

Hockinson School District
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Hockinson School District Board of Directors
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, September 30, 2024
6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: HSD Community Center & Zoom
[HSD Calendar](#) has a link to join the Zoom meeting

MINUTES

I. Board Meeting/Call To Order

A. Establish Quorum

Board Chair, Teresa VanNatta called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Patrick Carter joined the meeting virtually.

B. Land Acknowledgement

Kat Stupka read: Honoring those who came before us and served as traditional stewards of the land is vital to acknowledging the long-standing history of Southwest Washington. This area is home to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and has been for thousands of years. The land enabled the Cowlitz People to flourish with its rich resources and today we must appreciate the persistence of the Cowlitz People and the important role they play in our region.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval Of The Agenda

Teresa VanNatta asked for a motion to approve the Agenda, Kat Stupka made a motion to approve the Agenda and was seconded by Anne-Elissa Carter. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

III. Communications

A. Welcome Community Members

Teresa VanNatta welcomed all those attending tonight's meeting.

B. Excuse Any Absent Board Member

Teresa VanNatta asked for a motion to approve Gordon Smiths' approved absence. Kat Stupka made a motion to excuse Gordon and was seconded by Anne-Elissa Carter. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

C. HSD Recognition/Introduction

1. Scott Tomlinson - Community Volunteer.

Superintendent Marshall recognized Scott, who is a Hockinson resident and HSD parent, who shared his time and his library knowledge with us this summer in "genre-fying" the HHS

Library. He coordinated volunteers, identified and removed outdated resources, and improved the visibility and accessibility of books for our students.

2. Cree Reynolds - Horizons Grant, College & Career Readiness Advisor

Superintendent Marshall welcomed Cree, who has joined Hockinson High School (HHS) as its new College and Career Readiness Advisor. Her role is 100% funded by the Horizons Regional Grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the next three years! Her position is part of a wider effort aimed at expanding college and career readiness programs at small high schools across our region.

D. Reports

1. Board Share Out

Kat Stupka shared that she has been attending the: Booster meetings at the high school, there are exciting fun things coming up; the fun run and homecoming. The students are excited about these.

Anne -Elissa Carter commented that HMS drop off is going great. There was a color war at the middle school with most kids participating and having fun.

Teresa VanNatta shared that she attended a facility planning meeting, where good questions were asked and it was a great opportunity to hear what the group has done and to see the progress being made.

2. Student Reps - to start presenting in October

3. Superintendent, Steve Marshall

State Announces Cut to TK Funding

Last Thursday, OSPI informed school districts of a funding shortfall for the Transitional Kindergarten program. The state budgeted for 5,665 students. However, school districts reported a statewide enrollment of 8,034 students! Josh Robertson, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reached out to OSPI to inquire about this situation and potential responses, but was unable to talk to anyone. We will continue to follow up with OSPI and any information we collect will be shared with the School Board, our TK staff, and our parents.

Speaking of parents, I will be meeting with ESD 112 tomorrow regarding TK messaging assistance. I expect that we will get a message to our parents involved in that program by the end of this week. Also, I want to be sure to get these timely announcements out to our families:

Attention All HMS & HHS Parents: Last Call for Chromebook Assurance!

Due to an abnormally low number of families who have signed up for Chromebook Assurance this fall, the HSD is extending the enrollment deadline to **Friday, October 4th**. This means that if you haven't yet signed up, and would like to, all you have to do is click on this [link](#). Follow the directions to login and sign up your student. The cost is still \$20 or free for families who qualify for FRL benefits. Step-by-step directions are available [here](#). Please note: Any damages that occur before signing up for Assurance will not be covered. Click [here](#) for more information on the Assurance program.

2024-25 FRL Deadline Approaching: We want our families to be aware that free/reduced lunch applications need to be submitted by 4 pm on **Wednesday, October 9**. There was a delay in updating this year's form, which has been corrected and is available on the [Nutrition Services web page](#) (scroll mid-page).

And three "save the date" announcements:

HSD Community Tour Set for Fri. Oct. 18: We want our families to know that this year's fall community tour will have a dual focus on school facilities and the school cultures inside our buildings. Participants have the option of joining us for the full

tour (8-11:30 am) or a partial tour. Additional details and an electronic sign up form will be emailed out to families in early October.

Tips for Emergency Preparation at 10/1 Silver Social: Jodi Blackwood, Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency representative, will present on disaster preparedness. Learn the ins and outs of building an emergency kit on a budget. RSVP to this free Community Education event by calling or emailing Katie O'Malley-Soot at (360) 448-6480 / katie.omalley-soot@hocksd.org.

Sign up for the 11/2 Fun Run: Everyone is invited to participate in the Saturday, Nov. 2 Dia de los Muertos Fun Run organized by the AAA Boosters. This is a fun (and healthy) event that brings our community together and raises funds for HHS sports and activities. Sign up [here](#).

Quality Staff and Programs, Traffic Decongestion, Lockdown Capabilities Top the List of Priorities in FPC Survey #3

This fall, the Facilities Planning Committee (FPC) invited Hockinson families to participate in FPC survey #3, designed to engage the community in facilities improvement priorities and follow-up on feedback given in surveys 1 and 2. In family surveys, overcrowding at HHES has emerged as a top facility concern. HHES is the largest elementary school by student population in Clark County.

First Open House Explores Challenges, Solutions to HSD Facilities' Needs

The Tuesday, Sept. 17 HSD Facilities Open House was the first of three opportunities to engage directly with HSD parents and community members about the district's facilities challenges. The event started with a presentation delivered by Superintendent Steve Marshall and Business Services Director Aaron Villanueva (pictured). Marshall provided an overview of levy and bond-based funding and reviewed results from the FPC's three parent surveys, while Villanueva offered some preliminary details on construction projects and costs. The evening concluded with attendees asking follow-up questions of school and district leaders.

Levy Spotlight: AP Literature Enrollment Explodes in 2024-25

Over the past three years, HHS's AP Literature course has quadrupled in size, with nearly 70 seniors eager to take on the challenge this year. This is a testament to the high-quality learning experiences that are made possible by our talented teachers and levy funding. Learn more about the growth of AP Literature - as well as the benefits of Advanced Placement courses - [here](#).

HHS Students Commended for Top PSAT Scores!

Two HHS seniors who distinguished themselves on last year's Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test recently received some exciting news: They had earned commended status, meaning their scores placed them in the top 50,000 students in the country. Congratulations to Avery Berg and Brenton McNair! HHS has been covering the cost of this exam for the past two years. HHS has seen a significant increase in test participation in the past three years, thanks in part to the school covering the exam costs: 21 students took the PSAT in 2021; 96 students in 2022; and 121 students last year.

Attendance Matters!

Hockinson School District is focused on ensuring student success through regular attendance, which is vital for academic and social growth. At HMS, students recently achieved 93.5% attendance, with 97.7% of students arriving on time. Good job, Hornets! Regular attendance is not just a Washington state requirement, it's important for student success. Research shows that missing even two days a month can affect reading proficiency

and graduation rates for students. Establishing consistent routines, monitoring absences, and planning appointments or vacations outside school hours can help students to establish good attendance habits. Parents will be notified of unexcused absences and can check their student's attendance on [Skyward Family Access](#). For more information, review our attendance policies below:

HHS Sophomore Hunter Bledsoe Organizes Fundraiser for Families in Need

He “can” do it! KXL Radio profiled HHS sophomore Hunter Bledsoe in its October 18 Everyday Hero segment, “High Schooler is a Hero for Those in Need.”

Bledsoe was recognized for his effort to feed the needy in his community. Hunter organizes a food drive every year, and last year he gathered 1,900 canned food items. In 2024, his goal is to fundraise enough to eclipse the 2,500 mark! In past years, Hunter has noticed that some donations are expired or close to expiring, so he has already started a [Go Fund Me](#) account to raise money to buy quality food items that are healthier and more appetizing for Hockinson's families in need.

Way to go, Hunter! You can listen to Hunter's interview [here](#).

HSD Welcomes “The Fabulous Four From Fresno”

Relocating to a small town two states away is a big leap. Normally, you would expect to be the only person from your hometown. So you can imagine the surprise of four HSD staff members who recently found out that they had all moved north from Fresno County schools, located 821 miles away in California. HSD's Occupational Therapist Samantha Voigt's reaction echoed that of her colleagues: “What are the odds?!”

It turns out that the odds are in the HSD's favor. We are grateful that Voigt, Michael Olson (HHES Assistant Principal), Julieann Parker (HSD substitute teacher), and Jordan Mosier (HHS Psychologist) all landed in the HSD! While the feeling is mutual among the four former Fresnoians, they appreciate different aspects of Hockinson's schools. Parker enjoys the HSD's positive school environments, while Mosier loves working in a smaller, more personalized school system. Voigt and Olson note one thing Hockinson has in common with their hometown: Both communities take incredible pride in their schools!

HSD Takes Steps to Prepare for Emergency Readiness with Family Notification & SRP Practice

To ensure we're ready to deliver inclement weather and emergency notifications, the HSD conducted a practice run of our new messaging system on Thursday, 9/26 at 7 pm.

HSD uses text and automated phone notifications to communicate emergency information and inclement weather updates to families, so it is essential that our families' contact information - especially email and phone - is current and operational. Families were instructed to let us know if they did not receive a phone, text, and email notification by 7:15 pm and 36 families alerted us. Julie reviewed that information today and we will work to correct those issues by the end of the week.

Standard Response Protocol

Hockinson School District has been a local pioneer in adopting the Standard Response Protocol (SRP), and now all regional school districts are following suit. The SRP is a nationwide initiative to improve the efficiency of school emergency responses (Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter) to an array of scenarios such as a threat on/outside of campus, natural disasters, or a need to get outside quickly. Learn more about the SRP [here](#). Schools conduct one or more SRP-based safety drills per month in an effort to ensure that school personnel are prepared to take the necessary steps to keep students safe every day and in exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for the gift, PWT. The Birthday Book Vending Machine is Just Perfect

The new Birthday Book Vending Machine has arrived at HHES and dispensed its first books to students celebrating their birthdays. This fun and creative way to recognize students and reinforce reading was made possible by People Working Together. We will be sure to feature this new machine and tradition in a future Round Up!

4. Citizen Advisory Committee Update - 1st meeting October 7th

5. Legislative Update

Superintendent Marshall gave a brief update about the three main items: special education, maintenance and transportation; they all need more funding.

E. Community Input On Agenda Or Comments

Public comment is welcome. So that the planned business of the Board may proceed in a timely manner, a total of 30 minutes maximum is allocated to public comment, with each speaker expected to limit their remarks to 2 minutes. Zoom software will be used to receive public comment. Please review Policy 1400 Meeting Conduct, Order of Business & Quorum. The Board also reminds participants to treat each other with courtesy, honesty and respect. Listen willingly to each other, even when opinions differ. Share accurate information. Honor the District’s policies to promote consistency and safety. respect each other’s time by adhering to the time limit. Thank you.

Signed up to speak:

Nikki Chung/lack of athletic director concerns

Marissa Matheson/gave big shout out to teachers and students/lack of athletic director concerns

Angela Maitland/lack of athletic director concerns

IV. Approval Of The Consent Agenda

Teresa VanNatta asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Anne-Elissa Carter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Kat Stupka. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

A. September 2024 Vouchers

1. General Fund Accrual Checks	101725-101725	\$150,000.00
2. General Fund Accrual ACH Checks	242500001-242500003	\$2,355.42
3. General Fund ACH Checks	242500004-242500008	\$6,769.96
4. ASB Accrual ACH Checks	242500009-242500010	\$1,136.17
5. ASB ACH Checks	242500011-242500012	\$105.61
6. General Fund Accrual Checks	101726-101743	\$21,633.05
7. General Fund Checks	101744-101750	\$15,683.68

8. General Fund Accrual Checks	101751-101753	\$18,106.55
9. ASB Accrual Checks	11892-11892	\$123.97
10. ASB Checks	11896-11895	\$602.41
11. General Fund ACH Accrual Checks	242500014-242500025	\$126,891.93
12. General Fund ACH Checks	242500029-242500087	\$63,400.16
13. Capital Projects ACH Accrual Checks	242500026-242500026	\$7,040.00
14. ASB ACH Accrual Checks	242500027-242500028	\$1,739.43
15. ASB ACH Checks	242500088-242500093	\$608.30
16. General Fund Accrual Checks	101776-101822	\$218,433.76
17. General Fund Accrual Checks	101891-101891	\$15,350.00
18. General Fund Accrual Checks	101892-101892	\$15,350.00
19. General Fund Checks	101823-101890	\$128,949.48
20. Capital Projects Accrual Checks	5095-5096	\$5,333.62
21. ASB Accrual Checks	11896-11899	\$5,701.29
22. ASB Checks	11900-11916	\$6,120.33
23. Comp Tax Wire Transfer	202400001-242500003	\$1,230.12
Corrected August Payroll	\$1,933,797.06	
Actual September Payroll	\$2,384,527.65	

B. Budget

1. August 2024 Budget Status Report
2. September 2024 Enrollment Report

C. Home School & Boundary Reports

D. Approval of Previous Months Board Minutes

1. August 26, 2024
2. September 9, 2024

E. IQ Credit Card

1. Add Jillian Worthington
2. Removal of Rebecca Smarr
3. Removal of Angela Stanek

F. Personnel

1. Classified New Hires
 - a) Adalaide Brock, Eff. 24-25, Special Programs Para, ES, 6hpd

- b) Erin Jessel, Eff. 8/28/24, General Duty Aide, ES 6hpd
- c) Tamara Fuller, Eff. 9/9/24, Special Programs Para, HS-T, 6hpd
- d) Elishia Passe, Eff. 9/16/24, Special Programs Para, ES, 6hpd
- e) Alina Zablotskova, Eff. 9/16/24, Special Programs Para, ES, 6hpd
- f) Alexis Ireland, Eff. 9/16/24, Special Programs Para, ES, 6hpd
- g) Maria Elena Bidiones, Eff. 9/23/24, Custodian, ES, 8hpd
- 2. Retirement/Resignation/Transfer/Termination
 - a) Amanda Hogan, Resignation, Eff. 8/27/24, Special Programs Para, ES, 6hpd
- 3. Change of Positions
 - a) Maria Cruz Medina, Grounds, promoted to Lead Grounds, Eff. 9/6/24
 - b) Gelaine Scroggie, HS Custodian, promoted to Lead Custodian, Eff. 8/28/24
- 4. New Extracurricular Assignments
 - a) Tony Kajina, Eff. 24-25 SY, Swim, Girls Assistant Coach, HS
- 5. Extracurricular Resignations/Non-Renewal
 - a) Kailey St. Peter, Eff. 9/8/24, Softball, Asst. Coach, HS
 - b) Dennis DeWitt, Eff. 9/18/24, Golf, Girls Varsity Coach, HS

G. Grounds Laborer Substitute

- 1. Pay Increase to \$23.50/hr

H. Highly Capable Program Approval

V. Discussion Items

A. Careers in Construction - Douglas Greene and Jon Girod

Douglas Greene was unable to attend. Jon Girod, owner of Quail Construction; a home building company had lots of information to share with the board about Careers in Construction. Their core purpose is to work with local schools to increase student participation, advance facilities, curriculum and networking so that students can get quality jobs in the building industry upon graduation. Only a third of Clark County students go to college. Jon Girod started his efforts in 2021 with about 150 students participating in construction classes in SW Washington. Over 1000 students will have enrolled in construction classes this school year. Jon talked about: Curriculum/Programming: Math in construction (Core Plus) Skills USA competitions, shed building and worksite learning. Networking/Job Fairs: Dozer Days Fair - 950 students and 50 employers. SWCA (Southwest Contractors Association) Youth Contractors forum - 80 students and 20 employers. Hiring events: 30 students, 22 employers, 175+ job interviews and 23 students with jobs upon graduation. Building buildings at schools in Clark County with an envision of a 40x80 building at HHS. Inside the building it will simulate what students would see on a job site - plumbing, electrical, hvac, framing - apprenticeships - modules set up on how the students would train. Superintendent Marshall commented that Jon is very dedicated and he has so much support for local schools.

B. HHS Athletic Trainer Update

Superintendent Marshall gave the board an update about the funding for an athletic trainer. Many school costs are not covered/ or covered fully with a prototypical funding model; like nurses, security, sports/clubs (what is not considered basic education). Aaron Villanueva also explained how funding works. Bond funds can only be used for buildings. Superintendent Marshall also shared what area schools are doing: Hudson Bay has a retired doctor, Ridgefield has a retired physical therapist, Woodland and Columbia River have a classified staff with experience. Longview has an athletic aide. One option HSD has is to hire an athletic aide and then contract with Vancouver Clinic. A question was asked if our school nurses could help out. Our nurses are currently not interested. Fire District 3 has been our trauma response. Superintendent Marshall informed the Board that he will meet with Aaron to see what all HSD's options are and get back to them at the upcoming Work Session. The current posting is for \$15,000. Anne-Elissa asked if it would be possible for students to start a club and learn how to tape and the basics of first aid. Teresa asked if the fire cadets would be able to help out. Superintendent Marshall will talk to high school principal Tim Fox about these ideas.

C. Budget Status Update

Aaron Villanueva gave the board a budget update.

D. Public Records Transparency Report

There is one open request from 23-24, that Julie Paso is still working on. There has been one new request this year & it has been completed.

E. WSSDA Policy Updates - 1st Reading

1. Policy 3432 - Emergencies - Essential - WSSDA has revised this policy based on [RCW 28A.320.125\(2\)\(i\)](#)
2. Policy 6690 - Contracting for Transportation Services - Discretionary - WSSDA has revised this policy based on [RCW 28A.160.250](#)

The Board had no questions on these policies, they will be on the next regular Board meeting Agenda as an Action item.

F. School Improvement Plans (SIP) Update

Superintendent Marshall explained that our schools (principals) are required to do this every year. Their presentations for this school year have been put on the calendar; starting in the Spring.

G. HSD Strategic Plan Update

Superintendent Marshall explained that HSD's current Strategic Plan is expiring. We will adopt a new plan in January 2025 (approx).

H. School Board Visits (10/18 Tour)

Superintendent Marshall asked the Board if they could attend a school tour in place of individual visits to the schools. If more than two Board members attend we will need to advertise/post it in the local paper. Anne-Elissa, Kat and Patrick all said they could attend the tour on October 18th.

I. HSD Facility Planning Update

Superintendent Marshall said that three community surveys have been completed. It became clear what the community would like to see happen. The committee will be

meeting again and should have a recommendation to the Board at the October Board meeting. The Board will need to approve/deny the recommendation.

J. Calendar at a Glance

The Board reviewed the calendar.

VI. Action Items

There were no action items tonight

VII. Adjournment

A. Next School Board Meeting

1. Work Session, October 14, 2024

B. Items for Next Agenda

WSSDA Press Release - Announce the Board members attending

C. Docusign Documents

D. Close of Meeting

Teresa VanNatta adjourned the meeting at: 7:52 p.m.

Steve Marshall

11/1/2024

Teresa VanNatta

10/31/2024

Superintendent, Steve Marshall

Date

Board Chair, Teresa VanNatta

Date