

BOARD MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 8, 2025

Jenni Starman, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts to order July 8, 2025 at 7:01 p.m. in the High School Board Room.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Jenni Starman, Kyla Wright, Brant Hasbrouck, Will Scott, Kayle Axtman and Darin Arganbright. 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 Supervisor; Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal.

Jenni Starman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

It was moved by Kayle Axtman, seconded by Joellyn Clark, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2025 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck, to approve payment of warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

Payroll: 98285-98287

Claims: 63092-63150

Jenni Starman asked for public comment. None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Communications to and from the Board- None

COMMUNICATIONS TO  
AND FROM THE BOARD

Pat Hould for Jamie Ball, Athletic Director- Reported Highwood Schools has chosen to withdraw from the Girls Basketball Co-op with MHSAA. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Coaches Handbook, changes are highlighted in yellow. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of changes to Gym Use Policy, see attached.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Brant Hasbrouck and seconded by Darin Arganbright to hire Colby Cline, Head Coach and Aaron Jones, Assistant, and Riley DeBruycker, Volunteer Assistant, High School Wrestling Coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL  
WRESTLING COACHES

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Kayle Axtman to hire Brady Farwick, High School Robotic Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS  
COACH

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Kayle Axtman to hire

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
ROBOTICS COACHES

Jenna Botts and Mandy Wright as Middle School Robotics Coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Wendy Bird as Middle School Cross Country Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to hire Erich Wellman as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Myla Clark and Cali O'Hara as Middle School Girls Basketball coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

Russ Axtman, Maintenance- Thank you to Larry, Brooke, Corey, Jacque and Dani for all their hard work getting the buildings cleaned. The electrical will start at the end of the week. Liberty Electric has everything in place, Northwest Energy will be here to start the conversion on July 21<sup>st</sup>; there will be no power in the high school building the week of July 21-25<sup>th</sup>. Casey Anderson completed the slab work last week, he did a great job. Plumbing work is in full swing. All the pipes at the north end of the elementary school have been removed. The bathrooms on the primary end are being worked on first. The pipes in the Gym have been pulled; the sprinkler system has been rerouted and is back up and running. High School locker rooms are being demo'd this week and will be ready for the new install soon. Working on the pricing for a new grease trap for the Longhorn Café, this would solve some of the sewer issues we have a few times a year. Brennen Heating and Cooling is waiting for a mason to remove the stack at the elementary school, if they are unable to locate a mason Russ will explore other options.

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal- Reported that the cleaning crew is doing an amazing job, the classrooms look great. All the construction is exciting. Teachers have been attending the Golden Triangle conferences, so great to see our teachers learning over the summer.

Pat Hould, Superintendent- Reported that it is good to be back at work. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Middle/High School Handbook and Faculty Handbook. The changes are highlighted in yellow. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Gym Use Policy, to make the policy a little more clear as to payment of the fobs. Thank you to the board. Very blessed to be a part of Fort Benton Schools. We have a great community and great students.

Cali O'Hara, Clerk- Reported that the district ended the school year right about where she thought it would. Will have the new budget ready for the next board meeting, as well as the TFS report.

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to offer the elliptical as obsolete property, no minimum bid. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CROSS  
COUNTRY COACH

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS  
BASKETBALL  
ASSISTANT COACH

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS  
BASKETBALL

MAINTENANCE

ELEMENTARY  
PRINCIPAL

SUPERINTENDENT

CLERK

OBSOLETE PROPERTY

Committee Reports-

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy – Meeting August 12, 2025 - 6:00

Future Agenda Items-

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of: Elementary School Parent/Student Handbook  
Middle/High School Faculty Handbook  
Middle/High School Handbook

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Gym Use Policy

Personnel Meeting

It was moved by Kayla Wright and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

ADJOURN

CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST

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

