

Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 Board of Education

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2024

- 1) A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Matt Lentz, at the Hillsboro Unit Office at 7:00 p.m. The following board members were present: Matt Lentz, Brian Patton, John Lentz, Blake Furness, Kassie Greenwood, Mike Cerutti, and Nathan Kirby.

- 2) Agenda Item 2.0. Good News Reports

Curriculum Director Hope McBrain announced the district applied for a Stronger Connections Grant and was approved for \$193,000. The grant will be used towards new safety and security systems. The 708 Board also approved the mental health programming grant which supports our Student Interventionist position.

PreK Director Marci Gutierrez is excited that their playground project is well underway from the \$315,000 grant they received.

- 3) Agenda Item 3.0 FY25 Budget Hearing

Superintendent Powell presented the balanced budget for FY25. One notable change from last month is the corporate personal property tax. The state overallocated funds in 2022 and 2023 and is implementing a two-year claw-back. The district will receive \$1.9 million. The tentative budget had estimated \$2.8 million.

Motion made by Nathan Kirby, seconded by John Lentz to approve the FY25 budget as presented. On roll call the following voted yes: Matt Lentz, Brian Patton, John Lentz, Blake Furness, Kassie Greenwood, Mike Cerutti, and Nathan Kirby. Motion carried 7-0.

- 4) Agenda Item 4.0 Consent Agenda
 - 4.1 Approval of Regular Session Minutes from August 13, 2024

President Lentz asked for additions or corrections to the August 13, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. There were none.

 - 4.2 Review and Approval of Payables

President Lentz asked for questions or comments. Superintendent Powell asked for approval on pay request #10 to O'Shea Builders in the amount of \$1,099,709.27.

 - 4.3 Financial Report

President Lentz asked for questions or comments. There were none.

 - 4.4 Consideration and Approval of Joint Agreement with OKAW Area Vocational Center

Superintendent Powell reviewed the OKAW Agreement with the board and is recommending renewal.

Consent Agenda Vote.

Motion made by Nathan Kirby, seconded by John Lentz to approve the consent agenda as presented. On roll call the following voted yes: Matt Lentz, Brian Patton, John Lentz, Blake Furness, Kassie Greenwood, Mike Cerutti, and Nathan Kirby. Motion carried 7-0.

5) Agenda Item 5.0 New Business

5.1 Presentation and Discussion of Student Grading Guidelines

Curriculum Director Hope McBrain presented the new grading guidelines to the board. She stated that many grades being entered into the gradebook are not tied to the instruction students are receiving. Grades should be based on the knowledge of the curriculum, not good behavior or binder checks. Majority of grades need to come from in class assignments, labs, projects, presentations, etc. Homework will still be assigned it will just be entered into the gradebook less and less. Mrs. McBrain stated the guidelines are slowly being introduced this year with a plan to fully implement it next year.

5.2 Presentation of New District Communication Platform

Beckemeyer Principal Zach Frailey presented information about the new platforms, ParentSquare and StudentSquare. It is one place for all communication to be used by teachers, coaches, parents and students.

5.3 First Reading of Policy Revision Recommendations

Superintendent Powell reviewed PRESS Policy revisions from Issue 115 and 116. Board will review policies, action will be taken at the October board meeting.

5.4 Presentation and Potential Wind and Solar Energy Development in the District

Superintendent Powell met with Mike Plunkett of the Montgomery County Administrators office. Their office has been tracking potential development of alternate revenue sources. There are many in the county and specifically around 15 solar developments in our district. The solar development is approximately 300 megawatts which could equate to roughly between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 in property tax collected. Between both solar and wind farms there could be several hundred thousand dollars in revenue for the district.

6) Agenda Item 6.0 Recognition of Audience

No cards submitted.

7) Agenda Item 7.0 Communication

There was none.

8) Agenda Item 8.0 Executive Session

Motion made by Nathan Kirby and seconded by John Lentz to move into Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Nathan Kirby and seconded by John Lentz to move out of Executive Session at 9:02 p.m. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

9) Agenda Item 9.0 Action Items Resulting from Executive Session

9.1 Resignation of Teaching Assistants


Motion made by Nathan Kirby, seconded by John Lentz to approve the resignation of teaching assistants Angela Obidiegwu and Halle Vunetich. On roll call the following voted yes: Matt Lentz, Brian Patton, John Lentz, Blake Furness, Kassie Greenwood, Mike Cerutti, and Nathan Kirby. Motion carried 7-0.

9.2 Employment of Food Service Worker

Motion made by Nathan Kirby, seconded by John Lentz to approve the employment of food service worker Brittany Longwell. On roll call the following voted yes: Matt Lentz, Brian Patton, John Lentz, Blake Furness, Kassie Greenwood, Mike Cerutti, and Nathan Kirby. Motion carried 7-0.

10) Agenda Item 10.0 Adjournment.

Motion by Nathan Kirby, seconded by John Lentz to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.



Matt Lentz, President
Board of Education



John Lentz, Secretary

October 8, 2024
Date