

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
HOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**The School District of the City of Holland  
Ottawa County, Michigan  
August 18, 2025**

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- I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - WELCOME** – President Colburn welcomed the audience and call the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD:** Trustees Arendshorst, Colburn, Veliz, Mulder, and Ybarra

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Superintendent Cassidy, Deputy Superintendent Pennington, Associate Superintendents McCloud, Remillard and Murphy-DuBay, and Administrative Assistant Boes (recorder)

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Regular Business Meeting of August 18, 2025
2. Consent Agenda for August 18, 2025

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. July 28, 2025, Regular Business Meeting

**Moved by Martin Veliz, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda for August 18, 2025.** The motion was unanimously approved.

**IV. HOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL SENATE**

Student Senate President Maggie Telgenhof will provided an update to the Board.

**V. HPS CELEBRATES**

Celebrated the community for the August 5, 2025 election results with the passing of the bond.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Sarah Lefebre-573 Lawndale Ct. Holland, Michigan 49423 -HEA president

**VII. PERSONNEL REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

Deputy Superintendent Pennington recommended the following personnel action:

**A. Resignations:**

- **Amber Averill**, Occupational Therapist, District, effective July 25, 2025.
- **Brysyn McHenry**, Spanish Teacher, Holland High School, effective August 14, 2025.

**Moved by Diane Ybarra, supported by Lois Mulder that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of: Amber Averill and Brysyn McHenry.** The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Hiring:

- **Yeshenia Arias-Urregos**, Spanish/Multilingual Learner Teacher, Holland High School, effective August 18 2025.
- **Brianna Cramer**, Speech and Language Pathologist, West School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Cameron Gingerich**, Math Teacher, Holland High School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Nasha Huitema**, (rehire), Multilingual Learner Teacher, Holland High School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Rebecca Lawrence**, General Education Social Worker, West School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Jocelyn Morales**, School Social Worker, District, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Abigail Ortwine**, Speech and Language Pathologist, Holland Middle School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Charli Sanchez**, 1st Grade Teacher, West School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Anna Sneller**, (rehire) Specials Teacher (.70 fte), West School, effective August 18, 2025.
- **Riley Sokolowski**, Math Teacher, Holland High School, effective August 18, 2025.

**Moved by Lois Mulder, supported by Chris Arendshorst that the Board of Education approves a probationary contract for: Yeshenia Arias-Urregos, Brianna Cramer, Cameron Gingerich, Nasha Huitema, Rebecca Lawrence, Jocelyn Morales, Abigail Ortwine, Charli Sanchez, Anna Sneller, and Riley Sokolowski.** The motion was unanimously approved.

## **VIII. BOARD COMMITTEES and STUDY SESSION REPORTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. TEACHING FOR LEARNING: Chairperson Mulder reported on the August 4, 2025, meeting of the Teaching for Learning Committee.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

Board: Trustees Mulder and Veliz

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy and Associate Superintendent McCloud

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Office of School Improvement: Associate Superintendent McCloud provided updates on the following:

- Update Report Cards
- Title Funding has been restored

Office of Student Services: Associate Superintendent McCloud provided updates on the following:

- Update Report Cards

2025-2026 Course List Approval: Superintendent Cassidy presented the recommended classes/courses to be offered at Holland High School, Holland Virtual Tech, and Holland Early College for credit, meeting the requirements for graduation.

- The Holland High School administration team will present courses at the Board Study Session.

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided updates on the following:

- MS Robotics
- Staffing Updates
- Scheduling of Building Presentations
  - Will start meetings on September 29, 2025.
- Afterschool programming for K students
  - Discussed a potential partnership with Boys and Girls Club for Kindergarten afterschool care.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:33 a.m.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS**

#### **ACADEMICS/PROGRAM GOAL:**

Holland Public Schools will provide educational excellence through relevant and innovative programming that maximizes the potential of each student in safe, supportive, and respectful learning environments.

#### **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GOAL:**

Holland Public Schools will unite our community around increasing opportunities and success for ALL students through dialogue, networking, and learning among families and community members.

#### **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS GOAL:**

Holland Public Schools will maximize resources for student learning, engagement, and safety.

#### **HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:**

Holland Public Schools will recruit, retain, and invest in highly qualified staff.

- B. FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Chairperson Colburn reported on the August 5, 2025 meeting of the Finance and Property Committee.

Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Arendshorst and Ybarra

Administration: Superintendent Cassidy, Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay, and Deputy Superintendent Pennington. Wendy Cossey and Rex Thelen

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Finance & Property: Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay provided an update on the following:

- Financial Reports for July 2025: Associate Superintendent Murphy-DuBay will review the general fund budget to actual report and the capital project listing report for the month of July.
- Request for approval of recommendation to purchase and install 29 video Surveillance cameras. See included Memorandum.
- GSRP Van Purchase
- Baker-Tilly Construction Assistance

Human Resources Report: Deputy Superintendent Pennington provided an update on the following:

- Remaining Vacancies for 25-26 School Year
- Other Personnel Items

Superintendent Updates: Superintendent Cassidy provided an update on the following:

- Facility Updates
- Draft lease agreement between HPS/Holland Christian
- Draft MOU between HPS and Child Development Services
- Board Policy Review regarding sale of property

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

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#### **HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:**

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C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: President Colburn reported on the August 5, 2025 meeting of the Executive Committee.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Board: Trustees Colburn, Arendshorst and Ybarra

Administrators: Superintendent Cassidy

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

2025-26 Organizational Chart: Superintendent Cassidy reviewed the 2025-26 Organization Chart with the committee.

Annual review of Board Policy 8600 Transportation: Superintendent Cassidy reviewed the transportation guidelines and established reasonable walking distances for students in the District. PreK-5 remains at 1.25 miles, and 6-12 remains at 1.5 miles.

Superintendent Updates:

- Staffing updates

- Back to school events
- Middle School Robotics
- Scheduling of Building Presentations
- Board Meeting Topics

Study Session Agenda Construction: Committee members planned the agenda for the August Study Session Meeting based upon the discussions at Teaching for Learning, Finance & Property, Executive Committee, and matters arising.

Other: No other items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS**

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#### **HUMAN SERVICES GOAL:**

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D. BOARD STUDY SESSION: President Colburn reported on the August 11, 2025, Study Session.

Agenda Review and Roll Call: President Colburn welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. in the Board Training Room of the District Administration Building, 320 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD: Trustees Colburn, Mulder, Arendshorst, Veliz, Woltman and Marroquin

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Cassidy, Deputy Superintendent Pennington, Associate Superintendents Murphy-DuBay, Remillard and Athletic Director Muller.

Public Comments: There were no public comments

Athletics Update: Director Muller provided updates on the following:

- Athletics handbooks
- Sports offerings, participation rates, and special events

Committee Reports:

- a. Teaching for Learning Committee: Chairperson Mulder provided updates with items discussed at the Teaching for Learning Committee meeting on August 4, 2025.
- b. Finance & Property Committee: Chairperson Woltman provided updates with items discussed

at the Finance & Property Committee meeting on August 5, 2025 and brought forward the following motions:

- Video Surveillance camera purchase

**Moved by Chris Arendshorst, supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve the purchase and installation of 29 video surveillance cameras, in the amount of \$58,918.15. This project is funded with the sinking fund.** The motion was unanimously approved. [ATTACHMENT A]

- 2025 Chevrolet Traverse purchase

**Moved by Chris Arendshorst, supported by Mark Woltman, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Traverse as quoted through MiDeal pricing in the amount of \$39,604. This project is funded with GSRP funds.** The motion was unanimously approved. [ATTACHMENT B]

- c. Executive Committee: President Colburn provided updates with items discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on August 5, 2025.

2025-2026 Course List Approval: Superintendent Cassidy presented the recommended classes/courses to be offered at Holland High School, Holland Virtual Tech, and Holland Early College for credit, meeting the requirements for graduation. Website Development was the only new course.

**Moved by Lois Mulder, supported by Chris Arendshorst, that the 2025-2026 Class Lists for credit be approved as presented.** The motion was unanimously approved.

Reinstatement Committee Membership for 2025-2026: Superintendent Cassidy Brought forward a recommendation of committee membership for consideration of petitions for reinstatement.

**Moved by Martin Veliz, supported by Chris Arendshorst, that the Reinstatement Committee Membership for 2025-2026 is approved as presented.** The motion was unanimously approved.

Personnel Report: Deputy Superintendent Pennington updated the committee on personnel items.

Superintendent Updates:

- Bond 2025 Update and Next Steps
- Property Sales and Lease Agreements
- After-School Kindergarten Programming
- Back to School Events

Consideration of Petition for Reinstatement: Superintendent Cassidy brought forward the recommendation of the Hearing Committee to reinstate student 0731250800 with conditions.

**Moved by Mark Woltman supported by Lois Mulder, that the Board of Education approve the recommendation to reinstate Student 0731250800, with conditions as presented.** The motion was unanimously approved.

Board Meeting Agenda Construction: Board Members will plan the agenda for the August 18, 2025 Board Meeting. (Kate Bolt is planning to share a HEF update at the board mtg.)

Other: Enrollments, potential staffing adjustments and Facility use was discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

## **IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S/CABINET REPORT AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

A. Superintendent Open Office Hours: Superintendent Cassidy has open office hours scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 8:00 a.m., at the District Administration Office, Lincoln Conference Room. Superintendent Cassidy will host open office hours on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. If you would like to reach Superintendent Cassidy, please email him: [ncassidy@hollandpublicschools.org](mailto:ncassidy@hollandpublicschools.org).

B. Current Legislative and District Initiatives: Superintendent Cassidy will share information on recent district initiatives and legislative action.

### Legislative Updates:

There were no significant legislative updates and it doesn't appear that we will have a budget anytime soon.

### District Updates:

The September Board meeting will be held on September 29th at 5:00pm. The change is due to some scheduling conflicts with our team. This change will be posted on our website and district calendar.

### Staffing Updates:

Due to enrollment changes requiring an additional 2nd grade classroom at West and the reduction of a classroom at Jefferson in 5th grade, a most recent hire was transferred from Jefferson to West. Enrollment has been capped in 5th grade at Jefferson, with any new enrollments sent to Heights.

### Bond 25 Updates:

- As we celebrated earlier in the meeting, we passed the 2025 Bond for a little over \$49 million with 71% approval. This bond will:
- Update the Jefferson Building
- Athletic Facilities
- Technology
- Safety and Security
- Buses
- HVAC

### Build 21 Projects:

- Heights- We just did a walkthrough on Holland Heights. The building is on-schedule, and possibly a little ahead of schedule.
- West- Prep work is done, fences have been installed, portable classrooms are installed, and Phase 1 will begin this month. This will focus on the east side of the building, which was previously the performing arts wing. This will be turned into 8 classrooms, 2 ELAs, and several offices.
- HHS- Work on the art rooms is wrapping up right now. Furniture is being moved into Art and Science rooms. These locations should be ready to welcome families tomorrow night.

Timeline:

Fall of 2026- Heights Completed

Spring of 2026- Determine elementary boundaries

Fall of 2027- West Completed

Fall of 2027- Redistricting of Elementary buildings

Fall of 2028- Jefferson renovations begin

TBD- Athletic Facilities

Extracurriculars Update:

Swimming, Football, Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Boys Tennis, Volleyball, and Cheerleading are all getting ready to kick off their seasons.

Marching Band has seen nearly a 40% increase in members this year compared to last.

Back-To-School Events:

Staff reported today for Professional Development. We focused on celebrations and what we will do THRIVE this year. Melissa provided updates on curriculum, achievement data, and what we need to do to improve in those areas. Areas of focus this year will include increasing student achievement, improving attendance, and engaging parents.

Tomorrow from 4-6 each building will host Open Houses.

Thursday, 8/21 will be the 1st day of school for students.

Next Month I will be bringing lease agreements to the board for Holland Christian to lease our Longfellow building during the 26/27 school year, the Maplewood lease for Head Start, and an MOU with Boys and Girls Club for the implementation of a Kindergarten afterschool program.

**X. OTHER:** No other items were discussed

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** President Colburn will adjourn the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

Approved as presented: \_\_\_\_\_

Tim Marroquin, Secretary



