

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HOLMEN
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 13, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
School Board Meeting Room
1019 McHugh Road
Holmen, Wisconsin 54636**

01. CALL TO ORDER by J. Dieck, Board President

02. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

03. ROLL CALL by M. Smith, Board Clerk

Board members present were Jennifer Dieck, Khadijah Islam, Chris Lau, Lindsay Nied, Maggie Smith, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Barb Wuensch, and Keiven Zielke (Student Representative).

04. NOTICE OF QUORUM by J. Dieck, Board President

With seven Board members present, J. Dieck declared a quorum.

05. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agenda for the January 13, 2025 Board meeting. Motion made by C. Lau, seconded by K. Islam. Motion carried.

06. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one addressed the Board.

07. RECOGNITION/THANK YOU

7.1 Runde Metal Recycling LLC Thank You

District Administrator Dr. Kristin Mueller thanked Runde Metal Recycling LLC for their help with Holmen Middle School's food drive.

7.2 La Crosse Area Community Foundation Donation

Dr. Mueller thanked the La Crosse Area Community Foundation for their donation of \$1,500 to the HMS food pantry.

7.3 DBS Group Donation

Dr. Mueller recognized DBS Group for their donation of \$500 to each Holmen elementary school for the schools' successful food drives.

7.4 Bernie Buchner Mechanical Donation

Dr. Mueller thanked Bernie Buchner Mechanical for the company's donation of snow pants, books, and board games to District elementary schools.

7.5 The League of Ridiculous Donation

Dr. Mueller thanked the League of Ridiculous for their donation of \$7,560 to Project LIVE and the ASL program.

7.6 Sarah Mullenbach Foundation Donations

The Sarah Mullenbach Foundation recently donated a total of \$10,000 to Holmen High School with funds designated for Quiz Bowl equipment and entry fees, Robotics Club equipment and parts, HHS band instruments, and for the Hmong Student Organization to bring in a speaker. Dr. Mueller thanked Dan and Cece Mullenbach for their generosity.

7.7 Board Member Recognition

a. Lindsay Nied

b. Maggie Smith

c. Bridget Todd-Robbins

d. Barb Wuensch

e. Jennifer Dieck

f. Chris Lau

Board members L. Nied, M. Smith, B. Todd-Robbins, and B. Wuensch were recognized for reaching Level 1 of the WASB member recognition program. J. Dieck and C. Lau were recognized for achieving Level 2.

08. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

- 8.1 2022 Referendum Financing Plan Discussion Update
Executive Director of Finance & Operations Julie Holman, along with Erik Kass, Director of Public Finance at PMA Securities, LLC, presented information on the 2022 referendum financing plan, including information on the two borrowings executed in January of 2023, key considerations, interest rate indications, and the final borrowing to be executed on January 27, 2025. This will be a \$24.75M tax exempt issue amortized over 20 years. On January 27, 2025, the board will be presented with a resolution and a bid summary based on the sale of the bonds earlier that day.
- 8.2 WIAA Co-Curricular Renewal Agreement:
a. Boys Hockey Co-Op
b. Girls Hockey Co-Op
HHS Activities Director Jason Luloff presented for approval on January 27 the WIAA co-curricular renewal agreements for girls and boys hockey through the 2026-27 school years. There were no changes to the boys hockey agreement, but Onalaska Luther was added to the girls hockey cooperative.
- 8.3 Anticipated Spaces for New Open Enrolled
Executive Director of Student Services Jill Mason presented to the Board for approval on January 27 the anticipated spaces for 2025-26 open enrollment as follows: 4K through 12th grade – unlimited. Currently-attending students will be guaranteed approval and placed according to Board Policy 5113. Siblings of currently attending students shall be granted preference in the random selection process according to Board Policy 5113. Anticipated spaces available for students requesting open enrollment for the following 18-21 year old transition programs: Project LIVE – 1, Project Bridge – 4, and Project SEARCH – open. Anticipated spaces available for students requesting open enrollment for Cross Categorical programming in the following schools/programs: Evergreen - 4, Sand Lake - 3, Prairie View – 13, and Viking – 0, Early Childhood Special Education – open, and all other schools are open. Students with special education needs requesting open enrollment into the District who require 1:1 adult support for the entirety of the school day will be denied. There are no anticipated spaces for students with speech and language services, occupational therapy services and/or physical therapy services requesting open enrollment into the District. There are no anticipated spaces for students with a disability-related need requiring crisis intervention for lagging skills in behavior.
- 8.4 Educational Options – 2015 WI Act 55 Notice Reminder
Executive Director of Instructional Services Kim Edwards presented to the Board for approval on January 27 the Class 1 notice describing all educational options available to children who reside in the District, as well as notification about the District's accountability report. The notice will be published in the La Crosse Tribune on January 18, 2025.
- 8.5 2025-26 School Year Calendar
Director of Human Resources Melissa Kaatz presented to the Board for approval on January 27 consent agenda the 2025-26 school year calendar for students. The calendar contains 178 student contact days, beginning September 2, 2025 and ending on June 5, 2026.
- 8.6 2024-25 Financial Statements & Management Letter Update
Director of Business Services Krystal Matt shared with the Board for approval on January 27 the 2023-24 Financial Statements and Management Letter. The auditor found no concerns with the financial statements, federal or state awards.

09. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the January 13, 2025 Consent Agenda as presented, which includes: December 9, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes; Personnel Report; Financial Claims and Accounts; Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$3,850,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes; and Second Reading of Board Policies: 8500 Food Services, 8531 Free and Reduced-Price Meals, 8550 Competitive Food Sales, 8600 Transportation, 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicles for District-Sponsored Activities or Trips, and 8680 Transportation Service Contracts. Motion made by M. Smith and seconded by B. Todd-Robbins. Motion carried.

10. BOARD DEBRIEF

- 10.1 Board Member comments/reinforcement and committee reports
K. Islam stated that Board members are often able to celebrate amazing projects with community members but tonight is the first time that she has felt the need to grieve with community members for the passing of Sand Lake Speech and Language Pathologist Allison Boelter. She noted it is important to highlight the beautiful light she was and offered her deepest condolences to Allison's family and the Sand Lake community.

L. Nied offered her condolences, as well. She thanked tonight's presenters. She noted she loves the thoughtfulness that went into the school calendar to utilize feedback received and offer choices, which she acknowledges takes time. She said the end result looks great.

M. Smith said K. Islam expressed it well and that Allison's loved ones have been on her mind. She thanked tonight's presenters.

B. Todd-Robbins agreed with all comments so far. She gave kudos to Project LIVE because they have to give a pitch to earn the donation from the League of Ridiculous and did a great job. She noted that she is excited to attend the State Education Convention next week.

B. Wuensch recognized the families and community members that volunteered at Holmen's show choir event. She stated that she could not believe the amount of volunteer hours that go into making the event successful and thanked all for their dedication to the kids.

K. Zielke congratulated DECA on their success at the district competition and advancing many to the state level. He noted upcoming events such as show choir, power lifting, and wrestling. He recognized the choir recently placed fourth overall at a competition, while earning the best sopranos award. K. Zielke reported finals are this week and this will be a four day weekend. The theme for this year's prom is "A Night in Paris."

J. Dieck thanked all for the donations and recognized the incredible amount of folks contributing to the District. She gave a shout out to HMS show choir coach Elliott Rickert for the incredible job he is doing, adding the program earned grand champion last weekend at Onalaska. J. Dieck recognized the passing of Allison Boelter and explained the impact she had on her family and many others, noting that she will be greatly missed.

10.2 Correspondence received

10.3 Verification of Candidacy and Ballot Order

At a Drawing for Ballot Order held on January 8 determined the placement of candidate names for the April 1, 2025 spring election as (1) Khadijah Islam and (2) Barb Wuensch.

10.4 WASB Resolutions

10.5 Board Meeting Schedule

- a. January 15, 2025 Community Session: Strategic Plan Refresh
- b. January 22-24, 2025 State Education Convention – Milwaukee
- c. January 27, 2025 Finance Committee Meeting, 5 pm
- d. January 27, 2025 Board Meeting, 7 pm
- e. February 5, 2025 Wellness Committee Meeting, 3:45 pm
- f. February 10, 2025 DEI Committee Meeting, 5 pm
- g. February 10, 2025 Board Meeting, 7 pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns the regular meeting of January 13, 2025 at 7:57 p.m. Moved by C. Lau. Seconded K. Islam. Motion carried.

Submitted by Maggie Smith, Board Clerk.

