Meeting Notes are not official until voted on by the Board of Education at its following Regular Meeting.

A1 President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A2 Members present: Mrs. Crowley, Mrs. Long, Mrs. Murdoch, and Mr. Perry. Mr. Vorst attended via Zoom.

A3 The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

A4 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION SUSPENDING POLICY BD-SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, The Ohio General Assembly enacted H. B. 51 and the law became effective on February 17, 2022;

WHEREAS, H. B. 51 allows a public body, including a board of education, to temporarily meet remotely until June 30, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Hilliard City Schools District Board of Education hereby temporarily suspends the last sentence of the policy BD-School Board Meetings and the second to last sentence in policy BDDF.

B PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS

B1 Retiree Recognition

Mrs. Long thanked everyone for attending to honor this year’s retirees. Celebrating our retirees is always bittersweet. We applaud your dedication to the district and your years of experience helping our students. We are sad to see many of you go. We hope the next chapter in your life brings much joy and excitement and appreciate all of your work in Hilliard City Schools. This year, we recognize twelve retirees across the district who gave more than three hundred years of service. You’re an important part of our district, and we are excited to acknowledge your contribution to the success and development of thousands of students in our community. Our more than seventeen hundred employees play a vital role in our success. We operate over one hundred bus routes that travel more than 8,240 miles every day to get our students to and from school prepared and ready to learn. Our custodian and maintenance crews keep our 2.1 million square feet of schools clean and in good working order. Our grounds crew maintains 301 acres of school property and athletic fields. Our teachers, support staff, and administrators embrace, empower, and inspire our students to be ready for tomorrow. On behalf of the Board of Education, I thank you for your efforts and wish you the best in the future.

The Board then recognized and presented a gift to the following retirees:

- Matthew Byerly – project discovery teacher at the HUB, has been with the district since 1989.
- Deborah Dennis – fifth-grade teacher at Darby Creek, has been with the district since 1999.
- David Grubbs – math teacher at Tharp Sixth Grade, has been with the district since 2005.
- David Parsons – custodian at Hoffman Trails, has been with the district since 2012.
- Margaret Romine – music teacher at Horizon, has been with the district since 2002.
- Robert O’Brien – adaptive physical education teacher, has been with the district since 1999.
B2  Embrace, Empower, Inspire award winners

Kevin Buchman, Principal at Ridgewood Elementary, introduced Nick Hodges, Second Grade Teacher. Mr. Buchman read the following nomination letter from a parent:

“We have so much gratitude for Nick Hodges. Second grade has been an amazing year for our twin boys. Not only has he taken time to get to know our twins as individuals and value their differences, but we are also thankful for the little things that he is doing everyday in his classroom to make a BIG difference. Each day, our twin boys come home and share many ways that their teacher is helping them and their peers. The little things he says and does to connect with kids on a daily basis are evident and much appreciated. Last year one of our twins would cry every single day before school. For a very shy student who follows the rules and loves to learn, he would often go under the radar at school. He felt unnoticed in school most days. A few weeks into this school year, he came home and was so excited that he had won the rock star of the day award. In his eyes, he had won the best award in the whole world. He said, my teacher, notices me this year. The magnitude of this small weekly classroom award has made a big difference in his school life this year. Nick has also greatly impacted our other twin and has changed his whole outlook on school. Nick has helped him to increase his work ethic and competence. He comes home daily talking about their awesome learning experiences and fun activities happening in second grade. Our boys have shared multiple ways about how Mr. Hodges has gone above and beyond to connect, help and support all of his students. Our twins have had a wonderful year in second grade. Mr. Nick Hodges, we are so thankful for you and all you do in the classroom.”

Paige Canale, Principal at Alton Darby Elementary, introduced Kelly Hoenie, Reading Intervention Teacher. Mrs. Canale read the following nomination letter from a parent:

“Mrs. Hoenie has gone out of her way to help my son this year to feel more confident in school and with his reading. He has struggled with his reading and lost his confidence in himself. His personality was changing because he felt he wasn’t as smart as the other students. Mrs. Hoenie jumped right in and spent quality time with him during his day. He even got to spend time at bus duty with her, which gave him a feeling of responsibility. His personality slowly started to come back, he was excited to tell us about his day, and he even asked to read when he was at home. He was so confident that he was calling his grandparents on FaceTime to read to them. This is something he had never done before, and it was all his idea. He wants to go to school early just to make sure he is on time each day for her class. Every day when he comes home from school, he is excited to tell us what he learned in reading class and loves to show us what he did. Mrs. Hoenie has given my son his excitement for school back and has given us as his parents a sigh of relief because our son is HAPPY!!! Thank you doesn’t begin to express our gratitude for all Kelley has done for him this year. She was an angel sent to us at the perfect time.”

B3  Community Survey Results – Paul Fallon, Fallon Research & Communications, Inc.

Mr. Stewart introduced Paul Fallon, the gold standard for public opinion in Central Ohio. He is here to share the survey results completed the week of January 10-16, 2022.
Mr. Fallon stated that Hilliard is the first community in which he ever did a survey and now works in forty U.S. states. So it’s always a pleasure to be back here.

We gathered data through secure SMS, text and web surveys, and telephone interviews performed by specially trained opinion research interviewers. The survey was conducted with 370 randomly selected voters registered in Ohio’s Hilliard City School District. The overall estimated margin of sampling error is +/- 5.09% (or 5% with rounding). For example, if asked what is your favorite topping on pizza and 50% of respondents said pepperoni. Because of sampling variability, the number could be as low as 45% or as high as 55%. The interviews and surveys were conducted from January 10 through January 16. The data were stratified, and the results weighted, so the differences in vital characteristics such as age, race, and gender were all proportionately represented. There are no over/under-sampling effects that could distort the results. Due to rounding, all of the results will not add up to 100%.

**Question:** Do you think that the rate of housing growth from construction of new homes and apartments in the area where you live is too fast, at about the right pace, or too slow?

**Response:** 63% said too fast, 24% said about the right pace, 8% said too slow, and 5% were unsure.

Whenever the extreme response option (too fast in this case) equals or exceeds the more moderate response (about the right pace, in this case), I think this is an important emotional trigger point. As you can see, that is certainly the case here, with 63% of respondents saying the growth rate is too fast.

**Subgroup Results:**
- 54% of men said the rate of growth was too fast compared to 71% of women
- 65% of homeowners said the rate of growth was too fast compared to 47% of renters
- 71% of parents said the rate of growth was too fast
- When we asked this same question in 2019, 64% said the growth rate was too fast.
- Among residents who have lived in the community less than 10 years, 50% said the growth rate was too fast.
- Among residents who have lived in the community for 10 to 20 years, 69% said the growth rate was too fast.
- Among residents who have lived in the community for more than twenty years, 74% said the growth rate was too fast.

**Question:** Generally speaking, would you say the property taxes in the particular area where you live are too high, mostly pretty fair, or too low?

**Response:** 53% said too high, 40% said pretty fair, 1% said too low, and 6% were unsure.

**Subgroup Results:**
- There was no statistically significant difference between homeowners at 54% and renters at 52% (which is unusual).
- Also, there was no statistically significant difference between parents and non-parents.
• However, there was a notable difference by area. For example, among respondents who live in the City of Columbus, 46% said taxes are too high compared to 62% of respondents who live in the City of Hilliard and 56% of respondents who live in the other parts of the district.
• When we asked this same question in 2019, 56% said taxes were too high. So, the results are almost identical, but overall, there was a high level of sensitivity exhibited about property taxation.

Question: Generally speaking, would you say that the Hilliard City School District is going in the right direction, or has it gotten off the wrong track?
  • This is a social barometer to get some sense of how content or restless people are.

Response: 44% said the district was going in the right direction, 27% said it had gotten off the wrong track, and 29% were unsure. Ideally, you want the “right direction” figure to be at or above the 60% threshold. So, the results indicate there was some restlessness.

Subgroup Results:
• Among parents, 53% said the district was going in the right direction compared to 39% of non-parents. Also, among non-parents, a higher percentage of respondents were unsure, which is not unusual since they don’t have a lot of first-hand knowledge of the district’s activities.
• Among Democrats, 59% said the district was going in the right direction compared to 35% of Republicans and 43% of unaffiliated voters (people who are not registered as Democrats or Republicans). This indicates a bit of political cleavage.
• When we asked this same question in 2020, 60% said the school district was going in the right direction (indicating a 14% drop over the past two years).

We also programmed the computer, so those respondents who said the district had gotten off the wrong track were asked why. We consolidated all of the responses into the following categories:

  • 26% - political and social matters were affecting classes and education
  • 17% - policies and management of the pandemic
  • 13% - taxes and spending are too high
  • 11% - dissatisfied with the leadership
  • 9% - growth
  • 7% - subject matter and courses being offered or not offered
  • 6% - lower quality of education or standards

Another thing we like to do is run the verbatim responses through a word counter. We believe this can help provide more insight. The following are the words we think are worth noting:

• “Too” appeared 26 times
• “Teachers” appeared 15 times
• “Politics” or “political” appeared 14 times
• “Teaching” appeared 14 times
• “Taxes” appeared 13 times
• “Education” appeared 12 times
• “Covid” appeared 7 times
Some of the comments the residents said:

- Too many schools and too many students driving up the taxes.
- Too political, teaching children what to think and not how to think.
- Too many schools and taxes go up too quickly.
- Kids who do not live in Hilliard still go to Hilliard Schools which makes property taxes go up and up.
- Education, even secondary education, is a bubble. It’s overpriced, teachers are too powerful, and the curriculum encourages division and political correctness.

Keep in mind that only 27% of respondents said the district had gotten off the wrong track.

**Question:** Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by the classroom teachers who work for the Hilliard City School District, or do you not have enough information to form an opinion?

**Response:** 47% said they strongly or somewhat approve, 8% said they strongly or somewhat disapprove, 43% said they did not have enough information to form an opinion, and 2% were unsure.

**Subgroup Results:**
- 52% of women said they approved, compared to 47% overall
- 56% of 18 to 44-year-olds said they approved, compared to 47% overall
- 50% of 45 to 64-year-olds said they approved compared to 47% overall
- 24% of respondents 65 and older with actually statistically plurality, saying they just did not have enough information to form an opinion
- 80% of parents said they approved, which is important because they have first-hand knowledge and are presumably the most discerning about such matters
- 27% of non-parents approved, with a significant portion saying they didn’t have enough information to form an opinion
- When we asked the same question in 2017, 56% approved. So, your approval rating has dropped slightly.

**Question:** Overall, how would you rate the quality of education being provided by the Hilliard City School District?

**Response:** 68% said very good or good.

**Subgroup Results:**
- 78% of parents said very good or good compared to 62% of non-parents
- When we asked this same question in 2019, 77% said very good or good.
- It was at or above 50% for every major subgroup in the community.

Looking at the job the district has done to meet the needs of students from diverse backgrounds and cultures:
- 51% said very good or good
- 57% of parents and 47% of non-parents said very good or good
- 42% of respondents of other races said very good or good
Looking at the job the district has done spending its money and managing finances:

- 46% said very good or good
- 55% of parents and 41% of non-parents said very good or good
- A slightly larger number said poor, very poor, or unsure
- When we asked a similar question in 2019, 49% said very good or good (compared to 46% right now). This has been a stable rating.

**Question:** How do you rate the job the school district does communicating with parents and the community?

**Response:** 56% said very good or good

**Subgroup Results:**
- 74% of parents said very good or good compared to 45% of non-parents
- When we asked the same question in 2018, 73% said very good or good. So, this is a pretty dramatic drop.

**Question:** How would you rate the job the district has done listening to people like you?

**Response:** 34% said very good or good

**Subgroup Results:**
- 43% of parents said very good or good compared to 28% of non-parents
- When we asked the same question in 2018, 61% said very good or good. This is the most dramatic change in all of the results we observed.

We also asked for sources of information to get some sense of where people are getting their information about the school district.

- 26% - reading school emails and publications (56% of parents compared to 8% of non-parents)
- 19% - talking with parents and kids who attend the schools (14% of parents and 23% of non-parents)
- 13% - reading online and traditional newspapers (3% of parents and 18% of non-parents)
- 8% - viewing social media postings

There is no single medium through which everyone is getting their information. So, communicating in this day and age is challenging. This issue is not endemic to the Hilliard City School District. We see this a lot in all of our public opinion and market research.

**Question:** Over the last year, have you seen or noticed any news, information, or posts about the Hilliard City School District on social media, such as Facebook and Twitter accounts of friends, parents, or others in the community?

**Response:** 49% said yes

**Subgroup Results:**
- 55% of women compared to 42% of men saw information on social media
- 65% of 18 to 44-year-olds saw information on social media compared to 16% of respondents 65 and older
• 53% of homeowners saw information on social media compared to 30% of renters
• Among those respondents who said the district was going in the right direction, 52% said they had seen information on social media compared to 62% of those who say the district has gotten off on the wrong track. This is an attitudinal subgroup, not a demographic one.

Of those respondents who said they had seen information on social media, we asked if the information they saw was favorable or unfavorable towards the school district. This is a sub-sample of 181 respondents. 52% said the information they saw was favorable, 28% said unfavorable, 8% volunteered mixed opinions, and 12% were unsure. So, about a ratio of 2-to-1, the information has been good news. It’s important to keep in mind that this isn’t necessarily accurate information – a lot of it is opinion. But, it’s clearly becoming a prominent source of information in the community.

**Key Findings**
1. There was sustained generational concern…frustration about housing growth and development that could manifest itself in a number of different ways in the coming years: ineffective policies and initiatives even though the school district has no control over the matter. You may very well be held responsible for things you cannot control.
2. Despite a minor change in the rating for the quality of education, the community expressed some restlessness and disenchantment with the school district largely due to political and philosophical objections that may warrant more exploration.
3. Ratings for managing finances and meeting the needs of a diverse student population remain largely stable, which is laudable given the complexity of such tasks.
4. The most precipitous change we observed was for inbound communication, as perceptions about listening to parents and the public dropped dramatically, while the rating for outbound communication also dropped somewhat.
5. The challenge of communicating may be the high penetration of freewheeling social media, bifurcation of information sources for parents and non-parents, and fragmentation of media sources.
6. Teachers garnered a lower aggregate approval rating, although they appeared to be held in very high esteem by parents, which is reassuring.

Mrs. Long asked if this survey provides an understanding of where we are from covid. Mr. Fallon replied that they didn’t spend much time looking at covid. We chose to look at breadth, which comes at the expense of depth. There may be some sensibilities that have been abraded over the last year or two because of covid policies. Mr. Stewart noted that this survey was conducted on January 10-16, during the height of the pandemic. We are now in a much different place in the pandemic. Mr. Fallon stated that was an excellent point. This survey is a snapshot of a moment in time. The information is static, but public opinion is dynamic and could have changed.

Mrs. Long asked if they would receive the verbatim information. Mr. Fallon stated that he had provided that information to the district.

Mrs. Long asked what they grouped as political. Mr. Fallon said they included comments related to the perceived politicization in schools and classrooms. Keep in mind that some of this may not be directed at the school system. Sometimes people form impressions of a general nature and then apply them to their communities even when they don’t have any first-hand knowledge.

Mrs. Long asked if the respondents declared their party affiliation. Mr. Fallon said they got that information from the voter registration files.
Mr. Perry asked if Mr. Fallon had done any polling at a state-wide level of other school districts. He would like to see how we compare to other districts. Is this a nationwide, state, or local trend? In general, Mr. Fallon replied that school districts had taken it on the chin last year. This is the case across the board. Mr. Vorst asked what he would attribute that to. Mr. Fallon said he believes all of the turmoil surrounding covid and perhaps some other political issues have become suffused with educational policy. As we reach an era where all politics are more emotionally charged, all public institutions are becoming more politicized. School systems are not immune anymore.

Mrs. Long asked, based on these survey results, when should we do another survey? She also asked if we do a survey annually with him. Mr. Fallon said yes. Ideally, he likes to do school surveys at either the beginning or end of the school year.

B4 Communication’s Audit – Jennifer Economous, Allerton Hill Communications

Mr. Stewart introduced Jennifer Economous and stated that she performed a communication audit with Stacie Raterman, Director of Communications.

My name is Jennifer Economous with Allerton Hill Communications. We have partnered with the district since 2011. We take great pride in this great partnership. At Allerton Hill, we work with approximately forty school districts across the country. I work with mainly Central Ohio school districts and what you are going through is very similar to what we see in other districts. Many school districts do an annual communication satisfaction survey, like Hilliard, and have seen the same dip in their overall rating. Considering the last two years have been very challenging for all of us, this is expected. Hopefully, we are now getting back to normal and can focus on the storytelling. I applaud you for inviting me to perform a communication audit. Very few school districts are willing to look at themselves and deep dive into their plans and practices.

We assessed the district's communications, including print and online outreach materials, networking, and branding efforts. We reviewed everything you do, including email, which goes to 38,000 people. That is very impressive. We also conducted interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders and staff. We met with parents at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and non-parents. People who do not have kids in Hilliard City Schools represent 70% of the district population.

Some of the key takeaways:
• You have a solid culture for communication. It was evident in the qualitative research we did with the focus groups. As found in Paul Fallon's survey, 56% think the district is doing a good job of communicating is much better than many communities across the state and country.
• You have good relationships with the local media. Stacie does a really good job of building those relationships and maintaining contact with them even in times of crisis. Unfortunately, the last two years have been in a constant state of crisis.
• You do a good job of communicating consistently with staff and families, such as eNews. eNews was very recognizable by staff, a gold standard in email communication. In addition, principals commented that they often include information from the district eNews in their communications with parents.

Some recommendations:
• Create an annual communications plan with monthly, data-driven themes. For example, I like to use finance as the theme for May since that is typically when the board approves the five-year forecast.
• Single-core theme – you want to develop a simple, powerful singular message and organizational key messages that can be used across all communication channels. “Ready for tomorrow” still has a lot of power. So, continue to illustrate how you are making students ready for tomorrow. Mr. Stewart and I have had conversations about getting out our stories about academics, telling the great things teachers are doing to elevate students to get them ready for tomorrow.

• Sharing the district’s story. We need to get more print communications (aka snail mail) out to the community. I still go to the mailbox every day to get my mail. I think this is an opportunity for public schools. In the focus group with parents and non-parents, they remembered the financial piece we did several years ago. Some people read the quarterly profiles and want to know what’s happening in the district.

• Many parents were excited about eNews, and the non-parents didn’t know the district had it. Stacie told them how to sign up for the eNews. It’s essential to get this information out to the community. Since people get their information from different sources, you need to saturate the community with your information and cross-market it as much as you can. Snail mail is a great way to capture a lot of people.

• Share the financial story. We know Brian does an amazing job, so we got to get it out there. Show how the district is managing funds effectively and efficiently. When there is an information gap, it’s easy for people to come up with their own conclusions.

• Establish a key communicators group – a cross-section of community members (parents, non-parents). Meet with the quarterly and discuss different topics (academics, college readiness, finances, etc.). Invite staff to give a presentation and answer questions. Ask group members what they hear in the community. As you heard in the Fallon survey, many folks get their information by word of mouth. So this is a great way to get your information out there.

• We recommend creating a “palm card” or a “who we are/about us” piece. It’s a one-page document that includes the district’s mission, vision, and other key information. This information can be given to staff and the community, so everyone has the same information. This document should be updated every one to two years.

• Partnering with a purpose. We believe you should continue to engage with the community regularly through community-based and stakeholder events. This has been our biggest challenge this year due to the pandemic. Offering more opportunities for engagement with administration and leadership will help build trust among stakeholder groups and build meaningful connections in the community. After going through the pandemic, people want to re-engage with the schools. We have also learned that there is a place for “Zoom” in our lives. For example, you have a school board member attending and participating in tonight’s meeting via Zoom. It’s a great way to partner and engage with people.

• Building connections with non-parents. As I mentioned earlier, 70% of the district’s population does not have kids in school. It would be best to have a conscientious communication plan to reach this group. Now is the time to celebrate your successes. Central Ohio is growing, and now is a great time to share that you are one of the top districts in the state. It builds trust with the community and shows them they are getting a good return on their investment (property taxes that they pay).

• After two years of no in-person contact, it’s important to get out into the community. Now that things are starting to normalize, it would be good for Mr. Stewart to engage with the community again. Again, the focus groups expressed their excitement to meet and talk with you.

• Staff outreach. You do an excellent job with this. You have a Staff eNews, and the superintendent hosts one-on-one staff meetings. Keep doing these things. I recommend that all superintendents visit each school building at least once every school year. It’s a great way to stay connected.

• We talked with Stacie about doing a communication handbook. This could provide consistent information on using email, developing newsletters, and much more. The focus groups did tell us they
would like consistency from building to building and grade level-to-grade level. Creating a handbook can help staff understand what’s expected.

- Even though, according to the survey, a small number of people get their information from the district website, it’s still an essential communication tool. It’s important to keep it fresh and includes lots of pictures. As a result, your website looks great and is easy to navigate. We recommend that districts review their websites quarterly to ensure the content is up-to-date. It’s also essential to check the building websites as well.

- Social media. According to the survey, 50% saw favorable things about the district on social media, an outstanding statistic. As a general rule, prioritize storytelling over the content of an informative nature. The more storytelling about what’s happening in the classroom, the more engagement you will get. The content should reflect the entire district, giving the complete picture of a Hilliard City Schools education PreK-12. All content should include visuals, which is due to the algorithms used by social media platforms on what is posted to users’ feeds. All graphics should be optimized for each platform (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.). Pictures should reflect your brand and contain 20% of text. Use your hashtag on every piece of content and graphics.

Mrs. Murdoch asked if the focus group meetings were recorded. Jennifer replied that they took notes but did not record the sessions.

Mrs. Long asked if the community asked for the engagement of other staff besides the superintendent. Jennifer replied that it’s typical for groups to ask for more attention from the superintendent but not necessarily any specific positions.

C ROUTINES

C1 The agenda is correct as presented.

C2 The Board of Education adopted the agenda.

C3 The Board of Education approved the April 2022 Treasurer’s Report.

C4 The Board of Education approved the minutes from the following meetings:
   a. April 11, 2022 – Regular meeting
   b. April 11, 2022 – Meeting notes
   c. April 25, 2022 – Work session meeting
   d. April 25, 2022 – Meeting notes

D PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board of Education appreciates citizen interest in meetings of the board. This place on the agenda is set aside to hear comments from visitors. When called, please go to the microphone so that remarks may be clearly heard and recorded. You must give your name and limit comments to three minutes. Comments must be respectful and professional in nature. Board members may or may not ask questions or make comments. No board member has the power or authority to act for the board; therefore, no response from an individual board member should be interpreted as an official action of the board. Portions of this meeting are being recorded.
NOTE: The audio recording of the meeting was difficult to decipher due to background noise. You may see many unfinished sentences throughout the public participation.

Lisa Chaffee
Good evening, I am Lisa Chaffee. I’m a mom in the district and the director of Ohio Parents’ Rights in Education. One of the curriculum goals of the DEI, or Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, is to “foster an inclusive environment for all students and staff.” This goal is not being met. I received an email from a ninth-grade student at Bradley who wishes to remain anonymous. I will read a portion of her email.

It says, “when almost every book is about white people abusing, assaulting, harassing people of color, it starts to be a problem. Because they are saying they are teaching us equality, but it’s not equality if it’s about teaching me I’m a bad person for being white because white people did horrible things to people of color back then. All three books we can choose to read are Poet X and ones about if they should be afraid of the American Flag, along with them promoting a lot of Black Lives Matter, and the last one is about black men being accused of a crime because they are black. I know there was a time when the school system lacked equality in the class, but this is too much. I don’t want to read a book about what white people did and why they are horrible or about protests. I just want to read a book with no care for what color skin they have and where the whole plot isn’t about their skin color. A nice book with a good story to it is all I want. I don’t want to be bombarded with racism, protests, or sexual acts.”

I have participated in the DEI committee for almost a year. It is not a true representation of how diverse our community is. There are only three parents I am aware of that are on the committee; the rest are teachers and staff. The majority of this committee tend to share the same cultural ideology. There is no diversity of thought on this committee. For this committee to be inclusive and successful, you must include many schools of thought, including conservative and Christian. In the time I’ve spent on the committee, the majority of time was devoted to reading the policy manual and student handbook for the sole purpose of identifying racist policies. Instead of looking for racism, I believe the time should be spent on developing curriculum that teaches good character, like respect, and providing assignments and reading materials that lift our students up or show them they can be successful like many people who look like them or share the same cultural beliefs. But, that cannot be accomplished by a group of people who only represent one viewpoint. This committee has failed to include all students. All students means all students – white, straight, black, Asian, and the list goes on. I believe this committee should be disbanded and reformed under a new name, such as character, culture, and curriculum.

John Kizer
Thank you for the chance to speak. My name is John Kizer. My daughter is a first-grader at Britton Elementary, and my son is in the Hilliard City Schools Preschool. I want to talk about the expectations we set for students, especially as they are preparing to transition to adulthood. I was thinking about the group of kids who spoke last time, referencing the challenges of missing a single day of school, whether that was any day in general because of heavy workloads or a specific day because of a test. Regardless of how anyone feels about any one particular religious holiday, the whole discussion brought to my mind a different side of it. How heavily are we working our teenagers if missing one day is a major setback? What does that say about the pressures to do other things like come to school even if you’re sick because you’re afraid of falling behind? Obviously, academic achievement is extremely important to value. I guess I would ask that we continue to look at how we are getting there and whether the overall curriculum plan for how we approach secondary education promotes a healthy, balanced life.
On the key communicator’s group thing, I thought from the survey the problem was inbound, not outbound communication. So, for the conversation of turning that into a focus group to hear from community members, I think much of what you hear in these meetings comes from folks who maybe feel they don’t have that right inlet. From a personal standpoint, I don’t feel like I have had issues either way, but I can imagine some folks would have a challenge on the being heard side versus hearing from the district. Thank you.

Saja Mu’Ammar, Salma Khawam, & Layan Aburomeh
My name is Saja Mu’Ammar, and I’m an eighth-grader at Memorial Middle School. My name is Salma Khawam, and I’m a sophomore at Hilliard Davidson High School. My name is Layan Aburomeh, and next year I’ll be a freshman at Hilliard Davidson. You may remember we spoke to you during the board meeting at Brown Elementary. We introduced having our holiday, Eid, as a day off. After the board meeting, we took a few more steps forward. After we made the proposal during the last meeting, we created a petition which was signed by many Hilliard City School residents. Our petition was signed by over 1,600 people. These signatures include many of our neighbors, friends, local imams, church pastors, and two City Council members, Omar Tarazi and Les Carrier. In addition, to support from our board, many of our teachers were inspired and proud of our hard work and went to great lengths to support our case. Our friends in Dublin have also begun collecting signatures from their residents. They have already collected 700+ signatures in support of our cause. In addition to our petition, we met with the Hilliard City Schools superintendent, Mr. Stewart. We talked to him about our plan and the next steps to move forward. We were also featured in an article in the Columbus Dispatch. The article talked about our holiday, Eid, and how we are pushing this movement forward. Thank you to Kevin Corvo for this amazing opportunity. Thank you for taking the time to listen to us and for this opportunity. We hope to see this put forward in the near future. Have a good evening, and thank you.

Mr. Perry thanked the students for speaking. I’m impressed by how our students able to organize and express themselves. It’s astonishing how our students are able to internalize these weighty topics and speak on them in such a professional manner.

E  CONSENT AGENDA

E1 Approved the following Certified Personnel actions – See attachment to the Minutes.
E2 Approved the following Classified Personnel actions – See attachment to the Minutes.

Approved the following student trip requests:
  a. Bradley Marching Band, Orlando, FL – February 16, 2023
  b. Davidson Biology and Spanish, Ecuador – May 31, 2024
  c. Darby Spanish and Travel Club, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia – March 30, 2023
  d. Darby French Club, France – March 31, 2023
  e. Darby Volleyball, Mason, OH – July 18, 2022

The Board of Education approved items E1 through E2, including certified and classified personnel matters. You can find the complete list of personnel matters as an attachment to the Minutes.

Mr. Perry acknowledged the retirements of Colleen Anderson (with the district since 1989), Craig Heyder (with the district since 1989), and Rita Pineda (with the district since 2000). Congratulations to all of them.
Mr. Vorst noted 15-20 resignations and asked Mr. Stewart if there is a common thread amongst those folks and do we do exit interviews? Mr. Stewart replied that we hold exit interviews and will forward that information to the board. But, if you follow the list closely, you will see that many of the staff resigning are listed later as taking a new or different position. So, not all of those resignations represent people leaving the district.

Mr. Vorst also asked if the trips were being approved at the same time. Mr. Stewart replied yes. Mr. Vorst then asked if Mr. Stewart could elaborate on the research and planning for these trip requests. I don’t want to get into the habit of rubber-stamping trip requests without knowing that all safety issues have been considered. Mr. Stewart explained that there is a board policy that spells out what steps need to be completed before the trip request is submitted for your approval. Then, when the trip request comes to our office, we review it to make sure all steps have been completed. Mr. Vorst asked if there were ever any hiccups in that process. Mr. Stewart replied that anything could happen when it comes to travel, but we haven’t had any regular, recurring issues. We are just getting back into allowing trips following the pandemic, where we had to cancel some trips and determine how to handle refunds. Hopefully, this is no longer an issue. Mr. Vorst asked if most of the money for these trips comes out of the parent’s pocket. Mr. Stewart replied that it is correct, and many organizations have a process for helping students with hardship.

Mr. Stewart noted that as part of the consent agenda, you had approved Dr. Terrie Turney, the new assistant principal for Bradley High School. Bill Warfield, Bradley HS Principal, introduced and welcomed Dr. Turney. Dr. Turney said she was excited to be here.

F ACTION AGENDA

F1 The Board of Education approved the five-year forecast.

Mr. Vorst asked Mr. Wilson to speak briefly about the revisions. Mr. Wilson explained that this is the forecast he presented at the Work Session on April 25. In addition, it will be posted on the district website tomorrow.

F2 The Board of Education approved the following handbooks for the 2022-2023 school year:
   a. Preschool/Elementary Student Handbook
   b. Sixth Grade & Middle School Student Handbook
   c. High School Student Handbook
   d. Athletic Manual for Parents-Athletes-Coaches
   e. Performing Arts Handbook

Mrs. Murdoch stated she had one question. In just about all of these handbooks, there was a section that talks about “working proactively to build a learning community for all students,” and it ends with “the end result is utilizing developmentally appropriate strategies to allow for repairing relationships and helping students re-enter their school and classroom communities after an offense has occurred.” Could you give us some context on what that might look like? Mr. Stewart replied that it is essentially a more educational approach to discipline. The point of discipline is teaching, so we have conversations with students about their behavior, how that behavior may have impacted others, and how to avoid that situation in the future.
The Board of Education approved the 2022 Graduates:

**Bradley High School**

Kelly Andrew Aagard  
Sabrina Ahmed Abdurahim  
Isabella Ngoc Abrass  
Aamina Ali Abu  
Kenda Abdulla Ahmad Abu Baker  
Jamal Tarek Abu-Kwiek  
Rugio Abdul Adam  
Ilwad Mahamed Adawe  
Ramia Abdulkareem Aden  
Laila Youself Al Bawab  
Hussien Emad Al Obaidi  
Hala Mohyeddin Al Younes  
Saif Issam Abbas Al-Kaabi  
Samira Abdikarim Ali  
Noora Mohammad Khair Aljabouli  
Dylan Thomas Allen  
Matthew Joseph Allen  
Sydney Nicole Allen  
Hayley Alonzo  
Ahmad Mohammad Alrifai  
Falasteen Abdelnaser Alrubj  
Bayader Sameer Diwan Alsaaidan  
Abdulrahman Basel Altaani  
Adrianna Michelle Anderson  
Peyton John Archer  
Ashley Michelle Arias Jimenez  
Elaina Marie Arthur  
Zachary Tanner Ault  
Alejandro Avila Garcia  
Luis Humberto Avila-Garcia  
Cameron Michael Myers  
Sanusi Bah  
Amanda Catherine Baker  
Brock Michael Banda  
Alaina Grace Barrett  
Jessica June Barton  
Seraj Salem Barony  
Nurah Abdul Baseer  
Faiza Abdi Bashir  
Anthony Tucker Baxendell  
Jacob Tucker Baxendell  
Khalid Mohammad Bayati  
Angel Baby Benitez  
Billy Michael Benjamin  
Beau Leonard Bennett  
Aidan Jacob Bentley  
Jonathan Dean Jens Bjornes  
Sydney Rene Bleyle  
Nicholas Ryan Bolin  
Ashton Dale Bordner  
Calib Clifford Bostrom  
Emma Renee Bresnahan  
Emma Rose Brooks  
Audrey Elizabeth Brown  
Aiden John Bruntz  
Gavin Bryce Buehl  
Andrew Scott Burnett  
Alyssa Jean Burnside  
Isabella Benina Calderon  
Alexander Delton Calmese  
Lindy Jean Carpenter-Cover  
William Kenneth Carson  
Nicholas Harrison Caruso  
Scott Gregory Caudill  
Gwyneth Anne Caudy  
Made lyn Marie Cech  
Kara Isabelle Chaney  
Macy Lynn Chapman  
Keylin Yasmin Chirinos Gutierrez  
Blake Allen Christensen  
Katherine Ann Ratcliffe Church  
Kayla Elaine Churski  
Hayden Richard Clingman  
Joseph Raymond Xavier Conklin  
Kyle Conley  
Anna Mae Cook  
Matthew Evan Cooper  
Maverick Nathaniel Cooper  
Carson Ronald Corbitt  
Evon Michael Corea  
Zachery Andrew Coulter  
Kaleb Shawn Crawford  
Vincent Antonio Cutchell  
Samantha Marie Cuttitta  
Victor Mathieu Dandridge  
ReAnne Caprice Daye  
Brennan Patrick Daykin  
Jenna Lynn Deiderich  
Breonna Rachel DelBoccio  
Sugal O Deria  
Manj K Dhanoo  
Cesar Daniel Diaz Martinez  
Cole Hollis Dickson  
Francesca Caroline DiVincenzo  
Griffin George Travis Dixon  
Lauren Renae Donelson  
Owen Richard Draper  
Nathaniel Richard Drovadic  
Ella Kristina Duncan  
Nathaniel Steven Eden  
Elaina Bray Edgington  
Sarah Naomi Edwards  
Corinn Jackson Eley  
Emerson Gabriel Emond  
Ryan Anthony Enciso  
Justin Gregory Ennis  
Natalie Elizabeth Esquivel  
Charles Kwabena Essandoh  
Sydney Lee Evans  
Blake Scott Ewing  
Bukhari Jamal Farah  
Muneer Anwar Farah  
Madison Riley Fey  
Dillon David Foose  
William Caden Xavier Foose  
Caroline Marie Fralick  
John Matthew Frenz  
Taylor Alise Fritchley  
Alivia Joy Frye  
Ibrahim Awil Gaileh  
Alyssa Concetta Galownia  
Daniel Ivan Chillickrattil George  
Connor Red Gleason  
Truman Jacob Godsey  
Grace Lauren Good  
Joshua Logan Graham  
Dominic Grant  
Derek Patrick Griffith  
Mercedes Alexus Grim  
Eleanor Sophia Grounds-Lauber  
Collin Patrick Grubbs  
Gadiel Emanuel Guerra Sabillon  
Alannah Marie Guill  
Deeonna Ida Haight  
Adam Abdalrahman Haikal  
Abigail Maxine Hall  
Shianne Nicole Hall  
Emma Grace Hammond  
Laura Lyn Hanks  
Abigail Faye Harden  
Adam Albert Harden  
Chapin Monroe Harrington  
Christian Gabriel Harris  
Cydni Deshaun Harris  
Kaden Robert Harsh  
Josephine Adair Harshfield  
Nathaniel James Haskell  
Sumeya Hassan  
Kylee Rose Hassel-Price  
Sarah Marie Hauler  
John Colin Hawkins  
William Michael Heighton  
Mackenzie Jean Helm  
Aidan Joseph Hennes  
Jahari Malik Henry  
Fuad Mohamed Hersi  
Caleb Michael Hill  
Jordan Elizabeth Hires  
Rylee Ai-Chau Hoang  
Makenna Nichole Hodgson  
Michael Johannes Hofinger  
Benjamin Patrick Honeck
Jaelyn Brooke Hopson
Hunter Michael Houser
Samantha Marie Howard
Jacob Eric Hoyt
Thomas George Hrizto III
Meredith Louise Hudson
Olivia Renee Hudson
Roland Lewis Humbert
Manal Guleid Ismail
Anaiah James Osman Jalloh
Abdullah Mustafa Jama
Mohamed Abdi Jama
Yasir Ismail Jama
Jama Hussein Jama-Handuleh
James Wesley Jervis
Aerianna Nikol Jester
Makai Abraham Johnson
Jacklyn McKenzie Jones
Robert Thomas Jones
Ryan Michael Judge
Aseel Ahmed Kadhim
Gabriel Thomas-Charles Karnes
Jason August Keck
Madison Bailey Kennedy
Hibatallah Gamal Khafagy
James Isaac Khalili
Sara Adnan Khattab
Mitchell James Kinser
Adian Conner Kipe
Brian Nicholas Kitchen
Julien Mathew Kleiv
Mason Christopher Koons
Sophia Arlette Korikian
Kaelleigh Makenna Kovach
John Emil Thompson Kraynak
Dalton Andrew Laird
Sara Elizabeth Lang
Tyler Jeffrey Lasch
Ashley Faith Lawrence
Jaidyn Deirdra Lemle
Chase Alexander Letcavits
Kaia Xiang Lewis
William Bradford Linse
Jahvon Andrew Lloyd
Ashley Savannah Long
Joseph Lopez
Joseph Anthony Lopez III
Luis Fernando Lopez
Kaleigh Louise Lougtridge
Bryan Michael Ludaway
Ryan Spencer Madama
Peyton Michael Magnaghi
Marwan Nassem Mahiedyat
Thomas Jerome Mandel
Eric Cameron Manning
Audrey Elise Martin
Cristopher Alexander Martinez
Garcia
Gabriel Alejandro Martinez Garcia
Evan Charles Mayberry
Tayshaun William Mayfield
Mackenzie Marie Maynard
Jill Elizabeth McAnespie
Kenna Lyn McClelland
Sara Elizabeth McClory
Kayla Renee McClung
Isaiah Joseph McCormick
Matthew Reed McCrae
Megan Nicole McCreary
Haylee Starr McCutchen
Madisyn Lea McKay
Ethan Edward McMullen
Kevin Medina-Bolanos
Valerie Paola Mena
Jesse Wayne Mertz
Will Robert Meyers
Stephanny Hildemar Meza Marin
Sergio Nery Miguel Garcia
Anna Elizabeth Miller
Ava Nicole Miller
Erik Lee Miller
Grace Christine Xian Miller
Austin Ryan Mitchell
Hanat Hassan Mohamed
Ridwan Abdirisak Mohamoud
Zahur Abdi Mohamud
Jason James Moine
Grayson Charles Molnar
Emily Cné Moon
Lily Marie Moore
Marco Antonio Morin
Molly Marie Mulchaey
Peyton Kenneth Murphy
Jineen Mohd Anwar Musa
Hanse Musaagullari
Angel Yahir Natividad Garcia
Christopher Doan Nguyen
Alexandra Elizabeth Nilsen
Kylie Marie Niple
Grayson Thomas Noteman
Aaron James Null
Laila Abdihafid Nur
Blaine Edward O'Brien
Roslyn Adele O'Toole
Gavin Storm O'Brien
Hazar Shaker Rihan
Nicholas Scott Scherer
Amber Nicole Schneider
Ezabella Cherrie Sanborn
Joseph Benjamin Sanderell
Emily Renee Sapp
Zachariah Anthony Sass II
Amel Morad Fayez Saleh
James Mathews Pucci
Zachary Christian Reese
Johnathan Isiah Rehman
Earl Edward Rhoads IV
Emma Catherine Richter
Mariah Noelle Riker
Neha Dipak Patel
Earl Edward Rhoads IV
Benjamin Frederick Schordock
Madison Grace Sedlock
Abdulrahman Tahir Al Shehri
Oscar Eldean Seyfried
Fatma Shariff
Matthew Eugene Sharp
Sophia Elizabeth Shepard
Robert Joseph Ritch
Nicholas Scott Scherer
Zachariah Anthony Sass II
Sami Abdullah Rabi
Mary Jose Rodriguez Severiano
Elyanna Rondon
Kennedy Kay Rugh
Blaire Elisah Runyon
Morgan Elizabeth Rutledge
Emily Renee Sapp
Karen V Shishlo
Samantha Nicole Slater  Sarah Alaa Talib  Isaac Christopher Watts
Jada Lynn Slover  Caitllyn Leeann Tarney  Samuel Allan Waugh
Benjamin David Petersen Smith  Caleb Clayton Tatman  Hailey Rose Wawrzyniak
Tia Faye Smith  Sydney Paige Thom  Marli Belle Wayt
William Neil Smith  Carter Andrew Thoma  Sadie Eileen Weaver
Jacob Ryan Snyder  Estella Jane Thress  Jennifer Alyssa Weeks
Kaiden Nisay Som  Mark Daniel Tondel  Owen Tyler Wehr
Marlaiina Kathryn Sopczak  Alexandra Nicole Treboni  Andrew Michael Weitz
Gavin Chane Soper  Abigail Rebecca Troutman  John Robert Whetstone
Gabriela Nahir Soto Freytes  Zachary Nathaniel Elliott Troxell  Jordan Taylor White
Hawa D Soumare  Larissa Angelina Tuller  Olga Katherine White
Carter Nicholas Spalding  Hatice Ucan  Samuel James Whitesell
Travis Allen Speaks  Aven LeRoy Ulrey  Elise McKenna Williams
Kye Allen Sprouse  Kieran James Vallo  Margaret Dane Willis
Darla Srisongkham  Caden Alan VanVorhis  Nathaniel Scott Wood
Chanin Michael Stanbridge  Alexander Vdovich  Avery Christian Woodward
Kendall Lynn Stanley  Kaylee Karen Vegliack  Nicholas James Wright
Grace Elizabeth Starrett  Nina Marie Viggiano  Valeria Rachel Yanos Enamorado
Kenidee Katherine Steele  Alexandra Anne Voght  Kassandra Lynn Yano
Sherrod Anthony Stevenson  Max Ludovicus Vosters  Brandon Isaac Yoder
Hunter Alexander Stickler  Trinity Ann Wahlenmaier  Hassan Burhan Yusuf
Makenzie Lynn Stubblefield  Ethan Michael Walker  Hussein Burhan Yusuf
Nicholas David Swoger  Megan Elizabeth Walker  Jacob Thomas Zilles
Mst Tabassum  Hayden James Wallace  Joanna Lynn Zoller
Ellen Debrah Tabiri  Alexander Benjamin Warner  Emily Ruth Zornow

Darby High School

Mohamad Khaled Abdel Jabbar  Annamarie Elizabeth Bayer  Alivia Layne Cannon
Mussub Hatem Abdelqader  Roger Alfonso De Jesus Becerra Parr  Rodolfo Mateo Carapia
Aya Basem Abdelqader  Kenneth Se-Jin Bechtel  Jackson Miles Carey
Sarah Abdullahi Abdi  Samuel Ray Becker  Matthew Joseph Carlisle
Abdunor Saleume Abdullahi  Sarah Elizabeth Benzing  Dylan Michael Carlos
Caylene Rose Abrams  Sydney Michelle Biedenharn  Justin Robert Cashner
Abdulkaareem Yusef Abu-Allkheir  Drake Thomas Bittorf  Kaylecia Marie Catalonoi
Menien Raed Abu-Kweik  Marissa Ann Blake  Isabella Illean Centeno
Raymond Kwame Ackah  Madison Stanko Blue  Ty Walker Cera
Samantha Lizbeth Adame Pineiro  Tristan Michelle Booth  Dominic Dallas Chamblin
Hasham Ashiq Ahmed  Sadzi Magdalena Jessika Bosh  Thomas Xavier Chubb
Hamza Khalid Ahmed  Julia Sultana Bottum Musa  Mara Malissa Ciriaco
Zakaria M Aljouni  Thaddeus Vladimir Bowen  Alexa Morgan Clark
Jonathan Michael Alecsuan  Chase David Bowers  Ella Rebecca Clement
Qyse Issam Alhajyassin  Ashley Elizabeth Bowers  Elyjah Luke Cline
Azzam A Alhamouri  Andrew Mason Bowlby  Nina Camille Collins
Nadeen Hassan Al-Kinbi  Tyler Douglas Boyd  William John Conley
Camille Vania Amoako  Jacob Matthew Boyle  Emma Colleen Connors
Sume Riad Amro  Hunter William Bradfield  Tyler Curtis Cook
Dalya Ammar Anwer  Reagan Elizabeth Braun  Taylor Renee Cooper
Anthony William Apicella  Devin Matthew Brock  Alexander Coronado-Pina
Natalie Faith Argo  Tayen Christine Brown  Ian Byrom Corsi
Rachel Faith Argo  Melanie Hope Brumfield  Victoria Lynn Cox
Ninoska Gabriela Arias  Emily Anna Bryant  Isabel Lisette Crispin
Rebecca Lynn Aronshteyn  Alison Grace Budinski  Hector Cruz Perez
Eric James Atkins  Carter Jon-Hugh Buell  Amelia Helen Ciszarik
Camryn Brooke Badgley  Ryan Christopher Bugg  Amar Ahmed Dabbagh
Jacob Anthony Baird  Mark Julius Bundschatz  Mia Taglione Daley
Paige Elizabeth Baldwin  Madrielle Marie Burchett  Hannah Elizabeth Dameron
Devin Nathaniel Bargar  Nathan Andrew Burdick  Jilin Xia-Xuan Danley
Logan Matthew Barlow  Paige Eileen Buty  Lynden Marie Davidson
Geordan Devon Bates  Nathan Bradley Calahan  Faith Dionna Davis
Elijah Quinn Baughman  Katherine Sophia Caloedis  Kiley Yvonne Day
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**Davidson High School**
Mrs. Murdoch offered her congratulations.
G  REPORTS / INFORMATION / EXHIBIT ITEM

G1  Committee Reports

Mrs. Long mentioned that she would be meeting with City Council this Friday and asked her fellow board members to let her know if they would like to attend. She also said the Franklin County Fair asked elected officials to participate in a baking contest.

Mrs. Murdoch provided a quick update about the HEF meeting. It was really cool to hear that they are awarding $23,000 in scholarships this year. She thanked everyone who supported HEF in providing these scholarships and congratulated the winners.

Mr. Perry said that OSBA was pausing since the Ohio General Assembly was in recess. Our next policy committee meeting is this Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the central office. The public is welcome to attend and witness the proceeding.

Mrs. Crowley stated she attended the ISPTO meeting and saw a wonderful presentation by Mike McDonough on the Master Facility Plan. ISPTO also elected its officers for the next school year. Mrs. Long, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Wilson, and I went to dinner at Tolles that our students prepared. It was a wonderful event.

Mrs. Long noted the next Facilities Committee meeting is on June 3. If you want to add anything to the agenda, please get your information to Mr. Vorst or myself.

G2  Superintendent’s Update

a.  None

H  EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

H1  Mrs. Long moved, and Mr. Perry seconded that the Board of Education caucus to executive session to consider the compensation and discipline of public employees or officials. Time: 7:52 p.m.

There will be no action following the executive session.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.