

**Special Board Meeting Minutes  
Hollister School District  
January 28, 2022  
6:00PM**

**2690 Cienega Road  
Hollister, CA 95023**

**Via live Youtube stream at <https://boardmeeting.hesd.org>**

**Closed Session: 5:00 PM**

**Open Session: 6:00 PM**

**Closed Session: 8:30 PM**

1. Call Meeting to Order  
President Carla Torres-DeLuna called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call  
President Torres-DeLuna conducted a roll call. All board members were present.
3. Flag Salute  
Clerk Lisa Marks led the flag salute.
4. Staff and Student Recognition  
Superintendent Erika Sanchez introduced and shared a compilation video, which included certificated and classified staff and administrators, interacting with HSD students in the classroom and on the playground. Superintendent Sanchez thanked the entire HSD community of staff for supporting and nurturing each other and students.
5. Closed Session Announcements  
President Torres-DeLuna announced the unanimous vote, 5-0, to accept the resignation of a district administrator.
6. Approve the Agenda  
Trustee Jan Grist motioned to approve the agenda. Clerk Lisa Marks seconded the motion. 5-0
7. Public Comments  
Parent, Brian Feci, a parent of three children at Ladd Lane School, said he was motivated to speak as a result of the Regular Board Meeting that was interrupted earlier in the week by concerned parents and community members. Mr. Feci explained that his children were placed in quarantine and he appreciated that his children were protected by the district due to a possible COVID-exposure. However, he suggested that by day five, his children should have been tested and allowed to return to class. Mr. Feci said

the increasing divisiveness in the community was a concern. Mr. Feci expressed that improved communication to families by District personnel would help alleviate the stress of parents.

Anita Sarringhaus, Hollister School District's school nurse, described the unprecedented number of COVID-19 cases that arose in the last few weeks. Nurse Sarringhaus described the dedication of staff who helped each day to ensure student safety and made students a priority. Nurse Sarringhaus also described how much more the staff are doing, including administrators substitute teaching in classrooms, and all employees pitching in to help out during the teacher shortage. Nurse Sarringhaus also pointed out that parents have a choice of independent study or in-person learning for their students. Alma Phillips, parent of a Maze Middle School student, expressed that she was not happy with masks, and described the psychological and physical damage she believed masks are causing students, including her own daughter.

Tony Avila, a great-grandfather of students in the district, expressed concern over face coverings. Mr. Avila stated that science proves that the masks do not protect the children, and data showed that masks caused more harm to children than good.

Parent, Celeste Bocanegra, compared the earlier Tuesday Regular Board Meeting to what she described as Rosa Parks' and Caesar Chavez's movements. Mrs. Bocanegra said to stop enforcing masks. Mrs. Bocanegra said that the district is funded by COVID money. Mrs. Bocanegra said to the Board to not segregate unvaccinated children in schools.

Mr. Devo, whose children attend Ladd Lane, asked that the children receive a public apology who were told to leave class at one of the school sites. Mr. Devo said shutting down an entire classroom and letting him know by email was wrong by district. He also expressed that his child has anxiety wearing a mask.

Kathleen Volly, a respiratory nurse, said that masks are doing more harm than good for children because bacteria can develop with the face masks.

Laurie Forrest, teacher of Hollister School District, said that her students do not complain about wearing a mask.

Cynthia Annotti, teacher at RO Hardin School, said there is no drama in her classroom about wearing masks. Mrs. Annotti said that it is the parents' responsibility how they react to wearing masks that influences their children. Mrs. Annotti explained that her students have fun decorating their masks and she has had no issue with the students.

Shilo Burns, an RO Hardin parent, expressed concern regarding her student having to wear a mask.

Kathleen Sampson, teacher at Marguerite Maze, stated that students are not depressed by wearing masks, and stated that there are other things that are causing depression in their lives. Mrs. Sampson expressed that she would rather be in person than distance learning, and that masks help to prevent the spread.

Marguerite Maze student, Meghan Phillips, stated that she suffers from anxiety, panic attacks, and stress because she is required to wear a mask at school.

## 8. Public Hearing

Legal Counsel, Nicole Tucker from AALRR, presented the trustee area map scenarios that will assist in electing the governing board members for the November 2022 board member election. Per the 2020 census data, the total population of Hollister is 50,500 people. Statistics were broken down by ethnicity and race, and total population numbers were broken down and reflected by percentage. Before presenting scenario one, Trustee Martinez asked why it was that one of the goals was to stay as close to the current trustee area boundaries as possible. Counsel Nicole Tucker explained that balancing boundaries is under education code provisions. Ms. Tucker explained that if the Board wanted to start from scratch, they could take additional legal steps. The Board requested another set of maps be shared at a future meeting.

9. Action Item: Trustee Area Maps

Trustee Grist revoked the action item until Superintendent Erika could ask for updated maps and obtained public input. Clerk Marks seconded the motion. Trustee Toste asked for a timeline. Superintendent Sanchez stated she would contact the company and ask for a scenario three. Clerk Marks motioned, depending upon whether the district got a scenario three, to consider the updated data in public at a special board meeting and have the community feedback, and be prepared to vote at the regular February board meeting. Trustee Grist seconded. 5-0

10. Approval of Minutes for December 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

Clerk Marks motioned to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2021 regular board meeting. Trustee Martinez seconded. 5-0

11. Consent Items

11.a. Approval of the Amendment Contractual Agreement with Jackson Therapy Partners LLC to extend special education services

11.b. Approval of Personnel Report January 2022

11.c. Approval of New Contracts under \$15,000 January 2022

11.d. Approval Board Warrants January 2022

11.e. Approval of Personnel Report January 2022

11.f. Approval of Contracts for Services And/Or Products for E-Rate Year 2021-2022

11.g. Approval of Personnel Report January 2022

11.h. Approval of Student Teaching Affiliation Agreement between Grand Canyon University and Hollister School District.

Trustee Martinez motioned to approve consent items 11.a through 11.h. Trustee Toste seconded the motion. 5-0

12. Discussion/ Action Items

12.a. Approval of AB 1200 Disclosure of Bargaining Unit Agreements

Interim Business Director, Lisa Wiggins, presented the AB 1200 disclosures of the bargaining agreements, related to the final settlement for both units for 2020-21 with both CSEA and HESTA. Upon final closure of fiscal year 2020-21, the district agreed to pay a 1% salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2020. Trustee Grist thanked everyone

who worked on the AB 1200. Trustee Martinez thanked union partners during trying times.

Trustee Grist motioned to approve AB 1200 Disclosure of Bargaining Unit Agreements. Trustee Martinez seconded. 5-0

12b. Superintendent's Report: Follow-up to January 10, 2022 Special Board Meeting  
Superintendent Sanchez presented early January 2022 staffing challenges with both classified and certificated absences. Superintendent Sanchez presented that the attendance data showed 63% average student daily attendance through January 25, 2022. Superintendent Sanchez described the efforts of the district office staff and site staff and what the sites were doing to face the staffing challenges. Superintendent Sanchez described the COVID proactive measures taking place, including the distribution of N95 masks to all staff. President Torres-DeLuna questioned where the community survey was that she requested two weeks ago, at a special board meeting.

#### 12.c. Discussion of Certificated and Classified Lay-off Procedures

Superintendent Sanchez explained the lay-off process and legal procedures for both certificated union members and classified union members, as requested by the Board of Trustees. Superintendent Sanchez emphasized that the presentation was only informational, and not reflective of any decisions by the district.

#### 12.d. Discussion and Approval of AB 361

All Board members agreed to keep the meetings open to the public, and encouraged the public to continue to follow COVID protocol during in-person meetings. No action needed.

### 13. Board Member Report

Trustee Martinez had no report. Trustee Toste visited school nurses and recognized that the school nurses work hard to help students. Trustee Toste also visited Ladd Lane and witnessed the front office staff working hard to answer phones in the absence of the health clerk. Trustee Toste was appreciative of the front office staff's positivity. President Torres-DeLuna reported she called Assemblyman Robert Rivas, Senator Ana Caballero, and Congressman Jimmy Pannetta and local board of supervisor members to plead for funding for covid tests and additional sites for testing in San Benito County, and asked that the COVID sick leave pay be reinstated. President Torres-DeLuna stated that she found a potential testing lab and explored options and collaborated with the community on the idea and resource, and was in the vetting process of the resource. Trustee Grist announced that she is part of a library coalition committee and felt good about grants being considered, as she and the coalition are trying to get someone to draw plans on a new library. Trustee Grist participated in a monthly webinar called Don't Suspend Me, and had her first class in January. Trustee Grist also completed the first intergovernmental meeting with the San Benito County Office of Education.

14. Future Agenda Items

Trustee Grist stated that the district needed to keep an eye on the expansion of John Smith Road Landfill. Trustee Grist requested that the governance workshops be set up soon and revisit the governance calendar for updates. Trustee Martinez requested that before any major decisions are made, that a budget update be provided to the Board. Trustee Toste had no future agenda items. Trustee Marks asked about updates on the governance calendar, and asked for a governance handbook. President Torres-DeLuna asked about an update regarding the intergovernmental committees.

15. Announcements/Reminders

No announcements or reminders.

16. Convene to Closed Session

Trustee Martinez made a motion to convene to closed session. Trustee Toste seconded.  
5-0

17. Call Meeting Back to Order

President Torres-DeLuna called the meeting back to order.

18. Closed Session Announcements

No announcements were made in closed session.

19. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

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