

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of the January 4, 2022, Regular Meeting
HURON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Number 2022-3

Call to Order

Mrs. Jody Mast, Board President, called to order the Regular Meeting of the Huron City School District on January 4, 2022, at 6:45 pm in the Board Conference Center of the Huron City School District Board of Education Office. Also present: John Ruf, Interim Superintendent; Betty Schwiefert, Interim Treasurer; Julie Lenner-McDonald, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Chad Carter, Principal at McCormick Middle School; William Biddlecombe, Huron City Council Member; Jason Hinners, John Adams, Katie Allendorf, Mindee Brunow, Curt Brunow, Tim Sowecke, Ryan Hathaway and Nate Hinners and other individuals who did not sign in.

Roll Call

Mrs. Stacey Hartley	Present
Mrs. Stacy Hinners	Present
Mr. John Jones	Present
Dr. Elizabeth Laffay	Present
Mrs. Jody Mast	Present

Agenda Approval

The agenda for the January 4, 2022 meeting was presented. Dr. Laffay moved for approval of the regular meeting agenda. Mrs. Hinners seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Mast and seconded by Mrs. Hinners to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2021 regular meeting as presented.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Mast	Yes
Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes

Motion Passed.

22-0007 –
Agenda
Approval

22-0008 –
Approval of
Minutes

Audience/Community Participation

William Biddlecombe, 1228 Brookview Drive

Mr. Biddlecombe is a current Huron City Council member and will be the liaison between the city council and Huron City Schools Board of Education.'

Tim Sowecke 346 Ohio Street

Mr. Sowecke congratulated new board members on their election. He would like the board to address the physical condition of McCormick School. The building is showing its age. It is a valuable community asset that should be maintained/repared.

Superintendent's Discussion Items

Mr. Ruf reported that there has been a lot of discussion with area superintendents regarding the COVID situation. There have been guidance from the Erie County Health Department, the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health. All agencies have different guidance that creates a lot of confusion. A communication will be going out to parents/students soon. It is a work in progress. Mrs. Hartley asked whether there was a substitute shortage for Huron City Schools. Mr. Ruf explained that there are a lot of individuals who only substitute for Huron so the availability of substitutes for Huron is not as bad as other districts. Also, current staff is filling in when necessary. For example, most of the maintenance staff can also drive a bus. The only down side to this is that staff do not have time to do their regular duties. Discussion regarding putting a dashboard on the school website with how COVID was in the school took place. Mr. Ruf is reluctant to do that since it would probably not be accurate.

Treasurer's Discussion Items

Mrs. Schwiefert reported that the audit being done by Julian & Grubbe is complete and a draft audit report will be sent to the Auditor of State for review. Once their review is done, the audit will be released on the auditor's website.

Treasurer Recommendation

On the recommendation of the Treasurer, Dr. Laffay moved and Mrs. Hartley seconded to approve the following:

A. 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:

Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mrs. Hinnens	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes

22-0009 –
Treasurer
Recommendations

Mrs. Mast Yes
Motion Passed.

School Volunteers

It was moved by Dr. Laffay and seconded by Mrs. Hinners to approve Brittany Shinault as a school volunteer.

Roll Call:

Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

22-0010-
Volunteers

Board Committee Reports

Board of Education committee liaisons are being reviewed for changes and/or updates in assignments.

It was moved by Mrs. Hinners to appoint John Jones as the Huron City School Board of Education representative to the EHOVE Career Center board. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hartley.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

22-0011 –
EHOVE Rep

Mrs. Hartley moved and Mr. Jones seconded to appoint Elizabeth Laffay as the Huron City School Board of Education representative to the Huron City Joint Recreation District Board.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

22-0012 –
Rec Board
representati
ve

Executive Session

Mrs. Hartley moved for the board to go into executive session to consider the employment of a public employee, public official or regulated individual. The motion was seconded by Dr. Laffay.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Hinners	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

22-0013-
Executive
Session

The Board moved into executive session at 7:37 p.m.

Jody Mast, Board President, called the meeting back to regular session at 8:24 p.m.

Superintendent Search

The board discussed options for hiring a search company for the superintendent vacancy. There is no cost if North Point ESC is used while there are three other companies that did presentations that would have a cost. What is the justification for spending money if North Point was used in the past and was successful before? Another option would be for the board to do the search on their own. If the board did its own search, it would take more time while a search firm could start immediately. A downside to search firms is that they may try to recruit a successful candidate in the future to fill a vacancy in another district. Mrs. Mast would like to try something different-not use North Point. Mr. Jones would also like to try something different. He suggested using OSBA. Mrs. Mast asked whether two search firms could be used at the same time. Mrs. Hinnners thought that would be very hard to administrate. Dr. Laffay commented that all the presentations were similar. She felt that since OSBA was the least expensive and already had a good relationship with the district, they would be a good fit. It was moved by Mrs. Hinnners and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve a contract with Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA), to provide a superintendent's search for Huron City Schools.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Hinnners	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

Next Meeting

The next special meeting of the Huron Board of Education will be January 18, 2022 at 4:30 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. Hinnners moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mr. Jones.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Hinnners	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mrs. Hartley	Yes
Dr. Laffay	Yes
Mrs. Mast	Yes

Motion Passed.

Mrs. Mast declared the meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

President _____

Attest _____

22-0014-
OSBA Supt
Search

22-0015-
Adjournme
nt

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.