

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mr. Dan Petek, President, at 7:00 P.M. in the Highland High School Media Center.

Roll Call: Mrs. Thomas, present; Dr. Christopher, present; Mr. Kelly, present; Mr. Houska; present; Mr. Petek, present.

The next Meeting will be held on February 28, 2011 in the Highland High School Media Center at 7:00 P.M.

ADDITION(S), CORRECTION(S) AND/OR DELETION(S) TO THE AGENDA

None

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 11-01-13

Dr. Christopher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 13, 2010, as presented.

Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS 11-01-14

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the December 2010 Financial Reports, as presented.

Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2011 APPROPRIATIONS – ADDENDUM #I 11-01-15

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education amend the Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations, as presented in Addendum # I.

Mr. Kelly, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER'S AGENDA ITEMS

LEVY DISCUSSION

Using the current five year forecast as a base for the analysis, the Board reviewed three property tax levy options. All of the scenarios presented incorporated an additional estimated 15% reduction in funding from the State beginning in Fiscal Year 2012. This estimated 15% reduction is in addition to the approximate 10% reduction already incorporated in the current five year forecast due to the loss of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (i.e. Federal Stimulus money) beginning in Fiscal Year 2012. The levy options reviewed were as follows:

Option 1 - \$3,962,700 Emergency Levy (5.9 mill equivalent) – similar to August 2010 ballot

Option 2 - \$4,634,300 Emergency Levy (6.9 mill equivalent)

Option 3 - \$5,305,900 Emergency Levy (7.9 mill equivalent)

It was noted that the Financial Advisory Panel favored option 2. After a lengthy discussion, the Board concurred that the \$4,634,300 Emergency Levy appeared to be the best course of action for the District at this time. With the passage of this levy, deficit spending is reduced; however, the levy alone does not guarantee solvency throughout the forecast period. Depending upon the depth of State funding cuts and the general state of the economy, the District could be back on the ballot as early as calendar year 2013. Mr. Kelly noted that the District has extended levy cycles in the past and hopes to continue to do so in the future. It is important to note that the revenues generated from this levy remain fixed throughout its duration because it is an Emergency Levy (or fixed sum levy).

Mrs. Aukerman went over the results of the community survey as they related to the topic of income tax versus property tax. Discussion was held regarding an earned income tax, and the Board decided to further explore the possibilities of an earned income tax scenario in the future.

A brief question and answer period followed.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION DETERMINING TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE HIGHLAND LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF AN ADDITIONAL TAX LEVY – ADDENDUM #II 11-01-16

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Christopher, that the Board of Education adopt a Resolution Determining to Submit to the Electors of the Highland Local School District the question of an Additional Tax Levy, pursuant to Sections 5705.194 to 5705.197 of the Revised Code, as presented in Addendum #II.

Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COUNTY COLLABORATION EFFORTS - DISCUSSION

Mrs. Thomas explained this effort started in September 2010 for all Medina County Schools Boards of Education and is headed up by the Medina County ESC. The idea is to examine all district calendars, curriculums, purchasing practices and discover areas where districts can take advantage of similarities to save our taxpayer's money, while maintaining a high level of education.

Mrs. Thomas said for the first time, this effort has resulted in the Medina County Schools aligning all school calendars, which will take affect for the 2012-13 school year.

Based on meetings she has attended, she is very proud of Highland for proactively seeking the best value for our taxpayers' money consistently for years by participating in large consortiums and taking advantage of other opportunities as presented. This practice has been critical for our growing district and has allowed the District to remain financially stable without increasing taxes in the last 12 years.

She noted that Highland will continue to work together with other districts to look for other ways to increase cost saving measures.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND/OR DELEGATION REPRESENTATIVES

- Bruce Hulme, 7771 Darcy Drive, Sharon Township, suggested that the Board consider an earned income tax as opposed to a property tax levy.
- Christopher Karwowski, 7734 Katie Drive, Sharon Township, asked how much money would be generated by the 6.9 mill, 10 year Emergency levy and how long that would financially sustain the District. He also wondered why more residents do not speak out at the Board meetings. He theorized that fear of retribution by the Board keeps many from speaking out.

- Mr. Barnes explained that this proposed emergency levy would generate a fixed sum of approximately \$4.63 million for the 10 year duration of the issue. Based on the assumptions in the current 5-year forecast passage of this levy could sustain the District through fiscal year 2014. However, much is dependent upon the depth of State cuts and the general state of the economy.
- Marcia Karwowski, 7734 Katie Drive, Sharon Township, contended that the Board should hear the people first and then take action.
- Board members expressed that they have actively sought community feedback well in advance of taking action on a levy resolution through the recent community engagement initiative and also by making themselves available for questions.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Petek reported, with much sadness, that 2008 graduate Michael DiGregorio passed away this morning and offered condolences to his family and friends.
- Mrs. Aukerman said there is a need for a Special Meeting for a 2nd Levy Resolution to Proceed. The Board agreed on a meeting date, time, and place of January 31, 2011 at 5:30 P.M. in the High School Media Center.

OLD BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

Mrs. Aukerman recognized and thanked the Board of Education for their service and dedication to the District, and presented them with a certificate of acknowledgement.

RECOGNITION OF HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOLS' SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM – SUZETTE BURTOFT, HIGH SCHOOL FORENSICS/SPEECH ADVISOR AND DeVON GRIFFIN, HIGH SCHOOL FORENSICS/DEBATE ADVISOR

Mrs. Aukerman said this year's Speech and Debate Team has had an excellent season. The team placed 1st at Berea's 7th annual Grindstone Tournament, and will be competing in an upcoming Regional Tournament.

Mrs. Burtoft explained this co-curricular is a highly competitive activity that encourages higher level thinking skills and also teaches team members to have heightened communication skills. She thanked the Board for being able to host the Akron District Tournament and invited them to attend. This tournament will then determine who qualifies to go to State.

Mr. Griffin, community member, said it has been difficult being the only forensics coach for years, and thanked Mrs. Burtoft for stepping in. The results and success of the program would never have been achieved without her commitment.

Mr. Griffin shared the history of how the National Forensic League was started, and how the students earn points in competitions they participate.

Mr. Griffin was recognized by the National Forensic League as a Diamond Coach, and will receive recognition at the national tournament being held in Dallas, Texas in June. The Board congratulated Mr. Griffin for this achievement.

The Board thanked both of them for their hard work and dedication to our students, and congratulated the team for their outstanding season.

CLEVELAND CLINIC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Mrs. Aukerman provided information regarding this structured 9-week internship opportunity available to our high school students. Students are paid and will work approximately 40 hours per week hand-in-hand with Cleveland Clinic health care

professionals. Student requirements include having at least a 3.5 GPA, be at least 16 years of age and are considering a career in health care. Deadline for applications must be completed by February 4th.

Mrs. Aukerman invited senior Elaine Kunzler, who recently completed a science internship at Medina General Hospital to speak about her experience.

APPROVAL OF ALL DAY/EVERY DAY KINDERGARTEN WAIVER RESOLUTION –
ADDENDUM #III 11-01-17

Mr. Houska made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education approve a Two-Year All Day Every Day Kindergarten Waiver Resolution seeking a delay in the requirement to provide All Day Every Day Kindergarten beginning in the 2011/12 school year.

Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE ROBOTICS TRIP 11-01-18

Dr. Christopher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve an Out-of-State High School Robotics Club Trip to the Pittsburgh Regional VEX World Championship on March 10, 2011 through March 12, 2011 held at the University of Pittsburgh. The only cost to the Highland School District would be fuel for the school vans.

Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVED CHANGES TO THE 2011/12 HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES –
PETE ULRICH 11-01-19

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Christopher, that the Board of Education approve the changes to the 2011/12 High School Program of Studies, as presented.

Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION –
ADDENDUM #IV 11-01-20

Dr. Christopher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the Resolution for Payment in Lieu of Transportation, as presented in Addendum #IV.

Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

ACCEPTED TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS BY NON-RESIDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT 11-01-21

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education accept the Consent and Release from Medina City Schools to transport pupils by non-resident school district, Highland Local, as presented, for the following:

1. Eva Todd, Medina City Schools to St. Hilary
2. Giselle Todd, Medina City Schools to St. Hilary

Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS 11-01-22

Dr. Christopher made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education accept the following donations, as listed:

<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>ITEM/VALUE</u>
HS Robotics Club	Michael & Lisa Violillo	\$ 25.00
HS Robotics Club	John Beck	\$ 125.00
HS Robotics Club	Clinical Research Mgmt., Inc.	\$3,000.00
HS Robotics Club	Lockheed Martin	\$2,000.00
HS Robotics Club	ViaSat	\$5,000.00
Highland Middle School	Choir Boosters	\$ 400.00/Keyboard
Highland Local Schools	Michael & Brenda Houska	\$1,000.00/Community Survey
Highland Local Schools	Sharon Elementary PTO	\$1,000.00/Community Survey

Dr. Christopher, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR USE OF FACILITIES/WAIVER OF FEES
11-01-23

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the following requests for use of facilities and waive associated fees, as listed:

HIGH SCHOOL

- HS – Entire Bldg – Saturday – 1/29/11 – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM – OHSSL Akron District Tournament – Suzette Burtoft
- HS – Cafeteria – Saturday – 3/12/11 – 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Girl Scouts International Tea – Melissa A. Schreiner

GRANGER ELEMENTARY

- GE – Gym – Tuesdays & Thursdays – 1/11/11 – 2/14/11 – 3rd Grade Travel Basketball – Dan Petek

HINCKLEY ELEMENTARY

- HE Kitchen/Cafeteria/Art Room/Gym/Kdg Rooms 209 & 210 – Saturday 3/19/11 – 7:00 AM – 2:30 PM & Sunday – 3/20/11 – 5:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Buzzard Day – Martha Catherwood

SHARON ELEMENTARY

- SE Cafeteria – Tuesday – 1/18/11 – 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Sharon Community Trusts – Sally Petersen

Fees Not Waived

- HS Auditorium – Monday through Saturday – 6/13/11 – 6/18/11 – Evenings on Monday through Friday & All Day on Saturday – Art in Motion Dance Recital – Jessica Franklin
- HS Both Gyms – Saturday – 3/26/11 – Set Up – 5 Hours & Sunday – 3/27/11 – All Day – Cheer Competition – Shannon Birch
- HE Gym – Tuesdays – 2/1/11 – 5/31/11 – 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM – National Volleyball Academy – Lisa Nischt
- HE Kitchen/Cafeteria/Art Room/Gym/Kdg. Rooms 209 & 210 – Saturday 3/19/11 – 7:00 AM – 2:30 PM & Sunday – 3/20/11 – 5:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Buzzard Day – Martha Catherwood – **Personnel Costs**

Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS – ITEMS A AND B 11-01-24

Dr. Christopher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts and/or agreements for the 2010/2011 school year, items A through B, as presented:

- LEECA Agreement for High-Speed Internet Access Services
- Scholastic Sponsors Agreement for Web Site Advertising

Dr. Christopher, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL – ITEMS A THROUGH E - 11-01-25

Mr. Houska made a motion, seconded by Dr. Christopher, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items A through E, as presented.

EMPLOYMENT CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES/HOME TUTORS – ADDENDUM # V

Adopted the attached list of certified substitutes/home tutors for use for the 2011/2012 school year, as submitted by the MCESC.

FAMILY MEDICAL/PARENTAL LEAVE – CERTIFIED

Approved a revision of the Family Medical Leave for Stephanie Itzoe, HS Spanish Teacher, through 1/25/11, followed by Parental Leave through 3/21/11.

RESIGNATION – CLASSIFIED

Accepted the resignation of Margaret Patterson, High School Aide, effective 1/13/11.

EMPLOYMENT – STUDENT WORKERS

Employed Allie Hoynes and Lauren McKinzie as student workers, \$7.40 per hour, for the Special Education Department, on an “as needed basis” effective 1/4/11 through 2/28/11.

EMPLOYMENT – CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES

Employed the following classified individuals, on one-year limited contracts of employment on an “as needed basis” for the remainder of the 2010/2011 school year:

1. Anita Haas – Sub Aide – \$8.00 per hour
2. Lisa Machar – Sub Aide – \$8.00 per hour

ALL EMPLOYMENT ITEMS ARE CONTINGENT ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND PROPER CERTIFICATION WHEN APPLICABLE.

Mr. Houska, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Petek, yes.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

With all in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

President

Treasurer

(A RECORDING OF THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE IN THE TREASURER’S OFFICE)