

**Regular Board Minutes**  
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 @ 5:00PM  
Administration Conference Room

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

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

Mr. RunningFisher reminded board members of Staff Appreciation at BHS 5/9/25 and Facilities Committee Meeting on Thursday 5/10/25 and the Strategic Planning 4/22 for administrators/principals and 4/23 for board of trustees 1-3PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the Regular Board Minutes of 3/26/25 were approved with no changes. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the agenda removing BMS Wrestling Coaches 2024-2025. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Evans read MCA 2-3-103 and BPS Policy #1441 for public participation. Students Juneau and Kimber commented on the wrestling coach position and stated that the Head Coach possesses strong leadership skills, and motivates and inspires all students and he has a great respect from the community. He has improved students' skills and has passion for the sport; he motivates the students. Casey is honest, ethical, dedicated and puts time and effort into wrestling; he is a role model to kids in this community and they want to learn and be coached by this coach. He is the best person to be head coach. Christina Momberg stated this coach has been with her family and her son since freshman and watched her son grow with wrestling. Head coach Casey has brought many young men and women to high skill levels and adjusts his coaching to their different levels, he brings the kids up. Wrestlers have high GPAs because he pushes them to keep their grades up and she is honored to see those kids go out and make us proud. They show up every day for school and Casey connects with the kids; the kids keep trying hard and we pray for that. Casey understands the kids and lifts them high and we have had state champions. Coach Casey supports them through trials at school and beyond school and it is important for people like this coach to be recognized for what he has done with our kids, and share his knowledge and his skills for future generations. Kein Burd, athlete, stated Casey is a very good coach and helped him learn new moves and styles and improve; he has built a good team and a family. Linsey Racine, stated that her daughter is a wrestler for BMS. The girls team specifically has grown so much with Casey. He has helped the kids grow as athletes and as students. Casey has coached her daughter for the last couple years and travels with the students to the tournaments. Ms. Racine wants to keep this program growing and keep Casey at BMS; he will help grow the program. Momberg, senior student, dealt with a lot of injuries and Casey has been there to help him; he helped him physically as a man. He helped him be a better wrestler. Casey talks to every kid as if they are their own person and helps them compete. Casey helped him through times with physical injuries in his junior year; he stayed and was patient and got him through the program.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Board members reviewed building reports from Stamiksiitsiitskin Elementary School -Toni Tatsey; Browning Elementary School-Sheila Hall; Napi Elementary School-Sicily Bird; Browning Middle School-Angela Heavy Runner; Browning High School-Sandi Campbell; Special Education-Belinda Turley; Athletics Department-Kellen Hall; Big Sky-Glendale Colonies-Rebecca Rappold and Buffalo Hide Academy-Charlie Speicher. Mr. Bremner noted that Bullshoe attendance is very low. Tonia Tatsey stated that there was a lot of influenza, RSV and strep during this time and attendance was low for students and staff.

## **Superintendent Report**

**Superintendent Update:** Superintendent Rappold reported on negotiations session; strategic training schedule, and started that the audit is being finalized and hope to have on the 4/30/25 board agenda. The business office is preparing to close out the 2025 budget year.

**4-Day Week Survey Implementation Plan:** The survey will be out in community this week. Grade 6-12 will do the survey at school and the last day will be 4/25. Last week there were 600 surveys completed.

Ms. YellowOwl stated that she is working with Carlene Adamson to get items ordered and organized for Staff Appreciation which is scheduled for Friday, May 9 at BHS @ 1PM. Ms. YellowOwl stated that she does need the board to help for this.

**HR Status Update:** Positions open for Elementary: Sp. Therapy assistant, 2 TAs. Secondary: Vo-tech 2, Business Education, Drivers Education, 2 SpEd TAs, Hi-set, Nurse, 2-bus drivers, 1 assistant cook.

**Coaching Season Update:** Kellen Hall submitted a report noting positions still open for 2024-2025.

**Resignations:** Superintendent Rappold accepted resignations from Gayle RidesAtTheDoor, Bus Driver-Transportation, Effective 3-2-2025; Toni Madrid, Flex Custodian-Maintenance, Effective 3-25-2025 and Edward MadPlume, Personal Care Attendant-BES, Effective 3-27-2025.

## **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hiring pending successful background checks/drug tests: Arthur WestWolf, Napi GBB Coach 2024-2025 (\$738.00); Napi Volleyball Coaches 2024-2025; Shayanna Campbell, Napi Girls Volleyball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00), Sissy Wells, Kim BirdRattler, Delora Bearchild, Michael Leah BirdRattler, Shayanna Campbell, Sierra Pays; Sierra Pays, Napi Girls Volleyball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00) ; Brittney Wolftail, BMS Softball Coach 2024-2025 (\$860.00); Beth Augare, BMS Track Coach 2024-2025 (\$860.00); BMS Track Coaches 2024-2025 (\$1,698.00), Wakiyawin Shawl and Arthur Westwolf; BMS Golf Coaches 2024-2025 (\$1,840.00), Aaron McLean and Travis Blue. Second by Mr. Evans. *Discussion:* Mr. Evans asked why there are several Nap girls VB coaches listed on one request and others are separated. It was explained that the new coaches are listed separately to show the board their experience as well as the information on their drug and alcohol tests. Rehires are listed on the same request with no hiring selection report. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hiring pending successful background checks/drug tests: BHS Head Coaches 2025-2026 (\$30,742.00); Ross DeRoche, BHS Assistant Cross Country Coach; Michele Calftail, BHS Assistant Cross Country Coach; Monty Lucke, BHS Assistant Boys Soccer Coach; Evan Deboo, BHS Assistant Football Coach; Justin Aimsback, BHS Assistant Football Coach; Robert Miller, BHS Assistant Football Coach; Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, BHS Assistant Volleyball Coach; Shawnee Skunkcap, BHS Assistant Fall Cheerleading Coach; Joslyn Rutherford, BHS Assistant Girls Wrestling Coach; Maurice RedHorn, BHS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach; Aaron McLean, BHS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach; Maurice St.Goddard, BHS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach; Tamara Guardipee, BHS Assistant Girls Basketball Coach; Ross DeRoche, BHS Assistant Girls Basketball Coach; Shawnee Skunkcap, BHS Assistant Winter Cheerleading Coach; Katie McDonald, BHS Assistant Winter Cheerleading Coach. Second by Ms. Salway Bullshoe. *Discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl stated she is not sure what is going on with the community and student public comments but there are some awesome statements about the Head wrestling coach. The head wrestling coach started as an assistant and when he became Head Coach, he built the program becoming "coach of year" and he's a mentor to a lot of the kids. Ms. YellowOwl stated that she wants to see his name listed and recommended for head wrestling coach; he is a good coach. Mr. Hoyt stated his agreement noting that this coach has done a phenomenal job and stated that the numbers speak for themselves for student participation. Ms. Salway Bullshoe agreed and stated there are a multitude of families and students on social media, and in the schools supporting him; she has watched him engage with the kids and it was really awesome to see him interact with high school and middle school kids and their families. Ms. Salway Bullshoe stated that what BPS needs to be about is what is best for our kids and families. Mr. Gallup agreed and asked that the head wrestling coach be brought forward. Mr. Bremner stated that he had same issue with coaches not being brought forward but has to give the AD and Superintendent respect for their decisions. Mr. Bremner felt

that if they are not brought forward to hire, it is not the board's decision. Mr. RunningFisher stated the board will hire who is on the list and discuss this issue with the superintendent at a later date. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve hiring BHS Assistant Coaches 2025-2026. Second by Mr. Gallup. *Discussion:* Mr. Bremner asked if the basketball head coaches have all been hired. Kellen Hall stated yes. Mr. Bremner asked if the VB head and assistants have been hired and if the Head Coach was involved in the selection. Mr. Hall stated no, when the head coach was removed the assistant coach was not. Mr. Bremner asked if there is policy or is it protocol on this. Mr. Gallup stated that past practice is that the Head coach be hired then the assistant coach is hired. Mr. Hall stated that a situation came up and he had to remove the Head coach from hiring and there was a lack of communication and the assistant was not removed. Superintendent Rappold asked the board to table the hiring assistant coaches. Mr. Gallup and Mr. Evans removed their motions and Mr. Evans motioned to table hiring the BHS Assistant coaches. Second by Mr. Gallup. Motion passed to table hiring BHS Assistant Coaches 2025-2026 with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve contract service agreements for Ray Champ, MC-Announcer, Mixer for BHS Hosted Sporting Events 2024-2025 (\$1,500.00); Sean Dellwo, Divisional Wrestling Manager 2024-2025 (\$453.70) and William BigBull, Native Tea Training 2024-2025 (\$1,500.00). Second by Mr. Gallup. *Board discussion.* Ms. YellowOwl asked if the announcer and wrestling manager CSAs are after the fact. Kellen Hall stated yes, in the past other announcers did not have to follow this step but this will be the process moving forward; Ray Champ will continue to cover track as well. Gayle Skunkcap was handled differently when hired but has done some games and also works in another capacity in the district and Sean Dwello had to be approved to be the Wrestling Manager. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

**Out of State Travel:** None.

**In State Travel:** None.

**Approvals:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve Summer School Extended Contracts for Elementary Teachers 2025 (\$21,060.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following items: Summer School Extended Contracts for Secondary Teachers 2025 (\$19,175.20); Substitute Eligibility Roster 2024-2025; Change Payroll Clerk Position to HR Administrative Assistant 2024-2025 (\$48,651.00); Permission for Cutbank School Bus to Enter District #9 Sweetgrass Route #1 2025-2026; On Schedule Routes-Transportation 2025-2026; District Claims Check #92932-#93005; #442335-#442498 (\$919,934.18); Student Activities Check #706280-#706288 (\$4,563.64) Cancelled Checks #706274-#706278 and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Evans *Board discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl asked about the payroll clerk position. Superintendent Rappold stated there were two payroll positions and the new receptionist took on a lot of HR duties when she moved to the receptionist position. They will keep the receptionist position as administrative assistant for the business office and create this position and move it to the HR administrative position; it does not remove the receptionist position; it eliminated one duty in this office. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

**Personnel:** None.

Break 5:45PM

Reconvene 5:55PM

**Legal Update:** Closed Session at 5:55PM. Reconvene to open session at 6:03PM

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to adjourn at 6:03 PM. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Lockley Bremner, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

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

\_\_\_\_\_ James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

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