

**Highland School District #203
District Office and Zoom
Monday, May 10, 2022**

Special Board Meeting-5:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The **May 10, 2022, Special Board Meeting** was called to order by Chair Nikki Keller at 5:35 p.m. Others present included Board members Carlos López and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business and Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board members David Barnes and Lupita Flores were absent.

The **flag salute** was omitted.

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2022-2023 Budget Review: Highland has lost close to 100 FTEs in student enrollment, which drives Gen. Ed funding, equaling a loss of revenue of \$856k, about 1/10 of total revenue. Other districts in the state have experienced similar loss of revenue, and so the state approved giving districts Enrollment Stabilization Funds equal to half that loss. This helps but we still must plan for the next two to three years and a budget with significantly reduced revenue. Food service had a tough year and is affected by students not 'buying' lunch at school. Students can go to the store or coffee shop and can purchase food/beverages at the student store. Director of Child Nutrition, Julie Milburn has been requested to offer more of what the students like to eat but is constrained by federal food guidelines. It was noted that sports clubs cannot sell food during lunch, but the student store can. Could students be required to get a school lunch prior to being allowed to purchase at the student store? Nikki shared a conversation she had with a family wishing to enroll at HHS but enrollment isn't open until June 2. This is a concern that we could lose enrollment by people being put off too long. Plans were shared for reorganizing staff in PE, Special Ed, and Custodial, and about positions that will not be filled that are being vacated by retirement or resignations. We are aggressively pursuing an ALE option and hope to have it in place for the 2022-2023 school year to capture students that withdraw from Highland to go to other districts that offer an online option. The district is in negotiations with both the HEA and PSE and have shared the budget concerns with them as well as the administration and all understand and are supportive of making the changes needed to keep the district solvent. Francis emphasized that the current budget is not sustainable, and we must carefully track the enrollment trend and strategically plan for a deficit for the next two-three years. After discussion the board agreed to keep the 9% Fund Balance as set in Policy 6000 knowing that it will probably dip below that this year.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Employee of the Year Discussion: Nikki suggested they had not had enough time to adequately read through the nominations and proposed discussing the nominations at the board meeting next week. Discussion tabled. It was suggested that staff that are awarded employee of the year be nominated for Teacher of the Year at the ESD and OSPI.

b. WSSDA Conference: Nikki had suggested the Board present our Balanced Calendar at WSSDA as one means of promoting the district's progressive practices. When Mark started the application to present at WSSDA he found that at least one board member must be present and participate in the presentation. After discussion, Nikki and Cindy are committed to attending WSSDA this fall in Spokane. Registration opens June 1.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Nikki Keller adjourned the May 10, 2022 Special Board Meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Chair

Secretary