

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
November 12, 2024

Joellyn Clark, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts to order November 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Board Room.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Will Scott, Jenni Starman, Dusty Schuler, Brant Hasbrouck, 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; Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal; Bethany DeBorde, reporter for The River Press; Jamie Ball, Athletic Director; Mark Ayers, Emily Wicks, Mae Wicks, Sara Benjamin.

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

It was moved by Will Scott, seconded by Kayle Axtman, to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2024 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: 97715-97762

Claims: 62602-62669

Joellyn Clark asked for public comment. None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joellyn Clark, Board Chairman- The board received a letter from the Chouteau County Fine Arts Council, that they have awarded Fort Benton Schools with \$500 to use in our art program. Thank you to the Art Council for the generous donation. Letter of Resignation from James Childs. The December board meeting will be December 12th at 11:00 am in the Elementary Multi-Purpose room.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

CLOSED SESSION – STUDENT POLICY APPEAL

CLOSED SESSION

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal- Reported that the boilers are working great, thank you Russ. Window painting was great, thank you to Jared for sponsoring, the kids always enjoy this tradition. Red Ribbon Week was a success; all the kids had fun costumes. The students and staff participated in the Veteran's Day parade, thank you to the Senior class for helping walk the parade with the elementary students. Special thank you to Marvin Brodock and all the veterans that help make the parade possible. YIIP meeting will happen before the Christmas break, MAST testing is

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL

underway. The book fair will be Nov 18-22. The Christmas program is Dec 12th. See attached report.

Jamie Ball, Athletic Director – Thank you to Pat for all the support with all the recent home athletic events. Thank you to Russ for all the assistance with the preparation for all the events. Thank you to Steve Woodhouse and Justin Cartwright for running the football clock/scoreboard. And thank you to the Chain Gang, we couldn't host all these home events without their support. Thank you to the volleyball help: Joellyn Clark, JC Lindeman, Vicki Reichelt, Alix Reid and Amanda Brown. Thank you to Roxie Allen and Connie Walker for all the support in the business office. The end of the fall sports season saw our teams compete at State Cross Country we had 6 runners, thank you to Roxie Benjamin and Sally Scott for a great season. Football made it to the quarter finals, but fell to Scobey. The Volleyball team were District champions and were 4th at Divisional. Winter sports will start on November 21st. Middle School Basketball will have a home game on Saturday. The first home wrestling meet will be December 19 and the first basketball games will be December 20th.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Will Scott to hire Damon Gilbreth as the Winter Host. The motion passed unanimously.

WINTER HOST

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Kyla Wright to hire Damon Gilbreth and Jeff Kloetzer as Middle School Wrestling Coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
WRESTLING

Russ Axtman, Maintenance – Thank you to Josh at NW energy, for repairs to power line. Thank you to the city crew for the leaf removal and the assistance with the removal of the football bleachers. Thank you to Kayle for the help painting the football field. Thank you to Jamie for always being organized and help getting events set up. Thank you to Larry and Aiden for all the cleaning during the volleyball tournament, it was a long weekend but they got it done. Blansett Plumbing is working to get the new water boilers in at the elementary. FICO will start work on the air handler. The flue parts have been ordered and are waiting to be installed. Northwestern Energy has been to the high school to map out the plans for the new electrical grid, so that project will be ready to go as funds become available. The Chouteau County Christmas Market will be in the elementary gym and cafeteria. CCPA concert on the 19th at 7pm.

MAINTENANCE

Cali O'Hara, Business Manager/ Clerk – Reported the most current financials. Presented what the mills will be on the special election ballot and that all election materials are ready to go in the event I will be out of the office.

BUSINESS MANAGER

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Brant Hasbrouck to retain MTSUIP Multi-District Participation Agreement for unemployment insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat Hould, Superintendent- Reported that he was excited to participate in the Veteran’s Day parade. Working to get the kids more involved in civic activities. The Leo’s Club is back up and running. They have had a great number of students join. Carley Vielleux is our school sponsor with Lions Club members assisting her. The fall band concert was great, so thank you to Mr. Lenington. The senior class will come to the next board meeting with a request for their senior trip. MAST testing is going on at the Middle School. Big picture items: they are working on finalizing the emergency handbook; a representative from MSGIA is looking over to make sure that we have all areas included. The accreditation process will start again in February. Currently taking the training for Title IX. The staff holiday party will be December 13th at B Social. See attached report

SUPERINTENDENT

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Jenni Starman to change the school calendar to reflect Parent/ Teacher Conferences in March, with no school March 14th. The motion passed unanimously.

CALENDAR CHANGE

Committee Reports – None at this time

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resignations – James Childs

RESIGNATION

Hires-

HIRES:
SUBSTITUTE

It was moved by Dusty Schuler and seconded by Will Scott to hire Juli Robertson as a Substitute. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kayle Axtman and seconded by Jenni Starman to hire as Jacquelyn Aragon as HS/MS Paraprofessional. The motion passed unanimously.

HS/MS PARA-
PROFESSIONAL

Future Agenda Items-
Policy Committee Meeting

It was moved by Dusty Schuler, and seconded by Will Scott, to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

ADJOURN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

ATTEST

CLERK _____