

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Administration Conference Room

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

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Important Dates to Remember: Next regular scheduled board meeting 8/26/25 at 5:00 p.m. Administration Conference Room; Facility Meeting 8/14/25 at 5 p.m. Administration Conference Room; BPS Staff Orientation 8/18/25; Community Luncheon 8/19/25; First Day of School 8/21/25; NAFIS Fall Conference in Washington, DC depart 9/11/25 and return 9/18/25.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes 7-29-25. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with the following changes: Remove item L from District Wide Approval, Review Transfer of Excess Cash. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Public Comment: None

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

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

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rappold stated that there were a few transfers, all of the August planning weeks have happened. We are getting ready to start school, teachers start on Monday. Preparing tonight to adopt the final budget and the trustee’s financial summary as well as working to secure auditor for 2023-2024 & 2024-2025 years. Superintendent Rappold provided an updated line of authority to the board.

Job Description Modification: Modify Technology Assistant Job Title, Duties and Salary (\$55,000.00-\$60,000.00). Superintendent Rappold stated that this job was held by Willam Kennedy as the Technology Assistant. The job description has been updated and Roy Crawford will be transitioned to the Technology Assistant role.

Carol Williamson-Blackfeet Teen Pregnancy Program Update: Carol Williamson and McKayla Miller gave a brief update on Blackfeet Teen Pregnancy Program. They work with Browning, Heart Butte and Valier 7th & 8th Graders. Their cultural curriculum was 12 lessons cut down to 4 because they could not find enough cultural mentors. After every 3 RCL lessons that the school facilitator teaches then they will have a cultural mentor come in and discuss those lessons with our culture. The program is going into their 5th year but 4th year in the schools. They are currently working with 16 teens; they work strongly with Irene Augare in the Parent Outreach Center as well as other programs in the community. They are

working on strengthening the areas where they were weak so they are stronger next year and can present better to the students. Students enjoy the program and engage well.

YAM Update-Larry Woolf: Larry stated that YAM has been in Browning Public Schools since the fall of 2016, was originally approved through the board with Ray Cobell. YAM is taught every year to the freshman class during the health class except during covid. They did come back the following year but did miss a lot of students during covid. They have had excellent support and everyone has been accommodating with in the health classes fits in perfectly with the health curriculum. YAM is 5 hours over a course of 3 weeks. Every session has a different focus. Tom Shawl stated that the program is hands on and role play and see different situations and how to deal with situations. There is no school personal when yam is in session, the reasoning behind that is so the student will open up. Kelly Edwards is the program director for YAM through Montana State. She has been able to get them in on grants to pay for the program as well as Amber Williamson from Tribal Health have helped out with books. Hand out was provided about Yam as well as the 2024-2025 School Impact Report.

Mr. Evans asked if YAM could be implemented at a lower grade level. Larry stated that it works better at the High School level. Kelly Edwards stated that YAM was tried at the 7th grade level and they were a little bit to young, it works better at the 8th and 9th grade level.

HR Status Report: Elementary level we are in need of a 1st grade instructional coach, youth mental health specialist although we do have a recommendation for that, PCA, TA, general instructional coach, 8th grade BJA instructor, Sped TA, assistant secretary interviews are being scheduled. At the High School level, we need ELA reading interventionist, science teacher, Sped TA, TA, Custodian who we do have a recommendation pending physical assessment, math teacher for BHA, high set tutor, technology technician and have a recommendation. Maintenance we need 2 flex custodian positions have recommendations for those providing physical assessments completed. Special Services we need a Sped adaptive physical ed. instructor at half time, Sped nurse, school psychologist have recommendation, 2 speech pathologists. Transportation we need one 12-month bus driver & three 9-month bus drivers.

Coaching Update: We have an assistant football coach recommendation at the High School level that leaves us with one assistant football opening. Head soccer coach is on the agenda for hire that will leave us needing an assistant girls' soccer coach. We need to fill an assistant speech and debate coach position. We have 2 assistant softball coach positions at the High School level as well as a Special Olympics coach and a concession sponsor possibly have someone for that. At the middle school we need 4 football coaches, girls basketball coach, boys' basketball coach, 2-6th grade volleyball coaches, 6th-8th grade track coach & softball coach & we have a recommendation for the athletic coordinator. At the Napi we also have a recommendation for the athletic coordinator, also need 2 basketball coaches.

Resignations: Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: Sarah Kuka, Assistant Secretary, BMS, Effective 7-28-2025; Judy Smith, 9-Mo Bus Driver, Transportation, Effective 7-28-2025; Shantell BirdRattler, Facilities Secretary, Maintenance, Effective 7-30-2025; Emmitt Augare, Football Coach, BMS, Effective 8-4-2025; Christy CalfBossRibs, Elementary Teacher 5th Grade, Napi, Effective 8-5-2025.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Megan Daniels, Elementary Teacher-Stamiksiitsiikin Elementary 2025-2026 (\$47,062.00); Cheryl DeRoche, Elementary Teacher-BES 2025-2026 (\$54,254.00); Tennial Connelly, Elementary Teacher-BES 2025-2026 (\$48,859.00); Autumn Charges Strong, Elementary Teacher-Napi 2025-2026 (\$47,062.00); Josh Shooter, BMS Shop Teacher 2025-2026 (\$52,455.00); Joetta Roberts, Youth Prevention Behavior & SEL Specialist-Napi; Tommi-Rae Trombley, Teacher Assistant, BES; Beth

Augare, Teacher Assistant, BES; Jaylin Comesatnight, Special Education TA-Napi; Kimberly Franks, Assistant Cook-Bullshoe Elementary; Brent StillSmoking, Assistant Cook-Napi Elementary; Anthony MadPlume, BES Custodian; Tommy Begay, Custodian, Napi Elementary; Casey McDonald, BMS Wrestling Coach 2025-2026 (\$894.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Cheryl Poitra, Assistant Principal BHS, 2025-2026 (\$97,590.00); Elva Dorsey, Technology Teacher-BHS 2025-2026 (\$52,455.00); Zebah Burdeau, Head Girls Soccer Coach 2025-2026 (\$3,096.00); Jesse Harwood, BHS Assistant Football Coach 2025-2026 Sports Season (\$2,064.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Taylee Ridesatthedoor, Gear Up Student Achievement Specialist, BMS-BHS 2025-2026 (\$35,000.00); Jamie SpottedEagle, Child Care Aide I; Monica Kipling, Child Care Aide I; Miran CalfLooking, Hiring Child Care Aide II. Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Rewiring iPad charging carts-BHS (\$630.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks: New Teacher Orientation Stipends 2025-2026 SY (\$6,000.00); Colleen Wilson Mentor Program Coordinator 2025-2026 SY (\$5,000.00) Lisa LongTimeSleeping, Customer Service Training 2025-2026 (\$500.00). Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Out of State Travel: None

In State Travel: None

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following items: Babb Family-Student Handbook 2025-2026; Request for Waiver of 8% Penalty Fee for Early Resignation- Christy Calfbossribs 2025-2026 (\$4,484.32). Mr. Bremner had a question on the waiver of the 8% penalty fee for early resignation for Christy Calfbossribs. He stated that we just started the new fiscal year in July and wondered how we already over paid this individual. Superintendent Rappold stated that we did not overpay her it is a penalty for withdrawing from her contract early. Mr. RunningFisher stated that we have a policy on this and need to start upholding, only exceptions like health reasons. Mr. Gallup stated that the policy needs to be looked at and fixed so that we are not in the predicament. *No public participation.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans motions to approve the following with the removal of item L review transfer of excess cash: Substitute Eligibility 8-12-25; Extended Contract SBE (Standards-based Education) Planning Week 2025-2026 (11,808.40); Extended Contracts, BNAS Strategic Planning 2025-2026 (\$6,206.30); 25-26 SY BPS Teacher Mentoring Handbook; Roy Crawford, Change Job Title from IT Technician to Technology Assistant Director (\$11,911.00); NIISA Membership Dues (\$3,000.00); Apply

for the Town Pump Food Grant (\$10,000.00); Purchase AEDs and apply for MT AED Reimbursement Grant (\$6,088.00); Right of Way Easement- DOT, Wooden Board Snow Fence; Browning School District #9 Strategic Plan 2025-2030; Adopt Elementary and High School Budgets 2025-2026; Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims #69597-69653 (\$210,263.26); Student Activities Check #706385-#706415 (\$9,758.19); Additional Pays-Payroll 8-12-25; Second by Mr. Gallup.

Motion and second was amended by Mr. Evans and Mr. Gallup to the following: Substitute Eligibility 8-12-25; Extended Contract SBE (Standards-based Education) Planning Week 2025-2026 (11,808.40); Extended Contracts, BNAS Strategic Planning 2025-2026 (\$6,206.30); 25-26 SY BPS Teacher Mentoring Handbook; Roy Crawford, Change Job Title from IT Technician to Technology Assistant Director (\$11,911.00); NIISA Membership Dues (\$3,000.00); Apply for the Town Pump Food Grant (\$10,000.00); Purchase AEDs and apply for MT AED Reimbursement Grant (\$6,088.00); Right of Way Easement-DOT, Wooden Board Snow Fence; Browning School District #9 Strategic Plan 2025-2030. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Elementary Budget 2025-2026. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve High School Budget 2025-2026. Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following: Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims #69597-69653 (\$210,263.26); Student Activities Check #706385-#706415 (\$9,758.19); Additional Pays-Payroll 8-12-25; Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Recess: 5:50 p.m.

Reconvene: 5:56 p.m.

Board went into closed session at 5:56 p.m. for the following item: Consideration of Parent/Guardian(s) requests for 2025-2026 SY BHS student enrollment. Meeting reopened at 6:20.

Motion by Mr. Evans to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to allow the return of Student A for the 2025-2026 school year. Second by Mr. Gallup. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to allow the return of Student B for the 2025-2026 school year. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

PERSONNEL: None

LEGAL ISSUES: None

Motion by Mr. Gallup to adjourn the meeting @ 6:22 p.m. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James Running Fisher, James Evans, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Charmaine Arcand, Acting Board Secretary

_____ James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

_____ Sandra Rivas, District Clerk

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