of Special Education. Dr. Buffington said that Joan Martin's robot is named Milo, and he is about two feet tall and has a face capable of producing a broad range of emotions so students can practice interacting and learning facial expressions in a safe and predictable environment. Dr. Buffington mentioned Milo kind of looks like "a Chucky doll," but the students love him. Milo doesn't mind repeating lessons as many times as needed for students. There are calm-down modules that assist in not only calming down students but teaching them the tools they need to help calm themselves. She indicated that Milo was in the sensory room, and the staff were trained how to use him. Board members asked Dr. Buffington if Milo could come to a Board meeting. She said that he could and asked Chris King to bring him. In the write-up information about the grant, it was noted that research has shown children with ASD show up to an 80% improvement in communication skills when following the Robokind program, and a 40% increase in engagement when compared to more traditional therapy methods.

Rikki Guthrie moved and Sandra Hillan seconded that the Board accept the IDOE RoboKind grant and authorize the Superintendent to execute any necessary documents for the grant. Vote on motion: Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: Secured Safety Grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security:** Dr. Peggy Buffington highlighted and recommended acceptance of an Indiana Secured School Safety Grant that was written and submitted by Gregory Bialata, Director of Safety and Operations. This is a matching grant for \$81,000.00 and will be used towards salaries of the School Resource Officers. The term of the grant is September 1, 2024/August 31, 2025. Last year's grant was \$100,000.00.

Dr. Buffington requested Board action.

Stuart Schultz moved that the Board accept the Secured School Safety Grant, as presented. Frank Porras seconded.

In the discussion, Dr. Buffington mentioned that there were many "checks and balances" that are done throughout the year of the grant. She thought the legislature needed to review the funding for these grants and increase the funds for school districts. School safety is an important issue for all schools, and it was noted that Hobart was lucky to have SRO's in each of its schools. Dr. Buffington said the district was fortunate to have an agreement with the Hobart Police Department providing 60% and the school district 40% of the cost of the SRO's, and she applauded the city for their support that allows for the SRO presence in the schools. Terry Butler thought that the parents and community "would be upset" if they were not there, and Dr. Buffington agreed with him.

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

**PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE: Year 2025 Budget and 2025 Bus Replacement Plan:** Business Manager Bob Glover gave a presentation on the 2025 Budget and 2025 Bus Replacement Plan. He noted the information that was included in the electronic meeting packet, as follows:

- Budget Form 3 – Notice to Taxpayers that a public hearing on the 2025 budget will be held on October 3, 2024
- Budget Form 3 – Notice to Taxpayers with the School Bus Replacement Plan for the Years 2025-2029
- Advertised Budget Detail 2025
- Gateway Forms CYFW, Debt WS, Forms 1, 2, 4, and 4B
- IDOE Funding Formula 3912-72.5 Virtual

Before Mr. Glover started his presentation, Dr. Buffington told the Board that the 2025 Budget was not easy for Mr. Glover for several reasons. One of those was because ADM was a projection, and it was thought it would be lower than the February ADM. The actual ADM day was not until October. In addition, the enrollment for the school year was lower, and special education costs were more because of a school district that left NISEC, as well as the loss of funds from the SRO grant. She commented he had a difficult time building the budget.

Mr. Glover reviewed information in each of the areas listed. Mr. Glover told the Board that at the end of the presentation he would be asking the Board for permission to advertise the 2025 Budget and Bus Replacement Plan. In addition, Mr. Glover reviewed historical graphs that tracked data in several different areas such as healthcare costs, circuit breaker information, assessed value, ADM, etc. Some of the comments from the presentation and/or discussion during the presentation are as follows:

- Assessed Value had increased 40.65% since 2020. Mr. Glover thought that spoke well health of the community. Last year, the legislature capped the levy growth to 3% in 2024 and 2025. That was \$60,000 in 2024 and \$20,000 in 2025. It was noted that the Referendum Fund was not subject to the circuit breaker. Back in 2022, the circuit breaker was around \$1,000,000.00.



- Healthcare increased 15.2% this year. The district is self-funded and because of an inordinate amount of claims that were processed this past summer the insurance fund took a large hit. Dr. Buffington said that this had not happened before and that no revenue was going back into the fund until employee payroll insurance deductions that begin in October. She said they were able to cover the claims but said they would not be able to do so again. There may need to be plan modifications done before next year's insurance renewal on October 1. She indicated that she had made the Hobart Teachers Association aware of this and said the insurance plan could not continue to take on that risk. She noted several measures that could be done to modify the plan. She said to do so would be spending more monies than were being collected, and she had not ever done this and would not do it. It was noted that funds from the Rainy Day Fund will be transferred to the self-insurance fund.
- ADM – For budget purposes, it was projected to be 3,912 for this school year. That was down from last February's count. Kindergarten enrollment continues to decrease and that was attributed to declining birth rates. Dr. Buffington mentioned that area superintendents have indicated that their kindergarten enrollments were declining. Last year, 148 students were lost because of school choice vouchers and online virtual schools. She noted that programs were built for student populations of around 4,000 or more students, and if enrollment continues to decrease, it may be necessary to consider opening enrollment to increase revenue. If that happened, she would recommend a lottery with x number of slots in the lower elementary grades to generate more revenue.
- Brickie Virtual School – Funding is at 85% now. Dr. Buffington noted the school was for students with disciplinary issues and said the enrollment could range between 50 to 90 students so that it would not become its own school. Another alternative educational option for these students was homebound teaching.
- Bus Replacement Plan – The plan was prepared by Mathew McKee, Director of Transportation. A new bus now costs around \$142,000.00, and the cost increased 5% in the last year. The increased cost of buses began during COVID. Terry Butler noted that emission requirements have contributed to increased costs.
- Operating Referendum Fund – It will end in 2025 and covers the cost of the Transportation Department. It was mentioned that noted another referendum would be needed to cover those expense beginning in 2026 and, hopefully, would be on the ballot in May. Dr. Buffington indicated that she had seen someone who worked on the last referendum and said he volunteered to assist with the referendum even though he no longer lives in Hobart. However, he told her that he has two rental properties in Hobart so he would be affected. Mrs. Robbins indicated when the committee was put together, she would like help them, and Mr. Butler would also.
- Education and Operations Funds – The state funds the Education Fund, and the most important element of the funding is ADM, which is an unknown at this time, and the count will be done in early October. The Operations Fund receives funds from the Operating Referendum in addition to property tax revenue. The state limits their budget to a 4% increase and with the circuit breaker loss, doing a budget was challenging. In addition, no more than 15% can be transferred from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund, and it was noted that the transfers have always been under that percentage.
- Levy and Tax Rates – These are both advertised higher to protect them because they can be lowered but cannot be raised. After the budget process has been completed, the Department of Government and Local Finance will set hearings to review budgets and will set the levies and tax rates for the 2025 Budget. It was hoped that the Debt Service Fund tax rate would be finalized under the 80 cents. If so, this would allow the school district to have a bond issue without having to do a referendum. This lower rate would only be for this one year, and then the rate would return the next year to around \$1.00 or so. It was noted that this had been discussed at work session meetings with Stifel, the district's financial management firm.

In further discussion, Dr. Buffington mentioned there would be some future work sessions to share more specific information with the Board. Mrs. Robbins inquired about tax collections, and she was told they were "fairly stable" about 95% or so. Mrs. Guthrie inquired about the lower Debt Service tax rate being only for one year, and she was told that was correct. It was noted that the Debt Service rate would drop again in 2029. Dr. Buffington noted that Mayor Huddleston had contacted her about the possibility of enlarging the school district boundaries because he had a business that would like located here, as long as the business was within the Hobart school district boundaries. He was interested in changing the southern boundary to the railroad tracks, which would include the Barrington Ridge subdivision. She made him aware of everything that would be involved to do this. Both school districts would have to be in agreement to do it. The Merrillville school district would have to

agree to the loss of those students within the specified area, and then the Hobart school district would have to pay Merrillville monies toward their bonded indebtedness because of the loss of those students. She that his next step would be to speak with the Merrillville superintendent.

Bob Glover recommended that the Board grant permission to advertise the required notice to taxpayers for the 2025 Budget in the amount of:

\$32,458,945 for the Education Fund  
\$ 9,373,849 for the Operations Fund  
\$ 8,849,775 for the Debt Service Fund  
\$ 2,865,087 for the Exempt Operating Referendum Fund  
\$ 1,782,375 for the Exempt Debt Capital Referendum Fund  
\$ 300,000 for the Rainy Day Fund

and also, that the Board place on the October 3, 2024, board meeting agenda the Public Hearing for the 2025 Budget and Bus Replacement Plan.

President Butler requested Board action and a roll call vote.

Karen Robbins so moved and Rikki Guthrie seconded. Vote on motion: Secretary Sandra Hillan called roll, as follows: Aye - Porras, Rogers, Robbins, Schultz, Hillan, Guthrie, and Butler. Motion carried 7-0 in favor.

The Board thanked Mr. Glover for the presentation and for all of his work with the budget preparation.

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

- ▶ Change of Date for the Second Board Meeting in October – Due to a conflict of the superintendent, the second meeting in October will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024.
- ▶ School Information – weekly agendas from the Early Learning Center, Veterans Elementary, Hobart Middle School, and Hobart High School.
- ▶ Upcoming Activities/Events – the latest list of upcoming activities/events. Dr. Buffington highlighted the following upcoming activities/events, as follows:

September 16 – HHS Homecoming Parade @ 6:00 pm  
September 20 – HHS Homecoming vs Andean, 7:00 pm at The Brickyard  
September 21 – HHS Alumni Association Picnic, 12 noon to 3:00 pm at the Hobart VFW  
September 21 – Kiwanis Annual City-Wide Food Drive benefitting the Hobart Food Pantry  
September 23-27 – College Go! Dress-Up Days!  
Monday – College Colors: favorite college gear or colors  
Tuesday – Salute Your Future: military gear, camo, red, white & blue  
Wednesday – Career Gear: dress for your future career  
Thursday – Hats Off to Working Hard for Your Future: wear your favorite hat  
Friday – Hobart University Spirit Day: wear your HU shirt  
October 4 – Red Cross Blood Drive, in memory of Steve Balash, sponsored by HOSA at HHS Field House, 8 am – 2 pm

**COMMENTS:** From the audience, Brad Keehn thought the recognition of the custodial and maintenance employees was very appropriate for the work they do every day keeping the schools clean and the grounds kept up. He thanked them for all that they do. He thanked Bob Glover for his presentation on the 2025 budget and extended his appreciation for all of the work involved.

From the administration, Dr. Buffington said Homecoming was great. There was great participation, and she mentioned that she was outfitted in her purple “super fan cape” and purple feather Kentucky Derby hat for the parade. She noted that Karen Robbins did a great job driving her, and she made sure the kids got plenty of Rice Krispy treats. As with all parades, there were gaps between the participants due handing out treats, and there even was a train. Fortunately, the train came after they were over the railroad tracks. However, it made the gap situation worse than it was, and SRO Monte White, who was at the end of the parade at Festival Park, was concerned that something had happened along the way. Dr. Buffington thanked the Kayla Davis and Isis Fleming, student Board representatives, for the great job they did on their float without anyone else’s assistance. She wished there were more floats and noted that when she was a teacher at Foreman School they did an air balloon float. Sandi Hillan noted that she planted one of the pine trees that were cut down a few years ago. Bob Glover thanked the Board for their attention during his presentation. Chris King gave “a shout out to the custodians here at the high school.” He said they were “always available to help” with anything and were hard workers. Dr. Buffington mentioned that also included the student custodians. Bill Longer explained the levies and assessed valuation to the student representatives. The levy funds are used to operate the school district and come from property taxes. The property tax amount needs to equal the levy and both are advertised higher to protect them and will be adjusted at the budget hearing later in the year. Terry Butler told the student

representatives that the district receives monies from the state for students in the Education Fund, and the monies from the property owners pays for operating the school district through its Operations Fund.

From the Board, Frank Porras expressed his appreciation to Mr. Glover for his budget presentation and noted it was “easy to understand.” Don Rogers apologized that there wasn’t any popcorn and complimented Mr. Glover on his budget presentation. He told Dr. Buffington that he had some students he would like her to recognize with BEOP’s (**B**eing **E**xcellent **o**n **P**urpose). Dr. Buffington asked him to forward the names to her so she could do this for him. Dr. Buffington commented that she did a podcast with Isaiah Gransberry on goal setting and recommended watching it. Karen Robbins thanked Bob Glover for his budget presentation and noted he did a good job of condensing it so it was easy to follow. She mentioned that volunteers were needed to help at the food pantry on Saturday for the Kiwanis City-Wide Food Drive, and students were needed to assist with the picking up of the food bags. Stu Schultz commented that everything had been said, and he “agreed with everything.” Kayla Davis appreciated the recognition for the custodians and noted those at the high school “are very helpful.” She noted the seniors were in lead with the games and have been dominating them. Everyone was having a great time. Dr. Buffington commented that Kayla and Isis had assisted with the staff opening day of school activities and took some ideas from the staff Olympic Games. It was noted that the juniors won this evening’s Powder Puff game. Isis Fleming had a lot of fun with the locker bays and has enjoyed all of the Homecoming activities. She was very appreciative of all of the memories she would have but knows “it will hurt to let go.” Dr. Buffington mentioned that Isis was going to need a towel by the time May rolls around. She complimented Isis for all of the work she has done and her experiences in the area of service to others. She said that she and Kayla were “amazing individuals.” She told Isis that she had enjoyed “watching how you conduct yourself in life” and was proud of her. She told Kayla she was a wonderful person, too, but she had known Isis longer. Dr. Buffington mentioned many times in life people have to go through hardships, and they are not able to handle them well. She told Isis she “has been an amazing person” and she has “so much admiration” of her. Karen Robbins told Kayla and Isis that the Board members would be interested in hearing about their work on the Mayor’s Youth Council. Isis thanked the Board and Dr. Buffington for their support. She told them the youth council will meet with different members of city government throughout the year, and the group will prepare an ordinance that will be submitted to the City Council in June. Hopefully, the council will pass the ordinance. Sandi Hillan thanked Bob Glover for explaining the budget information and appreciated the work that he had done with it. Rikki Guthrie thanked Bob Glover and appreciated the recognition of the custodial and maintenance staff and thanked them for all that they do. Terry Butler mentioned that the maintenance staff are always willing to assist with the food drives for the Hobart Food Pantry. There is always community spirit and cooperation wherever needed. Mr. Butler commented on Dr. Buffington’s relationship with students and noted it was totally different than in other school districts. He mentioned that before the current high school was built, there were visitations to other high schools. In a school district in the Indianapolis area, they were walking around the school with the principal, and no one said anything to him, nor did he acknowledge any of them. Mr. Butler said that is not true in Hobart. From kindergarten through high school the students know who Dr. Buffington is, and they always speak and interact with her no matter where they are. Mr. Butler commented about the detours throughout the city and thought they should have one for the Dairy Queen. He told the student representatives to enjoy all the special moments of their school years and to remember them fondly. He mentioned that one of his sons recently returned for a reunion with almost 50 classmates. He noted that his son had several groups of friends when he was in high school, and they all had a wonderful time remembering those times with one another at the reunion.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, President Butler adjourned the meeting around 8:50 p.m.

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

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

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

ATTEST:

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

Submitted for Approval: October 3, 2024