

Regular Board Minutes (Draft)
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.
Administration Conference Room

Present: Brian Gallup-Chair, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman (5:12 p.m.). **Absent:** Kristy Bullshoe.

Mr. Gallup called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Special Board Minutes of 9/22/22 and Regular Board Minutes of 9/28/22 with no changes. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. All in favor/motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda removing Kyle Coursey, Maintenance Foreman; Zack Grigsby, Special Education Services and Gwyn Andersen, Finance Director Support. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. All in favor/motion passed.

Staff Recognition: Sherina Whitford, was recognized for having perfect attendance for the past 4-years. Ms. Whitford did not miss a single day of work for 4 years. Ms. Whitford has accumulated data to show that her students all moved to a tier 3.

Superintendent Hall recognized Jocko Parrent, Jeri Boggs, Teresa Roland and Carlene Adamson for going above and beyond in their jobs. Each has taken on a lot of extra work/roles for the district.

Public Comment: None

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Mr. Gallup acknowledged the following reports: KW Vina Elementary School - Toni Tatsey; Browning Elementary School - Sheila Hall; Napi Elementary School - Sicily Bird; Browning Middle School - Angela Heavy Runner; Browning High School - Jennifer Wagner; Babb Elementary - Dennis Juneau; Big Sky-Glendale Colonies - Rebecca Rappold, Special Education Department -Ginny Crawford and Buffalo Hide Academy - Matthew Johnson. *Discussion:* BHS

Student Body President, Susan Connelly, stated she was asked to attend board meetings to discuss happenings of September: student body elections, students chose from 10 candidates for 4 spots; there are weekly meetings with topics such as homecoming and nominating candidates, discussing themes for hallways, floats, incentives, prizes. There was a lot of school spirit and student involvement. There was good feedback from students for homecoming pep rally. BHS held an empowering Blackfeet Youth Conference with TJ LaFromboise as guest speaker; students gave positive feedback on this. Students liked the homecoming pep rally better at the high school. Superintendent Hall will have a Supt/Student Advisory Committee meeting at the administration building Wednesday, October 11. Mr. Conway stated there are only 88 seniors this year and asked how many started with this class as freshmen. Principal Wagner will get these numbers for school board. Also noted, the Academy had 50 slots for students. Principal Wagner stated that Jostens will be at BHS next week. Ms. Yellow Owl asked if field trips are scheduled in the prior year or when school begins. Superintendent Hall stated that all field trip requests are due on September 16 each school year. Ms. Yellow Owl asked about field trip specific to KW Vina. KWV has always had a field trip to pumpkin patch and parents have always brought their students money for this. Superintendent Hall stated they do a fundraiser for this and for a train trip which will not take place this year. The incentives were paid out of ESSER last year and this year they will use their discretionary; most field trips are curricular field trips. Ms. Yellow Owl stated she is not clear on why kids had to pay and noted that this is not about what anyone has seen or read but if the district can pay this. Mr. Gallup stated this is past practice; when there is a limited pot of money, there is a decrease in trips, and in past years the board has said no more fundraisers, and kids will not pay. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor asked if the discretionary budgets can be increase. Mr. Gallup stated yes, as soon as we know how much money there is. Crystal Tailfeathers stated it is not possible at this time to increase budgets as the board has already been put in place however the principal can move money

within their budgets to add to the field trip line, but it takes away from another line item. Ms. Tailfeathers stated she does not see increasing budgets right now due to cost of inflation but maybe in the future. Mr. Conway felt that it does not hurt kids to fundraise, it teaches them community spirit and working together and noted that the district has never left out any kids. Mr. Conway felt that they can work together on this. Mr. Gallup stated that COVID was a part of the issue for awhile and has continued to be this way and noted that no one deserves to be beat up over this; all field trip requests were submitted in September. Frances Bullcalf stated that the kids don't have enough time for anything at these types of field trips, like pumpkin patch; kids don't have enough time to enjoy themselves; they only have 45 minutes then they are on way back due to time constraints. Mr. Bullcalf stated that when the field trip requests says they are leaving at 9am, and they leave later and there is road construction, he does not feel they get their reward from the field trips. Superintendent stated that administration will work on this. Mr. Conway stated there are 3 tiers and asked what tier do you want the majority of the kids. Sheila Hall stated the goal is to get them out of tier 3 services as it requires lot of instruction and weekly progress monitoring and to get to "on benchmark" they need to get them into yellow. Right now, all are still feeling the effects of the pandemic, kids are not in school, and with losing 2 years of growth, it will take longer to get back to normal processes. Also, many kids are in need of special education assessment. Rebecca Rappold stated the district can give intensive instruction, interventions, and use best practices to do this, but we cannot extend the learning day without overwhelming students and teachers with the staff shortages we face. Tonia Tatsey stated that teachers are trying to balance between social emotional, and learning and the balance will come, but not overnight. Mr. Evans asked if kids that do not go to Eekahkiimaht every day are excelling more than those that go. Mr. Conway stated some students have 20% absence and some have 30%, etc. and felt that the district needs to have a campaign about not being able to teach the kids unless they are in school every day. Mr. Conway asked how these percentages will affect kids by the end of the school year being gone so much.

Superintendent's Report

Nafis Conference Update 2022: Mr. Gallup stated that he will expect all board to attend Nafis in March. Mr. Gallup noted that everyone was wondering where the Browning board was at. Montana had 23 attendees. There is a \$57 million increase in senate; house passed, and senate not doing anything. They will not be allowed to spend money until January when sworn in. School staff housing was discussed. Montana will gain a congressman next year; Nafis hired a new Executive Director; NIISA meeting is December. BIE is after Impact Aid money for their schools; NIISA will oppose this; there will be a meeting in December. Mr. Gallup stated he is up for election and there is a floor voted from a person from New Mexico. Mr. Running Fisher commended Mr. Gallup for his hard work in DC and stated that Mr. Gallup is a true advocate for Indian Country and is here for the kids.

Updated OT-PT-APE Student Support Specialist Job Description: Superintendent Hall stated the job description will include Adaptive PE; the wage will not increase. Rebecca Rappold stated that with the number of students that need adaptive PE services, this can be a fulltime position. Ms. Yellow Owl asked if there were questions from OPI last year questioning BPS about having a noncertified person. Superintendent Hall stated that a licensed person wrote the curriculum and supervised that person; Adaptive PE does not require the same as an OT or PT and their plans must be written by a Montana licensed teacher. Ms. Rappold stated last year director did a very good job with this so our adaptive PE kids could get the help they needed and she helped BPS fine tune resources for kids who needed them and got kids back into resources they needed. This position has no wage increase and will be 1 FTE (40 hours), 187 days is professional technical.

Change Special Services Confidential Secretary; Administrative Assistant Job Description: Superintendent Hall stated there has been a lot of additional requirements added to this position and there is a request on the agenda for wage increase.

Change (YDHD) Youth Development HUD Demonstration Job Description: Superintendent Hall stated the job description has changed from requiring a bachelors to 2 years of experience as the district has not been able to fill. This position is required to be filled for a \$300,000 grant for a 3-year period.

HR Status Update: John Salois stated a Ta was hired for BES and a bus driver; a secretary was moved from assistant secretary at the administration to HR Secretary.

Coaching Season Update: Mr. Salois stated this report has been brought current from the transition period for the HR secretary. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated the advertisement for head winter coach states there are 2 head winter cheerleaders needed. Mr. Salois stated it is only for 1 head winter coach. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated there are some coaches coaching but they have not been hired by the board yet. Mr. Salois stated there is one waiting on background information and he started but shouldn't have and some coaches that were hired but never fulfilled their contract.

Resignations: The following resignation was accepted for Earl Tail, Athletic Coordinator-Napi, Effective 10/17/2022 by Superintendent Hall.

ACTION ITEMS

Hiring: Motion by Ms. Yellow Owl to approve the following hiring pending successful background checks/drug tests: Raymond Day Rider, High School Custodian and Scott Two Bulls, Assistant Football Coach 2022-2023 (\$2,064.00); Bryan Potts, 9-Month Bus Driver. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Contract Service Agreement/s: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreements approved pending successful background checks: Ashley BullCalf, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-BES 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00); Shaun StillSmoking, Classified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-BES 2022- 2023 (\$3,016.00); Andrea Sangray, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-Napi 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00); Genevieve Bragg-Wilson, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-Napi 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00); Mary Suzanne Augare, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-Babb 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00); Mistyne Hall, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-BMS 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00). Second by Ms. RideaAtTheDoor. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. Yellow Owl to approve the following contract service agreement pending successful background check for Sarah Billet, Certified Tutor 21st Century Tutoring Program-BHS 2022-2023 (\$4,872.00). No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreement pending successful background check for Building-Department Mentors, Victoria Boggs, Jessica Schauf, Daniel Connelly for the 2022-2023 SY (\$1,000.00 ea). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Mr. Gallup noted that although the contract service agreement could not be approved because there is not a full board for the vote, he would allow Gwyn Andersen to give an update on budget and reconciliation issues for the school board members: Gwyn Andersen stated that she had several accounts reconciled through the end of the 2021-2022 year but realized that changes had been made to the reports and never reported to the school. The County wrote 1.9 million in checks to settle what was owed to the district but the report total was different from the check and 2 other checks did not get deposited until November; some checks deposited did not have enough information to match the amount of the checks (the auditor told the director where to put the funds of \$1.9 million and reported \$1.7 million in the report and could not reconcile. Ms. Andersen spoke to the auditor but he had no interest in helping her and he said it was complicated and did not have time to review and explain. The auditor told her to call the software company and move ahead to next year; spoke with Black Mountain and they did work

with Stacy in January 2020 then she resigned and they did not hear anymore. Ms. Andersen stated she asked Black Mountain if they could reset the amounts and move forward and they said, no, that BPS would have to clear up the issues monthly and reconcile; they did offer to help. The revenue side looked good and was matching with reconciliations, then the February 2022 statement and beginning of March 2022 statement was off by \$30,000. When asked Treasurer about this, he said it is not his problem; when you look at the reports then call him and he will send a new report. Ms. Andersen asked him to tell the school when changes were made and send a new report. The Treasurer did send her new reports and back in November 2021 he made a \$450,000 change, then he made another \$30,000 change in June of the previous year but he was not sending the changed information to BPS. Ms. Andersen went back several months and was able to get the TFS done and needs to close the purchase orders at year end to get the federal programs closed. If the Pos are not closed, they are paid with new money and the old grants have negative balances; this has happened over the years and last year the auditor did not try to reconcile. BPs has until December 10, 2022 to get this done and send report to OPI. There are some old grants with negative balances that need to be done before the trustees report can be done. Ms. Andersen stated she needs permission from the board to do more work on the TFS and Federal Programs. Black Mountain will work with Ms. Andersen and clear up reporting/reconciliation for next year. Superintendent Hall stated she asked the Treasurer why he did not send new reports when he made changes and he said the finance manager needs to ask for them. Ms. Andersen stated the Treasurer was going back and making changes then blaming the county commissioners saying it was protested taxes and they gave the money back. Ms. Andersen stated that cannot be because there would be less money, not more and stated the entries must be done in the current month. Ms. Andersen stated BPS needs to talk to their attorney, because the Treasurer cannot do this. Superintendent Hall stated she did send the information to BPS school lawyers with the revised county reports and is waiting for response; the district will go back to court if the Treasurer continues this practice. This is political. Taking money out did not resolve the problem because the county has some of the money. Ms. Andersen stated she believes the county paid what was agreed to, but the auditor did not agree and the auditor disagrees with where the money goes. The auditor was changing control accounts in the software and had the business office change the accounts and they are made to not change. The auditor was using codes and software that Montana does not recognize and when Black Mountains runs the reports, the entries are not picked up. Mr. Gallup stated that BPS does not agree that the county paid off what was owed, this was not settled, but did accept the payment. Superintendent Hall stated it ended at \$120,000 over 2-years. Superintendent stated she wants Ms. Andersen to be paid to help BPS get to point 0 and move forward. Superintendent Hall stated Ms. Andersen is guiding Crystal Tailfeathers in the right direction. Mr. Conway asked if Ms. Andersen will train Ms. Tailfeathers; Superintendent Hall stated yes. Mr. Gallup stated that Ms. Tailfeathers came into a job that was not reconciled for a long time. Mr. Conway stated that auditors for the county are the same auditors BPS has had. Ms. TallWhiteman stated she is glad the business office is getting in a place where Ms. Tailfeathers can audit BPS on her own and felt that things were shifty when the school took their money out of the county and things were bad in the business office.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Conway to approve out of state travel for Irene Augare, Robin England, NAEHCY Conference in San Diego, California 2022- 2023 (\$3,082.96); Cinnamon Crawford, Tessa Wells, Kailey Hall, Kayla Burns, Kiana McClure 2022 Natl Tribal Health Conf in Orlando, FL (\$4,372.39) and Board of Trustees and Corrina Hall, 2022 NIISA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV (\$1,747.24 ea). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Mr. Gallup noted that some out of state trips are grant funded and specific staff must travel in accordance with grant/s requirements. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

In State Travel: Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve in-state travel for Crystal Tailfeathers, MASBO Budget Workshop 2022-2023 (\$437.59) and Dennis Juneau, Montana Conference of Educational Leadership in Missoula, MT 2022-2023 (\$677.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Ms. Yellow Owl to approve the following items: Lane Change Movement: Brittney Shooter, Certified Elementary Teacher 2022-2023 (\$2,432.00); Lane Change Movement: Jeremy Wells, Certified Elementary Teacher 2022-2023 (\$4,644.00); Lane Change Movement: Marci Burd, Certified Elementary Teacher 2022-2023 (\$7,371.00); Extended Contract: Jessica Schauf, IEP-Caseload Management 2022-2023 (\$1,354.00). Second by Mr. Running Fisher. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Salary Increase: Colleen Nolan, Special Services Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant (\$3,063.00); Contract Amendment: Kylie Rutherford, Community Health COVID Support Specialist 2022-2023 (\$2,277.00); Substitute Eligibility Roster 2022-2023; BPS Committees 2022-2023 (\$55,080.00); Districtwide Wellness Day October 28, 2022; Indian Policies and Procedures 2022-2023. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. *Public participation/Board discussion:* Superintendent Hall noted that Wellness Day is for staff only; students will release early on Wednesday and staff will help with Lights on After School for extended day. There will be various activities, including wellness, social emotional, mental health support, etc. in different areas for wellness day and there will be booster and flu shots. Staff will have pumpkins, snacks, Halloween decorations down the elementary school street for Lights On. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Final Budget Approval 2022-2023 and Award Audit Proposal FY 2021. Second by Ms. Yellow Owl. *Discussion:* Mr. Gallup stated if BPS cannot get cleared up with the county, he will not sign and it will shut down every budget in the state. Mr. Conway stated that he wants a statement in the Wipfli contract for them to be on our premises and working with our business office; this auditor will keep asking for more and more information and there is no closure on what they need. Mr. Conway asked that the motion include to do some of the work onsite. Dennings contract is ended and the contract with Wipfli is for 1-year. Board members agreed to hire Wipfli, LLC for the FY 2021 audit. Ms. Yellow Owl and Mr. Evans removed their motions and Mr. Evans motioned to approve the Final Budget Approval 2022-2023 and Award Audit Proposal FY 2021 to Wipfli, LLC. Second by Ms. Yellow Owl. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve the following items: Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Check #436543 - #436657 (\$1,173,476.92); Student Activities Claims Check #705014 - #705046 (\$8,321.74) Cancelled Checks #705010 & 705011 and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Steve Conway, Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, James Running Fisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Mr. Gallup noted for the record that the Easement request from Bill Powell will need to be advertised in three places for 14 days, then brought back to the school board with a resolution to be approved prior to moving forward.

There were no Personnel or Legal Issues.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor at 6:54 p.m. second by Ms. Yellow Owl. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ Brian Gallup, Board Chairperson

_____ Crystal Tailfeathers, District Clerk