

Regular Board Minutes (Draft)
Wednesday, May 29, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.
Administration Conference Room

Present: Donna Yellow Owl-Chair, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Jess Edwards (via telephone at 6:18 p.m.), Kristy Bullshoe, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff.

Ms. Yellow Owl called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Important Dates: Ms. Yellow Owl reminded trustees that there is a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 4 @ 5:00 p.m. at the Admin. and a special meeting for the student forum Thursday, May 30 @ 5:00 p.m. at WBH.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ms. Bremner to approve the regular board minutes of 5/29/19 with no changes. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No discussion. Motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the board agenda with the following change: Amy Andreas, Organize and Prepare iPads for 2019-2020 SY (\$504.00). Second by Ms. Croff. No discussion. Motion passed.

James Evans entered the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Staff Recognition: Robert Hall commended Darcy Skunkcap for her delivery of curriculum and for challenging students. Ms. Skunkcap is a very positive teacher and she is taking the high school students in a great direction. Superintendent Hall related a story that one of Ms. Skunkcap's students told their parent that they were really excited, for the first time, to learn so much Blackfeet in 12 years of school.

Parent Recognition: Sherie Blue and TJ LaFromboise were recognized by school board and administration. Ms. Blue was commended for her support of staff and administrative involvement and Mr. LaFromboise for working and coaching school events. Both benefit the schools and the community greatly.

Community Recognition: Robert Hall commended Rodney Gervais for supporting youth and working with drug prevention. Mr. Hall thanked Mr. Gervais for always having students, elders, and community in mind and felt that he is very inspiring. Mr. Gervais thanked the school and stated that he puts his heart into everything he does and he has learned to be a part of the solution in the community, and a role model, and show others that you can overcome addictions and fears.

Student Recognition: Robert Hall stated that he will recognize the Babb Mustang students in Babb and deliver their certificates. Mr. Hall stated that they really picked up their game with BNAS curriculum.

Robert Hall commended Nancy Harwood for being a phenomenal student. At grade 3, Nancy is an incredible speaker of Niitsii'po'•"sin, Blackfoot, and has the ability to pick-up the sounds of the language. Nancy has a great personality and was voted by the students to be BNAS Student of the Year.

Superintendent Hall recognized 2018-2019 high school Valedictorian, Jhett Valandra, for earning the highest writing assessment score of 5.0 in his class. Jhett was encouraged to continue doing amazing things.

Public Comment: None.

B/NAS Recognitions/Presentation: Chase Blue and Nancy Harwood, from BES, gave names of items/figures in pictures in Blackfoot. Robert Hall presented a Napi story with the BES students involved and narrated in Blackfoot by Nancy Harwood. Mr. Hall gave a presentation on an 8-step lesson plan to show how these students were able to tell a whole story in Blackfeet language. Mr. Hall stated that students are not just learning the words but they are learning to read the language and he does have a lot of material for the teachers to work with. Mr. Hall stated also stated that he needs principals to encourage staff to follow his pattern/system for curriculum.

Board members expressed their support of Mr. Halls' program and felt that it is time to teach the kid how to read Blackfeet

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Ms. Yellow Owl acknowledged the following building reports: Child Nutrition-Warehouse-Copy Center Report-Lynne Keenan, Curriculum & Instruction-Jeri Matt, Attendance Report-Natasha Siliezar, Parent-Community Outreach-Childcare-Nikki Hannon, Technology Department-Everett Holm, Transportation Department-Wayne Hall and Maintenance-Facilities-Construction Department-Reid Reagan. *Discussion:* Ms. Croff stated her support for the incentives that are centered on kids who need help and never get recognized. Ms. Bremner asked about the comments regarding holding parents accountable for not sending kids to school and stated that the purpose of the committee is to find solutions and felt it is important to find out why kids are not attending school. Nikki Hannon stated that the language is there because they assume they addressed every angle; this is for parents that are not getting their child to school and they do need to be held accountable; for grades k-8 the parent has no legitimate reason not to and high school is a whole other issue. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that the school is discovering that kids are not in school because of major issues at home and since all staff are trauma informed they will see the problems. Ms. Croff felt that the language was correct and stated that trauma informed is important but consequences need to be in place. Ms. Bremner stated that the Healing to Wellness judge wants to make sure all understands reasons for a kid not being at school before going to court and felt that the school policy needs to be addressed on absences, i.e. students needing doctor slips for being sick and missing a day of school. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that trauma informed and attendance matters need to happen at all grade levels k-12 and include all coaching staff; high school students need more trauma informed; every student should feel safe. Ms. TallWhiteman felt that the school needs to look for options to help students and there should be consequences and people should be held responsible. Ms. Bremner asked for status on the Good Medicine program funding. Superintendent stated that they have put in for two grants and another will be submitted next week through Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders, and also a Health Prevention Coordinator and a Violence Prevention grant due June 18; the district is applying for five grants. Good Medicine program will be brought back to the board for discussion if the district does not get any supporting grants. Ms. Bremner suggested writing in or redistributing support staff to work through high school, middle school and Napi.

Superintendent's Report

Explore Options for District Report: Superintendent Hall stated that she investigated the issue with the information that was printed in the paper and found that it is not true. A person from the County took information to the local press; the information was taken from an invoice. Bob Denning sent an email today that states he is not aware of any loan arrangements between BPS and county, the County is not aware of a loan, and the district is not aware of a loan. The district has received a subpoena from the plaintiffs in Cut Bank vs. County Commissioners demanding that that Browning Schools provide all information on the 'loan' to the county. MTSBA is responding to the request stating that BPS will not be responding because no documents exist for a loan to the County. Mr. Gallup stated that he agrees with MTSBA and noted that the Dept of Revenue, Dept of Justice and the State called and/or wrote him letters asking that Browning Schools be involved and suggested moving our money from the County. Mr. Gallup stated that he does not know why they would request this since the Browning School audit/exit report shows that our balance matched the county. Ms. Bremner stated this is political, and until the board is shown mismanagement by the county there is no reason to move the school's money. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that she is not against the county but the article is disturbing and she is concerned that this feud is drawing browning schools in. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that this discussion has been going on for the past 10 years and it is time the district looked at managing their own funds or leave it alone. Ms. Yellow Owl asked the trustees what they thought and stated that the board needs to look after the district; last year the school could not balance with the county until late. Mr. Gallup stated that the only thing that was ever brought to the board is to pull the schools funds or not; some of the money will still go to the county so the school is only talking about the investment part. Mr. Evans asked what the work load would be to manage the funds. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that this is a big issue and the county depends on Stacy to find things. Mr. Gallup stated that the monthly corrections are not going to change, and some of it is in the reserves, but by law the county can invest some of the reserves. Ms. Bremner stated that at the last meeting the commissioners stated that it is an asset to the county; the state rates the counties value, i.e. mills, levies, taxes, etc. Ms. Bremner stated that this political fight has been going on for years and this push to pull the school's money is part of their agenda; this is political grandstanding;

it is better if the county is healthy, the school is healthy. The other issue is that the county and the school has the same auditor and the new school needs to bid on a new auditor. Ms. Bremner stated that she supports the county unless someone can show why BPS should pull out. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that she wants all to know that there is no loan to the county and no talk of a loan to the county.

Break at 6:15 p.m.

Reconvene at 6:18 p.m.

HR Status Update: Mr. Salois reviewed the new HR report and noted that it lists every position in the district and he will be adding a grade level for each teacher as well. No discussion.

Resignations: Superintendent Hall accepted a resignation letter from Lorial Momberg, Assistant Secretary-BHS Effective 06-7-2019. No discussion.

Jess Edwards (via Telephone) at 6:20 p.m.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Ms. Bremner to approve the following hiring pending successful background check/drug test: Zoe Johnson, Elementary Teacher, KW Vina 2019-2020 (\$37,136.00) and Roberta Kipp, Certified Tutor-BES 2019-2020 (\$17,150.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hiring pending successful background check/drug test: Whitney Bremner, High School Math Teacher 2019-2020 (\$38,675.00); Casey McDonald, Head High School Wrestling Coach 2019-2020 (\$3,529.00) and Daniel Connelly, BHS Head Boys Basketball Coach 2019-2020 (\$3,578.00). Second by Ms. Croff. *Public participation/Board discussion:* Joyce Spoon Hunter asked for closed. Ms. Yellow Owl noted that the board is subject to the provisions of the Montana Open Meeting Law under Section 2-3-103 and Browning School Policy #1441 for Public Participation stated that the board would not be going into a closed session. Ms. Spoon Hunter stated that she had parent calls and asked to discuss the schools zero tolerance policy on bullying. Ms. Yellow Owl asked Joyce to state what her issue is about. Ms. Spoon Hunter stated that the issue is with Daniel Connelly. Superintendent Hall stated that if this discussion is not after someone's character she can discuss this. Ms. Spoon Hunter stated that she felt this discussion needs to happen because of unsafe issues toward children and fear for the kids over their confidence. The board is responsible for building up our children. Ms. Spoon Hunter asked the board, if hiring this person, to send them to training and also suggested advertising these positions each year; be fair to the kids and don't push them through another year of stress. Superintendent Hall stated that Mr. Connelly is recommended by the Activities Director. Motion passed with Donna Yellow Owl, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all. Wendy Bremner abstained from hiring Whitney Bremner, High School Math Teacher. Jess Edwards opposed hiring Daniel Connelly, GHS Head BB Coach.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve Maureen Stott, Director of Special Services 2019-2020 (\$80,000.00) and Teri DeRoche, Transportation Director 2019-2020 (~~\$55,000.00~~) pending successful background/drug test. Second by Mr. Gallup. *Public Discussion/Board discussion:* John Salois stated that Teri DeRoche's salary should be \$62,000.00. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following Contract Service Agreements pending successful background check: Travis Miller, Compile Data for School Leadership Committee 2018-2019 (\$420.00); Katie McDonald, BAWAP Summer Program 2019 (\$3,328.28); Kayla Jeckell, BAWAP Summer Program 2019 (\$2,529.60); Student Workers for BAWAP Summer Program 2018-2019 (\$8,160.00) and Student Workers for Summer Ee Kah Ki Maht Program 2019 (\$44,608.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Ms. Croff asked how many hours a student can be employed before it affects the district insurance. Following discussion, Ms. Bremner suggested to approve the students and find out if this rule

applies to them and implement necessary changes. No further discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks for Cheryl Rah Lock, Speech Pathology Services 2018-2019 (\$3,840.00); Everett Armstrong, Student Activities 2018-2019 (\$3,608.40) and Jerrica Lunak, Summer Site Program Coordinator-Food Service 2019 (\$3,128.00). Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Ms. Bullshoe to approve out of state travel for Whitney Bremner, AVID 2019 Summer Conference in San Diego, CA (\$3,398.60). Second by Ms. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve out of state travel for Brian Gallup-NAFIS 2019 Summer Directors Meeting in Denver, Colorado (\$286.84). Second by Mr. Edwards. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

In State Travel: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve in state travel for Angela Heavy Runner, 2019 MBI Summer Institute at Montana State University in Bozeman (\$1,029.86). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Ms. Croff to approve in state travel for Matthew Johnson, Nikki Hannon, 2019 MBI Summer Institute at Montana State University in Bozeman (\$2,118.72); Nikki Hannon, 7th Annual Great Beginnings, Great Families Conference in Helena, MT (\$661.52) and Everett Armstrong, Western A State Track in Laurel, MT (\$757.92). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Edwards to approve the following items: Extended Contracts - Summer School Staff 2018-2019 (\$17,406.75); Extended Contract-Jimi Lunak, Librarian-BES 2019-2020 (2,280.70) and Extended Contract-Mary Belcourt, Special Education Teacher-ESY 2019-2020 (\$2,740.00). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Wage Modification-Gus Garces 2018-2019 (\$1,978.00); Wage Modification-Gus Garces 2019-2020 (\$2,071.00) and Contract Modification: Kayla Jeckell, BHS Head Volleyball Coach 2019-2020 (\$3,096.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Ms. Bremner to approve the following items: Extended Contracts-BMS-BHS-GEARUP Summer School Staff 2018-2019 (\$21,156.47); Extended Contracts-SBE (Standards Based Education Committee) 2018-2019 (\$75,755.41); Extended Teacher Contracts for Leadership Week 2018-2019 (\$33,394.00); Extended Contracts-Principal and Coaches Planning and Coaches Prep 2019-2020 (\$14,036.36); Kauffman & Associates Inc., Facilitate, Plan, Prepare, Strategic Plan 2019-2020 (\$12,272.00); Nafis Membership Dues 2019-2020 (\$16,687.00); Montana School Group Insurance Authority (MSGIA) Property & Liability Insurance 2019-2020 (\$290,041.00); District Claims Check #420927 - #421043 (\$254,502.22); Student Activities Claims Check #703778 - #703800 (\$5,233.76); Additional Pays-Payroll. Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. *Board*

discussion: Mr. Evans asked why the amount is so high for the strategic training. Superintendent Hall stated that the person facilitating this year will be doing strategic planning and she is highly recommended. Stacy Edwards reviewed the property and liability contract with MSGIA and noted that they offer firestorm/social media at no cost; the price did go up 1.4%; BPS has 1.5 active shooter coverage that covers funeral, counseling etc. Pat Greaney has retired and the district will work directly with MSGIA without a 3rd party broker unless the need arises. Ms. Bremner asked that the district walk parents through the athlete liability insurance procedures. Superintendent Hall stated that it only pays \$100.00 and the district should look at this closer. Mr. Gallup stated that it is great to say the district can add to this, but first show the board how it will be paid for and suggested the parents work with IHS. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

PERSONNEL: Motion by Mr. Gallup to withdraw Non-renewal of Nontenured Teacher, Laura Hall and Accept Resignation from Laura Hall, Special Education Teacher-BMS, Effective 05-31- 2019. Second by Ms. Croff. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Ms. Yellow Owl noted that Ms. Hall’s letter of resignation was received prior to the board voting to non-renew her contract and this vote is correct the mistake. No further discussion. Motion passed 8-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for all.

Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Second by Mr. Gallup. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ Donna Yellow Owl, Board Chairperson

_____ Stacy Edwards, District Clerk