

**HOUSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING  
Thursday, December 2, 2021**

- I. Call to Order – Chair Stilin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members present: Arlin Peterson, Tom Stilin, Mark Swenson, Josh Norlien, Gene Lundak and Mary Morem. Absent: Mimi Carlson and Richard Erdmann.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Agenda Approval – Board member Lundak requested that a discussion item regarding concession sales be added. A motion was made by Lundak to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Norlien. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Closed Session for Negotiations
- V. Public Comment - None
- VI. Consent Items – A motion was made by Peterson to approve the consent items. Seconded by Lundak. Motion passed unanimously.
  - A. Minutes
    1. Approval of November 18, 2021
  - B. Payment of Bills
  - C. Personnel
    1. Contracts
      - a. Dena Buccieri
    2. Letter of Agreement
      - a. Media Center Technician
    3. Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contracts
      - a. Melissa Friberg
      - b. Elizabeth Kisner
    4. Hiring Memos
      - a. Aneesa Adams
      - b. Cindy Flatin
      - c. Adam Florin
      - d. Karla Gotham
      - e. Rebecca Jennings
      - f. Dale Moga
      - g. Tony Schultz
    5. Leave of Absence
      - a. Kathy Jumbeck
- VII. Discussion Items
  - A. January 2022 Organizational Meeting – Superintendent Morem stated that the Organizational meeting will be held during the first regular meeting in January 2022.
  - B. Board Meeting Schedule for 2022 – Superintendent Morem made a proposal to have one regular Board meeting per month and add study sessions as necessary. Discussion was held regarding the need for flexibility should issues arise within the district. Board members were asked to consider the proposal and contact Superintendent Morem with questions and feedback.
  - C. Academic Calendar for 2022 – 2023 – Superintendent Morem shared that she will begin preparing for the 2022 – 2023 academic calendar by distributing a survey to staff, students and parents. She then proposed that a team be formed to review the data submissions to set the academic calendar. Discussion was also held

regarding the possibility of syncing the calendar with local districts so extended learning opportunities could become available.

- D. Concession Sales – Board member Lundak shared concerns he has heard from a local business regarding the pizzas sold in the concession stand. Superintendent Morem explained that the type of pizzas sold this year had been changed to lessen the load that concession workers were experiencing. She also shared that she was approached by the current vendor with a proposal to expedite the ordering and delivery of the ready-made pizzas. She also shared that she was unaware there was another option for pizza deliveries in town. Discussion was held regarding the past history of the pizza sales, profits, need for delivery and the possibility of alternating pizza vendors in the future.

VIII. Old Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)

IX. New Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)

- A. MREA Voting – Superintendent Morem provided a brief highlight of the candidates and explained the voting process to be completed after the meeting.
- B. OSHA Vaccination Policy – Superintendent Morem noted that while the validity of the vaccine mandate is being reviewed by the courts the district needs to have a policy in place by January 4, 2022, if necessary. A motion was made by Lundak to approve the OSHA Vaccination policy. Seconded by Swenson. Discussion was held regarding the preparedness of the district for enforcing this policy should it pass through the courts. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Policies for First Reading – Board members were encouraged to review the policies for approval at the December 16 meeting.
  - 1. Policy 205 – Open and Closed Meetings
  - 2. Policy 206 – Public Participation in School Board Meetings
  - 3. Policy 208 – Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies
  - 4. Policy 211 – Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee or Student

X. Announcements

- A. Important Events – MSBA Conference – January 13 & 14, 2022
- B. Meeting and Committee Updates – Superintendent Morem noted that a Health and Safety Meeting was held recently. She also shared that a Facilities Committee meeting has been scheduled for January 5, 2022, so preliminary construction plans can be reviewed. Board member Lundak also provided highlights from a recent HVED Board meeting where the purchase of a building in Winona was discussed.
- C. Board/Superintendent Feedback/Thank You's/Future Agenda Items – Superintendent Morem congratulated Board member Swenson for completing all levels of MSBA Board member training. Discussion was also held regarding the livestreaming of activities within the district.

XI. Adjourn for Truth in Taxation Meeting – Chair Stilin recessed the regular meeting at 6:26 PM.

A. The Truth in Taxation Meeting began at 6:30 PM.

- 1. Finance Director Gwen Rosted conducted a presentation providing a general background on school funding, school district property taxes and information on the proposed tax levy.
- 2. Public Comment – Community members in attendance were given the opportunity to ask questions and express their views regarding their taxes and the impact of the proposed levy.
- 3. Superintendent Morem, Finance Director Gwen Rostad and Board members were able to answer their questions.

- XII. Re-convene to Regular Meeting – Chair Stilin reconvened the regular meeting and announced the move into a closed session at 7:07 PM.
- XIII. Closed Meeting for Negotiation Strategy – Chair Stilin called the closed session to order at 7:18 PM. Members present were Tom Stilin, Josh Norlien, Arlin Peterson, Gene Lundak, Mark Swenson and Mary Morem. Members absent were Mimi Carlson and Richard Erdmann. Discussion was held concerning the final contracts awaiting approval.
- XIV. Board member Lundak moved to close the negotiation session and reopen the regular meeting. Seconded by Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.
- XV. A motion to adjourn was made by Lundak and seconded by Peterson. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.