

Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 28, 2025 @ 5:00pm
Hosted by BNAS

Present: James RunningFisher-Chair, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Tom Gervais, Michael Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner.

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

Important Dates: Mr. RunningFisher informed the trustees that there is a Special Board Meeting @ 12:00pm on Monday, June 2, 2025.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes of 4/30/25 and Regular Board Minutes of 5/13/25 with no changes. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy BullShoe, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner voting for.

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

Staff Recognition: Robert Hall recognized the following staff members: Lea Whitford for her immense skills and knowledge. She is an amazing archivist, who is also very supportive. Colin Sibbersen for his compassion and empathy for all students. Colin does a lot for the students here in Blackfeet Country and the art he is sharing with them. Carlene Adamson for her guidance and kindness to him. She has been very supportive and valuable to him. Robert also recognized Carolyn Zuback who was not present.

Staff Recognition: Superintendent Rappold, along with the Board of Trustees, recognized Carlene Adamson and Tonia Tatsey for their years of service to the district. Carlene has been with the district for 33 years, and Tonia has been with the district for 35 years.

Student Recognition: Robert Hall recognized the following students: Poksinna Marry for being the most important person for Robert starting his educational life. Poksinna was a student of Roberts when he worked at Cuts Wood School. He is so chill brings good vibes and great spirit to BHA. His attendance is something to mention. Aiyahna Green who wrote an essay about having a Star Lab in the district.

BNAS Presentation: Mr. Hall presented a Recursive Language Slide Show.

Public Comment: Mr. Evans read the following provisions of the Montana Open Meeting Law under Section 2-3-103 and Browning School Policy #1441 for Public Participation at Board Meetings. The following individuals shared their concerns with the transfer of Mrs. Tatsey to Browning Middle School: Barbie After Buffalo, Wendy CrossGuns, Marci Burd, Mike Tatsey, Brittney Shooter, Angie Pepion.

Katie Kuka stated that she has been a Speech Pathologist for the past 6 years. She was born and raised here and is a graduate from Browning High School. She started at the district as a teacher, then realized that there was a need for speech pathology. She then went back to school to pursue her master's degree. She then returned and helped build a teletherapy program here. Katie stated that she did not receive a contract this year. Katie challenged the board to be the voice of the children, she wants to make sure the students have a voice.

Break @ 6:10 p.m.

Reconvened @ 6:15 p.m.

Items of Information

Building Reports: Mr. Running Fisher acknowledged the following building reports. Child Nutrition-Copy Center-Warehouse-Dalaina Grant; Curriculum and Instruction-Rebecca Rappold; Parent, Community Outreach, FIT-Irene Augare; Blackfeet Language-Native American Studies-Robert Hall; Child Care-Rose Racine; Gear Up Program-Kristy CalfRobe; Prevention & Wellness-Cinnamon Salway; Student Activities Program-Heidi Bullcalf; Athletics Department-Kellen Hall; Technology Department-Technology Department-Travis Miller; Transportation-Wayne Bullcalf; Maintenance/Facilities/Security/Construction-Reid Regan.

Discussion: Ms. YellowOwl stated she had questions on three (3) of the report, the Athletic Report talked about eliminating the tennis program. Mr. Hall informed her that it was not gravitated as it should, the students are not involved. The students who are involved are involved with other sport which hinders the other sport. Mr. Hall stated that they are not getting any competition in it at all, we don't have a feeder program for the new sports which is a disservice to our students. We are getting demolished in some of these sports which puts the students in an emotional state. Ms. YellowOwl asked, when there is a sport like that is it up to the board to offer or not offer that? Kellen stated that right now there is more girl sports than boys.

Ms. YellowOwl also had questions on the Transportation report, Wayne talked about limit parking spaces. Wayne explained that they are overcrowded. They do not have enough room for all the vehicles they house in the district. They have had two (2) accidents there with car vs bus, not due to carelessness just no space. Mrs. Yellow asked if we could bring this to facilities. Mr. RunningFisher stated that he suggested to Wayne that we use all the vacant spots in the trailer court, since we do have security. Ms. YellowOwl stated the we still should consider a plan. Mr. RunningFisher stated that we will put it on the next Facilities Meeting.

Ms. YellowOwl also stated that during graduation no one was able to watch the video. She was told that we did not have enough bandwidth. Superintendent Rappold asked Travis Miller if it would be possible during graduation to secure a network just for the slide show. Mr. Bremner suggested bringing in a Verizon booster. Ms. YellowOwl stated that she had a lot of people asking about the slideshow and she wanted to bring it up now so we can work on it for next year. Superintendent Rappold informed her that they do have a graduation meeting tomorrow, she will bring it up for discussion for next year. Mr. RunningFisher also mentioned that the sound system was very poor. Mr. Hall stated that it has been an issue all year, they did buy a couple of new speakers that are up there, the top ones are not working as well as the side speakers being blown.

Superintendent Update

Superintendent Report: Update on Administrative placements for next year. In addition, we received our accreditation report for 2024-2025. This is a new process the last two (2) years so we did not receive an accreditation report last year because they were operating under a two (2) year cycle. This is now shifting to a three (3) year cycle so we will not receive this report every year. First part of the report is the district in one area we are at a three (3) at the time we did not have a graduate profile as well as our process and completion available at the time of submission on our public website. We did score well and will score better next time now that those pieces are complete.

Looking at the assessment plan, the district has always had a strong assessment plan with SBAC. This year we transitioned to MAST, it was piloted last year and this was the first year of implementation. They did not have assessment model plans and so we missed some of the scoring pieces from our assessment plan. We will get those corrected now that we know what our assessment needs to and will look like for next year.

Our professional development plan is posted on the website, just missed posting the link so it appeared that we did not have one. Comprehensive Needs Assessment needs to be reviewed; this is one category that we are really strong in. Not that we are not doing it, just need to finalize what needs to be submitted. All other area we are good in the district.

Building level reports concern is because we have emergency licensed educators which does not meet the standards of full licensing requirements. We have a problem with our counseling assignments at the colonies, we do not have enough counselors and librarians across the district to meet the staffing requirements for the colonies. We do have to come up with a solution for the colonies this next year. We are considering pursuing membership with the Small School Alliance so our teachers can take the small school alliance counseling and librarian training. We received the Montana Literacy Grant. The grant is \$3.8 million across five (5) years for all of our schools. We have a couple of revision of job descriptions.

HR Status-Bev stated that this time around the draft for the 2025-2026 school year. The draft contains in building, administrative and building to building transfers. Many of these transfers were requested. Three (3) emergency teachers are fully licensed. We have hired a secondary English and Business teacher. We have an individual at BMS this is getting ready to take her Praxis she plans on staying at BMS if she needs to go to the Elementary School, we can work that out. For our recruiting purposes we have been posting on OPI, frontline then frontline takes and posts them on K12 job spot and that hits the nation and we have some applicants. We also post jobs on handshake which is a college recruiting job board and that is hooked into all of the colleges and universities throughout the country and also have a few jobs out on Indeed. We do have applications for secondary math and Vo-Ed teachers, and a couple principal applications.

Ms. YellowOwl stated that when we advertise for assistant principals, we want to make sure they are certified to do this.

Coaching Update: Kellen Hall informed the board that they have applications for all coaching positions except a girl's head soccer coach at BHS. We will put out our recommendation list for BMS after softball ends and as well as at Napi after track at Napi ends. Their last track meet is tomorrow at the BHS track. Track team did really good we had six (6) all conference, two (2) all state they trained hard. He also stated that they fixed the retaining walls so we don't have so much erosion going on also added rip rap. They also put in slab for the finish line.

Resignations: Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: Jonathan McDonald, Teacher Assistant, BHS, Effective 5-9-2025; Renae Bullchild, Assistant Cook, Napi, Effective 5-12-2025; Marjorie LaBuff, PCA, Napi Effective 5-13-2025; Joey Aimsback, Flex Custodian, Maintenance, Effective 5-14-2025; Tonia Tatsey, Principal, Stamiksiitsiikin, Effective 6-19-2025. *No discussion.*

Items of Action

Hiring: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Jeni HeavyRunner, BMS Softball Coach, 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Morgan Kujula, Elementary Teacher, BES, 2025-2026 (\$54,254.00). Seconded by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, Kristy BullShoe, Thomas Gervais, Michael Hoyt, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Casey McDonald and Marlin Wippert, BHS Wrestling Coaches, 2025-2026 Season (\$7,100.00); Diane Horne, ELA Teacher, BHS, 2025-2026 (\$70,364.00); Christine Hensleigh, Business Education Teacher, BHS, 2025-2026 (\$58,047.00). Seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Mr. Bremner stated that he was aware this position was opened up and asked if he was interviewed. Superintendent Rappold informed him that the position was opened up there was no process for hiring or selection of candidates. Due to the nature of his contract the position was not available to be opened up. Superintendent Rappold explained that the contract did not have a beginning and end date, it was not a term contract. This contract and others were submitted to legal to get clarification earlier in the year and MTSBA came back with their original contract that they reviewed as well as this one all though it indicated for the 2024-2025 MHSA athletic year it did not have a term beginning and end date. Ms. Bullshoe stated that whoever does the contract needs to make sure they are complete properly before handing over to the board. This was a group of contracts this was not the only one that was like this. This particular contract was the only one that was not recommended for renewal. The contracts were approved on July 16th of last year by the board and was also. Kellen did

recognize that the term date was not on the contracts at some point between July 16th and mid-August. They did not realize the implications that it could have until one of the contracts was reviewed by legal. All of the others had a term date on them or they were brought back for renewal this one did not. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Brian Gallup, voting for. Lockley Bremner opposed hiring Casey McDonald, and Donna Yellow Abstained, both were in favor for the hiring of Diane Horne, ELA Teacher BHS and Christine Hensleigh, Business Education Teacher BHS. Lockley Bremner changed his vote to for the hiring of Casey McDonald.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug test: Amber Hinthier, School Psychologist, Special Education, 2025-2026 (\$87,325.00); Karen Dayhoff-Nesbitt, School Psychologist, Special Education, 2025-2026 (\$87,325.00); Angela Boyd, Occupational Therapist, Special Education, 2025-2026 (\$83,238.00); 2025-2026 Professional Technical staff: Melanie HeavyRunner, Linda Baker, Heidi Crawford, Roy Crawford, Heidi BullCalf, Gerald Parrent, Kristy CalfRobe, Colleen Nolan, Tamara Guardipee, Arlan Edwards. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Mr. Evans asked if the School Psychologist is in person. Superintendent Rappold advised some on-site and some virtual. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Ee Gah Kii Maht Student Workers, Session 1 Summer 2025, (\$1,772.40); Ee Gah Kii Maht Student workers, Session 2 Summer 2025, (\$1,772.40); Ee Gah Kii Maht Certified Assistants, Session 1 Summer 2025, (\$2,352.00); Ee Gah Kii Maht Certified Assistants, Elementary Session 2 Summer 2025 (\$2,352.00); Justine Steward, Ee Gah Kii Maht Classified Assistant, Elementary Summer Session 1, 2025 (\$784.00); Justine Steward, Ee Gah Kii Maht Classified Assistant, Elementary Summer Session 2, 2025 (\$784.00); Second by Kristy Bullshoe. *No Public Participation. No Board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Ee Gah Kii Maht Student Workers, 1st Session Summer 2025, (\$3,101.70); Ee Gah Kii Maht Student Workers, 2nd Session Summer 2025, (\$3,101.70); Ee Gah Kii Maht Certified Assistants-Secondary, 1st Session Summer 2025(\$4,116.00); Ee Gah Kii Maht Certified Assistants-Secondary, 2nd Session Summer 2025(\$4,116.00); Genevieve Goudy, Ee Gah Kii Maht Classified Assistant-Secondary, Summer Session 1 2025 (\$1,372.00); Genevieve Goudy, Ee Gah Kii Maht Classified Assistant-Secondary, Summer Session 2 2025 (\$1,372.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. *No Public Participation. No Board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks: Karen Nesbitt, School Psychology Services, Summer 2024-2025 (\$3,750.00); Amber Hinthier, School Psychology Services, Summer 2024-2025 (\$3,750.00); Cheryl Lock-Speech language Pathologist, Summer 2024-2025 (\$1,416.25); Carol E. Neumann, Speech-Language Pathology Services, 2025-2026 (\$88,832.48); Cheryl Lock, Speech-Language Pathology Services, Babb, 2025-2026 (\$32,065.20); Elaine Camps Del Toro, Speech-Language Pathology Services 2025-2026 (\$88,832.48); Barbara Finnell, Speech-Language Pathology Services 2025-2026 (\$88,832.48); Robing Tachettil, Physical Therapist Services 2025-2026 (\$79,900.00); Brenda Guardipee, First Aid-CPR 2025 (\$700.00); Dominic Tiger Cortes, Hoop Medicine 2025-2026 (\$3,000.00); Sierra Matt Heptner, BNAS Online Assessment 2024-2025 (\$4,000.00); Lea Tatsey, Revised BNAS Online Assessment 2024-2025 (\$4,000.00). They discussed the School Psychologist and Speech Language Pathologist positions. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Out of State Travel: None

In State Travel: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following instate travel for Kellen Hall, Coaches Clinic 2025-2026 (\$1,068.14); Kellen Hall, Western A Athletic Director Meeting 2024-2025 (\$1,157.06); Sandra Rivas, MASBO Summer Conference 2024-2025 (\$1,525.00). Second by Thomas Gervais. *No public participation.* Mr. Bremner asked if they were taking more coaches to the Coaches Conference. Mr. Hall stated yes. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following: Create 2-Youth Prevention-Mental Health Specialists Positions, move to Classified Union Agreement, revise job description 2025-2026; Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following extended contracts: Brandy Bremner, Early Literacy Screening 2024-2025; Brandy Bremner, BPS Leadership Week, Curriculum & Planning 2024-2025 (\$2,160.80); Elizabeth Tailfeathers, SPED Extended Year 2025 (\$1,674.72); Certified Elementary Summer School Teachers 2025 (\$18,953.28). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. *No public participation.* Ms. YellowOwl had questions on the wording in the agenda request for the extended contract for BPS leadership week, curriculum & planning and if there was enough time for the teachers to go over the curriculum so they can teach it. Superintendent Rappold gave an explanation to the wording and assured the teachers are allowed enough time. Mr. RunningFisher asked if all the Teachers on the extended summer school contracts are certified. Superintendent Rappold replied yes both High School and Elementary. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup voting for. Mr. Bremner abstained from extended contracts for Brandi Bremner.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following: Extended contract, Ross DeRoche, BAWAP Summer Program 2024-2025 (\$3,565.44); Extended contracts Certified Secondary Summer School Teachers 2025 (\$13,699.44); Snap-mobile Subscription 2025-2028 (\$5,900.00); Boggs Drilling, Irrigation Water Well BHS 2025 (\$6,500.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. Mr. Evans stated that the Boggs Drilling quote is for the Sports Complex. Mr. Gallup stated that it is for water there to help with the grass. There was more discussion on the drilling. Mr. Gallup stated that he would put on the next facilities meeting to finalize the plan. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following: Substitute Eligibility List; Extended Contract Certified BNAS Summer Workshop 2025 (\$13,232.00); BPS District Committee Changes 2024-2025 (\$4,052.00); Professional Technical Salary Increases 2025-2026 (\$15,733.00); Fullmind-I Tutor Staffing Proposal for Gen'l Education Teachers & SpEd Teachers 2025-2026; Resolution requesting Glacier County to conduct 2026 Trustee Election; Montana Medical Billing-Medicaid Billable Services 2025-2026; K12 Montana-Quote for Verkada Cameras, New Food Service Building 2025 (\$24,999.00); Interstate Alarm, Commercial Alarm Services Agreement-Software License 2025-2026 (\$22,476.00); Purchases over \$10,000.00; District Claims #68766-#68624 (\$256,124.02); Student Activities Claims #706339-#706352 (\$14,876.54); Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Hoyt. *No Public Participation.* Ms. YellowOwl had questions on the Resolution requesting Glacier County to Conduct the 2026 Trustee Election. Ms. Rivas explained that it is really time consuming, however she did not get a cost from the County yet. Once she gets a cost from them, she will do a cost comparison. She needed to get the resolution to them to make the deadline and that was the reason she added that we have the right to rescind. Superintendent Rappold also stated that her and Ms. Rivas talked about this which she is unsure if this is the route she wanted to take, either way it does come with a cost. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James

Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Personnel: None.

Legal Issues: None

Motion by Mr. Gallup to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Mike Hoyt, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie Heavy Runner, Board Secretary

James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

Sandra Rivas, District Clerk