

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
Board of Education Regular Meeting

Fort Thomas City Building – 130 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

February 10, 2025

6:30pm

Attendance Taken at 6:25 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mrs. Sarah Foster

Mr. Noah Gibson

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Clem Fennell IV

Mr. Jeff Beach

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Board Chair Julie Kuhnhein opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Recognitions

1. Board Bravos and Updates

Board members shared the following:

- HHS Girls Bowling are Regional Champs and will be competing at State
- MES Kindergarten Circus is February 27
- FTEF Parents' Night Out is March 1
- HHS won the statewide high attendance day
- Art students will be featured at the Contemporary Arts Center on February 22
- HMS won several Scholastic Writing Awards
- JES had a successful family dance earlier this month
- Congrats to Beth Brubaker (HHS) for being named a Sponsor of Distinction by the Kentucky Journalism Teachers' Association
- HHS, JES & WES are District Governor's Cup Champions
- 13 students are TSA Regional winners and will advance to State
- HMS 7th & 8th grade girls are Regional Basketball Champs
- HHS students Oliver Martin and Ben Gilkerson are National Merit Finalists
- HHS & HMS Forensics are Regional Runners-up
- Alyssa Davis was named Regional Forensics Coach of the Year
- STLP across the district has over 20 submissions for State
- Good luck to the HHS Dance Team at Nationals
- HHS Cheer team placed 11th at Nationals
- Many Fine Arts events coming up over the next month
- HHS Swim Team (boys & girls combined) Regional Champs
- Schools are closed on Monday for Presidents' Day

C. Student Showcase - HMS: Girl Power

Student representatives from the HMS Girl Power club shared a presentation with Board members. The club has approximately 50 members this year. Students presenting included:

- Elena Arey
- Clara Burkhardt
- Esther Caswell
- Isla Clark
- Elizabeth Dunne
- Irelynn Lynch
- Nadia Phelps
- Anna Grace Philippe

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

D. Community Forum

There were no community members wishing to speak to the Board.

II. ACTION ITEMS

A. Staffing Guidelines 2025-26

Order #2615 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Staffing Guidelines for 2025-26 passed with a motion by Mr. Noah Gibson and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Absent
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mr. Noah Gibson	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

B. Spectrum Enterprise Service Agreement

Order #2616 - Motion Passed: Approval for Superintendent to enter into a service agreement with Spectrum Enterprise passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Noah Gibson.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Absent
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mr. Noah Gibson	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

C. Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Renovation

1. Project Update

Jerry Wissman shared the project status with Board members. He said the district anticipates soccer will be able to use the facility in the fall for training and competition.

2. Morel Construction Co. Pay Application #7

Order #2617 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Application #7 to Morel Construction Co. in the amount of \$858,616.20 for the Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Project passed with a motion by Mr. Noah Gibson and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Absent
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mr. Noah Gibson	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Board Committee Updates

The Board shared the following:

- The LPC met earlier this month and is working toward recommendations for the DFP
- Title IX met and reviewed many topics for the remainder of this year and the upcoming school year

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Order #2618 - 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. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Noah Gibson.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Absent
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mr. Noah Gibson	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 13, 2025; Joint Board and SBDM Councils Meeting of January 22, 2025; and Working Board Meeting of February 6, 2025

B. Financial Report for Month of January 2025

C. Food Service Report for January 2025

D. Attendance Report for 5th Month of 2025-26

E. Authorization for Payment of Claims

F. Revised Athletic/Drama Worker's Pay Scale

G. Notification and Approval of Student Trips

- 1. HHS Orchestra - Louisville, KY - February 5-8, 2025**
- 2. HHS Girls Bowling - Louisville, KY - February 10-11, 2025**
- 3. HHS Swim & Dive Teams - Lexington, KY - February 20-22, 2025**

4. HHS Anatomy - Fort Wayne, IN - February 21, 2025
5. HMS Forensics - Lexington, KY - February 21-22, 2025
6. HHS Mock Trial - Lexington, KY - February 28 - March 2, 2025
7. HHS Culinary - Louisville, KY - March 3-7, 2025
8. HHS Forensics - Bowling Green, KY - March 7-9, 2025
9. HHS Robotics - St. Louis, MO - March 12-14, 2025
10. HHS FCCLA - Louisville, KY - April 22-25, 2025

H. Grant Extended Leave

1. Brooke Dinkelacker - Maternity (August 13 - November 4, 2025)
2. Sarah Mays - Maternity (August 13 - October 20, 2025)

I. Personnel Action Taken Since January 13, 2025

Employment of the following Extra-Service Positions

Alyssa Brown - Drama - Costume Designer - HHS
Christopher Eaton - Music Director - HHS
Nate Roberts - Sixty Minute Football Club - HHS
Nikkia Scherrer - Mock Trial - HHS

Employment of the following Paraprofessional Employees

Lauren Abner - Girls Golf Assistant Coach - HHS
Maleah Abner - Girls Head Golf Coach - HHS
Jeremy Jordan - Percussion Assistant - HHS
Thomas Gray-Torsell - Boys Track Coach - HMS
Maureen Ryan - Girls Assistant Tennis Coach - HHS

Retirement of the following Certified Employees

Kym Grillot - Social Studies Teacher - HHS
Jody Johnson - Director of Technology and Information - Districtwide
Jennie Kendall - Teacher - MES

Resignation of the following Extra-Service Positions

Elise Carter - FBLA and Student Council - HHS

Resignation of the following Paraprofessional Employees

Taylor Abbott - Girls Freshman Soccer Coach - HHS
Hannah Toler - JV Dance Team Coach - HHS

J. Approval of Superintendent Travel

1. KSBA Annual Conference - Louisville, KY - February 20-22, 2025

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Julie Kuhnhein adjourned the meeting at 6:56pm.

Chairperson

Superintendent