BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2026

Jenni Starman, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts to order May 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

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

ROLL CALL

Also present: Pat Hould, Superintendent; Cali O'Hara, Business Manager/Clerk; Bethany DeBorde, reporter for The River Press; Russ Axtman, Head Custodian; Paul Benhart, Transportation; Jamie Ball, Athletic Director; Alexis Clark, Shalayna Clark, Robin Pearson, Amanda Brown.

PLEDGE

Jenni Starman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

It was moved by Will Scott, seconded by Kyla Wright, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2026, regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Kayle Axtman, to approve payment of warrants. The motion passed unanimously.
Payroll: 98786-98835
Claims: 63635-63793

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jenni Starman asked for public comment. None.

COMMUNICATIONS TO AND FROM THE BOARD

Communications to and from the Board: Letter from Lu-c Johnson about their experience at the Lions Convention as a member of the Leos club. Note from Karen Wellman on how well the 8th grade worked during Longhorn Day.

SWEARING IN NEW TRUSTEES

Jenni Starman was sworn in as District #56 Trustee by Cali O'Hara, Board Clerk.

Darin Arganbright and Will Scott were sworn in as District # 1 Trustees by Cali O'Hara, Board Clerk.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARDCHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

There were no motions to change appointment of Board Chairman or Vice Chairman, so positions will remain unchanged. Jenni Starman Board Chairman, Darin Arganbright Vice Board Chairman.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Kayle Axtman, to nominate Cali O'Hara as Board Clerk. There were no other nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat Hould, Elementary Principal Report- Pat reported in Roxie's absence. See attached report.	ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
Russ Axtman, Maintenance- Reported: That we are still looking for both elementary and high school custodians. Thank you to all the teachers for helping out with cleaning classrooms. Meeting with Milk River to start the completion of the plumbing project. Working with Carley on the WiFi cables. Getting ready for the pops concert and graduation.	MAINTENANCE
Jamie Ball, Athletic Director – Reported: Big thank you to the Student Council for their hard work on Longhorn Day. They came in and cleaned the weight room and locker rooms. Thank you to Paul for being so flexible with all the changes that happen in the spring. Spring Band and Art Concert this week. Golf is on their way home from divisional, all 4 girls will advance to state. They placed 3rd as a team. Middle School Track will wrap up their season this Friday. Tennis will finish their regular season this week. High School Track will be at the District meet in Great Falls Saturday and Divisional will be held in Glasgow the following week. Messages have been sent to our gym users as there has been some misuse of equipment that we would like them to continue to be respectful of the equipment. Still looking for two Middle School Football coaches and Middle School Basketball coaches. The schedules for next year are currently being built and will be on the school calendar soon. The Booster Club Banquet will be May 26th at 6 pm.	ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to hire Dan Wirth and Conner DeBruycker as Assistant High School Football coaches. The motion passed unanimously.	HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES
It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Kayle Axtman, to hire Aaron Jones, Adam Olson and Billy Daggett as Volunteer High School Football coaches. The motion passed unanimously.	VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL COACHES
It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to hire Amanda Brown as Middle School Volleyball coach. The motion passed unanimously.	MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL COACH
It was moved by Darin Arganbright 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 Darin Arganbright and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to hire Eddie Fultz, head coach and Megan Lords and Tyler Pasha as Assistant Girls Basketball coaches. The motion passed unanimously.	HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL COACHES
It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Kyla Wright, to hire Rheanna Fultz as Volunteer Girls Basketball coach. The motion passed unanimously.	VOLUNTEER GIRLS BASKETBALL COACHES
It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to hire Hardy O'Hara, Head and Will Hucke, Assistant Boys Basketball coach. The motion passed unanimously.	HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL COACHES

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to hire Colby Cline High School Wrestling coach. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING COACH

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark, to hire Aaron Jones as Volunteer High School Wrestling coach. The motion passed unanimously.

VOLUNTEER WRESTLING COACH

Pat Hould, Superintendent- Reported that Longhorn Day was a huge success, many compliments to our students and staff for their positive participation. We have had 3 applicants for the open high school science position. Will hold interviews later this week. Busy wrapping up the school year. Read the annual CIPA compliance statement. See attached.

SUPERINTENDENT

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Will Scott to approve hiring the following Elementary School Classified Staff

ELEMENTARY CLASSIFED STAFF

Nalin Dana Katie James Mark Smith
Corey Walker
The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Kyla Wright to approve hiring the following High School/ Middle School Classified Staff

HIGH SCHOOL/ MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF

Tracie Anderson Jenna Botts Kathleen Fry
Carlotta McGarvey Connie Walker Sarah Smith
The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark to approve hiring the following Kitchen Staff

KITCHEN STAFF

Kista Golie Amanda Lewis
The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Darin Arganbright and seconded by Dusty Schuler to approve hiring Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor.
The motion passed unanimously. Kayle Axtman abstained.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Will Scott to approve hiring Paul Benhart, Transportation Supervisor.
The motion passed unanimously.

TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Darin Arganbright to approve hiring the following Route Drivers

ROUTE DRIVERS

Jim O'Hara Vicki O'Hara Karie Thomas
The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Dusty Schuler to approve hiring Cali O'Hara, Business Manager.
The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS MANAGER

It was moved by Will Scott and seconded by Kayle Axtman to approve hiring Roxie Benjamin, Elementary School Principal.
The motion passed unanimously.

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Cali O'Hara, District Clerk- Reported that budget is on track to finish out the remainder of the school year and will complete the teachers payrolls later this week.

CLERK

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Kyla Wright to allow the business manager to pay bills through June. The motion passed unanimously.

BILLS THROUGH JUNE

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Joellyn Clark to approve the following out of district students. The motion passed unanimously. See attached

OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENTS

Committee Reports-

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel – Will Scott reported that they met with the classified union to see about what they can do to attract more interest in the custodial position. They have also been visiting with Russ about his retirement plan, they will begin to advertise for the maintenance supervisor position in October.

PERSONNEL

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Transportation- Darin Arganbright reported that they have a quote back for the bus cameras. They are also looking into adding verbiage to the Transportation Handbook on driver communications with students, that drivers are not allowed to have student phone numbers, unless related to that student.

TRANSPORTATION

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Kayle Axtman to install security cameras on 3 route buses and 2 activity buses The motion passed unanimously.

BUS CAMERAS

Resignations – Dani Lehman

RESIGNATIONS

Hires –

HIRES

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Will Scott to approve Kourtney DeBruycker as volunteer. The motion passed unanimously.

VOLUNTEERS

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

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Joellyn Clark and seconded by Darin Arganbright to hire Ann Petty and Alex Salzar as Elementary Paraprofessionals. The motion passed unanimously.

ELEMENTARY PARAPROFESSIONALS

Future Agenta Items –

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Policy meeting May 19 @ 6:30 pm
Extracurricular meeting July 14th @ 6:00 pm

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Will Scott to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. ADJOURN

CLERK_____ ATTEST

BOARD CHAIRPERSON_____