

**Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**  
Tuesday, December 12, 2017 @ 12:00 p.m.  
Browning Middle School

**Present:** Wendy Bremner-Chair, Steve Conway, Velden Calica, James Evans, Jess Edwards. Absent: Brian Gallup, Kristy Bullshoe, James Running Fisher.

Ms. Bremner called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes 11/28/17 with no changes. Second by Mr. Calica. All in favor/Motion carried.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Conway to approve the agenda with the following changes: remove Charlene Cadotte and Tina Flamond from sub list. Second by Mr. Evans. All in favor/Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

Dennis Juneau, Middle School Principal and students gave a tour of the middle school to the board and administrators. Mr. Juneau reviewed data for ISIP, reading, retention, attendance, MBI and other programs.

Recess at 1:10 p.m.

Reconvene at 5:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None.

Ms. Bremner thanked the Browning Middle School for the noon presentations.

**Present:** Wendy Bremner-Chair, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, Velden Calica, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, James Running Fisher.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Ms. Bremner acknowledged the following building reports: KW Vina Elementary; Browning Elementary; Napi Elementary; Browning Middle School; Browning High School; Babb Elementary School; Big Sky/Glendale; Student Activities Report; Alternative Education; Child Care Program; Special Education Building; Good Medicine Program; Blackfeet-Native American Studies. *Discussion:* Ms. Bremner noted that data at BHS and Napi show an increase. Mr. Hall's pretest is in the packet and Ms. Bremner suggested that staff do the test and stated that it is important to save the Blackfeet language. Ms. Bremner stated her support of Mr. Hall's recommendations and challenged board and staff to take a language class. Mr. Hall stated that he is aware of the controversy but is unshakeable and stays with his assessment/presentation of learning the language; there are methodologies that do not have as high of a retention rate. Mr. Hall has presented his writing system to the tribal council and they may adopt as official language of omskapiikuni. Superintendent Hall stated that the tribal council went on record to support Mr. Hall, with a letter, in his vision. The district administrators also support Mr. Hall. Superintendent Hall stated that if the senior students cannot speak the Blackfeet language, after 12 years in the school district, then BPS needs to relook at what program they are using. Ms. Matt stated that you have to break the code and learn it. Mr. Hall's writing has special symbols to tell you what to use; it is not successful to teach phonetically. Mr. Hall stated that students need to know the sounds that are part of the Blackfeet language. Ms. Bremner stated that the SpEd report is very interesting and there are 280 students in that program. Ms. Bremner requested a comparison of student numbers to other schools the same size as BPS. Ms. Mattingly will get the data from other class A districts and also compare with the disabilities category. Ms. Matt stated BPS is 13.3% and is higher than the average.

## **Superintendent's Report**

**2017-2018 NIISA Report:** Superintendent Hall stated that the NIISA meetings were very beneficial and BPS needs to be cognizant of our budget and how important Impact Aid is. BPS can do more to support education. Mr. Running Fisher stated that other schools are just now starting to do things that BPS is already doing; the board did see the president's tax plan, i.e. nondiscretionary; education, usda, and there is a \$200 million cut. There are a lot of congressmen that support the president. Mr. Running Fisher stated that the board needs to be real cautious. Mr. Evans stated that that boards need to live by their by-laws and it will make things easier. Mr. Edwards felt that attending NIISA was a good experience to see how other states and schools come together. Ms. Bremner stated that the conference pertains to Native schools; there was information on trauma and the impact trauma has on learning, executive functioning, affects sympathizing/empathy, engagement in curriculum; there were many curriculums for suicide prevention; having a calming room in the buildings is better than ISS. Hilary Goldman is our lobbyist for Nafis and is against the president's proposed budget. Ms. Goldman advocates for schools and will attend Nafis in March. Ms. Bremner suggested that everyone reach out to congress on these issues because calls from many people can impact a congressmen's decision. Mr. Gallup complimented the board for their support of BPS students. They will know the president's budget by December 22. Mr. Gallup stated that Indian country is not in good shape in politics; we need to reelect Senator Tester. There are 2 new schools (B) that will get \$20 million. BPS will stay at 80% lot but feels it will be 90%. The Impact Aid application closes in January. Mr. Conway asked about construction money; Mr. Gallup stated that it is still up in air; if Trump's budget passes he will look at infrastructure. The budget will pass and there will be many cuts to education. Jeri Matt stated that Title monies are being cut and they are giving money to Charter schools; there is no way around the historical trauma of tribes because of the grief; the educational resources do not show what really happened in history. Ms. Matt will talk to NAS on time frame of what was happening to native americans. Superintendent Hall stated that she has scheduled a trauma informed professional development for staff on January 2, with Matthew Johnson, Sienna Schildt and Kathy Broere facilitating. BPS has 3 cultural days written into the district policy for students to attend cultural events. Superintendent Hall stated that she is excited that the tribal council will meet on 12/18/17 at 10:00 a.m. to hear the proposal to sell the middle school; Chairman Barnes is on board and the tribe council plans to meet on this.

Verbal Update on Donations/Grants: Superintendent Hall stated that Nikki Hannon wrote a grant for \$15,000, it was awarded; the Farm to School Grant was also submitted. Ms. Hannon has many donations coming in all the time. Superintendent Hall stated how thankful the district is to Nikki for doing all this. Ms. Hannon does have support from the college and the tribe. Also, Jeri Matt is working with the principals, leadership team, and coaches on a grant in the amount of \$600,000.00.

**Resignations:** Superintendent Hall accepted the following resignations: Kayla Jeckell, Volleyball Coach, Middle School, Effective 11-14-17; Lydell Whiteman, Teacher Assistant, Browning Elementary, Effective 11-21-17; Jessie Salway, Volleyball Coach, Middle School, Effective 11-27-17; Calvin Lang-Tutor Supervisor, 21st Century, Effective 12-4-17 and Stella Walter, Assistant Secretary, KW Vina, Effective 12-29-17. *Discussion:* Mr. Edwards asked to see information on why staff are leaving the district. Superintendent Hall will followup with HR and noted that some staff just couldn't commit at this time and one is retiring. Ms. Bremner stated that she has asked several times to do an exit interview for resigning staff in order for the board to see why they are leaving. No further discussion.

## **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hiring pending successful background check/drug test: Dorothy Bearchild, Teacher Assistant, Browning Elementary (\$9,649.20 pro-rated); Rebecca Kennedy, Teacher Assistant, Browning Elementary (\$9,649.20 pro-rated); Sarah Flamond, Teacher Assistant, Browning Elementary (\$9,649.20 pro-rated); Mary Jo Wall, Personal Care Attendant, Middle School (\$8,581.60 pro-rated); Wendy Mad Plume, Napi 4th/5th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00); Carson Bryant, Napi 4th/5th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$430.00); Michelle Harrell, Napi 4th/5th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00); Ansel Traynor, Napi 6th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00); Marina RunningCrane, Napi 6th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018

(\$439.00); Shaelyn Yellow Kidney, Volleyball Coach-BMS 2017-2018 (\$860.00); William Huebsch, Volleyball Coach-BMS(\$1,058.00); William Whitegrass, Boys Basketball Coach-BMS 2017-2018 (\$1,104.00); Waylon Bennett, Boys Basketball Coach/BMS 2017-2018 (\$1,135.00); Starla Cassidy, Babb Boys Basketball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00); Starla Cassidy, Babb Girls Basketball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00); Starla Cassidy, Babb Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00) and David Ricci-Napi 4th-5th Volleyball Coach 2017-2018 (\$430.00). Second by Mr. Edwards. No public participation. No board discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hiring pending successful background check/drug test: Mistee RidesAtTheDoore, Winter Assistant Cheer Coach-BHS 2017-2018 (\$2,064.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background check: David Old Chief, Afterschool Activities (Ee-Kah-Ki-Maht) 2017-2018 (\$5,072.00); Ignatio S. LaForge, Afterschool Activities (Ee-Kah-Ki-Maht) 2017-2018 (\$5,072.00); Mindy Gallagher-Horn, Afterschool Activities (Ee-Kah-Ki-Maht) 2017-2018 (\$5,072.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Edwards stated that David Oldchief applied for cross country coach and did not show up. Motion passed 8-0 to approve Ignatio S. LaForge and Mindy Gallagher-Horn for Ee-Kah-Ki-Maht. Motion failed to approve David Old Chief, Afterschool Activities (Ee-Kah-Ki-Maht) 2017-2018 (\$5,072.00) 4-4 with Mr. Edwards, Ms. Bremner, Mr. Evans and Mr. Calica opposed.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve a contract service agreement for William Big Bull, Class 7 Teachers Professional Development 2017-2018 (\$2,048.76). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

**Out of State Travel:** Motion by Mr. conway to approve Melanie Magee-ANSEP Engineering Dissemination Conference in Anchorage, Alaska (\$331.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

**In State Travel:** Motion by Mr. conway to apporve in state travel for Matthew Johnson, Celebrating Innovative Learning in Helena, MT (\$242.02). Second by Mr. Edwards. No public participation. No board discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: 19 + Year Old Student Attendance 2017-2018 SY; Create One (1) BHS Assistant Wrestling Coach Position (\$2,064.00); HiredGun Window Tint & Design, LLC (\$15,210.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Running Fisher noted that requesting another coach when there are budget cuts Is concerning and asked how many kids are out for wrestling. Tony Wagner stated that there are 32 wrestlers and noted that BPS is short of coaches during wrestling meets. Mr. Evans asked if there is more than one quote for the window tinting at BHS. Dixie Guardipee stated that there is only one quote. Ms. Bremner asked why there are no other quotes requested. Superintendent Hall stated that she did not know anyone else locally that could do this type of tinting. Ms. Guardipee stated that normally she would get three quotes but she had called Helena and was told that for this type of work one quote is good. Board members felt that BPS should go forward and hire now. No further discussion. All in favor/motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility Roster 2017-2018; MOU Between BPS and Peter Graham Dunn to Provide an Internship for Environmental Science Outdoor Education Scholarship 2017-2019 (\$17,532.00); Advertise Surplus Property 2017-2018; Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Report Check #416734-416819 (\$191,297.52); Student Activities Report Check #703080-#703091 (\$4,900.56) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Superintendent Hall noted that the District Claims Report will include the date that a purchase order over \$10,000 was approved. All in favor/Motion passed.

There were no personnel or legal issues.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. Second by Mr. Conway. All in favor/Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Wendy Bremner, Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Stacy Edwards, District Clerk