SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HOLMEN
SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Monday, December 8, 2025 5:00 p.m.
Frederic D. Frick Administrative Center
Boardroom
1019 McHugh Road
Holmen, Wisconsin 54636

01. CALL TO ORDER

02. ROLL CALL & NOTICE OF QUORUM

Committee members present were Bridget Todd-Robbins, Lindsay Nied, Dr. Kristin Mueller, Heidi Feuerhelm, Jennifer Gimmer, Caitlin Leary, Mark Lee, Jennifer Lulloff, Daniel Ott, Wayne Sackett, Julie Shea, and Hallie Weibel. Absent were Martha Hauser Hage, Abigail Holthe, Kelly Remus, and Anita Jagodzinski. Also present was Jennifer Dieck and Erin Liljedahl.

03. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consensus.

04. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one addressed the committee.

05. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING NOTES

5.1 October 20, 2025 Excellence in Education Committee Notes

The October 20, 2025 Excellence in Education Committee Notes were approved by consensus.

06. FAMILY LIAISON TEAM REVIEW & INPUT

Jennifer Gimmer reviewed a draft of an outline for the Holmen Community and Family Partnership Network (Liaison Team). There are some aspects of the draft that mirror the format of the Hate & Bias Response Team.

The proposed liaison team would be run independent of the school district and this committee. In explaining the reasoning for this, Jennifer explained that the purpose of the liaison team is to reach groups and individuals that feel marginalized, including by the school community, so keeping it independent of the school would be more inclusive. The liaison team would report to the E in E Committee periodically, or when asked, so the committee could provide logistical support, but the committee would not be directly involved with the liaison team.

A challenge of the liaison team not functioning as a school-based entity is that it would rely on community volunteers to operate. It would be important to identify an appropriate person to lead the liaison team and serve as a representative for the many groups the committee is trying to reach. Suggestions included a graduate student in a social work-type field of study, a District retiree with a strong history in volunteering, or an alum.

The school community is not reaching all groups because not all groups and individuals are connected to the school. The liaison team would help by reaching out to families to make it more inclusive and inviting.

The operating model of the liaison team could take a variety of forms, but it would not handle specific student information or other confidential information. Furthermore, it would not speak on behalf of the District. It could provide a point of contact at the District when it encounters someone that needs assistance with a specific topic. The liaison team could be one group or an individual group for each school.

To help reduce barriers for attending liaison team meetings and events, it would be helpful to provide free childcare and meals for those attending. The committee should consider grants, local foundations (HACC, LACF, Rotary, etc), and community partnerships to assist with this.

Suggestions include working with elementary school PTO/PTG's and hosting a table during back to school registration. The PTO/PTG could connect new families with the needed resources. The list of resources would include all available resources (universal system of support) since the independent group would not have confidential information about the family to know of specialized resources needed. New families would include 4K families.

New families are a great starting point, but it will be more difficult to determine how to identify and connect with marginalized families. One suggestion is to hold workshops if there is a known need or topic to be addressed and specifically invite groups and individuals (have counselors and staff reach out to them to share information).

There are many groups already in the community that provide resources to families such as the YWCA. The liaison team would put those in need of assistance in contact with the appropriate resource. Resources considered included: YWCA, La Crosse County social work to help with legal and discipline issues, IEP assistance, the Holmen Area Community Center intergenerational groups and classes, Love and Logic Classes, Mommy and Me group. Dr. Mueller mentioned that she would look into partnership agreements with the YMCA and BGC as they may involve Emplify for some resources.

In regards to IEP assistance, the liaison team could put a family in contact with another parent/guardian that has also gone through the process. The advocate could help explain the jargon, answer some of the general process questions, and help with guiding them to know what questions to ask/letting them know what questions they can ask.

Other feedback provided included that elimination of the word "parent" from the liaison team is a positive. It is more encompassing and inclusive. All committee members agree on the purpose of the Liaison Team, but now need to determine the operating model that best fits. The Liaison Team will start small and expand from there. The Elementary PTO/PTG's is a great starting point for the Liaison Team.

07. CLARIFY/REVIEW ACTIONS & DISCUSSION

Committee members identified next steps including,

- Committee members will explore their areas of expertise and connections and provide feedback on the Liaison Team plan and needs. Feedback should be sent to Stacy Lockington.
- Committee members will bring back feedback to the February Excellence in Education Committee meeting.

08. ADJOURNMENT

The December 8, 2025 Excellence in Education Committee meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.