

**starBoard of School Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes  
Hamilton Community Schools  
903 South Wayne Street  
Hamilton, IN 46742**

**Date Posted:** October 9, 2017

**Meeting Date:** October 16, 2017

**Meeting Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Board Room, Hamilton Jr./Sr. High School

**\*MEMORANDUM OF MEETING**

**Those present representing the Hamilton Community Schools Board of School Trustees:** President, Mark Gould; Vice President, Robert Gaff; Secretary, Lee Stoy; Members, Jeremy Hill and Stacy Shull.

**Absent:**

**Representing the administration:** Superintendent, Dr. Nicole Singer; Treasurer, Robin Byler; Elementary Principal, Greg Piatt; Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Chris Gerbers; and Jr./Sr. High Assistant Principal, Justin Hoard.

**Visitors in attendance were:** Emeline Rodenas, KPC News, Grade 6 Presenters: Mia DePriest, Shelly Myers, Leigha Hall, Duston Lingo, Connor Stoy, and Debbie Sherck.

<u>Motion made by</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Vote</u>	
			1. CALL TO ORDER by Mr. Gould at 6:32 p.m. <b>MISSION: Engaging today’s learners to be tomorrow’s leaders.</b> <b>VISION: Small school, small town, BIG dreams!</b>
			2. MAGNIFICENT MARINES – Spotighting Student/Teacher Success Five students of Mrs. Deb Sherck’s sixth-grade class presented on various tools used in their classroom. Mia DePriest gave an explanation about the class website, Shelby Meyers presented on Quizlet, Dustin Lingo spoke about passport booklets, Leigh Hall discussed current class project “Five Little Pumpkins”, and Connor Stoy spoke about Flipgrid.

			3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
			4. PATRON PARTICIPATION – None
RG	SS	4-0 JH Abstained	5. CONSENT AGENDA a. Claims Docket b. Approval of Minutes i. Budget Hearing, September 18, 2017 ii. Regular Meeting September 18, 2017 iii. Executive Session September 18, 2017 iv. Executive Session October 4, 2017 c. Personnel Report d. Receipt of Funds - none
RG	JH	5-0	6. NEW BUSINESS a. Safe & Caring Environment b. Achieving Excellence i. Collective Bargaining Agreement Approval Contract negotiations were held with the Hamilton Community Schools Teacher’s Association at the end of September and beginning of October. Changes include the following: insurance coverage increase to be paid by employee beginning January 2018, employees will pay a true 90% for a single and a true 70% for family, the ECA scale went to flat dollar amount, stipend language was added to the salary ranges, and compensation for ECA events.
RG	JH	5-0	c. Effective Use of Resources i. 2018 Budget Approval including Referendum Exempt Operating, General, Rainy Day, Debt Service, and Transportation funds. d. Accountability for Growth i. Discussion Regarding Board Retreat to be held on October 21, at The Enterprise Center 907 S. Wayne St. Angola, IN 46703 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Consultant, Dr. Terry McDaniel will be there to discuss long range strategic planning.
			7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT • Dr. Singer informed the board members that Quarter 1 is complete with Parent Teacher Conferences and Fall Break at the end of the week. • School Nurse, Ms. Shawn Ray has been busy this fall with a dental visit, vision screening, blood drive, and working on immunizations.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Shafer and Mrs. Karas, along with building secretaries and guidance counselors, have worked hard in getting the Power School database cleaned up and mailing out accurate book and fee statements. A big thank you to them.</li> <li>• There is a large amount of outstanding text book debt. Families with a threshold of \$250 debt or more will be taken to small claims court beginning in January 2018.</li> <li>• State Board of Accounts requested information last Thursday and arrived today for our annual 2-year audit.</li> </ul>
			<p>8. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Hoard announced that girls' basketball practice started today with 10 girls on the team. A few scheduled game dates and times were changed to accommodate our teams to participate in the games at Banker's Life Fieldhouse on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Fall Sports Awards will be October 24 at 6:00 p.m. to coincides with a planned spirit week. Rumor has it that Hamilton will be hosting the boys' basketball sectional games this year and Fremont will host the girls' sectional games. Lastly the tickets have arrived for the game at Banker's Life Fieldhouse. Cost is \$25.00 will include the Hamilton vs. Garrett game beginning at 12:30 p.m. along with admission to the Pacers vs. Bulls game at 7:00 p.m. Currently looking at bus options for the teams and fans.</li> <li>• Mr. Gerbers shared an article from Sunday's Evening Star newspaper about our exchange students. Fall Spirit week will be the last full week of October. Parent Teacher conferences will be held Wednesday, October 18, 3:30-7:30 in the HS. There will be a spring musical with the performance of "Dear Evan Hansen". Mr. Smith will be the director. Date is still to be determined, possibly prior to spring break. Received the State response to our school letter grade appeal based on our increased ISTEP Scores in grade 10. The letter stated "Even though your ISTEP scores showed an increase of 25%, we won't be able to count those because you did not have a big enough sub group of 40 students." However, the subgroup that doesn't count for the state grade will count for our proficiency rate. It is disheartening to know that student accomplishments will not be shown in the state score. Mr. Gould commented on an article he read to scrap the whole school grading system.</li> <li>• Mr. Piatt informed the board that the elementary staff was working diligently to get all of the high ability testing completed. This information is used to help identify students who qualify for high ability math classes. Finished the fall book fair with Family Night being well attended. Elementary football team finished the season with Hamilton hosting Avilla at a Friday night game. Nearly 170 grandparents participated in this year's Grandparents Day. Parent Teacher Conferences are Wednesday, October 18 from 3:15-7:15 and Thursday, October 19, 8:00-11:00. Conferences will be held in student classrooms. Elementary PTO will have a table to inform</li> </ul>

			parents of upcoming “All School Skate” on October 25 <sup>th</sup> at the Skating Station. One lucky elementary employee will receive a pie in the face based on which ever jar has the most funds.
			<p>9. BUSINESS MANAGER/TREASURER’S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Byler commented that she has been busy gathering information for the State Auditors who began their work today. Finished quarter three reports with Mrs. Dove and sent them onto Workforce Development and the 941 to IRS. State Auditors will have an Entrance Conference on November 1 at 1:30 to 2:00 p.m. and the board members are invited to attend. State Auditors will have an exit conference as well.</li> </ul>
			<p>10. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Gaff brought a letter from the Parks and Recreation Board thanking Julie Dorton, Christy Howard, and students for participating in the Painted Turtle Metal Art fund raiser which raised over \$13,000.</li> </ul>
			11. ADJOURNMENT at 7:24 p.m.

**Upcoming Events:**

**October 21, 2017 Board Executive Session/Retreat at 9:00 a.m.**

**November 20, 2017: Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Hamilton Community Schools  
Board of School Trustees

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Mark Gould, President

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Robert Gaff, Vice President

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Lee Stoy, Secretary

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Jeremy Hill, Member

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Stacy Shull, Member

\*Memorandum of Meeting reflects date, time and location of meeting; members of the governing body recorded as either present or absent; general substance of all matters discussed, proposed, decided; record of all votes taken, by individual members if there is a roll call.