

# **FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**

## **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

20 N. Grand Avenue – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Convening Room

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

March 21, 2022

6:30PM

### **Attendance Taken at 6:28 PM:**

#### Present Board Members:

Mr. Jeff Beach

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Mrs. Lisa Duckworth

Mrs. Ann Meyer

Mr. Bradley Fennell

### **I. OPENING OF MEETING**

Board Chair Ann Meyer called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

#### **A. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **B. Recognitions**

##### **1. Brian McDowell - Presidential Award Winner**

Brian McDowell, HMS STEM/science teacher, is the recipient of the 2020 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, the nation's highest distinction for teaching in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and/or computer science.

The Board recognized and congratulated Mr. McDowell on his prestigious achievement and presented him with a Tradition of Excellence award.

##### **2. Maura Eckerle - State Conservation Writing Award Winner**

Maura Eckerle won State 1st Place in the 2021 Jim Claypool Art and Conservation Writing Contest.

The Board recognized and congratulated Maura for her state championship win and presented her with a Certificate of Achievement and a "State Champion" t-shirt.

##### **3. Tradition of Excellence Awards**

Tradition of Excellence Award nominations:

HHS teacher Matthew Ewald was nominated by HHS student AnnaLucy Surrey for demonstrating and inspiring the qualities of curious and critical thinkers and courageous leadership.

JES teacher Alyssa Vanderpool and MES teacher Bethany Howard were nominated by parent Christy Daly for modeling and encouraging the characteristics of empathetic

collaborators and courageous leaders in their roles as the HHS/HMS Forensics team coaches.

The Board recognized and presented each with a Tradition of Excellence award.

#### **4. Board Bravos and Updates**

Board members shared the following accolades and reminders

- Jaime Walz Richey (HHS) achieved her 400th win as a girls' basketball coach
- Jennifer Flynn (JES) and Loren Noah (MES) received Golden Apple awards
- Guy Ponzer (HHS) received an Extraordinary Service award
- Katie Wilson and Logan Walsh advanced to be named National Merit Finalists
- HHS and HMS Dance teams placed 1st in Pom and Hip-Hop at the KDCO competition
- HHS Indoor Track team won the KTCCCA state championship
- FTEF Prize Patrol awarded over \$100,000 in teacher grants last week
- HHS musical "Crazy for You" runs March 24-27

#### **C. Student Showcase: HMS - Winter Reading Challenge**

Students from Highlands Middle School talked about their experience with the Winter Reading Challenge program. Students presenting were:

- Chenumi Abeysinghe
- Ian Darnell
- Macy Davis
- Lillian Foley

The Board thanked the students and presented each with a "Rich in Tradition" t-shirt.

#### **D. Community Forum**

Parent Rob Pinkston addressed the Board giving an update on the Wrestling program at HHS which is doing quite well and has attracted both boy and girls to the sport.

Jeff Beach nominated Rob Pinkston for the Tradition of Excellence Award for his leadership and tenacity in successfully establishing a wrestling program at Highlands.

Parent Ashley Barlow addressed the Board on Down Syndrome Awareness Day to commend all faculty and staff at Moyer Elementary for creating an environment of inclusion that makes all children feel welcome and loved.

Student Connor Iacono also spoke about Down Syndrome Awareness and sharing his personal experiences.

FTEA President Kelly Pratt Booth recognized the following

Woodfill art teacher Leah Fryman who put tremendous effort into Woodfill's school-wide art show to provide students an opportunity to showcase their published work. Not only were the

pieces beautiful but it was evident that students were asked to reflect on their creations. The event and the students' work were a huge success!

HHS business teacher Elise Carter has put in a Herculean amount of time and effort to make sure our students make memories and engage in real-world experiences in spite of the challenges that COVID has presented. Mrs. Carter's dedication made Prom happen for our juniors and seniors last year as well as Winter Ball for all of our students this past weekend. In addition, Mrs. Carter builds programs like the Bluebird Cafe and establishes relationships with local businesses to provide our students with important real-world learning experiences.

## **II. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Johnson Elementary Replacement**

#### **1. Project Update**

Jerry Wissman provided an update to the Board about the project, stating that the final piece of the project is to restructure the former temporary school site as a 48-spot parking lot.

#### **2. Parking Lot and Storm Water Quality Control Design and Bid Package**

**Order #2312 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the Parking Lot and Storm Water Quality Control Design and Bid Package for the Johnson Elementary Replacement project passed with a motion by Mr. Bradley Fennell and a second by Mr. Jeff Beach.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

### **B. Approval of School Security Funds Reimbursement**

**Order #2313 - Motion Passed:** Approval of School Security Funds reimbursement in the amount of \$87,333.00 passed with a motion by Mrs. Lisa Duckworth and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

### **C. RFP for Custodial Supplies**

**Order #2314 - Motion Passed:** Approval of School Security Funds reimbursement in the amount of \$87,333.00 passed with a motion by Mrs. Lisa Duckworth and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

#### **D. School-Wide Fundraiser for 2021-22**

Request to add a new school-wide fundraiser at Highlands Middle School for the 2021-22 school year.

**Order #2315 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the additional school-wide fundraiser of Health Moves Minds at Highlands Middle School passed with a motion by Mr. Bradley Fennell and a second by Mrs. Lisa Duckworth.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

#### **E. 2022-23 School Calendar Revision**

2022-2023 School Year Calendar

##### **Preschool**

Please approve the preschool calendar to consist of a 3-hour day, 4 days per week. During the 22-23 school year, the preschool program will be placed at Moyer Elementary. The recommended instructional day for preschool is Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 11:00am for the morning session and 11:45am to 2:45pm for the afternoon session. It is recommended that the preschool begin on August 29, 2022, and end on May 25, 2023, to allow time for required screenings, testing and parent meetings.

##### **Make Up Days**

Designate February 17, 2023, and March 10, 2023, as make-up days.

**Order #2316 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the 2022-23 Preschool calendar, and the designation of the first two make-up days to be February 17, 2023, and March 10, 2023 passed with a motion by Mr. Jeff Beach and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

#### **F. RFPs for Publishing Services**

**Order #2317 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the RFP for Publishing Services for the Traditions magazine and the annual school calendar passed with a motion by Mrs. Lisa Duckworth and a second by Mr. Jeff Beach.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

### **G. Lease at 20 Grand**

**Order #2318 - Motion Passed:** Approval to allow the superintendent to notify the landlord of the intention to not renew the lease which expires on June 30, 2022, for the property located at 20 N. Grand Avenue, Fort Thomas, KY, passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein and a second by Mr. Jeff Beach.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

## **III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Board Committee Updates**

Board Chair Ann Meyer shared that the Board has used the funds remaining from the opening day breakfast donations to provide breakfast treats (bagels or pastries) each month to faculty and staff.

Jeff Beach shared that the Budget Committee met to review the 2022-23 budget expectations.

## **IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Order #2319 - Motion Passed:** With all Board members having had the opportunity to review and pursue any questions about all of the items contained therein, approval of the consent agenda passed with a motion by Mrs. Lisa Duckworth and a second by Mr. Bradley Fennell.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mrs. Lisa Duckworth	Yes
Mr. Bradley Fennell	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

### **A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 7, 2022; and Special Working Board Meeting of March 14, 2022**

### **B. Financial Report for Month of February 2022**

### **C. Food Service Report for February 2022**

### **D. Attendance Report for 6th Month of 2021-22**

### **E. Authorization for Payment of Claims**

### **F. District Technology Plan for 2022-24**

#### **G. Notification and Approval of Student Trips**

- 1. HHS Academic Team - Louisville KY - March 19-20, 2022**
- 2. HHS Softball - Georgetown KY - March 25-26, 2022**
- 3. HHS Softball - Goshen KY - April 1-2, 2022**
- 4. HHS FBLA - Louisville KY - April 11-13, 2022**
- 5. HHS Softball - Frankfort KY - April 22-23, 2022**
- 6. HHS TSA - Lexington KY - April 25-27, 2022**

#### **H. Personnel Action Taken Since February 2022**

##### Employment of the following Classified Employee

Charles Bloodsaw - Custodian - HMS

##### Employment of the following Extra-Service Position

Hayden Sphire - Football Sixty Minute Club - HHS

##### Employment of the following Paraprofessional Positions

Mick Abner - Football Sixty Minute Club - HHS

James Carney - Football Sixty Minute Club - HHS

Brandon Cook - Football Sixty Minute Club - HHS

Sarah Hoffman - Assistant Boys Track Coach - HHS

Sydnee Manette - Boys Track Coach - HMS

Cory Ruschman - Assistant Girls Track Coach - HHS

##### Employment of the following Extra Curricular Assistant Position

Connie Kremer - Mock Trial - HHS

##### Retirement of the following Certified Employees

Lisa Birkley - Language Arts Teacher - HMS

Kennon Burns - PE/Health Teacher - HHS

Cindy Graves - Elementary Teacher - MES

Linda Hockney - Elementary Teacher - MES

Mary Kinsella - EL Teacher - MES

Joy Layman - Kindergarten Teacher - WES

Lori Maines - Guidance Counselor - HMS

Rob McCoy - Language Arts Teacher - HMS

Kim Schnier - Elementary Teacher - JES

Anne Snider - Elementary Teacher - JES

##### Retirement of the following Classified Employees

Ellen Turner - Instructional Assistant - JES

Mary Beth Newman - Instructional Assistant - MES

##### Resignation of the following Certified Employees

Michele Beier - Language Arts Teacher - HMS

Rachel Burnett - Spanish Teacher - HHS

Kristine Donnelly - Visual Art Teacher - HHS

Lubitza Hershberger - Strings/Orchestra Teacher - HHS  
Megan Leising - Preschool Teacher - JES

*Resignation of the following Classified Employees*

Charles Bloodsaw - Custodian - HMS  
Beth Jones - Pre School IA - JES  
Rebecca Neufarth - Kindergarten IA - WES

**I. Grant Extended Leave**

- 1. Michael Lipscomb (Medical - Approximately February 25 through March 6, 2022)**
- 2. Julie Sarakatsannis (Medical - Approximately March 7 through April 11, 2022)**
- 3. Brandy Abplanalp (Medical - Approximately March 24 through May 4, 2022)**

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Ann Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:14pm.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent