

Highland School District #203
District Office
Monday, February 3, 2025
Regular Board Meeting -7:30 a.m.

The **February 3, 2025, AM Regular Board Meeting** was convened by Chair David Barnes at 7:36 a.m. Those present also included board members Lupita Flores, and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mark Anderson, Director of Business & Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board members Carlos López was absent. David announced that the meeting is being recorded.

For Board appreciation month, HEA President Vanessa Williams brought fruit and coffee cake, and PSE President Melva St George brought Starbuck's beverages for everyone. These were very much appreciate by all.

1-Communication Check-in: Nothing to share.

2-District Water Action Plan Discussion: Francis: Explained that the district got a letter from the state that all school districts are being tested for lead in their water. They were here to test HSD in October, it took 2-3 days to test all our faucets and drinking fountains because MWC and TES were built when it was customary to install a sink with a drinking fountain in every classroom. Francis explained the limits and actions if a test shows a result higher than certain levels of parts per billion (ppb). Although our regular annual lead test has not shown a problem there were some faucets/fountains with test results higher than the limit and so the water was immediately turned off in those classrooms. The next step taken was to permanently remove the fountains from those classrooms and replace the faucets with non-metal fixtures. Now we will notify the state to retest. We are required to hold a public meeting to share this info and that will take place at our February PM meeting, at which time the Water Action Plan will be on the agenda for board approval. The info has been shared with the advisory teams emphasizing that the readings were a result of old fixtures and not the water itself. Electrical issue at MWC: The power has shut off a few times unexpectedly. Both Pacific Power and an electrician have been out to test and look for a cause, so far none has been found. Possible suggestions have been a power surge or a breaker malfunction. We will continue to search for a cause before trying random [and costly] fixes. The notice was in the newspaper for bids from contractors for the HS [HVAC] replacement project. We'll collect bids on the 27th.

3- Staffing and Budget Discussion: Mark: Next Monday will start preliminary discussions with district administrators to start staffing planning for next year. Should be able to share more concrete information with the Board at the March AM/Work Study session. Also, at that meeting there should be a draft of next year's school calendar for the Board to review. Mindy is taking over the district input side of the school calendar. It is expected to be similar to this year's calendar. The goal is to have budget numbers by the end of March or middle of April so we can adopt it early.

Francis left the meeting at 7:42 a.m.

4-New Curriculum Update: Mark: Mindy is at a bargaining workshop today. She is still finalizing some things with the science curriculum [decision], but Social Studies is done, and she is working with the administrators to make a plan for which ones will come up in the future.

5-Retired/Revised Policies: The Board would like more time to review the policies to be sure we are in compliance. Lupita moved to move the Retired/Revised Policies to the next meeting this month, Cindy 2nd; motion carried.

6-Open Board Position Review and Discussion: The board had reviewed the applications via the agenda but were given paper packets for further review. After discussing dates, the interviews will be on Friday, February 21, starting at 7:30 a.m., with a half hour interview and 15 minutes post interview discussion. Discussed and updated the interview questions.

7-Annual Superintendent Evaluation: The Board reviewed and updated each evaluation point. It was agreed upon, approved and signed.

The February 3, 2025, AM meeting adjourned at 8:08 a.m.

Chair

Secretary