

Highland Local School District - Regular Meeting

Highland Local School District Board of Education

Middle School Robotics Room

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Present: Nate Huffman, Superintendent; John Messmer, Board President; Eric Thacker, Board Member; Burgess Castle, Board Member; Kathy Belcher, Board Member; Jason Fleming, Treasurer; Board Member, Board Member

Absent: Bill Short, Board Vice President; Jessika Roberts, Assistant Treasurer

1 Call to Order

President

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

President

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer led the Pledge of Allegiance

3 Roll Call

President

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer called roll. Mr, Short was absent. All other members present.

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

4 Approve Minutes

Resolution to approve the minutes for the December 11, 2024 Work Session and Regular Board of Education Meeting as presented

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-014 Approve Minutes

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

[00.11 Regular Meeting 12.11.2024.pdf](#)

[00.11 Work Session 12.11.2024.pdf](#)

5 Approve Financial Statements

Mr. Fleming

Resolution to approve the December 2024 Financial Statements as presented.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-015 Approve Financial Statements

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

6 Public Participation

Community

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient manner, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes has elapsed. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity. Persons desiring more time should follow procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board present and voting.

Minutes:

None wished to address the Board

7 Move from Regular to Executive Session

WHEREAS, as a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of a quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

1. To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual.
2. To consider the purchase of property for public purposes or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.
3. Conferences with an attorney for the board of education concerning disputes involving the board of education that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
4. Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.
5. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.
6. Specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoiding prosecution for a violation of the law.

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Local Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on item(s) as listed above.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Minutes:

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:15 pm for item number 1 above.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-016 Executive Session

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

8 Regular Session Reconvened

Minutes:

Regular Session reconvened at 6:31 pm.

9 Accept Resignation Letters From Personnel

Resolution to approve the resignation of the following personnel

Christina Ford ES Custodian

Laura Ball HS Custodian

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-017 Accept Resignation Letters From Personnel

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

10 Approve Classified Contract

Resolution to approve the following classified contract pending the receipt of proper credentials.

Kila Stillwell ES EA2 Step 0

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-018 Approve Classified Contract

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

11 Approve EA3 Stipends

Resolution to approve the following EA3 stipend pending the receipt of proper credentials.

Kila Stillwell ES Aide

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-019 Approve EA3 Stipend

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

12 Approve Supplemental Contracts

Resolution to approve the following supplemental contracts

Don Kline Head Varsity Baseball Coach (9+ Years)

Wyatt Gresh Varsity Assistant Baseball (3 Years)

Tom Johnson JV Baseball Head Coach (5 Years)

Chad Williams JV Baseball Assistant Split (9+ Years)

Travis Church JV Baseball Assistant Split (9+ Years)

Garrett Ulrey Volunteer Baseball Assistant

Luke Beal Boys Track Head Coach (9+ Years)

Brittney Noonan Girls Head Track Coach (1 Year)

Denny West HS Assistant Track (9+ Years)

Barry Myers HS Assistant Track (9+ Years)

Derek Bielecki Sprint Volunteer

Kipp Nelson Sprint Coach (9+ Years)

Chip Wendt Hurdle Coach (9+ Years)

Camryn Taylor Throws Volunteer

Satchel Denton Jumps Volunteer

Abby Steele Head Varsity Softball Coach (3 Years)

Shawn Wilhelm Head JV Softball Coach (9+ Years)

Guinevere Jackson JV Assistant Softball Coach (0 Years)

Gar Keen Varsity Softball Assistant Split (2 Years)

Steward Squires Varsity Softball Assistant Split (1 Year)

Derek Bower Head Boys Middle School Track Coach (9+ Years)

Jeanie Styer Head Girls Middle School Track Coach (9+ Years)

Dustin Green Middle School Assistant Track (6 Years)

Angel Cahall Middle School Assistant Track (4 Years)

Chris Rupe Middle School Assistant Track (7 Years)

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-020 Approve Supplemental Contracts

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member		X	
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

13 Superintendent Contract

Resolution to employ Mr. Nathan Huffman as Superintendent of the Highland Local School District effective 8/1/2025 through 7/31/2028 per the attached contract.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-021 Superintendent Contract

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

14 Approve Trip Request

Resolution to approve the following trip request

Highland HS and MS Robotics Overnight to Dayton for the state tournament.

Highland MS trip to Washington DC

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher ___ Burgess Castle ___ John Messmer ___ William Short ___ Eric Thacker ___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-022 Approve Trip Request

Motioned: Eric Thacker
Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

15 Approve Board Policy Changes

Resolution to approve the following board policy change

PO 2265 Protections of Individual Beliefs, Affiliations, Ideals, or Principles of Political Movements or Ideology

PO 5136.01 Electronic Equipment

PO 6460 Vendor Relations

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-023 Approve Board Policy Changes

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

16 Approve Selover Library Appointment

Resolution to approve the following appointment to the Selover Public Library

Candace Thompson

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-024 Approve Selover Library Appointment

Motioned: Kathy Belcher

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

17 Approve Alternate Tax Budget

Resolution to approve the Alternate Tax Budget as presented.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-025 Approve Alternate Tax Budget

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

18 Records Committee

The district does not plan to ask for the approval from the records committee to dispose of any public records. Therefore, the records committee does not recommend any public records for disposal at this time.

19 Adjourn this Meeting and Confirm Next Meeting Date

Resolution to adjourn this meeting and schedule the next meeting of the Highland Local School District Board of Education to be held Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the middle school robotics room.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Minutes:

Meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-01-026 Adjournment

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Burgess Castle, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		