

**HIGHLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023  
7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**ROLL CALL**

Board of Trustees President Jimmy Johns called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and certified the presence of a quorum. Those present: Brandon Bankhead, Allen Hoelscher, Rebecca Gratehouse, Derek Montgomery, and Brent Allen. Kevin Gillespie was not in attendance. Also present were Business Manager Lynn Ann Duniven, Superintendent Secretary Recia Hale, Assistant Principal Morgan Martin, and Shea Baucom.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Steven Pyburn      Melissa Huffhines

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

**ITEMS for DISCUSSION and/or ACTION**

**A. 2023-2024 Allotment and TEKS Certification**

This was reviewed with the Board as an annual Item.

There was a motion made by Derek Montgomery and a second by Rebecca Gratehouse to approve the Allotment and TEKS Certification for the 223-24 school year.

Motion passed 6-0

**B. Consider Employment of Steven Pyburn for Highland ISD Superintendent**

Mr. Steven Pyburn and the Board reviewed the superintendent contract.

There was a motion made by Brent Allen and a second by Rebecca Gratehouse to hire Steven Pyburn as the new superintendent for Highland ISD.

Motion passed 6-0

**C. Personnel**

Mrs. Martin presented options to the Board for moving into the 2023-24 school year, filling the void that will be left by the retirement of Cyree Hyde. One option, to hire an Interventionist with minimal or no years of experience in that specialized field. An alternate option she presented, was to hire an early education aide to assist in the classrooms in the mornings so veteran teacher have more time to offer specialized attention to students as it is needed in tiers, in the classroom. Mrs. Martin felt, at this time, option two would be most beneficial to our students and recommended the Board hire Rachel McDonell as a full-time paraprofessional to offer the in classroom assistance that will be needed, and other duties as assigned.

The Board was also presented Kyle Edwards as candidate to be hired as our Secondary Social Studies Teacher.

There was a motion made by Derek Montgomery with a second by Allen Hoelscher to hire Kyle Edwards as a secondary teacher.  
Motion passed 6-0

There was a motion made by Brent Allen, seconded by Derek Montgomery, to hire Rachel McDonell as a paraprofessional.  
Motion passed 6-0.

**ADJOURN**

With there being no further business, President Jimmy Johns declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date