

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES (Approved)**

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIMONDALE AND HOLT, MICHIGAN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5780 WEST HOLT ROAD, HOLT

**Monday, January 9, 2022 - 5:30 P.M.**

Present: Mark Perry, Amy Dalton, Jessie Jones, Robert Halgren, Kevin Leonard, Jennifer Robel, David Hornak

Central Office Team Present: Jessica Cotter, Steve Netzel, Erin Quinlan, Matt Morales, Mike Dunckel, Christine Lopez

CALL TO ORDER – QUORUM – The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – MDE Child Nutrition Programs presentation must be rescheduled due to illness. We will move Lucas Schrauben 's presentation to the COW meeting agenda as well.

THERAPY DOG HANDLER EXPERIENCE – Paul Shanks, Restorative Practices Coordinator, served as a therapy dog handler in his previous district. He provided feedback on the process and shared his experiences.

He stated that the dog was very helpful during a crisis or after a crisis. When the Oxford shooting happened there were students who stayed out of school. When they returned, the dog was beneficial in healing time.

President Perry asked if the handler had the dog living at their home. He said the dog did, and he was responsible for the general care of the dog. They received donated dog food, donated vet care, etc., from local providers. When he left the district, the dog remained in the district and went to a new handler. President Perry also asked when they decide if a dog will retire. He said they had a dog serve 9 years and then retire.

Trustee Halgren asked about allergies and students who might be afraid of dogs. He said they had dog free spaces and it seemed to work out very well.

President Perry asked if he noticed a big difference and Paul responded that he felt it did have a big impact on the students and even in parent meetings where there was tension or difficult conversation. For the most part he said others he has spoken to who also have therapy dogs in their schools are big proponents.

Trustee Jones asked if there were any considerations for the dog being in the cafeteria. Paul responded that would have been a dog free zone.

Trustee Robel asked if there was a schedule for bathroom breaks. He said there was scheduled times around the day for the dog to take care of business. They also had parent volunteers who would come and take the dog for walks to break up the day for the dog.

SECONDARY PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHT – Lucas Schrauben gave a presentation to the Board about the secondary programs offered at Holt High School. A copy of the presentation is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent’s Office.

Trustee Robel recommend having a signing day for Proud Future Educators program. She also asked how involved Matt Morales is. Lucas responded they partner with the DEI office often.

Trustee Halgren stated it was a very refreshing presentation. He also said a presentation on how we promote this to our students would be fantastic.

HHS SOFTBALL OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED STUDENT TRIP – Kim Reichard, HHS Softball coach, presented her request for the softball team to go on a team building trip during spring break. A copy of the request is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent’s Office.

CLOSED SESSION\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Jones and supported by Trustee Halgren to go into closed session Pursuant to MCL 15.268, Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss bargaining unit contract negotiations.

Roll Call:

Perry – Yes

Dalton – Yes

Jones – Yes

Halgren – Yes

Anderson – Yes

Leonard – Yes

Robel – Yes

Motion carried. The Board entered closed session at 6:40 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 6:45 p.m.

CURRICULUM OFFICE PRESENTATION – Jessica Cotter asked if there were any questions regarding the changes to the 2023-24 junior high and high school course guides. A copy of the course guides is on file with the official Board meeting materials located in the Superintendent’s Office.

HR MONTHLY UPDATE – Erin Quinlan asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the monthly HR update. A copy of the report is on file with the official Board meeting materials.

OTHER – President Perry stated he is not interested in continuing to serve as the president of the Board. He stated that Amy Dalton stated that she is interested in serving as President. Trustee Robel stated she is interested in serving as Vice President. He asked for anyone else interested in serving as an officer to be sure to make it known prior to the regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS – There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT\* - IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Halgren and supported by Trustee Jones to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Jones