

**Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**  
Tuesday, September 12, 2023  
Administration Conference Room

**Present:** Steve Conway-Acting Board Chair, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman. Online: Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher. Absent: Brian Gallup.

Mr. Conway called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Public Hearing on Final Budget Adoption 2023-2024:** Gwyn Andersen stated the final budget was adopted in August and was not advertised at that time. The advertisement has been posted and the 2023-2024 budget is being brought forward for public input and for approval. Ms. Andersen noted the change on the HS budget tuition fund which was paid out of IA instead of the tuition fund; the tuition fund is now setup to be used this year. Ms. Andersen stated that by state law these funds can be used for taxes. Tuition meals went up some and last BPS year levied 116 mills and now down to 108; EI is up over last year because of issue with debt service last year. this is revenue side and will spend time next year on expenditure. There was no public comment. Concluded public hearing at 5:03 p.m.

Mr. Conway reminded board of the following important dates: Next meeting for facilities 10/12/23, parade is 9/22/23, NIISA is dec 11 & 12, 2023.

**Student Recognition:** Jennifer Wagner stated that Radium Woolf applied to the Montana Meth Project, “Paint the State”. One BHS student did a project by themselves and a student group submitted a mural. The State of Montana voted and Glacier County was chosen for the mural “Protect our Generations to Come” by Skyla Olivas, Kiera BigHorn, Vita Demontiney.

Jennifer Wagner stated that Radium Woolf applied to the Montana Meth Project, “Paint the State”. One BHS student did a project by themselves and a student group submitted a mural. The State of Montana voted and Glacier County received 1<sup>st</sup> place for a mural “Protect our Generations to Come” by Skyla Olivas, Kiera BigHorn, Vita Demontiney which addressed native American families, and the need for a drug free community. Adams StillSmoking painted a mural on the side of the bingo hall and took 4<sup>th</sup> place and represented the ancestors watching over everyone, everywhere. Radium Woolf, HS Art Teacher, was recognized for her support and encouragement of the student to apply to paint the state program.

**Staff Recognition:** Corrina recognized staff that went above and beyond: Gwyn Andersen, Rebecca Rappold, Jennifer LaFromboise-Wagner, Dennis Juneau, Sicily Bird, Sheila Hall, Tonia Tatsey, John Salois. Superintendent Hall stated that Gwyn Andersen has made a huge difference in BPS financial department and reporting to the board; Travis Miller for stepping up to help in IT; HS staff has really pulled together under Jennifer Wagner’s leadership; Dennis Juneau has excellent attendance things going and the everyone is doing great; Sicily Bird is doing great things at Napi and Sheila Hall has been painting, monitoring lunches, served food, doing recess duty; Tonia Tatsey stayed on top of the construction at KW/Vina, helped during recess and did lunch duty; John Salois was a strong influence in HR and is greatly appreciated at BHS; Rebecca Rappold is principal of the Colonies, the Director of SpEd, CIA Director and we could not be here without her excellent work helping with technology (IT) as well.

**Public Comment:** None.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Mr. Conway acknowledged the following building reports: KW Vina Elementary School - Toni Tatsey; Browning Elementary School - Sheila Hall; Napi Elementary School - Sicily Bird; Browning Middle School - Dennis Juneau; Browning High School - Jennifer Wagner; Babb Elementary School - John Salois; Big Sky-Glendale Colonies - Rebecca Rappold; Special Education Department - Rebecca Rappold; Buffalo Hide Academy - Matthew Johnson *Discussion:* Mr. Conway stated some schools are already as low as 65% attendance and suggested to put graphs in the classrooms for students to see what their attendance looks like.

**Superintendent Report:** Superintendent Hall reviewed staffing and those who work through the ESSER funds and noted that those individuals will all be done this school year except coaches and wellness coordinator. She will add some Tas to learning loss; Sandra Rivas will be on unless she is approved tonight, then the ESSER position will not be replaced. Ms. TallWhiteman asked if the Board will be given the ESSER budget report. Gwyn Andersen stated the report will be ready for the next meeting.

**Monthly Budget:** Ms. Andersen reviewed the monthly budget report and noted that the report does not need to be discussed every month but will be on the agenda for the board to review. All funds are listed in the report and the adopted budgets with expenditures through the end of each month by fund and the percentage of funds left. The report will have highlighted funds that are overspent to help keep on track with the funds. There are no revenues yet but she will add the expenditures and how budget is holding up based on spending of funds each month. The budget will be reviewed quarterly but a report will be in the packet monthly.

**HR Status Report:** No discussion.

**Coaching Report:** No discussion.

**Resignations:** The following resignations were accepted by the superintendent: Milyn LazyBoy, BMS Softball Coach, Effective 8-25-2023; William WhiteGrass, BMS Girls BB Coach Effective 9-5-23 and William Kennedy, Technology Director-Administration, Effective 9-22-23. *Discussion:* Ms. TallWhiteman stated that she wants to see the resignation letters on the agenda as they have always been on past agendas and stated that she feels it is deliberate not to have these on the agenda because the all 3 listed have had issues administration. Superintendent Hall stated that it is a right to privacy issue to those individuals listed in the letters. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that it is about the superintendent. Ms. YellowOwl agreed with Ms. TallWhiteman and stated that policy states resignations are on the agenda for resignation and it is done by the superintendent not human resources. Ms. YellowOwl stated she agrees with the right to privacy but agrees with what Ms. TallWhiteman; the names in the resignations should be blacked out and be put on the agenda for public information. Mr. Bremner agreed that names should be redacted and stated that he received a resignation letter from William Kennedy in his spam folder. Superintendent Hall stated that her copy was in her spam folder too. Ms. TallWhiteman stated again that the resignation letters should be on agenda.

### **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Klye Farmer, Assistant Cook-BES; Tiara Show, Teacher Assistant-KW Vina; Laticia Aimsback, Personal Care Attendant-BES and Patrick Blackweasel, 8th Grade Science Teacher-BMS 2023-2024 (\$35,493.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve hiring Joanne Stillsmoking, Assistant Cook-BHS pending successful background check/drug test. Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Monique Rivas, Child Care Aide I and Sandra Rivas, 3-Month Interim Finance Director and District Clerk 2023-2024 (\$19,000.00 pro-rated). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Josephine Hall, Provide Training for Homeschool Coordinator-BMS 2023-2024 (\$960.00); Mistyne Hall, Inventory/Setup Student iPads-BMS 2023-2024 (\$735.00); Rodolfo Rivas, Inventory-Setup Student iPads 2023-2024 (\$735.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No

board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Robert Miller, Wellness Coordinator 2023-2024 (\$5,000.00); District Wellness Coaches 2023-2024 (\$2,000 ea); Building-Department Mentors 2023-2024 (\$1,500.00 ea); Beth Augare, Extra Help to Setup iPads for Technology 2023-2024 (\$504.00) and Michelle Harrell, Extra Help to Setup iPads for Technology 2023-2024 (\$168.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

There was no Out of State travel.

**In State Travel:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve in state travel for Kari McKay. X-Country State Tournament 2023-2024 (\$51.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Bremner to Change Name of KW/Vina Elementary to Stumitsikitsikin Elementary. Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. *Board discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl asked if the name KW/Vina is being removed and if the name Stumitsikitsikin is for the new wing. Tonia Tatsey stated she is asking to rename the whole school to Stumitsikitsikin Elementary. Mr. RunningFisher stated that he thought only the new hallway was being named, not the whole school. Mr. Bremner stated in the Blackfeet way, when giving new names you don't do away with the whole name. Mr. Hoyt stated he does not have a problem, but asked if they will still be identified as the KW wing and Vina Chattin wing and the overall building as Bullshoe Elementary. Mr. Bremner felt that Stumitsikitsikin should be put parentheses underneath Bullshoe Elementary. Ms. YellowOwl stated she does not want to get rid of KW and VC names as they go back to cultural and history of the district. Ms. TallWhiteman wants to discuss this issue more on the facilities agenda and does not want Stumitsikitsikin in parenthesis and wants it to say Elementary. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Pony Gulch Productions: KODA Day-Author Book Signing-KW/Vina 2023-2024 (\$1,820.00); Sneed Collard, Author Book Signing-KW/Vina 2023-2024 (\$2,580.85); School Cubed, Education Coaching & Support for BES 2023-2024 (\$57,450.00) and Student Attendance Agreements-Valier School District #18 2023-2024. Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve Alerton Ascent Control Module (ACM) and Compass Software Upgrades 2023-2024 (\$20,877.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the following items: Student Attendance Agreement-Cut Bank School District #15 2022-2023; Substitute Eligibility Roster 2023-2024; Increase Adult Meal Charges; LETRS Live Online Training Sessions, Units 1-4 2023-2024 (\$28,800.00); Salary Increase: Assistant Finance Director 2023-2024 (\$7,723.00); Professional Technical Contract: Sasheen Campbell, Finance Assistant 2023-2024 (\$41,246.00 pro-rated); Extended Contracts-Certified Staff Curriculum & Instruction Training 2023-2024 (\$88,440.20); Extended Contract Modification, Reimbursement: Kylie Rutherford 2023-2024 (\$1,427.00); Waiver of 5% Penalty Fee for Early Resignation-William Kennedy 2023-2024 (\$3,004.00); NIISA Membership Dues 2022-2023 (\$3,000.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Ms. TallWhiteman asked if the increase is for adult meal charges. Superintendent Hall stated the cost of food is high and we are going under and asking to change adult lunch. Ms. TallWhiteman asked about the contract for Sasheen. Superintendent Hall stated she is moving to finance assistant. Mr. Bremner asked if the district has to increase the meal charge and noted that some staff

watch the kids during lunch. Superintendent Hall stated the buildings pay for staff that do lunch duty and they get paid for lunch hour duty as well. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve Final Budget Elementary and High School 2023-2024. Second by Mr. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the following items: US Bank Account Authorized Representative Certificate; Resolution 2024-2 Investment Account Oversight 2023-2024; Formation of Board Finance Committee 2023-2024; Multidistrict Agreement Renewal 2023-2026; Health Insurance and Cobra Updates 2023-2024; Review/Amend Policy #7130 for Impact Aid Set Aside; Commercial Energy Contract 2023-2024; District Claims Check #94379-#94672 & #439204-#439304 (\$2,650,457.88); Student Activities Claims Check #705480-#705497 (\$10,597.84) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Gwyn Andersen stated the insurance is redoing the document that states what we will cover and she has read through the documents and feels comfortable with their changes, because of changes in our society in health care; all are good recommendations. There is no cost changes, only verbiage. The Cobra change is recommended and there is no cost with the new company who has more offerings. BPS will continue to have Cobra coverage: \$1600 plus and dental and vision + 2%. Mr. Bremner asked who is being authorized to sign the certificate. Superintendent Hall stated they had to wait to hire the new district clerk, who is Sandra Rivas. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

It was noted that there was not 100% board attendance as Mr. Gallup was not in attendance on line or otherwise and the vote for Mabel RunningFisher is void as there was not 100% of trustees in attendance.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 pm. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Motion passed with Steve Conway, Lockley Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, James Evans, James RunningFisher voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Brian Gallup, Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Gwyn Andersen, District Clerk