

# Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 Board of Education

## Regular Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2022

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- 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: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz.
  - 2) Agenda Item 2.0 Good News Reports

Superintendent Powell reported that absentee numbers are rapidly improving. On January 20<sup>th</sup> there were 333 students absent, January 24<sup>th</sup> 177 students were absent and today 148 students were absent.

HHS Principal Heyen announced that Melissa Rufus won the National Public Radio Essay Contest and will be reading her essay live on the radio.
  - 3) Agenda Item 3.0 Committee Report
    - 3.1 Building and Grounds Committee

Superintendent Powell reported the Building and Grounds Committee met on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Hillsboro Unit Office. Projects discussed were the continued planning to replace the main building at HHS. Kevin Heid with Stifel was present to review current debts as well as present possible funding scenarios for the high school building project.
  - 4) Agenda Item 4.0 Consent Agenda
    - 4.1 Approval of Regular Session Minutes from January 11, 2022

President Lentz asked for additions or corrections to the January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. There were none.
    - 4.2 Approval of Executive Session Minutes from January 11, 2022

President Lentz asked for additions or corrections to the January 11, 2022, Executive Session Meeting Minutes. There were none.
    - 4.3 Approval of Minutes from Building and Grounds Committee Meeting January 24, 2022

President Lentz asked for additions or corrections to the January 24, 2022 Building and Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes. There were none.
    - 4.4 Review and Approval of Payables

President Lentz asked for questions or comments. There were none.
    - 4.5 Financial Report

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



Consent Agenda Vote.

Motion made by Barb Adams, seconded by Nathan Kirby to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented. On roll call the following voted yes: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz. Motion carried 7-0.

5) Agenda Item 5.0 Old Business

5.1 Presentation on the Mental/Social/Emotional Supports and Programs in the District

Curriculum Director Hope McBrain presented all the programs currently in use in the district. The staff receive annual training on mental health, suicide prevention and anxiety. Students in grades 3-12 complete a BESS Screener twice a year. Numerous partnerships including Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and Hillsboro Area Hospital, Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health Center, St. Elizabeth's and Menta, and Montgomery County Health Department. A School Safety Helpline is utilized to allow anonymous reporting. Rick Cina is the full-time school social worker and Emma Reichert is the behavior specialist. Each building has a crisis team trained to handle crisis situations as well as the building specific implemented services listed below.

Early Childhood- "Handle with Care", Compassion in Action, Infant Mental Health Specialist

Beckemeyer- "Handle with Care", Compassion in Action, Bulldog Bucks, Student of the Month, Incredible 5 Point Scale, Student Interventionist Stephanie Thomas

Junior High-Sources of Strength, Second Step Curriculum, School Counselor Jen Anderson

High School-Blues Program, Sources of Strength, School Counselor Jen Cearlock, Social Worker Katie Hilgert

5.2 Consideration of District Covid Policy

5.2.1 Discussion of Draft Plan and Feedback Received

Superintendent Powell reported with the current judge's order masking is now optional. The board was given the feedback results that were received in regards to the Draft Plan.

Motion made by Bryce Rupert, seconded by John Lentz to table Agenda Item 5.2 to a later date. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

5.3 Discussion of Weight Room Improvements at HHS

Superintendent Powell gave an update on funding. The Hillsboro Sports Association will contribute \$5,000, the Sports Boosters Club \$5,000, the Education Foundation is considering contributing as well. Superintendent Powell is suggesting the flooring be paid for with Capital Improvement Funds, the equipment not covered by donations will be paid for with ESSR funds.

Motion by Kassie Greenwood, seconded by John Lentz to approve the weight room improvements at HHS. On roll call the following voted yes: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz. Motion carried 7-0.

6) Agenda Item 6.0 New Business

6.1 Consideration of Changes to Curriculum/Courses at HHS

HHS Principal Heyen proposed Interpersonal Communications Course become a required course taken by Freshmen/Sophomores that would implement the Blues Program. Board member John Lentz has some concerns and reservations he would prefer to do more research before approving the proposal.

HHS Science teachers Mr. Garmon and Mr. Malloy are proposing eliminating Earth and Space as a stand-alone course and incorporate that curriculum into Physical Science. The change will better align the curriculum to the Next Generation Science Standards. This will ensure all the students are taught the standards prior to taking the standardized state tests.

HHS Principal Heyen proposed incorporating Consumers Education into the existing Business Tech Course. It will be a required one-year course for Freshmen.

HHS Spanish Teacher Kristy Andrews would like to combine Spanish 3 & 4 into a Spanish Plus course beginning in SY 2023/2024. The overall course concept will combine Juniors and Seniors in the classroom and focus on the application of content learned in Spanish 1 & 2.

Board Member Barbara Adams suggested a Curriculum Committee Meeting be held. The board would prefer more time to consider the proposed changes and take action at the regular scheduled March meeting.

7) Agenda Item 7.0 Recognition of Audience

Parent Casey Richardson addressed the board. She stated her child was given candy to wear a mask at school. Superintendent Powell asked Ms. Richardson to contact him tomorrow to discuss further with her.

8) Agenda Item 8.0 Communication

There was none.

9) Agenda Item 9.0 Executive Session

Motion made by Barbara Adams and seconded by John Lentz to move into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and superintendents' evaluation. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Barbara Adams and seconded by Bryce Rupert to move out of Executive session at 9:17 p.m. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

10) Agenda Item 10.0 Action Items Resulting from Executive Session

10.1 Acceptance of Letters of Intent to Retire from Certified Teachers

Motion by Barbara Adams, seconded by Nathan Kirby to approve the Letter of Intent to Retire from Certified Teachers Sara Wilson and Paula Schwartzkopf effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year. On roll call the following voted yes: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz. Motion carried 7-0.

10.2 Acceptance of Letter of Intent to Retire from School Nurse/CNA Instructor



No action taken.

10.3 Acceptance of Resignation of Girls Tennis Coach

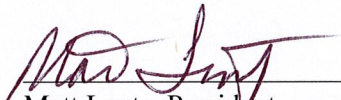
Motion by Barbara Adams, seconded by Nathan Kirby to approve the resignation of Girls Tennis Coach Jodi Speiser. On roll call the following voted yes: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz. Motion carried 7-0.

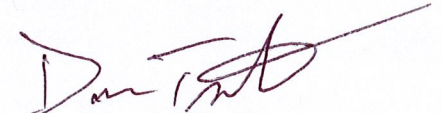
10.4 Approval of Volunteer HHS Track Coach

Motion by Barbara Adams, seconded by Nathan Kirby to approve Katie Homa as a volunteer HHS Track Coach. On roll call the following voted yes: Barbara Adams, John Lentz, Bryce Rupert, Kassie Greenwood, Dan Tester, Nathan Kirby and Matt Lentz. Motion carried 7-0.

11) Agenda Item 11.0 Adjournment.

Motion by Barbara Adams, seconded by Nathan Kirby to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

  
Matt Lentz, President

  
Dan Tester, Secretary

March 8, 2022  
Date