

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
HOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**The School District of the City of Holland
Ottawa County, Michigan
October 16, 2023**

- I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - WELCOME** – President Colburn welcomed the audience and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the District Administration Office, Board Training Room, 320 West 24th Street.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustees Arendshorst, Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Mulder, Woltman and Ybarra

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendents McCloud, Pennington, and Remillard, Director Craner, and Administrative Assistant Kooiker (recorder)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Regular Business Meeting of October 16, 2023
2. Consent Agenda for October 16, 2023

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 18, 2023, Regular Business Meeting
2. October 10, 2023, Special Meeting

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Chris Arendshorst, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda for October 16, 2023. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL SENATE

Student Senate President Owen Ceithaml provided an update to the Board.

- Homecoming Week went smoothly
- Snow Coming is the next event they are planning

V. HPS CELEBRATES

Student Recognition from the College Board

Each year the College Board awards thousands of students from across the country with academic honors through the National Recognition Programs. The programs celebrate underrepresented students who excel academically on College Board assessments, including PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and AP exams. The following students have been recognized with the **National Hispanic Recognition Award** :

- Sofia Angulo
- Yanyssa Ochoa
- Alan Juarez

These students earned this academic honor because of their GPA of 3.5 or higher and outstanding performance on the PSAT, PSAT™ 10, and/or AP® Exams.

ALSO... HHS Senior Emma Hulst is also being commended as a National Merit Scholar for her exceptional academic promise demonstrated by an outstanding performance on the PSAT. This commendation recognizes Emma among the top 50,000 students in the entire nation.

VI. WEST BUILDING PRESENTATION: Principal Chad Tolson provided an update.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

VIII. PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Associate Superintendent Pennington recommended the following personnel action:

A. Resignation:

- **David (Chris) Grob**, Special Education Teacher, Jefferson School, effective October 2, 2023.

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve, with regret, the resignation of David (Chris) Grob. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Hiring:

- **Courtney DuMouchelle**, Speech and Language Pathologist, West School, effective October 16, 2023.
- **Cory Hershey**, Physical Education and Health Teacher, Holland Middle School, effective October 4, 2023.

Moved by Mark Woltman, supported by Linda Falstad, that the Board of Education approves a probationary contract for Courtney DuMouchelle, and Cory Hershey.
The motion was unanimously

IX. BOARD COMMITTEES and STUDY SESSION REPORTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

A. TEACHING FOR LEARNING – The committee met on October 2, 2023.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Falstad, Marroquin, and Mulder

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy and Associate Superintendent Remillard

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Disc Golf Course: Jeff Kordich provided an update on the Disc Golf course at Holland High.

Office of School Improvement: Associate Superintendent Remillard provided updates on the following:

- Individual Reading Improvement Plans (IRIP)
- Family Night Update
 - o The next Family Night is October 17, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Middle School

Office of Student Services: Superintendent Cassidy provided an update on the following:

- Peer-to-Peer

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- Upcoming Strategic Planning Sessions
- Schedule of Building Presentations
- OCSN Updates
- OK Conference Updates

Other:

- LAUP MOU
- CS Erickson Apprenticeship Program

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS

ACADEMICS/PROGRAM GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will provide educational excellence that meets the needs of each student in all district programs in safe, secure and predictable learning environments.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will support and engage staff, family and community partnerships through ongoing communication, involvement and accountability that lead to student success.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will establish and implement a sustainable budget that supports district programs, building infrastructure and facility master plan.

HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will recruit, develop and retain team members who demonstrate a high degree of proficiency, community partners that support the vision/mission and volunteers who assist in the implementation.

B. FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE – The committee met on October 3, 2023.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Board: Trustees Arendshorst and Woltman

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent Pennington, and Assistant Chief Financial Officer Weavers

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Finance & Property: Assistant Chief Financial Officer Powers provided updates on the following:

- Payroll/ORS Update
- Financial Reports for September 2023 (provided later in the week once complete)
- Jon Ringlein, CPA, Senior Manager with Maner Costerisan Audit Firm, provided an update on the 2022-23 audited financial statements.

Human Resources Report: Associate Superintendent Pennington provided an update on the following:

- Vacancies and Postings Update
- New Hires

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided an update on the following:

- Enrollment Update
- OCSN Update
- HEF Update

Other:

- OK Conference Update

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – The committee met on October 5, 2023.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Woltman, and Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Superintendent Updates:

- HLA and Programming Updates
- Enrollment Updates
- School Safety Updates – Joe Soto, Director of Safety & Security, will provide an update to the board in December or January.

- Athletics Updates

Study Session Agenda Construction: Committee members planned the agenda for the October Study Session Meeting based upon the discussions at Teaching for Learning, Finance & Property, Executive Committee, and matters arising.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

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D. BOARD STUDY SESSION – The committee met on October 9, 2023.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: President Colburn welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Training Room of the District Administration Building, 320 West 24th Street.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustees Arendshorst, Colburn, Falstad, Mulder, Woltman, and Ybarra

EXCUSED: Trustee Marroquin

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Cassidy and Associate Superintendents Pennington, McCloud, and Remillard, and Principal Vasquez

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

HLA Building Presentation: Principal Iliana provided an update.

Committee Reports:

a. Teaching for Learning Committee: The committee met on October 2, 2023.

- b. Finance & Property Committee: The committee met on October 3, 2023.
- c. Executive Committee: The committee met on October 4, 2023.
- d. Holland Educational Foundation Report: Trustee Mulder provided an update.

Superintendent Updates:

- Discussion around the proposed Alma Mater
- Planning of Superintendent Evaluation
- Strategic Plan Review

Consideration of Petition for Reinstatement: Superintendent Cassidy brought forward the recommendation of the Hearing Committee to reinstate student 0927230830, with conditions.

Moved by Lois Mulder, supported by Diane Ybarra, that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to reinstate Student 0927230830, with conditions as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Board Meeting Agenda Construction: Board Members planned the agenda for the October 16, 2023 Board Meeting.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

X. SUPERINTENDENT'S/CABINET REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Superintendent Open Office Hours: Superintendent Cassidy has open office hours scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 8:00 a.m., at the District Administration Office, Lincoln Conference Room. Superintendent Cassidy will host open office hours on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. If you want to reach Superintendent Cassidy, please email him at ncassidy@hollandpublicschools.org.
2. National Principals Month: Superintendent Cassidy announced October is National Principals Month and thanked our principals for their dedication.
3. Current Legislative Initiatives: Superintendent Cassidy shared information on recent legislative action.

Governor Whitmer has signed [HB 4752](#), legislation that allows retired educators with a bona fide separation to return to work in a school with some limitations after just a 30 day sit out. The bill was given immediate effect by the Michigan Legislature, so it is now law. The bill applies to all current and future retirees, even those who recently retired and have so far been unable to return to work in a school due to the nine month sit out previously in law. That means schools can immediately begin working with these recent retirees either directly or through a third party contractor as long as certain conditions are met.

Here are the details schools need to know with regard to the new law:

- During their first six months of retirement, recent retirees may not earn more than \$15,100 per calendar year.
- Retirees who were working in any position other than superintendent at the time of their

retirement may be hired to fill any position.

- Retirees who were working as superintendents at the time of their retirement may work in any position except superintendent.
- After sitting out for six months (instead of the nine months in current law), all retirees may return to work in any position with no earnings limits. Any time they spent working under the \$15,100 per year income cap counts toward the six month sit out period.
- The new law has a five year sunset, so the Legislature will eventually need to take additional action, but not for some time.
- After the sunset, the law reverts to a nine month sit out and no earnings cap exception

Legislation to revise teacher and administrator evaluations was on the docket in the Senate Committee on Education this week. Points of discussion centered around:

- Collective bargaining and grievances as part of the evaluation process
- student growth
- Changing effectiveness ratings from 4 to 3
- Observation requirements
- probationary periods

OK Conference Update

Sparta, Coopersville, Allendale, Cedar Springs, Greenville, Lowell, Kenowa Hills are seceding from the OK Conference.

All of these schools gained approval from their boards of education and they have submitted letters to the OK Conference.

All OK conference schools are asked to vote on allowing these schools to break away from the conference (Ballots due on Monday)

- 36 need to vote yes for the proposal to pass in accordance with the bylaws.
- All schools we have heard from are voting "NO"
- It has been said that the schools are leaving regardless of the results.

Background

Realignment was passed on May 8 by a vote 42-6. 4 of these 7 schools voted yes on that realignment.

The first conversations around a possible secession this summer.

According to feedback we have received, this process has not followed the bylaws.

Timeline moving forward:

- the proposal will fail and we will be notified on Monday at 12:30pm
- The schools will have 1 week to notify the conference if they are leaving anyway.
- Realignment committee will meet on Oct. 31st or Nov. 1st with a new proposal for realignment.

XI. OTHER: No other items were discussed.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: President Colburn adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Approved as presented: _____
Linda Falstad, Secretary