

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Proposed)**

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIMONDALE AND HOLT, MICHIGAN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5780 WEST HOLT ROAD, HOLT

**Monday, September 11, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Amy Dalton, Jennifer Robel, Mark Perry, Jessie Jones, Marisa Anderson, Robert Halgren, Kevin Leonard, David Hornak

Central Office Team Present: Jessica Cotter, Steve Netzel, Erin Quinlan, Michael Dunckel, Christine Lopez

**CALL TO ORDER – QUORUM; Pledge of Allegiance, Mission/Vision Statement** – The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Dr. Hornak shared opening comments about the renewed energy around the district. We are working on creating a sense of belonging in all our buildings and working to address some issues around the district. Last Friday Dr. Hornak and Mr. Dunckel met with many parents at Sycamore Elementary to discuss the poor conditions of the playground equipment and other issues around the district. They are working on a short-term plan, long-term plan and some improvements that will be addressed by the bond.

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** – We remove item 6.3 SRO Report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Sara Zavala – Wanted to speak about playground safety and security. There are issues with the slide that could cause head injuries, several areas where there is exposed rust, cuts, scrapes, potential for tetanus, we want communication to the parents and members of the public. There are other issues where there is exposed lead paint. It is a significant area. She submitted pictures to the Board and Dr. Hornak. Sara Anthony, Kara Hope and Governor Whitmer's offices are involved. There is a responsibility for HPS to respond. We know this is an on-going issue for at least two years. They are not sure how far up the chain their issues were shared, but they made the principal aware. There is a code what needs to be done prior to children using the playground.

Jenny Baker – Here to speak about the playground issues at Sycamore. It is quite scary. There was a walk around and there have been boards placed up. She was also addressing the heat index. She wished inside recess is something that was considered during extreme heat. The heat index is built into teacher contracts. There is no shade on the playgrounds. HPS is responsible for the codes.

Matthew Farr – Parent of student at Sycamore. He came to discuss the playground equipment at Sycamore. He is also wanting to discuss other playground equipment. He wants to know how often it is inspected. They have pictures of the equipment over the past two years. There are insurance inspections, but this is not adequate. I know there are regulations about childcare facilities. I look to you as a Board to be sure adequate inspections are happening. The equipment is at least 20 years or older. We need to do a better job of maintaining it and inspecting it.

Erin Beaubien – wanted to start with appreciation for Dr. Hornak for coming to meet with the parents when they reached out. She is not happy about her daughter asking all the time about the equipment and she is not happy about it and has concerns about safety and the lack of maintenance. As PTO of Sycamore we want to help. This goes to communication. Let us know what we can do to help all our

children be safe. She also wanted to share that her child loves her teachers. Somethings are being done very, very well. At Holt Public we should be facing this as a family.

Ben Bakken – He is a parent, resident, second grade coach and here to speak about the Moneyball Pro-Am. This is a free summer basketball league for college, high-school players who will be playing at the next level. It is a free basketball event. Desmond Ferguson puts on this program to the community. This is the second year at Holt Public at HHS. This program is a fantastic event for the entire community. This also has such a positive impact for many non-profit programs. Outside groups were invited to participate in working concessions at the event. This year’s concession profits were \$15,000. The profits paid for the rental of the facilities and the remaining was split between the community organizations that assisted with concessions. Each organization received between \$500-\$850.

Aaron Bakken – CMH. They had a team of 8 people running concessions one night for their program. It also provided a chance for them to serve in their community and they have not stopped talking about it since. The Holt community and all those who helped received a lot out of this awesome event.

Cecelia Sandovol - Lansing Save is a financial education program about why it is important to budget and save. We might be the first source telling them they can save and go to college. They participated in the Moneyball concessions and it was fantastic. She wanted to thank everyone for the opportunity.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVALS\*** *Note: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are routine in nature and will be approved by one blanket motion.*

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of August 14, 2023\*

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 14, 2023\*

Approval of Bills Paid\*

Gifts\* - Kroger Rewards - \$1,408.11\*

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS**

Student Representative Report – Ja’nyia Lawson-James is our senior representative this year and shared that it is going great so far. She is a senior and she heard great feedback about Homecoming. She is on the Future Proud Michigan Educators and she is excited about that. She looks forward to reporting back. Students are having a hard time not having devices at home. Lab classes and some teachers are not being very accommodating. She would like to see us address this issue. She is actively recruiting to get the Junior Rep. to serve with her on the Board.

Kevin Leonard, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Meeting Update – Trustee Leonard shared the DEI Committee is actively participating in supporting the posting to replace the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and look forward to getting that posted.

Jessie Jones, Personnel & Salary Committee Meeting Update – Trustee Jones shared the committee recently met to discuss adjustments to some key job positions and postings.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Hornak shared highlights from his report. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office. He shared we need crossing guards, food service, a couple of bus drivers and other student support positions. Dr. Hornak has returned to holding 1:1 meetings with building leaders. It allows him to get out of the office and enjoy time visiting our buildings. Ingham County Lt. Shattuck is teaching school safety drills in each building and department.

President's Report – President Dalton stated she accompanied Dr. Hornak on the first day of school and it was like walking with a celebrity. The students are all so excited to see him. She also stated so many were in the buildings witnessing first days of school and supporting bond schools Elliott and Wilcox as they prepared to get the buildings open and then the power outage from the storm caused additional stress. She was so thankful for all the individuals who stepped up to help.

Monthly Commemorative, Cultural and Celebratory Events – Suicide Prevention Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, National Day of Service and Remembrance, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, Constitution Day, International Day of Peace.

#### **WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Disney Imagination Campus Program at Walt Disney World\* - The team representing the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Disney Imagination Campus Program trip outlined the trip earlier in the Committee of the Whole meeting.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Disney Imagination Campus Program at Walt Disney World trip as presented. Motion carried.

MHSAA Holt and Mason Cooperative Lacrosse Team Application\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Perry and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the MHSAA Holt and Mason Cooperative Lacrosse Team for the 23-24 school year. Motion carried.

#### **DISTRICT DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Curriculum Office Update - Reallocation of \$260,000 ESSER Funds for Chromebook Purchase\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the reallocation of \$260,000 in ESSER funds for Chromebook purchase. Motion carried.

Steve Netzel said that we have streamlined the process to support our ELL students and families by contracting with 7cLingo to have interpretation services. Every staff member has access to this service so we can get an interpreter to support our EL students/families.

President Dalton stated this is what is necessary to provide equitable opportunities to all our students. We have 244 students identified as EL. She expressed appreciation for the work to pull this program together and stated she wants to make sure we get it in the hands of our EL families as well. Mr. Netzel stated they are working to get it out to the students/families. Finally, the IISD has hired an EL support person and we look forward to working with him.

Mr. Netzel stated they will continue to share benchmarking information, but it will look different this year. They will be focused on EOSP as opposed to AIMS Web data. This will be done a couple times per year. Lastly, they applied for a homeless student grant and were recently awarded the grant.

HR Report – The monthly report was discussed in the Committee of the Whole meeting.

LOA between Holt Public Schools and Holt Educational Association\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Perry and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the Letter of Agreement between HPS and the HEA. Motion carried.

Non-Bargaining Job Position(s) Approval\* - There was a discussion earlier in the Committee of the Whole

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the Executive Director of Student Services position as presented.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Monthly Financial Packet – Mike Dunckel went through the monthly financial documents during the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier. A copy of the monthly financial packet is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Mr. Dunckel stated that he reported last month that we were at a break even. Since the meeting, the State of Michigan sent the District retirement funds that was \$489,000. This helped us get closer to the 10% the Board requests for our fund balance.

2022-23 Carryover Approval\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Perry and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the 2022-23 Carryover in the amount of \$225,437.

Trustee Halgren asked about the Junior High carryover amount. Mr. Dunckel will follow-up.

Mr. Perry asked what the carryover amount was for Curriculum. Mrs. Cotter stated most of it was sub pay. There was also an intentional carryover.

L4029 - 2023 Tax Rate Request Forms\* - Mr. Dunckel gave an overview of the annual L4029 2023 Tax Rate forms.

L4029 – Ingham County\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the L4029 Tax Rate Request form as presented for Ingham County. Motion carried.

L4029 – Eaton County\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the L4029 Tax Rate Request form as presented for Ingham County. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Trustee Perry stated asked about why the numbers in the report on bullying and violent crimes was reported the way they were. Dr. Hornak stated he did respond in a couple of different ways after. The State has a bullying definition and a harassment definition, and we believe some of the

bullying was misinterpreted. We spent time discussing this with the administrators this past Thursday during the Pk-13 meeting. We want to calibrate to be sure we get it right. Dr. Hornak will work to get accurate data pulled together.

**NEW BUSINESS** – There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT\*** - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Robel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Jones, Secretary