

## **Regular Board Minutes**

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

Administration Conference Room

**Present:** Donna Yellow Owl, Chair and James Evans. Virtual: Brian Gallup, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner.

Ms. Yellow Owl called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

**Important Dates To Remember:** NAFIS conference is virtual on Sept 21 thru 23. On Sept 9 at 4:00 there will be a walk around the New Sports Complex.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ms. Brenda Croff, second by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes 8/26/20, Special Board Minutes 8/17/20 and Board Minutes 8/10/20 with no change. Discussion: Ms. Croff stated that Superintendent Hall was to check and see how much it would cost to reimburse staff for Internet. Superintendent Hall stated that she will check the costs on this. All in favor/motion passed.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. 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. Ms. Croff appreciated principals for the many things they are doing and special note to Ms. Stott for the user friendly/awesome report with information on autism and developmentally delayed. Ms. Bremner expressed concern regarding one to one meeting, and asked to see a presentation to school board on compliance with tribal resolution.

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Guardipee-Hall stated that the Board did a walk through at the Middle School will do a walk through at the Sportsplex 9/9/20. Superintendent Hall felt that the new field will be available for Homecoming but there will not be any spectators. Ms. TallWhiteman felt that the District Committees are doing well. Each school reported on student involvement in their buildings: KW Vina 68%, BES 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 50%, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 77%, Napi 4<sup>th</sup> Grade 77%, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 74%, BMS will have assignments this week, BHS Grades 9-12 77%, WBH 70%, Babb 98%. There were 41 students that transferred out of the district and 64 transferred in. BPS received the Cares Act Grant and also got a grant from the Governor. Superintendent Hall is working on the consolidated MCLP and the MCLS grant and Carl Perkins grant will be completed this week.

**Rural Schools Update/FAPE:** Ms. Stott reported on IDEA and noted that the district is required to provide a free and appropriate education for all students and for IEP students BPS will be out of compliance with state requirements if not followed; Education for All assures that students with disabilities have equal opportunities and those students have to be allowed access to school; there are 12 high needs students that cannot access virtually, they cannot see/cannot hear. At this time, BPs is in violation of FAPE; if found in violation, the district will pay whatever the State determines for that students' intervention. Ms. Croff stated that there are parents that are very frustrated because they have gotten zero education for their child and reminded the board that this is a law; BPS is required to offer face to face with these students. Superintendent Hall stated that the Colonies learn differently and prefer to have students in the classrooms and they do not approve of technology; they are a small school within a school and the culture is different; we should respect their culture. The Colonies want to teach and monitor at the same time.

**COVID 19 Continuous Discussion on Education:** Jennifer Wagner stated that BHS has Fridays for office hours and one or two students can come in for one on one; no one has made a request yet. Welding, Shop, Home Economics explained the process. All would wear masks and social distance, Ms. Wagner will set a time, check after ½ hour, no more than 5 students. This would be for short test for skills and is not a class; next would be assessment for reading, ACT Test for Seniors/2 days in October and 150 seniors; will bring a plan forward. Students will enter in the wings, social distance, Sanctions for ACT Test will be brought to the board and the COVID Committee. Superintendent Hall is working on a plan for this; students cannot test at home. Administration may have to implement a schedule for small numbers of students to be in the building for testing. Also, will continue to monitor ESEA, the federal government is not waiving anything. Natasha Siliezar stated that Colonies want to only offer packets and no online classes and suggested iPads. Rebecca Rappold stated that KW Vina would like to try this on a small scale and conduct over the next 1 ½ weeks with 8-10 in the KW Gym to enter east door and exit west door to conduct Child Find. Custodians will sanitize after each group and give Parents the option to opt out; this will be for the federal grant. Ms. Bremner stated that this won't satisfy the Federal Government and asked to see the administration plans. Superintendent Hall will send the information.

**Blackfeet Language/Native American Studies Update:** Robert Hall and Lea Whitford presented B/NAS curriculum to the board. Mr. Hall is conducting the HS Blackfeet Language class until the position is filled. Mr. Hall is on the local radio starting at 8:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays and 1:00 Mondays and Wednesdays with the Blackfeet Language program; he would need 100 subscribers to do this on U-Tube. Mr. Hall wants to interview in the school system and various tribal communities and asked for suggestions. Mr. Hall stated appreciation for Jennifer LaFromboise-Wagner and stated that they meet once a week on the Blackfeet Language. Mr. Hall and Lea Whitford have submitted a DOE Language grant for assessment for language and learning in classroom. Mr. hall asked for Language consultants to come in and create some classes which is an issue recognized by Billie Jo Juneau. Ms. Croff asked if the grant was presented to the Blackfeet Tribe. Ms. Whitford stated that she sent a request for a letter of support to the Tribe. Ms. Wagner stated that announcements are out for Sept 25 which is Native American Day and BHS Homecoming.

**Update on BMS Remodel and Sportsplex Construction:** Tim Peterson reviewed costs associated with the middle school renovation started with a base contract amount of \$11.9 million; material testing was approved for \$25,000 on 8/26/20; FFE design is furnishings for BMS \$400,000 and is almost complete; 6<sup>th</sup> grade playground \$200,000. Mr. Peterson stated that the board has not approved him to move forward with alternate construction, i.e. New Play Field, Pod A&B Remodel/work, NW Parking Lot, Low Voltage Systems, etc. At this time Pod A&B FFE costs are less. The play field is less \$197,000 and the parking lot is higher. A change order has been approved at \$1,183,533. Ms. Yellow Owl stated when electricity is installed, the cost for a permit is \$90,000 and the tribal council will meet on this at their meeting Wednesday and asked if the tribe does not waive this cost, where will the money come from. Mr. Peterson stated that Sletten will bring forward with a change order to the Board. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that the existing pods need painting which are listed in the estimate as well as new ceiling and flooring and asked that this all be done before the kids are in school. Board members agreed that they want to keep the floor in the classroom with the basketball key and words Browning Middle School. Mr. Peterson will take care of this with the contractor. Ms. Croff felt that with Pods A&B costing less, the district should go forward with what is needed. Ms. Yellow Owl noted that BPS still has to cover the contingency costs if the tribe does not waive the fees as well as furnish the middle school. Mr. Peterson stated that the base cost started at \$4.7 million and included the football field, softball field. With the change to turf on the softball field and the testing costs, BPS is \$200,000 over the original estimate. Seating, concessions and field lights were installed. The volleyball court is not included in the costs yet; the Cares Act money will cover a portion of the volleyball court. Mr. Peterson will bring this to the facility meeting with modifications.

**Update on District vs County:** Stacy Edwards reviewed information provided to the county; they owed BPS \$24 million and sent \$15.1 million on Jan 15, \$4 million on Feb 4, \$200,000 on Feb 11, and the balance owed at that time was \$4.2 million. Ms. Edwards reviewed status of the attachments regarding payroll, canceled checks and taxes and noted that the county owes interests on taxes that the state was withholding. Ms. Edwards stated that the auditor will be at BPS on 9/9/20 and also next week to review the reports. Ms. Edwards also noted that this money

cannot be used on the projects. Ms. Croff asked if the auditors being agreed to between county and BPS the same auditors used by the County. Superintendent Hall stated that they do not know this information yet.

**Band Equipment Donation/BHS:** This donation is for Board information; 15 guitars were donated to BHS and the cost is less than \$5,000.00.

**Review Board Policies:** #5229, #5229R, #5251, #5322, #5325, #5328, #5328P: Ms. RidesAtTheDoor asked if each school has a place for breast feeding and wanted to make certain that this time would not go against their leave.

**HR Status Update:** Mr. Salois stated that each year SpEd has to move people around and he will be meeting with Ms. Stott to make sure to update the report with transfers and hiring. Mr. Salois explained that student teachers, in accordance with state law, do not receive full pay.

**Coaching Season Update:** Mr. Salois reviewed coaching hires last meeting.

**Resignations:** The following resignations have been accepted by the Superintendent: Robert Juarez, Teacher Assistant-BMS, Effective 8-26-2020; Natasha Siliezar, Teacher-Principal-Glendale & Big Sky Colonies, Effective 10-2-2020 and Stacy Edwards, Finance Director/District Clerk-Administration, Effective 9-18-2020. *No discussion.*

### ITEMS OF ACTION

**Hiring:** Motion by Mr. Evans to hire the following pending successful background checks/drug tests: Allison Windy Boy, Elementary Teacher-KW Vina 2020-2021 (\$37,879.00); Susie Small, Elementary Teacher-KW Vina 2020-2021 (\$37,879.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. *Public participation/Board discussion:* John Salois noted that Ms. Small's contract will be reduced by the number of days she is not available. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner voting for.

Motion by Ms. Bremner to hire the following pending successful background checks/drug tests: Leo Bird, BNAS Teacher-BHS 2020-2021 (\$52,125.00 to be pro-rated for late start); Anna McEvers, Assistant Volleyball Coach-BHS 2020-2021 (\$2,064.00); Iliff Scott Kipp, BHS Assistant Football Coach 2020-2021 (\$2,064.00) and Terrance Lafromboise, BHS Assistant Football Coach 2020-2021 (\$2,147.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Wendy Bremner voting for. Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman abstained.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks for Mabel Running Fisher, Community Mentor Program Coordinator-KW Vina 2020-2021 AY (\$6,600.00) and Leonard Guardipee, Community Mentor-Napi 2020-2021 AY (\$5,400.00). Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Ms. Yellow Owl asked if these positions were advertised. Superintendent Hall stated that these are the same individuals from last 2-years. Ms. Yellow Owl noted that the dates are inaccurate on the contracts. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve a contract service agreement pending successful background check for Aaron McClean, Stipend for Athletic Coaching Clinic 2020-2021 (\$400.00). Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks for Colleen Wilson, Community Mentor Program Coordinator-BMS-BHS 2020-2021 AY (\$6,600.00) and Cheryl Rah Lock, Provide Speech Pathology Services 2020-2021 (\$12,960.00). Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

**Out of State Travel:** None

**In State Travel:** None

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Request to Waive Penalty for Early Release from Contract 2020-2021-Natasha Siliezar (\$3,253.52). Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. Ms. Bremner felt that this person is leaving the district in a bind and stated that the purpose of the penalty is to give the district time to be prepared. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion failed with James Evans, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, voting for. Donna Yellow Owl, Kristy Bullshoe, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner voted opposed.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Odyssey Ware Quote - BHS 2020-2021 (\$15,000.00) and Renew Random Drug Testing Contracts for Student Activities 2020-2021. Second by Mr. Gallup. *Public participation/Board discussion:* Mr. Evans asked about Credit Recovery. Billie Jo Juneau stated that this request is to renew the license and offers a class where student/s can recover grades and be put back into their classes and has been recommended by the HS administration. Ms. Juneau will monitor the program this year. Jennifer LaFromboise stated that this program offers seniors a chance to graduate. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Substitute Eligibility List 2020-2021; Request to Waive Penalty for Early Release from Contract 2020-2021: Stacy Edwards (\$3,395.85); Interim Check Signer for NAB, Stockman Bank, LPL Financial, and US Bank: Linda Baker; MTSBA Agreement for District Clerk Search Services 2020-2021 (\$5,500.00 plus); Amend Policy #5210 Position Creation (no changes recommended), Transfers and Vacancies and #5221 Work Day (no changes recommended); Final Reading-COVID Emergency Policies #1900 Series; Approval to Purchase Furnishings for Middle School Remodel (\$400,000.00 not to exceed). Second by Ms. Bremner. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Superintendent Hall stated that she is recommending the Board approve the Penalty Waiver for Stacy Edwards with the stipulation that Ms. Edwards finish the Trustee Financial Summary before she leaves the district. Ms. Bremner stated that leaving the District in a bind is not good. Ms. Yellow Owl ask that it be noted in the minutes that since she returned as a board member, she has not waived any of these requests. Motion passed with all voting for Substitute Eligibility List 2020-2021; Interim Check Signer for NAB, Stockman Bank, LPL Financial, and US Bank: Linda Baker; MTSBA Agreement for District Clerk Search Services 2020-2021 (\$5,500.00 plus); Amend Policy #5210 Position Creation, Transfers and Vacancies and #5221 Work Day; Final Reading-COVID Emergency Policies #1900 Series with no changes; Approval to Purchase Furnishings for Middle School Remodel (\$400,000.00 not to exceed) and Wendy Bremner, Kristy Bullshoe, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting opposed to Waive Penalty for Early Release from Contract 2020-2021 for Stacy Edwards.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Trauma Informed Approach for Sports 2020-2021. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. *Public participation/Board discussion:* Ms. Yellow Owl reminded board members that they approved the procedures for fall sports and are now requesting to change what was approved. Matthew Johnson stated that after reviewing the process again, the school realizes that kids that test positive know it would cause loss of sports and suggested that they talk with the student and let them know that with transparency and honesty the issue can be handled better. Mr. Johnson suggested to keep a team quarantined for 2-weeks if a student tests positive. Students must continue to wear their masks and they have talked to the kids about this. Board members agreed. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor suggested to reiterate to parents and coaches, families that sports is a privilege and if a student does not feel like practicing, they should go home until feeling better and the coach needs to understand this. Ms. TallWhiteman asked that all coaches continue to be responsible in taking temperatures and attendance with the documentation taken every day, wearing masks and maintaining 6 ft apart. Ms. Yellow Owl suggested to support this recommendation and change the line to read, "if a player tests positive, the sport will be quarantined". Ms. Bremner stated that the board is going out on a limb opening sports and felt that this may not be the best thing and also suggested a meeting to make to make sure that everyone knows what the board is requiring. Mr. Johnson asked to talk to the coaches about being safer and discuss with them how they can improve and give more advice on how to do this. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that BPS has an athlete who tested positive and that sport is quarantined for 14

days. Ms. Bullshoe stated that she wants to know if the activities director was there and asked how coaches are to react in these cases; is there a protocol. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that when there is a positive test, the individual is contacted by IHS and under HIPPA; they don't have to tell us anything. Ms. Bullshoe stated that she wants to see the individual safety plan that each coach/sport has. Ms. Bremner asked to see the plans if a staff/athlete, etc. tests positive and stated that right now all sports should be canceled based on the protocol the board approved. Ms. Croff stated that cancelling a sport is not in the board's policy but the board did vote to put this in place. Superintendent Hall stated that the administration is asking the board to not shut down sports based on this incident. Ms. Bremner suggested to rescind the August 10 vote and vote on the new process recommended. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor and Mr. Evans withdrew their motions. Ms. Croff made a motion to table Trauma Informed Approach for Sports and bring to a special "emergency" meeting for September 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Motion passed to table with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

**JV and Freshman sports or Intermural/Camps 2020-2021:** Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to table this item to be discussed in a special "emergency" meeting to be held on 9/9/20. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: CARES Act Law-Childcare 2020-2021; Provide On-Site Educational Services to Students with an IEP 2020-2021; MTSBA Policy Agreement 2020-2021 (\$5,500.00); Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Check #431258 - #43135 (\$309,349.95); Student Activities Claims-None; Additional Pays/Payroll; Personnel: None and Legal Issues: None. Second by Ms. Croff. *Public participation/Board discussion:* Mr. Evans asked for clarification on the Cares Act Law. Superintendent Hall stated that there is no longer calamity pay being offered as of 8/31; all staff are required to take leave according to the MOU with Certified and Classified. If staff do not have childcare, they can change their schedule to work at different times so that the district can continue to operate. Ms. Yellow Owl requested number of employee wages that are being paid through the CARES Act. Mr. Salois stated that the district is following the CARES Act requirements and they will be paid 2/3 of their pay up to 10 weeks; if staff are able to work remotely they are allowed and if they cannot work remotely, they get 2/3 pay. Mr. Gallup ask to clarify that BPS is paying just 2/3 of the employee's wage. *No further discussion.* Motion passed with Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Brenda Croff, Misty RidesAtTheDoor, Rae TallWhiteman, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

Ms. Yellow Owl noted that she will send out information for the special emergency meeting for 9/9/20.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Second by Ms. Croff. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Donna Yellow Owl, Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Stacy Edwards, District Clerk