

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 @ 12:00 PM
hosted by Browning Middle School (Noon Only)

Present: James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner.

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order @ 12:20 p.m.

Important Dates: Special Board Meeting 12/16/25 @ 5:00 p.m. Administration.; Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting 1/16/25 @ 5:00 p.m. Administration; Special Board Meeting 12/18/25 @ 12:00 p.m. Administration; Facilities Committee Meeting 1/8/26 @ 5:00 p.m. Administration; 2026 NAFIS Spring Conference Washington, DC 3/15/26-3/17/26.

Mr. RunningFisher stated that the Special Board Meeting scheduled today 12/16/25 at 5:00 p.m. is going to be cancelled and will be rescheduled in January.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes 11-25-25. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Browning Middle School Presentation: BMS drum group sang the flag song and a victory song, Mr. Whiteman gave the background of who composed our flag song. Mr. Salois presented on portrait of a learner, goals to get students ready for graduation as well as responsibilities of the students and how they want their Middle School students to look like when they leave to be prepared for High School. They looked at the 4 matters (safety matters, attendance matters, culture matters and graduation matters). They want the students to understand although there are tools and resources provided, their education is their responsibility. Mr. Salois also stated that they are looking out for the positive in all situations.

Mr. Salois stated that he commends Mrs. Hall who does a lot with discipline. She always has a smile and always talking to students telling them what they need to do right. Mr. Salois asked Mrs. Hall to tell a little bit about her role at BMS. Mrs. Hall stated that being out at the Middle School is a pleasure. She explained, she knows most of the students from BES and has already built a relationship with them. One of her big areas is behavior but she sees it as an opportunity to reteach that growth mindset. She is also the test coordinator as well; their goal is to have a 95 % test completion rate. They are working on the attendance issues as well as getting the remote students in for testing.

Student Recognition by John Salois: Mr. Salois recognized the following BMS Student Council members: **6th grade:** President Farrah Castillo, Vice President Shakina CrossGuns, Secretary Julia Ekotsi Sapoape Treasurer Jayce Salois, Class Representatives Paydin St.Goddard and Kole Azure; **7th Grade:** President Donald LittleDog, Vice President Bailey Wagner, Secretary Mariah Owens, Treasurer Kayden Lincoln, Class Representatives Gary Henderson and Jamison Cromwell; **8th grade:** President Helen RunningCrane, Vice President Rylee Kipp, Secretary Eli Costell, Class Representatives Alexa MakesColdWeather and Darcy Meineke.

Staff Recognition: Mr. Salois recognized the following staff members: Andrea Evans, Genevieve Wilson Bragg, Kaitlyn Sharp, Stephanie Blackman, Ashley Blackman, Chris Crosby, Shaundell CalfBossRibs.

Staff/Community Recognition: Mr. Salois recognized the following Staff/Community members: Carol Grant, JoAnn Augare, Joey Hall, Colleen Wilson, Daniel Connelly (Donations to Halloween Event), Margaret TailFeathers (Donations to Halloween Event).

Public Comment: None

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Mr. RunningFisher acknowledged the following building reports: Stamikiitsiikin BullShoe Elementary-Racquel Little Plume; Browning Elementary School-Jessica Racine; Napi Elementary School - Sicily Bird; Browning Middle School-John Salois; Kukyoossin-Brittany Burns; Browning High School - Sandi Campbell; Babb Elementary - Jennifer Wagner; Big Sky-Glendale Colonies - Rebecca Rappold; Buffalo Hide Academy - Charlie Speicher.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Superintendent's Report- Superintendent Rappold informed the board that she applied for a targeted support improvement competitive grant. We did receive the grant in the amount of \$96,504.00 for one year. The grant will be utilized to adopt our new math curriculum as well as align the new math standards to the instructional program we purchase. This should cover the cost of the teacher's time for the training that they will need for that program and the committee work that will be done now and in June. Superintendent Rappold received notice from OPI, due to the significant enrollment at the high school district we will be receiving an additional \$292,758.40. The board will have to a budget amendment to approve the receipt of those funds, will bring that back for approval in January.

Procedure 3310-P(3) Student Discipline-Student Risk Assessments 1st Reading: Superintendent Rappold stated this policy was required by a senate bill for districts to conduct student risk assessments when a student poses a threat.

Policy 1700 Uniform Complaint Procedure 1st Reading: Superintendent Rappold stated that we are not changing anything to the policy it is the complaint form that we will be approving. When that makes it to the board for final reading. Was on the special meeting today at 5:00 p.m. for the 2nd reading since that was cancelled the second reading for both policies will be on Thursday 12/18/25 meeting with the final reading in January.

HR Status Report: Elementary level we need a dean of students, TA. Secondary level we need an ELA reading specialist, math teacher (BHA) and a Custodian. We also need 2 child care aides, and a 9-month bus driver.

Coaching Worksheet- *No board discussion. No public participation.*

Resignations- Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: Sharon Tucker, Math Teacher, Buffalo Hide Academy, Effective 12-8-2025; Felecia Mad Plume, Teacher Assistant, Napi Elementary, Effective 12-9-2025.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Taylor HeavyRunner Personal Care Assistant-Bullshoe Elementary; Iliff Scott Kipp Jr., Napi Boys Basketball Coach 2025-2026 (\$600.00); Sarah Flamond, Napi Boys Basketball Coach 2025-2026 (\$600.00); Weslee Pree, Napi Girls Basketball Coach 2025-2026 (\$600.00); Anthony MadPlume,

Napi Boys Basketball Coach 2025-2026 (\$600.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Daniel LaForge, Assistant Girls Wrestling Coach 2025-2026 (\$1,588.00); Taylee Ridesatthedoar, BHS Pep Club Sponsor 2025-2026 (\$516.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following independent contract termination and hire: Barbara Finnell, Independent Contract termination, speech-language pathologist Effective 1-2-26; Barbara Finnell, Speech-Language Pathologist, 2025-2026 (\$47,979.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation.*

Superintendent Rappold explained that Barbara Finnell has been hired as an independent contractor and has been for about 6-7 years. Last year when the certified union agreement was negotiated those positions were negotiated out because they were no able to be filled at a teacher's salary. They are highly certified with national certification and their going rate of pay exceeds the union agreement. Those positions were moved to professional technical positions. Barbara Finnell then came back and asked to be in one of the professional technical positions that was offered. She would have to resign from her independent contract and be rehired as a profession technical employee.

Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Moton by Mr. Bremner to approve the following contract service agreement pending successful background checks: C & L Catering, East-West Tipoffs (\$2,000.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation.*

Ms. Yellow asked if they are required to have food handlers and business license. Ms. Rivas assured that it was a requirement.

Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Out of State Travel: Mr. Evans motions to approve the following out of state travel: Brian Gallup NAFIS January 2026 Board Meeting, Miami, FL (\$1,441.96). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

In State Travel: None

Approvals: Mr. Evans motions to approve the following: Extended Contract-Margaret TailFeathers, BHS Tutor for Winter Break 2025 (\$1,915.20). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following: Substitute Eligibility List 12-16-25; Jessie Salway, Employee Status Change Classified to Professional Technical 2025-2026 (-\$4,618.00); Proposed Extra-curricular Salary Schedule; Extended Contracts-WIDA Assessment (\$11,223.40); 2025-2026 District Committee Approval (up to \$35,748.00); 2025-2026 Crystal Creek Lodge Treatment Center MOU; MOU between Browning Public Schools and Glacier Peaks Casino; District Claims Check #443654-443770; #92316-#92274 (\$932,326.33); Student Activities Claims #706541-706555 (\$4,371.33); Additional Pays 12-16-25. Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation.*

Ms. YellowOwl had questions on proposed extracurricular salary schedule, why the assistant golf coach was decreased with everyone else getting an increase? Superintendent Rappold explained that they looked at equitability of duties and season length of the event or activity. She stated that golf is unique its season is only 7 ½ weeks long, one meet per week the hourly requirement of golf is significantly less than all other sports, because we have a rate of pay and added years of experience his hourly rate of pay was higher than any other coach. So, they looked at hours of duties and most of the coaches keep timesheets and looked at equitability of every piece they could when they finally got to a place for every coach it left our golf coach with less.

Mr. Evans stated that he did not see band on there. Superintendent Rappold explained that band had been on previous ones, we have paid our band as a club sponsor. We did not make any changes to club sponsors we will bring them back in July 1, 2026.

Ms. Yellow Owl asked if the count of 2025-2026 District Committee Approval amount was the \$35,748.00. Superintendent Rappold stated no it should be the \$34,200.00, we removed some individuals until they are advertised.

Ms. YellowOwl also asked for an explanation for the MOU between Browning Public Schools and Glacier Peaks Casino. Superintendent Rappold stated they would like to buy tickets to our sporting events so they can utilize them for prizes. They are going to pay to allow so many tickets for any event.

Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

PERSONNEL: None

LEGAL ISSUES: None

Ms. YellowOwl motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:22 p.m. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie HeavyRunner, Board Secretary

James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

Sandra Rivas, District Clerk