

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Homewood-Flossmoor High School, 999 Kedzie Avenue, Flossmoor, Illinois

March 18, 2025

Mr. Pauling called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Board members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Mr. Anderson Mr. Riedel
Mrs. Hoereth Ms. Turnquest
Ms. Jackson Mr. Pauling
Mr. Legardy

The presence of a quorum was noted and the meeting declared duly convened. Superintendent Wakeley, Principal Alexander, Chief School Business Official Cook, Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development Director Hester, and Communications and Community Engagement Director Erdey were also in attendance for all or part of the meeting. Interim Human Resource Directors Gay and Kilrea were absent. Operations and Maintenance Director Patterson and Athletic Director Lyke were also in attendance.

Representatives of the Homewood Flossmoor Chronicle, HFEO and League of Women Voters were present, as well as, members of the public.

Public Participation. HFEO representative Dana Noble reported that the HFEO scholarship program is up and running. They have collected over \$5000 and are getting ready for candidates to apply.

League of Women Voters representative Sylvia Tufts announced that tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. at the Flossmoor Library they will be hosting a candidates forum. Candidates for various offices will be there, including mayoral, trustee, and school board candidates. More information is available on their website.

Mr. Anderson commented that he is excited that both the HFEO and League of Women Voters representatives provided updates and comments this evening. He thanked them for the information they shared. He also mentioned on his way in tonight he saw parks full of kids practicing baseball, as well as other parks with kids practicing, and this makes him very happy. Lastly, Mr. Anderson again encouraged community members who believe as he does regarding the 2nd amendment, to get involved with organizations for common sense gun laws.

Mr. Pauling extended his congratulations to Mrs. Erdey on the birth of her first grandchild. He also thanked the candidates running for the school board for their presence at tonight's meeting.

Consent Agenda. Mr. Pauling stated that our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedures, Robert's Rules and Bylaws, provide for a consent agenda listing for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all board members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member. Mr. Pauling asked if any board member requested any item on the consent agenda be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Mr. Anderson requested item 4.8, Low Enrollment Courses – General Education Courses at 14 students or below, be removed from the consent agenda.

Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. Legardy, that item 4.8, Low Enrollment Courses – General Education Courses at 14 students or below, be tabled until the next board meeting. Roll Call: Ayes - Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hoereth, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Riedel, Ms. Turnquest, Mr. Pauling. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hoereth moved, seconded by Mr. Legardy, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda that included:

Special Board Meeting Minutes, March 16, 2025
Regular Board Meeting Minutes, February 18, 2025
Annual Dismissal of Part-Time Teachers 2024-2025
Closed Meeting Minutes Remain Closed and Not Available for Public Inspection
Extended Field Trip – Scholastic Bowl Team – National Bee & Bowl
Extended Field Trip – HF Steppers – National Championship Step Show
Extended Field Trip – HF Steppers – Parkway District Youth Step Competition
IHSA Membership 2025-2026
Approval of Expenditures, \$4,031,771.46
Approval of Imprest Fund, \$54,670.50
Ratification of February, 2025, Payroll, \$3,345,166.10
Resignation, Michelle Meadows, Director of Career Pathways and Workforce Development, effective June 30, 2025
Resignation, Dana Palermo, 504 Coordinator, effective June 2, 2025
Resignation, Charlie McDermott, Fine Arts Teacher, effective June 2, 2025
Extra Responsibility Contracts – Athletics, \$16,323.38

Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Hoereth, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Riedel, Ms. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Pauling.
Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mr. Pauling noted the three resignations on the consent agenda, wishing the individuals luck in their future endeavors, and thanking them for their service to the district.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Girls Flag Football. Mr. Legardy moved, seconded by Mr. Riedel, that the Board of Education approve the addition of Girls Flag Football as a competitive sport, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, as recommended by the Athletic Director and the Superintendent. Dr. Wakeley commented that this year was the first year the IHSA approved girls flag football as a competitive sport, adding that it is a tremendous opportunity that will be included in the athletic offerings for fall. Mr. Lyke, Athletic Director, added that the interest in the sport is gaining momentum, noting there was interest shown and questions asked at the Principal's Advisory Committee meetings he attended. He believes it will be a successful program, for which he is excited. Mrs. Hoereth commented that she is excited to bring on another sport but asked where practices and games will take place, and what other sports will be impacted. Mr. Lyke responded that from a practice perspective they can add 100 yard fields in the grass. For competition, he believes they will play either at the stadium or North field. Mr. Legardy asked if they are anticipating girls field hockey to be on its way out. Mr. Lyke stated he believed they are on a decline with girls field hockey and he is unsure about its future. Roll Call: Ayes - Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Riedel, Ms. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Pauling. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Abatement of the 2024 Refund Levy. Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. Riedel, that the Board of Education approve the resolution to abate property taxes in the amount of \$616,404 due to a 2024 levy adjustment for property tax refunds resulting from certificate of error applications and Property Tax Appeal Board decisions, as recommended by the Finance Committee, the Chief School Business Official, and the Superintendent. Dr. Cook noted that the abatement provides an opportunity to give some tax relief to the local taxing body, bringing the total to a little more than \$5.8 million that has been abated. Mr. Legardy commented that this is something that should be communicated

out to the community. Mr. Anderson mentioned that it is also voluntary on behalf of the school. Roll Call: Ayes - Mr. Legardy, Mr. Riedel, Ms. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hoereth, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Pauling. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Mr. Legardy moved, seconded by Ms. Turnquest, that the Board of Education be adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

President

Vice-President/Secretary