

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
Administration Conference Room

Present: James RunningFisher, James Evans (online) Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner.

Absent: Mike Hoyt

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: Regular Scheduled Board meeting 8/26/25; Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting, 9/9/25; Facilities Committee Meeting 9/11/25; NAFIS Fall Conference in Washington, D.C. Depart 9/11/25 and return 9/18/25.

Approval of Minutes: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Bullshoe to approve the agenda with the following changes: Remove item G from Elementary Hiring: Rick Hoyt, BMS Athletic Coordinator 2025-2026 (\$8,000.00) and item B from District wide CSA: Gwyn Andersen, Reconciling Budget, Finance Director & Grant Close Out Training 2025-2026 (\$70,720.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Public Comment: Wayne Bullcalf thanked the Board and Superintendent Rappold for the use of the new road to the High School. It has made things a lot smoother and safer. Mr. Bremner stated that there was a chain across the road at the cattleguard and he almost hit it, he asked what the purpose was for that. Superintendent Rappold stated that they are going to put metal gates across and security will not lock the gates until after practice.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Building Reports: Mr. RunningFisher acknowledged the following building reports: Child Nutrition-Copy Center-Warehouse - Dalaina Grant; Curriculum and Instruction - Rebecca Rappold; Parent, Community Outreach, FIT - Irene Augare; Blackfeet Language-Native American Studies - Robert Hall; Special Education - Belinda Turley; Gear Up Program - Kristy CalfRobe; Prevention & Wellness - Cinnamon Salway; Athletics Department-Student Activities - Kellen Hall; Technology Department - Travis Miller; Transportation - Francis Bullcalf; Maintenance/Facilities/Security/Construction - Reid Reagan.

Ms. YellowOwl had an issue on the Maintenance report, on the softball and baseball fields there are lots of weeds growing on the turf. Mr. Reagan stated that he has requested to see what type of seed was used as it was supposed to be seed free. Thinking that it may be seeds blowing in. The weeds are growing down in the turf. Mr. Gallup stated that this is being addressed at the Facilities meeting. Mr. Reagan stated that it is still a punch list of Sletten and that is why Maintenance has not touched it. Superintendent Rappold stated that we need to seek out a plan on how to care for turf.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Rappold stated that Mr. Bremner asked in the last meeting about the policy 8% to come back of the early release. She stated that it is not actually a policy it is in the contract itself. She attached a copy of the contract for the board to see, which guidelines have not been established by the board on how that should be implemented. It is a matter of consistency, we as a board or as a school district need to determine how to fairly implement this as is and use that date and anyone

past that date is responsible for those damages or should this just be removed from the contract. This is the decision of the board since they are the ones who adopted a contract like this.

Mrs. Rivas explained that if the person is owed money and that penalty covers it, it would not get paid until the board approves the waiver. If it is not approved it will come out of the leave payout and if it is waived, they will get a full leave payout. The leave payout is held until the 8% is resolved.

Superintendent Rappold stated that she will do one more follow up, she will reach out to MTSBA with regard to this being a management decision to follow the contract without coming to the board.

Emergency Licensed Staff Update: Superintendent Rappold stated she went back the last 5 years to look at the percentages of staff that we have as of the first day of school and any openings we might have. She provided a handout of the stats for the last 5 years. She pointed out the peak numbers and explained that we had a lot retire that year and the numbers have gone back down since. The last 2 years she has worked to reduce classified position and certified position as those arose by just not filling them but did not have time to look into that. We have reduced one teacher per grade level across the elementary level.

HR Status Report: Elementary level we are in need of 2 PCA's, homeschool coordinator, Sped TA. High School we are in need of ELA/Reading teacher, drivers ed teacher, TA, math teacher. We need a hi-set tutor, looking at doing interviews for this soon. Food Service needs an assistant cook for the supper program. Special Services we need a half time adaptive physical ed teacher, Sped nurse, School phycologist, 2 speech pathologists. Transportation we need four 9-month bus drivers which are being advertised on our frontline site, on Facebook.

Transportation Director Wayne Bull Calf stated that they are working on getting 2 people certified teachers to do a training to get an endorsement which will be accepted by the state. These 2 people will sign off when we feel the person is ready. Has been set up through Lester Johnson.

Coaching Update: Mr. Hall stated that they were able to hire a girls soccer coach. There are a few hires on for today for the High School. We are in desperate need of Middle School football coaches We are possibly hiring one today. The guy that is there now has done a season all by himself with about 60 students, no one wants to do Middle School football. Mr. Hall stated that is the same issue they are having with the athletic coordinator job is a demanding job with a small stipend. They do have a person for the Middle School athletic coordinator position as well as the one at the Napi. There is going to be a lot of work in front of them that Mr. Hall is going to be happy to help them with. He asked that everyone bear with them as there is going to be some delays with some trial and error.

Mr. Bremner asked Mr. Hall if he had any suggestions of paying more? Mr. Hall stated that they addressed at one of the board meetings the do have the raised wrote up. That is why they went with the contract with Snap Mobile which is a fundraiser that helps fundraise in a sense of telephones. Mr. Hall gave a brief overview on how the fundraiser works. Superintendent Rappold stated now that we have a long-term budget outlook, we will create an updated salary schedule. Smaller schools out there are paying high rates for their coaches. Our temporary seasonal agreement needs to be looked at as well. She also stated they will get to that this year and get it to the board, which at that time they can decide if it should be retro active and go back to July 1st so it is inclusive with the coaching seasons this year.

Resignations: Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignations: Jessie Salway, Volleyball Coach, BMS, Effective 8-7-2025; Sean McConnaha, ELA Teacher, BHS, Effective 8-7-2025; Wakiyawin Shawl, Cross Country Coach, BMS, Effective 8-14-2025.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests with the removal of item G Rick Hoyt, BMS Athletic Coordinator 2025-2026 (\$8,000.00); Lisa Aimsback, Youth Prevention-Behavior-SEL Specialist-BES; Bella Drennan, BES TA; Mishayla Calfbossribs, Napi Athletic Coordinator 2025-2026 (\$6,000.00); Marlin Blackwolf, Napi Football Coach

2025-2026 (\$600.00); Tristan Smith, Blackfeet Junior Academy-BMS 2025-2026 (\$48,859.00); Kimberly OldChief, BMS Assistant Secretary; Azurdee Aimsback, BMS Volleyball Coach 2025-2026 (\$860.00); Katherine Nomee, BMS Volleyball Coach 2025-2026 (\$860.00); Tamara Guardipee, BMS Volleyball Coach 2025-2026 (\$894.00); Wasewi Lahr, BMS Cross Country Coach 2025-2026 (\$860.00); Anthony MadPlume, BMS Football Coach 2025-2026 (\$860.00). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Alexi Buffalo, Science Teacher-BHS (\$47,062.00); Donald Comesatnight, BHS Sped TA; Joseph Bullchild, Custodian, BHS; Abigail Marshall Klauk, BHS Assistant Girls Soccer Coach 2025-2026 (\$2,064.00); Tristen RedHorn, BHS Assistant Football Coach 2025-2026 (\$2,064.00); Melanie HeavyRunner, BHS Special Olympics Coach 2025-2026 (\$3,096.00); Tyleesha MadPlume, BHS Concessions Manager 2025-2026 (\$1,040.00). Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following hires pending successful background checks/drug tests: Ronald Ingraham, Professional Technical-Technology Technician 2025-2026 (\$42,000.00); George Grandchamp, Flex Custodian; Ronald Curtis, Flex Custodian. Second by Mr. Gallup. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background checks with the removal of item B Gwyn Andersen, Reconciling Budget, Finance Director & Grant Close Out Training 2025-2026 (\$70,720.00); Communication Express, School Psychologist 2025-2026 (\$145,728.00); Brenda Guardipee, First Aid-CPR Class-Food Service 2025-2026 (\$770.00); Brenda Guardipee, First Aid-CPR Class-Childcare 2025-2026 (\$490.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. *No public participation.* Ms. YellowOwl asked if this is an in-person position for that dollar amount. Superintendent Rappold informed Ms. YellowOwl it is not it is a contracting company; this is a contract with the company who will provide the person to provide the service. Ms. Turley stated that this was the cheapest company. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following out of state travel: Aiyahna Green & Keesha Guerrero-Gobert, NAFIS Fall Conference 2025-2026 (\$5,846.80). Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

In State Travel: None

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Bremner to approve the following items: Audrey Matthews, Contract Modification (\$5,439.00); Jade Guardipee, Extended Contract SBE Planning Week 2025-2026 (\$1,450.80). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following items: Change Special Olympics Coach to Head Coach Position (\$3,096.00). Second by Mr. Evans. *No public participation. No board discussion.* Motion passed

with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility Roster 8-26-25; Extended Contracts-Lead Teacher Duties 2025-2026 (36,898.84); Childcare Handbook 2025-2026; MOU Southern Piegan Health Center; school Health Program; MOU with Tribal Behavioral Health; Declare Property as Surplus; Purchases over \$10,000.00; District Claims #69654-#69747 (\$893,117.71); Student Activities-**None**; Additional Pays 8-26-25. Second by Mr. Bremner. *No public Participation*. Ms. YellowOwl had a question under purchased over \$10,000.00, the Bobcat was there just one bid for that or are we required to get more bids? Superintendent Rappold stated that this is not a contract to purchase services it is a price quote to purchase an item so it does not fall under the same law as a contract. Mr. Bullcalf stated that this had the most features and was the cheapest. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Recess: 5:47 p.m.

Reconvene: 5:52 p.m.

Board went into closed session at 5:52 p.m. for the following item: Consideration of Parent/Guardian(s) requests for 2025-2026 SY BHS student enrollment. Meeting reopened at 6:02 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to allow the return of Student A for the 2025-2026 school year. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion*. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

PERSONNEL: None

LEGAL ISSUES: Board went into closed session at 6:05 p.m. for the following item: Superintendent Legal Update. Meeting reopened at 6:17 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No public participation. No board discussion*. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Lockley Bremner voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

Charmaine Arcand, Acting Board Secretary

James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

Sandra Rivas, District Clerk