

Highland School District #203
Board Work Study Session
TIS Band Room
March 7, 2022, 7:00 a.m.

The March 7, 2022 Board Work Study Session convened at 7:02 am. Present were Board Vice Chair David Barnes, Members Lupita Flores, Carlos López, and Cindy Reed; Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business and Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board Chair Nikki Keller was absent.

1. Communications Check-In: No one had any comments nor concerns about the website. Teachers have been reminded to update/personalize their pages.

2. Staffing Discussion: Mark shared information about an ongoing personnel issue at TIS and options were discussed. Coverage for HJH Principal Don Strother are under way while he is out for medical reasons. Francis reported that we must plan ahead for budget changes due to the drop in enrollment and a deficit in the Food Service program, both are a result, at least in part, due to the COVID pandemic. Discussed options for coverage for a maternity leave at the high school in the math department and possible ways to improve our low math scores. Our HS counselor has resigned, the position is posted. We will keep the positions of TIS counselor, HJH PE/Health teacher and K-6 Music/Fine Arts teacher for next year.

HHS Leadership team: Gwen Rydberg, Ellie Pierce, Jazmine Sargent-Jardine, and Marcial Romero Gomez, joined the meeting at 8:02 a.m.

4. HHS Leadership Presentation: Marcial handed out a list of activities and accomplishments the leadership/ASB have had since the beginning of the year. Gwen, Jazmine and Ellie expounded on each activity. Highlights were winning the first ever AWSL Spotlight award for equity and inclusion, presenting at the AWSL conference, 18 out of 20 DECA competitors making it to the state competition and five qualifying to go on to nationals. Ellie shared about a recent trip to a sports and entertainment conference she and Gwen attended, what they learned and how they will utilize the information in their own lives and in the student-led businesses at HHS.

HHS Leadership team left the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

Director of Student Success Mindy Schultz joined the meeting at 8:21 a.m.

5. Spring Intersession Update:

6. 2022-2023 Instructional Calendar and Intersession Dates:

Mindy shared the Intersession Debrief Notes. The final recommendations were:

- Three (3) full weeks of classes
- Fall Week sooner in October than this year
- Winter Break: a) At the end of the semester (End of January/Beginning of February) with grading the day after, b) President's Day Week (Match Yakima)-but there is a concern with it being only four (4) days
- Spring Week: End of April/Beginning of May-At least three weeks after Spring Break

Mindy said the items listed as talking points on the notes showed a wide range of opinions. The work group was represented by teachers from each building and it was good for them to hear each other's perspective. Spring Intersession will be about transitions and each grade level will have an opportunity to experience some time in their next grade level. Teachers are excited about that.

During Spring Intersession there will be four different events to showcase what we're doing to state and local area school admin, via zoom, an onsite visit and presentations at a state meeting.

Mindy left the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

3. CP Levy Projects Discussion: Francis: The levy is for six years and because we don't receive the money until it is collected from taxes, we have to borrow it up front to start projects now. The collected taxes pay back the borrowed funds. \$2.5m is the maximum that we are allowed to borrow and the project list is being scrutinized to prioritize projects and determine where and how to get started. The process is intricate and involved to plan and implement the projects we want to get done in the next six years. Discussed if there is any need for a project manager for any of the projects.

Francis left the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Mark shared the state's updated guidance on masking indoors and said there will be a state superintendent broadcast tomorrow that should clarify masking on buses and other guidance. We will continue the spacing/physical distancing as much as possible through the end of the school year.

Meeting over at 9:56 a.m.

Chair

Secretary