

**Highland School District #203
HJH/HHS Library
Tuesday, September 19, 2023**

Regular Board Meeting-7:00 p.m.

The **September 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting** was called to order by Vice Chair David Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Others present included Board members Lupita Flores and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business & Operations Francis Badu, staff members Lisa Biddick, Bree Hoffee and Melva St. George, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board members Nikki Keller and Carlos López were absent.

The **flag salute** was led by Lupita.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No one had any questions nor corrections. Lupita moved to approve the **August 15, 2023 PM Regular Board Meeting Minutes**, as presented, Cindy 2nd, motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Public Comment: MWC Teacher Bree Hoffee shared her concerns about the amount of recess time the students have at MWC, saying there is a new law with a minimum requirement that the school isn't meeting. [HSD is not out of compliance. The new law does not go into effect until the 2024-2025 school year]. Mark will follow-up with MWC Principal Wickenhagen.

b. Administrator Reports: The Board had read the reports and did not have any questions or comments.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. 3rd Reading: 2230 Transition Kindergarten Program: There were no questions regarding this policy. Cindy moved and Lupita 2nd to approve policy 2230 Transition Kindergarten Program as presented; motion carried.

b. CTE Evaluation & Perkins Grant: Brandon presented the evaluation and four-year plan to the Board at the morning meeting last week. There were no questions nor concerns so Cindy moved to adopt the CTE Evaluation, Four-Year Plan & Perkins Grant as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion carried.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Budget Status /Enrollment and Operations Report: Francis: We have until the end of October to close the 2022-2023 books so this report is not finalized. August 2022/year-end fund balance projections: GF \$2.2m, down from \$2.6m in 2021. CP: \$2.1m, we are drawing this down as payments are made for the remodel, ASB: not changed much, Transportation: We have put in an order for a bus. Our goal is to buy one this year and two next year.

Enrollment: The first total headcount of the year was 1,073 compared to a year ago of 1,058. Due to state funding changes we have to separate the TK count from the K-12 count which brings the headcount to 1044 but we are still ahead from last year. We have to look at possible reductions, as expected, because of ESSER funding going away. We are hoping the usual enrollment drop through the year will be minimal.

b. Personnel Report: Mark: There are two teacher resignations, both released from their contracts, and a medical leave request. Extra-Curricular has nearly a full slate of new hires and renewals for Fall coaching and supervision staff. Lupita moved and Cindy 2nd to approve the September 2023 Personnel Report as presented; motion carried.

c. Legislative Report: Cindy: Nothing to report.

g. Payment of Bills-General, ASB, Capital Projects, and Payroll: Mark shared that the GF payments were the highest ever. The district’s insurance saw a 35% increase in premium. We were told that the values were understated and were brought current. We have signed up with Payne West to broker to help negotiate to minimize insurance cost and the area superintendents will discuss a possible consortium at their meeting on Thursday. Cindy moved to pay the General Fund, ASB, Capital Projects, and Payroll as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion passed.

- **General Fund bills** for \$840,478.88 with warrants 77326 through 77473.
- **ASB Fund bills** for \$9,210.28 with warrants 6960 through 6973.
- **Capital Project bills** for \$278,724.90 with warrants 713 through 719.
- **Payroll Fund bills** for \$261,992.07 with warrants 77474 through 77490 and \$1,125,274.72 by direct deposit.

6. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

All present said they will attend the Admin/Board Retreat and Board meeting on October 2. The PM meeting is on October 17.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Chair David Barnes adjourned the September 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Chair

Secretary