

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING - Minutes (Approved)

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIMONDALE AND HOLT, MICHIGAN

HOLT HIGH SCHOOL – MARGARET LIVENSPIRGER THEATER

5885 WEST HOLT ROAD, HOLT

Monday, August 09, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.

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

Absent: Julie Bureau

Central Office Team Present: Jessica Cotter, Steve Netzel, Erin Quinlan, Kim Cosgrove, Matt Morales, Heather Findley, Christine Lopez

CALL TO ORDER –The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Dr. Hornak read an opening statement for the public regarding the COVID mitigation strategy.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

BOND PARTNER CONTRACTS - Kirk Herald from Thun Law was on hand to present the bond partner contract updates to the Board. A copy of the presentation is on file with the official Board packet materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

President Perry asked if the redactions and strikethroughs are staying on the final document. Kirk stated there are two ways that American Academy of Architect contracts can be amended. The one Kirk Herald prefers is the marked-up document.

Granger Contract* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the Granger contract as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

General Conditions Contract* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the general conditions contract as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

Wolverine Contract* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the Wolverine contract as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

President Perry asked if there is a requirement for RFP for services. Kirk Herald stated there was not. Kim stated that the bond partners will bring the contracts to the CIC committee which meets a week prior to the Board meeting.

JUUL LITIGATION* - Kirk Herald gave the Board an update on the Juul litigation. Juul intentionally marketed and sold to children. More than 400 school districts around the country are involved. Seeks damages for past actions but for future attempts to address the epidemic. If we needed to purchase vape detectors, or counseling or marketing materials etc. It is a federal court case. There will not be out of pocket expenses by the school districts. Thrun will get a 5% contingency fee.

*Requires Board action

Trustee Dalton addressed the future support as it seeks to address the social and emotional wellbeing of students instead of a disciplinary approach. HPS currently uses a disciplinary approach to vaping so she wants to be sure that HPS would act upon taking the approach of vaping as an epidemic and to approach it going forward as a social and emotional issue.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Robel for HPS to commit to participate in joining the Juul litigation. Motion carried by unanimous support.

BOND SALE - Jesse Nelson from Baker Tilley gave the Board a presentation update on the bond sale to fund the capital improvements. A copy of the presentation is on file with the official Board packet materials located in the Superintendent's Office. There was great news in that along with this being a low interest rate market, Holt Public also maintained its A+ bond rating and Michigan School Bond Rating of AA+ rating. Jesse gave kudos on these results to Dr. Hornak and Kim Cosgrove on their discussion with Standard & Poor's where they shared great information about Holt Public Schools which resulted in the ratings received.

Energy Bonds* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the issuance of the energy bond sale in the amount of \$2,508,299 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

2021 School Buildings and Site Bonds* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the school building and site bond sale in the amount of \$26,398,035 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

RECOGNITION OF LEAH PORTER, MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR - Michigan Representative Kara Hope presented Leah Porter with a proclamation recognizing her being named as Michigan Teacher of the Year.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Sally Hock-Harrison. This is the third meeting in person, and she likes that. She and her husband have had COVID so they have natural immunities. She encourages all to get their antibodies tested. She is thrilled students are coming back to school, but they need to be able to take off their masks. She loves Holt Public. She is frustrated and concerned. She loves Dr. Dave.

Jennifer Malinowski – She is a parent in the district. The initial masking. She is concerned that MHSAA is not requiring masking of athletes. She is in support of the COVID mitigation of masking for all students. She wants our children to be safe. She does not want an outbreak. She commends Holt Public. She has been a substitute teacher in the district and the amount of work our educators are putting in a lot. She worries about the staff and their families as well. Her younger daughter has epilepsy, and it is rare. When it happens to your child it is a gut punch. Scientists are still trying to figure out the effects on children from COVID. She thanked Holt Public.

Michelle Michitsch – She has two children at the high school here in HPS. She appreciates Dr. Hornak, the Board and Holt Public in general. This is a worldwide epidemic we are dealing with. As a parent she is

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eternally grateful for the District's policy to keep students safe. She has a son on the Autism spectrum and one who has asthma, and they will be both be wearing masks. She works in a neighboring district. The pre-k children will do what they are asked to do. They may not like it, but they will do it. We are asking them to wear a mask to protect themselves, peers, families and community. It was extremely hard for the kids to not be in school. For people to say Holt does not care about students and families cuts deeply. The District has shown they care about the children and the community at large. Kids are resilient and can learn and continue being kids.

Jennifer Wilcutt – Chair of Moms for Liberty Ingham County Chapter. They fight for government overreach. She has fifty parents in the Holt School District. She was going to read a letter but decided not to do so. When it was discovered they would be attending the meeting she was attacked and threatened. Her children were going to attend here. She pulled her from the district because they did not want to be masked. They want other options. As a parent she feels a virtual option would be best. She is asking that masking be optional and parents to decide what is best for their children. There are Board members and faculty who have stated they were railroaded with incorrect information. If anyone from Moms for Liberty makes threats, please let her know. They do not attack personally or threaten.

Glenn Kirk – He said he was honored to be an American and participate in a community where we can have this dialogue with one another in a respectful way. There have been three legendary Holt coaches who have recently passed. They have touched thousands of children's lives in this community. They deserve to be recognized. He wanted to bring up that another local coach who was legendary to many students in this community. Dana Beachnau recently passed away. He was a Junior Rams football coach and basketball coach. He and his brother respected and loved the kids they coached. He taught them about the important things in life such as hard work, caring for their neighbor and for each other. He wanted to take a moment to recognize his passing.

Ted Palmer – Been in the community for 42 years. He has listened to folks share stats. He has neuro-muscular disease and if he catches a respiratory illness, it will kill him. He has a rare disease. He could go on about being an EMT and what he has learned. These masks are not going to stop the virus. The kids are constantly active with one another. They are doing lots of activities without masks. Having them to wear them in class and forcing it is pointless. At best it keeps them from putting their fingers up their nose or mouth and sneezing aspirations. It should be a parent's choice to advocate and decide for their family. Masks are not effective. The HVAC systems are not effective to filter the virus.

Carrie Turner - She is a parent. She understands what Dr. Hornak says about the health and safety of the students. She is also concerned about education. She feels the last year and a half this has not been the focus. This is brand new. She looked up the figures. The Public-School Review and US News Review gave success rates. We have an 86% graduation rate. Reading 51% Math 34%. She was most shocked in 2010 that the proficiency rate for math and reading of 80%. What changed for those critical areas? She has seen this in her own family. Her older children are all successful. She also has a son in the district. She would like HPS to focus to be again on education. Her grandfather in the 1940s got a college level education in a rural school.

Stacie Vandenberghe – She stated she has a lot of the same concerns that the last speaker had. She wanted to thank the District for supporting masking. She lives here and this is her home. She appreciates Dr. Hornak, the Board and everyone at HPS. She thanks them. She wants to stand behind them and thank them for what they are doing to keep children safe.

Ty Schalter – Graduate of Holt Public and has children in the district. He addressed the Board last month regarding the SRO. He hopes they reviewed the report from the community conversations. There are many questions about armed officers in the District. It is not right to have them in schools. He urges the Board to carefully consider the information. Thank you for having the masking protocol.

Lynne Cobb – She is a teacher in the District. She thanked Dr. Hornak and the Board for the mask mandate. Last year many felt we dropped the ball, but we did not know what game we were in. None of us. Each day we focused on getting better and problem solving. The hyflex model brought masked students into the classrooms, and she could still see the smiles on faces even through the masks. If a sneeze comes out it will be covered and keep many droplets from spreading. She remembers when seatbelts were optional. Many had the same concerns then and now they are an accepted practice. These decisions are for the common good of the greater community.

Cassandra is not in-district. Her district was open the entire year and was not closed. She wants to speak about science. Do we believe the holocaust happened? We were told smoking was okay. We gave medicine to pregnant women, and we trusted the science. She has been in ICU. Stuff happens. The masks are not going to save our lives. The vaccine if you want it get it. If you want to mask, do it, but don't force it on me. Children do what we tell them to do. Science is changing and evolving. Just because science is saying we need at this interval does not mean we do. The genome tests are the way we can tell variants. Use critical thinking. If we were in a pandemic, we would see hearses lined up. There are no lines of bodies. Put it on the parents. The school is here to educate.

Heachter Seidel – employee and parent in the district. She is at Horizon and she is so impressed with the district and employees. They welcomed students back last week and everyone is masked up and it has been amazing. She is thankful for the mandate and for keeping our students and staff safe.

Teryn Henderson – she is in-district, a teacher, coach, and an alum and an active member of the HEAT team. She is grateful for the mask. She wanted to address the Board on behalf of some of the HHS Heat parents that could not be in attendance regarding the topic of police officers in our schools. She read some statements from the parents. One parent has a brother who is a Grand Rapids Community College police Sergeant and said listen to the kids if they say they do not feel safe. Listen to the kids if they state they feel the security team is sufficient. Extend an open floor discussion with the new DDEI. Let us survey the students. Racism is a public health crisis, and we cannot adopt the EOSP and not provide a safe and welcoming environment for students of color. Please consider the safety of our children and do not have police officers in our school.

Ryan Maloney – We have two graduates and he wanted to thank the Board for keeping students safe. The steps that have been taken. They have a friend who lost his life to COVID. It is a tough conversation to have. It is real and he appreciates the District.

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Julie Jackson – Holt parent. Her son is immunocompromised. It was a good year, and he was remote the entire year. Their experience was a good one. She works in a central office with people from all over the state. Her peers were jealous of the way Holt Public handled the pandemic and mitigation strategies. Her son has attended summer experiences and camp. They all wore masks, and it has gone very well. Her son has seen the impact COVID has had on people that he loves. He has learned a lot about compassion and caring for people by watching the actions of those at Holt Public. She knew that student safety was going to be at the forefront of the decision. Thank you for keeping all students safe. Her son will be in person, with a mask and he is excited. He knows it is keeping him and others safe. She knows that others feel this way too. She was watching from home and decided to come in and say thank you. She has never addressed the board before. She would like to hear more about COVID positive students and the protocol for that and hopes there will be an online option. She trusts the District.

Joscelyn Hall - She feels there is a lot of division going on this evening. Her daughter has asthma and cannot mask. She feels there were things said and so many emotions. She is an Alumnus, parent of a recent graduate and a current student. They moved to the District to raise their family. She works in healthcare, and she is fully aware of how it has changed. When she looks at this, she sees the opportunity for Holt Public to change the way they operate. Many benefited from being online. It was helpful for many to be able to be home to keep themselves safe. She would like to have an online option. Her parents had to sign consent to be a part of sexual education. We have so much division in our country. We are looking for the rights to parent our children. We are forcing people to get vaccines that are not FDA approved yet. This situation is giving us an opportunity for those whose children cannot mask. She would like to see more standardized communication.

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 July 12, 2021*

Minutes of the Statutory Organizational Meeting of July 12, 2021*

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2021*

Approval of Bills Paid*

Trustee Robel's name was misspelled on the July 12th minutes. That will be corrected.

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

REPORTS

Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA) Report - Trustee Halgren shared the ISOA Board meeting will be meeting this week.

Board Policy Update - Trustee Jones presented the Board with a second reading of the updated policies the Board reviewed at the July meeting.

* Requires Board action

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language as presented to PO2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to accept the updated policy language as presented to PO2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO5341 - Emergency Medical Authorization. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO5342 - Do Not Resuscitate Orders (DNR) for Minor Students. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language as presented to PO5343 - Physician Order for Scope of Treatment. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO7440.01 - Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO 8321 – Criminal Justice Information Security (Non-Criminal Justice Agency) as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO8330 - Student Records as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to PO8400 – School Safety Information as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language to PO8500 – Food Services as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language to PO8510 – Wellness as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to policies PO1422 PO3122 PO4122 - Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language to policies PO1623, PO3123, PO4123 - Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination Based in Employment as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Halgren to adopt the updated policy language to policies PO1662, PO3362, PO4362 – Anti-Harassment as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language to PO2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Dalton and supported by Trustee Leonard to adopt the updated policy language to PO5517 - Anti-Harassment as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

HEAT Update - Trustee Amy Dalton began her statement with an apology for an inappropriate and derogatory comment about people with disabilities made by a member of the community during Public Comment. Trustee Dalton then highlighted some of the diverse and cultural celebrations in August: National Civility Month, International Day of the World's Indigenous People, Islamic New Year, Marcus Garvey Day, World Humanitarian Day, International Day of Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Women's Equity Day.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Hornak shared highlights from his Superintendent's Report. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office. He stated that the Board's Transportation and Safety Committee met recently to begin processing the data provided by Resolution Services regarding the School Resource Officer. The Board would like to continue to process this valuable information before giving their recommendation to the Delhi Township Board. introduced the new Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Matt Morales and the new Director of Mental Health, Heather Findley. In July, a small group of community stakeholders met to review the Wellness Policy for the district. This is a requirement. To that end, the review committee agrees with the Board policy and the proposed revisions.

President's Report - President Perry shared the Board has created a new Board committee called the Capital Improvement Committee (CIC). They had their first meeting and will continue to meet once a month. This is comprised of Trustees Perry, Halgren and Robel.

DISTRICT DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATION

Human Resources Update - Erin Quinlan stated this month they have onboarded an additional 38 staff positions. They are hopeful that all staff will be in place by the first day of school. Their office is busy and remains hopeful as they continue to fill open positions.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Update - Matt Morales stated his first weeks has been a listening tour. He has met with most of the HEAT leadership team. Also becoming familiar with the EOSP. He is confident that we are at a great starting point. He is excited to engage with the learning community.

* Requires Board action

Facilities Update

Additional Desk Shields Purchase* - Kim Cosgrove shared the information regarding the additional desk shields purchased with the Superintendent's emergency powers.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the purchase of an additional 2700 desk shields not to exceed \$46,915. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

WRITTEN PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

SRO Report - Deputy Belanger shared his final SRO report with the Board. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office. He has genuinely enjoyed his time as the SRO at Holt Public.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Monthly Financial Packet - Kim Cosgrove gave her monthly financial packet presentation during the Committee of the Whole meeting. A copy of the presentation is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

Preliminary Pre-Audit Results from June 30, 2021* - Km Cosgrove shared the pre-audit is looking good.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the carryover for Curriculum, Athletics and school building fund in the amount as \$483,835 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the designation of \$2,000,000 towards infrastructure to include repairs as presented. Motion carried by unanimous support.

ADJOURNMENT* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous support. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Bureau

* Requires Board action