

HIGHGATE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

HIGHGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

December 8, 2016

6:30 PM

AGENDA:

- 6:30PM Call Meeting to Order
- Agenda Amendments
 - Time Keeper -
- 6:35PM Public Comments Regarding Current and Future Agendas (Listen) *
- Possible Topics for Future Board Meeting Agendas
- 6:40PM Approval of November 10th Board Minutes (Action)
- 6:45PM SBAC Board Presentation – Edna and Kyle
- 7:05PM Business Report
- Check Warrants
 - Current Budget Update
 - Referee Payment
 - FY18 Budget Draft
 - Tax Commissioner’s Recommendations
- 7:30PM Principal’s Report (Listen)
- Support Staff Recruitment Update
 - 5th Grade Teacher Recruitment Update
 - Special Education Teacher Transition
 - Leadership Team Math Curriculum Program Recommendation
 - Updates, Announcements and Celebrations
 - Data Day at SU
 - Professional Development
 - Calendar Highlights
- 7:50PM Superintendent’s Report (Listen)
- Highgate Town Solar Land Acquisition
 - ELL Requirements
 - AOE Integrated Field Review
 - VSA Vision for a World Class Education
 - RISE-VT Childhood Wellness
 - Drug Free Resources for Students and Families
- 8:15PM Old Business
- Hango Drainage Project Update
 - Parking Lot Patching by Town (Action)
 - Act 46 Independent Study Update
- 8:35PM New Business
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- 8:40PM Future Board Meeting Dates

- Act 46 Independent Committee Meeting – Dec. 14, 7pm in MVU Library
 - Teacher Negotiations - Dec. 19, Jan. 11, 7:00 PM in MVU Library
 - FNWSU School Board Meeting – Jan. 4th, 6:30pm at MVU Library
 - Highgate Elementary Board Meeting – January 12th @ 6:30 PM
 - Support Staff Negotiations - Feb. 2, Feb. 23, 6:00 PM in MVU Library
- 8:45PM Anticipated Executive Session – (Answer the Executive Session Compliance Question...*Where premature public knowledge would clearly place the Board or other party at a substantial disadvantage*)
- Negotiations Update
- 9:15PM Exit Executive Session
- Anticipated Action
- 9:20PM Adjournment

FY2017 Board Goals:

1) Support growth of student achievement

- a. Receive quarterly Action Plan updates at Board meetings
- b. Create multi-year budget, facilities, and technology plans

2) Improve communication between the school, parents, and community

- a. Identify staff member to manage social media
- b. Utilize Panorama surveys to review and use student, staff, and parent data for program improvement
- c. Use the results of the Act 46 Independent Study to dialogue with the community about the pros and cons of governance unification.
- d. Receive feedback from the Parent Advisory Council about budget priorities

3) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of Board operations

- a. Create and follow an annual Board Work plan
- b. Revisit Board goals on a quarterly basis
- c. Receive information prior to Board meeting decision making
- d. Include teacher program presentations at monthly Board meetings
- e. Identify a Board member to serve as an meeting agenda time keeper
- f. Complete quarterly Board meeting effectiveness surveys

***Public Comments at Board Meetings**

The FNWSU and District School Boards are working to improve the response to public comments made at Board meetings.

The Board reserves the right to ask visitors the following questions before they are invited to address complaints to the Board:

- Have you directed your complaint through our “Complaint” Policy i.e.
 - Attempt to address the complaint first with teacher/staff member, and,
 - If not satisfied, discuss complaint with the principal, and,
 - Still not resolved, then meet with the superintendent,
 - Only then, will the Board hear your concern at a Board meeting.
- When speaking with the Board, if the complaint becomes personal, disrespectful, or threatening, then the Board chair may rule the speaker “Out of Order” or,

- If the complaint addresses specific personnel or is evaluative then the Board chair may invite the complainant into executive session, and,
- The Board chair may limit speaking time for each individual and ask that similar points of view from multiple speakers not be presented.

Anyone making a comment can expect a response from the Board that will fall into one of the following categories:

- Thank the person with no further action planned.
- Respond immediately by the Board chair or administration.
- Direct the administration to contact and respond to the person.
- Seek clarification from the administration at a specified meeting.
- Add the topic to a future Board agenda.
- Refer the matter to an executive session.
- Hold a public hearing on the matter.
- Send a note of appreciation.