

**Highland School District #203
Meeting conducted via Zoom
Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

Regular Board Meeting-7:00 p.m.

The **May 18, 2021, Regular Board Meeting** was called to order by Chair Nikki Keller at 7:03 p.m. Others present included Board members Lupita Flores and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business and Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board members David Barnes and Carlos López were absent.

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No one had any questions nor corrections. Cindy moved to approve the April 14, 2021, Work Study Session and April 20, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion carried.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Public Comment: No public were present.

b. Administrator Reports: Nikki reminded the board to contact the administrator if they had any questions or concerns.

c. Certified School Employees Appreciation Week May 3-7: The staff appreciated the different ways in which they were celebrated.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan Review: The plan was reviewed thoroughly at the Work Study Session. There were no questions. Cindy moved to approve the Academic and Student Well-Being Recovery Plan as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion carried.

b. Resolution #3-20 Academic and Student Well-Being Plan: Cindy moved to adopt Resolution #3-20 Academic and Student Well-Being Plan as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion carried.

c. Blackboard Website Review: The Board viewed the two options for color placement and leaned towards the version with the red column on the left with the light grey top bar and darker grey lower bar. They discussed options for the quick links as to what parents might most look for. Imperative is that whatever is chosen, that it be kept current i.e.: events, bulletins etc.

d. Balanced Calendar Summit Review: Mark shared that the summit reached capacity (300) for a zoom presentation, which was very encouraging. Highland was highlighted in the summit. He, principals Mindy Schultz, Kelly Thorson, and teachers Vanessa Williams and Lisa Biddick all presented in their specific break-out sessions. Sixty-five superintendents joined the superintendent session and 15-20 have emailed him since to ask for more information about Highland's process for implementing a balanced calendar. Area district superintendents also want information from Highland about our Director and Assistant Director of Student Success and Director of Social Emotional & Inclusionary Practices positions. Senator King announced he wants to have a bill to fund a 220-day calendar. State Superintendent Chris Reykdal closed the summit and during his speech shared that there will be grants coming up to help districts with the roll-out of a balanced calendar. Mark said all other districts want to adopt a balanced calendar. ESD 105 is contracting with the balanced calendar expert from Michigan to help districts adopt the calendars.

e. 2021-2022 Instructional Calendar: Mark said we will start planning in September for staffing intersessions. The January intersession should be particularly good for K-8 but may not work as well for

grades 9-12. A recent survey of parents showed that about 40, across all grade levels, are still interested in online-only school, down from the current 125. Online is a beneficial option for some students. A lot of success comes from good communication between school and parents. We start back to nearly full-time in-person instruction on Monday, May 24. We'll have slightly shorter days: MWC 8:00-1:30, TIS 8:15-1:45, and HJH/HHS 9:15-2:45. Announcements are being shared with parents in every way possible. Lunch will be served on-site at three times with a grab-n-go hot meal in a clamshell and breakfast will be bagged and handed out to take home for the next day. We hope to end the year on a positive note. Lupita moved to approve the 2021-2022 Instructional Calendar as presented, Cindy 2nd; motion passed.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution #4-20 Delegating Authority to WIAA: Nikki reminded the board that this is an annual requirement. Cindy moved to adopt Resolution #4-20 Delegating Authority to WIAA as presented, Lupita 2nd; motion passed.

b. Budget Status/Enrollment and Operations Report: Francis said the GF ended April at \$2.2M compared to \$1.86M in 2020, about \$180K more so we are in good shape for the moment. The other fund balances are about the same. Enrollment: We gained more students than withdrew in May, always a good thing.

c. Personnel Report: Mark: Leave requests from Evelia Salazar for student teaching in the fall and Ana Garcia for an unknown length of time for family, resignations from Jaclyn Mack and Josh Pearce, both took jobs in other districts. Bryanne Hoffee filled one 2nd grade position, which opens up a 3rd grade position. We welcome Ashley Weaver as the new 9-12 SpEd/Resource Teacher. The interview committee was pleased with her. There are a number on non-continuing positions open related to ESSER funding to reduce class size. It is exciting that about 30 certificated and 12 classified staff have applied to work the Summer Academy in July. Lupita moved to approve the May Personnel Report as presented, Cindy 2nd; motion carried.

d. Legislative Report: Cindy said it is pretty quiet. The governor is signing bills.

e. Payment of Bills-General, ASB, and Payroll:

The board had the opportunity to review the check summaries and found nothing of concern. Cindy moved with 2nd by Lupita to approve payments for General Fund, ASB, and Payroll as presented; motion passed:

- **General Fund bills** for \$197,239.82 with warrants 74002 through 74089.
- **ASB Fund bills** for \$4,449.35 with warrants 6608 through 6619.
- **Payroll Fund bills** for \$197,909.51 with warrants 74090 through 74104 and \$880,407.58 by direct deposit.

6. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

The Work Study will be on June 7 followed by a Board Retreat. They will meet at the Naches Fire Station.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Nikki Keller adjourned the May 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Chair

Secretary