

**Highland School District #203
District Office
Wednesday, December 7, 2022**

Special Board Meeting-8:00 a.m.

The **December 7, 2022, Special Board Meeting** was convened at 8:08 a.m. by Board Chair Nikki Keller. Present included Board members Lupita Flores and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board members David Barnes and Carlos López were absent.

The **flag salute** led by Cindy.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. FFA/Leadership Questions: The Board reviewed the answers that Ag teacher/FFA Advisor Pat Hazen submitted. Discussing the information in relation to what seems to be happening with the program, it was decided to have Mr. Hazen join the next AM board meeting to visit about the FFA and Ag programs.

b. Goal Setting Meeting Review: Mark shared that there will be information in the newsletter about the Goal Setting meeting and results. In response to the top priority per the survey at the Nov. 14 meeting, we are asking the participants via an email invitation to complete a short survey to narrow down their thoughts and needs about how they prefer to receive district communication. Discussed the needs of mono-lingual participants at events and how best to accommodate them. One start time for entire district is not feasible due to not enough buses nor drivers. Overall, the meetings went well with good participation and feedback.

Director of Student Success Mindy Schultz, HJH Principal Don Strother and Athletic Director/Dean of Students Josh Borland joined the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

3 NEW BUSINESS

a. Building Level Change Discussion: The Board has the responsibility to name the buildings to represent the new grade configuration. After discussion the following were chosen, Marcus Whitman Primary (PK-2), Tieton Elementary (3-5), Highland Middle School (6-8), and Highland High School (9-12). Josh shared a photo of a draft for a directional sign for the middle school-district office. Having one mascot for all buildings was discussed. Options include toning down or softening the mascot by uncrossing his arms and holding a bagpipe, having one logo for PK-5 and another for 6-12, keeping the same hat and sash throughout but soften the face. There is a lot of emotion surrounding logos. Don will work on ideas for the middle school, Josten's will be asked about the cost of designing three new logos. Samples of new ideas will be shared at the January Work Study/AM meeting and there will be committees to pick the final option(s).

Don and Josh left the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS-continued:

d. Sexual Ed Health Curriculum-Update: The Board was reminded that we need curriculum for only 5th-6th grades, that the 7-12 grades requirements are already met, and K-4 gets SEL which meets state requirements. Mindy shared that after digging into curriculum options she found three or four to consider: 'FLASH', 'The Great Body Shop', and 'Puberty, the Wonder Years'. All three are basic with facts about the human body and family relationships are mentioned (but not focused on) as required by the new state law. She has read parent blogs and parent reviews and eliminated any curriculum that didn't match the make-up of our community. All three options have parent information. A decision must be made in January to have materials for classes in April to meet the state requirement for the 2022-23 school year.

Mindy left the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

c. WSSDA Conference Debrief: There was a feeling that the theme was all about making students feel sorry for themselves instead of trying to empower them to succeed. The Teacher of the Year expounded on victimization of Native Americans. We received great feedback after the HSD presentation about our balanced calendar/intersessions, some saying it was the best presentation there. Several districts have contacted us for more information and will have meetings with Mark. Cindy attended a levy-bond workshop which emphasized constant communication about what is being done with levy/bond monies.

There being no further business, the December 7, 2022 Special Board Meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m. by Chair Nikki Keller.

Chair

Secretary