

HOUSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, May 5, 2022

- I. Call to Order – Chair Stilin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members present were Mimi Carlson, Tom Stilin, Mark Swenson, Gene Lundak, Josh Norlien, Richard Erdmann and Mary Morem. Absent was Arlin Peterson.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Norlien to approve the agenda. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Resolution for Closed Meeting for Negotiations Strategy – Chair Stilin introduced the resolution for closed meeting for negotiations strategy and moved for its approval. The resolution passed unanimously.
- V. Public Comment - None
- VI. Consent Items – A motion was made by Norlien to approve the consent items. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
 - A. Minutes
 1. Approval of April 7, 2022
 - B. Payment of Bills
 - C. Personnel
 1. Reduced Contract
 - a. Becky Ideker
 2. Hiring Memo
 - a. Danielle Lesser
 3. Retirement
 - a. Vicki Nelson
 4. Resignation
 - a. Laura Yehlik
- VII. Discussion Items
 - A. Hurricane Heroes – Teaching Staff – Superintendent Morem acknowledged our teaching staff as this month’s Hurricane Heroes and on behalf of the administration she thanked them for their hard work and dedication.
 - B. April Work Study Session Follow-up – Superintendent Morem noted that alternative options to HVED services will continue to be explored.
 - C. Phone System Upgrade – Superintendent Morem shared details for a new phone system for the district. The new phones are internet based and will add approximately \$100.00 to our monthly bills. She also noted that the quote includes the new buildings, and the switch will be done in July.
 - D. Summer Projects Update – Superintendent Morem summarized the pre-construction planning meeting held on April 26 with SiteLogiQ.
 - E. IEA 3-year Contract – Superintendent Morem briefly outlined the proposed contract and noted it includes quarterly safety meetings. A motion was made by Swenson to approve the IEA 3-year contract. Seconded by Lundak. Motion passed unanimously.
- VIII. Old Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)
 - A. Property, Liability, Auto, Cyber and Worker’s Comp Insurance – Superintendent Morem reviewed the proposed insurance estimates and noted that the rates have increased due to a recent appraisal. She also explained this is an annual renewal but does not include the newly purchased church building yet. A motion was made by Norlien to approve the purchase of the property, liability, auto, cyber and worker’s comp insurance. Seconded by Erdmann. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Policy 404 – Employment Background Checks – Updated Form – Superintendent Morem shared that the form attached to this policy has been updated and not the policy itself, so it does not require two readings. A motion was made by Lundak to approve policy 404. Seconded by Norlien. Motion passed unanimously.
 - C. Policies for Second Reading – A motion was made by Lundak to approve policies 103 and 806. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 1. Policy 103 – Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons
 - 2. Policy 806 – Crisis Management
- IX. New Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)
- A. Resolution to Authorize Check Signers – Superintendent Morem explained that with the change in banking institutions a resolution regarding the check signers is necessary. Board member Norlien introduced the resolution to authorize the district check signers. Seconded by Swenson. A roll call vote was taken, and the resolution passed unanimously.
 - B. Policies for First Reading – Minimal changes to the policies were noted and the Board was encouraged to review them for the June 2 meeting.
 - 1. Policy 614 – School District Testing Plan and Procedure
 - 2. Policy 902 – Use of School District Facilities and Equipment
 - 3. Policy 903 – Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites
- X. Announcements
- A. Important Events – As noted earlier it is Teacher Appreciation week and on behalf of the Board, Chair Stilin extended gratitude and thanks to the teaching staff for all they do for our students. Superintendent Morem also asked that any interested Board member contact the district office to register for the 2022 Stride Board/Partner Summit on July 28 in Virginia.
 - B. Meeting and Committee Updates – As discussed earlier a Facilities meeting was held April 26. Sitelogiq conducted a walk-through for the summer project contractors. Board member Carlson recapped the Finance Committee meeting where a review of this past year’s expenses including staffing changes was shared. Superintendent Morem then noted that the information for the proposed budget will be available by late June. A special meeting will need to be scheduled for its approval. Board member Lundak also shared details of a recent HVED meeting where discussion was held about Houston’s membership.
 - C. Board/Superintendent Feedback/Thank You’s/Future Agenda Items – Superintendent Morem explained that notification was received that the bus ordered last fall will not be available for delivery until January. She shared that options are being explored to cover for the fall routes.
- XI. Closed session for Negotiation Strategy – Chair Stilin closed the meeting at 6:35 PM. The closed meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chair Stilin. Members present: Tom Stilin, Mark Swenson, Gene Lundak, Mimi Carlson, Josh Norlien, Richard Erdmann and Mary Morem. A contractual conversation was held. A motion was made by Lundak to adjourn the closed session and return to the regular meeting. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
- XII. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Lundak and seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously and the regular meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.