

## **Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

William Hide Buffalo @ 12PM (reconvene @ 5:00PM Administration)

**Present:** James RunningFisher-Chair, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup. Via Internet: Michael Hoyt (5:10PM) and Kristy Salway Bullshoe. (5:40PM).

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 5:04PM

Mr. RunningFisher thanked the Blackfeet Academy for their presentations and commended staff for what they do for the students; BHA staff are confident and respectful, and they touch many lives every day.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes of 2/26/25 with no changes. Second by Mr. Bremner. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup voting for.

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

**Recognitions at BHA:** jimmy commended staff for what they are doing for the students. BHA amazing, beautiful. Poems share with other board and staff/DYO

**Recognition:** Travis Miller attended the META Spring Conference 2025 an organization that Everett Holm and others put together. Everett Holm did a phenomenal job for the META Tech group, BPS and for the State of Montana. Everett Holm is being recognized by META and his name will appear on a Life Achievement Award plaque in the Helena School Administrators Office. Mr. Holm did amazing things in Technology and BPS is still feeling the positive things he did for the District. BPS is truly thankful for all that he did. Everett was honored by the Board of Trustees with a Pendleton for 20 years of service to Browning Public Schools.

**Public Comment:** None.

## **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Superintendent Rappold noted that staff attendance comes from the district Frontline program which consists of accurate information. Sandi Campbell gave an update on Prom events and stated everything is almost ready to go. They are looking for valets and asked board members to assist; prom goers will enter by the SpEd doors; pictures start at 1PM for prom goers. Ms. Campbell asked for donations for student prom goers to Kristy CalfRobe for pictures and tickets. Tribal behavioral health will help decorate and will have setup for pledge and rides home. BHS has met on graduation a few times and all is going well and everything has been ordered. BHA graduation number is 64 and BHS is 87.

## **Superintendent Report**

**Update:** Superintendent Rappold reported on March highlights; NCASS attendance; Nafis Spring Conference; State BB Tournament; MT Reads Literacy Grant; Negotiations Session. Priorities: School Accreditation, curriculum Review for ELA; SS planning; Budget Planning; Staff Planning; Strategic Planning.

**Finance Director Job Description:** Superintendent Rappold stated this job description is in preparation/alignment for the STARS Act and a quality education payment and noted that there may be more changes.

**Instructional Coach Job Description for BNAS:** This will align the position to K-12 instructional inclusive of BNAS and the Blackfeet Language.

**NAFIS Update:** Board members met with the Montana Congressmen and/or their representatives on Impact Aid, Construction monies and cuts being implemented that will affect BPS. Irene Augare did an excellent job on a workshop regarding homeless students. Ms. Augare has a collaborative partnership with HUD homeless director; they spoke about the status of homeless kids across nation and support for kids in our district.. Impact Aid will be paid out at 90% Lot which will affect BPS. There was discussion on shutting down the Education Department. Title money is a concern and a construction bill was introduced. Nafis office will move to Virginia; Mr. Gallup was reelected for 2 more years.

**HR Status Update:** Belinda Turley was introduced as the Special Education Director. Vacant Positions: Speech Therapy Assistant; 2 Elementary TAs; 1 Elem Teacher-BMS; VoTech Welding; VoTech Auto; Business Educ; Drivers Educ; SpEd Resource Teacher BHS; SpEd TA; VoAg Science BHS; HiSet; Maintenance Technician-Plumber; SpEd Nurse; 9-Mth Driver; 12-Mth Driver; 3 iTutors Elem; 1 SpEd Self-Contained BHS, 2 SpEd Teachers

**Coaching Status Update:** Open positions: Softball 2, Boys Tennis 1, Girls Tennis 1, Assist Boys Baseball 1, Concession Sponsor, 6/7<sup>th</sup> Grade Track 2, 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade Softball 3, Napi FB 1, Napi VB 2, BBB 1, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Track 3,

**Resignations:** Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: : Malana Grant, SpEd TA-Stamiksiitsitkin Elementary, Effective 2-24-2025; Richard Hagberg, Teacher-William Buffalo Hide, Effective 2-24-2025; Carole Harwood, Teacher Assistant-BMS, Effective 3-4-2025; Joshua TailFeathers, Teacher Assistant-BES, Effective 3-3-2025; Teresa Roland, Home School Coordinator-BMS, Effective 2-28-2025; Alvin YellowOwl III, Maintenance Technician-Plumber, Effective 3-14-2025; Carolyn Zubach, Teacher-BMS, Effective 6-6-2025; Cindy Show, Teacher-Glendale, Effective 6-6-2025 and Troy Atchison, Teacher-William Buffalo Hide, Effective 6-6-2025.

### **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Daryl Croff, Napi Girls Basketball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Mishayla CalfBossRibs, Napi Girls Basketball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Shayanna Campbell, Napi Girls Basketball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Napi Girls Basketball Coaches 2024-2025 (\$1,236.00); Savannah Hannon, Babb Girls Basketball Coach 2024-2025 (\$600.00); Renee Bullchild, Assistant Cook-Napi Elementary; Certified Elementary Renewals 2025-2026; Certified Secondary Renewals 2025-2026: Jackie Gregoire, Suzanne Augare, Cherie Show, Susie Small, Sarah Tail, Bobbie Jo Powell, Angela Tatsey-McKay, Amy Grant, Amy DeRoche, Carol Grant, Angie Pepion, Kelley Sharp, Britney Shooter, Tristan birdrattler, Marti Eaglefeathers, Kelsey Hall, Nathalie Lopez, Ashley Burd, Sheila Grady, Amy Molenda, Taylor Crawford, Marci Burd, Louise Giebel, Dawn Marxer, Joscelyn BigThroat, Angela Archuleta, Joann Powell, Ashley Bullcalf, Kim DesRosier, Juliana Salois, Verna OwlChild, Tessa Wells, Brandy Bremner, Andrea Evans, Dana Bremner, Cicily Henderson, Michele Calftail, Kara DeRoche, McKenzie Augare, Mishayla CalfBossRibs, Arlene Wippert, Melissa Henderson, Dana Surechief, Samantha Grant, Heidi Morales, Arthur Westwolf, Amanda Whaiteman, Shawnee Skunkcap, Elizabeth Tailfeathers, Carla Whitegrass-Trombley, Julius ManyGuns, Carson Bryant, Kelli Burke, Jade Guardipee, Anna Armstrong, Brandon Berthelson, Masala Prellwitz, DeeDee Peterson, Shelby Hannon, Christy CalfBossRibs, Tommy HeavyRunner, Andrea Sangray, Michelle Harrell, Jeremy Wells, Dawn Gilroy, Edith Wagner, Genevieve Bragg, Jennifer HeavyRunner, Jason Andreas, Jessica Schauf, Willamina Tailfeathers, Danielle Augare, Adriane Tailfeathers, Adrien Wagner, Alysa ArrowTop, Angel Marceau, Aspen ManyHides, Brittany Burns, Cheri Larson, Daniel Connelly, Diane McDonald, Kayla Jeckell, Elisha Davis, Heidi Dubray, Jacy Racine, Jasmine Meineke, Jennifer Ehlers, Jodie Goss, Katie McDonald, Kimberly Tatsey-McKay, Margaret Tailfeathers, Myron HeavyRunner, Patrick Hagan, Rodolfo Rivas, Shontee Johnson, Stan Whiteman, Vibekke Carpenter, Wendy Madplume, Mistyne Hall, Sherina Whitford, April Jiminez. Second by Mr. Gervais. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires: Certified Secondary Renewals 2025-2026: Travis Blue, Jimi Lunak, Kami Wellman, Shaylea Tatsey, Kevin KickingWoman, Glenn Castle, Leo Bullchild, Colin Sibbersen,

Chase Nevarez, Brian Harrell, Ross DeRoche, Robert Miller, Adrien Wagner, June Matt, Radium Woolf, Brenda Kramer, Samantha Linke, Victoria Boggs, Johanna Johnson, Sydney St. Goddard, Melody Small, Abigail Marshall, Sonya Gobert, Rebecca Kennedy, Lucy Muragin, Cydnie Saddleback, Glen Castle, Amy Conrey Andreas, Jason Krane, Randall Rivas, John Parente, Lynnel Bullshoe, Tammy Hall-Reagan, Sienna Speicher, Katherine Skunkcap, Greg Klauk, Nickolas Rink, Jake ArrowTop, Chris Lewis, Gina Dosch, Sadie Harwood, Violet Sinclair-Boggs, Marcus SlowBear, Assistant Cook-BHS and Katie McDonald, Head Girls-Head Boys Tennis Coach-BHS 204-2025 (\$3,096.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve contract service agreements pending successful background checks for Robert Gussman, Hide Tanning Workshop 2024-2025 (\$1,800.00) and Craig Falcon, Hide Tanning Workshop 2024-2025 (\$800.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Out of State Travel:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve out of state travel for Brian Gallup, NIISA/NAFIS Summer Board of Director Meeting in Honolulu, HI 2025 (\$2,006.66). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**In State Travel:** Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following in state travel for Rebecca Rappold, Boys Basketball State Tournament 2024-2025 (\$947.64) and Sandi Campbell, Kristy CalfRobe, Jennifer Wagner, GEAR UP Planning Meeting in Helena, MT 2024-2025 (\$332.48 ea). Second by Mr. Gallup. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Heavy Runner Services, Cleaning 2024-2025 (\$1,500.00); Revise BMS Home School Coordinator Job Description to 9-Month. Second by Mr. Gervais. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following items: Early Graduation Request – Buffalo Hide Academy 2024-2025; HS Student Attendance Agreement-New Day, Inc. 2024-2025; Waiver of 8% Penalty Fee for Early Resignation-Richard Hagberg 2024-2025 (\$1,068.81). *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for. Lockley Bremner abstained on approval for Waiver of 8% Penalty Fee for Early Resignation-Richard Hagberg.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following items: Approval to Offer 4-Day Instructional Week Survey to Community 2024-2025 and Substitute Eligibility Roster 2024-2025.; MOA Between BCC Reimagine Research Group and Browning Public Schools 2025; Montana School Board Association Dues 2025-2026 (\$14,500.00); Revise Culture & Hope Lease Agreement 2024-2025 (\$200.00); Glacier Electric, Install Street Lights & Transformer: New Food Service Building 2024-2025 (\$10,100.00 plus); District Claims #93039-#93046 & #442270-442334 (\$352,585.42); Student Activities Claims #706217-706273 (\$38,620.67). Canceled Claims #706197, 0706198, 0706200, 0706201, 0706202 and Additional Pays/Payroll. *Board discussion:*

4-day week: reb additional think tank information attached. Was not intended to be the staff survey but information from district leadership team and principals, directors, instr coaches, sbe committee to plan for 4-day week. Developed a survey inclusive of all employees and committee and students. The attached is from all employees, their questions and some not answerable yet, other positives and potential negatives. Did not receive from all depts and buildings but was sent to all. This survey follows policy of 180 instructional days. Asking to send out survey

to community (all school staff and browning public). Will go out via bps facebook page and physical at diff locations. Havre only got 500 responses back and that is not sufficient for this. It cannot be based on work place decision. For bps make good solid decision and need 2000 responses, have to get out into community. Survey was sent out to leadership team and board members. If approved tonight will have out by end of week and bring back to end of April meeting with the policy. Jimmy lot of diff feelings on this. In dc visited with harlem and hayes, small schools, there was a lot of pluses and negatives, but only saved money on their gas fuel buses and bps has propane. If board wants survey out, will do it and if don't want it, we won't. Lockley thoses schools say scores are rising and students and staff feel more refreshed in hayes. Harlem is 50/50 on the issue. Bps is lowest in state and suggest try something diff. jimmy a big factor is kids that don't get to eat for 3 days. Bps is their only meal. We talked about this 4 years ago. Dyo have no problem with survey going out to community but board will determine after. Will have to be persuaded unless there is diff information on this. Read u of m from 2008 – 2023 that shows educ scores went down and costs went up with 4 day; it was a 5 day that kept them good. Mike hoyt stated he read the same and talked about previously where there is an 8% increase. There is a mile long list of pros and not a lot in there for students. Kids not eating on weekends it is an additional day of no meals, or safe haven for them, and don't feel will help test scores. Brian move forward with survey, big issue is social emotional and wellbeing of kids and needs of our students who go to someone in our schools and they won't be available. Mike move forward with survey, 2000 responses would be solid number. Jimmy can move forward with the survey. Mike when taking survey important to keep in mind how students are going to benefit;; would love a 4 day week but does not work for his program. Keep in mind this is for the students. James street lights, transformer, from food service to highway. Reid food service and out to highway. Jimmy is it possible to move the lights from old to new field. Reid will look in to but feels may be too old.

**Personnel:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following Elementary Non-renewals 2025-2026: Sam Aimsback, Michael Leah Birdrattler, Teanna Boggs-Layne, Raelynn CalfBossRibs, Tayler CalfBossRibs, Tennial Connelly, Francine DeRoche, Sarah Flamond, Jacob Glaze, Jasmine LittlePlume, Samantha McFadyean, Carlissa NoRunner, Joetta Roberts, Leslie Sherman, Joshua Shooter, Marti SpottedEagle, Earl Tail, Kourtney Vielle. Second by Mr. Hoyt. *Board discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl asked if these are staff that need their teaching license. Superintendent Rappold stated yes, when they were hired, they were informed of the cycle and offered them two sessions last year and given notice. Some did attend the session and they were asked to reapply. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following Secondary Non-renewals 2025-2026: Elizabeth Coleman, Elva Dorsey, and Debra High. Second by Mr. Gervais. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Thomas Gervais, Brian Gallup, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for.

**Legal Issues:** None.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to adjourn the meeting at 6:15PM. Second by Mr. Gervais.

Respectfully submitted:

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Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

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James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

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Sandra Rivas, District Clerk