

**Highland School District #203**  
**Board Work Study Session**  
**HJH Room 155**  
**January 10, 2022, 7:00 a.m.**

The January 10, 2022 Board Work Study Session convened at 7:07 am. Present were Board Chair Nikki Keller, Members David Barnes, Lupita Flores, Carlos López, and Cindy Reed; Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business and Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman.

**1. Communication Check-In:** The consensus of the board is that they like the new website and it is good. It was noted that some staff members still need to update their page and Mark will remind the admin about this at the next admin meeting.

**2. Intersession Update:** Mark: It was a frustrating week as classes were able to be held on only one day due to the weather and road conditions and plowing needs of the district. Although only about half of the students that signed up to attend were there on that one day, it was an effective day. Teachers were disappointed that they didn't get to teach what they'd prepared and some of it will be offered at the March intersession. We did not host the district representatives as planned but held a zoom at which 35 showed up. Mindy and Mark answered myriad questions and received positive responses, which were nice to hear. There will be an onsite visit on March 30 at the next intersession. There is a national article coming out about Balanced Calendars in which Highland will be featured/noted.

**3. YHD Update:** Mark: We have to test student-athletes 3x/week and tests are getting hard to come by. Not sure of the effectiveness of testing asymptomatic people and there doesn't seem to be any relation between vaccination status and getting the virus. We are anticipating a difficult time [staffing and student absences] as the new variant goes through the population. Next meeting with YHD is Thursday and updated guidance is expected.

**4. Facilities Committee Update/5. Capital Project Levy Discussion:** Mark/Francis: We had some community members that volunteered to be a part of the Facilities Committee for helping in the process of the levy preparation. Another group, Friends of Highland is a group that is separate from the district and can put up 'Please Vote' signs, make phone calls, mail a flyer, and other means of encouraging constituents to vote that the district cannot [is not allowed to] do. The district levy information brochure is at the printer and will be sent out soon. Levies need a simple majority to pass. This is a replacement levy and the rate is staying the same so we are hopeful for it to pass. It was noted that all districts are struggling [with promoting their levy] as covid protocols have restricted meetings where information could be shared and voting encouraged.

Meeting over at 8:28 a.m.

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Chair

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Secretary