

BOARD MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 14, 2020

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order April 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom, by Joellyn Clark, Chairman.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Ray Allen (zoom), Darin Arganbright (zoom), Dean Schuler(via phone), Brant Hasbrouck(zoom), Adam Olson(zoom), Greg McGinnis(via phone) and Mandy Wright (zoom).  
Members absent: none. A quorum was present.

Also present: Jory Thompson, Superintendent; Roxanne Benjamin, Elementary Principal(zoom); Cali O’Hara, Business Manager/Clerk; Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor; Nathan Dunham, Activities Director(zoom); Brian Miller, 7 - 12 Principal(zoom); Jamie Ball(zoom), Tyler Starman (zoom), Andrew Kilpatrick(zoom) and Bethany DeBorde, reporter for the River Press(zoom).

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joellyn Clark asked for public comment on non-agenda items, there was none

Joellyn Clark had nothing to report

Mr. Dunham, Activities Director, reported he had no hires at this time. He also had an update from the MHSA deadline for spring sports will be May 5<sup>th</sup>, will have a spring season if students return for school. He didn’t have the final cost of the Liability and Concussion insurance for the 2020-2021 school year, but did state that the cost of the dues will stay the same as last year at \$250/per sport.

Mr. Axtman, Head Custodian, reported that crews are still continuing with the deep clean of both schools. They have completed most of that project and the schools are ready to go if we reopen. Crews have also been working on summer type maintenance items while the shut down has been in effect. The High-School boiler pump was replaced last week and is now up and running, they will have the secondary pump in place sometime

next week. Axtman also gave an update on the Elem. Boiler project. Falls Mechanical will be out some time in the next couple of weeks to double check with their engineer to ensure that they have all the correct specs for them to move forward with the bid process. They are hoping to have this

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE

PUBLIC COMMENT

BOARD CHAIRPERSON  
REPORT

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR:

## MAINTENANCE REPORT

sent out to bid as soon as possible. Many of the suppliers have the products on hand ready to be delivered, so as soon as the bids come back work could commence. He is still checking daily for new leaks in the system and they are still running the dehumidifiers 24h a day.

Cali O'Hara also gave the board an update on the intercap loan from the Montana Board of Investments, the school was approved for the \$465,604.00 that was requested. She also covered the terms and conditions of the loan. Jory and Russ shared a quick video that they made highlighting the needs for our schools, ahead of our school election.

Mrs. Benjamin, Elem School Principal, reported that distance learning is going well. Teachers have worked hard making packets/ google classroom- youtube videos. Teachers have also had zoom meetings with their students. She also stated that the elementary teachers have weekly zoom meetings. Benjamin feels the staff has done a great job transition to this new way of teaching and reaching students.

Mr. Miller, High School Principal, reported that the teachers are doing a great job with distance learning. Students seem to be responding well to the new way of learning. He is also holding weekly zoom staff meetings. HE has received lots of great feedback from students and parents on the nice job the HS teachers are doing. They are working on a plan as to what Graduation will look like. They are also brainstorming ideas on how to handle attendance and how to handle students that are not responding when teacher reach out to them.

Cali O'Hara, Business Manager/Clerk, reported that the school election process was going smoothly and ballots will be mailed out April 17<sup>th</sup> and that our summer foods program is going well with almost 60 lunches a day being delivered to our students at this time.

It was moved by Dean Schuler and seconded by Greg McGinnis to remove inactive FBAS fund accounts and to establish a Longhorns In Theatre activity Account. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Thompson, Superintendent, reported that he would like to recognize all the hard work Brian, Roxie, Teachers, and all the staff are doing They have done an excellent job to make sure our students are still a priority. HE also wanted to recognize Rob and Carly on all their efforts to get all the IT problems corrected, it is greatly appreciated. Lynn and Brian Wood for making sure that our lunch program is going smoothly, as well as our drive Harry & Kathy Buckingham, Vicki O'Hara, and Wes Skerritt.

It was moved by Dean Schuler and seconded by Mandy Wright to rehire all High School teachers – Nathan Dunham(will be tenured this year), Marta Ferguson, Cassady Guinnane, Andrew Kilpatrick, Megan Lords, Connor McKillop, Cassie Pimperton, Kelly Rominger, Salena Spees,

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT

It was moved by Greg McGinnis and seconded by Mandy Wright to rehire all Elementary Teachers – Anna Arganbright, Jamie Ball, Roxie Benjamin, Tracy DeBruycker, Nathan Dunham(will be tenured this year), Cassady Guinnane, Peggy Gannon, Jessica Hanford, Andrew Kilpatrick, Mylo Lane, Megan Lords, Renee McDonald, Connor McKillop, Cassie Pimperton, Kelly Rominger, Mandy Rominger, Salena Spees, Wendy Truax, Carley Vielleux, Molly Willson, Maranda Woodhouse. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT

CLERK'S REPORT

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Greg McGinnis to renew our annual membership with the Golden Triangle Co-op. Annual membership dues are \$6,145.00. The Co-op provides curriculum, workshops for teacher education. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Thompson reported that they are still working on a school calendar for next year. They presented two options for the teachers to vote on, an early calendar 8/19-5/26 and a late option 8/26-6/3. The vote was split 16/16. Thompson reported that they are going to look at a third option and vote again.

TEACHER CONTRACT RENEWAL  
HIGH SCHOOL

Wendy Truax, Carley Vielleux, Miranda Woodhouse. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Greg McGinnis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON \_\_\_\_\_

ADJOURN

CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST

TEACHER CONTRACT RENEWAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

GOLDEN TRIANGLE CO-OP

2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR