

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 10, 2025

Jenni Starman, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts to order June 10, 2025 at 7:02 p.m. in the High School Board Room.

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

ROLL CALL

Also present: 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 Brant Hasbrouck, to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2025 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

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

WARRANTS

Payroll: 98099-98284

Claims: 63011-63091

Jenni Starman asked for public comment. None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Communications to and from the Board- None

COMMUNICATIONS TO
AND FROM THE BOARD

Paul Benhart, Transportation- Reported that the new Route bus has been delayed but will be completed in the next few weeks. The new Activity bus is still 8 weeks out from completion. 7 drivers are attending the drivers conference in Great Falls. They will also be attending a training in Lewistown. Always in need of more bus drivers.

TRANSPORTATION

Jamie Ball, Athletic Director- Reported that the class B meetings went well; there will be some changes that we will have to navigate as we make the switch to Class B. It is again time to pay the MHSA dues. We ended our Class C spring season with all of the teams and kids doing well. Looking for Middle School Girls Basketball coaches, Cross Country Coach, High School Assistant Tennis coach, Assistant High School Track coach and Fall Host.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Dusty Schuler to approve the 2025-2026 MHSA dues of \$4500 and the Insurance from MHSA of \$381.00. The motion passed unanimously.

YEARLY MHSA DUES

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to hire Brooke Cunningham as FFA Advisor and Ethan Cunningham as Assistant Advisor. The motion passed unanimously.

FFA ADVISORS

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Hardy O'Hara as Head Boys Basketball coach; Will Hucke and Megan Lords as Assistant Boys Basketball Coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
BASKETBALL COACHES

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

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS
BASKETBALL COACHES

It was moved by Brant Hasbrouck and seconded by Dusty Schuler to hire Eddie Fultz as Head Girls Basketball Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
BASKETBALL COACH

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Dave Rominger as Head Golf coach; Justin Cartwright as Assistant Golf coach; and, Marta Ferguson as Volunteer Golf coach. The motion passed unanimously.

GOLF COACHES

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to hire Miranda Lynch as Head High School Tennis Coach . The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS
COACHES

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Kevin Shaw as Head High School Track coach; and, Jamie Ball as Assistant High School Track coach. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK
COACHES

It was moved by Kyla Wright and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Emily Wicks as Speech and Drama Coach. The motion passed unanimously.

SPEECH AND DRAMA
COACH

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Kayle Axtman to hire Emily Wicks as Volunteer Pep Band Director. The motion passed unanimously.

VOLUNTEER PEP BAND
DIRECTOR

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Darin Arganbright to hire Colter Ball as Summer Weight Room Supervisor. The motion passed unanimously.

SUMMER WEIGHT ROOM
SUPERVISOR

Russ Axtman, Maintenance- Thank you to Larry, Brooke, Jacque and Dani for all their hard work getting the buildings cleaned and ready for the next school year. Working on getting all the rooms at both schools taken care of. Outside work is continuing. Blansett Plumbing started in the Middle School locker rooms, they will look to install the new fixtures and make repairs in July. Casey Anderson has poured the cement for the new electrical transformer. Liberty Electric will start work once the prep work has been completed. The power is scheduled to be turned off in the building the week of July 14-18 so they can run the new electrical lines. Milk River Plumbing will also be starting work the first week of July. The

MAINTENANCE

band room heaters need to be the first ones that we look at replacing as the budget allows.

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal- Reported that they had a busy end of the year. The 6th grade move-up day was great, so thank you Pat and Rheanna. Track and Field was a nice day, so thank you Russ for your help with that event. The play ground party was awesome as usual. Teachers are attending the Golden Triangle Co-op Conferences again this year during the summer. The Parent/Student Handbook has been updated, the changes are in yellow, there have been additions to the cell phone policy. Preschool will be full days this year, the start of the year will be 3 days a week and will transition to 4 days later in the school year. See attached report.

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL

Cali O'Hara, Clerk- Reported that it is always a busy time of year as we wrap up the school year. We have done well managing our budgets and should come in right on track.

CLERK

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Dusty Schuler to allow the clerk to void year-old warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

VOID YEAR OLD
WARRANTS

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to allow the clerk to void year-old FBAS warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

VOID YEAR OLD FBAS
WARRANTS

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to approve the Individual Transportation agreements. The motion passed unanimously

INDIVIDUAL
TRANSPORTATION
CONTRACTS

It was moved by Brant Hasbrouck and seconded by Joellyn Clark to approve the clerk to transfer up to \$50,000 to the interlocal fund. The motion passed unanimously

TRANSFER TO
INTERLOCAL

Committee Reports-

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy – Dusty reported that they have added Sunday hours to the Gym Use Policy. As well as adjusting the renewal date to coincide with the end of the school's fiscal year of June 30. 1st reading of the Elementary School Handbook.

Building and Grounds- Brant and Russ reported that they have started with some of the building improvements prep work. The bulk of the work will get started in July and August. They would like to develop a Long Range Planning Committee to better predict and prepare for the upkeep of our buildings.

Resignations:

RESIGNATION

Fusae Vaughn -Elem Paraprofessional

Hires:

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Jamie Ball as Athletic Director. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Darin Arganbright to hire Teresa Ghekiere as Elem. Paraprofessional. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kyla Wright and seconded by Joellyn Clark to hire Nalin Dana as Elem. Paraprofessional. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to hire Corey Walker as Summer Custodial Help. The motion passed unanimously.

Future Agenda Items-

2nd reading of Elementary School Parent/Student Handbook

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

CLERK _____

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

HIRES -

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

ELEMENTARY PARA

ELEMENTARY PARA

SUMMER HELP

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

ATTEST