

HOUSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 1, 2022

- I. Call to Order – Chair Stilin called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Members present were Arlin Peterson, Mimi Carlson, Tom Stilin, Mark Swenson, Josh Norlien, Gene Lundak and Mary Morem. Absent was Richard Erdmann.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Lundak to approve the agenda. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Public Comment – None
- V. Consent Items – A motion was made by Norlien to approve the consent items. Seconded by Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.
 - A. Minutes
 1. Approval of August 4, 2022
 2. Approval of August 25, 2022
 - B. Payment of Bills
 - C. Personnel
 1. Contracts
 - a. Megan Aranguren
 - b. Bailey Britton
 - c. Julie Collins
 - d. Leah Inwards
 - e. Adam McCullough
 - f. Martha Schultz
 - g. Tami Tinderholt
 - h. Terelle Wilson
 2. Hiring Memos
 - a. Chelsey Carlson
 - b. Ricky Smith
 - c. Dane Wiskow
 3. Contract Reduction
 - a. Stacie Blair-Nelson
 4. Resignations
 - a. Amy Geiwitz
 - b. Desiree Kurtz
 - c. Katie Widman
- VI. Discussion Items
 - A. Hurricane Heroes – Superintendent Morem introduced this month’s Hurricane Heroes who are being honored for their hard work in providing Summer Enrichment activities for area students. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Martin Momsen, Brett Hoskins, Mikayla Everson and Travis Frank. Superintendent Morem also acknowledged Liz Gibson-Gasset from the Houston Public Library who helped manage the summer enrichment programming.
 - B. Timeline for Special Education Needs – Superintendent Morem led a discussion with Board members regarding a proposed break from the Hiawatha Valley Education District. Discussion included budget development, funding and staffing for a new program for our district. Board members requested that a small sub-group be created to be involved in planning for any changes.
 - C. Paraprofessional Contract – Superintendent Morem noted that some changes are in the works for the paraprofessional contract in regard to years of service.

- D. Spending Guidelines for Board Approval for LTFM Purchases – Discussion was held regarding the authority the Facility Committee has in approving long term facilities maintenance purchases and the amount they are authorized to spend. Former committee members noted that in the past the amount had varied between \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00 which is no longer adequate for today’s economy. A motion was made by Norlien to authorize the Facility Committee to approve LTFM purchases up to \$20,000.00. Seconded by Peterson. A reminder was provided to ensure adequate communication with the Board when purchases have been authorized. Motion passed unanimously.
 - E. Retain SitelogiQ with Their Community Engagement Fee Structure or Hire a New Firm – Superintendent Morem described the process and fee schedule SitelogiQ has for community engagement for building projects. She asked the Board if quotes should be sought from other vendors or if the district could complete this process independently. Discussion was held regarding past issues when no general contractor was involved, and the Board encouraged her to retain SitelogiQ for future projects.
- VII. Old Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)
- A. NFHS Livestream Renewal – A motion was made by Peterson to purchase the NFHS livestream program for the district. Seconded by Lundak. Motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Policies for Second Reading – A motion was made by Lundak to approve policies 208, 417, 418, 515, 603 and 604. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 1. Policy 208 – Development of Policies
 - 2. Policy 417 – Chemical Use and Abuse
 - 3. Policy 418 – Drug-Free Workplace/School
 - 4. Policy 515 – Protection of Pupil Records
 - 5. Policy 603 – Curriculum Development
 - 6. Policy 604 – Instructional Curriculum
- VIII. New Business (Items for Discussion and Approval)
- A. Proposed Levy Certification – Superintendent Morem explained the need to schedule a Special Board meeting to set the proposed levy that is due September 30. A motion was made by Carlson to schedule a Special Board meeting for Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00 PM in the high school library. Seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Superintendent as Identified Official With Authority – Superintendent Morem noted that this is an annual authorization required by the Minnesota Department of Education. A motion was made by Lundak to approve Superintendent Morem as the Identified Official with Authority. Seconded by Norlien. Motion passed unanimously.
 - C. Meal Prices – Return to Paid Meals for Non-qualifying Free and Reduced Families – Increase in Adult Meal Cost – Superintendent Morem announced that special funding has ended, and non-qualifying families will begin paying for meals again. She also shared that student meal prices have not changed, but adult meals prices are increasing to \$4.95.
 - D. Policies for First Reading – Minimal changes were noted, and Board members were encouraged to review these policies for approval at the October meeting.
 - 1. Policy 506 – Student Discipline
 - 2. Policy 514 – Bullying Prohibition Policy
 - 3. Policy 522 – Student Sex Nondiscrimination

4. Policy 524 – Technology Equipment, Internet Acceptable use and Safety Policy
 5. Policy 708 – Transportation of Nonpublic School Students
 6. Policy 709 – Student Transportation Safety Policy
 7. Policy 721 – Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources
 8. Policy 722 – Public Data Requests
- IX. Announcements
- A. Important Events – Superintendent Morem noted that high school classes resume on September 6 and elementary students return on September 8.
 - B. Meeting and Committee Updates – Board member Lundak provided an update regarding a recent HVED meeting. He noted that staffing issues were discussed and there continues to be a search for a new facility. Superintendent Morem also noted that a Finance Committee meeting is necessary for setting the levy. A proposal was made to schedule the meeting for Tuesday, September 20 at 5:30 PM.
 - C. Board/Superintendent Feedback/Thank You's/Future Agenda Items – Superintendent Morem provided highlights of the Back-to-School Inservice and staff gathering held this past week.
- X. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Peterson and seconded by Swenson. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.