

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order August 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Board Room, by Joellyn Clark, Chairperson.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Will Scott, Kyla Wright, Darin Arganbright, Jenni Starman, and Dusty Schuler. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL

Also present: Pat Hould, Superintendent; Cali O’Hara, Business Manager/Clerk; Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor; Bethany DeBorde, reporter for the River Press; Paul Benhart, Transportation; Kayle Axtman, Kelly Rominger, and Emily Wicks

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

It was moved by Darin Arganbright, seconded by Will Scott, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve payment of warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

Payroll: 96879-96891

Claims: 61630-61667

Joellyn Clark asked for public comment. No Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joellyn Clark, Board Chairman- Joellyn let the board know there are three individuals interested in the open board position, Kayle Axtman, Kelly Rominger, and James Carlson. An update on the school foundation - they had a meeting and the foundation board consists of 4 board members per the bylaws. The foundation will be run like a committee. There have asked several community members to join as advisory members, Roger Pugh, Mark Ball, Ross Rettig, Ori and Montana Fruit. There will be another foundation meeting September 11th.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Paul Benhart, Transportation- Paul reported that the DOT inspections will be completed 8/18. Drivers have completed training hours over the summer, as well as CPR/1st aide. The transportation committee will need to meet to discuss the purchase of a new bus. Paul has met with the county transportation to approve all the bus routes.

TRANSPORTATION

Russ Axtman, Maintenance – Russ reported that summer work is nearly completed. Thank you to the summer crew for working so hard to get all the jobs completed with a small crew. Flooring projects are completed. Kitchen hood is just waiting on inspections from the fire marshal.

MAINTANCE

The boilers have been shipped, so install will start as soon as they arrive on site. All of the prep work has been completed.

Jamie Ball, Athletic Director – Jamie reported that she is thankful for the assistance of Amy, Pat, Connie as she transitions to the role of athletic director. Practices will start Friday for the high school and Monday for the middle school. Students will need to complete the concussion test, and have their physical form uploaded to Dragonfly. The coaches meeting will be tonight.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Joe Manning as Middle School Football Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
FOOTBALL COACH

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Dusty Schuler, to approve Hardy O'Hara as Middle School Football volunteer coach. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
FOOTBALL VOLUNTEER

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Deanna Farwick as High School/Middle School Tennis Volunteer coach. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL / MIDDLE
SCHOOL TENNIS
VOLUNTEER

It was moved by Jenni Starman and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to approve Amy Hanson as Speech/Drama Coach and LIT leader. The motion passed unanimously.

SPEECH/DRAMA COACH

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to approve Ross Hanson as Speech/Drama and LIT volunteer. The motion passed unanimously.

SPEECH/DRAMA
VOLUNTEER

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Aaron Vaughn as High School Robotics. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS
COACH

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Tom Clark as Robotics Volunteer coach. The motion passed unanimously. Joellyn Clark abstained.

ROBOTICS VOLUNTEER

It was moved by Kyla Wright and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Erich Wellman as Fall Host. The motion passed unanimously.

FALL HOST

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal- Roxie reported that classrooms are ready to go. Summer has been busy getting staff ready to roll for the new school year. 21st Century new teacher training was good. Thank you to staff for taking time in their summer to attend continuing ed classes. This shows the dedication of our staff to our students. Thank you to Russ for having our school ready to go for the upcoming year. The back to school carnival will be the 22nd. See attached report.

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL

Cali O’Hara, Business Manager/Clerk- Reported that the TFS report is complete. See attached budgets for the High School and Elementary School.

CLERK REPORT

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Kyla Wright, to approve the 2023-2024 Elementary School budget. The motion passed unanimously.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUDGET

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Dusty Schuler, to approve the 2023-2024 High School School budget. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL BUDGET

Pat Hould, Superintendent – Reported that he will be hosting a back to school picnic for teachers and staff. Thank you to Russ for getting the buildings and grounds ready for the school year. He has been busy interviewing candidates for the remaining openings. He has been reviewing policies and procedures to become more familiar. There have been a few parents that have been in to meet with him prior to the start of the school year. Registration will be next week. See report.

SUPERINTENDENT

Committees -

COMMITTEES

Transportation – September 12 - 5:45 before board meeting. Discuss the purchase of a new bus

School Foundation – Meeting September 11

Hires-

HIRES:

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Mark Ayers as MS/HS math teacher. The motion passed unanimously

MATH TEACHER

It was moved by Jenni Starman and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to approve Shayanne Clark as Concessions Manager. The motion passed unanimously.

CONCESSIONS MANAGER

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Jenni Starman, to approve Jamie Ball as Athletic Director. The motion passed unanimously

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Kyla Wright and seconded by Dusty Schuler, to approve James Childs as High School Paraprofessional. The motion passed unanimously

HIGH SCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONAL

Future Agenda items:

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

School Foundation

2nd Reading of Policy

Daycare findings

Next board meeting will start with a tour of the elementary school building

It was moved by Dusty Schuler, and seconded by Will Scott,
to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

ADJOURN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

ATTEST

CLERK _____