

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

**The School District of the City of Holland
Ottawa County, Michigan
September 23, 2024**

- I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - WELCOME** – President Colburn welcomed the audience and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustees Arendshorst, Colburn, Marroquin, Mulder, Veliz, and Woltman

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent McCloud, and Administrative Assistant Kooiker (recorder)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Regular Business Meeting of September 23, 2024
2. Consent Agenda for September 23, 2024

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 19, 2024, Regular Business Meeting
2. August 26, 2024, Special Meeting

Moved by Martin Veliz, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda for September 23, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL SENATE

Student Senate President Miriam Lopez-Koolhaas provided an update to the Board.

- Homecoming and Spirit Week activities

V. HPS CELEBRATES

2024 Hispanic Heritage Month: September 15 through October 15 marks Hispanic Heritage Month. Over the next four weeks, each of our buildings will be honoring and celebrating this occasion through music, books, games, classroom resources, and dancing. Building chairpersons for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion have several events and activities planned throughout the month.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VII. PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Cassidy recommended the following personnel action:

A. Hiring:

- **Molly Baxter**, Speech and Language Pathologist, West School, effective August 19, 2024.
- **Lisa Brenton**, (Reverse Retirement Board Action from May), Title Teacher, Holland Middle School, effective August 19, 2024.
- **Shelly Giron**, Title Teacher, Holland Language Academy, effective August 19, 2024.
- **Nicolette Klein**, Specials Teacher, West School, effective August 19, 2024.

Moved by Chris Arendshorst, supported by Mark Woltman, that the Board of Education approve a probationary contract for Molly Baxter, Lisa Brenton, Shelly Giron, and Nicolette Klein. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

A. TEACHING FOR LEARNING: Chairperson Mulder reported on the September 3, 2024, meeting of the Teaching for Learning Committee.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Marroquin and Mulder

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy and Associate Superintendent McCloud

Building: Cynthia Alvarado, Lauren Gray, Jennifer Heinritz, and Andrea Mehall

Guest: Martin Veliz

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

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

- Elementary Summer School Update - Jennifer Heinritz, Assistant Principal at Jefferson School
- Summer School and AP Test Data - Andrea Mehall, Principal at Holland High School

Office of Student Services: Associate Superintendent McCloud provided updates on the following along with Cynthia Alvarado and Lauren Gray:

- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System (TCIS)

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- Discussion regarding building presentations
- September 23rd- Bond Update and Feedback

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS

ACADEMICS/PROGRAM GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will provide educational excellence through relevant and innovative programming that maximizes the potential of each student in safe, supportive, and respectful learning environments.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will unite our community around increasing opportunities and success for ALL students through dialogue, networking, and learning among families and community members.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will maximize resources for student learning, engagement, and safety.

HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:

Holland Public Schools will recruit, retain, and invest in highly qualified staff.

B. FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Chairperson Woltman reported on the September 3, 2024 meeting of the Finance and Property Committee.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Board: Trustees Woltman and Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay, and Deputy Superintendent Pennington

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Finance & Property: Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay provided updates on the following:

- Financial Reports for August 2024: Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay reviewed the general fund budget to actual report and the capital project listing report for the month of August.
- IA Insurance Coverage Discussion
- Audit Presentation Dates – will be scheduled in October or November

Human Resources Report: Deputy 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 Numbers
- Potential 2025 Bond Vote Discussion, Timeline, and Tasks to complete
- Scheduling of Building Presentations
- Special Education Millage

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

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- C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: President Colburn reported on the September 3, 2024 meeting of the Executive Committee.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Woltman, and Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Policies for First Reading: Superintendent Cassidy recommended the following policies for first reading:

- Policy 2264 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (New)
- Policy 2266 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)

Superintendent Updates:

- Enrollment Update
- Facility Master Plan Feedback Session- September 23rd

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

Other:

- Onboarding new board member Martin Veliz

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

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HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:

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- D. BOARD STUDY SESSION: President Colburn reported on the September 9, 2024, Study Session.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: President Colburn welcomed all participants and call the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. in the Board Training Room of the District Administration Building, 320 West 24th Street.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Cassidy, Deputy Superintendent Pennington, Associate Superintendents McCloud, Remillard and Murphy-DuBay

OATH OF OFFICE

CONSTITUTIONAL OATH OF OFFICE - District board recorder and District notary Beth Kooiker administered the Oath of Office to Martin Veliz, appointed on August 26, 2024.

I, Martin Veliz, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Member of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Holland, Michigan, according to the best of my ability.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OATH OF OFFICE - Superintendent Cassidy administered the HPS Board of Education Oath of Office to Martin Veliz.

As an elected member of the Board of Holland Public Schools, I accept the high honor and trust that has been placed in me to ensure that the children of this district receive the best education possible with an uncompromising commitment to student achievement in a 21st Century learning environment. In accepting this position, I hold the pursuit of that goal as my sacred duty. To that end, I hereby swear that I will:

- Place the interests of children above all others in every decision that I make;
- Uphold all applicable federal and state laws and regulations;
- Abide by the policies of the Board, and work with my fellow Board members to change those policies as needed to improve student learning;
- Maintain board focus on the achievement of all students in accordance with our non-discrimination policy;
- Not use my position for personal or partisan gain;
- Model continuous learning in my role as a member of the governance team;
- Maintain a strategic plan for the district that clearly defines success and accountability for the board, the staff, and our students;

- Focus on the policy work of the Board and monitor progress on the indicators of success in our strategic plan, leaving the day-to-day operation of the district to the superintendent and staff;
- Base my decisions upon available facts, vote my convictions, avoid bias, and uphold and support the decisions of the majority of the board once a decision is made;
- Work to build trust between and among board members and the superintendent by treating everyone with dignity and respect, even in times of disagreement;
- Maintain the confidentiality of privileged information, including that shared in executive sessions of the board;
- Recognize that the authority rests only with majority decisions of the board and will make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the board as a whole;
- Refer constituent complaints and concerns to the appropriate person within the district chain of command; and
- Respect the leadership roles of the board chair and superintendent.

I will maintain fidelity to these commitments and will be held accountable by my fellow board members should I fail to live up to this oath. So help me, God.

Trustee Martin Veliz agreed to uphold the oath.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Committee Reports:

- a. Teaching for Learning Committee: Chairperson Mulder provided updates with items discussed at the Teaching for Learning Committee meeting on September 3, 2024.
- b. Finance & Property Committee: Chairperson Woltman provided updates with items discussed at the Finance & Property Committee meeting on September 3, 2024.
- c. Executive Committee: President Colburn provided updates with items discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on September 3, 2024.

President Colburn discussed the MASB Legislative Relations Network (LRN) assignment and appointed Mark Woltman as the new representative to take Linda Falstad's place.

- d. Holland Educational Foundation Report: Trustee Mulder provided an update.

Personnel Report: Deputy Superintendent Pennington updated the committee on personnel items.

Policies for First Reading: Superintendent Cassidy submitted the following policies for first reading:

- Policy 2264 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (New)
- Policy 2266 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)

Superintendent Updates:

- Celebrating Linda Falstad
- Community College Discussion
- October Committee Meetings
- Upcoming Events

Consideration of Petition for Reinstatement: Superintendent Cassidy brought forward the recommendation of the Hearing Committee not to reinstate student 0904240800.

Moved by Mark Woltman, supported by Tim Marroquin, that the Board of Education approve the recommendation not to reinstate Student 0904240800. The motion was unanimously approved.

Board Meeting Agenda Construction: Board Members planned the agenda for the September 23, 2024 Board Meeting.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

IX. POLICIES FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

Superintendent Cassidy recommended the following policies for second reading and adoption:

- Policy 2264 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (New)
- Policy 2266 Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Revised)

Moved by Lois Mulder, supported by Tim Marroquin, that the Board of Education adopt the policies as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

- A. Superintendent Open Office Hours: Superintendent Cassidy has open office hours scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 8:00 a.m. (change of date for this month) 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., with the exception of this month. If you would like to reach Superintendent Cassidy, please email him: ncassidy@hollandpublicschools.org.
- B. Current Legislative and District Initiatives: Superintendent Cassidy shared information on recent district initiatives and legislative action.

Legislative Updates:

The Senate convened on Tuesday and passed their substitute version of SB 911. The bill now moves back to the House for their concurrence with the substitute version. This bill would do three things (unchanged from my last update):

1. Eliminate the floor funding provision
2. Cap the liability rate that school districts pay for MPSERS at 15.21%
3. Eliminate the 3% that employees pay for retiree health insurance

It is the third provision that could still see some more modification. The current version has employees cease paying the 3% on October 1, 2025, a year from now. The House could modify this

date during their session next week to possibly end the 3% payment on either April 1, 2025, or July 1, 2025. This House will act on this next Wednesday.

It is predicted to be slow in Lansing over the next few months. However, there are rumors of a new version of the dyslexia bill moving through the House. We will keep an eye on this to better understand details.

District Updates:

- Superintendent Cassidy provided an update on his recent attendance at the MASA Conference in Traverse City.
- Homecoming Week Events
- STEAM Night Events

XI. OTHER: Superintendent Cassidy provided an enrollment update.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: President Colburn adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Approved as presented: _____
Tim Marroquin, Secretary