

Highland School District #203
HMS/HHS Library
Tuesday, February 17 , 2026

The **February 17, 2026, Regular Board Meeting** was called to order by Chair Lupita Flores at 7:00 pm. She reminded those present that the meeting is being recorded.

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Present:** Other Board members Carlos López, and Cindy Reed, Board Member -Elect Craig Chronister, Superintendent Mindy Schultz, Director of Business & Operations Francis Badu, MWC Teachers Lisa Biddick and Bree Hoffee, and Recording Secretary Julie Notman. Board member Kerry Jones was absent.
- C. Flag Salute** was led by Cindy.
- D. Oath of Office:** Mindy introduced Craig Chronister as the newly appointed board member. Craig read his Oath of Office and was welcomed to the board with a round of applause.
- D. Approval of Minutes:** There were no questions about the minutes. Carlos moved and Cindy 2nd to approve the January 5, 2026, AM Board Meeting Minutes and the January 20, 2026, PM Meeting Minutes as presented; motion carried.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Public Comment:** Bree Hoffee questioned the Board about intersession, funding, and next year's instructional calendar. Lupita, Cindy, and Superintendent Schultz responded that the decision to have intersession is not taken lightly, is not funded with Basic Ed funds but program funds and costs a very small percentage of those funds, and is supported by the community as shown in community surveys and student data which details academic benefits. Mrs. Hoffee was invited to meet with Superintendent Schultz to review the data and funding information.
- B. Admin Board Reports:** The Board members had read the reports, there were no questions nor comments. If any, contact the administrator.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda

New: 1821 Standards for Individual School Directors
Revised: 1111 Oath of Office
5011 Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited
6220 Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements
6240 Food & Beverage Consumption

There were no questions about the policies. Cindy moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, Carlos 2nd; motion carried.

B. 2nd Reading of New and Revised Policies:

New: 4110 Citizen Advisory Committees and Task Force
Revised: 2106 Program Compliance
2108 Learning Assistance Program

There were no questions, comments, nor concerns about these policies. They will move to the 3rd Reading/Consent Agenda in March.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. 1st Reading of New and/or Revised Policies

New:

Revised: 3420 Anaphylaxis Prevention

There were no questions about the policy. It will move to the 2nd Reading in March.

B. Budget Status /Enrollment and Operations Report: Francis: The GF was at \$1.23M compared to last year's \$1.77M so it is tracking very close to last year at this time. CP is at \$1.3M. We have some funds to close out the HVAC project and anticipate \$700K for the track, then we will consider other projects. The new bus is due to arrive soon so the Transportation balance of \$276K will go down. It may be a couple of years before we can buy the next one. Enrollment: The Head Count was 945, one more enrolled than withdrawn. We budgeted for 934 FTE and our actual is 927 so seven below, last year we were 34 behind at this point. FTEs generate about \$10k each. We will be down about 30-31 kinders, so between the losses in the past couple years, this year and projections for next year, we will be down about 100 students overall. Our drop in enrollment matches the pattern across the state. We are starting to look at next year's budget.

C. Personnel Report: Mindy: The February report shows the change in AD for next school year, a couple of [academic position] openings and most of the other changes and postings are in Extra-Curricular, including those to address the MS Soccer league season changes. We finally have a Freshman Class Advisor for the rest of the year. Cindy moved to approve the February 17, 2026, Personnel Report as presented, Carlos 2nd; motion carried.

D. Legislative Report: Cindy: Haven't heard much. Mindy explained that the reporting has changed to a summary and podcast but there hasn't been a lot of talk about education, everything is at a maintenance level, anything extra, such as TK and Dual Credit, they are cutting.

V. FINANCE

A. Payment of Bills-General, ASB, Capital Projects, and Payroll: There were no questions nor comments: Carlos moved, Cindy 2nd to approve payment of the bills as presented; motion carried.

- **General Fund bills** for \$205,133.99 with warrants 80541 through 80623.
- **ASB Fund bills** for \$5,673.77 with warrants 7295 through 7301.
- **Capital Project bills** for \$44,213.77 with warrants 798 through 798.
- **Payroll Fund bills** for \$250,453.13 with warrants 80624 through 80637 and \$967,394.57 by direct deposit.

VI. CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Lupita reviewed upcoming dates. All present are available for the board meetings on March 2 and 17.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lupita Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Chair

Secretary