

**Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024 @ 5:00pm  
Administration Conference Room

**Present:** Brian Gallup-Chair, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway. **Absent:** James Evans, James RunningFisher.

Mr. Gallup called the meeting to order at 5:00 and noted that the Spring Nafis Conference is on the agenda and asked that board members inform the board secretary if they are traveling asap, and also noted that there are expulsion hearings directly following this meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following board minutes: Special Board Minutes 11/1/23; Regular Board Minutes 11/29/23; Regular Board Minutes 12/18/23; Special Board Minutes of 12/20/23. Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Bremner. *Discussion:* Mr. Bremner stated at the special board meeting 12/20/23, the superintendent hiring was tabled and asked why it is not on the 1/9/24 agenda for action. Mr. Gallup stated Corrina Guardipee Hall submitted her resignation and now the board has to take action on the resignation. Mr. Bremner asked why the resignation has to be approved. Mr. Gallup stated that the superintendent has the authority to accept staff resignations and as the board chair he accepted the superintendent's resignation to be on this agenda and approved by the school board. Mr. Bremner asked, what if the vote is 4-4 on the resignation and it is not on the agenda for the contract, what happens? Mr. Gallup stated he will not discuss this at this time, and it should not be a tie. Mr. Gallup called for a vote to approve the agenda. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

**Public Comment:** None.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Mr. Gallup acknowledged the following building reports and noted that the name for KW Vina report should be listed with its new name: Stamiksiitsiikin (Bullshoe) Elementary-Tonia Tatsey; Browning Elementary School-Sheila Hall; Napi Elementary-Sicily Bird; Browning Middle School-Dennis Juneau; Special Education-Rebecca Rappold; Babb Elementary-John Salois; Big Sky & Glendale Colonies-Rebecca Rappold; Buffalo Hide Academy-Matthew Johnson; Childcare-Rose Racine. *No discussion.*

**Superintendent Report**

**Superintendent Update-December:** Superintendent Hall stated that Blackfeet Language Committee has worked hard to provide the Blackfeet History and Culture Curriculum for grades pre-12 and noted that the curriculum is not on the OPI Website because it is owned and created by Browning Schools and the BPS Website for our staff to use. Robert Hall was commended for his and the committees work on the curriculum. Mr. Hall stated he shared drafts of the curriculum and how it was developed in a previous board meeting. Shout out was given to Tanner IronPipe who has worked with Mr. Hall on the curriculum. Mr. Hall talked about a verb paradigm, a transitive verb, in relationship to teaching through the color-coded message. Mr. Hall stated there is a big challenge creating a curriculum in Blackfeet and there is a lot lost in translation and asked everyone to please talk to him if they have questions on the curriculum. Mr. Hall thanked those who worked with him to allow student involvement in the curriculum and also noted that Lily Gladstone's use of the Blackfeet language in her statement when she received her award shines a good light on the BNAS Department; it is a community effort to revitalize the Blackfeet language.

**IAC Conference and Teacher/Student Recognitions:** Jennifer Wagner stated that the HS and BHA worked with Lily Gladstone to make a video called "Far Out There". In December BHS students and chaperones attended the

Intertribal Agricultural Council Conference in Las Vegas. Students had to write an essay on the Farm Bill and how it affects their daily lives. Josephine Michael was 1 of 3 finalists chosen out of a hundred essays; Talvin Champ received honorable mention and was a flag bearer, Willie Potts and Leland Lukin opened and closed the conference culturally. Katie Palcio, Sydney Fitzpatrick, Laila Carlson, were also awarded the trip based on their essays. Students stated that they learned about youth loans, internships, scholarships, field grazing exercises and water exercises, safe financing, operating a farm and ranch successfully, Work to Farm Bill and were able to see how the different tribes are the same but different. Jimi Lunak, Voc-Ag Teacher, stated that these students put our school and community in a positive light; they were well mannered, attended meetings and were great ambassadors for BPS. Ms. Wagner reported that she has reached out to the juniors and seniors for prom and they will start planning for prom and noted that the prom will be located in BES gym (or based on availability). At this time there are 96 graduates at BHS and 41 at BHA. This semester ends 1/19/24 and second semester starts 1/22/24 and graduation is May 19 and not sure yet if it will be held at BHS or BES. They are focusing on shortening the ceremony this year to 1 ½ hours and the picture show will be taking place while the students are receiving their diplomas; there will be special guest presentation, speaker, flowers, motto; and there will be a survey for the senior trip. Ms. Wagner stated that they are done with the block schedule for English and science; and social studies, technology and health and the restorative scheduling started in November which was board approved. Ms. Wagner stated it has been hard to meet the needs for our students and compensate for lack of staff. The restorative schedules are being monitored and have been changed to do once per month; there were issues with creating and collecting data and students were not showing up for tutoring and enhancement. The class restorative circle process works and is taught by a counselor and instructional coach; they have created pilot that will use artificial intelligence, project based. Travis Miller stated tech ethics will be there and a will have a counselor lead seminar each week. Tutoring is important and they will do it once per month instead of every Friday. Ms. Wagner stated that kids are not missing school and they went through the aggregate hours and have over the number of hours needed.

**Athletics/Activities & Gym Status:** Reid Reagan reported information from restoration company and western sports flooring and discussed the incident that happened on Nov 16; after lunch there was a water break in the BHS gym and the water run for up to 15 minutes. Custodians moved what water they could off toward the bleachers then used hydrovacacs to suck up the rest of the water. Mr. Reagan stated that it did take a while to get everything shut off. All district custodians were called in to help and they did a great job working for hours trying to get the water off the floor. There may be damage from SE corner, to half court. Tony Wagner stated that the water was ¾ way down on the south wall where the bleachers roll out. A concrete company will be in to see ow much water is underneath and BPS will know on Thursday the extend of the damage and how much the insurance will cover. Mr. Reagan stated that after the sprinkler head was replaced, they could not reset the alarm the damage had burned out the fire control panel. There was 12% moisture on the gym floor after testing throughout the weekend. Mr. Wagner stated he was told they could use the gym floor on November 17 however the floor warped and became a safety issue. Mr. Wagner stated he should have the cost of damages in about 10 days and will bring to the facilities meeting. Mr. Wagner stated the damage is visual at the free throw line; you can see bulging and some of the wood starting to cup; Western Sports Floors looked at the damages and did some testing which was based more on mold. Mr. Wagner stated the low spot in the cement may have been in the middle of the floor. Mr. Bremner asked about PE classes. Mr. Wagner stated they are using the sides for PE and will do table games, such as cornhole. Cheerleaders can practice in the upper mezzanine and there will be practices at BES gym and can use BMS if necessary. Some games have been moved and rescheduled. The NFHS camera needs to be installed, the radio will be connected, concessions and the gates will be in the south lobby and the custodians are ready in the other buildings. All other activities may not be held. When this happened in Charlo it took 2½ weeks to complete and they are smaller than BHS. Mr. Wagner will bring information to the board on the number of activities once we he gets the timeframe on the BHS gym floor.

**NIISA 2023 Update:** Superintendent Hall thanked the board for allowing the NIISA trip and noted that this was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary for IISM, who is big part of creating NIISA. Superintendent Hall is president of IISM. Mr. Bremner stated they had a nice facility, good presenters, and a lot of SW this year; they did a good job of keeping their culture on the Navajo reservation. Mr. Bremner stated that it was good to be around other native schools to

see what they are doing. Mr. Gallup stated that Browning Schools is so far ahead of the curve and wants BPS to present at this conference next year on best practice. The NIISA organization was started by Ivan Small, Randy Johnson and others in Whitefish Montana. The Impact Aid bill passed and the Construction Bill passed on the House and Senate side. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that she was impressed at how strong Montana is at these events; strong leaders that impact the bigger reservations and BPS played significant roles and people look to BPS board for a lot of things and support their voice. Ms. TallWhiteman stated that she likes the south western stuff but they could do it better; Rebecca Rappold could do more social emotional and Matthew Johnson. Ms. TallWhiteman stated she liked the presentations with their kids as they are so fluent with their language and she envied that and wants that for BPS and learn how to get our students in that kind of environment. Browning has a lot of key people that could make the conference more invigorating. BPS board is listened to and we are vocal. Mr. Gallup stated he will be hosting the NIISA Directors in Montana next July and noted that Matthew Johnson presented on behalf of BPS in the past and he has been requested again. Mr. Gallup noted that Lily Gladstone started with the Missoula Children's Theatre at East Glacier School.

**Resignations:** The following resignations were accepted by the superintendent: Ronnel Goss, GEAR UP Specialist-BHS, Effective 1-15-2024 and Melanie Magee, GEAR UP Coordinator, Effective 6-14-2024.

### **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve hiring Zachery Ireland, Warehouse Supply Clerk - Food Service. Pending successful background/drug test. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve contract service agreements for Building-Department Mentors 2023-2024 (\$1,500.00 ea). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

**Out of State Travel:** Motion by Mr. Conway to approve out of state travel for Board of Trustees, Rebecca Rappold, Nafis Spring Conference in Washington, DC 2023-2024 (\$4,803.14 ea). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

In State Travel: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve in state travel for Jennifer LaFromboise Wagner, Speech & Debate State Tournament in Columbia Falls, MT 2023-2024 (\$367.28). Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

**In State Travel:** Motion by Ms. TallWhiteman to approve in state travel for Cinnamon Salway, Corrina Guardipee-Hall, Matthew Johnson, Jason Andreas, Grant Writing session with UM Partners in Missoula, MT 2023-2024 (\$587.84 ea). Second by Mr. Hoyt. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Conway to approve Waiver of 8% Penalty Fee for Early Resignation: Verna Smith-Yallup 2023-2024 (\$3,056.40) and FICO Upgrade Andover Controls to a Smartx Controller-Babb Elementary 2023- 2024 (\$10,523.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve Emergency Water Days January 2 - January 5, 2024 (\$431,575.62). Second by Ms. TallWhiteman. *Board discussion:* Sandra Rivas stated that the daily amount for budgeted wages is

\$94,280.74 each day. Total wages for personal leave \$22,690.12 for those that worked and the amount for makeup days \$15,811.28 x 2 days will be over the amount budgeted amount. Ms. YellowOwl asked if BPS has to makeup those days. Superintendent Hall stated one day can be declared an emergency. Mr. Bremner read state law to declare an emergency and noted after 3 days don't have to make up anything. Superintendent stated it depends on the aggregate hours and BPS is over in hours and does not have to make-up the first 2 days but can declare emergency for the third day however the law does state that we have to try and make-up that day and may have to adopt a resolution if we made the effort. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the Superintendent Resignation: Corrina Guardipee-Hall, Effective 6-30-2024. Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following items: BNAS Consultants 2023-2024; LPW, Design of Gym AV Systems, Sounds Systems and Video Projection 2023- 2024 (\$14,270.00); District Claims Check #94027-94140 & #439879-#440066 (\$3,370,016.43); Student Activities Claims #705661-#705687 (\$22,131.13) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to adjourn at 6:07 pm. Second by Mr. Bremner. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Rae TallWhiteman, Steve Conway voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Brian Gallup, Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Sandra Rivas, District Clerk