

Highland School District #203
Marcus Whitman Cowiche
Monday, November 3, 2025

Regular Board Meeting -7:30 a.m.

The **November 3, 2025, AM Regular Board Meeting** was convened by Vice Chair Lupita Flores at 7:33 a.m. Those present also included board members Kerry Jones (in at 7:37), Carlos López, and Cindy Reed, Superintendent Mindy Schultz, Director of Business & Operations Francis Badu, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board member David Barnes was excused. Lupita announced that the meeting is being recorded.

II. Business:

A. Communication Check-In: None

B. MWC Admin Presentation: MWC Principal Andrea Wickenhagen joined the meeting at 7:46 and left at 7:54. She shared the MWC math goal for the year, aligned with the district's goal, which is focusing mainly on supporting students with increasing math fluency and feeling comfortable with numbers. It starts with changing a student's viewpoint on how they experience math, beginning in the classroom with building their confidence and comfortability. Andi shared and explained a Plan-Do-Study-Act Planning Template that they are using within the MTSS framework. The SIT team will identify goals and areas of need, each grade level will address the math standard for that level, and the final goal is for each grade level to reach 70% proficiency in math fluency. They have built in a scheduled math-center time in each class to incorporate intervention. First and second grade teachers still use the STAR Assessment for the annual benchmark assessment and they monitor progress each month to watch student progress for where they are falling in relation to end-of-the-year expectations. IXL math is an online tool used for practice and Andi would like MWC teachers to also use its diagnostic tools which are easier to use to be able to target and address where students need help. Next school year all buildings will use the IXL program's diagnostics/benchmark level math tool as well as the math practice games. Some of our high school ELA scores were the highest in the valley after five-six years of utilizing the MTSS reading system.

C. Capital Projects Update: Francis: The HHS HVAC upgrade project is pretty much wrapped up. The units last 15-20 years. Tieton had some units that were replaced about three years ago that were 20 years old and some that need to be replaced such as the TES gym unit that heats but no longer cools. We'll be looking at those and at the MWC geothermal system. The next capital project will be the track as it must be repaired or replaced as it is unsafe and is used for both sports and PE. The field is under consideration so coaches and parents [of students] that use the field are meeting to discuss if there are issues with the field, what they are and what they'd like to see (fact finding). HHS Principal Jeremy Gillespie and HHS AD/Dean of Students Curtis Borland will present the results at the December AM meeting. The surface of the tennis courts is also in poor shape but is more expensive to fix or replace. Some cracks were filled and the courts were OK for practices this past season. With a little more repair work they may be acceptable to play matches on them.

C. Budget Status Update: Francis: Not much has changed. We will have the financial reports at the PM meeting

D. Building Consolidation Discussion and Planning: Mindy: There hasn't been much more done since the budget is OK [at the moment] but we will continue watching it closely. When building consolidation was thought to be in a year, some minor improvements were put off but now that consolidation may be four years down the road, we will have internal conversations about what we need to do now, such as a water system [drinking fountain] in the first hall at MWC, to maintain the building(s) for the four years. Discussed community feedback about consolidating: There was a little

bit when consolidating was erroneously thought to be a done deal but none since Mindy posted a message about it being postponed. The community seems unaware of the declining enrollment that has created the need to discuss consolidating as one option for conserving finances. All of the new housing in Tieton has not increased enrollment.

III. Closing Items

There were no final questions nor comments.

The November 3, 2025, AM meeting was adjourned at 8:03 a.m.

Chair

Secretary