

Highland Local School District - Regular Meeting

Highland Local School District Board of Education

Middle School Robotics Room

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Present: Nate Huffman, Superintendent; John Messmer, Board President; Eric Thacker, Board Member; Kathy Belcher, Board Member; Jessika Roberts, Assistant Treasurer; Jason Fleming; Board Member, Board Member; Lynn Baldwin, Member; Nate Clark, Member

1 Call to Order

President

Minutes:

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

2 Pledge of Allegiance

President

3 Roll Call

President

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer called roll. All members present.

4 Approve Minutes

Resolution to approve the minutes for the December 10, 2025 Regular Board of Education Meeting as presented

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-014 Approve Minutes

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Nate Clark

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

Attachments:

[Regular Meeting 12.10.2025.pdf](#)

5 Approve Financial Statements

Mr. Fleming

Resolution to approve the December 2025 Financial Statements as presented.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-015 Approve Financial Statements

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

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:

N/A

7 Accept Retirement and Resignation Letters From Personnel

Resolution to accept the following retirement and resignation letters.

Patty Harris ES Teacher (Effective 5-29-2026); retirement
Stacey Swick Paraprofessional 1 (Effective 12-12-2025); resignation

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-016 Accept Retirement and Resignation Letters From Personnel

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

8 Approve Classified Contracts

Resolution to approve the following classified contracts

Stacey Swick ES Paraprofessional 2 - Step 10 (Effective 12/15/2025)

Laura Dempsey ES 6 hour cook - Step 0 (Effective 1/5/26)

Jessica Meadows ES 4.5 hour cook - Step 0 (Effective 1/7/26)

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-017 Approve Classified Contracts

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Nate Clark

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

9 Approve Classified Substitute

Resolution to approve the following classified substitute

Melanie Meade Cook/Cashier, Paraprofessional (Effective 12/4/25)

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-018 Approve Classified Substitute

Motioned: Lynn Baldwin

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

10 Approve Salary Schedule Amendment

Resolution to approve the amended HS Principal salary schedule for contract year 2025-2026.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-019 Approve Salary Schedule Amendment

Motioned: Lynn Baldwin

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

11 Approve Administrative Contract Amendments

Resolution to approve the following administrative contract amendments

Nathan Huffman Superintendent

Jason Fleming Treasurer

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-020 Approve Administrative Contract Amendments

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Nate Clark

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

12 Approve First Reading of the 2026-2027 School Calendar

Resolution to approve the first reading of the 2026-2027 school calendar.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-021 Approve First Reading of the 2026-2027 School Calendar

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Lynn Baldwin

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

13 Approve First Reading of Administrative Guideline Changes

Resolution to approve the first reading of the following Administrative Guidelines

AG 9270: Procedure For Educating A Child At Home

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-022 Approve First Reading of Administrative Guideline Changes

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

14 Approve Trip Request

Resolution to approve the following trip request

High School Baseball Lake Point, Georgia (March 25 - March 29)

Eighth Grade Class to Washington D.C. (May 26-29, 2026)

High School Volleyball Myrtle Beach (July 11-18, 2026)

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-023 Approve Trip Request

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

15 Approve Lease Negotiation

Resolution to approve the Superintendent and Treasurer to engage Marengo Village in negotiations for the potential lease of the Marengo property owed by the district.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-024 Approve Lease Negotiation

Motioned: Nate Clark

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member		X	
Lynn Baldwin, Member		X	
Nate Clark, Member	X		

16 META Solutions Cooperative Bus Bids

Resolution to approve participation in META Solutions Cooperative advertising and receipt of bus bids for school bus chassis and bodies for 2025-2026.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-025 META Solutions Cooperative Bus Bids

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Nate Clark

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

17 Approve Alternate Tax Budget

Resolution to approve the Alternate Tax Budget as presented.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-026 Approve Alternate Tax Budget

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Lynn Baldwin

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		

18 Records Committee

The district does not plan to ask for 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 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the middle school robotics room.

Roll Call: Lynn Baldwin___ Kathy Belcher___ Nate Clark___ Eric Thacker___ John Messmer___

Minutes:

Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 26-01-027 Adjournment

Motioned: Nate Clark

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
Lynn Baldwin, Member	X		
Nate Clark, Member	X		