

Browning Public Schools  
**Board Agenda Request**  
Meeting to Be Held: February 13, 2018



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**Recognition:**    Students                       Staff                       Parents

**Information:**    Building Report                       Old Business                       Superintendent's Report

**Action:**    Resignation                       Hiring                       Contract Service Agreements

Travel Out-of-State                       Travel In State                       Approvals

Termination                       Legal Matters                       Other:

                    This action request pertains to  Elementary (only)                       High School/District Wide

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**Date:** February 5, 2018

**To:**    **Board of Trustees**  
          Browning Public Schools

**From:** Corrina Guardipee-Hall  
**Title:** Superintendent

**Subject: Montana School Board Association Dues**

**Description:** MTSBA Membership Dues \$12,765.00 and Trustee Insurance \$10.20 (Period 2018 – 2019). Dues include legal and personnel consultation; Training Opportunities include: Boardmanship, School Law, School Finance, Collective Bargaining, RIF, Unemployment Insurance Claims and participation in the MTSBA Workers' Compensation Risk and Retention Group, Montana Unified School Trust Health Insurance Program and Montana State Unemployment Insurance Program.

**Financial Impact: \$12,775.20**

**Funding Source (Budget/grant, etc.):** School Board Membership Dues

**Attachment(s):** Letter/Invoice

**Approval:** Superintendent's Office/Finance/Personnel as applicable (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Board Action:**    N/A (Info)     Approved     Denied     Tabled to: \_\_\_\_\_



**Ann Wake**  
President  
Missoula  
Municipal Director



**Rick Cummings**  
President Elect  
Region 5  
Cascade Trustee



**Paul Finnicum**  
Vice President  
Region 3  
Culbertson Trustee



**Lance Voegele**  
Past President  
Region 8  
Belgrade Trustee

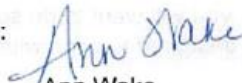


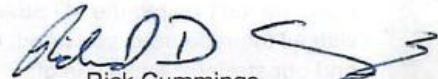
**MTSBA**  
Montana School Boards Association

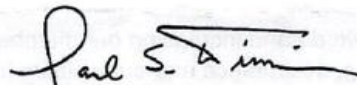
DATE: January 31, 2018

TO: MTSBA Member Trustees (via email)

FROM:

  
Ann Wake  
MTSBA President

  
Rick Cummings  
MTSBA President-Elect

  
Paul Finnicum  
Vice President

  
Lance Voegele  
Past President

**RE: The Value of Membership in MTSBA**

We write to inform you that MTSBA has sent your District's dues invoice for the coming school fiscal year to your Board Chair, lead Administrator (for those of you that have an Administrator), and your Business Official/Clerk.

We want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your District's ongoing membership and to highlight some of the key benefits of membership for elected trustees and other key employees in your school system. We want to emphasize how important it is to have a robust, active organization that is governed by and serves the interests of elected, volunteer school board members, and in turn the interests of Montana's students. Like you, we serve in a volunteer capacity, not only in our local communities but also on the MTSBA Board of Directors. It is this collective commitment to our students and communities that brings us together from all walks of life and all corners of the state to work together in pursuit of individual success for each child served by Montana's Public Schools.

As you likely know, MTSBA member dues are based on a formula using your District's expenditures (for your District's fiscal year 3 years preceding) to determine your dues in the Association. The dues formula is cost-sensitive to what is occurring with your expenditures and represents the foundation upon which all of MTSBA's programs and services are built. Those key programs and services include:

**Advocacy to Help You Govern Well in the Interests of Students:**

Membership in MTSBA is about maximizing the potential of each child served by Montana's Public Schools through school board leadership. MTSBA represents and serves the interests of over 1,400 elected trustees throughout Montana and promotes and provides leadership opportunities focused on effective governance in advancing the success of students. Through facilitation of our Caucuses, work with the K-12 Vision Group, collaboration with our education partners (MASBO, MEA-MFT, MREA,

MQEC and SAM) on advocacy before the Montana Legislature, and other public advocacy and awareness efforts (including the Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC), a joint initiative of our education partners), MTSBA works hard to promote and protect the interests of our members in serving children and increasing student success. During Montana legislative sessions, the MTSBA mobile app provides you with notifications of hearings and other resources to assist with your legislative advocacy efforts. But our advocacy efforts don't stop here! We fully understand that when trustees and other school officials have the knowledge and desire to govern and operate effectively, the communities and students you serve benefit as a result of your advocacy at the local level. Our extensive trainings and resources help your Districts in the performance of your respective duties and obligations.

If you haven't visited the MTSBA website lately, you will want to do so as our website provides you with all the resources you need. Our website is designed to align with our core purpose, core values, and our strategic initiatives of:

- engaged and united advocacy focused on developing the full potential of each student;
- providing services to foster effective member governance; and
- innovating in everything we do and increasing our members' and the public's understanding, acceptance and enthusiasm for innovations in public education to better prepare our students for an ever changing, globalized world.

The MTSBA website gives members the ability to access the "Connect2MTSBA" communities where you can collaborate and connect with colleagues around the state. Our *Daily Dispatch*, *Courtroom to Boardroom*, and the *Montana Education Law Reporter (MELR)*, provide the information and tools you need to expand your knowledge to improve district operations and effectively advocate for the interests of each student you serve. Our *Policy Notes*, our monthly *E-lets*, and our *Question of the Week* provide you with information on relevant topics. The MTSBA webinar series provides information on substantive topics, including collective bargaining, school funding, effective advocacy, etc., and our flagship semi-annual publication *The Trustee* is designed to provide you with in-depth articles on issues of statewide significance, effective governance, and student success. Moreover, the *Great Work of Montana's Public Schools*, an annual collaboration of MT-PEC, is an extraordinary publication that informs and educates all stakeholders about the GREAT things happening in Montana's public schools and public polling results regarding public education issues.

In addition to the vast resources available at your fingertips, our monthly training opportunities are unmatched! We offer monthly trainings covering a variety of district issues. All trainings can be attended in-person, via live stream, or on-demand.

We work hard to equip you with the knowledge, skills, and abilities you need to govern well and operate efficiently to enable students to thrive. If there is a time-sensitive matter that will affect your interests, you can count on hearing it first from MTSBA!

#### **Professional Services:**

The Association offers the best legal, human relations (HR), labor, policy, strategic planning, communication services, leadership development, and superintendent search services available in the state, and is improving and expanding those services on a continual basis to meet your current and evolving needs. As a member of MTSBA, your district has access to a significant range of services without charge. The fee-based services provided by MTSBA are offered at a discounted rate for members, far below rates charged by the private sector for comparable experience, expertise and service. When navigating the complex world of local supervision and control of public education, it pays to have immediate, real-time access to seasoned advisors, steeped in the perspective of elected school board members.

**Money-Saving Opportunities:**

Your membership in MTSBA is also your gateway to participation in a number of valuable and money-saving programs including three programs administered entirely in-house by MTSBA staff:

- Workers' Compensation and Property and Liability programs offered by the Montana Schools Group Insurance Authority (MSGIA) offers free online and regional training and rates well below most competitors.
- MTSUIP Unemployment Insurance Program saves members approximately 25% as compared to rates charged by the State of Montana.

We are confident that you will find savings due to participation in these programs substantially mitigates, and in some cases even exceeds the cost of your dues with MTSBA. In fact, we estimate that the average member of MTSBA saves over \$7,000 annually through participation in our insurance programs with many members saving far in excess of this amount. If your district is not taking advantage of these member-governed, self-funded programs, you could be missing out on substantial opportunities and savings.

**Bottom Line: MTSBA Membership a Great Value**

MTSBA membership is a great value and provides the average MTSBA member with opportunities for savings of over \$18,000 through our education services, and even greater savings if you take advantage of membership in our insurance programs.

Again, thank you for your continued membership in MTSBA. It is your commitment to excellence in public education through school board leadership that makes MTSBA an effective and strong association. We look forward to serving the needs of your district in the coming year!

cc: Board Chair, Lead Administrator and School Business Official/Clerk (with Dues Invoice)