

**Regular Board Minutes (Draft)**  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
Administration Conference Room

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

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Gallup noted that the Regular Board Minutes of 4/24/24 will be moved to the 5/29/24 board meeting. Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Special Board Minutes of 4/16/24 & 4/17/24. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, James RunningFisher, Lockley Bremner, James Evans, Michael Hoyt.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the agenda removing the 4/24/24 board minutes. Second by Mr. Hoyt. Brian Gallup-Chair, Donna YellowOwl, James RunningFisher, Lockley Bremner, James Evans, Michael Hoyt.

**2024 Canvass of Votes/Declaration of Results-Browning:** Voting results for candidates-Browning precinct: \*Donna YellowOwl 348, \*Kristy Salway Bullshoe 331, \*Thomas Gervais 327, Mabel RunningFisher 303, Rae TallWhiteman 273, Leonard Guardipee 122. Mr. Bremner asked for the breakdown of how many people voted.

**Swearing in of Trustees/Notarize Certificate of Election of Trustees 2024:** Lester Johnson, III, swore in the new trustees: Donna YellowOwl, Thomas Gervais, Kristy Salway Bullshoe. Teresa Roland Notary.

**Reorganization of Board 2024:**

**Elect Board Chairperson:** Mr. Gallup asked for nominations for Board Chair. Motion by Lockley Bremner to appoint James RunningFisher as Chair. Second by Michael Hoyt. Motion by Mr. Evans to appoint Brian Gallup as Chair. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Mr. Gallup asked for any other nominations. There were none. Mr. Gallup closed nominations. Mr. Gallup called for those voting for James RunningFisher as Board Chair. Lockley Bremner, James RunningFisher, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for. James RunningFisher is voted as Chairperson.

**Elect Vice Chairperson:** Mr. RunningFisher, Board Chair, asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Ms. Salway Bullshoe nominated Michael Hoyt for Vice Chair. Second by Mr. Bremner. Mr. Hoyt nominated Lockley Bremner as Vice Chair. Second by Mr. Evans. Mr. Gallup nominated James Evans. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Mr. RunningFisher closed nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. RunningFisher called for votes for Michael Hoyt. Ms. Salway Bullshoe, Mr. Gervais vote for Mr. Hoyt. Mr. RunningFisher called for votes for Lockley Bremner. Mr. Bremner, Mr. Hoyt vote for Mr. Bremner. Mr. RunningFisher called for votes for James Evans. Ms. YellowOwl, Mr. Evans, Mr. Gallup, Mr. RunningFisher vote for Mr. Evans. Mr. Evans is voted as Vice Chair.

**Set Meeting Dates (Second Tuesday & Last Wednesday of Each Month 2024-2025:** Motion by Mr. Evans to set the meeting dates as stated for the 2024-2025 school year. Second by Mr. Bremner. Motion passed James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to appoint Sandra Rivas as District Clerk for the 2024-2025 school year. Second by Mr. Gallup. Teresa Roland, Notary. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais. Swearing in by Lester Johnson, County Superintendent.

**Recognition:** Lester Johnson, III, stated that the County of Glacier recognizes Corrina Guardipee-Hall for her support and hard work.

**Staff Recognition:** Donna YellowOwl recognized staff for their help and support for staff appreciation over the last 23 years. Number of staff always help when needed. Helps set up clean

**Public Comment:** None.

### **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**Building Reports:** Lockley KW/Vina shout out in her building report from OPI. Officially completed comprehensive support and improvement status. Tonia Tatsey there before covid, now back where at because of their team. Kids have to know where they are and where they come from. Kudos to Instructional coaches, brandy and Andrea. Next step is to go next level.

### **Superintendent's Report**

**Health Insurance:** Nick Prinzing reviewed status of health insurance, and stated he met with the BPS Insurance committee, and stated that renewing is better than anticipated. They did a market analysis with stop loss and fully insured options with MUST and Joint Powers Trust. Must was cheaper but when self-funded you have to purchase stop loss for run out claims. BPS chose to stay with the current insurance. HB 332 is coming in 2025 and the Committee thought it wise to stay and build more reserves. HB332 is similar to MUST. They did a Margin Analysis and there are few competitive options. Run out insurance and dental insurance cost \$172,558.00. dental currently is \$42.00 per staff, \$7500.00 per month for premiums; MUST would double and would go to \$80,000 per year. Another cost would be vision. They added hearing aids which is a good benefit. If claims run well this year, they anticipate claims to slow down and there will be profit. The District should establish more reserves in claims account to be used later; it went up around \$340,000. Mr. Bremner stated to go to socialized medical or it will keep going up. MUST was an increase and no dental, vision, and pharmacy did not cover specialty drugs and with current insurance will pay \$300,000 with current insurance. Sandra went through last transition and as new District Clerk, finance has not been able to focus time on this and suggested to stick with what we know, staff is not being taken care of; can focus on the same insurance which is a little more expensive but the money does stay in the BPS account.

Superintendent will show recruitment videos at next board meeting.

**Board of Trustees Discussion-Superintendent Transition:** Superintendent Hall stated that her contract ends June 30, 2024 and wants to work 4, 10-hour days 6/3/24 to 6/21/24 Mon-Thursday, and 8-hour days on each Friday 7, 14, 21 in exchange for June 24, 25, 26, 2024 which would make her last official day June 21, 2024, then Rebecca Rappold can be interim the last week. Superintendent Hall stated that the last day of Ms. Rappolds' contract is 6/13/24 and she can do an extended contract or take vacation, or whatever is decided. Ms. YellowOwl stated that there are still a lot of things happening in the district and feels that Ms. Rappold needs to be fully included and sees her starting to transition now and working directly with the current superintendent so that changes are not last minute, and working on things, such as, passwords, communication with staff, a smooth transition, etc. Superintendent Hall stated that they have been working together since December, and she is very supportive of Ms. Rappolds' transition; she has real good ideas and stated that normally the new superintendent came in the last week. Superintendent Hall stated she is okay with working together but she is still the superintendent until she is out the door. Mr. Gallup stated that the turn around and transition with this position cannot be to leave one day and the new person walk in the next day and noted that Superintendent Hall was in 2-weeks before Rouse left; Ms. Rappold is doing negotiations and as the new leader she needs to take part in leading the school. Mr. RunningFisher stated that he agrees and asked Ms. Rappold how it will work for her. Ms. Rappold stated that things are working fairly well, however there are some decisions to be made in terms of key positions that she feels she needs to have the ability to develop such as, interview committees, hiring individuals for positions, as well as, principal replacements. Ms. Rappold stated that passwords are very important and are based on board approval of the transition now, as they have struggled with this so much. Ms. Rappold stated these are big components and it is important for board approval now to ensure a smooth transition; start transitioning now. Mr. Hoyt stated that Ms. Rappold has a vital point, this is a pivotal moment moving ahead because all the responsibility will fall on Ms. Rappold, and felt that the board should support the request to set this up the way Ms. Rappold is asking. Mr. Bremner stated that in the current superintendent contract it states under 'administrative pay and relieving superintendent of duties at any time, etc. in the best interest of the district'.

Superintendent Hall stated she hasn't done anything to be disciplined for and that is what administrative pay is. Mr. Gallup stated they can start the transition and work together; Ms. Rappold does need to start her transition as she is being hired at this meeting and she can start any time after board approval as superintendent with the current superintendent still here. Mr. Gallup stated that there are things the new leader needs to be in charge of making decisions on and Superintendent Hall can help with the transition. Superintendent Hall stated she will work with her. Mr. Bremner asked if there are any problems with giving Ms. Rappold the reins until the current superintendent leaves and stated going forward, for the next 3 years, is Ms. Rappold making decisions that need to be made by her. Superintendent Hall stated that they have made decisions on things such as interviewing, staffing, etc. and stated she is the superintendent until June 30. Mr. Gallup stated they are asking for a decision on transition and no offense to Superintendent Hall but the board does have the authority to say by consensus that these are Ms. Rappold's duties to make decisions on now. Superintendent Hall stated this is only on for discussion and it can be brought to the next board meeting. Mr. RunningFisher agreed. Mr. Gallup suggested making the decision by consensus now.

**Graduation/Senior Trip:** Jennifer Wagner stated that this year she is working on plans to make graduation shorter and more student centered and is meeting with class officers, counselors and administration on this. Ms. Wagner handed out a layout of the gym. There will be a welcome by Ms. Blackfeet and Scott Kipp will be playing on repeat with a map of how things will go. The whole community will see all graduates; taking pictures will be alternating and all graduates will be up to mezzanine. Royalty is the board, staff who will be led in by the dancers; graduates will start on top and down stairs to the lower bleachers on to the ramps. Mr. Salois will read the graduate names, marching list handout, chairs will have names listed. Slideshow Pictures will show when the graduate is walking up to get their diploma. Graduation practice on Thursday and Friday. Have 126 graduates potentially able to graduate; the list may change; the list will be available asap; the Board can work out who they will give diplomas to; Ms. YellowOwl asked for first group and offered to work out who will be where. Graduation will be on Facebook; parents can find out from their graduate where they will be. All diploma names match their birth certificates. Graduation is Sunday at 11:00 am. Tomorrow is awards banquet and everyone is invited. Ms. YellowOwl asked who will be seated on stage. Ms. Wagner stated she won't know until the stage is up tomorrow. Ms. YellowOwl asked that the same councilmen to sit there as well. Ms. Wagner stated usually the board, 3 principals from BHS, BHA Rep, guest speaker, drum group on the side, 2 student speakers; there will be 2 honorary diplomas given for those students that have passed and 2 that will be in memory of the student. There will be chairs at the end of the graduates for these students. Superintendent Hall stated that the board hands out the diplomas. Ms. YellowOwl stated that last year we allowed Chief Oldperson and other councilmembers were allowed. Mr. Gallup stated to invite them all. Ms. Wagner stated last year, she invited the tribal chairman and had a student speaker with prayer after Earl Oldperson passed; there will also be the school board chair, superintendent, BHS Principal, student body president, Ms. Blackfeet, Chairman Scott Kipp. Mr. Bremner stated that he is ok with the council sitting with the school. Ms. Wagner stated that she doesn't know how they will fit; they cannot be in front of the screen. Mr. RunningFisher stated that it was too crowded last year and suggested to invite the council and put them on each side on the floor. Ms. Wagner stated that graduation is from the school board, the stage is too crowded, they can be on floor.

**Schedule Date for Budget Review:** The board agreed by consensus to schedule a special board meeting Tuesday, May 28, 2024 @ 5:00PM to finalize the Superintendent's Transition and review the budgets with Gwyn Andersen.

**ESSER Budget Review:** Move to budget meeting 5/28/24.

**HB 890 – Public Meeting Recording Requirements:** Sandra Rivas stated that recording requirements are a new law now and requires that meetings be recorded, with audio, and posted on the district's website. MTSBA has a policy and a training video can be available if the board is interested. Travis Miller will do a test run before July 1, using the Owl cams that are in classrooms. There may be small details that need to be worked out. Ms. Rivas stated that they will setup for a test run at the budget meeting and get everything in place in accordance with law. Mr. Bremner suggested getting a podium for those who want to come forward for public comment. Ms. Rivas stated that the recordings will be held for one year and noted that at the beginning of each meeting the chair must announce that the meeting is being recorded.

**HR Status Update:** Beverly Sinclair reviewed the HR list: Bullshoe Elementary: 1<sup>st</sup> gr teacher, BNAS 1<sup>st</sup> gr teacher, EK/K health enhancement, 1<sup>st</sup> gr health enhancement, 1<sup>st</sup> gr SpEd teacher, BES: 2<sup>nd</sup> gr teachers (2), 3<sup>rd</sup> gr teacher, Library Media, Napi: SpEd teacher, Music teacher, PE teacher, PCA, TA, BMS: 6-8 BNAS teacher, Counselor, SpEd TA, BHS: Vo-Tech teacher, Business Ed teacher, SS teacher, ELA teacher, Math teacher (3), Drivers Ed teacher, Instructional coach, SpEd teacher, PCAs (2), TA, FIT, YDHP, Gear Up Specialist (2), Gear Up Director, Flex Cook, Assistant Cook, Maintenance: Mechanic, 9-Month drivers (5). Ms. Sinclair stated that as the administration transitions Ms. Rappold is looking at relying on natural attrition. The high school has the most need for teachers and transportation needs five 9-month bus drivers.

**Coaches Update 5/14/24:** Beverly Sinclair stated that she plans to contact the athletic director to get the coaching worksheet updated before moving on with a new AD. Ms. YellowOwl stated that it looks like BPS needs to fill 31 teacher positions with 3 on the agenda to be hired tonight. Superintendent Hall stated they do have emergency hires that cannot apply for emergency licensure until our positions have been advertised, and interviewed and if not filled, then they can apply; there are eleven that can apply for emergency hire in July. Superintendent Hall stated that these teachers know the process. Mr. Gallup stated that the assumption is that these teachers are working toward getting their certification; there may be a new State superintendent on board and things may change. Mr. Bremner asked is the coaching worksheet is up to date. Ms. Sinclair stated that she does not know how much has been touched.

**Resignations:** The following resignations were accepted by Superintendent Hall: Wyatt Wippert, Assistant Cook-BES, Effective 4/19/2024; Matthew Higgins, Assistant Cook-BHS, Effective 4/24/2024; Isaiah Crawford, Teacher Assistant SPED, BHS Effective 4-26-2024; Loren SureChief, Flex Custodian, Maintenance, Effective 4-26-2024; Sheldon Marceau, Personal Care Attendant - BHS, Effective 5-2-2024 and Anne Schuschke, Elementary Teacher-Stamiksiitsiikin, Effective 6-3-2024.

### **ITEMS OF ACTION**

**Hiring:** Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve hiring Dana SureChief, Certified Elementary Teacher Renewal-BES 2024-2025 pending successful background checks/drug tests. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Madeline Baer, Elementary Teacher (Music) – BES 2024-2025 (\$42,195.00); Rebecca Craig, Certified Elementary Teacher Renewal-BES 2024-2025; Tristan Birdrattler, Certified Elementary Teacher-Stamiksiitsiikin 2024-2025; Shelby Hannon, Elementary Teacher-Napi 2024-2025 (\$42,195.00); Zoe Johnson Elementary Teacher-Babb Elementary 2024-2025 (\$45,691.00); Diane McDonald, Special Education Teacher (Self-Contained)-BMS 2024-2025 (\$72,834.00); Amber StillSmoking, Napi Softball Coach 2023-2024 (\$600.00); David OldChief, Napi Track Coach 2023-2024 (\$600.00); Samantha Linke, Napi Track Coach 2023-2024 (\$600.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve hiring Lyle St. Goddard, Jr., Personal Care Attendant-BHS pending successful background check/drug test. Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Kristy Augare, FIT Systems Navigator-PCOP 2023-2024 (\$5,080.00); Kristy Augare, FIT Systems Navigator-PCOP 2024-2025 (\$8,738.00) and Jarriel Blackman, Skilled Maintenance (Electrician). Second by Ms. Salway Bullshoe. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

**Contract Service Agreements:** Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve a contract service agreement pending successful background check for Ruth Shea, Big Sky & Glendale, Library-Media Services 2024-2025 (\$3,378.00). Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreements, pending successful background checks: Ruth Shea, Aimsweb ELA Assessment-BMS & BHS 2024-2025 (\$6,000.00); Barbara Finnell, Speech Language Pathology Services 2024-2025 (\$84,758.40); Carol E. Neumann, Speech Language Pathology Services 2024-2025 (\$84,748.80); Cheryl Lock, Speech Language Pathology Services 2024-2025 (\$30,591.00); Elaine Camps Del Toro, Speech Language Pathology Services 2024-2025 (\$84,748.80); Mission Therapy: Katie Kuka, Lead Speech Language Pathologist 2024-2025 (\$105,513.20); Angela Boyd, Occupational Therapist Services 2024-2025 (\$67,320.00); Robin Tachetti, Physical Therapist Services 2024-2025 (\$79,900.00); Amber Hinthier, School Psychologist 2024-2025 (\$74,800.00); Karen Nesbitt, School Psychologist 2024-2025 (\$74,800.00) and William Sheppard, School Psychologist 2024-2025 (\$74,800.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *Board discussion:* Rebecca Rappold stated that all but one of the contracts is for special education and all have more than one year experience and some have 4-5 years of experience with BPS with over 60 students this year. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais.

**Out of State Travel:** Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve out of state travel for Chaperones: Sienna Speicher, Jack Parrent, Lynnel Bullshoe, Chris Lewis (Alternate: Charlie Speicher) and 41 Students, BHS Senior Trip to Triple Play in Hayden, Idaho 2023-2024. Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl stated that the financial impact listed is \$18,000 and they have raised \$14,000 and asked where the balance is coming from. Jennifer LaFromboise stated that the seniors are currently still fundraising and by policy, they have to say this is how much they are giving each student for meals but they won't use all of it. The seniors are will be at the tribal council meeting tomorrow and will ask the Blackfeet Tribal Council for support for their trip. Students are still signing up for the trip and the number is growing and if they don't raise enough money, the students will go to whichever place is costs less. Because transportation costs are no longer donated, the students will also be paying for the bus driver and the fuel. Ms. LaFromboise stated they students will only spend what they have earned and will not ask the board for money. Mr. Bremner suggested giving the students \$5,000 for the cost of driver and fuel. Ms. LaFrombolise stated at the budget meeting, this issue will be discussed. Francis Bullcalf stated that each bus can hold up to 48; there are 41 students now and 4 chaperones signed up to go to Triple, which is an amusement park in Hayden Idaho. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais.

**In State Travel:** None.

**Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve MHSA Annual Insurance Dues Application and Fees 2024-2025 (\$6,527.00) and LPW - BHS Cooling, Admin Repair-Refinishing, Stamiksiitsiikin Gym 2023-2024 (\$1,937,039.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *Board discussion:* Board members asked how much out of \$1,937,000 will be replaced by the insurance for the Stamiksiitsiikin Gym. Sandra Rivas stated the insurance will not cover any of this, however, Gwyn Andersen did find funds to cover the cost. Superintendent Hall stated that ESSER will cover the gym and lobby only and this has already been approved; but all additional jobs listed need to be tabled. The gym/lobby cost is \$553,398. Mr. Evans stated he has a problem approving the gym and lobby but not the classrooms where students will have classes. Superintendent Hall stated that the board can vote to not do any of this right now. Mr. Gallup stated that the lobby was not brought before the Facilities Committee yet but the Administration building was. Mr. RunningFisher stated that the KW gym is more important than the administration building. Superintendent Hall stated that the board could table the high school chillers. Mr. Bremner asked if they can only pay for certain things by September 30, 2024 with ESSER and felt the KW gym is a liability. Mr. Hoyt felt that if the ESSER amount is approved, table the rest of the alternates; the KW gym needs to be replaced and the building needs to be fixed. Mr. Gallup stated that it was not the wall getting hit that caused the gym issues, it was discovering the problem with the gym while working on the addition which happened when the gym was built. Reid Reagan stated that Swank built the gym and Highline Masonry did the work, and

Archambault was the Architect. Ms. Rivas stated that the insurance covered \$61,469.00 where the car hit the side of the gym. Mr. Evans stated he wanted the alternative classrooms before the gym. Mr. Gallup stated that the Administration building needs to be fixed and it has been through Facilities and the wings are at the high school for the chillers. Ms. Wagner stated that staff have continuously complained about the rooms being very hot. Superintendent Hall stated that the gym and the lobby need to be fixed because they are paid with ESSER funds and the rest can be discussed after the budget meeting. Mr. Evans motioned to modify the original motion to complete the work that will be paid by ESSER that was already approved, and after the budget meeting discuss the Administration building and the Bullshoe gym. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the Superintendent's Contract's for a 3-year term 2024-2027 at \$150,000.00. Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Mr. Gervais asked if this is the highest wage paid for a superintendent and asked if other administrators get raises too and felt that if they are giving someone that much money, they should give the rest of the employees the same. Mr. RunningFisher stated the board is scheduled to review the budget and will determine at that time if they are giving raises. Mr. Bremner stated that it is tough to get administrators if it is a hard to fill position; our teachers need to be the focus, administrators need to make our teachers want to climb the ladder. Mr. Gervais felt the same about bus drivers; we can't fill the positions because of the wages. Ms. Salway Bullshoe stated that retaining people should be the focus, and not just one group, and felt that BPS is not doing this. Mr. Bremner stated that every time BPS has to train a new person, it costs more money. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe voting for. Thomas Gervais voted opposed.

Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility Roster 2023-2024; Extended Contracts for Certified Staff, IEP Writing-Caseload Mgmnt-Curriculum & Instruction Planning 2023-2024 (\$30,165.80); Extended Contracts-BNAS Teachers, Ai po'Yii Speaking the Blackfeet Language PD 2023-2024 (\$27,167.00); Fullmind - iTutor Quotes for Genl Education & SpEd Education 2024-2025 (\$978,000.00); Soliant-Contract Buy Out, School Psychologists & Occupational Therapist 2023- 2024 (\$78,000.00); EBMS Self Insurance Plan 2024-2025 (\$2,880,213.60); Tahnee Armstrong, Random Drug-Alcohol Testing Third Party Administrator 2024- 2025; MQEC Membership 2024-2025 (\$2,500.00); Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims #64596-#64411 (\$698,748.97); Student Activities Claims, Check #705875-705897 (\$41,730.37) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Evans. *Board discussion:* Ms. YellowOwl asked about the agreement for iTutors contracted with Fullmind and stated that this is a lot of money. Ms. Rappold stated that there are 6 general education teachers and 6 special education teachers which is the same amount as the last two years. Ms. Rappold stated that this is not a payout; the amount is per teacher, only if BPS utilizes them. BPS will continue to advertise and work to fill these positions but if we are not able to fill them, then we have this option in place. BPS has an opportunity to apply for a federal grant for up to \$2 million and the identified target group is the Secondary and SpEd Teachers; and noted that they are looking at recruitment bonuses and retention pay. Ms. Rappold stated at this time the 2+2 program with BCC is only to fill elementary positions and Missoula is starting a 2+2 secondary teacher program for high school teachers. Mr. Hoyt stated that he sat in with an iTutor and he could not understand her; Ms. Wagner stated that BPS has a couple iTutors from the Philippines. Ms. Rappold stated that she completed the monitoring for special education and unfortunately BPS was not able to hire in person teachers; many iTutors were drawn for that monitoring. Mr. Hoyt asked if students are able to reach out in iTutor classes. Ms. Wagner stated yes, they can reach out by google, or meet with the teachers. Ms. Rappold stated that there is a student who reached out and following a meeting with the parents, the student has a case manager. Superintendent Hall stated that the Soliant buyout is to save the district money, if we buy Soliant out, BPS can hire the teachers at a lesser rate; if the iTutor is not needed, BPS does not pay them. Ms. Rappold stated that currently we are only using 6 special education iTutors and 3 general education teachers. Mr. Hoyt stated the board discussed going away from being self-insured. Mr. Gallup stated that he is disappointed with the insurance and stated that BPS needs to get out of being self-insured. Mr. Gallup stated if we take the administrations advice for one more year and find a new insurance. Mr. Bremner stated the county has found a good insurance company that is not self-insured. Superintendent Hall stated that BPS has Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Joint Powers Trust, but their rates are all increasing. Mr. Gallup stated there is a HB specifically for school insurance that we can look into for next year. Superintendent explained that MQEC Membership supports schools legislatively, helps with law, and helps when districts come together on issues. Mr.

Gallup stated that we are still fighting that law and asked how does MQEC determine the price BPS pays; just want to make sure BPS is not paying more than then they should. Mr. Bremner asked to include tabling MQEC in his motion until more information is brought to the board on this. Mr. Evans agreed. Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

There were no Personnel or Legal Issues.

Motion by Mr. Hoyt to adjourn at 7:09 PM. Second by Mr. Evans. Motion passed with Motion passed Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Brian Gallup, Donna YellowOwl, Lockley Bremner, Michael Hoyt, Kristy Salway Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais voting for.

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