

Highland School District #203
District Office
Tuesday, November 6, 2023

Regular Board Meeting-7:00 a.m.

The **November 6, 2023, AM Regular Board Meeting** was called to order by Vice Chair David Barnes at 7:00 a.m. Others present included Board members Lupita Flores, Carlos López, and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business & Operations Francis Badu, Director of Student Success Mindy Schultz, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board member Nikki Keller was absent.

2. Capital Project Update-visit HMS Commons: 7:00 – 7:13 a.m. All present walked over to see the HMS Commons, now complete except for half of the tables. All agreed the room is very nice and a great addition to the building. Besides a lunchroom, it will be a useful space for many activities.

5. 1st Reading: 6114 Policy Gifts or Donations: Francis: Researched policies and procedures for receiving and approving gifts or donations and presented the board with proposed updates that, if adopted, will provide guidelines and structure to provide clear guidelines in the future. The board reviewed and discussed the proposed changes which include monetary limits for accepting donations with and without board approval. This policy is advanced to a 2nd reading at the November PM meeting.

6. Capital Projects Funding and Planning: Francis: Phase 1 was divided into two parts: HMS Commons, now complete, and HMS/HHS HVAC upgrade, to be completed spring/summer of 2024. Base contract with Seigny was \$2.5m, expenditures to date: \$1.5m leaving \$1.486 to complete the HVAC upgrade. The total capital projects projected cost was anticipated to be \$7.385m. We will collect over five years and need to prioritize the project list. Highest consideration must go to 1) the MWC Safety Alarm system and 2) the track and field improvements. Discussed idea of remodeling/adding to TES to create a K-5 building. Enrollment is declining and consolidating MWC and TES grades into one building would reduce operating costs significantly.

Director of State and Federal Programs, Kirsten Lenz joined the meeting at 7:58 a.m.

3. State & Federal Programs Update: Kirsten: Her three goals are for building-wide systems. First is the development of a Dual-Language Program at MWC as required by OSPI/law by 2035. She has developed a four-year plan beginning in 2023-2024 with creating a leadership team then building up their knowledge and understanding of the program. Years two-four will see staff and families learning about the program, developing a district-wide stakeholder team and building up the community's knowledge and understanding, and finally implementing the program at MWC in the 2026-2027 SY. Much training and site visits will occur to have the knowledge necessary for adopting the best version of a dual-language program for our district. Goal Two is to develop a written system/procedures for students to have the opportunity to obtain their Seal of Biliteracy, a program also required by Washington State. Goal Three is to develop a district-wide Parent Advisory Council by working with building principals and district staff.

Kirsten left the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

TES Principal Brandon Jensen joined the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

4. TES Update: Brandon: Shared a picture of him being 'made' into an ice cream sundae by students as a reward for meeting their fund-raising goal. For the 2023-2024 school year he has three goals: 1) Transform TES into an elementary school by starting from scratch and build a system that will sustain itself. Each grade level needs to have essential standards that build on each other which leads into goal 2: Each grade level having three essential standards each for ELA and Math that also build from grade

level to grade level. Goal 3 is to work on a new building culture of collective responsibility that students meet high levels of learning to meet the essential standards. He has been offering support to the teachers that were teaching single subjects in the previous TIS block schedule that now teach all subjects as is done in an elementary school. He loves the positivity of the students and noted that they like the new playground equipment.

Brandon left the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

Further discussion of Capital Projects Funding and Planning.

Francis and Mindy left the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

7. Personnel Discussion: Discussion about plans for a replacement when Mark retires.

8. Board Goals for 2023-2024 School Year: The Board reviewed the 2022-2023 goals and after discussion decided to maintain those goals for the 2023-2024 school year.

9. Self-Appraisal of the Board: Using the 2021-2022 Self Appraisal as a template the Board reviewed each appraisal subject making changes as appropriate.

10. Adjournment: There being no further items to discuss, Vice Chair David Barnes adjourned the November 6, 2023 AM Board Meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Chair

Secretary