

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE GALION CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION**

The Galion City School District Board of Education ("the Board") met in Regular session on the 22nd day of February, 2022, with the following members present:

Mr. Garverick

Mr. Mateer

Mrs. Miller

Mr. Long

Mrs. Johnson

Mrs. Miller moved for the adoption of the following Resolution; Mr. Mateer, Seconded;

RESOLUTION # 8

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD TO CARRY OUT BOARD MEETINGS
VIRTUALLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS DURING THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC AS AUTHORIZED BY OHIO 134th GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE
HOUSE BILL 51**

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Ohio issued Executive Order 2020-01D (the "Order"), declaring a state of emergency to protect the well-being of the citizens of the Ohio from the dangerous effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to issuance of the Order, the legislature put in place uncodified emergency provisions via passage of Ohio Substitute House Bill (HB) 51 ("HB 51") providing public bodies the authority to hold and attend meetings by means of teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology ("virtual or electronic means") in lieu of carrying out such meetings in person; and

WHEREAS, HB 51 provides public bodies the authority to carry out meetings by such virtual or electronic means effective immediately upon signature of the Governor of the State of Ohio on February 17, 2022, and until June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, HB 51 further provides that public bodies shall provide notification of any virtual or electronic meetings held under the emergency provisions to the public, to the media that have requested notification of a meeting, and to the parties required to be notified of a hearing, at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting or hearing, except in the event of an emergency requiring immediate official action; and

WHEREAS, HB 51 also provides that public bodies shall provide the public access to a virtual or electronic meeting and/or hearing held under the emergency provisions that the public would otherwise be entitled to attend, commensurate with the method in which the meeting or hearing is being conducted, and that the public body shall ensure that the public can observe and hear the discussions and deliberations of all the members of the public body; and

WHEREAS, HB 51 provides that board members attending meetings by virtual or electronic means are considered present as if they were attending in person, are permitted to vote, are counted for quorum, and any public action taken by such electronic means under such emergency provisions has the same effect as if it were taken in an open meeting of the public body; and

WHEREAS, the Galion City School District Board of Education (“Board”), in an effort to continue the important public business of the public body while still safeguarding the health and well-being of all members of the school district community, wishes to avail itself of the option to hold and attend meetings by virtual or electronic means in order to carry out such important governance functions and public business in accordance with HB 51 and all other requirements set forth by Ohio’s Open Meetings Act (“OMA”) that are not in conflict with the provisions of HB 51; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Board Bylaw 0131, Legislative, Ohio Revised Code (RC) 3313.20 and HB 51, and due to challenges created by the necessity to carry out such meetings by electronic means, the Board wishes to temporarily suspend its Bylaw 0167, Voting, with regard to in-person voting requirements, relevant portions of its Bylaw 0131, Legislative, with regard to being physically present requirements, and any and all other provisions of Board bylaws, policies and procedures that are in conflict with the provisions of HB 51 for the duration of the applicability of the emergency provisions and to the extent that the Board determines to avail itself, as a public body, of the ability to conduct official public meetings via virtual electronic means in accordance with provisions of HB 51 up and through June 30, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Ohio Substitute House Bill (HB) 51 (“HB 51”), the Galion City School District Board of Education (“Board”) hereby declares its intent to conduct its official public meetings as determined necessary and prudent and in the interest of public health, either by a combination of in person attendance paired with virtual or electronic attendance, or solely by the virtual or electronic means set forth in the uncodified emergency provisions, effective from the date of this official action up and through June 30, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby suspends relevant provisions of its Bylaw 0167, Voting, with regard to in-person voting requirements, relevant portions of its Bylaw 0131, Legislative, with regard to being physically present requirements, and any and all other Board bylaws, policies and procedures in conflict with the provisions of HB 51 for purposes of compliance with Ohio’s Open Meetings Act (“OMA”) for the duration of the applicability of the emergency provisions provided in HB 51 for the conduct of public meetings up and through June 30, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent and/or the Treasurer are authorized and directed to take all other such actions as are necessary and appropriate to accomplish the objectives of this Resolution and in accordance with the provisions of HB 51.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in a regular public meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in such formal action took place in a meeting open to the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Upon roll call, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Garverick	aye
Mr. Mateer	aye
Mr. Long	aye
Mrs. Miller	aye
Mrs. Johnson	aye

ADOPTED by the Galion City School District Board of Education this 22nd day of February, 2022.

ATTEST:

Charlene Parkinson
Treasurer

[Signature]
Board President

