



BOARD UPDATE

Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District

September 2024

UPDATE FROM THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING ON 9-10-2024

Approved Agenda Items:

- Amended student dress code to remove unnatural hair color prohibition
- Determination of Textbooks and Instructional Materials Sufficiency
- Unaudited Actuals for fiscal year 2023-2024
- Field trip for Hambro and Christensen's classes to see "Peter Pan" in Lancaster
- GANN Resolution
- Personnel Report 1
- Superintendent-Principal Contract Extension
- Second Reading of Board Policy Updates - June 2024
- Appointed Natalie Miller as the AVSELPA CAC representative for HELUS
- Board Self-Evaluation Template
- Consent Agenda

Public Hearing:

Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Informational Reports:

- Curriculum Update
- Staffing Update
- Transportation Update

School Board:

President, Jim Wall (Area 3)
 Vice President, Stephanie Lewis (Area 4)
 Clerk, Lola Skelton (Area 5)
 Trustee, Raelyn Marshall (Area 2)
 Pending Trustee, (Area 1)

PRESENTATIONS

The HELUS PTA shared with the board the annual theme and upcoming events for the 2024-25 school year. PTA President Vicki Prera was excited to share new events for the students.

GENERAL REPORTS

- **Board Members each provided comments.**
 - **Stephanie Lewis:** Commented on beginning of the school year events, with praise for the staff and PTA. Commented on the school budget workshop held on 8-27-2024. Volunteered on picture day, and attended CSBA webinars. September is suicide awareness month and encouraged others to be mindful with emotional wellness.
 - **Lola Skelton:** Commented on the back to school night and staff for the beginning of the school year. CSBA Small school district advocate may pay for our representative to attend at no expense to the district. Attended CSBA webinars. Importance of supporting small school districts.
 - **Raelyn Marshall:** Commented on start of school, praised PTA, attendance is important, praise for Mr. Morales, thanks to families reaching out with concerns.
 - **Jim Wall:** Commented on the start of school, back to school night, thank you to PTA.
- No Business Report was given
- **Superintendent-Principal Susan Denton:** Thanked PTA and staff for a great start to the year. Shared updates on enrollment, attendance, programs, and a summary of the facilities work completed by the summer crew. Provided the board with upcoming dates she would be off-campus at training and meetings.

AGENDA DISCUSSIONS

- **The following agenda items were discussed at length:**
 - **Dress Code:** Following public comment, the board reviewed the current policy in the Parent-Student Handbook related to hair color. Mrs. Denton shared which districts restrict or do not restrict unnatural hair color. Student voice and expression was discussed. The board voted to remove this restriction from the current handbook.
 - **Transportation:** Following public comment, the board reviewed the potential cost of hiring an outside company to provide a driver. Mrs. Denton shared the history and difficulty of hiring and keeping bus drivers. Other district hiring practices and pay rates were shared, indicating that the HELUS rate is in line with other districts. The board voted to table the contract until a time after which they have had the opportunity to explore other hiring options, and provide a cost-saving over the proposed contract.

Public Comments

- Don Letney-Restroom Complaint, Hair Color Rule, Transportation
- Joanne Fisher-Hair Color Rule
- Vicki Prera-Hair Color Rule
- Cody Hofius-Hair Color Rule

Agenda Items not approved:

Tabled - Contract with First Students, Inc. for transportation services
 Tabled - Board Handbook approval

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- October 8, 2024 6:30pm
- November 12, 2024 6:30pm
- December 17, 2024 6:30pm



FUTURE PLANNING

- Create sub-committee for annual Parent-Student handbook input
- Notify parents on transportation status

Next Regular Board Meeting:

October 8, 2024 6:30 pm

Room 8-Board Room

Virtual on Zoom

Follow the link for the agenda and materials:



<https://bit.ly/HELUSboardmeetings>