

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Administration Conference Room

Present: James RunningFisher, James Evans (Virtual), Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup (Phone), Donna YellowOwl (Virtual), Kristy BullShoe (Phone).

Important Dates: Next regular scheduled board meeting 9/30/25 @ 12:00 p.m. Babb Elementary and reconvene @ 5:00 p.m. Administration Conference Room; Facilities Committee Meeting will be rescheduled from Thursday, September 11, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:00 p.m. Administration Conference Room.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the Regular Board Minutes for 8/12/25 & 8/26/25. Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy BullShoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup and Lockely Bremner voting for.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with the following change: remove Item F from district wide approval, Communications Express LLC, Proposal for a Speech and Language Pathologist, 2025-2026 (\$140,184.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy BullShoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup and Lockely Bremner voting for.

Staff Recognition: Ms. Wagner recognized Kristy CalfRobe, Gear-Up Coordinator for jumping right into her position and taking over the roles and did not need much support. Found native curriculum at the training in San Francisco.

Ms. Wagner also recognized Brittany Burns, Child Care Coordinator for rebranding the child care center, being a leader with great ideas. Brittany also successfully got the childcare licensed in 2 weeks as well as getting her employees the training they needed. Brittany also re-did the square footage to maximize the number of children.

Public Comment: None

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

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

Ms. YellowOwl asked Ms. Campbell to explain, students driving to school. Ms. Campbell stated that they are going back to the handbook and the biggest issue was the drivers license, a student with a permit think that it gives them all the driving privileges which they are having to reference the law. This has cut down on students skipping and leaving campus. It is a lot safer; it is not 100 % to where we need to be but it is progress. She also stated that we need to ensure the safety of our staff and students. Superintendent Rappold stated that it is board policy and is in the student handbook which are aligning to implement the procedure.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Rappold stated that we did finalize the fiscal year 2022 audit, we have received the audit report and has been reported to the federal government. She did follow up with

Wipfli for the 2023-2024 & 2025 they did come back with some parameters but not a contract itself. They are willing to take us on if we agree to meet and date windows that they set for us for providing documents. She also stated that we should be able to meet them with the contract we have on the agenda to hire Gwyn Anderson, that would be one of her primary focuses to pull scan and send the documentation in the timeline Wipfli is expecting it.

Superintendent Rappold stated that the next few months we will be working on the implementation of the strategic plan. As well as looking through facilities to update the 20-year master plan. We will also be bringing back some new policies to the board from the legislative session.

HR Status Report: Elementary level we need a PCA, TA, sped teacher, dean of students. High School we need an ELA reading interventionist, TA, math teacher, hi-set tutor. Food Service we need an assistant cook BHS; assistant cook for the supper program. Special Services we need an adaptive physical teacher, special services nurse, school psychologist, couple speech pathologists. Transportation is in need of 4 9-month bus drivers. Ms. Sinclair also stated that we received some information from Mr. Bullcalf, that if CDL drivers receive their CDL designation before a certain year they will not be required to take a training course before testing for the S endorsement. Mr. Bullcalf is hoping that this will help with the recruiting process.

Coaching Update: Superintendent Rappold stated that there are a few openings. We speech & debate opening, soft ball, one assistant basketball opening, a band and choir director as well as a few middle school positions.

Resignations: Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: Jamie Bull Calf, PCA, Bullshoe Elementary, Effective 8-22-2025; Jaylin ComesAtNight, SPED TA, Napi Elementary, Effective 8-27-2025; Alyssa LaRoque, Assistant Cook, BHS, Effective 8-28-2025;

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug test: Eleanor Wells, Napi Elementary School PCA; Napi Club Sponsors 2025-2026 (\$3,374.00); Middle School Club Sponsors, 2025-2026 (\$1,754.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug test: Samantha Linke, Certified BHS Tutor for 2025-2026 (\$13,039.00); High School Club Sponsor, 2025-2026 (\$1,177.00); High School Club Sponsor 2025-2026 (\$6,623.00); Lacey Salois, Buffalo Hide Academy Sponsor 2025-2026 (\$526.00); Adrien Wagner, Assistant SpeechDebate Coach, BHS 2025-2026 (\$2,270.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Building, Department Mentors 2025-2026 (\$1,500.00 ea); Gwyn Andersen, Reconciling Budget, Finance Director & Grant Close Out Training 2025-2026 (\$70,720.00); FACTS SY 2025-2026 (\$38,701.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Hoyt to approve the following out of state travel: Dana Bremner, NIEA & Attending Native American Indigenous Task Force Meetings (\$0.00). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans,

Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup voting for and Lockley Bremner abstained.

In State Travel: None

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Gervais to approve the following items: Jocelyn BigThroat, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$9,695.00); Adriane TailFeathers, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$9,695.00); Amy DeRoche, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,361.00); Amy Grant, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$7,388.00); Dee Dee SpottedBear, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$8,758.00); Kara DeRoche, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$2,346.00); Kelsey Hall, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$5,866.00); Sarah Tail, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,361.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for and James RunningFisher abstained from Item C, Amy DeRoche, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,361.00).

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: John Parente, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$4,087.00); Charlie Speicher, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$4,087.00); Chris Lewis, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,871.00); June Matt, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,891.00); Kami Wellman, Contract Modification, Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$8,330.00); Kevin KickingWoman, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$4,026.00); Robert Miller, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$4,087.00); Samantha Linke, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,402.00); Sienna Speicher, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,871.00); BHS Accreditation Corrective Plan 2025-2026 BHS-BHA Assessments Plan. Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup voting for and Lockley Bremner abstained from Item D, June Matt, Contract Modification Salary Change 2025-2026 (\$3,891.00).

Motion by Mr. Gervais to approve the following: Substitute Eligibility List 9-9-25; Charmaine Arcand, Step and Hourly Rate Change (\$3,598.40); Classified Union Lane Change MOA for Licensed Speech-Language Therapy Assistants; Classified Union Wellness Days MOA for 2025-2026 SY; Extended Contracts WIDA Assessment 2025-2026 (\$4,454.24); High Hopes Speech Therapy Proposal, Speech and Language Pathologist, 2025-2026 (\$140,184.00); District Claims Check #69748-#69861 (\$451,382.63); Student Activities Check #706386-#706420 (\$23,347.73); Additional Pays 8-9-25. Second by Mr. Bremner.

Mr. Hoyt questioned the High Hopes Speech Therapy Proposal, Speech Language Pathologist, 2025-2026 (\$140,184.00) he asked if it was federal funding. Superintendent Rappold stated that it comes out of IDEA federal funding special education. Mr. Hoyt ask if there was any kind of policy that we have to advertise it for bidders? Superintendent Rappold stated not for services like this. Mr. Hoyt also asked if they were going to be on site, which this one will not be. Mr. Hoyt asked if there was anyone local and if it was advertised. Superintendent assured him that it was advertises and we had no applicants. Mr. Hoyt asked if we could afford \$140,000.00), Superintendent replied yes. Ms. Turley stated that this one lives in Missoula and will come over periodically. He asked if this would be additional expense to the district, Ms. Turley replied just mileage.

Mr. Bremner asked why the communication Express LLC Proposal for a Speech and language Pathologist 2025-2026 was removed. Superintendent Rappold stated that contract that was offered this spring the individual has accepted it. He stated that he thought we have already hired speech pathologists.

Superintendent Rappold replied we have and it takes four across the district to serve all of our speech language students. Mr. Hoyt asked if there are any locals, Superintendent Rappold stated that there are none local, we have had one local and even the local was not on site. *No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup voting for, Lockley Bremner and Mike Hoyt Opposed on Item G: High Hopes Speech Therapy Proposal, Speech and Language Pathologist, 2025-2026 (\$140,184.00).

PERSONNEL: None

LEGAL ISSUES: None

Motion by Mr. Gervais to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie HeavyRunner, Board Secretary

James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

Sandra Rivas, District Clerk