

Special Board Minutes (Draft)

Monday, September 30, 2024 @ 5:00PM

Administration Conference Room

Present: James RunningFisher-Chair, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Lockley Bremner, Kristy Salway Bullshoe,
Via Internet: Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl. Absent: Michael Hoyt.

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting at 5:00pm

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Ms. Salway Bullshoe. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Lockley Bremner, Donna YellowOwl voting for.

Public Comment: None.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Travel: Motion by Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following in state travel for Kellen Hall, Divisional Golf Tournament 2024-2025 in Anaconda, MT (\$952.02) and Jennifer LaFromboise Wagner, State Golf Tournament in Polson, MT 2024-2025 (\$797.20). Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Lockley Bremner, Donna YellowOwl voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Ms. Salway Bullshoe to approve the following items: Principal Salary Increase 2024-2025 (\$29,166.51); Directors One-Time Stipend 2024-2025 (\$37,403.85); Professional Technical One-Time Stipend 2024-2025 (\$54,057.69) and Trustees' Financial Summary 2023-2024. Second by Mr. Gervais. *Board discussion:* Ms. Yellow stated that concern about giving one-time stipends from ESSER III money and felt the should be divided and shared by everyone as a one-time stipend and give 3% to professional technical and directors. Ms. YellowOwl stated that she was told that there was a lot of money spent on staff appreciation and this would cover staff appreciation. Mr. Evans asked why a one-time stipend. Superintendent Rappold stated BPS has a lot of money invested in the negotiated contracts and in January they will start negotiations again with certified; most of certified staff received a 6% increase. Classified received \$1.00 increase per hour and they also received bereavement with the increases on the district side. A one-time stipend will help keep the budget in line with what was already approved and BPS can pay the one-time stipend out of ESSER. This will help keep the board approved payroll budgets intact. The administration is trying to reduce expenses and not have to cut positions and the budget meetings we have held shows that the money is tight. Superintendent Rappold stated she has met with everyone and asked their preference and professional technical and directors chose to take the one-time stipend and principals took a 3% increase and this gives administration more flexibility without impacting the budgets. Mr. Bremner asked if there is a cap for principals. Superintendent Rappold stated no, however, she did hear that one was drafted in the past but she has not seen it; at this time there is no approved salary schedule. Ms. YellowOwl stated that she understands the explanation of the funding source but this is the first time this group is not doing the same as principals and felt it should be fair across board giving them 3% and share the stipend with all employees. Mr. Gallup stated that he supports Superintendent Rappold's explanation. No further discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Lockley Bremner voting for and Donna YellowOwl opposed.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn at 5:12PM. Second by Mr. Gervias. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Lockley Bremner voting for and Donna YellowOwl voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

_____ Sandra Rivas, District Clerk