



Howard-Suamico
Business & Professional
Association

Board Members:

Mitch Mennen, Pfothenauer Funeral Home – President. Justin Spettel, Core Insurance and Risk Advisors - Vice President
Jeni Flynn – Treasurer
Katie Presser, North Shore Bank Logan Higgins, Chives Restaurant
Ryan Tachick/Dylan Wenzel, Health In Motion Marcia Sengstock, Westside GB YMCA Scott Jandrin, Peshtigo National Bank
James Lewis, Lewis & Van Sickle Nick Klimek, KAK Enterprises
Shaun Bessett, Festival Foods Mitchell Bartlein, Savoye Salon Spa

Ad Hoc Members:

Micki Volk, HSSD – Secretary (Kristin Rozek filled in) Bob Strazishar, DC Grafz
Dave Weise/Paul Evert/Alex Burgraff, Village of Howard Alex Kaker/Nick Lemke, Village of Suamico

**Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026– 8-9:30 a.m.
Howard-Suamico School District Office**

The Howard-Suamico Business and Professional Association is committed to supporting the businesses and professionals in Howard-Suamico by fostering growth and education; and strengthening member organizations in order to build a better community.

- I. **Call to Order** – Mitch Mennen, President *8:00 am
a. Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

II. **Secretary’s Report** –Kristin. (vote)
[2.11.26 Meeting Minutes](#) - Shaun motioned to approve the meeting minutes, Justin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

- III. **Treasurer’s Report** –
Motion: Accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented.
a. Justin motioned to approve the treasurer’s report, Shaun seconded the motion. Motion carries.

- IV. **Mark Smith:** Two referendum questions he would like to propose
a. Financial challenges and facilities challenges create a need for a referendum now.
b. Our community has told us they want us to focus on the trades, capital maintenance, and have consistency in learning environments across grades K-6. Attendance areas should not dictate the quality of learning experiences across HSSD.
c. Two referendum questions - \$7M for operational referendum and \$147M for facilities referendum.
d. Out of 421 school districts, 95% of school districts receive more money per student than HSSD. The WI Funding Formula is inadequate and unequal.
e. The HSSD Board of Education has lowered the tax rate five years in a row.
f. The operational referendum invests in small class sizes, student programs, and staff compensation.
g. A no vote does not mean the tax rate will go down.
h. Facilities referendum invests in consistent K-6 schools, high school career readiness and science updates, and capital maintenance needs.
i. Six of our eight schools would be addressed as part of the facilities referendum.

- V. **Community Reports:**
a. Village of Suamico –Alex Kaker
i. Visioning session was on Monday night; 40 people showed up. Election is on April 7 and a new trustee will be elected.
ii. Rummage sale is on April 24 and 25, this is their biggest event.
b. Village of Howard – Paul Evert
i. Issued 39 building permits in 2 months.
ii. A new credit union is coming; 2 new assisted living centers.
iii. A new Village President will be elected in the April election.



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- c. Howard-Suamico School District – Kristin
 - i. Referendum information sessions are now underway. There are four more sessions to attend if you'd like to learn more about the upcoming April 7 referendum. Please vote! Visit the HSSD website to learn more.
 - ii. Bay Port wrestler Alois Schlumpf is now a state champion wrestler in the individual category for 132 pounds. Both the boys and girls wrestling teams had an awesome showing at the individual state wrestling tournament. For team wrestling, the boys lost in the state semifinals to Holmen.
 - iii. The Bay Area Ice Bears have won their 4th WIAA Girls Hockey State Championship title. This is the 2nd state title in a row. The Ice Bears are a co-op team that includes Bay Port athletes.
 - iv. Bay Port has once again been named the Spirit of Excellence Award winner by the Wisconsin Association of School Councils. This award honors Bay Port (located in Region III) for achieving excellence in leadership, spirit, community service, academics, and extracurriculars. In addition, this award was based on a student-created portfolio.
 - v. Four Bay Port freshman cheerleaders made history by bringing home the state title in the all-state stunt division. Overall, Bay Port took 3rd place at state!
 - vi. HSSD and Bay Port High School are pleased to share that Leah Cramer, English Language Arts Teacher, has been recognized as a 2026 Golden Apple Award recipient. The Golden Apple Awards banquet will be celebrated on April 22.
 - vii. Spring Recess will take place March 30-April 3. School resumes on Monday, April 6.

VI. Board Communication:

- a. Scope Coordinator: Allyson has a 20-minute exercise for us.
 - i. Allyson is a consultant based in Ashwaubenon.
 - ii. She is not going to tell us what to do, she is going to help us get unstuck.
 - iii. Allyson will provide us with a final report next month based on this meeting, her research, and 1:1 meetings.
 - iv. Allyson led the Board through a discussion on whether HSBPA is business-to-business or business-to-customer.
 - v. Allyson led discussion around decisions/options:
 - 1. Option 1 - stay the way we are
 - 2. Option 2 - go further down the B2B lane
 - 3. Option 3 - go further down the B2C lane
 - 4. Option 4 - we no longer serve value
 - vi. Discussion around whether the HSBPA role is fundamentally to create community between members or market between members.
 - vii. Allyson reported that Board members should be the strongest advocates for your organization, and a strong mandate is needed in the future.
- b. First event of the year, March 19th March Madness Kick off Party (Townline)
 - i. 13 people signed up so far.
 - ii. HSBPA will purchase pizza and beer, the event begins at 11 a.m.
 - iii. If Board members could pop in to assist, that would be helpful.
- c. Justin can show the board our first BTS (Kimps) video
 - i. Goal is to post two videos per month.
 - ii. If your company wants to be involved, let Mitch or Justin know.
- d. Website demo page for critiques
 - i. Communications committee will continue working on the website and bring back for feedback.
- e. Creating a website committee to pursue changes, updates, and manage the website.
- f. We need a chair to each committee that sends in a monthly report a week prior to the scheduled board meeting.

VII. Committee Reports:

- a. Events (Need a chairperson)
 - i. Mitch needs to know which Board members will be at Townline at what time so we have representation the entire time.
 - ii. Bring nametags to help facilitate conversations.
 - iii. KerberRose is hiring a new events coordinator (Courtney), and Jeni would like to invite her to the April meeting to start getting involved. She could potentially help with events planning.



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- b. Member Engagement (Justin)
 - i. Katie motioned to approve new member Prime IV, and Justin seconded the motion. Motion carries.
- c. Website (Need a chairperson)
- d. BTS (Justin)

VIII. Old Business:

- a. Tabled: Publication decision ETA within a 6-month window (January)
- b. We should agree to a time and date that we can schedule the photographer for our Headshots for the new website

VIII. Adjournment *9:30