

Happy Valley School District  
Regular Board Meeting  
March 12, 2025  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 3:31pm  
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Hodges, Freeman, Willet, Stahl  
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trotter  
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Stewart, Lynd, Willett, Adams  
STUDENTS PRESENT: Saskia and Morgan

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MSC FREEMAN/STAHL to approve the Board Meeting agenda as written. Unanimous.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MSC WILLET/STAHL to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting February 12, 2025. Unanimous.

C. COMMUNITY INPUT

- A current parent addressed the Board regarding the afternoon schedule for TK for the 25-26 school year and the impact on working families.

D. BOARD REPORT

1. David Stahl informed the Board he attended the ethics training at the COE and it was very informative.

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Michelle Stewart informed the Board of the following:

1. The MPR/Library is finished. It is used for OT, counseling, daily as an overflow space for Room 1, every recess on rainy days, Sprouts after school and Board meetings.
2. Started the LCAP stakeholder engagement. Visited classrooms, sent out the parent survey, and will be holding meetings with staff, teachers and the Board. The information is used to ensure the LCAP has the goals and services that meet the needs of all students, with a focus on our Foster Youth, Low Socioeconomic students and English Learners.
3. Visited Pacific Elementary with the other small superintendents. The small superintendents will present a workshop on how we collaborate with and support each other at SSDA in April.
4. The Parent Club had another successful Read-a-thon. It was fun to watch students read throughout the day. The library was decorated and a lot of money was raised.
5. Attended the SV Fire Department Strategic Planning with the Board President Cliff Hodges. We were able to give our input on our priorities.
6. Preparing for March 17th Professional Development Day for teachers. The focus

will be Math and Special Education, and discussing what next year may look like.

F. STAFF REPORT

Kara Willett informed the Board of the following:

1. Kinder went on a field trip to the Seymour Center.
2. 1st grade is doing a bird unit.
3. 2nd graders are working on their animal research project.
4. 3rd went on a field trip to the Evergreen Cemetery to learn about local Santa Cruz history.
5. 4th/5th grade made digital books.
6. 4th/5th/6th went to the Tech Museum and have been working on the Science Showcase.
7. Room 1 took a field trip to B40 Middle School.

G. STUDENT REPORT

Saskia and Morgan reported the following:

1. Had the read-a-thon
2. Doing a lot of work in the afterschool yearbook class.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Board received an update on construction. We are almost done with the current project. Once all invoices have been paid and the project is signed off by the state, the next step is a financial audit. Once the audit is complete we can go out to bid for the student restrooms.

2. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL AUDIT 2023-2024 FROM SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

The Board received information regarding Happy Valley's 2023-2024 Annual Financial Audit from the SCCOE. There were no audit findings.

3. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Board received information regarding the Community Foundation fees and the current service fees of 1%.

4. LCAP STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Board received information about the LCAP development process including meaningful stakeholder engagement. The Board reviewed current goals and actions. The Board will look at again once all of the surveys come back.

5. ENROLLMENT UPDATE

The Board received information regarding enrollment for 2025-2026.

6. FUNDRAISER UPDATE

The Board received an update regarding the fundraising committee and fundraising. The committee is made up of the Superintendent, two board members, parents and community members. They discussed strategies and next steps for immediate construction and ongoing financial issues. The next meeting is April 16th.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2024-2025 2nd INTERIM BUDGET REPORT FOR HAPPY VALLEY SCHOOL  
MSC FREEMAN/STAHL to approve the Happy Valley School District's 2024-2025 2nd Interim Budget and Multi-Year Projection Report. It was noted that Happy Valley 's deficit spending is largely due to Special Education costs and salaries. In addition, the district is projecting a contribution from Fund 17 in future years. Unanimous.
2. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SANTA CRUZ  
MSC FREEMAN/HODGES to approve the deposit from the Community Foundation to Fund 57 held at the Santa Cruz County Treasury. Unanimous.
3. CLASSIFIED TA SALARY SCHEDULE  
MSC FREEMAN/WILLET to approve the Classified TA salary schedule for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 effective July 1, 2025. Unanimous.
4. LETTERS OF RESIGNATION  
MSC FREEMAN/WILLET to approve the resignation from one classified and two certificated employees. Unanimous.

J. CONSENT ITEMS

- MSC HODGES/FREEMAN to approve the following consent items. Unanimous.
1. Vendor warrants paid since the last meeting.
  2. Contract with Honu Intervention.

K. COMMUNICATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. March 17, 2025 - No School, Staff Development Day
2. March 19, 2025 - Parent Club Meeting, 6:30pm, Via Zoom
3. March 26, 2025 - TK Parent Information Session, 1:45pm, Room 5
4. March 27, 2025 - Kinder Parent Information Session, 1:45pm, Room 5
5. March 28, 2025 - Spirit Day, TBA
6. March 28, 2025 - PeaceBuilder Assembly, 11:35am, MPR
7. April 7 - April 11, 2025 - No School, Spring Break
8. April 16, 2025 - Parent Club Meeting, 6:30pm, Via Zoom
9. April 23, 2025 - Board Meeting, 3:30pm, MPR
10. April 25, 2025 - PeaceBuilder Assembly, 11:35am, Stage
11. May 1, 2025 - Spring Concert, 10:30am, Stage
12. May 14, 2025 - Board Meeting, 3:30pm, MPR
13. May 15, 2025 - Open House, 5:30pm

L. CLOSED SESSION

- The Board adjourned into closed session at 4:34pm to discuss
1. Superintendent Goals

M. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

The Board reported out of closed session at 5:08pm. Nothing to report.

N. ADJOURNMENT  
MSC WILLET/FREEMAN to adjourn the meeting, there being no further  
business, 5:10pm. Unanimous.

pl