

MINUTES OF HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

HILLSDALE BOARD OFFICE ENTRYWAY

7:00 PM

HILLSDALE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION — December 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, Steve Smith, Melinda Turk (arrived at 7:05) and Keith Yeater.

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. King read the Mission Statement and Vision Statement.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mrs. King recognized the visitors: Judy Weaver, Lorin Weaver, Steve Dickerson, Gloria Arnholt, Reed Twining, Laney Meek, Lindsay Bowen, Jennifer Seman, and Mark Hoffman.

- A. Falcon Spotlight
 - 1. Student Achievement Update - Ms. Turk
 - 2. Report - Heartland Technical Education Center - Mr. Smith
 - New Signage on front of Building
 - Parade Float
 - Teachers will be coming in over Christmas Break to move into classrooms.
 - Building Project update
 - 3. FFA - Reed Twining and Laney Meek presented to the Board

FFA Chapter Highlights

- Parli Contest Team placed Second
 - Attended Leadership night at OSU
 - Fruit sale was successful
 - Thanks to Jillian Cauger for planning the Santa Breakfast
 - Upcoming events include Christmas at the Equator, Food Fellowship Ministry, Food Science contest, Evaluation of State Degrees, American Degrees, and officer books scheduled for the end of January
- 4. Any Additional Public Participation related to agenda items - no participation

ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSION ITEM:

A. Lesa Deter

- Rover update:
 - Conference call held with Becky Princehorn.
Rover filed a new case on November 10, 2025, contesting its assessed valuation for post-2019 tax years on Ohio and U.S. constitutional grounds.
 - Uncertainty remains regarding collection of back taxes, complicating future financial forecasts.
- Jefferson Health Plan update:
 - Rising medical costs and claims caused the self-insurance fund to go negative in December for the November settlement.
 - Working closely with Jefferson Health Plan to recover; minimum balance should be \$409,000.
 - High claims activity indicates another large increase in premiums may occur in June 2026.
- Audit update:
 - State Auditors are still gathering and reviewing District data.
 - GAAP audit completed at the end of November.
 - Extra auditing requirements triggered due to Jefferson Health Plan actuarial
 - report projecting high claims.

B. Catherine Trevathan

- Formal thank-you extended to Vella King for her years of service to the Board. Steve Dickerson attended and spoke, highlighting her dedication and contributions.
- Tom Williams presented his Principal's Report, including an overview of the building leadership team and its standing meeting schedule at the beginning of each month. He also outlined the monthly committee structure: LPDC meetings during the second week of the month; Academic Council and Threat Assessment meetings during the third week; and PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) team meetings during the final week of the month.
- Principal Tim Keib presented information regarding safety drills and ongoing safety practices. He also discussed efforts to ensure students in grades 7–12 feel

included by encouraging participation in school clubs. Clubs available on campus include the Kindness Club, Chess Club, Drama Club, History Club, FCF, and Athletic Leadership Council.

#25-154 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND ANY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

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

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-155 TREASURER'S CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Smith, seconded by Burkholder to approve the Treasurer Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of the November 24, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
- B. Approval of the November 2025 Financial Reports as presented.
- C. Approval of the following donations:

\$1,000.00 from Hayesville AmVets Terry Schaub Post 1969 to Athletic Department - Fund 300-950A to be used for Football Team - State Tournament Team Dinner.

\$500.00 from Key Bank/Tim Murawski - to the Athletic Department (to be used for the Hillsdale Softball Program).

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-156 SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A.. Approval to place the following on the negotiated master salary schedule due to advanced training effective second semester, 2025-26 school year:

Katelyn Reynolds - Masters

- B. Approve the following to Pupil Activity Contracts effective 2025-26 school year/season:

John Griffith - 7 & 8 Wrestling Coach - Classification G; Experience 3

- C. Approve the following Volunteer Coaches:
Debbie Knapic - Volunteer Gymnastics Coach
- D. Approve the following Classroom/Event Volunteers:
Jody Radcliffe
- E. Approve the following to the Classified Substitute List for 2025-26 school year:
Jody Radcliffe
- F. Accept the resignation of Ryleigh Honaker as Assistant Volleyball Coach effective end of 2025-26 school year/season.
- G. Second Reading and Approval of the 2027-2028 Hillsdale Local Schools Calendar.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

Treasurer's New Business

#25-157 INVENTORY

- A. Moved by Smith, seconded by Yeater, to approve the removal from inventory and sell or dispose of the following school vehicles:

2010 Jeep Patriot
2014 Dodge Van (handicap)
Bus 1
Bus 11

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-158 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Smith, to approve the the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS

FUND 003 – PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND

WHEREAS, the Hillsdale Local School District Board of Education adopted the Fiscal Year 2026 Permanent Appropriations on September 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that additional appropriations are necessary in Fund 003 – Permanent Improvement Fund to support planned capital expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer has certified that the proposed amendment is within available resources and in compliance with Ohio Revised Code requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Hillsdale Local School District that the Fiscal Year 2026 Permanent Appropriations be amended as follows:

- **Increase Fund 003 – Permanent Improvement Fund appropriations by \$200,000.00.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to update the district's official appropriations ledger and submit any required filings to the County Auditor and other applicable agencies.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

Superintendent's New Business

#25-159 THOMAS SELVAGE RETIREMENT

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Turk, to approve the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Thomas Selvage, as teacher and from all supplementals effective May 31, 2026 and to approve the following Resolution:

***WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received notice of the intended retirement of Thomas Selvage, effective May 31, 2026; and*

***WHEREAS**, in his notice of retirement Thomas Selvage expressed an interest in returning to the District in the same position as a teacher that he currently holds;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation / retirement of Thomas Selvage, effective May 31, 2026; and*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education directs the Treasurer, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3307.353 [or 3309.345, to issue a Public Notice stating that Thomas Selvage, currently employed with the District as a teacher, will be retired and is seeking employment with the District in such position following retirement, and as such the Board, in accordance with state law, will hold a public hearing on the issue of Thomas Selvage being employed with the District at 7:00 PM on*

February 16, 2026, at Hillsdale Local Schools. Said Public Notice should appear at least once in the "Legal Notices" section of a newspaper of general circulation in the County and be included in any general notice of the Board meeting at which the hearing is going to be held.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-160 APPROVE DOCUMENTS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Smith, to approve the following documents:

- Philosophy of Education
- Board of Education Goals

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-161 ALUMNI BANQUETS

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder, to approve the payment by the Hillsdale Local Schools Board of Education for the custodian(s) and cook(s) necessary to support the Jeromesville, Hayesville and Hillsdale Alumni Banquets and the Three Score & 10 Banquet in 2026, with the understanding that beginning in 2027, these costs will be assumed and paid by the respective groups.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-162 PARTICIPATION IN SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVISORY

Moved by Turk, seconded by Smith, to approve the participation in the Small School District Advisory Network for the calendar year ending December 31, 2026.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-163 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Moved by King, seconded by Smith, to approve Keith Yeater to serve as President Pro Tempore and preside over the January 2026 Organizational Meeting until a new President is elected for 2026.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.

Public Participation for Non-Agenda Items:

None

Discussion/Information Items from the board:

A. Items from the Board: Nothing to report

#25-164 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder to go into Executive Session at 8:05 P.M. for the purpose to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law, federal rules or state statutes (ORC 121.22). There will be no action following Executive Session.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-165 REGULAR SESSION

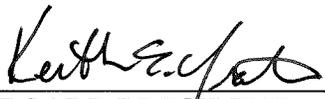
Moved by Yeater, seconded by Burkholder, to resume Regular Board Meeting at 9:06 P.M.

Burkholder, Aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

#25-166 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Yeater, seconded by Smith to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:07 P.M.

Burkholder, aye; King, aye; Smith, aye; Turk, aye; Yeater, aye;. Motion passes 5-0.



BOARD PRESIDENT



TREASURER

