

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Approved)

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIMONDALE AND HOLT, MICHIGAN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5780 WEST HOLT ROAD, HOLT

Monday, November 11, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

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

Absent: Marisa Anderson

Central Office Team Present: Jessica Cotter, Erin Quinlan, Teryn Henderson, Mike Dunckel, Melissa Stuard, 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 thoughts. Last week’s election may have created a range of emotions including anxiety and frustration, and it is important for us to model trustworthy behaviors and respect for one another. At Holt Public Schools we value the importance of bringing differing viewpoints into decision making. We are dedicated to providing our students, staff and teachers with a learning environment that understands, respects and celebrates differences. Everyone at HPS is working toward important goals for us, our district, our community and our world.

You have my firm commitment to continue leading our learning community with a civil mindset, and I will continue to embrace the different viewpoints and opinions of those we serve. When we choose to act civil, we all benefit. Please continue to serve as a model moving forward as our children are observing us.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – The following changes were made to the agenda: Remove items 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.1 as they were covered in the Committee of the Whole meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jenny Baker/Gabe – I am not sure if many people are aware that we found bed bugs at school. We are now having lots of feelings and thoughts. I was crying for 15 minutes. I have to take my clothes off outside in public. I don’t understand what is going on. Having our kids going through procedures, I am taking precautions and undressing outside of our home, we come in and take a shower, we have a cardboard wall we put up. We go to therapies after school, when we get out, we undress. We have to take measures, there is no policy about it, and I just don’t understand. These are not lice. As adults we can be flexible. As children it is more challenging.

Rickie Spinner – I am also speaking on bed bugs at Sycamore. We are taking the same precautions. We are entering November, and we are taking our clothes off when we get home. We then have to dry them on high heat. Her son has a sensory oriented and is wearing clothing that is uncomfortable. The mental load that it is causing our teachers should be considered. My son is struggling with this, and we do not feel we have the resources or the information to protect our homes. We need to protect our teachers and students.

*Requires Board action

Jessica Fisk – My name is Jessica. I am a teacher at Sycamore. 4 weeks ago I was told traces of bed bugs were found in my classroom. There was no clear communication about what to do. I took steps to protect myself and my students in my classroom. I sought out a pest management resource. The approach requires support from Holt Public Schools. We are committed to doing our part. We need district guidance. I want a clear plan of what we are doing. I ask for an active, open and proactive approach on this. Thank you.

Erin Beaubien – Hello, I am also from Sycamore. I wanted to start with a positive. We were excited to have the Holt Rams at the Robotics competition this past weekend and got to hang out with the Superintendent and we appreciated that. I did not hear about the bed bug issue until I heard from kids in the hallway. I have learned that we have a custodian, who is third-party. Our principal is torn. She is running and releasing people and helping kids having meltdowns, dealing with no heat and it is frustrating. I hear the one custodian does not understand how to deal with bed bugs. I want us to be successful and that we have the tools we need.

Cory Baker- I have a child at Sycamore and here to speak about bed bugs. I have a child in the affected classroom and one in a classroom not affected. If we as a community can support the family in need. A policy would be nice to know. We received a letter that mentioned the same information about lice. It takes a lot to get rid of them. These things are awful. They suck your blood all night. We have gone out and purchased equipment to kill the bugs at home. Our children are affected, we are affected. There are other people in the school that do not know what it takes. I want to thank teachers. It is not their fault that we are in this situation. We need open communication on what it takes to keep us safe against bed bugs.

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 October 7, 2024*

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 7, 2024*

Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 23, 2024*

Approval of Bills Paid*

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Student Representative Reports – Dr. Hornak introduced the new Junior Class Representative, Maleek Samit. Maleek shared that everyone is doing well at HHS and the students seem happy. He is honored to be serving in this capacity.

Jake Gillentine shared that he is at the North Campus most of the time. There is some stress surrounding exams coming up for Econ. Other than that, things are going smoothly.

Jennifer Robel, Transportation and Safety Committee shared recommendations from recent Due Process Hearings for Students B, C, E, F.

* Requires Board action

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the recommendation for Student B. Motion carried.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the recommendation for Student C. Motion carried.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the recommendation for Student E. Motion carried.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the recommendation for Student F. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Hornak shared highlights from his Superintendent's Report.

Amy Dalton, Curriculum Committee Meeting – President Dalton shared highlights from the recent Curriculum Committee Meeting. Primarily discussed three issues. We discussed weighted GPA, alternate HS diploma, updates to the field trip process.

President's Report – President Dalton also shared the Monthly Commemorative, Cultural and Celebratory Events that take place in the month of November. They include Veteran's Day, Native American Heritage Month, National Diabetes Awareness Month, World Kindness Day, Transgender Awareness Week, Transgender Day of Remembrance, American Education Week, National School Psychologist Week.

WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

International Trip to Germany Overnight Trip Approval* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the International Trip to Germany as presented. Motion carried.

HHS Wrestling Tournament in Ohio Trip Approval* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the HHS Wrestling Tournament trip to Ohio. Motion carried.

Thrun Law Insulin Litigation Resolution* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the Thrun Law Insulin Litigation Resolution. Motion carried.

DISTRICT DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

HR Report – This item was covered during the Committee of the Whole meeting. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Curriculum Office Update - This item was covered during the Committee of the Whole meeting. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Student Services Update - This item was covered during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

* Requires Board action

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office Update - This item was covered during the Committee of the Whole meeting. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Monthly Financial Packet - This item was covered during the Committee of the Whole meeting. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Granger Construction Proposal on Series 2 Contracts for Dimondale New Construction* - Trustee Perry shared that Granger provided this bid list for the new construction. We approved the dollar amount, but not the vendors. Granger and Moore Trosper wanted to vet them.

A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the Granger Construction Proposal on Series 2 contracts for Dimondale new construction as presented.

Horizon HVAC Approvals* - Trustee Perry shared information about the proposal from Granger regarding the Horizon HVAC systems and controls. When we put the budget together it was pre supplemental bond. We had cut dollars from Horizon prior. Since we have an approved supplemental bond budget, we wanted to get approval to return the updates. However, we are also dealing with inflation, so they are more expensive. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Trustee Halgren asked if the controls might be impacted from Trane rebates? Trustee Perry said it could and in fact one of the vendors is Trane.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Robel to approve the Horizon HVAC proposal in the amount of \$1,601,600.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS – President Dalton asked Dr. Hornak to give an update. There are several directors in the district working on this issue, we are working with an outside vendor who is an expert in the field to mitigate. We have had bed bug sniffing dogs monitoring the building on a regular basis and as recent as last week and there were no findings last week. We are following the District's Integrated Pest Management policy, which is listed on our website. We have provided the building with PPE and will continue to reach out to support the building.

President Dalton asked if the parents of students in the classrooms involved been notified of the issue. Dr. Hornak replied that they were notified several weeks ago.

* Requires Board action

Dr. Halgren said from public comment he is hearing that families are unsure of the appropriate protocols and precautions on what to do. Has material been provided such as from the CDC or other. We have been following the advisement of the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Halgren said he could also provide other documentation.

President Dalton stated that as of last week the dog had not found any evidence of bed bugs in the building. Dr. Hornak confirmed that is accurate.

ADJOURNMENT* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Perry to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Jones, Secretary