

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

**The School District of the City of Holland
Ottawa County, Michigan
October 20, 2025**

- I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - WELCOME** – President Colburn welcomed the audience and called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustee Arendshorst, Colburn, Woltman, Veliz, Mulder, and Ybarra

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Cassidy, Deputy Superintendent Pennington, Associate Superintendents McCloud, Remillard and Murphy-DuBay, and Administrative Assistant Boes (recorder)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Regular Business Meeting of October 20, 2025
2. Consent Agenda for October 20, 2025

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 29, 2025, Regular Business Meeting

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda for October 20, 2025. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL SENATE

Student Senate President Maggie Telgenhof provided an update to the Board.

V. HPS CELEBRATES

HHS Students Recognized by National Merit Scholarship Program: Each year, 1.5 million students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program, by taking the PSAT/NMSQT.

Wilson Lin was named a Semifinalist in the competition! This is an incredible honor, recognizing you **among the top 1% of high school students in the country**. *The program offers three types of awards: The National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship, corporate-sponsored scholarships, and college-sponsored scholarships, awarded to about 7,880 students annually.*

Emma Deenik has been recognized as a Commended Student. **Only 34,000 students nationwide earn this recognition**, placing them among the top 50,000 high scorers. *While Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, this honor highlights students' outstanding academic achievement and potential for continued academic success.*

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

VII. JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY BUILDING PRESENTATION

Principal Sara Folkert presented celebrations, Challenges, and Data for Jefferson Elementary.

VIII. ANNUAL AUDIT PRESENTATION

Jon Ringlein, CPA, Senior Manager with Maner Costerisan Audit Firm, presented the results of the June 30, 2025, annual financial audit. [ATTACHMENT A]

IX. PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Deputy Superintendent Pennington recommended the following personnel actions:

A. Resignations:

Daniel Demerest, Science Teacher, Holland Middle School, effective September 30, 2025.

Susan Vanderbilt, District School Social Worker .50 fte, effective September 29, 2025.

Moved by Mark Woltman, supported by Martin Veliz that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of: Daniel Demerest and Susan Vanderbilt. The motion was unanimously approved.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Deputy Superintendent Pennington recommended the following administrative personnel action

A. Resignation:

Brenda Boyd, Director of Transportation, effective September 30, 2025.

Moved by Chris Arendshorst, supported by Lois Mulder that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Brenda Boyd. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

A. TEACHING FOR LEARNING: Chairperson Mulder reported on the October 6, 2025, meeting of the Teaching for Learning Committee. The minutes for said meeting are enclosed.

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

Board: Trustee Mulder, Veliz and Marroquin

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy and Associate Superintendents McCloud and Remillard

Guests: Lynette Brander

Public Comments: There were no public comments

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

- Requirements around ML services for students- Lynette Brander
- Looking at Data-Setting Goals

Office of Student Services: Associate Superintendent McCloud provided updates on the following:

- 4096 update
- Disproportionality "Dispro" update

- Refers to the disproportionate removal of students with disabilities based on race and ethnicity
- Holland, West Ottawa and Hudsonville have been identified in Ottawa
- A Corrective Action Plan (CAP) has been issued to provide additional professional development to staff, completed in August, a Community of Practice that will support systematic County practices and a review of current procedures.

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- Boys and Girls Club- K Programming Update
- Longfellow Agreement
- Enrollment Update

Other: No other updates were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:16 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 October 7, 2025 meeting of the Finance and Property Committee.

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

Present:

Board: Trustees Woltman, Arendshorst And Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent Murphy-Dubay, Deputy Superintendent Pennington and Wendy Cossey.

Public Comments: There were no public comments

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

- Financial Reports for September 2025: Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay will review the general fund budget to actual report and the capital project listing report for the month of September.

- FY25 Audit Presentation at the Board of Education meeting on October 20, 2025.

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

- Resignations
- 27K Update

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

- Enrollment Update
- Boys and Girls Club Programming Update
- Longfellow Lease Agreement

Other: The following items were discussed:

- Bond Underwriter
- 2025 Bond Updates

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:48p.m

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- C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Vice President Woltman reported on the October 7, 2025, meeting of the Executive Committee. The minutes for said meetings are enclosed.

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

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Woltman and Ybarra

Administrators: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments

Superintendent Updates:

- Enrollment Update
- Boys and Girls Club Programming Update
- Longfellow Lease Agreement
- Staffing updates

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

Other: The following items were discussed:

- Superintendent Evaluation
- November Board Meetings

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

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D. BOARD STUDY SESSION: Vice President Woltman reported on the October 13, 2025, Study Session.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: President Colburn will welcome all participants and call the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Training Room of the District Administration Building, 320 West 24th Street.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Cassidy, Deputy Superintendent Pennington, Associate Superintendents Murphy-DuBay, Remillard and McCloud, Principle Chad Tolsen.

Public Comments: There were no public comments

West Elementary Building Presentation: Principal Tolson and Assistant Principal Heinritz provided an update on West celebrations, challenges, and data.

Committee Reports:

- a. Teaching for Learning Committee Chairperson Mulder provided updates with items discussed at the Teaching for Learning Committee meeting on October 6, 2025.
- b. Finance & Property Committee: Chairperson Woltman provided updates with items discussed at the Finance & Property Committee meeting on October 7, 2025.

- c. Executive Committee: Chairperson Woltman provided updates with items discussed at the Finance & Property Committee meeting on October 7, 2025.
- d. Holland Educational Foundation Report: Trustee Mulder provided an update.
- e. HEA Communications Update: Trustee Arendshorst provided an update on the HEA Communications meeting from September 25, 2025.

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

- Temporary Instructional Coach
- Transportation Director
- Science teacher
- Instructional Assistants

Memorandum of Understanding: Superintendent Cassidy brought forward a recommendation to approve MOUs with HPS and Counseling Agencies as presented.

Moved by Chris Arendshorst, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approved Memorandums of Understanding with HPS and Counseling Agencies as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Superintendent Updates:

- Enrollment Update
- 2025 Bond Project Update and Timeline
- Construction Manager Interviews and Recommendation
 - GDK Presentation

Moved by Lois Mulder, supported by Diane Ybarra, that the Board of Education approve entering in to an agreement with GDK Construction to provide Construction Management Services for the 2025 Bond Projects, as outlined in the proposal submitted to the district. The motion was unanimously approved.

Board Meeting Agenda Construction: Board Members planned the agenda for the October 20, 2025 Board Meeting.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

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

- A. Superintendent Open Office Hours: Superintendent Cassidy has open office hours scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 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 would like to reach Superintendent Cassidy, please email him: ncassidy@hollandpublicschools.org.
- B. National Principals Month: Superintendent Cassidy announced October is National Principals Month, and thanked our principals for their dedication.
- C. Current Legislative and District Initiatives: Superintendent Cassidy shared information on recent district initiatives and legislative action.

Legislative Updates

While things have been generally quiet in Lansing since we received a budget, there are few things we need to keep an eye on:

31aa contains language that in order to accept funds the district must waive privilege in the event of a mass casualty event. The privilege that the legislation refers to is attorney-client privilege. This means that your communications with your legal counsel would be discoverable by state investigators in the aftermath of a mass casualty event. This is a significant issue and it warrants our patience as education attorneys from around the state weigh these issues and develop guidance. This could impact agreements with insurance providers. We will wait for more guidance on this.

There has been some discussion regarding a supplemental bill package, but most are not holding out hope for this.

District Updates

District Trunk or Treat- HHS Student Senate Invites all HPS Families to a districtwide Trunk or Treat

- Sunday, October 26, 5-6:30pm
- HHS Back Parking Lot
- Wear a Costume and come ready for a fun time!

Mental Health Night-

Thursday, November 6th- 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Holland Middle School

THRIVE TOGETHER: Family Mental Health Night

-Be Nice

Saturday, November 8th- 5:30- 2nd Annual HEF GALA

Tuesday, November 11th at 10:30- Veterans Day Assembly

XIII. OTHER: No other items were discussed.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: President Colburn adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

Approved as presented: _____
Lois Mulder, Secretary