

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES (Approved)**

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIMONDALE AND HOLT, MICHIGAN

HOLT HIGH SCHOOL – MARGARET LIVENSPARGER THEATER

5885 WEST HOLT ROAD, HOLT

**Monday, February 14, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.**

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

**Central Office and Admin Team Present:** Jessica Cotter, Steve Netzel, Erin Quinlan, Matt Morales, Kim Cosgrove, Mike Dunckel, Christine Lopez

**CALL TO ORDER – QUORUM;** Pledge of Allegiance, Mission/Vision Statement – The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** – The student/teacher for the Student Spotlight canceled. In its place we will replace it with Ross Hineman naming. Any items under COW will be moved to new business.

**ROSS HINEMAN COMMEMORATIVE NAMING OF THE LIGHTING CONTROL BOOTH** – The Board heard public comment from members of the community and a presentation from Jeff Miller about the commemorative naming of the Lighting Control Booth in Ross Hineman's honor. There is tremendous support for this naming.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Dalton to name the Lighting Control Booth in the ML Theater to the Ross Hineman Lighting Control Booth. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**OVERNIGHT STUDENT TRIPS\*** - DECA International Career Development Conference\* - Jassen Dowling had presented to the Board during the Committee of the Whole meeting about the upcoming DECA International Conference.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Leonard and supported by Trustee Halgren to approve the DECA International Career Development Conference. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Perry – Yes

Dalton – Abstained

Jones – Yes

Halgren – Yes

Anderson – Yes

Leonard – Yes

Robel – Yes

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Sally Hock-Harrison – HPS resident. Happy Valentine's Day. With the snow last week she was concerned the Yeti was not out and about. She wanted to speak about masks. She hopes the school board will leave it to the parents as a choice. No more mandate. She also was not happy about the comment section being cut from 5 to 3 minutes. She thinks people that have things to say it would be good to have 5 minutes. She asks they revisit the policy to put it back to five minutes. She likes when the whole Board is present.

Dawn Carmody – In light of the rescinded order she feels the need to share she is very grateful to the Board, Admin. and others to enforce the mask mandate. She has many family and friends supporting the community's children. She chose to keep her children home last year. This year her children are back in school. They love being back in the schools. She loves that they have been able to attend with the strategies and protocols in place. She hopes the masking mandate continues. Some students and staff have health problems that make them more susceptible to virus. She worries if we put our guard down too early, it may backfire. Once changed it will be difficult to revert back if needed. She hopes next year. The MDHHS, CDC are still recommending universal masking for K-12 and indoors.

Gabe Schartow – Student. As of today, only 644 under 18 have died of COVID. Most people who do die have at least 4 co-morbidities. Cloth and surgical masks only have 35% effectivity. The fact is a healthy child is more likely to die of a bicycle accident or being struck by lightning. Suicide rates in 2020 were up due to COVID. We're teaching our children that the air around them is toxic. Stop the child abuse around telling children they are in danger.

Ben Schartow - That was my son that just spoke. He supports his son and what he says is something that he speaks from is heart. He believes face to face communication is very important. He just wanted to say that he is in support of making masks optional and leaving it up to parents.

Jennifer Malinowski – She has children in the district. She was not planning on speaking. Her daughter asked her to come to share her story. They appreciate the mask mandate. She is 12 and attends the junior high. She has epilepsy and this year she had to undergo an emergency appendectomy. She was recovering and they found that she has a brain tumor. This will result in surgery next month which will lead to several months of recovery. She was vaccinated and contracted covid in December. Luckily, she had mild symptoms. They believe she likely contracted it during lunch. Removing the mask mandate, we will be expanding the risk. Her contracting COVID delayed her daughter's tumor schedule. She is worried about her contracting it again. She fears immunocompromised children will be ignored.

Joann Weil – She planned to speak at the 5:30 meeting. She wanted to thank the Board for naming the booth after Ross Hineman. She heard from a former student, and he did not know Ross had passed. In 2004 Ross was in his class. She wrote to the Board back when Ross was one of her students because he changed the culture of her class. He was in a wheelchair and a student asked if she could take him out of his wheelchair and bring him into the floor with them. She wrote to the Board to ask them to give him a humanitarian award for changing the culture. She wanted to thank them for giving him this much deserved honor.

Carol Felgenhour – She was not planning on speaking but decided to come and state that she hopes the district would opt for a mask optional. It has been a difficult couple of years, and we know more about masks now than we did. She said she has seen studies that state masking has students re-breathing carbon dioxide. The better the mask the more toxicity. Chronically ill people may be protected from the mask but less oxygen causes other issues, so it is a tradeoff. Her son always takes PE and run for time in a mask. He was in 90-degree heat running in a mask. She thanked the Board for listening.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA APPROVALS\***

**Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 10, 2022\***

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 10, 2022\***

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 17, 2022\***

**Approval of Bills Paid\***

**Gifts\***

**Block Imaging – Donation of 75,000 masks – Estimated Value \$7,000\***

**Kingsley Insurance - \$300 to Holt High School Robotics Team\***

**South Lansing/Holt Rotary - \$250 to the HPS Greenhouse Project\***

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

## REPORTS

**Student Representative Reports** – Lukas Hartley – they are continuing the work on the mental health survey and are working with Mr. Morales and Ms. Findley on that. They are also student advisory committee recruitment. They will reach out to students and staff to get recommendations. They are working with Dr. Hornak on that. He also stated that Paige also planning to speak in support of the memorial naming of the Ross Hineman Lighting Control Booth so he knows she will be happy the Board voted in favor of that proposal.

**Trustee Halgren – Ingham School Officers Report (ISOA) Report** – Trustee Halgren gave an overview of the last meeting. They elected officers. The minutes from the meeting are on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

**Trustee Dalton – Monthly Celebrations** – Trustee Dalton shared the National Suicide Hotline phone numbers. She also shared the following cultural and celebratory dates for the month of February: Black History Month, American Heart Month, National Freedom Day, Lunar New Year, International Child Cancer Day, World Day of Social Justice, President's Day. She wanted to remind all students to contribute to the Student Conscious Art Contest. Entries are due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Trustee Jones – Board Policy Update** – Trustee Jones stated there is no Board policy update this month.

**Trustee Jones - MASB Board of Directors Election – Region 7\*** - The MASB Board of Directors election for Region 7 was discussed.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Robel and supported by Trustee Leonard for the HPS Board to select Guillermo Lopez for their vote.

**Trustee Robel – Transportation and Safety Committee** – Trustee Robel shared the Final Student Discipline for Students A, B, C, D, E\*. She shared that student D will have to return for an additional hearing and she hopes to report back with the final determination in March.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Dalton to approve the final student discipline for Student A of long-term suspension through the end of the school year. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Dalton to approve the final student discipline for Student B of return to school with supports in place and with a new teaching team. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Dalton to approve the final student discipline for Student C of long-term suspension through the end of the school year. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Dalton to approve the final student discipline for Student D of another due process hearing. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Dalton to approve the final student discipline for Student E of return to school. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**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.

Threats made to schools will be taken very seriously by the school district, law enforcement and the prosecutor's office.

Dr. Hornak gave an update on teacher Brian Hannon. He has been charged in a neighboring county with a crime and he recently resigned.

He appreciates all the feedback from the community. The emergency order is not rescinded until Saturday. He plans to give an update by the end of the week on the decision at HPS. In the meantime, we continue to require masking.

We have tested over 1800 students in the Test to Stay program. We have seen a rapid decline in the number of students testing in this program.

There continue to be supply chain issues. We also continue to have several open staffing positions.

He wanted to remind everyone to remain home if you have a fever, aches, pain, headache, loss of taste or smell, runny nose. Please remain home.

Dr. Hornak attended the Greater Lansing Economic Club Lunch- The speaker Ernest Green was one of the Little Rock 9. He believes our BIPOC students today are dealing with the same issues he dealt with 64 years ago.

**President's Report** – President Perry stated tomorrow the bids will be opened for the Bond work. There will be a special Board meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> to go over the bids received.

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

**Curriculum Office Updates** – Jessica Cotter and Steve Netzel presented the Curriculum Office presentation. A copy of the presentation is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

**Final Reading and Approval of the 22-23 High School and Junior High Course Guides\*** - Jessica presented the final reading of the junior high and high school course guides.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the Holt Junior High and Holt High School Course Guides for 2022-2023. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Human Resources Update** – Erin Quinlan gave the Board the monthly HR update. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Update** – Matt Morales shared that he had no shame in asking the Holt Yeti to be his valentine. So far there has been weekly communication to building principals to highlight Black history. The High School will be celebrating Black Lives Matter at School Week. Each day will have a theme. Age-appropriate activities will be provided at all schools. The goals correlate explicitly with our EOSP initiatives. Black History Month 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Student Conscious Art Contest is also underway. He also recognized the HEAT leadership team for spending time on the snow day planning and working together.

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

**SRO Report** – Deputy Jordan provided highlights of the monthly SRO Report. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office. She spent a week-long training session for

School Resource Officer training. She hopes to come to next Board meeting with a lesson plan to focus on internet safety.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**Monthly Financial Packet** – Kim Cosgrove gave the Board the Monthly Financial Packet highlights. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent's Office.

**Food Service Budget Update\*** - Evan Robertson and Mike Dunckel gave the Board a presentation on the Food Service Budget Update. 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 Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the Food Service Budget Update as presented. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Debt Fund Budget Update for 2021-22\*** - Mike Dunckel presented the Debt Fund Budget update for 2021-2022. 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 Halgren and supported by Trustee Leonard to approve the Debt Fund Budget Update for 2021-2022 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Debt Fund Original Budget 2022-23\*** - Mike Dunckel presented the Debt Fund Original Budget for 2022-2023. 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 Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to approve the Debt Fund Original Budget for 2022-2023 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**OLD BUSINESS** – There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Masking Decision – There was a discussion during the Committee of the Whole meeting about the ICHD rescinding the masking mandate.

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to allow Dr. Hornak to make the decision on what the District will be doing once the mask mandate is rescinded.

Dr. Hornak stated he will make and announce the decision by end of the day Friday.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**ADJOURNMENT\*** - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Robel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Jones, Secretary