

Regular Board Minutes (Draft)
Tuesday, November 10, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.
Administration Conference Room

Present: Donna Yellow Owl-Chair, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman. **Absent:** Kristy Bullshoe.

Ms. Yellow Owl called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Yellow Owl reminded board members of Boardsmanship Training scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with MTSBA.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve the Regular Board Minutes of 10/28/20 with no changes. Second by Ms. Croff. All in favor/Motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Croff to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Gallup. All in favor/Motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Ms. Yellow Owl acknowledged the following building reports: KW Vina Elementary School, Browning Elementary School, Napi Elementary, Browning Middle School, Browning High School, Babb Elementary, Glendale-Big Sky Colonies, Special Education Department and Buffalo Hide Academy. *Discussion:* Ms. Yellow Owl stated that all buildings are doing an excellent job with distance learning; percentages are up. Ms. Croff thanked administrators for the excellent reports and stated that all are working very hard and appreciates the academy teachers for the classes on nutrition videos. Ms. Croff asked if it is normal for special education administrator to be the teacher of record for so many students. Maureen Stott stated that it is not normal but there are so many teachers working for the special education department that are not certified and there needs to be a teacher of record; Ms. Stott is the teacher of record for 120 IEPs. Ms. Croff asked if the district is looking for certified staffing. Superintendent Hall stated that she has met with Dee Hoyt from BCC and asked about having more 2+2 teachers. John Salois has been in contact with colleges and universities but there are no special education endorsements coming out; but they do have some teachers; SKC has a virtual career fair scheduled for next week and the universities have been contacted. Ms. Stott stated that the special education teacher positions are hard to fill positions. Ms. Stott needs support of another person with a special education and administrative background; Rebecca Rappold is still working on her endorsement hours for special education director and has volunteered to help her, which will solve the problem temporarily. Ms. Croff stated that Browning Schools has one of the best Special Education Directors in the state and the board needs to do whatever it takes to get extra help.

Superintendent's Report

Construction Budget Update and Reserves: The construction budget is in the packet for review. Reserves: EL Budget left to pay \$1,081,598.00 for BMS remodel, Sportsplex and LPW from IA Reserves; HS pay out for Sportsplex and LPW \$1,632,303.00 from IA Reserves. Superintendent Hall stated that there is enough in reserves for 1-year; EL needs \$9 million in reserves and HS \$4 million. Superintendent Hall stated that she will review reserves individually with board members and stated that she is confident the district has money to finish both projects and cover the budget if IA does not release funds right away. Mr. Gallup stated that the continued resolution lasts until December 11 and nothing can happen because Trump is not moving; the district needs to stay on top of IA. Mr. Gallup also stated that the Montana will be brutal to BPS as it is all republican, and Arntzen and Geanforte have announced that they will be funneling state funds to private schools per. Ms. Yellow Owl reminded board that there is a Facilities Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 12 @ 5:00 p.m. and

there will be an update on district construction. There will be a custodian meeting for BMS tomorrow and they will also discuss getting the old furniture out of the building.

Board Policy Review 2000 Series: #2121R Line of Authority, #2150 Suicide Awareness and Prevention, #2168 Distance Online-Technology Delivered Learning, #2210 Evaluation of Administrative Staff, #2336 Significant Writing, #2510 School Wellness, #2610 Principals: Superintendent Hall stated that policy #2121R reporting was updated for the grant compliance position; policy #2150 suicide awareness is part of orientation schedule through the academy's trauma informed training and all teachers do get this training. The district might offer a refresher on some things in the spring and will discuss to see if this can be offered. Policy #2168 does not have to be followed until after COVID ends and BPS doesn't have to do snow days any longer, because they can go to remote. Policy #2336 is not being used any longer due to COVID; also, have not assessors available but will advertise in house. Policy #2510 wellness committee is doing a good job.

HR Status Report 11/3/20: John Salois stated that he added hiring from the last meeting; Lisa Screeton did start at the high school in social studies; updated finance officer/district clerk from the special meeting; Egan Black will be listed as serving part-time as Colonies Principal.

Coaching Season Update: John Salois stated that hires from the last meeting have been added and there is one hire on the agenda tonight for speech and drama. The girls wrestling head coach is being advertised and will be added to the list.

Resignations: A resignation from Dean Kipling, Custodian-KW Vina, Effective 10-23-2020 was accepted. No discussion.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring:

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve the following hire pending successful background check/drug test: Edith Wagner, Speech & Debate Head Coach 2020-2021 (\$3,312.00). Second by Ms. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: None.

Out of State Travel: None.

In State Travel: None.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Jocko Parrent, Professional/Technical Contract Data Specialist/Grant Compliance Administrative Assistant 2020-2021 (\$27,519.00 pro-rated). Second by Ms. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. Croff to approve to Create Assistant Finance Position/Professional Technical 2020-2021. Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve COVID 19 Continuous Discussion/Approval on Updates for BPS: Once "Stay at Home" order is lifted, recommend BPS transition to Hybrid Model schedule within Distance Learning for instructional staff in Scenario (Food Service distribution will remain as is until order is lifted) and All Essential Staff (260-day, 225-day, 215-day) report to work in their departments/buildings. Supervisor will create rotating schedules; the district will continue to follow FFCRA and MOU's for Covid-19 leave and if staff are unavailable they should continue to use sick or personal leave and communicate with their supervisor at all times. Second by

Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Superintendent Hall stated that the district will continue to follow the stay at home order until lifted, then transition to hybrid model with staff, Scenario; Essential Staff will report to work; supervisors will create rotating schedules for staff. Mr. Evans felt that the board should put a date on this so people can plan accordingly and when the Tribe revisits their Stay at Home Order on Nov. 22, the date will say what BPS is going to do. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that the Tribe is in Phase 1 and she does not feel comfortable adding a date. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor agreed with Mr. Evans and suggested the board stipulate that we won't start if number of cases and/or transfers go up, and also suggested doing a survey. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated that with basketball season coming up, there needs to be structure and deadlines and a schedule. Ms. Bremner stated that the Tribe is in Phase 1 of their plan which tells everyone when it is safe to reopen schools safely based on CDC and the ordinance has statements that say it is not a recommendation; also, the current Governor said we have to follow our local guidelines and suggested getting advice from MTSBA legal. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that the district needs to wait and see what is going to happen then have a meeting at noon on November 23, 2020; if things change with the Tribe we can look at this again. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated that if the district has listed a date and a plan laid out, the tribe will can look at that and BPS will be ahead of the game; also, the Tribe will see that BPS is being proactive. Right now, kids are trying to get into schools and get ready for sports. If cases are still too high, BPS can say not now and follow the ordinance. Superintendent Hall stated that the district does have a plan with the administration and they are working on Scenario 2 waiting for PPEs to be in the buildings. This will be brought to the board on November 24 and if approved, 2-weeks after, the administration and staff will work on implementing their building plans and if the Tribes Phase 1 is lifted, BPS will have a plan in place; this is all dependent on COVID numbers. Mr. Gallup suggested hearing the Districts plan at the November 24 board meeting. Ms. Yellow Owl suggested following the Stay at Home plan until November 22. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor reiterated having dates and a proactive approach, with safety as the main priority. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that she wants to see the plan that is in place and asked if the district following what the Governor told the school to do; the board cannot initiate a plan until the Tribe gives the go ahead. Also, Ms. TallWhiteman asked if the board is talking sports or school? Ms. TallWhiteman did not feel that the school should be opened to all the kids and suggested 15% of students and also wanted most of the students attending to be at-risk students because they need food and support and the district should meet their needs first when going to the hybrid model; pilot one school, then reopen other schools when it is safe. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that most parents will not send their kids to school. Mr. Evans stated that the school won't get 100% of students and wanted to set a date of November 22 and work toward that goal if they lift the stay at home order they are ready to go back to school on November 23. Ms. Yellow Owl disagreed. Ms. Bremner stated that the item on the agenda is to go to a blended model for staff, not for students to attend school. Right now, Great Falls school is going to distance learning because of the high number of cases in their district. BPS had a blended model and we had staff with cases and lost staff members; BPS needs to keep an eye on the numbers. Dennis Juneau stated that essential staff will back at work tomorrow on a rotating basis and depending on stay at home order, staff will return on 11/23/20; recommends to go back to hybrid staff model if tribe lifts stay at home order; then recommend moving into blended model on 11/24/20 and 12/8/20 kids are back in school, if cases are between 20 and 40. *No further discussion.* Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the Purchase of Air Cleaners with HEPA Filter for each District Classroom per CDC (\$74,400.00 not to Exceed). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve the following items: District Claims Check #431521 - #431606 (\$2,742,463.13); District Claims Check #431607 - #431636 (\$1,217,304.88); Student Activities Claims Check #704385 - #704409 (\$8,030.61) and Additional Pays-Payroll. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Wendy Bremner, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Personnel: None.

Legal Issues: None.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to adjourn at 5:49 p.m. Second by Mr. Evans. All in favor/Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ Donna Yellow Owl, Board Chairperson

_____ Stacy Edwards, District Clerk