



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: Mark Abate, Paul Lambert, Nadia Long, Brian Perry, and Lisa Whiting
- A3 Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consistent with District Treasurer Wilson’s November 19, 2020, notice under Section 3307.353 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Education will now hear the issue of whether or not to reemploy SERS retiree Sherry L Elliott, Secretary. This individual has given notice of intent to service retire under the School Employees Retirement System effective at the beginning of the day February 1, 2021, and has applied for reemployment in her previous position effective February 2, 2021. Any member of the audience who wishes to comment on this issue will be recognized.

If anyone has comments, please email your comments to Mr. Abate or Dr. Marschhausen.

B PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS

- B1 City Fiber Agreement – Rich Boettner, Chief Technology Officer

The City of Hilliard reached out to us in September about CARE funds they received to help with connectivity throughout the community. The city is building some fiber out to some of our school buildings and installing an LTE antenna. Families will be able to use a “hotspot” provided by the city’s fiber network. We are currently working with the city on how they will handle selecting those families in need of this service. Working with the city’s team has been an awesome collaborative effort.

Mr. Lambert commented that he is always happy to hear about opportunities to cooperate with the city to serve our shared communities. I appreciate your update and thank you to the city’s team for their willingness to work together.

Dr. Marschhausen commented that the city, school district, and township leaders have been meeting monthly. We have had some great conversations about our shared community.

- B2 COVID Update

Mary Kennedy, Hilliard Education Association (HEA) President

Education is a partnership between educators, support professionals, students, the Board of Education, the administration, parents, and the community. We appreciate that the Board must take all of these perspectives into consideration when making decisions. My position as the HEA President is to support all of its members. In my nine years as president, supporting all members has never been more challenging than during this global pandemic. This pandemic has set us all up in an ever-changing, very challenging

situation. It feels like every time we turn around, new or revised information changes how we address educational needs. There are no right or wrong decisions or solutions to what we are going through. We work together, collaborate, and discuss changes when and where they are needed and adapt. As educators, we care deeply about and are committed to a high quality of education and our students' mental health. We agree that in-person instruction and the personal connections between students, educators, and support professionals is critical. We also care deeply about and recognize that our students, colleagues, and our families' physical health and safety during this pandemic are vital for a successful and safe learning environment. The HEA has worked in partnership with the district leadership to navigate through this COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020, making adjustments where needed. We will continue to communicate and work together, navigating through very difficult times, to do what is best for the students and staff of HCSD.

Mr. Perry thanked Mary for HEA's continued cooperation with the district. We appreciate that HEA and OAPSE are part of the Hilliard family, and the community should be aware of this partnership. We are working in coordination with each other as we do in all aspects of the district.

Mr. Abated echoed Mr. Perry's sentiments. He thanked Mary and all of our educators for their work throughout this challenging time. We appreciate your willingness to adjust and adapt. Everyone has done a tremendous job.

Mr. Lambert commented that there is probably the same spectrum of opinions and beliefs about the virus across the team of teachers as in the general community. Despite this, we have a school district with 16,000+ students to educate safely. I appreciate HEA's and OAPSE's willingness to help us navigate through this pandemic in a manner that puts students first.

Ms. Whiting added her thanks for the cooperation between the board, administration, and staff. During this pandemic, we have received a lot of conflicting feedback and opinions about our decisions. However, almost everyone talks about how much their teachers mean to them and their children and how well they have continued through these changes. Thank you to all of our staff – teachers, secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, and administrators – for doing their best during this difficult time.

Mrs. Long echoed her, thanks. She appreciates that the culture we have created has carried us through times we had no clue we would be facing. Thank you so much.

Chris Clarizio, Ohio Association of Public School Employees (OAPSE) Local 310 President

We are privileged to work in this excellent school district. This has been the craziest issue ever. We are proud to work with everyone as one team, and thank you for all of the opportunities to keep us working. It's so strange to see our beautiful buildings empty. We understand that our goal is to get the kids back in school as safely as possible. We are all in this together. We are here to support the district in any way we can. Thank you for your acknowledgment of what the classified staff has helped accomplish. We genuinely appreciate it.

Mr. Abate thanked Chris and all classified staff for stepping up when this crisis began. Thank you to everyone for your willingness to help.

Mr. Lambert commented that he appreciates the classified staff's willingness to step in and help no matter their role or the task – we never hear, “it’s not my job.” Everyone has truly pulled together during this difficult time.

Dr. Marschhausen added that the collaboration between the two unions is incredible too. Our custodians and teachers work together to disinfect our classrooms throughout each day. Everyone is doing everything we need to do right now to keep everyone as safe as possible in this environment. It’s a credit to all of our employees and the leadership of Mary and Chris.

Roy Walker, Executive Director of Human Resources

Before this school year, we had approximately 900+ certified (teachers and tutors) substitutes willing to work for HCSD. We work with the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO) to obtain all our substitutes. Beginning this school year, the number of available certified substitutes has dropped to a little over 600. Of these 600, there are even fewer available at any given time due to personal illness and required quarantines. Some of these substitute teachers are unwilling to work because their children are in a hybrid or remote learning mode. The number of classified substitutes has also decreased.

A big thank you to Shawna Toney and Carla Smith. Shawna works to secure substitutes daily. Carla takes care of getting the substitutes with the proper certification for our long-term absences. Shawna and Carla do an excellent job of keeping us on track. Our transportation department is working hard to keep our buses on the road. They have only thirteen substitute bus drivers and five substitute bus aides available on any given day. They are doing a tremendous job.

One of our biggest challenges is covering a class for a teacher who has COVID-19 or has been exposed and in quarantine. We created substitute building monitors, a classified position, to help with this situation. We currently have thirteen substitute building monitors assigned to our elementary schools. When we have a teacher out of the building due to COVID-19, the teacher can still teach their students via Zoom with a building monitor in the classroom with the students. We also have twenty-three long-term certified substitutes assigned to a specific building. When a building needs a sub, they utilize this long-term sub first. We would like to have another twenty-three assigned long-term subs, but we don’t have anyone willing to make this commitment. The long-term subs are filling in for staff who are out for various reasons, including maternity leave, medical leave, or a leave of absence. We currently have forty long-term subs filling these absences.

The need for such a large number of substitutes is due to COVID-19. The number of staff either quarantined (exposed to someone with COVID-19) or isolated (diagnosed with COVID-19) during October was 147. In November, there was 309 staff absent due to being quarantined or isolated. For December 1 – 14, we have had 115 staff members absent. A huge thank you to our central office administrators who have been substituting, especially during Thanksgiving week.

Dr. Marschhausen thanked Roy and his team for all of their work. He also thanked all of the principals and administrators for covering classes as needed. He shared some results of the ESCCO’s recent survey of their 600+ substitutes.

Question: Why haven’t you accepted any teaching positions this year?
The number one response: Potential exposure to COVID-19 isn’t worth subbing.

Question: What could the districts or ESCCO do to make you more comfortable accepting assignments now?
 The number one response: I’m not going to be comfortable until there is a vaccine.

If anyone is interested in becoming a certified or classified substitute, you may call Human Resources at 614-921-7999 or go to our website at <https://www.hilliardschools.org/district/employment/>.

Dr. Marschhausen’s Update

We have some parents who have been critical of the Ohio Public Health Alert System (OPHAS). As Governor DeWine has said multiple times, the OPHAS is an early warning system. We can control what happens “inside” our schools, but we can’t control “outside” behavior. Increased community spread has a direct impact on school operations for both adults and students. The high number of quarantines, isolations, and substitute shortages support this statement.

I am recommending a change to our September 28, 2020, Responsible Restart Plan. The change comes at the suggestion of our medical team and some community members. I am proposing that we shift our response (moving to/from eLearning) up one week. This proposal considers the indicators rather than just level (or color) changes. The OPHAS indicators are lagging indicators and require swifter action. Tonight’s recommendation recognizes the lagging indicators and enters and exits eLearning sooner when we get to six indicators. The intent of our original proposal was so we didn’t yo-yo between learning modalities. Our intent will not change with my new proposal. It will still be a two-week period before shifting between learning modalities.

In our current model (shown on the right):

- ➔ Week 1: OPHAS puts a star on Franklin County (6 or more indicators met & declaring their watch week).
- ➔ Week 2: Still meeting 6 or more indicators, OPHAS moves the county to purple.
- ➔ This causes HCSD to go into a “watch week.”
- ➔ Week 3: If the county remains purple (still meeting 6 or more indicators), we will shift to eLearning the following Monday.

In this current model, there is the potential for us to be in hybrid for seven school days while the county meets 6 or more indicators.

CURRENT MODEL				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
H	H	H	LEVEL 3 6 OPHAS Indicators Met ★	H
H	H	H	LEVEL 4 6 OPHAS Indicators Met	H
HCSD Watch Week			LEVEL 4 Less than 6 OPHAS Indicators Met	H
H	H	H	H	H
E	E	E	LEVEL 3 E	E
E	E	E	LEVEL 3 E	E
H	H	H	LEVEL 3 H	H

H – Hybrid E - eLearning

In my proposed model (shown on the right):

- Week 1: OPHAS puts a star on Franklin County (6 or more indicators met & declaring their watch week).
- This also becomes HCSD’s “watch week.”
- Week 2: Still meeting 6 or more indicators, OPHAS moves the county to purple – HCSD shifts to eLearning the following Monday.
- As announced by the state on November 24, it recognized that the county has to have less than 6 indicators for two consecutive weeks before moving from purple to red. HCSD would also have a second “watch week” before shifting to hybrid.

In this proposed model, we would only be in school for one day while the county meets 6 or more indicators.

PROPOSED MODEL				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
H	H	H	LEVEL 3 6 OPHAS Indicators Met ★	H
HCSD Watch Week			LEVEL 4 6 OPHAS Indicators Met	
H	H	H	H	H
E	E	E	LEVEL 4 Less than 6 OPHAS Indicators Met	E
HCSD Watch Week			LEVEL 3	
E	E	E	E	E
H	H	H	LEVEL 3 H	H
H	H	H	LEVEL 3 H	H

H – Hybrid E - eLearning

We must notify parents of a change in learning modalities as soon as possible. We will publicize our “watch weeks” and broadcast our changes as quickly as possible.

Mr. Perry stated that he agrees with having fewer in-person days while the county is in purple and more in-person days while in red. Mr. Walker just explained why it’s problematic for us to continue in a hybrid model while the county is purple. This proposal aligns better with our goal to get students in school as much as safely possible.

Dr. Marschhausen explained that the OPHAS is just an early warning system to help guide our decisions. While the county is now in red, our teacher absences are lower, and we can maintain the hybrid model. He wants students in school. There is a growing body of research that students are safe in school. He’s not saying that when the county is in purple, students are not safe in school. Purple is a level where the **community spread** makes it nearly impossible to keep the schools operational. Now, the health officials at the national, state, and local level are in alignment that if we have the adults to have in front of our kids, kids can be in our schools.

We have been consistent in our commitment that we want our kids in school, and we are listening to our local health officials. **Our local health officials are still adamant that six feet of social distancing are necessary.** We understand that health officials in some neighboring counties have said that three feet of social distancing are acceptable. We will remain consistent in our commitment to listen to Franklin County Public Health and Columbus Public Health. Both of those departments are also reading new research. We are all continuing to learn and to respond to the available information.

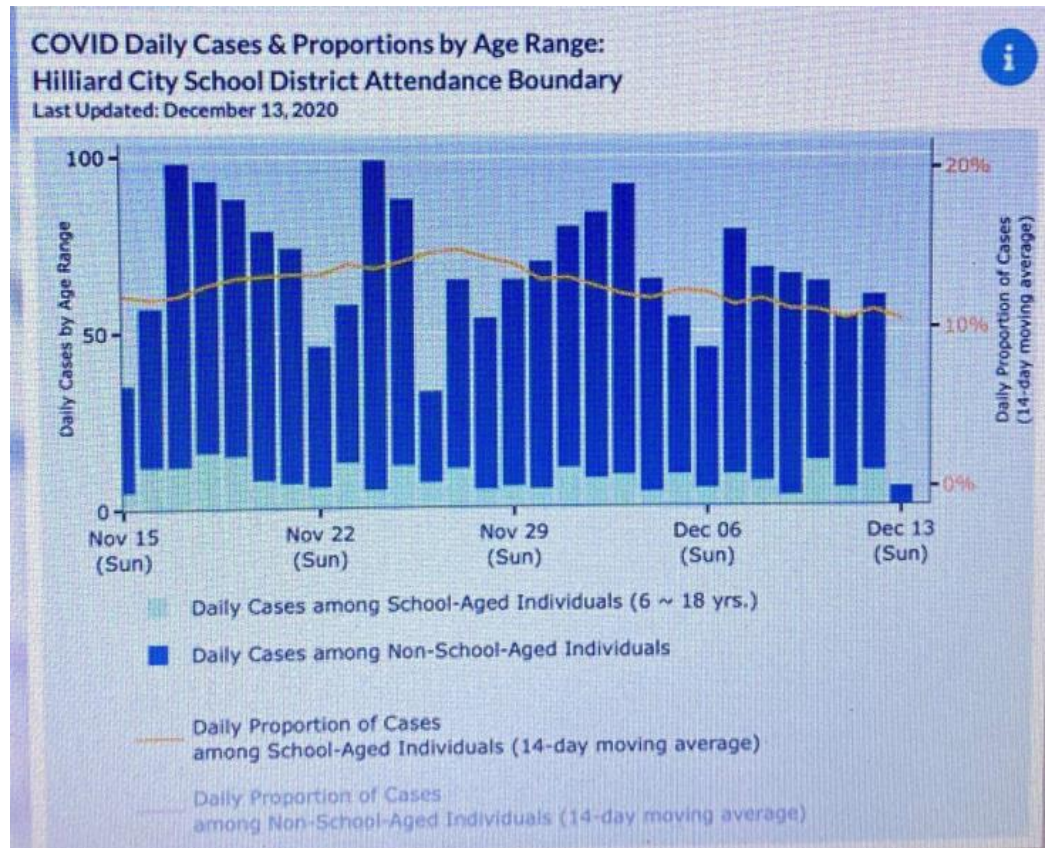
The Ohio Capital Conference (OCC) has been discussing safety in sports and fine arts programs. The OCC will return to middle school and high school interscholastic competition starting this upcoming weekend. There are strict guidelines in place for everyone’s safety. In Hilliard, the only people who will be permitted to attend games (either home or away) are two parents of each student-athlete.



When we have cases where there is potential for spread, those sports will be shut down as we contract trace and go through our process. Our parents and student-athletes have acknowledged and accepted that there is a risk in participating. Our coaches and athletic directors have done amazing work to keep our students safe. Our students have limited their social circles to be able to participate in athletics.

Dr. Sholl and all of our music, choir, and fine arts teachers are also creating opportunities for students. They are doing virtual plays, band concerts, and choir performances.

Our CATS data shows that the cases among our student population are an incredibly small percentage of who is being infected. I believe our students are safe in school, but what is happening “outside” of our schools' impacts what happens at school.



Our attendance rate today was 89%. We have many parents who have chosen to keep their students home this week. As we told parents, work will be posted in Canvas, and students can make up their work. Students will get credit for completing the work.

C ROUTINES

- C1 The agenda is correct, as submitted.
- C2 The Board of Education adopted the agenda.
- C3 The Board of Education approved the November 2020 Treasurer’s Reports.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that the county auditor has set the millage rate for the bonds. We are dropping from 6.8 mills to 4.95 mills. This decrease is because we have paid off the 2005 and 2009 bond issues this year. For homeowners, this means a decrease of approximately \$70.00 per \$100,000 appraised value.

- C4 The Board of Education approved the minutes from the following meetings:
 - a. November 9, 2020 – regular meeting
 - b. November 23, 2020 – work session meeting
 - c. November 9, 2020 – regular meeting notes
 - d. November 23, 2020 – work session notes

D PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District encourages and appreciates citizen interest in meetings of the board. This place on the agenda is especially set aside to hear comments from visitors. Persons wishing to address the board should make written requests in advance of the meeting or complete the Visitor Form found where the agenda materials are located. When called, each speaker is asked to address the board at the microphone so that remarks may be clearly heard and recorded. The speaker should give his or her name and address and limit comments to three minutes.

Board members may ask questions of the speaker for information or clarification and may or may not make comments in response to a speaker’s remarks. It should be noted that this section of the agenda is to hear the views of citizens about their schools. 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 the board meeting are being audiotaped.

Note: The following letters are printed as written by the author.

Kim Hartman, 5563 Rubble Ln. Hilliard 43026

Hello board members and Superintendent. thank you for giving our kids one incredibly justified and necessary hybrid week of school before Christmas break. Our children need every day of in-person instruction they can get and we owe it them to keep pushing forward.

For months we have been told schools and their in-person models would jeopardize the public’s health and cause covid cases to skyrocket. We were led to believe that the virus would sweep through our schools and infect many children and staff. This type fear mongering needs to stop. Remote learning is failing students across the state and mounting scientific evidence shows that in-person learning is safe.

Dr. Fauci is also fully behind children returning to their classrooms. Fauci has repeatedly emphasized that the science showing COVID-19 transmission between students and faculty is negligible.

It's time we stop ignoring the science and allow for our kids to be consistently taught face to face by our amazing teachers. Please show me the science that says schools are dangerous. If experts were saying this virus was spreading in schools and was a threat to our children and our teachers I don't think any of us would be arguing that it's appropriate to stay remote. I know I would never knowingly put my children in harms way. But that is not the case. That is not the data we are seeing.

During our 2 weeks remote I would regularly drive past St. Brendan's, a private school only a few miles from Hilliard schools. I saw happy children on recess playing and socializing. If it was dangerous enough for our schools to go remote was it not dangerous enough for that school to close also? Is this a virus so smart it only affects public schools? This just doesn't make any sense and I am requesting for more transparency. Is there another reason why our schools are being shuttered and there's is not? Are teachers unions playing a role in our decisions and how we operate our schools. Please be honest with our community. Especially the parents who chose the option of in-school instruction.

Only time will tell the full impact of the decisions made by state and local leaders to drastically limit the time they are in-person with their teachers. The failure to provide consistent in-person education could set back an entire generation of children. The failure to provide consistent in-person education can and is wrecking havoc on their mental health. Schools going remote are doing so at the expense of our children. They are our future and need to be cared for as such.

When we return in January Let's work together. School board, unions, staff and parents need to get on the same page. School is proven to be the safest place for our kids and our teachers to be. We must keep our kids in schools and ensure our students get the education they deserve.

Leslie Drexel, 3692 Darby Knolls Blvd.

Thank you for the return to hybrid this week, my girls were both very thankful and excited to be back and we truly appreciate it. This is a step in the right direction.

When we look at other countries like Sweden, Germany, Denmark and Switzerland for example they have all had positive experiences by keeping kids in school. The Prime Minister of Norway said closing in the spring was bad and actually increased spread in their community. Europe has had a sharp outbreak recently in France, Switzerland, Belgium and they all said closing schools was off the table.

Here in the United States Florida for example has all schools open for in person instruction five days a week. They have 5 of the 10 largest districts in the country. Florida is number one in the nation in the delivery of education. Their governor said the harm of closing schools will last for years. The evidence has been clear since spring that closing schools does nothing for virus mitigation. Florida commissioner Corcoran recently said "If you want to know what your future looks like as a state or a country show me how you are educating your youth and I will tell you the future."

And finally here in Ohio as of Tuesday we still have 245 districts in school 5 days a week.

There's no scientific evidence that supports closing schools. In fact, closing schools to coronavirus is the biggest health mistake we have made. If you get away from the politics the data is abundantly clear. I implore you to keep pushing forward and doing what is best for children. It's much more than academics,

it's social/emotional and we know children are suffering. Again, Thank you for the return to hybrid this week.

Amanda Powers, 5633 Maple Dell Ct., Hilliard, OH 43026

Good evening. First and foremost, let me begin by stating how much I appreciate teachers and all they do for our children. A proper education is the foundation for a successful future. I also appreciate health care workers and all they do to keep us healthy. I appreciate police and firefighters keeping us safe. I appreciate engineers keeping the lights on and everything around us moving. I appreciate farmers who grow our food, chefs who prepare it, and servers who make a night out fantastic. With all that being said, each and everyone of these workers have endured with a smile and brave face during this pandemic. I greatly appreciate nurses not striking back in the spring when this was a novel virus and they weren't provided with proper PPE to protect themselves or their patients.

Moreover, I greatly appreciate the teachers who want to teach IN the classroom. They know they are safe because they have science on their side. The numerous peer-reviewed articles that have been published detailing teacher and student safety in the classroom are higher than any other profession. As a board and as a superintendent, you know the right thing to do is to keep the kids in the classroom where they can be properly educated. I challenge you to make the decision that is in the best interest of our students, and not cower to teacher unions. Our students, the parents, and the future of their minds, hearts, and souls rests in your decision to do what you know is right.

Beth Murdoch, 3056 Hemlock Edge, Hilliard, OH 43926

I see from the agenda for this meeting that you are proposing a change to the learning mode resolution to more closely align the transitions from Red to Purple and vice versa with the number of indicators triggered rather than the colors assigned to these levels. I commend you for this change however, I don't think you are going far enough and I urge you to adopt a similar position with respect to all learning modes: Unless you are willing to align our learning modes with something other than the Ohio Public Health Advisory System with its over emphasis on positive test results, the next best thing is to shift learning modes to simply align with the number of indicators triggered in Franklin county instead of the colors assigned by the Ohio Public Health Advisory System resulting in Level 4 being defined as 6 to 7 indicators met, Level 3, 4 to 5 indicators met, Level 2, 2 to 3 indicators met, and Level 1, 0 to 1 indicator met.

This is important because cases – as reported by the Ohio Department of Health are an unreliable way to track the progress of an epidemic. In November, Ohio increased testing to between 60 and 70 thousand tests per day. Adding positive antigen test results, with their higher prevalence of false positives, to Ohio's case numbers without further contract tracing to determine if the alleged positive result really resulted in an illness, inflates the number of cases reported in our state. Even the more accurate PCR tests aren't without problems. As Dr. Fauci has stated, the PCR COVID test is useless and misleading when the test is run at 35 cycles or higher and that a positive result, indicating infection, cannot be accepted or believed. Despite this, the FDA, which authorizes the test for public use, recommends the test should be run up to 40 cycles and the Ohio Department of Health does not collect or report cycle data with the reported cases. The introduction of thousands of antigen tests and the lack of transparency in the number of cycles run for PCR testing, means that Ohio is clearly experiencing positive test results far in excess of actual cases resulting in illness or possible spread. I know it is hard for people to believe this when they hear the scary

numbers reported by the media and our Governor every day but the facts are quite simple. The data shows that:

- Our children don't catch COVID easily
- Even when our children do catch it, it is less severe and therefore, children don't spread it much either
- The primary transmission vector has always been the 25 to 40 year old working folks who interact with each other and then bring it home to their children
- The safest population in the country to be with is the 0 to 18 year olds
- Our children and teachers are safer at school than they are at home

Is it OK to injure our children's emotional health, stunt their academic potential and social development, and cripple their athletic development and artistic expression? If you agree with me that this is NOT OK, then please, modify your resolution to give our children a chance to return to in-person instruction, 5 days a week.

Tiffany Scowden, 5484 Fox Hill Rd, Hilliard, OH 43026

I would like to express my immense displeasure at the district's decision to return kids to in-person instruction this week, without an alternative for families who are not comfortable returning for one week prior to winter break.

Since March, I have trusted the Hilliard City School District to make the correct decisions when it comes to our children's health, wellbeing, and education. Even as targets moved, changing the learning model from eLearning while Franklin county was in red to relying on local Hilliard data to begin hybrid learning before other districts returned to in-person instruction, I have trusted the school district to make the correct decision when it comes to my children's education.

That changed last week when it was announced that not only would the district be returning to hybrid learning one week before Christmas while Hilliard was one of the zip codes with the highest rate of covid spread in Franklin county, but that any absences reported due to parents not being comfortable with this decision would be coded as unexcused. This announcement took a bad decision, returning to school the week before winter break while infection rates are high, and somehow made it worse by penalizing children whose parents disagreed with the decision to return.

It is the last week of the grading period and parents who have entrusted this district to make the right decision now must decide whether the grades that our children have worked hard for the entire first half of the year should suffer in order to keep them safe, or whether we should ignore our concerns about the health and wellbeing of our children to ensure they receive the grades that they have earned.

You have placed parents in a no-win situation by not providing accommodations for families that believe you made the wrong decision to return this week. This while the Ohio Education Association recommended that students not return to in-person learning until January 11 and the majority of Franklin county districts remain closed until 2021. This decision has completely eroded my confidence in the Hilliard City School District and made me question the motivation behind the district's decision making.

Mr. Abate expressed that the board is doing the best we can with the data we have. We have tried to be consistent in following the science and data. Dr. Marschhausen added that while students absent this

week are not an excused absence, we are permitting students to make up their work, and it will be counted for those students.

E CONSENT AGENDA

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

The board recognized all of the retirees for their service to HCSD.

F ACTION AGENDA

F1 The Board of Education established the date, time, and location of the Organizational Meeting for the calendar year 2021. Regular business meeting to immediately follow: Monday, January 11, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Virtual On-Line.

F2 The Board of Education appointed Mr. Lambert to serve as president pro tem for the first Board meeting of 2021.

F3 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 current expenses and other expenditures of said Board of Education, during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 2021, the following sums be amended 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:

590-TITLE II-A \$459,000 This is an increase of \$39,000 in appropriations and is the carryover from the prior year.

F4 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROVING SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH REYNOLDSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Hilliard City School District Board of Education (“Board”) desires to increase its available pool of bus drivers to accommodate instances where additional drivers are needed to drive Hilliard students to school during the 2020-2021 school year due to Hilliard bus drivers’ absence or illness;

WHEREAS, public schools are legally authorized to enter into shared services agreements with one another under Ohio Revised Code Section 9.482 when authorized by their respective legislative bodies;

WHEREAS, Hilliard City Schools has negotiated a Shared Services Agreement with Reynoldsburg City Schools that would allow Hilliard Schools to lease the services of Reynoldsburg Schools bus drivers during building closures or other times when the drivers are not needed for Reynoldsburg School routes but are needed in Hilliard Schools (attached hereto as Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The Shared Services Agreement Between Reynoldsburg City School District and Hilliard City School District is authorized and approved;
2. The Superintendent, Board President, and Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute said Agreement; and
3. The Board hereby ratifies and confirms all prior actions taken consistent with and related to the Agreement.

All formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

Dr. Marschhausen stated that Reynoldsburg schools have committed to being fully online through the first two weeks of January. This resolution will allow us to borrow bus drivers from Reynoldsburg. Thanks to Mr. Hetzel for asking about these types of things and keeps the buses rolling, and getting students to school.

F5 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

**HILLIARD CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
December 14, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Hilliard City School District Board of Education adopted a resolution on September 28, 2020 consolidating its prior resolutions and further clarifying the Board’s plans for movement and transition among the District’s student learning models for the 2020-2021 school year;

WHEREAS, the Board has continued to consider the guidance from federal, state, and local health experts as it relates to COVID-19 and the safety of students in school. The ever-growing data, research, and guidance from the health experts demonstrates that students are safe in school for face-to-face learning when safety protocols are in place. Dr. Robert Redfield, CDC Director, stated on November 19, 2020 that the CDC does not recommend school closures and that, “for kids K-12, one of the safest places they can be from [the CDC’s] perspective is to remain in school.” Likewise, the following was said in a joint statement between the City of Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Public Health on November 6, 2020: “Despite rising case numbers, we believe that it is safe for kids to go back to and remain in the classroom as long as all safeguards are followed, including wearing a mask and social distancing. The data shows that children and teachers are safe in the classroom, our behavior outside of schools puts them – and all of us – at risk;”

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to providing its students with face-to-face classroom learning and, when a change in the student learning model occurs based upon the Board’s adopted criteria, returning students to face-to-face classroom learning as quickly as possible while following recommended safety protocols;

WHEREAS, the Board’s adopted criteria for movement among student learning models is aligned with the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System (OPHAS) which, in the instance where a county reaches Level 4 (Purple) requires two consecutive weeks with less than six indicators to leave Level 4 and return to Level 3;

WHEREAS, the Board believes the two “watch” weeks built into the OPHAS serve the purpose of the Board’s established watch week criteria such that no additional Hilliard City Schools “watch week” is required in instances where Franklin County moves from OPHAS Level 4 (Purple) to OPHAS Level 3 (Red). As such, the Board’s established criteria for movement and transition among the District’s instructional learning modes should be amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that movement and transition among the District’s instructional learning modes (All-In, Hybrid, and eLearning 2.0) will occur as follows:

1. Instructional learning modes will continue to be aligned with the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System, a colorcoded system that evaluates data points every Thursday in order to determine the appropriate COVID-19 risk level for each Ohio county and will be further designated in accordance with the District’s Responsible Restart Plan as updated from time to time. The process for transitioning among learning modes will further utilize District-specific data provided through the District’s participation in The Ohio State University COVID-19 Analytics and Targeted Surveillance (CATS) program. More specifically, the CATS team proposed three triggers using Hilliard school district data that are relevant in determining the appropriate instructional mode based upon current COVID-19 circumstances within the District whenever the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System for Franklin County is in Red, Orange, or Yellow.
2. For the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, District instructional learning modes will therefore be designated as follows:

Level 4 (Purple): eLearning 2.0

Level 3 (Red): Hybrid, unless all three of the following data triggers exist under Hilliard-specific CATS data (“CATS triggers”):

- i. Percent of students absent is greater than 15%;
- ii. Percent of staff absent for illness is greater than 5%;
- iii. Rate of nurse visits for CLI/ILI per 1,000 students is higher than 5.

If all the CATS triggers are met, then the learning mode is eLearning 2.0.

Level 2 (Orange): All-In when Hilliard Schools COVID-19 transmission rate per 100,000 is less than 50 and all CATS triggers are not met.

Hybrid when Hilliard Schools COVID-19 transmission rate per 100,000 is less than 50 and all CATS triggers are met.

Hybrid when Hilliard Schools COVID-19 transmission rate per 100,000 is 50 or greater and all CATS triggers are not met.

eLearning 2.0 when Hilliard Schools COVID-19 transmission rate per 100,000 is 50 or greater and all CATS triggers are met.

Level 1 (Yellow): All-In except where Hilliard Schools COVID-19 transmission rate per 100,000 is 25 or greater and all CATS triggers are met, in which case the learning mode is Hybrid.

3. Rules applicable to the District “watch week” for shifting student instructional modes.
 - A. Except for changes between Level 3 (Red) and Level 4 (Purple), if a change in the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert System level for Franklin County on a Thursday would result in a shift in a current student instructional mode, the District will implement a “watch week” whereby it will remain in the current instruction mode and evaluate data over the course of the following week. If data during the “watch week” continues to result in a shift in the current instructional mode, the District will move to that instructional mode the following Monday after the “watch week.”
 - B. For changes between Level 3 (Red) and Level 4 (Purple), because the OPHAS already implements a “watch week,” the District will align with the OPHAS watch week when determining the District’s instructional mode, as follows:
 - i. When Franklin County is in Level 3 (Red) and meets 6 of 7 indicators under the OPHAS for one week it is placed on a “watch list” for moving from Level 3 (Red) to Level 4 (Purple) if it continues to meet 6 of 7 indicators for an additional week. The District will treat the week Franklin County is on a “watch list” as its “watch week,” such that if Franklin County moves to Level 4 (Purple), the District will shift its current student instructional mode at the same time Franklin County moves to Level 4 (Purple).
 - ii. When Franklin County is in Level 4 (Purple) it does not shift back to Level 3 (Red) under the OPHAS until it meets fewer than 6 indicators for two consecutive weeks. The District will treat the first week with fewer than 6 indicators as its “watch week,” such that if Franklin County moves to Level 3 (Red), the District will shift its current student instructional mode at the same time Franklin County moves to Level 3 (Red).
 - C. Alternatively, if circumstances exist that are not currently contemplated in this resolution that might result in a reasonable and responsible learning mode different than those prescribed above, the board may meet during the “watch week” to consider the impact of those circumstances on the following week’s learning mode.
4. Any movement to a less restrictive learning modality is contingent upon collaboration with Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) and the administration advising FCPH of the District’s intentions and plans to allow for guidance and input from FCPH.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes and instructs the Superintendent as follows:

1. The Superintendent may change movement between instructional modes at the District-level or by individual class, grade-level, or building-level as well as procedures related to safety consistent with orders and recommendations issued by The Ohio State University Department of Public

Health, Franklin County Public Health (FCPH), Columbus Public Health, and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) in response to COVID-19 with notification to the Board and community as additional guidance becomes available. The Board gives this authority to the Superintendent so that he may respond quickly to increase levels of safety precautions within the District when circumstances so require. Any changes that deviate from FCPH or ODH recommendations must be approved by the Board prior to implementation.

2. The Superintendent shall notify the Board and community of any changes in the instructional mode at least three (3) calendar days prior to changing the school calendar unless a shorter time period is necessary to comply with orders and guidance issued by FCPH and/or ODH in response to COVID-19.
3. The Superintendent shall continue to provide updates to the Board at each Business Meeting and Work Session on the data being used, student and staff attendance, and measurements of progress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board continues to authorize student participation in extracurricular and athletic activities to the extent such activities are not prohibited by federal, state, or local laws or public health orders as follows:

1. All athletic and extracurricular activities must follow safety precautions set forth by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), OHSAA, and any FCPH orders that may be issued.
2. Student participation in OHSAA athletics, cheerleading, and marching band for the 2020-2021 school year is strictly voluntary and conditioned upon a Liability Waiver and Acknowledgment of Risk form being signed through Final Forms and full and continuous compliance in relation to all student participation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in order to provide consistency to families and for planning purposes, **the student learning mode for the week of January 4-8, 2021, will be determined by the OPHAS Level on Thursday, December 31, 2020.**

G REPORTS / INFORMATION / EXHIBIT ITEM

G1 Committee Reports

Mrs. Long shared that OSBA's conference seminars are available to view through December 31.

She also reported that the Facilities Committee met earlier this month. There was discussion about projects for this coming summer, including Bradley's turf and track, Darby's cooling tower replacement, some paving, and some work for the Alton Darby/Darby Creek Campus. The Brown Elementary PTO is planning to replace all of the wood on the playground.

Mr. Lambert reported that the policy committee met last week. As you may know, our district subscribes to OSBA's policy service, and as part of that, we get a regular briefing from them regarding policy changes. We have a set of policies that will be submitted to the board soon regarding changes to policies due to the pandemic. Some of the notable issues are maintaining the privacy of student information while in remote

learning, technology issues, how we conduct board meetings and executive sessions, and incorporating the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. OSBA also provided advice from the state auditor has given regarding cash management.

Mr. Abate provided an update on the Diversity Task Force. The various workgroups have begun meeting to discuss hiring practices, curriculum, and professional development. More to come.

G2 Enrollment

G3 Superintendent’s Update

a. State of the Schools Release

You should have received a link from Stacie Raterman and our communications team for the State of the Schools Video. Thank you to Mr. Abate for his participation. It was great to have Mr. Teater, Hilliard City Council, also participate. It was a traditional State of the Schools, but we are still looking forward and planning.

b. Lunch Program Clarity during COVID-19

There has been some confusion on social media about our lunch program while we were in hybrid. Some folks thought we would get extra money if more people picked up lunches. I want to let everyone know that the federal government funds the lunch program. If your kids like the school lunch, please pick it up, but if your children are not going to eat it, don’t pick it up.

c. Scheduling and Planning for 2021-22 School Year

After the winter break, we will be planning for the 2021-22 school year. Our team has been working diligently to get things in place, and we are preparing for a regular start in August 2021. We are considering some changes like having summer school in August instead of June. We have begun working on an academic recovery plan.

Mr. Lambert noted that this is our last meeting of 2020 and is also Mr. Abate’s last meeting as president. He thanked Mr. Abate for being an outstanding leader during this unprecedented year. Ms. Whiting also offered her thanks. Mr. Abate thanked all of the board members for helping him through this challenging time. It’s been an interesting year, but I will be a little bit relieved after we end this meeting.

H EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

H1 The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.