

**Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**  
Tuesday, August 13, 2024 @ 5:00pm  
Administration Conference Room

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

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Mr. RunningFisher stated there are some special dates to remember: the MCEL in Missoula in October joint meeting with ISBC and IISM during this time/Brian. Oct 16, 17, 18, 2024. Tuesday August 20, the board is cooking hot dogs, hamburgers and ribs. Reid Reigan did get a permit to cook outside and there will be fire trucks if the weather gets too dry. Ms. YellowOwl askd board members to be there early. Principals will help serve. All were asked to wear school shirts representing their locations/buildings. Superintendent Rappold asked the board to plan a date for the board retreat/strategic planning during the 1st to mid-October to discuss MTSBA transition in policies to new numbering system, draft manual, info from principals that was shared with OPI on learning plans, board will do building walk through of sports facilities and plans on instruction and were asked to consider 2 days of training.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the Regular board Minutes of 7/31/24 with no changes. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Gervais. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Public Comment:** None.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Mr. RunningFisher acknowledged the following reports:

Child Nutrition-Copy Center-Warehouse-Dalaina Grant; Curriculum and Instruction - Rebecca Rappold; Blackfeet Language-Native American Studies - Robert Hall; Parent, Community Outreach - Irene Augare; Childcare Program - Rose Racine; Prevention & Wellness Program - Cinnamon Salway; Student Activities - Heidi Bullcalf; Athletics Department-Kellen Hall; Technology Department-Travis Miller; Transportation-Francis Bullcalf; Maintenance and Facilities, Security, Construction - Reid Reagan

**Superintendent Report**

**Superintendent Update:** Superintendent Rappold gave a brief report on transfers at employees' request, Jennifer Tatsey transferred to BMS Counselor. Upcoming dates New Teacher Orientation 8/12-8/15, 2024; EOP Training with D. Kipp 8/13, 2024; NSY Orientation Days 8/19-8/21, 2024; Community Lunch 8/20/2024; Firsty day of school 8/22/2024; Tile I Engagement Mtg 8/28/2024.

**BHS High Risk Letter from OPI 2024:** HS district has been identified as high risk from last 3 years of reporting; Scoring identified 23 or later; there have been consistent drawdowns with risk factor of 21. Two key risk indicators are: School district audits conducted by external contracted auditors; and Subrecipient monitoring conducted by the OPI Federal Program managers. BPS knew this over the last 3 years and it is based on last 3-years data. BPS needs to own this because this is where we are at in terms of our budget. Letter outlines the high risk for monitoring federal programs: **Program Risk Determination** is high for federal programs: Carl Perkins, IDEA Part B, IDEA ARP B, and ESSER; **Program Assurances** has not been met for federal programs ESSER; **Fiscal Program Performance** has not been met for federal programs Carl Perkins, IDEA Part B, IDEA ARP B, and ESSER; **Reporting Timeliness** has not been met for federal programs for Carl

Perkins and ESSER; **Academic Performance** Browning High School is currently identified as a Rigorous Action School; **Finance Fiscal Audit** from the finance department at the OPI is showing Browning High School as “high risk”. Superintendent Rappold stated she let OPI know BPS would not do all of the following requirements: The district will be placed on full reimbursement status for all grant funds; The district will undergo a Title I, Part A self-assessment and onsite monitoring; The district will demonstrate that all special education teachers are properly licensed, and that training has been provided to SPED staff; The district must make regular drawdowns of IDEA Preschool/ARP funds; The district will report school discipline data during the required timelines; The district must spend down ESSER II funding by submitting monthly cash draws by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month; The district must comply with audit regulations by ensuring that all audits are submitted (FY21-FY23). She is working on grants, requests, drawdowns and said no to Onsite Monitoring/OPI agreed and will remove this requirement and noted that SpEd work was cleaned up with Maureen and OPI agreed to removing the third condition. Superintendent Rappold will do next one and discipline data and building principals will finalize that data to be submitted. All Esser will be done. We are 3 years behind on the audit. The Business office has been working with auditor now and will be doing a few more interviews and the deadline should be complete with 21-22 audit. It took time for the new auditor to get familiar with our firm and we will continue with them and hope the next audit will get done sooner.

**Babb Elementary School, Update & Discussion:** There are 15 students enrolled and 3 remaining families that did not come in for registration. A teacher has not been hired but do have some solutions. Operating costs last year \$535,528.00 at Babb is 2 teachers, 2 paras, cook, custodian, materials for 24 students; not including maintenance or transportation which is more than twice the cost spent in Browning on students. There needs to be continued discussion on this. There is potentially one teacher and one TA that will be in Babb with 18 students. If we want to divide the student count, BPS will continue searching for another teacher. There are 3 Kindergarten, 2 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grader.

**Proposed Budget Review & Discussion 2024-2025:** Ms. Andersen stated this is final budget review before the final meeting of 8/20/24 to hold a public meeting prior to the board meeting to give community and administrators time for questions on budget and comments and responses prior to the meeting to adopting revenue budget; Cash reserves will be full with these numbers; Cash to reappropriate; and Transportation is state and county; tuition and other revenue is in wrong place. Technology provided by state is \$8,000. Debt for service Elementary has IA revenue bond and the property tax revenue. Building reserve state contribution is \$120,000. BPS has to levy \$38,000 to get the \$121,000. Taxable values have been received and is up \$659,000 and makes the mill worth more. All will pay less when there are additional monies. Mills for 2024-25 compared to last year are down this year; transportation mills are up. Last year Ms. Andersen stated she couldn't get a handle on expenditure because they weren't all coded to transportation and did not have time to clean it all up; this year she has a better handle on it and mills will be up by 8.29 with some down in other areas. The overall impact is 8.92 additional mills. Cash funds are what we have in cash and what might be received next year, i.e. food service. Don't adopt budget for cash funds, will adopt budgeted funds. Federal program grants are not written until September and amount will be off putting in \$10 million. IA number is less the 15% Setaside. This is similar for HS taxable value which is up half million. General fund is dictated by law. Transportation mills are down the general fund levy is down; bus depreciation is down. Overall HS is down 32 mills and EL has a couple more years left on IA revenue bond and will not affect tax levy as it is paid with IA dollars which is very good news on HS budget. We can levy for special education costs in tuition fund but it will take considerable work to document and justify. Ms. Andersen stated that the superintendent has the inside track on Sped spending and we could come up with good costs together on the tuition levy. There is no place to try to recoup the levies. Mr. Gallup stated there is nothing wrong with having a reduction and letting tax payers know this. Estimated cash funds in IA less 15% setaside has cash currently in the coffers to carry over to next year. Next week the board will be adopting the revenue budget. Business office is behind on entering revenue into the cash side but working on these to get into the system. There may be slight changes in budget amounts. Ms. YellowOwl when we get a grant and it pays salary, supplies, do we also charge administration fee to run through our finance department. Ms. Andersen stated there is opportunity for indirect costs and when the grant has to apply for indirect cost rate .95% when written it is applied and it helps with administration and goes into its own account. The district hasn't typically taken this but

can do this. Grants don't pay utilities or rent or anything. Superintendent Rappold stated that some grants don't allow this. Gwyn expenditure side of budget: districts cost shared between EL/HS such as superintendent salary and is 75/25 and revenues are coming in 70/30 and expenditures should follow the way money is coming in. and recommended that the board goes with 70/30. She has setup the 2024-2025 budget this way. budget projections are put in to show expenditure side compared to revenue and it is lop-sided in general fund and will have to move some salaries which is teachers and paraprofessionals. Administrators cannot be in the elementary side but can in the HS side; \$1 million. There is \$800,000 available in IA to help cover the shortfall. There is an \$800,000 short fall in food service. EL shortfall is \$1 million and will come out of IA reserves; kept a years-worth of IA in reserves which is diff than the setaside. At the special meeting the 15% setaside of 1.3 million is available for one year. feel there are places to get this money other than this. They do have funds available in HS and need \$700,000 additional numbers for the teacher increase which the Setaside won't cover and will have to dip into reserves. Got funding for all other funds on HS side. IA will cover \$119,000 loss on copy center; amount based on not collecting copy center reimbursements from block grants in the buildings. Ms. Andersen stated they keep track of the coping and supplies for the buildings which could be recouped or just take all out of IA and noted that teachers are more responsible if they know they are paying for this. Numbers for construction are available but no spreadsheet yet: will be using IA reserve to cover ongoing construction contracts, i.e. kw gym, admin, sports complex and is currently negotiating what OPI to allow BPS to use on new food service distribution center; that building is costing quite a bit more than the \$2 million as was designated and we don't have the money to cover this. The building will most likely use about half of the reserves and that is concerning; don't want to have to bring people for reductions. Once BPS spend their reserves it will take a long time to bring it back up and Ms. Andersen cautioned BPS not to consider requests for additional spending as it will come out of IA reserves. Ms. Andersen stated that part of the 15% reserve, long term strategic plan, moving forward should be able to put that reserve back a bit quicker than most and recommended BPS to keep in mind on how this will come together in a couple of years. Ms. Andersen stated that Superintendent Rappold is in the know of what is in the budgets and what is not.

**HR Status Update:** KW: 1 TA, BES: 0, Napi sped teacher, TA, BMS: PCA, custodian, head secretary BHS auto/welding, vo-tech, Bus. Ed, science, drivers ed, sped ta, pca Babb: Pcop ydhp, youth case mgr, 2 cooks, flex cook, Flex custodian, sped director, transportation 9 mth drivers. Superintendent Rappold stated that the principals have worked hard to get staff on board in all their buildings and it looks really good right now. Many elementary staff are emergency licensed and will have to go through the same cycle every year and stated how grateful she is as the schools are starting the year with a teacher and they are qualified coming in but noted they may see an impact on accreditation reports. Kudos to principals.

**Coaches Update:** Positions are being filled and Kellen Hall is doing a good job of bringing in applicants and filling vacant positions.

**Resignations:** The following resignations were accepted by the Superintendent: Aaron McLean, Assistant Golf Coach-BHS, Effective 8-6-2024 and Tim McKay, Assistant Girls Wrestling Coach-BHS, Effective 8-6-2024.

### **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hiring pending successful background checks/drug tests: Jacky MakesColdWeather, Teacher Assistant-Napi; Francis Chief Calf, Teacher Assistant-Stamiksiitsiikin Elementary; Michael Leah BirdRattler, Napi Cross Country Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Sissy Wells, Napi Cross Country Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); David OldChief, Napi Cross Country Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Naythan ManyHides, Napi Football Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Ryan Hoyt, Napi Football Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Napi Elementary Football Coaches 2024-2025 (\$1,266.00); Francine DeRoche, Social Studies Teacher-BMS 2024-2025 (\$47,436.00); Joshua Shooter, BMS Shop Teacher 2024-2025 (\$45,691.00); Jerry Racine, BMS Football Coach 2024-2025 (\$1,101.00); Marci Burd, BMS Basketball Coach 2024-2025 (\$1,032.00); Jacob Glaze, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, BMS Junior Academy 2024-2025 (\$42,195.00) and Jessie Salway, Head School Secretary-Browning Middle School. Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James

RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve hiring Greg Juneau, FB Assist. Coach 2024-2025 pending successful background check/drug test. Second by Mr. Gervais. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Change Signage From KW/Vina to Stamiksiitsiikin (Bullshoe) 2024-2025 (\$650.00); Ann Magee, Provide Math Tutoring at DeLaSalle School 2024-2025 (\$33,240.00); Theresa Pepion, Provide ELA Tutoring at DeLaSalle 2024-2025 (\$18,720.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Melanie Magee, Training for New Gear-Up Coordinator 2024-2025 (\$3,139.20) and New Teacher Orientation Stipends 2024-2025 (\$1,000.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

There was no Out of State or In State Travel.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Hoyt to Amended Contract: Sarah Flamond, Elementary Teacher-BES 2024-2025 (\$1,745.00). Second by Mr. Gervais. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following items: Extended Contract-Charlie Speicher, Alternative Education Coordinator 2024- 2025 (\$9,352.64); Contract Modification-Sydney St. Goddard, Gear Up Coordinator 2024-2025 (\$6,394.20); Contract Modification: Rosalyn Racine, Childcare Coordinator 2024-2025 (\$1,170.80); Substitute Eligibility Roster 2024-2025; District Handbooks 2024-2025; Board Request to Purchase Homecoming Parade Items 2024-2025 (\$4,984.20 Approx.); Final Budget Hearing; Public Notice 2024-2025; Montana Fence Co. Quote, Install Fence - Transportation 2024-2025 (\$3,065.00) and Sletten Change Order #3, Admin Building Exterior (\$8,000.00). Second by Mr. Gervais. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to adjourn the meeting at 5:57PM. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**PERSONNEL:** None

**LEGAL ISSUES:** None.

Respectfully submitted:

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Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

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James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

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Sandra Rivas, District Clerk