

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order February 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room by Joellyn Clark, Board Chairperson.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Darin Arganbright, Angel Johnson, Dean Schuler, Greg McGinnis, Mandy Wright, and Adam Olson. Members absent: Brant Hasbrouck. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL

Also present: Jory Thompson, Superintendent; Steve Hamel, Business Manager/Clerk; Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor; Brian Wood, Transportation Supervisor; Nathan Dunham, Activities Director; Jamie Ball, and Bethany DeBorde, reporter for the River Press.

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

It was moved by Angel Johnson, and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

It was moved by Angel Johnson, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve payment of warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

Payroll: 92677 - 92755

Claims: 57723 - 57823

Joellyn Clark asked if there was public comment on an issue not included on the agenda. There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Activities Director, Nathan Dunham, reported on the winter postseason athletic tournaments, FFA, and the annual MHSA meeting.

ACTIVITIES RECAP

Mr. Dunham recommended, and the Board acted on the following spring 2019 coaching positions:

SPRING COACHES HIRED

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Angel Johnson, to hire Roxie Benjamin as assistant tennis coach for the 2019 season. The motion passed unanimously.

ASSISTANT TENNIS

It was moved by Darin Arganbright, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to hire Skip Ross as head golf coach and Marta Ferguson as assistant golf coach for the 2019 season. The motion passed unanimously.

HEAD AND ASSISTANT
GOLF

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to hire Kinsey Claassen as elementary basketball coach. The motion passed unanimously.

ELEMENTARY
BASKETBALL

Mr. Dunham recommended, and the Board acted on the following fall 2019 coaching positions:	FALL 2019 COACHES
It was moved by Angel Johnson, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to hire Skip Ross as a paid football assistant coach. The motion passed unanimously.	ASSISTANT FOOTBALL HIRED
It was moved by Angel Johnson, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to appoint Brent Hanford and Adam Olson as volunteer assistant high school football coaches. In favor: Joellyn Clark, Darin Arganbright, Angel Johnson, Dean Schuler, Greg McGinnis, and Mandy Wright. Opposed: none. Abstaining: Adam Olson. The motion passed 6-0.	ASSISTANT FOOTBALL VOLUNTEERS APPROVED
Russ Axtman reported on the various maintenance issues including snow removal and boiler issues.	MAINTENANCE
Mr. Miller discussed various high school issues and activities: a trip to Northern by the sophomore and junior girls to explore possibly CTE type careers was well received, dual enrollment research, and a discussion of student electronics usage.	7-12 PRINCIPAL REPORT
Steve Hamel presented and discussed the monthly and quarterly financial reports.	FINANCIALS
The board received one bid for the elementary piano that was declared obsolete at the January meeting. The bid was for \$650.00 by Renee McDonald.	PIANO BID
It was moved by Darin Arganbright, and seconded by Angel Johnson, to conduct a mail election to for a possible levy election and a trustee election for District #1 (2 positions) and District #59 (1 high school only position). The mail election will be conducted by the school Election Administrator. Ballots must be received at the business office by 8:00 p.m. on May 7, 2019 the day of the election. Tentative election judges will be B.J. Bylund, Barb Shaw, and Cynthia Lenington. If it is determined on April 5, 2019 that an election is not needed, the District Election Administrator has the authority to cancel the election by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.	ELECTION CALLED
It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to renew membership in the Montana School Boards Association for the 2019-2020 school year. The motion passed unanimously.	MT. SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION RENEWED
Mr Thompson reported on various elementary activities, the 5 th grade ice-fishing trip, robotics, PIR days, boiler issues, an aide (or 2 part time aides) will be needed for a new elementary student, the district will order a new plasma cutter, and that he had received and accepted a resignation from Nick Luoma as PE teacher.	K-6 PRINCIPAL – SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by Dean Schuler, to declare the old plasma cutter as obsolete for school purposes and advertised once a reserve amount can be estimated. The motion passed unanimously.	PLASMA CUTTER DECLARED OBSOLETE

Angel Johnson informed the Board that the Personnel Committee had met on January 29th. The committee had a preliminary meeting with the teacher's union to discuss broad areas, no specific items/numbers were shared.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
REPORT
TEACHER
NEGOTIATIONS OPENED

The committee also reviewed and re-vamped the superintendent evaluation tool.

SUPERINTENDENT
EVALUATION

Angel Johnson reported that the committee is recommending:

SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT
DISCUSSIONS/.5 FTE K-6
PRINCIPAL DISCUSSED

1. A 2-year extension to Mr. Thompson's current contract that has 1 year remaining creating a new 3 year contract.
2. That the Board create a .5 FTE K-6 principal position to allow Mr. Thompson more time to devote to superintendent leadership duties.

Mr. Thompson said he would like a 2 year extension and, if a .5 FTE principal were hired, he would take no raise for the last two years of the contract but would negotiate salary should a hire not be made. Given that the position would only be .5 FTE, he would like to look within current staff for possible applicants.

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to add 2 years to Mr. Thompson's current contract with terms to be negotiated. After the motion, topics discussed were: timing of the motion, the need for the position due to increased enrollment and special education population creating a need for more supervision and leadership, needing more time to make the decision, should the .5 FTE principal be determined first. In favor of the motion: Joellyn Clark, Mandy Wright, Darin Arganbright, Adam Olson, and Angel Johnson. Opposed: Dean Schuler and Greg McGinnis. The motion passed 5-2.

SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT EXTENSION

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Angel Johnson, to advertise in-house for a .5 FTE K-6 elementary principal position. In favor: Angel Johnson, Mandy Wright, Darin Arganbright, Dean Schuler, Adam Olson, and Joellyn Clark. Opposed: Greg McGinnis. The motion passed 6-1.

ADVERTISE FOR A .5 FTE
K-6 PRINCIPAL IN-HOUSE

Angel Johnson set another Personnel Committee meeting for February 19th at 7:00 p.m. for teacher negotiations and to discuss the proposed .5 FTE elementary principal position more.

NEXT COMMITTEE
MEETING

Future agenda items identified were the .5 FTE K-6 principal position and a proposed out-of-state field trip.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Darin Arganbright to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

ATTEST

CLERK _____