Highland School District #203
Board Work Study Session
Highland District Office
March 4, 2019, 7 a.m.

The March 4, 2019 Board Work Study Session was convened by Board Chair Nikki Keller at 7:03 a.m. Also present were Board Members Matt Barker, David Barnes, and Lupita Flores, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Marcus Whitman Principal Mindy Schultz, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman.

1-Board Recognition: In recognition of the board, HEA brought fresh pastry and fruit for them to enjoy in honor of their service to the district. These were much enjoyed and appreciated.

8-Tieton Lion’s Club Building: Mark: Discussion was tabled, as no one from the Lion’s Club was available to attend the meeting.

2. Director Candidate Interview #1-Olivia Storey: Olivia joined the board at 7:15 for her interview. She left at 7:30 a.m.

Director of Student Services Michelle Curry joined the meeting at 7:33 a.m.

7-Comprehensive Program Review: Michelle reminded the board that the Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) is coming up in April and that its purpose is to ensure the district is doing its due diligence in appropriately spending state and federal money. She shared a timeline showing the CPR process of evidence upload and preview, formal review, and follow-up, and a chart detailing the 18 categories that the Student Services department oversees that could come under review. This year five of the categories will not be reviewed. Of the 13 remaining categories nine have been completed and submitted, four are being worked on and one needs board approval. The target date for having the evidence upload completed is March 15. The review committee will be here April 24. They may ask for any supporting documents from any department. We anticipate some problems in the area of parent involvement, as this is their current particular area of focus. Michelle said that Barb left a nice model to follow for preparation of this review.

Michelle left the meeting at 7:39 a.m.

3. Director Candidate Interview #2-Carlos Lopez: Carlos joined the board at 7:52 a.m. for his interview. He left at 8:11 a.m.

4. Director Candidate Interview #3-Cindy Reed: Cindy joined the board at 8:27 a.m. for her interview. She left at 8:40 a.m.

Highland Coalition Program Coordinator, Lizbet Maceda joined the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

5-Highland Coalition: Mark introduced Lizbet as the coordinator of the newly formed Highland Community Coalition. She explained that the purpose of the coalition is to work toward a safe and drug free community and is formed in communities of school districts where the answers on the anonymous Healthy Youth Survey indicate a need. It is supported by grants funded by various sources with the school district having a financial responsibility to the program starting in the second year. Currently there are 64 coalitions in Washington State and the number is growing as it has shown to be successful. Lizbet said the coalition is comprised of people from 12 key
component areas: student, parent, school personnel, civic volunteer, law enforcement, media, youth services, healthcare, government, religious, business and substance abuse provider. They look at data to determine the trends in the student population to decide which areas to start with or focus on such as tobacco, vaping, alcohol or marijuana. The focus is on prevention, growing student leaders, and family and community involvement. A second key factor of the coalition is the Student Assistant Professional. This person (soon to be hired for the Highland Coalition) will be based at the high school and will have direct contact with students of all grade levels as a counselor. Students will learn about prevention, may attend state prevention events and help to change the climate among their peers.

Lizbet left the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

TIS Principal Kelly Thorson joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

6-TIS Title Plan: Kelly said that a requirement of being a Tier I school is to have a Title I School Improvement plan, and to present it and have it approved by the board. He shared a chart detailing the components of the plan including the membership team, the mission and vision statements, framework identification, and the Title I, Part A: Schoolwide Program Model Four Required Components. He showed which parts are completed, which are still being worked on and the progress being made. Kelly said the PBIS system is working pretty well but the SpEd students are not making progress as required by the state. Most districts are failing in this area. They have revamped the SpEd department at TIS and are seeing growth. Kelly explained what they are doing to help students succeed on the ELPA test. Most fail on the speaking section, hindered by feelings of self-consciousness and intimidation when having to speak into a microphone. Kelly said TIS received the School of Distinction again with 8% growth in scores. There were no questions from the board.

Kelly left the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Mark showed the board the HSD Academic Data Review, which he and Francis will share with the staff at each building as part of the process of implementing staffing and/or program changes to meet our low-income and migrant student needs.

Board discussed director candidates.

March 19 is good for the regular board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

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Chair  Secretary