

MINUTES OF HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

HILLSDALE BOARD OFFICE ENTRYWAY

7:00 PM

HILLSDALE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION — September 15, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. The Hillsdale Local Board of Education Regular Board Meeting was called to order by President Vella King at 7:00 P.M. in the Hillsdale Board Office Entryway. Roll call was taken by Treasurer Lesa Deter with the following Board members present: Jon Burkholder, Vella King, Melinda Turk and Keith Yeater. Steve Smith was absent.

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mrs. King recognized the visitors: Tiffany Miller, Jen Seman, Isabella Simmons, Emma Miller and Kyle Wissel

- A. Falcon Spotlight
 1. Student Achievement Update - Ms. Turk
 2. Report - Heartland Technical Education Center - Mr. Smith was absent
 3. FFA - Isabella Simmons and Emma Miller
 - Regular meeting was held 9/8/25 students ate Chipotle bowls and played kickball on the football field
 - Members still project for the fair included Corn, SoyBeans, Veggies, Photography and Hay
 - Monthly meetings are held before school to discuss the wellness of the chapter and what will make it better. This month they discussed an FFA sale, next meeting, and national convention
 4. Any Additional Public Participation related to agenda items - no participation

ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSION ITEM:

- A. Lesa Deter
 - OSBA Annual Conference/Hotel - will need to reserve 3 rooms
 - Arbitrage Rebate for Building Project
 - Reviewed monthly financials
- B. Catherine Trevathan
 - Food Service Update/Jody Raubenolt

#25-110 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND ANY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to approve the consent agenda and Additions/Deletions for the Regular September 15, 2025 Board of Education Meeting.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-111 TREASURER'S CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Turk to approve the Treasurer Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of the August 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
- B. Approval of the August 2025 Financial Reports as presented.
- C. Approval of the following donations:
 - For PK-4 Library
 - \$150.00 Carly Mowry (books)
 - For Hillsdale FunFest:
 - \$350.00 Heffelfinger Meats (hot dogs)
 - For STEAM Class
 - \$2,000.00 Anonymous (beads, pipe cleaners & jewelry wire)
- D. Amend the Permanent Appropriation and the official Certificate of Estimated Resources. (see attached)
- E. Approval of the Five-Year Forecast as presented.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-112 SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Burkholder, seconded by Yeater, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda

- A. Accept the resignation of Uwe Locher as Math Teacher, for the purpose of retirement effective July 31, 2026.
- B. Approval to place the following on the negotiated master salary schedule due to advance training effective 2025-26 school year:
 - Brooke Fetzer (Rush) - Masters +40
 - Keara Copenhaver - Masters +30
 - Kyle Wissel - Masters +30
 - Regina Hickey - Masters +20
 - Shawn Weiler - Masters +20
 - Brittany James - Masters + 10
 - Rebecca Case - Bachelors +20
 - Katie Gibson - Bachelors + 10
- C. Accept the following resignations from Supplemental Contracts:
 - Todd Miller - Schools without Failures - Gr. 7-8, effective September 5, 2025

- D. Approve the following to Supplemental Contracts effective 2025/26 school year/season:
- Elizabeth Kohler - Chess Club - Classification I; Experience 0
- E. Accept the resignation of Emily Walker as Co 7 & 8 Volleyball effective 2025-26 school year/season.
- F. Amend the contract of Carly Black to reflect 7 & 8 Volleyball Coach from Co 7 & 8 Volleyball Coach effective 2025-26 school year.
- G. Approve the following Sports Volunteers:
Emily Walker - 7 & 8 Volleyball
- H. Approve the following Classroom/Event Volunteers:
Hannah Basch
Allison Henderson
Adrienne Qualls
Jesse Power
Sandra Sasser
Kimberly Starkey
Evelyn Woodlee
- I. Approve the following to the Classified Substitute List for 2025-26 school year:
Julia Blamer, Sandra Sasser
- J. Approve Darlene Schuck as the PK-6 Fall Fundraiser Coordinator for the 2025-26 School Year at a rate of \$300.00 plus benefits to be paid from the Hillsdale ES Principal Support Fund 018.8903.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

Treasurer's New Business

#25-113 APPROVE RESOLUTION

- A. Moved by Burkholder, seconded by Yeater, to Approve the following Resolution:

Recognizing Outside Organizations

WHEREAS, the Hillsdale Local School District Board of Education values the involvement and contributions of community organizations that provide support to our students, staff and programs; and

WHEREAS, these organizations play a vital role in enhancing the educational, extracurricular, and community experiences of Hillsdale students; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to formally recognize the following organizations for their ongoing commitment and partnership with the District in accordance with Board Policy KMA - *Relations with Support Organizations*:

- Hillsdale Athletic Boosters
- Hillsdale Academic Boosters
- Hillsdale Post Prom Parents
- Hillsdale Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Hillsdale FFA Alumni
- Hillsdale Performing Arts Booster Club

WHEREAS, the Board also wishes to extend coverage under the Board of Education's liability insurance to the above-named organizations during the 2025-26 insurance policy year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hillsdale Local School District Board of Education does hereby recognize the above-named organizations as official outside support organizations of the district, and expresses its gratitude for their dedication, service, and positive impact on the students and community of Hillsdale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-named organizations are recognized as Support Groups of the School District for liability insurance and other purposes, and the Board hereby directs the Treasurer to send a signed copy of this Resolution to the Board's insurance company.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-named organizations are hereby approved to receive general liability coverage under the Board of Education's liability insurance policy for the 2025-26 insurance policy year, for which they will each reimburse the Board for the cost of such insurance upon written notification from the Treasurer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a condition of remaining a recognized Support Organization, the above-named organizations shall comply with applicable Board policies and accompanying regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby found and determined that all formal action of the Board of Education concerning and/or relating to the adoption of the Resolution was taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-114 META RESOLUTION

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder, to approve the following Resolution:

META Solutions Cooperative Advertising and Receiving Bids for School Bus Chassis and Bodies/Vans.

WHEREAS, the Hillsdale School Board of Education wishes to advertise and receive bids for the purchase of one (1) conventional School Bus and/or Van.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Hillsdale School Board of Education wishes to participate and authorize META Solutions (META) to advertise and receive bids on said Board's behalf as per the specifications submitted for the cooperative purchase of.
This resolution does not obligate the district to purchase the bus or van.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

Superintendent's New Business

#25-115 APPROVE ENERGY OPTIMIZERS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to approve the following Resolution:

Addition of a Chiller

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH ENERGY OPTIMIZERS, USA, LLC FOR THE PK-12CHILLER PROJECT PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 167.081 FOR AGREEMENTS PROCURED THROUGH A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Superintendent and Treasurer recommend that the Board authorize an agreement with Energy Optimizers, USA, LLC ("Energy Optimizers") for the PK-12 Chiller Project (the "Project") pursuant to R.C. 167.081 for agreements procured through a regional council of governments.
Rationale:

1. The District has identified a need for the Project, which generally will consist of several improvements to the chilled water portion of its HVAC system at the PK-12 Building, including the installation of an additional chiller, to improve the capacity, redundancy, and long-term reliability of that portion of the HVAC system while at the same time providing maintenance savings.
2. R.C. 167.081 allows a school district to participate in a construction agreement of a regional council of governments (a "COG") without the need to engage in competitive bidding or other competitive selection methods. Specifically, R.C. 167.081 states that a COG may enter into an agreement that establishes a unit price for, and provides upon a per unit basis, materials, labor, services, overhead, profit, and associated expenses for the repair, enlargement, improvement, or demolition of a building or structure if the agreement is awarded pursuant to a competitive bidding procedure of a public entity that is a member of the COG or a competitive bidding procedure of a statewide or multistate consortium of which the COG is a member.
3. The Board is a member of the Meta Solutions ("META"). META is a COG established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. META is a member of the Ohio Council of Educational

Purchasing Consortia ("OCEPC"), which is also a COG established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. META is a member of OCEPC. As a result of the Board's membership in META and META's membership in OCEPC, the Board may participate in contracts procured by OCEPC pursuant to R.C. 167.081 by virtue of the Board's membership in META.

4. OCEPC has procured and entered into an agreement with Energy Optimizers to perform HVAC project management services and services to provide maintenance savings among others.

5. Energy Optimizers is an experienced contractor and has provided a proposal for the Project in the amount of \$1,130,280.00. Energy Optimizers will be required to verify that its proposed pricing is based on unit pricing established by its agreement with OCEPC in accordance with R.C. 167.081 and that the scope of its agreement with OCEPC allows for the work required for the Project ("Pricing and Scope Verification").

6. The Superintendent and Treasurer request authorization, working with other administrators and legal counsel, to negotiate and execute an agreement with Energy Optimizers for the Project in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,130,280.00 ("Contract Sum") at the conclusion of satisfactory negotiations and Pricing and Scope Verification on behalf of the Board.

7. The Superintendent and Treasurer also request authority to enter into change orders on behalf of the Board in a total amount not to exceed 15% of the Contract Sum. Change orders in excess of that amount, individually or in the aggregate, will be brought to the Board for its approval.

The Hillsdale Local School District Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. Based upon the information provided and exercising the authority given in R.C. 167.081, the Board authorizes the procurement of Energy Optimizers for the Project without the need to engage in competitive bidding upon satisfactory conclusion of Pricing and Scope Verification.

2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer, working with other administrators and legal counsel, to negotiate and execute an agreement with Energy Optimizers for the Project in an amount not-to-exceed the Contract Sum upon conclusion of satisfactory negotiations and Pricing and Scope Verification on behalf of the Board and to sign any related documentation consistent with the intent of this resolution.

3. The Board further authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to sign change orders related to the Project in a total amount not to exceed 15% of the Contract Sum; should a change order exceed this amount individually or in the aggregate of change orders for the work, the change order will be brought to the Board for consideration prior to the work associated with the change order being performed.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-116 APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT

Moved by Turk, seconded by Burkholder to approve a Lease Agreement for Agricultural Land for the purposes of Agricultural education and farming as part of the FFA Program.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-117 APPROVE FIRST READING

Moved by Burkholder, seconded by Yeater to approve a First Reading of the following Policies:

GBK - No Tobacco Use on District Property by Staff Members

JFCG- Tobacco Use by Students

KGC- No Tobacco Use on District Property

EEAE-R - Alternative Transportation Procedure for Extracurricular Events

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-118 APPROVE FIRST READING TO RESCIND

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Turk to approve to waive the First Reading and approve to rescind the following Policy:

JED-R - Student Absences and Excuses

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-119 APPROVE FIRST READING ON POLICIES

Moved by Burkholder, seconded by Turk to approve to waive the First Reading and approve the following Policies:

JED- Student Absences and Excuses

JFCJ- Weapons in the School

JECE- Student Withdrawal from School

JEDA- Truancy

DJF-R- Purchasing Procedures

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-120 APPROVE FFA TRIP TO ITALY AND FRANCE

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to approve an FFA trip to Italy and France, Summer 2027 for students and staff through Global Travel Educational Tours at no cost to the Board.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-121 APPROVE 2 YR RADIO CONTRACT

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to approve a Two (2) Year Managed Services Program Agreement with vendor - School -Radio.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-122 APPROVE SNOW REMOVAL

Moved by Turk, seconded by Burkholder to approve the estimate of JC Lawncare & Son, LLC for Snow Removal/Salting for 2025-26 school year.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-123 APPROVE NOVELS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by King to approve the following novels: *The Broken Wish, Poor Unfortunate Souls, Fairest of All, The Best Within, Feather Flame, Rebel Rose, and the Lightning Thief.*

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.

#25-124 APPROVE RAISING THE HORSEMAN NOVEL

Moved by Yeater, seconded by King to approve the novel *Raising the Horseman*

Burkholder, Nay; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, nay; Yeater, aye;. Motion fails 2-2.

#25-125 APPROVE RAISING THE LORE NOVEL

Moved by Yeater, seconded by King to approve the novel *Lore*

Burkholder, Nay; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, nay; Yeater, nay;. Motion fails 3-1

Public Participation for Non-Agenda Items:

Kyle Wissel, serving as the HEA representative, welcomed the Board back for the start of the new school year and presented each member with a chocolate bar. He also announced that a "Meet the Candidate" event will be held in the auditorium on October 22nd.

Discussion/Information Items from the board:


- A. Items from the Board: No new legislation updates.
- B. Five Year Forecast was presented

#25-126 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:56 P.M.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, absent; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 4-0.


BOARD PRESIDENT


TREASURER