



HCCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Special Meeting – Wednesday, June 7 – 5:30 PM – Room #144

Public Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/9662662117>

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call - 5:37PM**
 - a. **Present: Sherry, Mary (5:43 after director's report), Bridgette, Dillon Mouna, Matt, Laura, Woodrow. Admin in attendance: Kevin; Mary Bassett present as teacher liaison**
 - b. **Absent: Craig**
- II. **Changes or Additions to the Agenda**
- III. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - Moved, seconded. All present in favor.**
- IV. **Public Comment - No one present**
- V. **Board Correspondence - None**
- VI. **Presentations: None**
- VII. **Reports**
 - a. **Director's Report - Kevin**
 - i. $\frac{2}{3}$ teacher openings have been filled, social work has been filled, and down to 2 candidates for principal (excited about both!)
 - b. **President's Report - Sherry**
 - i. We're approaching the end of the term. Thank you Craig for your years of service (he's unable to attend the last two meetings); he will continue on as a committee member.
 - ii. Bridgette's last official board meeting. Thank you for your many years of service and mentoring. It is amazing to know how much work has been put in behind the scenes.
 - iii. Mary's last meeting will be June 21st.
 - iv. Like to acknowledge all of the work that Trustees do behind the scenes. It's easy to continue work and not be recognized. I see the time and effort that is put in. This is a busy time of year and there's been an extensive amount of time put in and it's so gratifying to see the focus on supporting our students, showing board integrity, and doing what is best for the school.
 - c. **Teacher's Report - Mary Bassett**
 - i. Thank you all! Busy planning 8th grade graduation and end of year projects. Grateful for the staffing that's been completed and for the team building.
 - d. **Parent-Teacher Organization Report - Mary**
 - i. Collections going on until June 8th at midnight. Distribution on Tuesday. Last PTO meeting has happened. The new executive committee has been filled. Year books will be distributed next week (lead: Abby).
 - e. **Committee Reports as Applicable**
 - i. Finance - hold for budget report
 - ii. Governance - hold for action items
 - iii. Advancement - hold until later
- VIII. **Discussion Items / Budget Hearing**
 - a. **2023-24 Initial Budget:**
 - i. Kevin: Far right column compared to the column just to the left of it. Non-human resource line items. 0.75/hour raise for hourly staff members. Salary schedule has moved up. 8% increase in utility costs (baked into rent). Bottom line: 18.39% fund balance, very healthy. There will be some minor adjustments as Kevin works with the accountant.
 - ii. Sherry: We are required to review the budget as it stands at the end of the school year, reflecting on the fund balance (23.8%), the signal from Lansing that the student allowance will

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be stable, and the continued positive management of the budget, the finance committee is justified in the planned 2% increase for compensation.

- iii. Dillon: What is contained under the community service line item?
- iv. Sherry: email the details from the accountant so that she doesn't mispeak on the specifics. A "cheat sheet" will be created to help trustees understand the details. There's been a sizeable readjustment with the accountant - so budget item labels have been shifted around.
- v. Bridgette: Community Service among other things includes our lease. Central includes hardware/software and technology, for example.

IX. Action Items - specified public comment for each action item

a. 2022-23 Final Budget Amendment

- i. Public comment: None
- ii. Motioned by Matt, Seconded Bridgette - open for discussion:
 - 1. Matt: Does this include the \$2500 bonus? Kevin: Yes. Matt: Support with his whole heart.
 - 2. Laura: Are there significant funding sources drying up? Kevin: Yes. Covid funds will need to be expended by 2024. It may be extended again but it is possible that the federal government may claw back the money with a new debt ceiling debate in Jan 2024.
 - 3. Sherry: Drying up federal funds need to be addressed comprehensively in our long term strategic budget planning.
 - 4. Kevin: The state has started putting quite a bit of funding into stabilization funds to mitigate any deep cuts that become necessary.
 - 5. Vote: All present in favor.

b. Board Election

- i. Public comment: None
- ii. Laura: Motion to accept the top two vote getters who are still in the election and to note whether someone had withdrawn. Seconded by Woodrow. - Open for discussion:
 - 1. Sherry: We did receive a withdrawal from one of the candidates after voting had been opened. Governance members reached out to all nominees prior to opening the election to confirm eligibility and roles and responsibilities of Trustees. All 8 nominees confirmed. 3 trustees in governance, excluding Matt who is on the ballot, discussed and reviewed a number of different options have been considered and are still being considered. Our top priority is the integrity of the election and the decision of the board was regardless of vote counts. This is why we haven't announced the results of the election - so we could have a clear focus on the process. Additional eligibility requirements have been uncovered in the policy discovery process.
 - 2. Laura: To echo the process - this is the first time this has happened. There is no precedent or policy to base this decision on.
 - 3. Bridgette: Someone drops, they're out, we take the top vote getters.
 - 4. Woodrow: Is there a limit to the number of committee members? Sherry: We started that conversation in governance; we'll be bringing outlines and guidelines on committee membership.
 - 5. Mary: Clarifying that it's the top 2 of the remaining nominees after the withdrawal has been completed.
 - 6. Dillon: We've put a lot of thought into all the options. My preference is to close the election as is and then if the withdrawal has won a seat they can decline and we run an election to fill the open seat or appoint if there is only one candidate. To me this is the best way to honor the community's voice. Sherry: If we report results without acknowledging the withdraw then we do a disservice.
 - 7. Mouna: Is it feasible to have the person withdrawing to determine where their votes go? Dillon: Essentially no; that doesn't seem appropriate.

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8. Vote: 8 in favor, 1 abstain (Dillon) - motion passes.
9. Sherry: Serving as a trustee is one of many opportunities to serve in the school, in addition to the PTO, the Foundation, and in-school/classroom..

X. Acknowledgements & Thank You's

- a. **Laura:** Thank you to the trustees for the extreme responsiveness. Mary - thank you for services as the teacher liaison.
- b. **Matt:** Thank you to the governance committee. There's a lot of work to be done with the election. It's amazing how much work went in. Thank you Laura for the work put into the Director Evaluation. Bridgette - thank you for your many years, Mary for your time here and in the PTO, and Craig for your years with the board and Foundation.
- c. **Bridgette:** Thank you to past and current chairs and leadership. Thanks for letting me see into this place in a really unique way.
- d. **Sherry:** I echo Sherry and Matt's words. And to Salli Kropp who is retiring after so many years. The $\frac{2}{3}$ classrooms are in such good hands because of the years you and Mary have given to the school. It's wonderful that you've been here to guide the selection of the incoming $\frac{2}{3}$ teachers. When you put all this time and service into the school a piece of you is here.
- e. **Woodrow:** gratitude to everyone in this room and everyone not in this room - we don't all have an abundance of time - and I appreciate the work put in. I appreciate Kevin and the work you've put into this year - I challenge anyone to step into these shoes and do a better job.
- f. **Sherry:** Don't Criticize. Get involved. Find a way to participate in the solution.

XI. Public Comment

- a. **Heidi Ellis:** Woodrow that was insightful. Keeping the temperature down - get active instead. I'm worried about the unprecedented negativity circulating. I'm worried this will come back and hit the board regardless of the decision and you put so much work in. Thank you for what you're doing.

XII. Closed Session - We will not be coming back to the zoom after the closed session. Thank you for participating tonight. Good Evening.

- a. Motion to enter closed session: Moved, seconded. Roll Call Vote to move into closed session: Woodrow, Mouna, Mary, Sherry, Dillon, Bridgette, Matt, Laura - all in favor.
- b. Director's Evaluation in closed session
- c. Reconvene in Open Session 8:24PM.

XIII. Action Items

- a. Director's Evaluation - Motion to approve evaluation, seconded. All present in favor (Laura, Bridgette, Matt, Mouna, Mary, Sherry, Dillon).

XIV. Adjournment - 8:25PM.

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