

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

**The School District of the City of Holland
Ottawa County, Michigan
November 21, 2022**

- 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.
- The meeting was broadcast via Zoom at this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82733637188?pwd=ck1nYkFaOS9CSW1BMHIDL3hoVXZlUT09>.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustees Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

EXCUSED: Trustees Austin-Roberts

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Regular Business Meeting of November 21, 2022
2. Consent Agenda for November 21, 2022

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. October 17, 2022, Regular Business Meeting
2. November 3, 2022, Special Meeting
3. November 3, 2022, Closed Session

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Linda Falstad, that the Board of Education approves the Consent Agenda for November 21, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL SENATE

Student Senate President Libby LeFebre provided an update to the Board.

- Focusing on a student questions and concerns form to be sent out to the student body every two weeks and are sharing this information with students.
- Assistant Principal Rumpsa attend advisory and shared PBIS student climate survey results.
- Weekly meetings with Principal Mehall to provide an update.
- Snow coming spirit week is being planned for February 13-17, 2023.
- Student Senate will participate in enrollment activities held at each school.

V. HPS CELEBRATES

Congratulations to Holland High School sophomore Gigi Garza who set world records and earned a Powerlifting Championship. Gigi is a 3-time World Powerlifting Champion at the WPS World Championship in Orlando. She also broke and set 4 World Records.

VI. HOLLAND HERO'S VETERANS WALL AT HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL

High School students Seth Rodriguez and Robert Jordan provided an update to the board of a student-led project around creating a wall to honor service men and women who have graduated from Holland High. The student committee is working with Assistant Principal Josh Rumpsa and Ken Freestone to plan the project.

VII. HHS DISC GOLF

Jeff Kordich, Holland Early College Math Teacher shared an update on a proposed Disc Golf Course at Holland High. This would be available for our students as well as the community. The estimated cost for the first year would be \$8000. This would be covered by donations.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Jenna Nienhuis, 4659 Arbor Trail, Holland, MI 49423. Support for the TRAILS program.

IX. PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Associate Superintendent Pennington recommended the following personnel action:

A. Resignations:

- **Rene Gemmill**, 1st Grade Teacher, Jefferson School, effective December 22, 2022.
- **Rachel Hills**, Special Education (ASD) Teacher, Holland High School, effective November 18, 2022.
- **Leah Koopman**, School Social Worker, Holland High School, effective date TBD.

Moved by Tim Marroquin, supported by Phil Meyer, that the Board of Education approve, with regret, the resignation of: Rachel Hills, Leah Koopman, and Rene Gemmill.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Hiring:

- **Sara Dickinson**, Special Education Teacher, Holland Middle School and Holland High School, effective November 7, 2022.
- **Lynne Gallagher**, Special Education Teacher, Jefferson School, effective October 31, 2022.
- **Laura Kass**, School Social Worker, West School, effective November 11, 2022.
- **Ashleigh Merrill**, Elementary Music Teacher, effective November 7, 2022.

Moved by Mark Woltman, supported by Linda Falstad, that the Board of Education approves a probationary contract to: Sara Dickinson, Lynne Gallagher, Laura Kass, and Ashleigh Merrill.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS: Superintendent Cassidy recommended the following administrative personnel actions this evening:

A. Administrative Hire:

- **Melissa Remillard**, Associate Superintendent of School Improvement, effective November 28, 2022.

Moved by Phil Meyer, supported by Diane Ybarra, that the Board of Education approve the hire of Melissa Remillard as Associate Superintendent of School Improvement.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

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

A. TEACHING FOR LEARNING – The committee met on November 8, 2022

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Marroquin, and Meyer

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Office of School Improvement: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- November 11th PD Update
- Orton Gillingham Grant

Office of Student Services: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- Anti-Bullying Grant: West Elementary Staff members Corene D’Addona, Renae Hoebbel, and Lisa Whiteman shared how this \$10,000 grant will benefit both General and Special Education students.
- Transition from School Improvement to Student Services

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- Nature-Based Heights Update
- Associate Superintendent of School Improvement Updates

Other:

- President Colburn provided a GRCC update on Ottawa County in district tuition options.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:21 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 November 8, 2022.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Marroquin, Woltman, and Ybarra

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

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

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

- Financial reports for October 2022
- Summer Tax Collection Resolution

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Linda Falstad, that the summer tax resolution be approved as presented. [Attachment A]

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

- Athletic Department recommendations for purchasing items utilizing bond funds

Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Mark Woltman, that the following athletic purchases be approved utilizing bond funds:

- Baseball and softball scoreboards and installation from ASG, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$43,900.00
- Portable basketball hoops from SNA Sports in an amount not to exceed \$31,146.00

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

- Financial data for strategic planning

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

- Personnel Report
 - Vacancies and Postings Update
 - New Hires
- Health Insurance Renewals and Open Enrollment Period
- Public Employment Relations Act (PERA) request - Bargaining Preparation

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

- Facilities Updates
- Recommendation for Posting of Mechanic/Driver

Other:

- Fundraising and accountability
- Associate Superintendent of School Improvement vacancy update
- Housing availability within the district for employees

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS

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C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – The committee met on November 9, 2022.

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

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Woltman, and Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Superintendent Updates:

- Strategic Planning Update
- Associate Superintendent of School Improvement Update

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

Other:

- Discussion of election results and transition planning
- PR firms for big announcements

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS

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HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:

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D. BOARD STUDY SESSION – The committee met on November 14, 2022.

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 Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

ABSENT: Trustee Austin-Roberts,

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent Pennington, Director Craner, and Principal Vasquez-Ochoa

Public Comments: There were no public comments

Building Presentations:

- Holland Language Academy, Principal Iliana Ochoa-Vasquez provided an update.

Committee Reports:

- a. Finance & Property Committee Report: There were no questions, comments or clarification from the meeting on November 8, 2022.
- b. Teaching for Learning Committee Report: There were no questions, comments or clarification from the meeting on November 8, 2022.
- c. Executive Committee Report: There were no questions, comments or clarification from the meeting on November 9, 2022.
- d. Holland Educational Foundation Report: Trustee Falstad provided an update.
- e. HEA communications Update: President Colburn and Trustee Woltman provided an update on the HEA Communications meeting from October 27, 2022.

Superintendent Updates:

- Strategic Plan- Updated timeline

Board Meeting Agenda Construction: Board Members planned the agenda for the November 21, 2022 Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Evaluation: President Colburn reported on the completion of the evaluation of Superintendent Cassidy, indicating a rating on the high end of effective. There were many positive comments during the evaluation process and the board expressed their appreciation for all that he has accomplished in such a short period of time.

Other:

- PR Firms
- Staffing Updates
- School Index
- Board Transition

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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

1. Superintendent Open Office Hours: Superintendent Cassidy announced open office hours scheduled for Thursday, December 1, 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.
2. 85th Veterans Day Observance: Superintendent Cassidy recognized our past and current serving members of the military and thanked Holland High School Administration for their 85th Veterans Day Observance held on November 10, 2022.

3. Inclement Weather Information: Superintendent Cassidy highlighted the process for determining school closures and the best, fastest, and most accurate way of knowing if school is in session or not.
4. Current Legislative Initiatives: Superintendent Cassidy shared information on recent legislative action.

Retirees Return to Work

- High-level: Discussions are underway with organizations to amend the law governing working post-retirement.
- Senate Bill 726 could be used as a vehicle bill to reduce the sit out period for this year only from 9 to 6 months.
- If passed, this would allow employees who retired at the end of June to be rehired after January 1.

Substitute Flexibility

- High-level: Legislative interest in extending the substitute teacher flexibility.
- House Bill 6411 reinstates the substitute teacher flexibility that expired June 30, 2022. This bill extends the flexibility until June 30, 2024.
- Allows districts to place any employee as a substitute teacher as long as they have a high school diploma.
- The policy change from the last time around was the individual must be permitted.

XIII. OTHER: No other items were discussed.

XIV. AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 6:50 p.m. as provided by the Open Meetings Act, Section 8(h), for the purpose of considering material exempt from discussion or disclosure by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, (FERPA) 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

Return to Open Session: The board returned to open session at 7:43 pm.

Moved by Tim Marroquin, supported by Diane Ybarra, that the Board of Education uphold the 180 day suspension for student #1121221800, with stipulation that if conditions are successfully completed the student could have an early return.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Colburn, Falstad, Marroquin, Meyer, Woltman, and Ybarra

Nays: None

The motion was unanimously approved.

XV. ADJOURNMENT: President Colburn adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Approved as presented: _____

Linda Falstad, Secretary