

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
Board of Education Regular Meeting

Fort Thomas City Building – 130 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

December 11, 2023

6:30pm

Attendance Taken at 6:27pm:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Jeff Beach

Mr. Clem Fennell IV

Mrs. Sarah Foster

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Mrs. Ann Meyer

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:

- Holiday concerts are happening across the district
- Teacher of the Year awards were given this week to Kelly Pratt-Booth, Kim Klein and Aimee Shadwell
- Varsity Dance placed 2nd in Pom and 4th in Hip Hop at the Kentucky State Competition
- Woodfill was named the #4 elementary school in Kentucky by US News & World Report and #1 in Northern Kentucky
- The inaugural day of service for the middle school resulted in the collection of over 31,000 canned goods
- Moyer is currently hosting a drive for the Brighton Center
- Our eSports team had 4 students qualify to compete in the Rocket League on December 12
- FCCLA competed in Birmingham, AL in November, earning five 1st place, two 2nd place and two 3rd place finishes

2. Holiday Card Artist - Christina Truta

The Board recognized and thanked Highlands Middle School 7th-grader Christina Truta whose original artwork was selected for the district's 2023 holiday card. Christina was given a check for \$50 and several keepsake cards.

3. Tradition of Excellence Award – Peggie Hughes

Peggie Hughes was given a Tradition of Excellence in recognition of her outstanding service to the school district.

C. Student Showcase - WES: Buddy Bench Project

Woodfill students gave a presentation on the Buddy Bench. The students shared a video and explained the project and their personal experiences. Students presenting were:

- Cambrie Crawford
- Abel Rankle
- Olivia Gindele
- Aaliyah Weller

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 the fencing is down and the project is nearly complete.

2. Imbus Roofing Pay Application #6

Order #2491 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Application #6 to Imbus Roofing in the amount of \$81,940.50 for the Highlands Roof Replacement project passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
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, sharing that all equipment has been installed and noting the progress on the controls.

2. CMTA Pay Application #9

Order #2492 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Application #9 to CMTA, Inc. in the amount of \$325,137.03 for the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract program passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein and a second by Mr. Jeff Beach.

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

C. Calendar for 2024-25 School Year

The recommended beginning and ending times for the school day are as follows:

SCHOOL	SCHOOL DAY	STAFF DAY
HHS	8:00am – 2:45pm	7:45am-3:00pm
HMS	8:00am – 2:45pm	7:45am-3:00pm
JES	8:15am – 3:00pm	8:00am-3:15pm
MES	8:15am – 3:00pm	8:00am-3:15pm
WES	8:15am – 3:00pm	8:00am-3:15pm

The day at each school includes 375 minutes of instruction and 30 minutes for lunch for a total of 405 minutes for each day. The high school will have 2 shortened days during the exam schedule for a total of no more than 2 hours each day.

This school year, we continue to include 6 shortened days when classes will begin one hour later than the typical schedule. The time will be used for Professional Development and will allow teachers time to collaborate on common issues, including curriculum and assessment across grade level and to address school-wide issues. The elementary schools will have classified staff available to work with students whose parents need to keep them on a regular schedule. All late arrival days will be on a Wednesday and there will be three per semester. The proposed dates are: September 18, October 16, December 4, January 15, February 19, and March 19.

Our total instructional time exceeds the state minimum requirement of 1062 instructional hours. The number of hours above the state minimum is at least 25 hours at all schools. Although the state no longer allows districts to bank time for early dismissals and school closures, the time does allow the district flexibility in case delays are needed.

The Preschool Program Calendar will consist of a 3-hour day, 4 days per week. During the 2024-2025 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 preschool begin on August 27, 2024 with two transition days (August 28 and 29), and end on May 8, 2025, to allow time for required screenings, testing, and parent meetings.

Order #2493 - Motion Passed: Approval of the 2024-2025 school calendar, the length of the day at each school, the beginning and ending times for each school, the preschool calendar,

and the shortened exam days at HHS and shortened days for PD at all five schools passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

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

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Renovation

1. Project Update

Jerry Wissman shared that Phase I has a January start date and will include the relocation of utilities.

B. Resiliency Poll

Jamee Flaherty shared and discussed the results of the Fall 2023 Resiliency Poll.

C. Board Committee Updates

The following was shared:

- Jeff Beach shared that the budget committee met, and noted the current budget is in very good shape
- Julie Kuhnhein recapped the Teacher of the Year awards and noted the Nesties in April of 2024
- Sarah Foster advised the scholarship committee will be meeting on December 14 to review applications and award 6 teacher scholarships

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Order #2494 - 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	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mrs. Ann Meyer	Yes

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 13, 2023 and Working Meeting of December 7, 2023

B. Financial Report for Month of November 2023

C. Food Service Report for Month of November 2023

D. Attendance Report for 3rd Month of 2023-24

E. Authorization for Payment of Claims

F. Notification and Approval of Student Trips

1. HHS Girls Basketball - Bowling Green, KY - December 27-30, 2023

G. Personnel Action Taken Since November 13, 2023

Employment of the following Classified Employees

Nicholas Kalonda - Custodian - WES

Trisha Schroeder - Elementary School Secretary - JES

Ashley Winburn - Administrative Assistant for Teaching and Learning - CO

Employment of the following Extra-Curricular Positions

Natalie Heilman - Girls Wrestling Assistant Coach - HHS

Amanda Scott - DC Trip Coordinator - HMS

Employment of the following Paraprofessional Employee

Dakota Riley - Girls Wrestling Head Coach - HHS

Resignation of the following Classified Employees

Kelly Griffith - Cafeteria I - MES

Robin Lunsford - Instructional Assistant - HHS

Sally Race - Administrative Assistant for Teaching and Learning - CO

Resignation of the following Paraprofessional Employee

McKenzie Huber - Girls Freshman Soccer Coach - HHS

V. OTHER BUSINESS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Ann Meyer adjourned the meeting at 7:28pm.

Chairperson

Superintendent