

Regular Board Minutes 4/25/18
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 @ 12:00 p.m.
Transportation Department

There was no quorum for the noon session at Transportation. The transportation department staff was recognized by Wayne Hall for being great drivers who work hard to meet all schedules and timeframes; all are very efficient. Staff recognized: Nathaniel Bird Rattler, Lisa Bullcalf, Wayne Bullcalf, Joseph Bullshoe, Edward Burke, Desirae Flammond, Marguerite Higgins, Phillip Higgins, Deanna Lahr, Betty Loya, Francis Lazyboy, Gayle RidesAtTheDoor Sr., Ella Wall, Joseph Wippert, Ryan Wood, Merlin Bird Rattler, Teri L. DeRoche and Brenda Guardipee. Meeting concluded at 1:17 p.m.

The regular board meeting was called to order by Ms. Bremner at 5:00 p.m.

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

Student Recognition: Tony Wagner recognized the 2017-2018 Girls Basketball Team and Managers: Ronnal Jordan (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team All State), Olivia Hall (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team All State), Ayanna Old Person, Taylor Jordan (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team All State), Dulci Skunkcap (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team All State), Tamika Guardipee (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team All State), Lacie Goss, Veronica Reed, Danaiya Polk, Candace Still Smoking, Kelsey Mad Plume, Walker Running Crane, Tatum Running Crane, Payton Crossguns, Montana Bremner-Manager, Taylee RidesAtTheDoor-Manager.

Tony Wagner recognized the 2017-2018 Boys Basketball Team and Managers: Boys Basketball - Nathaniel Stiffarm, Derek Loring, Brandon Aimsback (1st Team/All Conference-1st Team/All State), James Gilham (2nd Team All Conference), Peyton Crawford, CJ Smith, Derek Sharp, Justin Burd, Ethan Running Crane, Deion Mad Plume, Tyree Whitomb (All Conference/All State), Trevon Fisher, Latrell Bull Child, Richard Running Crane, Noble Little Dog, Jillann Sure Chief. Assistant coaches: Maurice Red Horn, Leo Bullchild.

Tony Wagner recognized the 2017-2018 Wrestling Team: Ashton Flamand-7th place, Tommy Campbell-8th place, Joe Andersen-8th place, Emmitt Augare-3rd place, Charlie Bull Calf-4th place, Ryan LongTimeSleeping 3rd-place, Joe Schildt-6th place, Wacey Zuback3rd/4th at State.

Tony Wagner recognized the Speech, Debate & Drama Team: Speech, Debate & Drama: Alicia Archambault, BreeAnna Polk, Brendon Galbreath, Hailei Henderson, Noah Berthelson, Shanae Running Rabbit, Melisa Mittens.

Tony Wagner recognized GBB Coach, Ray Augare, who was voted Co-coach Northwestern A Basketball.

Tony Wagner recognized BBB Coach, Dan Connelly, who was voted Western Conference coach of the Year.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Conway to approve regular board Minutes 4/10/18 with no changes. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with the following changes: remove Community Garden Update and move Auditor and Payne West Presentation to #1 under the Superintendent Report. Second by Mr. Bullshoe. No discussion. All in favor/Motion passed.

Public Comment: Ms. Bremner read provisions of the Montana Open Meeting Law under Section MCA 2-3-103. Gayle Skunkcap addressed a bullying incident that happened at Napi Elementary last week and noted that this same issue happened last year and was never dealt. Mr. Skunkcap stated that last year Napi elementary allowed one coach to select all best players to be on one team and one team has players that are not as good and the same pattern is happening again this year. Mr. Skunkcap stated it boils down to bullying and people are afraid to speak

up. Mr. Skunkcap felt that this needs to be taken care of by the activities department. Tony Wagner will setup a meeting with Mr. Skunkcap and the Napi Activities Coordinator.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Ms. Bremner thanked Transportation for the reports and a great meal.

Superintendent's Report

Audit Presentation (Denning & Downey Associates): Jonathan Mahrt from Denning, Downey & Associates, reported on the 2017 audit report which includes a report on the district financial status. The audit purpose is to express opinion in financial statement report on the audit report by looking at procedures. Management is responsible to make sure reports are completed. In one set of financial statements is a qualified opinion that is a cash issue in the clearing funds which has been over 7 years and is not corrected. Last year \$651,000 and in BPS favor. Denning/Downey will help fix this problem in July and August. Page 78: federal audit which is an unmodified opinion. Looked at IA and IDEA: no issues. Controls that can be improved on are called audit findings which means they want to disclose to the board a summary of errors related to financial statements and classifications. Other government receivable was posted after the TFS was posted which is a misclassification of insurance money that was reported as restatement; Denning/Downey did audit adjustment to fix, misclassification of payroll, misclassification liability in payroll fund, and AR was not recorded in self-insurance fund and childcare fund (check was not issued until July or August). On the TFS when loaded there were several validation errors; if negative in the expense account errors will come up and need to be corrected. Funds were moved from one fund to another and the money was coded to only one account and not to several payroll accounts which created misclassification. Mr. Mahrt will work with Stacy Edwards at year end and felt that these things won't be repeated in the next audit. Food service inventory is on-going and is a matter of getting the right process in place by tying the usage report and physical count together and making adjustments as needed. Linda Baker is getting student activities cleaned up and fundraisers will have documentation showing it was balanced to something. With multiple kids involved and no overall summary in balancing don't see being corrected right away which is common in every school district. Items being corrected: beginning cash, deposits made on weekly basis, gate tickets stapled to beginning and ending tickets and attached to the report. Enrollment: two students that didn't have appropriate attendance status leading up to the count date will be corrected for next year; need checks and balances in place. Compliance findings: GASBE which requires to have actual balance done was due last year and did not get done. Will need to reevaluate the liability which will be corrected for next year. Montana law requires a certain protection on deposits above \$250,000 at the bank although most is held at the county; the self-insurance fund is a separate fund; switching with Payne West a step was missed; last year a correction was made to credit cards to have adequate verification. Linda Baker is doing a very good job. Mr. Conway stated that student activities and lunch issues have been going on for a while now and the district has put quite a few checks and balances in place. Ms. Bremner asked what happens if a finding goes on year after year? Mr. Mahrt stated that they encourage the school to get appropriate changes made. The auditor reports the findings then it goes to OPI to follow up on the audit findings. Superintendent Hall stated that she has met with OPI and they were impressed with what has been done; OPI wants the \$650,000 cleaned up. Ms. Edwards will work with Mr. Mahrt on repeat findings in July and also work with the warehouse inventory this summer.

Payne West Insurance: Sarah Bunton reported on the stop loss quotes for the district. The current stop loss carrier is high and came down to 11.9% and Blue Cross/Blue Shield is at 3.2% decrease. Ms. Bunton recommends the district move the stop loss payment from July 1 to June 30 for health care services corporation. Stop loss amount \$85,000. Ms. Bunton recommends increase budget for funding to 12.8%. Recommend Group Medicare policy for 65+ years with Hartford as they are more competitive; premiere plan savings is \$775 and retiree plus spouse will save \$440. Ms. Bunton recommends to remove double coverage for employees. Single coverage or family have a \$500 deductible and \$3,000 match. The insurance per employee will be \$1,261. Ms. Bremner asked that Ms. Bunton follow-up with Superintendent Hall with the combined insurance information and noted that the district is in negotiations right now.

Homeschool Student Presentation: Superintendent Hall stated that the Superintendent Community Advisory Committee met on April 17 and discussed homeschooled students and the increase in numbers. There is no requirement for homeschooled students in Montana; no assessment required, etc. and neither county or state keep

track of these kids. Superintendent Hall requested to work with the tribal council on a resolution for homeschooled students so that they are being assessed with BPS and using curriculum accredited with the state. Issues Recommendations: Homeschooled students cannot graduate with the senior class unless they are in accredited programs; cannot do athletics for homeschooled students; cannot be valedictorian or salutatorian. Matthew Johnson did not agree stating that the kids work hard, learn from each other, and these kids don't have skills the school kids have. There are over 50 kids on the homeschool list. They are missing out on everything learned in classrooms. Jercy Matt stated that if a homeschooled student enters school today they have to test and their score is part of our accreditation. Sicily Bird felt that the school should take concerns to the court and the council that homeschooling is being abused and try to advocate for the kids so they can be self-sustaining adults in our community. No further discussion. Board members agreed by consensus to go to the tribe.

Building Reports: Ms. Bremner acknowledged the following reports: KW Vina – Tonia Tatsey, Browning Elementary – Jennifer Wagner, Napi Elementary – Sicily Bird, Browning Middle School – Dennis Juneau, Browning High School – John Salois, Babb Elementary – Kari McKay, Big Sky and Glendale Colony – Natasha Siliezar, Alternative Education – Matthew Johnson, Activities – Tony Wagner, Childcare Program – Carrie Hirst, Good Medicine Program – Kimberly Tatsey-McKay, Native American Studies – Robert Hall. *Discussion:* Jercy Matt reported on each school's accreditation status. The status has been on school improvement for 25+ Years. OPI is reorganizing at each department level; all have come together with a new process. Essa and accreditation were put together which is part of OPI checks and balances. Individual school accreditation status (Color coding: red not good, green good): BHS includes the Academy, Babb-green, Big Sky- (science in ELA), Glendale-Green, KW Vina-Green, BES-deficient at standards level-teacher specials and licensures, Napi- deficient at standards level-teacher specials and licensures, BMS- deficient at standards level-teacher specials and licensures, BHS-deficient at standards level-teacher specials and licensures. Matthew Johnson stated that his paperwork was filed in August and when the UofM person resigned, the paperwork was not processed, but it is now. Ms. Bremner stated that this is just a measuring stick for BPS, it is not the state of Montana that will bring our kids to our level according to our standards. No further discussion.

Break at 7:45 p.m.

Reconvene at 7:50 p.m.

Superintendent Update: Superintendent Hall reviewed survey results of positives in each district building: successful garden, science nutrition, writing strategy plan, calming rooms, comfortable parent centers, clothing closet, MBI impact on schools, Medicare billing, support from building administrators, less behavior referrals, taking preventative measures, less discipline.

Federal Relations Outreach Meeting Update: Mr. Gallup stated that IA got a \$81 million increase, more money put into education, HB 5199 for military – education savings accounts which takes in homeschooling (parents will get \$500 per kid to homeschool). If voucher passes it will take \$450 million off top of program.

Resignations: The following resignations were accepted by Superintendent Hall: Eugene Edwards, Elementary Teacher-BES Effective 6-2-2018; Jeffrey Beckett, Music Teacher, Napi Elementary Effective 6-2-2018 and Karen Salisbury, Teacher-William Buffalo Hide Academy Effective 6-2-2018. The district will have 6 staff retirees at staff appreciation. *No further discussion.*

Staff Transfers: Mr. Evans asked to look at the transfer policy and the hiring policy at the next board meeting. Ms. Bremner stated that it can be on the next agenda. Ms. Hall stated that they are looking at the policy and following it now in regard to transfers. Ms. Bullshoe asked about the nonrenewal of Carrie Hirst that is on the list. Superintendent Hall stated that Ms. Hirst is a professional technical employee and the board does not vote on her to be nonrenewed; the Supervisor, Matthew Johnson, and the superintendent are going in a different direction with this position. Mr. Edwards asked if Ms. Hirst can be transferred into another position. Superintendent Hall stated that Ms. Hirst was given the opportunity to transfer.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hiring pending successful background check/drug test: Audrey Calf Robe, Personal Care Attendant-BES 2018-2019; Delyssa Ladd, Teacher Assistant, Browning Elementary; Kelli Tatsey, Elementary Teacher, Napi 2018-2019 (\$35,520.00); Adriane Tailfeathers, Elementary Teacher-Napi 2018-2019 (\$35,520.00) and David Kelly Napi Elementary Softball Coach 2017-2018 (\$439.00). Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Superintendent Hall stated that they will make sure the new teachers pass the praxis to get provisional by July 15. Jeri Matt stated that this will help the deviations in our accreditations. No further discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Out of State Travel: Motion by Mr. Conway to approve out of state travel for 2017-2018 Senior Field Trip to Silverwood, Idaho (School Related Leave Only). Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

In State Travel: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve in state travel for Tony Wagner, Divisional Track Meet in Polson, MT (\$326.42) and Tony Wagner, State Track Meet in Laurel, MT (\$720.58). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve in state travel for Kimberly Tatsey-McKay, Applied Suicide Interventions Skills Training for Trainers in Helena, MT (\$908.74). Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. No board discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Approvals: Create New Position - Native American Studies Cultural Position and Richard Hagberg, BHS Rodeo Club-Sponsor 2017-2018 (\$516.00). Second by Mr. Gallup. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Ms. Bullshoe asked if this is Stan Whiteman's position. Superintendent Hall stated that Mr. Whiteman is doing language but is gifted in culture and drumming and that is what the new position will be. This position will be a split for the middle school and high school. The plan is to build the Language program. Mr. Conway stated that the district needs to get the high school rodeo equipment back. Mr. Gallup asked that rodeo equipment discussion be on the next facilities agenda. No further discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following items: Substitute Eligibility List 2017-2018; MQEC Membership FY2019 (\$2,500.00); Bus Route Schedule 2018-2019; Permission for Cut Bank Bus to Enter District 9 Route #1 Sweetgrass 2018-2019; Permission for Heart Butte Bus to Enter District 9 Route #1 Little Badger 2018- 2019; Permission for Heart Butte Bus to Enter District #9 Route #2 Old Agency 2018-2019; District Claims Check #417737 - #417856 (\$191,020.43); Student Activities Report Check #703291 - Check #703296 (\$10,774.61) and Additional Pays/Payroll. Second by Mr. Conway. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Evans asked about the claim for a service call that is from August 30, 2017. Stacy Edwards will check this out and get the information to the board. No further discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the Superintendent Contract - Corrina Guardipee-Hall 2019-2020. Second by Mr. Evans. No public participation. *Board discussion:* Mr. Edwards stated that he did not agree to submitting this contract and asked why the request is for the board. Ms. Bremner stated that the recommendation is from the committee of three board members that she appointed to discuss the contract with the Superintendent. Mr. Edwards stated his disagreement. Ms. Bullshoe stated that she would have liked to have input on this as well and questioned the extra days of personal leave. Superintendent Hall stated that the last superintendent had 17 personal days. She hasn't used the 3 days she has on her current contract; she asked for additional two personal days for bereavement. Mr. Gallup stated that the past superintendent had 17 days to do the curriculum audits. Mr. Edwards stated that we hired the superintendent as a board and doesn't like that he wasn't included in this

discussion. Mr. Gallup explained that after the superintendent's evaluation it is normal procedure for the board chair to assign a committee (3) to represent the board to discuss another contract year. Mr. Edwards asked for more communication on this type of issue. Ms. Bremner stated that she did discuss this during the superintendent's evaluation. The original committee was Ms. Bremner, Mr. Running Fisher and Mr. Gallup. Ms. Bremner stated that she does understand Mr. Edwards request. Mr. Gallup stated that the committee did not agree to everything that Ms. Hall asked for and if the committee needs to go back to negotiate they will. Mr. Edwards reiterated that he would like more communication. Ms. Bremner asked the board to approve the superintendent's contract for 7/1/19-6/30/20, with her pay increase the same as the certified negotiations. Mr. Gallup stated that they need to have two-year contract. Ms. Bremner stated that when the board met on the last superintendent's contract they found that they did not have to approve his contract until the next year. No further discussion. Motion passed 7-0 with Wendy Bremner, Steve Conway, Brian Gallup, James Running Fisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Jess Edwards in favor.

Motion by Mr. Running Fisher to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Second by Mr. Conway. Motion carried.