

MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Of the Board of Education
Riverside School District No. 96
Held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024
Hollywood Elementary School

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

20-470 A. President Wesley Muirheid called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and on roll call the following members were recorded as being present:

Mr. Barsotti
Ms. Gunn
Ms. Kachlic
Mr. Marhoul
Mr. Hunt
Ms. Claps
Mr. Muirheid

Absent: None

Also in attendance were Superintendent Martha Ryan-Toye, Director of Teaching and Learning Angela Dolezal, Director of Finance Jim Fitton, Hollywood Principal Kim Hefner, the Board of Education recording clerk, and a Riverside TV videographer.

B. Public Comment/Response.

There were no public comments.

C. Welcome to Hollywood Elementary School.

Principal Hefner welcomed the board to Hollywood School and shared some great things happening there. Hollywood strives to be an inclusive environment and shared this year's school theme, which is *Camp Hollywood*. Hollywood pins were distributed to each board member. In addition, a QR code was shared with the board to access *The Proud Principal* Podcast featuring Principal Hefner. In closing, Principal Hefner thanked the Board of Education for all they do.

D. Changes to the Agenda.

There were no changes to the agenda.

E. Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee - Ms. Gunn.

- a. PRESS Policy Memo #117 - First Reading.
 - Policy chair Gunn shared highlights from PRESS Issue #117 - Fall Legislative Updates.
 - Nineteen policies were included in this bundle, and several noteworthy revisions were discussed. In addition, there is a District 96 edit to Policy 7:190 - Student Behavior.
 - *Policy 2:120 – Board Member Development
 - Additional training on student outcomes will be added to the mandatory board member training for 2025. Cathy was asked to inquire if incumbent members could participate in this training. Also, board members are

required to complete The Open Meetings Act training. This training is only required once. Can board members take this training or view as a refresher?

- *Policy 4:30 - Revenue and Investments
 - The District uses a Township Treasurer for investments. This policy will be reviewed.
 - *Policy 4:170 – Safety
 - A requirement has been added. Yes, the district does have AEDs in all of its facilities.
 - *Policy 5:10 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
 - The board sought clarification on this policy, which seems very broad.
 - *Policy 5:20 - Workplace Harassment Prohibited
 - Superintendent Ryan-Toye will get clarification from the district’s attorney regarding Policies 5:10 and 5:20. The board had several questions about these policies and the Human Rights Act.
 - *Policy 6:60 – Curriculum Content
 - Member Gunn wants to look more into the Pace framework.
 - The board would like to get clarity on this policy; they want to understand better what is expected of the board.
 - Policy 8:10 – Connection with the Community
 - This was a result of a recent Supreme Court case.
 - *Policy 7:190 -Student Behavior (D96 edits)
 - The goal is to clarify the policy; we can share feedback with PRESS Plus.
 - Several questions were presented, including how to address firearms and how to leave the administration to view on a case-by-case basis.
- The deadline to submit these policies is February 28.
 - This matter will be moved to the Regular Business Meeting on December 18, 2024,
- b. IASA/IASB/IASBO Conference Feedback and Discussion.
- Several board members attended this year’s IASB annual conference and shared feedback from the sessions attended.

2. Finance Committee - Mr. Barsott

- a. Tax Year 2024 Levy Initial Discussion.
- Jim Fitton, Director of Finance, shared the Tentative 2024 Tax Levy with the board members.
 - The School District is subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL), which limits the increase in the tax to the CPI or statutorily 5%, whichever is less. The applicable increase is 5%. The final extension will include new properties on the tax roll for the first time. New Property includes expired finished construction and tax increment financing districts; both are taxed at the full rate. The proposed levy is \$31,286,285.
 - Mr. Fitton shared the levy timeline.
 - The newspaper has posted the notice, scheduling a public hearing and a vote to adopt the final levy at its next meeting on December 18, 2024.

3. Facilities Committee - Mr. Marhoul.

- a. Capital Improvements and/or Maintenance Considerations.

- i. DLA MOU for Hollywood Roof Replacement - Summer 2025.
 - ii. DLA MOU for Hauser Masonry - Summer 2025.
 - iii. DLA MOU for Blythe Park windows - 1) Design development and 2) later MOU for construction drawings - Summer of 2026.
- Facilities Chair Marhoul shared highlights regarding these matters.
 - The Hollywood Roof Replacement and Hauser Masonry will be summer 2025 projects. The Blythe Park windows project is slated as a 2026 summer project.
 - The DLT MOU has been revised to include a fixed fee.
 - The construction schedules for the summer 2025 projects will be revised.
 - Member Gunn inquired about the status of the security overview. A comprehensive board discussion is scheduled for closed session on January 15, 2025.
 - Member Claps inquired about the Blythe Park windows project and the Historic Preservation Commission process. She questioned if a board member would better share the board's intent than the district's service providers on these matters.
 - The three DLA MOUs will be moved to the December 18, 2024 Regular Business meeting.
- b. Blythe Park Intergovernmental Agreement
- It was reiterated that this matter was tabled at a prior board meeting due to the draft IGA being very vague.
 - Board President Muirheid shared that after watching the Village of Riverside meeting regarding this IGA, this matter was sent to Riverside Parks and Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission for feedback.
 - The board discussed more effective ways for the board to communicate with other government agencies. Member Claps suggested the board convey our intentions to the Village.
 - It was shared that boards are tied to the Open Meetings Act (OMA), and agencies must be invited to the meetings.
 - It was suggested to model the agreement used for the Hollywood IGA as a starting point for this IGA.
 - D96 could attend and share our vision: improve play space and modernize this project's current equipment at Blythe Park.
 - Superintendent Ryan-Toye suggested asking to be placed on the Village's agenda as a designated place on a specific date and time to provide an overview of D96's goals (improve outdoor playspaces), ownership, and who is doing what. The Village could attend a D96 board meeting and share their goals.
 - This matter will be brought to the board for discussion later.
- c. School Maintenance Grant.
- This is the second time D96 has applied for this grant. January 2020 was the first time this grant was applied for.
 - This **School Maintenance Project Grant (SMPG)** is a dollar-for-dollar state matching grant program providing awards up to \$50,000 to grantees exclusively for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. A project may involve different types of work on a single building or structure or a single type of work (e.g., new roofing or windows) on several buildings or structures. There is no limit to the project cost; however, grant awards shall not exceed \$50,000 per grant award, and applicants shall provide a match from local funds equal to the grant amount requested.

- The district wants to use this grant application toward the Ames' Boiler project.

4. Education Committee - Ms. Kachlic.

- a. Strategic Plan Living the Plan Updates.
 - The administration provided the board with the district's Strategic Plan overview. This work guides all of the district's decisions.
 - It was noted that this is the district's fourth year of the plan and may want to start developing the next strategic plan. It was recommended that the mission, vision, and values be the same.
 - As a summer or fall 2025 item, the board may want to start thinking of facilitators for the district's next strategic plan,
- b. Chronic Absenteeism Reporting.
 - The board discussed the first-trimester report developed by the Technology department.
 - Last year, the administration provided a cumulative report at the end of each trimester. The board would also receive a state average to assist in this discussion.
 - The board thanked the administration for this report and finds value in discussing this several times a year. In addition, this report is very encouraging, and the principals were acknowledged for moving these numbers in a positive direction,

5. Personnel Committee - Mr. Hunt/Ms. Claps.

- There was nothing to report.

F. Public Comment/Response.

There were no public comments.

G. Future Meeting Dates.

1. December 18, 2024 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the LRC at Hauser. (The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.).
2. January 1, 2025 - **Canceled** - Committee of the Whole.
3. January 15, 2025 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the LRC at Hauser. (The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.).

H. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

December 4, 2024
Date Recorded

Date Approved

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education