

DISCLAIMER: *This is a summary of the referenced meeting of the Hamilton School District Board of Trustees (“the Board”) and is based on the written notes and memory of individuals in attendance. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made during the meeting and they reflect a subjective work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. This summary is neither an official transcript, nor should it be relied upon for any official purpose. This summary is not intended to replace, or in any way affect, the official Minutes of the Board.*

**Special Board Meeting
Notes on Agenda Items
September 15, 2020**

Board Members Present:

Patrick Hanley
Heidi Apedaile
Drew Blankenbaker
Jeni Seifert
Rebecca Stamp
Seth Gale Wyrick

Board Members Not Present:

Tim Campbell

District Business:

- 1. Consideration of Increasing Student Rider Capacity for School Transportation** (Information/Action): Superintendent Korst reported that bus ridership is increasing as some students return to in-person learning from the virtual platform. Superintendent Korst and Mike Krout, of Majestic Transportation, presented a summary of the transportation issues facing the District and their attempts to keep bus occupancy at or below 50% capacity. The Board moved to permit Mr. Krout to use emergency bus route reconfiguration as needed to resolve any high occupancy bus scenarios. Mr. Krout and Superintendent Korst will report back to the Board on this matter at the regular October Board Meeting. No public comment, or questions were received. The Board Passed this Action Item.
- 2. Consideration of Increasing Student Rider Capacity for Student Activities** (Information/Action): Superintendent Korst presented data concerning the potential need to increase student occupancy on activity busses, or to cancel certain athletic events due to occupancies exceeding the previously agreed upon 50% ridership. Director of Transportation, Tom Pitzinger, provided information concerning scheduling logistics as well as vehicle and driver availability. Public comments were received and included, but were not limited to: concerns for a common sense approach to bus capacity, individual liberty, cohorting of athletes who are regularly exposed to one another, and parental choice/waiver of liability with regard to bus capacity. Following public comment, Superintendent Korst recommended

that the Board move to allow for a 75% maximum bus occupancy with the understanding that the District will attempt to uphold the 1 student per seat policy by exploring all other options, including: shuttling, contracting out through Majestic Transportation, and parent notification of potentially high occupancy buses. The Board moved to approve up to 75% bus occupancy for activities/athletics where other options to reduce bus occupancy to 50% or less have been exhausted. The Board Passed this Action item.

3. **Review of Athletic/Activities COVID Procedures – Safety of Participants and Spectators at Events** (Information/Action): Superintendent Korst reported on spectator turn out at District athletic events and stated that spectators have not exceeded current occupancy limits set for District athletic venues and that the Ravalli Public Health Department is pleased with the precautions we are taking with regard to COVID. Superintendent Korst also requested that spectators support District policies at District events. Public comments were received and included, but were not limited to: concerns regarding spectator access to athletic events by families, friends, students, and the community. Community discussion was had concerning best strategies for ensuring masking and social distancing compliance as well as an interest in increasing occupancy limits for District venues. Director of Athletics, Travis Blome, and HHS Principal, Ryan Wells, provided information regarding Fall athletic events. The Board moved to increase the capacity of Bronc Stadium to 750 spectators. The Board Passed this Action item.

~~The next special Board Meeting will be held on September 29, 2020.~~

The next regular Board Meeting will be held on October 13, 2020.