

Regular board Minutes (Draft)
Tuesday, August 8, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.
Administration Conference Room

Present: Brian Gallup-Chair, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner. Via Telephone: James Evans.

Mr. Gallup called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the agenda correcting the following date: Special Board Meeting to be held on August 10. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Conway. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Public Comment: None.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Mr. Gallup 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 asked when the board would schedule meetings for 2023-2024 and suggested adding a noon board meeting at the Colonies. Board members agreed to consider this. Tony Wagner stated he has met with head coaches on 8/21/23 and there will be a scrimmage day the first day of school for all fall programs to begin at 2:00 p.m. There will be concessions and are looking at having it be a great day with families and athletes as well as anyone else attending.

Superintendent's Report

Attendance: Superintendent Hall reviewed total number of students for August per building August through May of last year: KW start 284, end 307; BES start 291, end 283; Napi start 237, end223; BMS start 417, end392; BHS start 455, end 435; BHA start 88, end 171; Babb start 24, end 26; Glendale start 17, Big Sky 25. Classified and Certified staff year ending total attendance with over 40 absences. There are many position changes for the school year: E-Grants, Babb Principal, Test Coordinator; Wellness; Interim SpEd Director; Special Education duties. Mr. Conway stated that the average of kids coming to school stays at 70% and asked what are the schools doing to get the kids to school; if kids are not in school, the school cannot teach them and we have poor test scores, grades. Superintendent Hall stated that they are calling on students who have dropped and will bring data to next board meeting. Dennis Juneau stated that administration, attendance committee and the courts are all working toward same goal to get kids into school and keep them in school. Mr. Conway asked if parents will be notified. Matthew Johnson is working with Mr. Juneau with the court and will work on prevention side; develop a huge media campaign to get kids in. Mr. Bremner stated that part of kid's trauma is being left behind; parents aren't sending kids to school and this creates trauma. Ms. YellowOwl asked when the wellness positions will be brought for approval. Superintendent Hall stated they will be on the next agenda and noted that Cinnamon Salway will take a bigger role in wellness and continue coordinating with the tribe and working with Robert Miller. Ms. Rappold with work with k-5 remote learning, edgenuity platform, and work on sustaining remote learning with the district budget; it is difficult having lower grade students on remote and hard to serve. There is one teacher for the 9 students. They will gather data on this once per week and work to bring these students on to campus learning. Ms. YellowOwl asked if the parent does not want the student on campus; BPS has an obligation to educate them. Superintendent Hall stated that the administration will take them case by case and provide what

we can for them.

Mr. Gallup stated the same is happening across the nation and remote is going away and is not affordable. Ms. Rappold stated we will use ESSER through the end of this year and be straight forward with parents that it is not equitable. Ms. TallWhiteman stated the at-risk student attendance is very good because BHS is being very proactive; BPS has people hired for the homeschool visits and she wants to see other buildings being proactive to get kids back in school. Ms. TallWhiteman stated BPS can't go half days if they can't get kids in for full days; school is a safe place for kids and the school needs to proactively go after the students especially those we don't know where they are. Ms. TallWhiteman stated she wants school climate change in certain areas and asked how will schools do trauma and restorative practices; she wants this implemented at every level. Mr. Bremner stated that attendance starts out good, then it goes down at the end of the year and asked why the board does not get information on count days and the amount of money the school is losing out on. Superintendent Hall stated she will get the information and do a better job of informing the board. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that when she was in school every employee had to be a mentor to two kids or more and had to do home visits, check attendance, and show up to help them no matter if it was a bus driver, cook, custodian, etc. and if the kid was not in school, they had to call the parents. Superintendent Hall stated they could do this for 20 kids who need someone to adopt for the year and she will bring the names forward. Mr. Conway stated this is not only the schools' problem, but people like the director of housing, tribe, etc., there are kids missing 63 days each year, they are losing out on a lot of education. Mr. Gallup stated this is positive and BPS is leaning over backwards trying to help get the kids into school and make school fun; kids want to be in school.

Budget Review: Gwyn Andersen reported that the taxable values are in; last year it was almost \$9 million, the value in district went up a million. The budgeted funds collect tax dollars and that is what the board is adopting on the revenue side of budgeted funds; grants are not created yet; budgets are pretty much finalized. General fund mills are down from 72 to 68. The transportation fund moved \$700,000 in expenditures that were coded to Impact Aide; she moved to back to Transportation fund. Transportation budget is for transporting kids to and from school, and is not for field trips or extracurricular trips; transportation works on vehicles and the buildings/departments need to be charged for this and need to know that repair charges and tires, etc. will come out of their budgets. Last year BPS bought new vehicles and \$900,000 was moved from transportation to Impact Aide and she moved back \$200,000. The Bus depreciation fund is a savings to replace buses; depreciation is the process for how to budget annually to collect it to replace a bus. \$1.5 million has accumulated over time and BPS can depreciate buses for 7 years; 1.2 million is there from previous years. BPs is down from 45 mills to 31, transportation mills are down. The cash reserves are full and this is important to the school. Student tuition was paid out of Impact Aide and \$20,000 was recouped and restored to IA. BPS has a tuition fund and don't need much on elementary level, this pays for kids that are in Juvenile detention, foster care system, etc. and they will bill BPS. If there are kids coming here from other districts, BPS will send the other school a bill; this won't hurt the district because we can levy on this and it goes into the general fund and is not a negative; it is a wash. Two years ago, they doubled the mortgage and BPS did not levy and now needs to levy 38 mills. \$392,000, \$394,000 is levied for general obligation bond mortgage. El is \$15.5 million, 227 up from 208 mills and did not have to levy for debt service last year and now have to levy. This is a decrease in mills this year. BPS has spent what was required to be set-aside in construction; there is no set-aside now but there will be some from the new Impact Aide. The debt service payment came out of the set-aside and is ok as long as we have Impact Aid to pay construction. Superintendent Hall can show what reserves are. Construction is over, after the food service/baseball field are complete. Ms. Andersen will send the data to Mr. Conwy to review and will bring to the next board meeting. The policy is still at 15% set-aside; BPS has a reserve just no set-aside. Mr. Gallup stated that the board has authorized set-aside expenditure every year for the last 15 years. Ms. Andersen will show the 15% over the years and the projects that were built. The HS taxable went from \$10 million to \$5 million and the same adjustments were made in HS as were made in EL. Ms. Andersen asked that the board approve the budget tonight noting that changes may be made. Ms. Andersen stated that student activity funds are from students fundraising and is not an expenditure. Mr. Bremner asked for a breakdown on sports expenditures and stated that he wants to see the sports budget increased and increase the coaches pays as well. Ms. Andersen will look into this. Mr. Conway stated that self-insurance is low. Ms. Andersen stated BPS is in a little bit of trouble here; the legislature

committed \$40 million for school insurance; BPS should get in on this but she doesn't know how this will play out; it does look different because of IHS Ms. Andersen will work with Beverly Sinclair on this and bring to the board for a decision. Ms. Andersen stated an option is to tap into the state plan being developed (1- year). John Salois stated that there were some high claims due to cancer and the BPS plan has a percentage built in to bring the amount back up; IHS does charge the school employee insurance. Ms. Andersen stated that a lot of employees do not belong to the school insurance plan; in the past the plan was healthier because all staff were enrolled. Also, when school staff goes to IHS, it drives the cost up. Mr. Gallup stated he wants the public, and tribe, to know about the letter to the commissioners. Ms. Andersen stated that the business office still has to move another \$300,000 out of grants into Impact Aide.

HR Status Update 8/8/23: John Salois met with principals and updated transfers; KW has 1 vacancy and is on for hire; BES 2nd grade was hired but the person left the area; 1 vacancy in 3rd grade. Napi/BES need music teachers; one person did not complete bachelor program but will be placed as music teacher; not certified. Some sped positions were approved; SpEd vacancy will be filled with iTutor at Napi, BMS, BHS and rural schools. BMS needs 7th grade math/science, 8th grade science and PE. BHA vacancy filled at last meeting. BHS has ELA reading with iTutor, business teacher was a CTE position and no applicants, BHS has someone who can do some of this. Mr. Miller is in dual roles. Math teacher vacancies-2. Ss did not come back and accepted admin position. Vacant science position. Other positions: custodians-2, sped TAs, PCAs, have hired 2 in June. Waiting for 2 apps online.

Coaching Update: BHS has 1 open football position; BMS needs 2-football, Napi is good.

Resignations: The following resignations were accepted by the superintendent: Brian Harrell, Head Golf Coach-BHS, Effective 8-1-2023; Paula Maldonado, Teacher Assistant-KWV 8-2-23 and William Lawrence, Custodian-Browning Elementary Effective 8-4-2023.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Conway to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Napi Elementary Coaches 2023-2024 Sport Season (\$10,788.00): Rick Hoyt, Napi Football Coach, \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1); Beth Augare, Napi Cross Country Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2); Kimberly Bird Rattler, Napi Volleyball Coach, \$684.00 (Exp. Credit 5); Beth Augare, Napi Volleyball Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2); Delora BearChild, Napi Volleyball Coach, \$660.00 (Exp. Credit 4); Arthur Westwolf, Napi GBB Coach, \$708.00 (Exp. Credit 6); Taquoya Racine, Napi GBB Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2); Marci Burd, Napi GBB Coach, \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1); Tamara Guardipee, Napi GBB Coach \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1); Cynovia Wing, Napi GBB Coach, \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1); Ronald Ingraham, Napi BBB Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2); Taquoya Racine, Napi BBB Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2); Arthur Westwolf, Napi BBB Coach, \$660.00 (Exp. Credit 4); Terrance LaFromboise, Napi BBB Coach, \$660.00 (Exp. Credit 4); Stacey Little Dog, Napi Softball Coach, \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1); DeLora BearChild, Napi Softball Coach, \$612.00 (Exp. Credit 1) and Beth Augare, Napi Track Coach, \$624.00 (Exp. Credit 2), Sara Kuka, BMS Assistant Secretary, Elementary Certified Renewals / Non-renewals 2023-2024: Tristan BirdRattler, Joshua Shooter, Sarah Flamond, Beth Augare, Angel Marceau and Raelynn CalfBossRibs. Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Mr. Evans asked why certified renewals are listed as EAE. Mr. Salois stated they are Emergency Authorization for Elementary and they are not fully certified but are given one (1) year to complete their certification. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Motion by Mr. Conway to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Secondary Certified Renewal / Non-Renewal 2023-2024; Courtney Saucedo, Assistant Volleyball Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$2,064.00); Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Assistant Volley Ball Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$2,064.00); Masala Prellwitz, Head Speech-Debate Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$3,096.00); Edith Wagner, Assistant Speech-Debate Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$2,539.00); James Gilham, Assistant Football Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$2,064.00); Loren SureChief, Assistant Soccer Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$2,064.00); Travis Blue, Head Golf

Coach-BHS 2023-2024 (\$3,096.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve hiring Angel Kennerly, Childcare Aide 1. Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve a contract service agreement for the following pending successful background checks: Substitute Teaching - Big Sky School 2023-2024 (\$1,372.00); Substitute Teaching - Glendale School 2023-2024 (\$1,372.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Motion by Mr. Conway to approve a contract service agreement for the following pending successful background checks: Christian Takes Gun-Supaman and Angela Howe, Choke Cherry Creek Creations, BHS Cultural Day Activity 2023-2024 (\$9,540.40). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve out of state travel for Corrina Guardipee-Hall, 2024 AASA National Conference on Education in Tempe, AZ. (\$3,927.37). Second by Mr. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

In State Travel: None.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Big Sky & Glendale Colony School Agreements 2023-2024; Assessing Sleep in Blackfeet Families, Grades K-3 2023-2024; School Cubed Education Consultant & Literacy Audit-KWV & Napi 2023-2024 (\$6,000.00). Second by Mr. Conway. Board discussion: Jesse DesRosier stated they are excited about Assessing Sleep Project and providing resources for the k-8 students. They will receive tips on sleeping and healthy living, resources will be digital and will not interfere with academics. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Steve Conway, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, James Evans voting for.

Motion by Mr. Conway to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility Roster 2023-2024; Extended Contract-Randall Rivas, Assist with BPS Leadership Week 2023-2024 (\$1,362.00); Extended Contract: Jake ArrowTop, Assist with Curriculum & Planning 2023-2024 (\$1,361.00); Extended Contract-Katie McDonald, Assist with Curriculum & Planning-BHS 2023- 2024 (\$1,882.00); Extended Contract: Kelley Sharp, SPED Child Find Student Assessment 2023-2024 (\$1,732.00); Extended Contract-Kylie Rutherford, SPED Child Find Student Assessment 2023- 2024 (\$1,542.00); Extended Contract-Elizabeth Tailfeathers, SpEd IEP Instructional Services 2023- 2024 (\$1,717.00); Extended Contract-Charlie Speicher, Assist with Trauma Presentation during New Teacher Orientation 2023-2024 (\$419.00); Extended Contract-Dennis Juneau, Additional Supt-Administrator Director Duties 2023-2024 (\$4,822.00); Extended Contract-Rebecca Rappold, Additional Special Education Director Duties 2023-2024 (\$5,228.00); Telemental Health Svcs: Danielle RhineHart-Langlois 2023-2024 (\$24,000.00); Soliant, LLC, Teleservices Assignment-School Psychologist Services-BES 2023- 2024 SY; Apple Quote: Staff Macbooks 2023-2024 (\$18,980.00); Elementary and High School Adopted Budgets 2023-2024; Trustees Financial Summary 2022-2023; MT Roads Department Request to Build Wind Break on School District #9 Property 2023-2024; Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Check #94756-#94831 & #438564-#439084 (\$242,303.42); Student Activity Claims Check #705472-#705475 (\$949.00) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Bremner. Board discussion: Ms. YellowOwl stated that Extended Contract amounts for Dennis Juneau and Rebecca Rappold additional duties have changed and asked for more information. Superintendent Hall stated

the hours changed to 7.5 hours per week and is only for 1st quarter. Duties have been taken off their lists and she will monitor and see how this works and if the additional time is needed. Ms. TallWhiteman asked what the duties are, that were added to others. Superintendent Hall stated that she added some and took some away on each. Ms. TallWhiteman stated they are still working for their salary and the extra duties should have just been implanted into their job duties and does not agree with giving more duties to Mr. Juneau, and wants the positions filled. Ms. TallWhiteman don't want to see all the rules; do not have multiple rules. Ms. YellowOwl agreed, shouldn't be adding a lot of responsibilities onto staff and felt that both positions need to be filled and allow other people to have jobs; don't burn these people out. Superintendent Hall stated that Ms. Rappold filled in last year as interim SpEd Director and has continued to through most of the year providing ongoing support for SpEd. There were no qualified candidates when advertised in the spring and one chose not to accept the position. The test coordinator position was created to take 1/3 of the work from Ms. Rappold so that she had more time with her duties and SpEd. Ms. Rappold is endorsed to do both positions and is a benefit to the district doing both; she has developed a real strong team and strong support in SpEd, and her knowledgeable is a benefit to BPS. Ms. Rappold is in 3rd year of working with instructional coaches, ELT, SBE, teachers and principals. The district had to navigate real tough situations for parents and she is knowledgeable about 504s, and IEPs, and last spring was doing double duty. The test coordinator position is taking a big load off of her. excited about it and sends consistent message to all that will be able to pull general ed and special ed together. Superintendent Hall reviewed ftes required for the following positions: .25 Babb, .75 Assistant Supt (took duties off the assist supt), BMS 1 fte, BMS does not need an assist principal for accreditation and Angie can be principal of record to be accredited. Superintendent Hall stated she talked to Mr. Juneau and both agree he is the best person for principal and stated she is appreciative of him helping do this. Mr. Juneau stated this is for the staff and students to start school year, regardless of approved or not that will still be the focus. Mr. Conway stated the board policy #3510, says 8th grade can join high school athletics; MHSA passed it but were a class A school and asked if BPS wants to do this. Tony Wagner stated that in order to take effect in schools it has to be approved by local school boards; ours is based on need; in soccer, golf, softball, wrestling. BPS does not have the numbers for those teams and with parent approval and the Administrators approval to use 8th graders at the HS level. Golf is less than 5 kids and we can't put together a varsity team to go to divisional tournament. If Soccer is below 10, we have to reduce game times, playing time, and if we get a penalty, it reduces down the game atmosphere. Other soccer teams might not want to play with less than the numbers and we have to take the forfeit. Mr. Wagner felt 8th graders would help build the team. Last year tennis had 6 girls, and 3 were boys who got teased and quit. BB, VB, GBB we have 12, and we try to keep 15. Lower weight wrestling classes for boys don't get filled; this policy would allow 2 to come up. Mr. Conway agreed to support soccer, tennis, golf but does not agree on any other athletic teams. Mr. Wagner stated that it is not allowed for football or speech and debate. Other high schools are opening up for all sports and we would base ours on need; BPS coaches, coordinators support doing this. Mr. Bremner felt that coaches need to do better job of encouraging kids to go out and participate in programs. If we expect 8th graders to make a difference, it's not good. Ms. TallWhiteman stated there are fires that will need to be put out; if 8th grader has the grades and the high school student does not, it will be bad and also, felt that the 4th basketball coach is not doing what they are supposed to do, there will be a lot of problems. Mr. Bremner asked if using 8th graders can be done on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Wagner stated that eligibility comes in to play and it does make a difference; last year there were low numbers in basketball and coaches helped the kids to pass, to play. Mr. RunningFisher asked if there are any summer programs for the kids. Mr. Wagner stated yes, but kids are not showing up. Ms. YellowOwl suggested to table, change the wording and identify which sports. Superintendent Hall stated if tabled, it affects tryouts on Thursday and Friday and the parent meeting. Mr. RunningFisher asked how parents feel about this. Les Munro stated that this could help the district if they had one or two; there are some areas that cannot get enough kids and maybe do this on a trial basis and see what happens. Mr. Wagner reviewed athlete numbers for each support and noted that BHS barely had a freshman team last year. Ms. TallWhiteman asked why all the kids are quitting. Tonia Tatsey stated that band and choir use to do this; upper classmen look down on the younger kids but it can work if you have a strong person as a coach or the kids will get bullied. Mary Ellen LaFromboise stated that she agrees with more programs in lower grades and felt that Head Start sets the bar for the kids. Ms. LaFromboise stated she can't see why BPS put in a lot of effort for tennis but if the program starts early, it might see more kids. Our Kids are having a hard time feeling included and we have to make an effort to say we want them to succeed at something. The community has to tell kids they can do

anything they want to do. No further discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Steve Conway, Michael Hoyt, James Evans, Lockley Bremner, Donna YellowOwl, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for all, except motion failed to Amend Policy #3510 School Sponsored Activities with Lockley Bremner, Donna YellowOwl, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting opposed. Items approved with motion to include that the district can make any necessary adjustments that are needed to Elementary and High School Adopted Budgets 2023-2024 and the Trustees Financial Summary 2022-2023.

There were no Personnel Issues or Legal Issues.

Motion by Mr. RunningFisher to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Steve Conway, Michael Hoyt, James Evans, Lockley Bremner, Donna YellowOwl, James RunningFisher, Rae TallWhiteman voting for,

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ Brian Gallup, Board Chairperson

_____ Gwyn Andersen, District Clerk