

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of the January 5, 2021, Regular Meeting HURON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Number 2021-3

Call to Order

Mr. Paul Ward, Board President, called to order the Regular Meeting of the Huron City School District on January 5, 2021, at 6:37 pm in the Board Conference Center of the Huron City School District Board of Education Office. Also present: Dennis Muratori, Superintendent, Randy Drewyor, Treasurer, Chad Carter, Principal McCormick Jr. High, Holly Charville, Director of Special Services, Mark Doughty, Principal Woodlands Intermediate, Julie Lenner-McDonald, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Denise Zielske, Director of Operations and four community members.

Roll Call

Mr. John P. Jones	Present
Mrs. Donna Green	Present
Mr. Paul Ward	Present
Mr. Scott Slocum	Present
Mrs. Jody Mast	Present

Mr. Ward announced that the meeting was being digitally recorded and asked audience members to sign the visitors' log.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Ward lead all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval

Upon recommendation by Mr. Muratori, Mrs. Mast moved for approval of the January 5, 2021, regular meeting agenda. Mr. Jones seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Mast	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes
Mr. Slocum	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes

Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Mast and seconded by Mr. Slocum to approve the minutes of the December 11 2020, Special Board of Education Meeting and the December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Mast	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes

21-0010 –
Agenda
Approval

21-0011 –
Approval of
Minutes

Mr. Slocum Yes

Mr. Ward Yes

Motion Passed.

Audience/Community Participation

Theresa Graybill 906 Salem Dr.

Ms. Graybill stated she understands the desire to return to 5 days of instruction and the current COVID mitigation efforts are working. COVID cases are still high in the community and the district should not return to a 5-days for all students. The opinions of the teachers should be taken into account. The hybrid schedule seems to be working for most families and the district should do more for families where this schedule is not working. Additionally, the long-term health affects of COVID are unknown so we should be more cautious. Ms. Graybill asked the board to recend the plan to go back to full return on January 19th and to provide more resources for families who are struggling.

Mindee Brunow 3004 Deerfoot Trail

Ms. Brunow urged the district to return to 5 days of instruction. She communicated that her son needs to be in school every day. She is a mom and not a teacher. Her son is struggling to get his work done. Families who do not return do have the remote and virtual options. Her son is falling behind and needs more socialization and more time in front of teachers.

Dr. Elizabeth Laffay, DO 417 Anchorage Circle

Dr. Laffay commented on the research done in Ohio and Mississippi that school environments are one of the safest environments. Local case counts are steady. The district should return to 5 days of instruction.

Mr. Ward thanked the audience for the comments and that the district is making all considerations to do what's best for the students, staff and community. Mr. Ward acknowledged that the board is not on the frontline of these challenges and commended the staff for all of their hard work to get the district to this point.

Superintendent's Discussion Items

Mr. Muratori reviewed the statistics for COVID infections in the district. Since November 23, 2020 the district has had 27 students and 18 staff members test positive for COVID. These transmissions all occurred outside of the district. Since August 31, 2020 there has been 26 high school, 5 jr. high, 7 intermediate, 5 primary and 2 HVA students who have tested positive. During the same time frame there have been 13 teachers, 2 support staff, 2 North Point staff, 2 coaches and 1 administrator who have tested positive.

The on-going challenge is finding substitutes when staff are out sick. Transmissions continue to be in the general community and among families.

There is an on-going discussion with the Erie County Health Department on getting staff vaccinations. Educators are considered 1B in the roll out. The vaccine could be made available, through the Erie County Health Department, as early as two weeks. The availability of vaccine is driving the timelines.

The district remains focused on data-driven decision making. Schools are not the source of contamination and per the Ohio and Mississippi studies are proving to be one of the safest locations. The district is concerned about our most vulnerable students falling farther behind and the need to get them back in the classroom fulltime to address academic, as well as social and mental health needs.

The Superintendent continues to communicate with other local districts on their schedules. Perkins, Edison and St. Mary's are going back to 5 days. Vermillion has been on full return. Huron continues to plan on a

full return on January 19th. Huron families will continue to have three options: (1) Full return, (2) Full remote, or (3) Huron Virtual Academy. A virtual community forum will be held on January 11th to share this information as well as other district information. The forum will begin at 6:00 pm.

Treasurer's Discussion Items

Mr. Drewyor provided an overview of current district revenues and spending. The district's revenue and expenditures are tracking per plan. At this point the expenditure trend is positive. If this continues the district could end the year about \$100k more favorable to forecast.

The district is moving into it's low cash position for the year. Tax advances in January and February will be critical.

All of the district's audits are complete. In general the audits were clean including the FY20 GAAP Audit.

Treasurer Recommendations

On the recommendation of the Treasurer, Mrs. Green moved and Mr Jones seconded to approve the following financial items:

- A. The monthly financial statements for the close of December 31, 2020, as per exhibits.
- B. Donations for the month of December 2020, totalling \$250:

From	Benefactor	Amount
Patrick and Nichole O'Hara	Shawnee Building Fund	\$250.00

- C. Approve the acceptance of the Erie County Mental Health grant in the amount of \$10,365.
- D. Approve the amended appropriations and certificate of resources as presented.

E. Approve the following standing authorization:

1) To employ the firm of Bricker & Eckler LLP as legal counsel to the District on matters relating to property tax valuation complaints;

(2) to authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to direct such legal counsel to initiate property tax valuation complaints, file counter-complaints, and, in consultation with the Superintendent, Treasurer, and/or other authorized District administrator, to settle property tax cases on the District's behalf; and

(3) to authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to sign an appropriate letter of engagement or such other documents necessary to carry this resolution into effect.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Mast	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes
Mr. Slocum	Yes

Motion Passed.

21-0012 -
Treasurer
Recommendations

Superintendent Recommendations

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Mrs. Green and seconded by Mrs. Mast to approve the following personnel items:

- A. Approve retirement for Steve Zeck effective January 30, 2022.
- B. Approve change of placement on certified schedule for Adaleine Jackson from BA to BA+30 effective 1-4-2021.
- C. Approve athletic supplementals as follows:
 - Darius Schaeffer – Girls Basketball Clock
 - Sarah Baker – Girls Asst. Soccer Coach

Roll Call:

Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes
Mr. Mast	Yes
Mr. Slocum	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes

Motion Passed.

Board Committee Reports

This portion of the meeting is to be set aside for the Board members to provide updates for the Board Committees for which the members have volunteered.

Curriculum & Instruction	Mr. Ward
Operations & Facilities	Mrs. Mast
Policies	Mr. Slocum
Finance & Audit	Mr. Jones
Hall of Fame / Athletic Council	Mr. Ward
Community Relations	Mr. Jones
Economic Development & Business Round Table	Mrs. Mast
Huron Schools Education Foundation & Tiger Grant	Mrs. Mast
Joint Recreation District	Mr. Slocum
EHOVE	Mrs. Green
Safety & Security	Mr. Jones

Resolution to Proceed

Mrs. Green and Mr. Jones seconded a motion to approve the Resolution to Proceed with a five-year, 5.6 mil Emergency Levy to be placed on the May 4, 2021 ballot as follows:

RESOLUTION DETERMINING TO PROCEED

WITH SUBMISSION OF TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, this Board of Education at its meeting on December 15, 2020, by resolution duly adopted, determined the necessity of levying a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the benefit of this School District for the purpose of avoiding an operating deficit of the School District, in the amount of \$2,100,000 per year for a five (5) year period, and provided that the question of levying said additional tax shall be submitted to the electors of said School District at an election to be held on May 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has certified to this Board of Education that the total current tax valuation of this School District is \$381,122,250 and that the estimated annual levy (assuming that the amount of the tax list of this School District remains throughout the life of the levy the same as the amount of the tax list for the current year) required to produce said annual amount is five and six-tenths (5.60) mills for each one dollar (\$1.00) of valuation, which amounts to fifty-six cents (\$0.56) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Huron City School District, County of Erie, Ohio:

SECTION 1. That it is hereby determined to proceed with the submission to the electors of the entire territory of the School District the question of levying the additional tax described in the preambles hereto at the election to be held on May 4, 2021, under authority of Section 5705.194 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 2. That the Treasurer of this Board of Education be and is hereby directed to certify the following to the Board of Elections: (a) the resolution of this Board of Education determining the necessity of said additional tax and said election; (b) this resolution; (c) the total current tax valuation of this School District and the amount of the average tax levy, expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar (\$1.00) of valuation, as calculated and certified by the County Auditor; and (d) the number of years said levy is to run and to notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of such election to be given as required by law.

SECTION 3. That the form of ballot, upon which the question of levying said additional tax shall be submitted to the electors, shall be substantially as follows:

PROPOSED TAX LEVY (ADDITIONAL)

HURON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

A majority affirmative vote is

necessary for passage.

Shall a levy be imposed by the Huron City School District, County of Erie, Ohio, for the purpose of **AVOIDING AN OPERATING DEFICIT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**, in the sum of \$2,100,000 per year, and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the County Auditor to average five and six-tenths (5.60) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to fifty-six cents (\$0.56) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of five (5) years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022?

	FOR THE TAX LEVY
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

SECTION 4. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Education concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Education; and that all deliberations of this Board of Education and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Roll Call:

Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes
Mr. Mast	Yes
Mr. Slocum	Yes

Motion Passed.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Huron Board of Education will be February 16, 2021 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Huron City School District Board of Education Conference Room.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Mast moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mrs. Green.

20-0015-
Adjournme
nt

Roll Call:

Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Green	Yes
Mr. Mast	Yes
Mr. Slocum	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes

Motion Passed.

Mr. Ward declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

President



Attest



Certificate of Available Resources

Certificate
Section ORC §5705.412

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED the Huron City School District Board of Education, Erie County, Ohio has sufficient funds to meet the contract agreement, obligation, payment or expenditure for the above, and has in effect for the remainder of the fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year the authorization to levy taxes which, when combined with the estimated revenue from all other sources available to the district at the time of certification, are sufficient to provide operating revenues necessary to enable the district to operate an adequate educational program on all the days set forth in its adopted school calendar for the current fiscal year equal to the number of days instruction was held or is scheduled for the current fiscal year.



Board President



Treasurer

Comments:

See ORC §5705.412

This certificate must be attached to any contract or order involving the expenditure of money with certain statutory exceptions.