



# MEETING NOTES

---

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Members present: Ms. Arnold, Mrs. Crowley, Mrs. Murdoch, Mr. Perry, and Mr. Vorst

Discussion:

Mr. Perry said, "I believe we have some scouts in attendance today. I wonder if you guys want to come up here and start us with a pledge of allegiance."

3. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. The Board of Education adopted the agenda.

Discussion:

Mr. Perry proposed amending the agenda to table item six until the first business meeting in October. Mrs. Crowley seconded his motion. Mr. Perry then said that, given today, it might be appropriate to talk about the presentation at that point. The motion passed 5-0.

5. At 6:33 p.m., the Board of Education caucused to executive session:
  - a. To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official.
  - b. Details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office.

The Board of Education returned from executive session at 7:04 p.m.

6. District Report Card Presentation (*tabled until the October business meeting*)

Discussion:

Mr. Perry said we'd like to reconvene back to the general session. We're looking at number seven.

Mr. Stewart asked if Mr. Perry wanted to make an amendment. Mr. Perry said there was an omission on the chart in item seven. In the district-wide section, we'd like to add "expanding walk zones to reduce bus routes and drivers by five." I'd just like to ensure that it's read into the record correctly. So, I'd like to make a motion to reflect that change. Mrs. Crowley seconded the motion. Mrs. Murdoch said so. To be clear, this is not an add; the total reduction is still \$10,096,000. Mr. Stewart said that is correct. The motion passed 5-0.

7. The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

**BOARD RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SUPERINTENDENT AND TREASURER TO REDUCE THE DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET IN THE EVENT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 LEVY AND BOND ISSUE FAILS**

**WHEREAS**, at its May 13, 2024 meeting the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District (“Board”) passed a Resolution of Necessity declaring it necessary to issue bonds in the amount of \$142,000,000 for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, and equipping three new elementary school buildings with site improvements and appurtenances thereto; and improving, renovating, furnishing, and equipping existing facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, at its May 13, 2024 meeting the Board’s Resolution of Necessity further declared it necessary to place on the ballot an Operating Levy to generate funds necessary for the day-to-day management of the School District, including staffing, utilities, and supplies, estimated by the County Auditor to generate \$31,608,000 during the first year of collection based upon the current taxable value of the School District; and

**WHEREAS**, without the passage of the November 5, 2024 Levy and Bond Issue the School District will not have the necessary operation funds to maintain a positive cash balance beginning in fiscal year 2028; and

**WHEREAS**, the School District is not legally permitted to operate with a negative cash balance.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the Hilliard City School District that, should the November 5, 2024 Levy and Bond Issue fail, the Board directs the administration to reduce the School District’s operating budget by not less than \$7 million dollars and up to \$10 million dollars in order to extend the District’s positive cash balance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, should the November 5, 2024 Levy and Bond Issue fail, and the administration is as a result required to reduce the School District’s budget as directed in this Resolution, the Board directs its Superintendent and Treasurer to use the following guidelines in making the appropriate operations changes and/or expenditure cuts:

| Elementary                                       | Secondary  | District-Wide  |
|--|--|--|
| Eliminate Noon Assistants                        | Increase Middle and High School Pay to Participate Fees to \$300 and \$600 | Reduce additional Certified (Teaching) Positions by 26                             |
| Eliminate Innovation and Discovery Assistants    | Reduce Innovation Campus Programming/Staff by 5                            | Reduce additional Classified (Non-Teaching) Positions by 13                        |
| Reduce Innovation and Discovery Specialists by 8 | Reduce Educational Assistants (Hall Monitors) by 6                         | Reduce Administrative Positions by 4   |
| Eliminate Arrow Program                          | Eliminate 1 College Counselor  | Reduce Building, Department, and Professional Development Budgets by \$1.5 million |
| Schedule class size to contractual maximums      | Reduce Music Staff by 3  | Reduce Counselors and/or Social Workers by 5                                       |
|  | Schedule class size to contractual maximums                                | Eliminate School   |

|                                       |                     |  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
|                                       |                     | Increase Building Usage Fees by 50%                    |
|                                       |                     | Expand walking zones to reduce bus routes/drivers by 5 |
| <b>Total Savings from Reductions:</b> | <b>\$10,096,000</b> |  |

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board directs the Superintendent and Treasurer to achieve the aforementioned actions beginning for the 2025-2026 school year unless such reductions may be made sooner without displacing any staff member for the 2024-2025 school year.

**WHEREAS**, it is impossible to specifically identify each position that would be reduced or eliminated, the list presented is a general outline of what positions would most likely be considered first. When the final decisions are made, all staffing areas will need to be considered.

Discussion:

Mr. Perry said that as everyone can read on the back, these are some of the areas that we'll be looking at should our community not pass the levy. Ideally, we'll never need this list. That's just something that we have to prepare for as a contingency. You can look and see the lines and the numbers, and they go up, and they go down, and this is just the reality of where we're at.

Mr. Perry said, and before we go ahead and take a motion to adjourn, I just want to address the unfortunate circumstances of what happened here today. I really want to thank the folks who stepped up today. The bus driver was phenomenal, taking action when necessary. I happened to drive that way to work, so I could stop and witness the scene and talk to folks. And at every single step, the thing that was consistent was that students were being taken care of first. Our first priority was always the safety of the students. Communicating that to parents so that they had the knowledge that their student and child were safe. Every one of our staff members really stepped up today. I could not be more proud of our response and how they handled that. Of course, our thoughts and prayers are with the injured student.

8. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.