



MEETING NOTES

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: Ms. Arnold, Mrs. Byler, Mrs. Crowley, Mr. Moog, and Mr. Perry.
- A3 Pledge of Allegiance

NOTE: *Portions of the meeting's audio recording were difficult to decipher; therefore, this document may contain several incomplete sentences or inaccuracies. Additionally, some of the participants' names may be misspelled.*

B PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS

- B1 Britton students will share highlights from Math Mix Up, a building initiative in which students rotate into intentionally grouped classrooms during the math fluency block for targeted intervention and enrichment. Through dedicated time on individualized or small-group support, students work to strengthen their mathematical thinking and skills, resulting in increased Math scores.

Mr. Stewart: Up first on our agenda tonight, we have some friends from Britton who are going to talk to us about Math Mix Up. So, I'll turn it over to Mrs. Bope.

Mrs. Bope: Good evening, everybody. We're super excited. We have some second-grade leaders with us tonight, along with a couple of teachers. They're going to talk to us about Math Mix Up. We've talked a lot about collective efficacy in Britton and how teachers can take ownership of their entire hallway, not just their homeroom. Mrs. Scally will tell us a little bit about how we do that with our Math Mix Up.

Mrs. Scally: Good evening. I am the reading ambassador support teacher here in Britton. We have something very special to share with you tonight. We have some second-grade leaders here to show you what a math mix up looks like. But let me set the stage first.

During the day, each hallway has a 30-minute fact fluency block. During that block, students are mixed up among all three classes in their hallway. The teachers group the students based on the STAR assessment and DMA assessments. Students then receive targeted instruction, intervention, and enrichment based on their specific learning goals and needs. Second graders, are you ready to show them what math mix up looks like? Come on out.

Students and teachers demonstrated how Math Mix Up works, and then each student made a short statement about the program.

Ms. Vauter: Good evening. My name is Ally Vauter, and I'm a kindergarten teacher here at Britton. Math Mix Up time has quickly become one of my favorite times throughout the day. During our faculty mix-up time, I've had the opportunity to see firsthand how powerful targeted instruction can be for our students. By grouping students based on specific needs, we can focus on building strong foundational math skills in

a way that truly supports their learning. I've noticed students gaining confidence in their math and improving their scores as they practice these skills regularly. Another wonderful part of this time is that both teachers and students get to build relationships throughout our entire hallway, not just within our own classrooms. It's created a strong sense of teamwork and community while helping our students grow as mathematicians. Thank you.

Mrs. Scally: I think they covered Math Mix Up pretty well, but I do want to add my favorite part of Math Mix Up. As a math support teacher, I collaborate with the classroom teacher to provide targeted in-class math instruction that, as Ms. Vauter said, meets each child's needs, ensuring they develop skills, confidence, and understanding that they need to succeed in math. We also have three English language teachers who push in and help in the classroom, supporting language, counting, and things like that. The teachers in the hallways are very supported by our support staff around our building.

I'd also like to take a moment to recognize the incredible support and dedication that has made our Math Mix Up a success. With the support of Mrs. Bope and the hard work and commitment from our teachers, the math block has become a productive and engaging experience for all of our students. The teamwork, planning, and enthusiasm have created an environment where students can explore math in a fun and meaningful way, while remaining intentional about each student's needs. Because of our teacher's efforts, our students not only practice important skills but also build confidence and excitement about math. So thank you for listening to us talk about Math Mix Up.

Mr. Stewart: A lot of the conversations that I have are about reminding people that you don't just throw a book in front of the kid and they learn how to read, or you don't just put some numbers in front of a student and they learn how to do math. It is highly skilled, highly technical work, but what a great example we got tonight of what I try to explain to people. So, thank you to all of you and thank you to all of our students.

B2 Embrace, Empower, Inspire Award Winners: Corey Poe, Jeff Feathers, Kristen Welch, and Kyle Reichle

Mr. Stewart: Next up, we have some Embrace, Empower, and Inspire award winners.

Ms. Hall: This is Kyle Reichle. He is one of our science teachers and our head boys' soccer coach. He was honored by a parent for his efforts that go above and beyond for students, specifically her two daughters, outside the classroom and well beyond what they experienced in class. She wanted to acknowledge that he makes students feel comfortable, supported, and encouraged, and that he is genuine and communicates to families and students that teaching is much more than a job to him.

I've had the pleasure of teaching, coaching, and leading alongside Mr. Reichle and have seen up close exactly what the Kane family has expressed. She is right. They're not the only family with this story about him. Including, and that most touchingly to me, are multilingual students and families whose languages you hear him practicing with our students all of the time and with his players. His Spanish is actually getting pretty good. Kyle is a walking reminder that just living is really fun, and he brings human moments to every interaction. He takes time to build relationships with every student and teacher, is one of the freshman team advisors, and our group chat has been blowing up because even the staff are very excited that he has gotten this and feel very connected to him. He is smiling and laughing his way through every single day. He's a human who lives very much in the present. When you see him in the hallways, he slows down enough to connect and check in. Looking people in the eyes that might seem really small, but in a world that operates at such a fast pace and in a digital space, feeling like someone is truly present with

you is a very rare gift. Kyle is somebody who makes everybody feel like somebody, because of that, he is somebody to everybody.

Mrs. Lennox: I'm so honored to introduce our three transition specialists who are receiving the Embrace, Empower, and Inspire Award. We have Cory Poe from Darby, Kristen Welch from Davidson, and Jeff Feathers from Bradley. Across all nominations, it was clear that all three serve as vital links connecting our students with disabilities and their families to the resources and programs necessary for success after graduation. They're celebrated for ensuring that every student's unique, academic and emotional needs are met, and for building deep relationships with families, providing reassurance and guidance during this transitional time.

Specifically, it was noted that Kristen takes her role seriously. She's constantly checking on students, facilitating communication, and making sure everyone is on track and in the loop. Families trust Kristen's attention to detail and her compassion, which relieve all their apprehension.

Jeff also fosters a high level of collaboration and trust. As one mother wrote, Mr. Feathers is not afraid to have hard conversations with me to get my son on the right track. Not everyone can do that, and I respect him for being realistic and honest while still offering options.

Corey also ensures that every student she works with has a clear, supportive path toward a successful future. Whether she is securing meaningful work experiences, fostering partnerships with local businesses, or guiding families through the complexities of post-graduation support. Her commitment to their growth is evident.

Personally, I would just echo everything everybody is saying. I also thank all three of them. They were very instrumental in launching our community access and transition skills program this year at the Hub. Their work in building relationships with Walgreens and The Well was pretty impressive, given the short amount of time they had. And then, even last week, we learned that our students secured 5 of the 10 project search spots through Tolles. Their work is truly instrumental in helping students be prepared for their tomorrow. So help me in recognizing them.

Mr. Stewart: Two things. One regarding Kyle and his presence at Darby High School. I've experienced that firsthand. I've been the recipient of that welcome. So everything Lauren said about Kyle is true. And then, in terms of our transition specialists, what's unique about that group is that, in most districts, that role is behind the scenes. They're not connected to the rest of the staff or the rest of the school. Nobody really knows what they do. And we've got three polar opposite examples of that, and we're really fortunate to have them. So again, thank you all four of you.

Mr. Perry: First of all, congratulations to all the Embrace, Empower, and Inspire Award winners. We're so thoroughly impressed with your work, and it's amazing to have all of you. I have a personal connection to the Darby soccer program. I came through that program myself, and in fact, Jeff Feathers was one of my coaches. And I played a game last night, as a matter of fact, and I still hear in the back of my head that I should be sprinting that full field every time. And it truly has established a lifelong passion for me to keep my body healthy throughout my life, and the skills that I've learned, not just in soccer, but also in life skills, really do matter. So, thank you for everybody who does that, and congratulations.

C ROUTINES

- C1 The agenda is correct, as presented.
- C2 The Board of Education adopted the agenda as presented.
- C3 The Board of Education approved the February 2026 Treasurer’s Report.
- C4 The Board of Education approved the minutes from the following meetings:
 - a. February 9, 2026 – Regular Meeting
 - b. February 9, 2026 – Meeting Notes
 - c. February 23, 2026 – Work Session
 - d. February 23, 2026 – 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.

Debbie Cochran

Good evening. My name is Debbie Cochran, and I'd first like to thank you all for your service for our kids. Your dedication to and work and support of our schools, our staff, and our students has always been important, but it's even more so today. So thank you. I am once again asking you to support and join the Class Action Vouchers Hurt Ohio Lawsuit.

Did you know that, as of November, 1,106 students in the Hilliard City School District are taking advantage of the EdChoice vouchers? As I know you know, those EdChoice vouchers are funding students attending private schools at a higher rate than our students attending public schools.

Did you know that since 2023, the number of Hilliard students receiving these unconstitutional vouchers has increased by 413%, surpassing the state average for those vouchers? Those 1,106 students are receiving over \$5 million from the state this year, and yet, as I know you know, state revenues for Hilliard schools have been reduced by over \$6 million.

Did you know that since 1996, the state has spent over \$8 billion on unconstitutional private school vouchers, and not a penny of that has ever been audited? Take a minute and think about that. \$8 billion has never been audited. Certainly would make your job a little simpler, wouldn't it, Melissa?

Did you know joining the VHO lawsuit will cost our district \$2 per student? This minimal amount, 0.00009% of your budget, is more than enough to justify standing up against the unconstitutionality of the EdChoice voucher program, and I know that you know it is time to publicly say to our community and to the students you support, enough is enough. Thank you for your consideration.

Maxine Irvin

Hello, and thank you for listening to my statement. My name is Maxine Irvin, and I have been a resident of Hilliard City School District for 35 years. Both of my children graduated from Hilliard Davidson High School. I want to congratulate the new members of the Board. I meant to congratulate all of you during the January meeting, but I inadvertently left it out of my speech. Welcome to a difficult assignment. Managing the future of our school district amid major upheaval.

I think most of us are here because we want a quality education for our children. This is something on which we can agree. Unfortunately, not enough people are aware of the multitude of attacks by the state and federal governments against public education. These attacks directly impinge on our rights, as specified by the Ohio Constitution, to a quality public school education and to the education Ohioans were once proud of. Many of us are extremely angry at those who are trying to prevent our children from receiving a quality education. I want my school board members to fight so that our children can get a quality education in Ohio.

You are all aware of the Vouchers Hurt Ohio lawsuit, which was already won in Common Pleas Court and found that the expanded EdChoice voucher program is unconstitutional. And yet our Attorney General, who should be upholding Ohio law, is instead fighting against the Ohio Constitution in a direct attack on public education. How can you sit there and not fight back against the billions of dollars earmarked by the state to support private schools while shortchanging public education? The Hilliard City School District is just accepting the loss of future state funding and doing nothing to fight back, such as joining the Ohio voucher lawsuit.

Another threat to schools is the movement to eliminate property taxes. Once the amendment to eliminate property taxes gathers enough signatures for the ballot, property taxes in Ohio could be abolished. The school board might want to reconsider building new school facilities. Hillard will lack sufficient funds to run them if property taxes are eliminated while state funding continues to decrease. What will you do when there is no revenue from property taxes and the state continues to defund public education? Now is the time to stand up for Hilliard students and join the Vouchers Hurt Ohio Lawsuit. Thank you.

E CONSENT AGENDA

The Board of Education approved the consent agenda, items E1 through E4. Action by the Board of Education in “Adoption of the Consent Agenda” means that all E items are adopted by one single motion unless a member of the board or the Superintendent requests that any such item be removed from the consent agenda and voted upon separately. Employments, where applicable, are contingent upon 1) Verification of education, 2) Proof of proper certification, and 3) Positive results from a criminal records check.

- E1 Approved the following Certified Personnel actions – See attachment to the Minutes.
- E2 Approved the following Classified Personnel actions – See attachment to the Minutes.
- E3 Employment – Stipends-Non-Contractual: Approve Hayleigh Sivanthaphanith, Hilliard cheer Academy Showcase Site Manager at established rate.
- E4 Approved the following trip requests:
 - a. Heritage, Memorial, Weaver, Washington DC – October 12, 2026
 - b. Davidson Spanish, Spain – March 30, 2027

- c. Bradley Jaguar A Cappella, Indianapolis, IN – March 13, 2026
- d. Bradley Jaguar A Cappella, New York City, NY – April 23, 2026
- e. Bradley Varsity Softball, Symmes Valley HS – April 3, 2026
- f. Bradley Varsity Softball, Ontario, OH – April 17, 2026

Mr. Perry thanked the following for their many years of service:

Certificated Personnel Retirements:

- Erin Barrett has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/29/1996.
- Kyleen Calabrese has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/27/1999.
- Cynthia Large has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/27/1999.
- Taushene McGhee has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/31/2001.
- Anne Weiant has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/27/2004.

Classified Personnel Retirements:

- Sandra Arnold has been with Hilliard City Schools since 08/29/2000.

F ACTION AGENDA

F1 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District, Franklin County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Education, during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 2026, the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made and during said fiscal year, as follows:

001 - GENERAL FUND	\$263,599,641
599 - MISC FEDERAL GRANT	\$94,709

Mrs. Swearingen: This is an appropriation amendment to align our general fund appropriations with the forecast you recently approved, and one modification based on a grant.

F2 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR (CITY, VILLAGE OF LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION) REVISED CODE, SECTIONS 5705.34, 5705.35

WHEREAS, This Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Franklin County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within, the ten mill tax limitation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the HILLIARD CITY School District, Franklin County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted: and be it further

RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said School District the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation for tax year 2026 (collection year 2027) as follows:

SCHEDULE A
 SUMMARY OF AMOUNTS REQUIRED FROM GENERAL PROPERTY TAX APPROVED BY THE BUDGET
 COMMISSION, AND COUNTY AUDITOR'S ESTIMATED TAX RATES

FUND	Amount to be Derived from Levies Outside 10 Mill Limitation	Amount Approved by Budget Commission Inside 10 Mill Limitation	County Auditor's Estimate of Full Tax Rate to be Levied	
			Inside 10 Mill Limit	Outside 10 Mill Limit
General Fund	\$180,560,732.20	\$21,422,373.07	4.45	87.40
Bond Retirement	\$19,159,785.35			4.00
Permanent Improvement Classroom Facilities	\$5,641,093.56			2.00
TOTAL	\$205,361,611.11	\$21,422,373.07	4.45	93.40

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Treasurer of this Board be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County.

Mrs. Swearingen: For the benefit of our new board members, this is an annual process with the county auditor. Those rates you see have not changed from the prior year because we did not have any new levies enacted during the last tax year. The bond retirement remains at the 4 mills we promised during the campaign.

F3 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

AWARDING CONTRACT FOR THE PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS PHASE II PROJECT SETTERLIN BUILDING COMPANY.

The Chief Operating Officer (“COO”) recommends the Board of Education award a contract to Setterlin Building Company. (“Contractor”) for the Playground Improvements Phase II Project (the “Project”).

Background:

1. The Board has identified a need for the Project.
2. In compliance with applicable law, the COO and Treasurer solicited bids for the Project based upon design documents prepared by Schorr Architects, Inc. (“Architect”).
3. Three bids were received for the Project. Bids were opened and read aloud on February 10, 2026, with the lowest responsible bid submitted by Contractor in the amount of \$2,577,350 (the “Low Bid”).

4. After review of Contractor’s bid submission and a scope review meeting with Contractor, the Architect recommends the contract for the Project be awarded to Contractor as the lowest responsible bidder. The COO and Treasurer concur with the recommendation and request authority to negotiate and sign an agreement with Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Low Bid.
5. Additionally, to avoid Project delays, the COO and Treasurer request authority to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Low Bid. Change orders in excess of that amount, individually or in the aggregate, will be brought to the Board for its approval.

The Board resolves as follows:

1. Based on the information provided, the Board selects Contractor as the lowest responsible bidder.
2. The Board authorizes the COO and Treasurer to negotiate and sign an agreement for the Project with Contractor in an amount not-to-exceed the Low Bid, and to sign any associated documents consistent with the intent of this resolution.
3. The Board also authorizes the COO and Treasurer to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Low Bid. Change orders in excess of that amount, individually or in the aggregate, will be brought to the Board for its approval.
4. No property interest in the Project will be created until all required documents have been submitted by Contractor and the agreement is executed by the designated Board representatives.

F4 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT TO CONVEY EASEMENTS TO COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF GAS LINES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

The Superintendent recommends the Board authorize an agreement with Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (“Columbus Gas”), an Ohio corporation, conveying easements (the “Easements”) to Columbia Gas, for the purpose of permitting Columbia Gas to install, maintain and operate gas lines and associated infrastructure over, upon, under, above and through property owned by the Board.

Rationale:

1. The Board is the owner of real property situated in the State of Ohio, County of Franklin, City of Hilliard, lying in Virginia Military Survey 3001, commonly known as Parcel No. 050-002853 (the “Easement Property”).
2. As part of its Capital Improvements Project, the Board is constructing its New Beacon Elementary School on the Easement Property (the “Project”).
3. Columbia Gas has requested the Board provide Columbia Gas with Easements for the installation, maintenance and operation of gas lines and associated infrastructure, upon, above

and through the Easement Property, in connection with the Project. The area covered by the Easements is as generally depicted in the attached Exhibit A.

4. Accordingly, the Superintendent requests authority for the Treasurer and Board President, with assistance of legal counsel, to negotiate and sign agreement(s) conveying the Easements to Columbia Gas and to negotiate and sign any documents consistent with the intent of this Resolution.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. Treasurer and Board President, with assistance of legal counsel, are authorized to negotiate and sign agreement(s) conveying the Easements to Columbia Gas, and to negotiate and sign any documents consistent with the intent of this Resolution.

F5 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

AGREEMENT WITH BYRNE & JONES CONSTRUCTION FOR THE TENNIS COURT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Superintendent requests authority to enter into an agreement with Byrne & Jones Enterprises, Inc. dba Byrne & Jones Construction (the “Contractor”) for the Tennis Court Replacement Project (the “Project”).

Rationale:

1. The District previously identified a need for the Project.
2. The District is a member of the INCompliance Consulting National Purchasing Consortium (“ICNPC”), which is a national association of political subdivisions.
3. Ohio Revised Code Section 9.48 authorizes boards of education, as political subdivisions, to participate in joint purchasing programs operated by or through a national or state association of political subdivisions in which the purchasing political subdivision is eligible for membership.
4. Pursuant to Attorney General Opinion 2024-003, Ohio Revised Code Section 9.48 allows a board of education to procure installation, maintenance, and repair services through a joint purchasing program with the procurement being exempt from any competitive bidding requirements.
5. The Project is for installation, maintenance, and repair services.
6. ICNPC solicited proposals for services, utilizing the Project as the basis for pricing. The Contractor submitted a proposal in response to the solicitation (the “Proposal”), which ICNPC has determined is the most advantageous to its members. As a result, ICNPC extended a contract offering to the Contractor based on the Proposal.
7. The Contractor will execute an agreement with ICNPC so that the Contractor may offer its services to ICNPC members (“Consortium Agreement”).
8. The Contractor’s Proposal for the Project is in the amount of \$1,835,036 (“Proposal Sum”).
9. The Superintendent recommends the Board authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to negotiate and execute an agreement with Contractor for the Project based on the Proposal in an amount not to exceed the Proposal Sum, pending execution of the Consortium Agreement.
10. To avoid Project delays, the Superintendent also requests authority for the Superintendent and Treasurer to enter change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Proposal Sum. Change orders in excess of that aggregate amount will be brought to the Board for its approval.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. The Board acknowledges that the Proposal is exempt from competitive bidding requirements pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 9.48.
2. The Board approves the selection of Contractor for the Project and authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to work with legal counsel to negotiate and execute an agreement with Contractor based on the Proposal and to sign any related documents for the Project, in an amount not to exceed the Proposal Sum.
3. The Board also authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to enter change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 10% of the Proposal Sum. Change orders in excess of that aggregate amount will be brought to the Board for its approval.

Ms. Arnold: Just a quick question. We did have a question come in earlier today. Could you just walk us through how this company was chosen?

Mr. Dudgeon: So, for this particular project, we used a new purchasing avenue through Bricker and Graydon, which is the district's counsel. They have their own purchasing consortium called In Compliance. In Compliance, opportunities are solicited competitively with companies, but instead of being bound by a low bid, the district can select based on best value. In this case, Byrne & Jones submitted the higher bid by \$50,000, but given the district's prior working relationship with them, we selected them instead.

F6 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING JOINT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HILLIARD FOR THE WALKER ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (NEW BROWN) SITE

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education authorize a Joint Development Agreement (“Agreement”) with the City of Hilliard (the “City”) for the Walker Road Elementary School (New Brown) site located along Walker Road in Brown Township (the “Walker Site”).

Rationale:

1. The Board is currently constructing Walker Road Elementary School (New Brown) as part of its Capital Improvements Project (the “Project”), and is currently seeking approval to annex the Walker Site into the City.
2. As part of the annexation process and the City’s Thoroughfare Plan and Water Master Plan, the City has requested that the Board make certain public infrastructure improvements at the Walker Site.
3. In consideration of the Board making the requested improvements, the City will waive certain City utility fees and reimburse the Board for the construction of fiber optic conduit and related infrastructure.
4. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 715.02, representatives of the City and representatives the Board have drafted the Agreement outlining the scope of improvements and cost assessment for the improvements. The improvements outlined in the Agreement shall mutually benefit both the City and Board.
5. Accordingly, the Superintendent recommends the Board authorize the Superintendent, Treasurer, and Chief Operating Officer, with the assistance of legal counsel, to negotiate and finalize the Agreement in substantially the same form as attached to this resolution, and further

recommends the Board authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to sign the Agreement upon finalization of all terms and conditions.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 712.02, the Board finds the Agreement to be mutually beneficial to the City and the Board.
2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent, Treasurer, and Chief Operating Officer, with the assistance of legal counsel, to negotiate and finalize the Agreement in substantially the same form as attached to this resolution, and further authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to sign the Agreement upon finalization of all terms and conditions.

Mr. Stewart: I'll just say that this is an exciting step forward. It was a lot of work with the city. We appreciate their partnership. I think what we ended with is an agreement that's good for the city and the district, and more importantly...We're very pleased to be able to have this here today.

Mr. Moog: Just real quick, the road extension that they've asked us to do was something that we would not have normally done without the request of the city. Is that correct?

Mr. Stewart: Not necessarily. We could have just done a drive from the building out to Walker Road, but ultimately, the plan is for Muir Parkway to connect all the way through. And so ultimately, we agreed to build the portion to the school, which I think is fair.

G REPORTS / INFORMATION / EXHIBIT ITEM

G1 Committee Reports

Ms. Arnold: Just to note that we have facilities coming up later this month on March 24.

Mr. Moog: I have two. I attended the PTO Booster President Lunch a couple of Fridays ago. Dave gave a construction update of what's going on with the schools. IT presented the same AI program that they showed us at the last board meeting, which was very well received. There were 12 representatives from the schools and one from HEA. I talked to Dave about the Senior Citizen Committee. I met Jill Collins, who's the director of the community center, and offered to go out maybe a couple times a year to talk to their group about what's going on with the schools. She was receptive to that. They do Wednesday morning coffee chats at 10:30. I'm going to try to get over there periodically just to be a face and answer any questions that they might ask.

Mrs. Byler: I have two. Kara and I attended ISPTO last month. The original scheduled program by the gifted department was postponed until the fall due to their current audit. So instead, we divided into groups to brainstorm and discuss how to energize parents and encourage more involvement in PTO and meetings. We also discussed fundraising ideas, what works, and what to avoid. Kara and I joined a group to tackle the challenges of PTOs at the middle school and high school levels. Engaging parents and raising money at that level can be difficult. We listened and affirmed those realities while, as a group, brainstorming ideas and offering encouragement. This month is the infamous bus tour, one of the highlights of our year. We'll be sure to share pictures and commentary on our social media.

I also attended my first HEF meeting (Hilliard Education Foundation). I was grateful for their warm welcome and intentional effort to get me up to speed on who they are and what they do. Some important updates to include are that teacher grant applications were due on February 28th and scholarship applications were due February 15th. The teacher grant committee will meet soon to discuss the grant requests, and the scholarship committee is currently screening those applications. And last but certainly not least, the annual Denim and Diamonds fundraiser on February 27th was another overwhelming success. We sold 404 tickets, and it was a fun night for our community as we supported our teachers and students. I hope to have more details next month on the exact fundraising numbers and feedback from the event. I would like to thank all who attended. To those who didn't get the chance to come this year, I hope you will consider attending next year. For more information, be sure to follow Hillard Education Foundation on social media.

Mr. Perry: I just had one quick update since our last report. There was a meeting of the insurance committee. The two main takeaways. Roy Walker is still the benefits coordinator for anyone who wants to talk to him. And there's also a major push to make sure everyone's getting preventive care. It's much easier, quicker, and cheaper to solve a problem earlier than to catch it later when it becomes a problem. So make sure you go to your regular doctor's visits, your eye appointments, and things like that, catch things early, better for your health, better economically, better all around.

Mrs. Crowley: I attended ISPTO with Sarah, and she gave a great snapshot of what happened there. I want to add that ISPTO has some board roles open, so if anyone is interested in getting more involved at the district level, they're looking to fill some of those spots.

For my teaching and learning committee, I met with Bill, Mark, and Jim, and got a deeper look into the AI task force's work. I appreciate that they're leading this work with ethics and safety at the forefront, while also considering how AI can help prepare students for tomorrow. We did a deeper dive into the student literacy with AI and how it connects to the commitment plan and the portrait of a learner. I liked how they're using student data to help guide their work. One thing that stood out to me is that they're positioning AI as a tool while also emphasizing what they call the 'human advantage' – things like critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving. The scope of this work is broad, but the way they're designing it makes it clear and understandable for both students and staff, and it's flexible enough to grow and adapt as technology evolves. So I was very impressed with that work.

Superintendent's advisory. We only had a handful of questions this round, so the in-person meeting was canceled. But Superintendent Stewart answered the questions in writing, and I forwarded them to you guys, so you should have them in your email.

The communications committee. We have nothing formal to report yet, but Sarah and I have been talking through some ideas. And with Stacie's help, we're going to get some things organized as we head into the summer.

H **ADJOURNMENT**

H1 Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.