

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HOLMEN
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 12, 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 Chris Lau, Lindsay Nied, Maggie Smith, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Barb Wuensch, Abigail Holthe (Student Representative), and Jennifer Dieck. Khadijah Islam was absent.

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

With six 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 May 12, 2025 Board meeting. Motion made by C. Lau, seconded by B. Todd-Robbins. Motion carried.

06. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one addressed the Board.

07. RECOGNITION/THANK YOU

7.1 Foreign Exchange Students and Host Families 2024-25

District Administrator Dr. Kristin Mueller recognized this year's Holmen High School (HHS) foreign exchange students and their host families. Foreign exchange student Fredrick Thiel of Germany addressed the Board.

7.2 Lyn Luce Leadership Award – Kam-Lin Roswall

Wisconsin Interscholastic Speech & Dramatic Arts Association Executive Director Adam Jacobi presented HHS educator and forensics advisor Kam-Lin Roswall with the Lyn Luce Leadership Award.

7.3 Wisconsin Agriculture Youth Council Member – Addison Wille

Dr. Mueller congratulated HHS student Addison Wille for being named to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's Agriculture Youth Council. Addison is just one of 15 students across the state named to the council.

7.4 Lunch Trailblazer Recognition Award – Holmen Nutrition Services

Dr. Mueller recognized the School District of Holmen Nutrition Services Department for receiving the Healthy Meals Incentive's Lunch Trailblazer Award for the department's work to serve healthy, local, and tasty food to Holmen students.

08. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

8.1 HMS Student Council

HMS Student Council members shared with the Board about service projects and activities completed by the organization throughout the school year including celebrating Homecoming, assisting with Pumpkin Fest, pie baking, Green & Gold set up, hand knitting blankets and taking part in the Little Heart Project.

8.2 HHS Student Council

HHS Student Council members provided a year-end summary of the HHS Student Council. The group's 2024-25 projects included student and staff recognition programs, Homecoming festivities, blood drives, volunteering at the Salvation Army, and more.

8.3 Long Range LMC Plan

Library Media Center (LMC) Directors Jaci Pankhurst and Staci Eskildsen presented to the Board for report an update on progress of the Library Plan Goals and highlights from each school's LMC.

8.4 Sand Lake Elementary Highlights

Sand Lake Elementary Principal Matt Meyers shared, for report only, highlights from the school including curriculum implementation and enrichment, student success and support, staff collaboration, community and

family engagement, student enrichment opportunities, student leadership and school-wide activities, and other highlights.

- 8.5 2025-26 Base Wage
- a. Hourly & Non-Affiliated
 - b. Nurses
 - c. Administrators/Directors
 - d. Educators

Director of Human Resources Melissa Kaatz and Dr. Mueller presented to the Board for approval on the May 27 consent agenda the base wage rate recommendations for hourly and non-affiliated staff, nurses, administrators/directors, and educators. The recommendation is for a 0% base wage increase for 2025-26 for all hourly and salaried pay staff groups. In addition, the recommendation includes approval of supplemental increases within specified groups. Approved base wage rates would be effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

- 8.6 2025 HHS Candidates for Graduation and 2026 Graduation Date
- Dr. Mueller presented for approval on tonight's consent agenda the list of 2025 Holmen High School candidates for graduation and the 2026 graduation date of May 23, 2026.

- 8.7 Transportation Eligibility
- Director of Transportation Dan Garrett and Assistant Director of Transportation Andrea Gaulke presented to the Board for approval on May 27 the recommendation to expand non-transportation zones for the 2025-26 school year. In 2023-24, the District adopted a revised UHT (unusually hazardous transportation) Plan. This plan was in coordination with the Village of Holmen police department and the La Crosse County Sheriff's office. The UHT Plan was used to develop recommended walking or biking routes related to the expansion of proposed non-transportation zones. The recommendations reflect changes in pedestrian infrastructure, improved safety conditions, and continued alignment with the district's transportation efficiency goals.

- 8.8 Joint Federal Accountability Report (ESSA & IDEA)
- Executive Director of Instructional Services Kim Edwards presented the 2023-24 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) report including ESSA identifications, individual reports, and opportunities for improvement. The District scored as overall high performing. Executive Director of Student Services Jill Mason presented the report for Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), which included one citation of significant racial disproportionality in identification for other health impairments and next steps to address the disproportionality.

09. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the May 12, 2025 Consent Agenda as presented, which includes: April 7 and 14, 2025 Board Minutes, Personnel Report, Financial Claims and Accounts, Second Reading of Board Policy: po 8510 Wellness, 2025-26 CESA Contracted Services, and 2025 HHS Candidates for Graduation and 2026 Graduation Date. Motion made by C. Lau and seconded by M. Smith. Motion carried.

10. BOARD DEBRIEF

- 10.1 Board Member comments/reinforcement and committee reports
- C. Lau noted that he was unable to attend the Policy Committee meeting. He stated tonight's meeting was impactful with many celebrations, but also harsh realities. He said it is always positive to see the list of graduates and thanked all those that presented, adding it is great to hear from students.
- L. Nied thanked the host families and said the foreign exchange program is a neat opportunity. She congratulated those that received awards tonight.
- M. Smith reported the Policy Committee met and is forwarding three policies to the Board for consideration. She noted tonight's meeting had a lot of celebrations, but many hard decisions. She stated the Joint Finance Committee is currently working on the state budget and many of the District's decisions are dependent on the result. She encouraged all to reach out to their state legislature to share their thoughts on education funding.
- B. Todd-Robbins echoed the comments of those before her adding the celebrations are amazing, but there are harsh realities.
- B. Wuensch gave a special congratulations to Kam-Lin Roswall for her leadership in forensics and the amazing work she does. B. Wuensch thanked Executive Director of Finance & Operations Julie Holman and the administrative team for all the work that goes into the District budget. She noted Holmen has gone a very long time before we reached this point and other school districts have had several failed referenda. She added she hopes the community truly sees and understands why we are here and supports us in the future.
- A. Holthe reported that it is seniors' last week of school. Dancing with the Sports Stars, promoted by the sports marketing class, successfully raised nearly \$17,000 for HHS teacher Svetlana Ott. She noted that in her role as

student representative, she has begun publishing a newsletter to share information from Board meetings with students. A. Holthe noted AP testing is wrapping up, staff appreciation week was a success, and there are many concerts and activities still happening before the end of the year.

10.2 Correspondence received

10.3 School Board Committee Written Reports

- a. January 27, 2025 Finance Committee Notes
- b. March 5, 2025 Policy Committee Notes

10.4 First Reading of Board Policies:

- a. po 2464 Advanced Learning Instruction (“Gifted and Talented”)
- b. po 5330 Administration of Medication/Emergency Care
- c. po 5341 Emergency Medical Authorization (Rescind)
- d. po 5411 Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At Risk Students

10.5 Board Meeting Schedule

- a. May 21, 2025 Senior Recognition Night, 6:30 p.m., FAC
- b. May 24, 2025 High School Graduation Ceremony, 11 a.m., La Crosse Center
- c. May 27, 2025 Retiree Reception, 6 p.m., Boardroom
- d. May 27, 2025 Board Meeting, 7 p.m. (Tuesday)
- e. May 30, 2025 Last Day of School
- f. June 9, 2025 Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns the regular meeting of May 12, 2025 at 9:07 p.m. Moved by M. Smith. Seconded C. Lau. Motion carried.

Submitted by Maggie Smith, Board Clerk.

