

**FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Fort Thomas City Building – 130 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

November 13, 2023

6:30pm

**Attendance Taken at 6:25pm:**

Present Board Members:

Mr. Clem Fennell IV

Mrs. Sarah Foster

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Mrs. Ann Meyer

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Jeff Beach

**I. OPENING OF MEETING**

Board Chair Ann Meyer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance**

**B. Recognitions**

**1. Board Bravos and Updates**

The following was shared:

- The football teams are doing well and the freshman team won the championship
- The cheer and forensics groups continue to do well
- Nina Kearns has been inducted into the KGHSSCA Hall of Fame for her role as coach
- Santa House had another successful event
- Veterans Day was celebrated with events in all of our schools and Alyssa Vanderpool performed a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem
- HHS had the top ACT score in NKY
- HHS had 8 students selected to the Thomas More Juried Art Exhibit
- HMS Day of Service is November 18
- The Holiday Walk is December 3

**2. Highlands Cross Country Boys 6th Grade and Under State Championship**

The board recognized the Highlands Boys 6th grade and under cross country team on their state championship. Team members include:

- Sam Trice
- Drew Kampschmidt
- Finn Scherrer
- Ethan Daly
- Johnny Gesenhues

- Henry Kramer
- Charlie Schmidt

Mr. Alessandro shared this group finished 3rd in the Nation. Each team member was given a certificate and a “Champions” t-shirt.

**C. Student Showcase - HHS: Highlands Stories**

Highlands students gave a presentation on Highlands Stories. The students explained the project and their role in bringing this idea to life. Students presenting were:

- Eleanor Rogiers
- Addie Fisher
- Jade Farley
- Gemma Cutajar
- Brayden Moeves
- Ashton Willis

The board thanked the students for their presentation and gave each a "Rich in Tradition" t-shirt.

**D. Community Forum**

**II. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Highlands Roof Replacement**

**1. Project Update**

Jerry Wissman provided an update on the project noting that work is approaching completion.

**2. Imbus Roofing Pay Application #5**

**Order #2482 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay Application #5 to Imbus Roofing in the amount of \$124,200.90 for the Highlands Roof Replacement project passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

**B. Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract (GESc)**

**1. Project Update**

Jerry Wissman provided an update on the project noting that work will be done at HHS and HMS on the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving while students and staff are out of the buildings.

## 2. CMTA Pay Application #8

**Order #2483 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay Application #8 to CMTA, Inc. in the amount of \$134,254.64 for the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract program passed with a motion by Mr. Clem Fennell IV and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

## C. Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Renovation

### 1. Project Update

Jerry Wissman explained Phase I will include the relocation of Sergeant Avenue and underground utilities and improve sidewalks and parking in and around the Tower Park complex.

### 2. Award of Bid - Phase I

**Order #2484 - Motion Passed:** Approval to accept all bids and award a contract to Riegler Blacktop in the amount of \$1,530,000 for Phase I of the Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Project passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

### 3. Resolution

**Order #2485 - Motion Passed:** Approval of a resolution to affirm reimbursement of temporary advances made for capital expenditures related to the project to be made from subsequent borrowings by the Fort Thomas Independent School District Finance Corporation passed with a motion by Mr. Clem Fennell IV and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

## D. KETS First Offer of Assistance for 2023-24

**Order #2486 - Motion Passed:** Approval to accept and match the KETS First Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$34,345 passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

**E. Athletic Training Service Agreement**

**Order #2487 - Motion Passed:** Approval to authorize the superintendent to enter into an agreement with St. Elizabeth to provide athletic training services passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

**F. Adoption of Changes to Policy 09.224 - Emergency Medical Treatment**

**Order #2488 - Motion Passed:** Adoption of the proposed changes to Policy 09.224 - Emergency Medical Treatment as presented for a second reading passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

**G. Establish Girls Wrestling Head Coach Position**

**Order #2489 - Motion Passed:** Approval to establish the position of Girls Wrestling Head Coach at a stipend of \$3,000 passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

**III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Brigance Screening Report**

Jamee Flaherty shared the results of this year's Brigance screenings, noting that 82% of kindergarten students were ready.

**B. 2023 KY State Accountability Report**

Keith Faust presented on the Kentucky State Accountability Report. He detailed how scores are calculated with this new system and the results for each of our schools.

**C. Board Committee Updates**

The following was shared:

- Julie Kuhnhein shared that the FTEF is working on the Highlands Stories project, along with teacher grants
- Ann Meyer shared that the breakfast committee will be providing cookies this week
- Brian Robinson advised that the budget and salary committees will be meeting soon

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

**Order #2490 - 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 Mr. Clem Fennell IV and a second by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

#### **A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 9, 2023, Special Joint Meeting of October 24, 2023 and Working Board Meeting of November 10, 2023**

#### **B. Financial Report for Month of October 2023**

#### **C. Food Service Report for October 2023**

#### **D. Attendance Report for 2nd Month of 2023-24**

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

#### **F. Revised Salary Schedule for 2023-24**

##### **1. Extra Service Salary Schedule 2023-24**

#### **G. Revised Job Description**

##### **1. Elementary School Secretary - Nurse's Office**

#### **H. Declaration of Surplus Property**

#### **I. School-wide Fundraisers for 2023-24**

##### Highlands Middle

Bake Sale

Canned Food Drive

##### Woodfill Elementary

Restaurant Nights

School Kit

Kroger Rewards

**J. Approval of Additional Transportation Common Carrier for 2023-24**  
Newport Independent Schools

**K. Notification and Approval of Student Trips**

- 1. HHS FCCLA - Birmingham, AL - November 9-12, 2023**
- 2. HHS Boys Basketball - Pensacola, FL - December 26-30, 2023**
- 3. HHS Dance - Orlando, FL - March 7-11, 2024**
- 4. HHS Drama - New York, NY - April 2-6, 2024**

**L. Personnel Action Taken Since October 9, 2023**

Change in Position of the following Classified Employee

Jenny Lang - from Office Assistant to Elementary Principal's Secretary - JES

Employment of the following Classified Employees

Angela Dirksen - Instructional Assistant - HHS

Jacob Myers - Custodian - JES

Sherry Norman - Cafeteria I - HMS

Amanda Scott - Principal's Secretary - HMS

Nona Stevenson - Cafeteria I - HHS

Patricia Turner - Cafeteria I - HMS

Employment of the following Extra-Curricular Positions

Barbara Carrasquel - STLP Sponsor - WES

Sherri Chan - STLP Sponsor - MES

Heidi Neltner - STLP Sponsor - HMS

Employment of the following Paraprofessional Employee

Dakota Riley - Wrestling Assistant Coach - HHS

Employment of the following Certified/Classified Substitutes

Maleah Abner - Certified

Brittney Day - Classified

Shannon Eaton - Certified

Linda Fields - Classified

Stephanie Haretuku - Classified

Kathryn Jacobs - Certified

Kelsey Mattimore - Certified

Christy Wallenhorst - Certified

Resignation of the following Classified Employees

Mary Ballard - Cafeteria I - HMS

Wanda Hart - Cafeteria I - HMS

Resignation of the following Extra-Curricular Position

Kelly Pratt-Booth - 6th Grade Volleyball Coach - HMS

**M. Approval of Superintendent Travel**  
**1. KASS Annual Conference - Louisville, KY - December 3-5, 2023**

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Ann Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:04pm.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent