

Regular Board Minutes (Draft)
Wednesday, January 25, 2023
hosted by Browning Elementary (Library)

Present: Brian Gallup-Chair, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher. Via Phone: Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman (joined meeting at 5:35 p.m.), Kristy Bullshoe (left meeting at 6:00 p.m.)

The Board of Trustees agreed by consensus to change the school board calendar and move the February 14, 2023 board meeting to February 15, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. at Napi Elementary to reconvene at 5:00p.m. at Administration Conference Room. Also noted: there will be only one (1) board meeting the month of February 2023.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes of 1/10/23 with no changes. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Kristy Bullshoe voting for.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda removing MOA for Baseball Field. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Kristy Bullshoe voting for.

Browning Elementary Recognitions & Presentations: Mr. Gallup thanked Sheila Hall for the wonderful presentation at Browning Elementary today at noon. Recognitions: Parent-Kimberly Jiron; Students-Anabelle Wagner, Keegan Butterfly, Karleigh Pepion, Avery Hannon, Taile Edwards, Patricia Arrow Top, Rhiannon Marso, Aiden After Buffalo, Brayden Sutherland, AmeKah Davis, Julia DeRoche, Terry Burd, Khale Parocai, Kaylena Bell-Oldman, Dallas Reevis, ColeLeigh Lucke; Staff- Jacky Makes Cold Weather, Kayla Jeckell, Mishayla Calfbossribs, Rebecca Kennedy, Masalya Prellwitz, Melissa Henderson, Carina Stoves, Arlene Wippert, Heidi Morales, Dana Bremner. Presentations by Dana Bremner Music Club and Kayla Jeckell and students performed the Rainbow Song in Blackfeet. Ms. Hall commended the BES staff and students for the work they are doing on Bullying Awareness and Kindness and the Kindness Campaign. Ms. Hall talked about validating student feelings and the difference it makes for the student. *Discussion:* Wayne Bullcalf stated that student write-ups on buses have dropped from 40 to 15.

Public Comment: None.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Mr. Gallup acknowledged the following building reports: Child Nutrition-Copy Center-Warehouse - Lynne Keenan; Curriculum and Instruction - Rebecca Rappold; Parent, Community Outreach, FIT - Irene Augare; Blackfeet Language-Native American Studies - Robert Hall; GEAR UP Report - Melanie Magee; Spookinapi (Good Health) Project - Cinnamon Crawford; Student Athletic Department - Tony Wagner; Student Activities Director - Heidi Bullcalf; Technology Department - William Kennedy; Transportation - Francis Bullcalf and Maintenance/Facilities/Security/Construction - Reid Reagan. *Discussion:* Ms. Yellow Owl asked about the online connection for BES and BMS with the NFHS and asked if there is a quote on this. Tony Wagner stated he reached out to NFHS for confirmation and discuss free installation at BMS and BHS. Mr. Wagner stated he will also get a quote at same time if the free installation is not available.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Update: BNAS will roll out Blackfeet terms by end of year according to the strategic plan and will bring to next board meeting for a presentation. Wellness is working on another wellness event for spring. Trauma invested: counselors attended CBITS training and will also attend training in Missoula; goal is to get staff certified so students get needed counseling. 21st Century/Eekahkimaht will have family engagement activities for Valentine's Day across district with cultural incorporated. BPS Vision/Mission is being incorporated. Student Advisory Committee meets 3rd Thursday of every month; tribal education meeting which is focused on Blackfeet language will meet 3rd Tuesday of every month with Pat Armstrong, Don Wetzel, Matt Vaile from OPI. Threat

Assessment team meets 2nd Thursday of each month. ESSER funds require BPS to meet with the community; a meeting is scheduled 12/8/23 at noon. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor asked about the free lunch program ending; Superintendent Hall stated it is not ending. Superintendent Hall stated that students will receive a note telling them to stay home if not feeling well but they can they just wear their masks if they want. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor asked that this be checked on to make sure they can wear the masks and stated she is not sure if the attendance clerks are aware of this.

Flathead Beacon-Home Grown Teachers Story: Flathead Beacon interviewed superintendent and staff on teacher shortage, 2+2 program, etc. Superintendent Hall also interviewed with MPR a national publication and discussed these items; MPR may be here to do more. Mr. Conway stated there was also information on the GF station about the teacher residency program. Mr. Conway asked that those who donate to the schools should receive “thank you” letters or something for their support. Mr. Gallup thanked Dee Hoyt for working with BPS on the 2+2 program and stated this is a very positive program in Montana and also noted that the 2+2 program is only for Indian Community Colleges and Ms. Hoyt’s program is doing a great job for BPS. Mr. Conway asked if BPS is creative in getting SpEd teachers here including supporting a part of their education. Superintendent Hall stated the board approved certified SpEd teacher stipends last year and they do receive \$3,000. Rebecca Rappold stated she has an additional proposal that she will bring to the administration on this, that may need to go the Union and if enough incentive and support of the position that will provide more support for those staff. Mr. Gallup stated there is nobody enrolling to become teachers nationwide. Mr. Salois stated he is working with the state in recruiting for special education, and looking nationwide. BPS has people that may be enticed into that area. Ms. Rappold stated they will pursue this with OPI, have no reciprocity in licensure; if highly trained coming from another area they can come into the program. BPS may need to put pressure on OPI licensure and special education on reciprocity. Ms. Rappold stated the iTutor program BPS is using, has some teachers available but they do not have the necessary licensure. Mr. Salois stated currently within state legislature HB252 has a mental health program for schools that is similar to SpEd. Maybe the Board can talk to legislature for support on this.

Rae TallWhiteman joined meeting via phone 5:35 p.m.

Discuss Innovative Schedule for 2023-2024 School Year: Superintendent Hall asked if the Board wants to go forward with a survey for a 4-day week. Matthew Johnson stated this is the biggest discussion in education statewide and nationwide. The main reason of going to 4-day week is because of staff. That is why we do surveys. Also, they claim it saves money but the savings is less than 5%. You don’t lose money but you don’t save money as there are people who are required to continue to be at work. The primary issue is learning loss; there are no studies that say you get smarter on 4-day week, it depends on support and population. Some schools are doing 4 tens and keep the 180-day schedule and have Friday PD, some do 1 extra hour per day and that is hard for kids, and some cut out the long holidays. Mr. Johnson stated BPS should not do the survey unless they want to act on the responses. Mr. Gallup stated he is opposed to 4-day school day, the older students are babysitting their siblings on Fridays, and it may be a longer weekend but you don’t get the extra pay or the insurance and there is no savings. Mr. Evans is supporting a longer school day, i.e. 10 minutes extra every day. Dana Bremner stated they have done the research and the data does not backup the growth, but decreases after year 3 and had major increase in teenage pregnancies. Ms. Yellow Owl felt that the board is not ready to answer any questions; there needs to be more discussion in open meetings prior to sending out the survey; there are pros & cons for 4-day week; the board does not have the data yet; not supporting kids going to school longer. Lynne Keenan stated BPS is a high poverty area; we have food insecurity here and most kids won’t be able to eat. BPS could offer the supper program but kids can’t get there to eat and kids get up late in the summertime. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated SpEd children have to have their schedule and if interrupted what happens. Superintendent Hall stated this is being brought to the board for discussion but need to bring an innovative schedule to the board. Ms. Bullshoe felt there needs to be more discussion and more thought before making a decision; employees will have questions and stated she is not in support of the survey going out at this time. Ms. TallWhiteman stated the board needs more open discussion on this topic and does not support making a decision at this time; she relies more on research and needs to know why this is the best route; kids have 2-years learning loss and need to be in school; kids will be hungry, hurt; need statistics on safety for kids and more discussion before making decision. Mr. Evans felt the board needs more discussion. Mr. Salois stated the academic calendar needs to be in place by March for contracts

and they will need to negotiate with the Union on the changes. Mr. Johnson suggested looking at alternative/flexible schedules; resources and access for kids that are accessible; a year-round schedule is more beneficial. Dennis Juneau stated that if you include summer school, staff is only off for 1-month. Mr. Conway stated that a past superintendent 10 years ago was adamantly against this and felt the same as Ms. Keenan. William Kennedy stated the reservation has 70-80% unemployment rate and no one has talked with or met with parents on this yet; there are many things to be weighed first and as a parent does not feel should go to a 4-day work week. The community may have other reasons to do this or not to.

MTSBA-BPS Public Policy Link: BPS policies are on the MTSBA page and our district policies are listed. Will not be the BPS website anymore. Donna, asked question on chain of command policy and this is not about the athletic chain or etc. this is not about what we would do. Corrina did answer on email and will resent.

Attendance and Walkthrough Schedule: Dennis Juneau stated reviewed the 10 day drop required by the state. When dropped at the conclusion of 10th day, the school is responsible to refer to family truancy court. The building attendance committees meet on student attendance to determine all strategies and resources have been exhausted prior to this. The principal approves in building attendance committee recommendation to refer student to family/truancy court. Mr. Juneau is waiting for the agreement from Blackfeet Family court and Blackfeet Tribe regarding the Healing to Wellness Court requirements. As of now, there hasn't been any student sent to truancy court. Mr. Juneau noted the attendance committee chairperson role will be put into the SOPs and the healing to wellness court will be held at the schools. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated they have to be charged first to be in the healing to wellness; the parent is held accountable for neglect of the child or will serve 20-30 days and the child may serve 20 days. Superintendent Hall stated she has called to setup a meeting several times with the court; heard from the court that she would receive a call back, but has not as of today. Mr. Juneau there are a lot of entities to get to the table for discussion and stated the main focus for BPS is to have the referral process. The attendance committee meets 2 times per month; schools are addressing bullying; working on 504s; remote learning is working; they are focusin on PCOP support. Principals are scheduling walkthroughs into every classroom and students with 10 consecutive absences because of state law.

Budget Review-Elementary Impact Aid, High School Impact Aid, Elementary General Fund and High School General Fund: Crystal Tailfeathers stated the figures are based off last year allocations as we have not received the allocation for this year. Elementary budget is over allocated and high school is under allocated; General fund numbers are accurate. Was informed the Impact aid setaside @ 15% does not mean we put that amount aside. BPS can spend the setaside for the year. The KW Vina breezeway is currently paid with setaside and when budget approved will be out of ESSER. BPS has used the 15% setaside in the past because of change orders paid out of IA. Mr. Conway suggested reviewing the policy. Ms. Tailfeathers stated she spoke to Gwen Andersen about this. Mr. Gallup stated he will bring that information to the facilities meeting. Mr. Gallup reported that BPS did not get the IA yet as congress does not pass a bill until third week of December. Mr. Conway stated BPS is healthy, but do not want to get wasteful and noted that IA setaside program was setup years ago when Mary Johnson was superintendent.

HR Status Update: Mr. Salois stated there was only one hire; have had phone call with accreditation on licensure and discussed the same issues we have every year; as of now BPS has 6 on emergency authorization, all have went through background checks and all have their receipts. The state has some missing background checks that BPS will resend through the district so they can be tracked, i.e. 3 were listed with no license that were sent in to county superintendent; 1 that expired 12/31/22 but is good now; 1 with deficiency and was fixed today; 2 that did not show up; 1 with internship and did not inform us and 1 who did not take the praxis and did not update with HR department. Some checks will be on hold until cleared up. Mr. Salois stated that two staff were placed at BHS and do not have proper certification and noted that when hired they either have the certification or the ability to get it. When they get it, they have to complete the process themselves and it does hurt our accreditation. Deadline to complete these is December 1. Checks were not held until the second pay period in January. Those people have to do the work for certification and those with no background checks, it was not their fault. Mr. Salois stated ha has the documentation that shows he did let them know their certification was expiring.

Coaching Season Update: Coaching had pre-hiring process issues for Babb and will be turned in for next agenda.

Resignations: Superintendent Hall accepted resignations from Zebah Burdeau, Napi Elementary BBB, Effective 1-9-2023 and Nathan Stone, BMS Gear Up Student Achievement Specialist, Effective 1-3-2023.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following Hiring pending successful background checks/drug tests: Terrance "TJ" Lafromboise, Napi Boys Basketball Coach 2022-2023 (\$642.00); Beth Augare, BMS Volleyball Coach 2022-2023 (\$860.00); Katelynn Whitford, Babb Girls Basketball Coach 2022-2023 (\$600.00) and Zoe Johnson, Teacher Assistant-Babb. Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to a hiring Jerelyn Gobert, Accounting Clerk-Payroll. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Evans asked if Ms. Gobert is going to be the facilities secretary. Superintendent Hall stated no, Ms. Gobert will be taking the Payroll Clerk position. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve a contract service agreement pending successful background check for Ruth Shea, Complete Aimsweb ELA ORF Assessment-BMS 2022-2023 (\$2,000.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve out of state travel for Sicily Bird, Chase Nevarez, Edith Wagner, Learning and the Brain Conference 2022- 2023 (\$3,907.37 ea). Second by Mr. Running Fisher. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

In State Travel: Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve in state travel for Jennifer LaFromboise-Wagner, Wrestling Divisional Tournament in Polson, MT 2022-2023 (\$432.78); Kari McKay to attend Wrestling State Tournaments in Billings, MT 2022-2023 (\$623.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Conway to approve in state travel for Robert Hall, Travel to University of Montana Archives 2022-2023 (\$740.24). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items BHS Clubs, Advisors, Goals & Objectives 2022-2023 SY (\$1,579.00); Verkada Security Camera Upgrades Phase 2 - BHS 2022-2023 (\$161,136.00). Second by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Gallup noted that Ty Running Fisher, Pep Club Sponsor will be removed from the BHS Club list as there is not a 100% board attendance. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility List 2022-2023; Extended Contracts: Certified Teachers, IEP Writing and Caseload Management 2022-2023 (\$27,452.00); Extended Contract: George Grandchamp, Food Service 2022-2023 (\$1,042.00). Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to approve Survey for Innovative Schedule 2023-2024 SY. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion failed with with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Purchase Vehicle for Youth Homelessness Project (YDHP) 2022-2023 (\$50,000-\$70,000); Technology Surplus - Security Cameras 2022-2023; Trustee Resolution Calling for Election/2023 Election Judges; Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Check #437316-#437427 (\$241,406.86); Student Activities Claims Check #705216-#705253 (\$7361.40), Cancelled Check #705112 (\$96.00) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Ms. RidesAtTheDoor asked about purchasing a new vehicle for the homeless program. Irene Augare stated that there \$243,000 left in the Grant that needs to be expended by April 20; the vehicle is necessary to transport students, haul items for the students and homeless program and much more. Mr. Conway asked if the district will be purchasing a Suburban; Ms. Augare stated yes. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl, Rae TallWhiteman voting for.

Recess at 6:49 p.m. Ms. TallWhiteman left meeting.
Reconvene at 6:55 p.m.

Legal Issue: Policy #6001 Visitors to School & #6032 School Property Complaint
January 25, 2023 @ 6:55 p.m.

Present: Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher. Via Phone: Donna Yellow Owl.

Also Present: Corrina Guardipee-Hall, Crystal Tailfeathers, Carlene Adamson-Secretary.

Mr. Gallup read the provisions of the Montana Open Meeting Law under Section 2-3-203 and noted that the meeting will be closed 6:56 p.m.

Convene to open session at 6:59 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Evans to support the recommendation made by school administration regarding policy #6001 Visitors to School and #6032 School Property Complaint and not allow Tia Hite DuCharme to be on school property for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Second by Mr. Running Fisher. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl voting for.

Motion by Ms. RidesAtTheDoor to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Second by Mr. Gallup. Motion passed with Brian Gallup, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, James Evans, Steve Conway, James Running Fisher, Donna Yellow Owl voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

_____ Brian Gallup, Board Chairperson

_____ Crystal Tailfeathers, District Clerk