

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
October 13, 2020

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order October 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library, by Joellyn Clark, Chairperson.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Dean Schuler, Mandy Wright, Brent Hanford, Tyler Starman, Adam Olson, and Brant Hasbrouck. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL

Also present: Jory Thompson, Superintendent; Roxanne Benjamin, Elementary Principal; Cali O'Hara, Business Manager/Clerk; Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor; Nathan Dunham, Activities Director; Brian Miller, 7 - 12 Principal; Jamie Ball, and Ava Nelson, reporter for the River Press.

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

Joellyn Clark asked for public comment. Jared Vielleux from the Fort Benton Volunteer Fire Department, Spoke to the board about possibility purchasing the property next to the current fire hall. They are needed to expand as they have new larger trucks and are needing more room. They would much rather acquire the property next to the fire hall rather than move to a new location.

PUBLIC COMMENT

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

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

Payroll: 94284-94343

Claims: 59267- 59373

WARRANTS

Nathan Dunham, Athletic Director- Reported that athletic activities have been going smoothly. Middle school basketball has started. Fort Benton will be hosting the Divisional Volleyball tournament, he is working with MHSA to ensure that all COVID-19 guidelines are in place for the tournament. We will also be hosting the football playoff games as well. Dunham also reported that student athletes are doing well both on the field and off the field. MHSA has delayed the start of the winter sports season until 12/7/2020. January 1, 2021 will be first day of competition. Speech/drama will be a virtual season, we are exploring how this will look and what it will cost for our students. There will be fan limits in the post

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS
REPORT

season per MHSA, 6 fans per every player, 2 fans per coach, 4 fans per manager.

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Brent Hanford to hire Justin Cartwright as Middle school girls basketball coach. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS
BASKETBALL COACH
HIRE

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Brent Hanford to hire Miranda Woodhouse and Michelle Erickson as Middle School basketball volunteers. The motion passed unanimously.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
BASKETBALL
VOLUNTEERS
APPROVED

Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor – Russ wanted to start with some thank you’s: to JC Lindeman and Brian Taylor at Mountain View CO – OP for helping with unloading the heat registers for the elementary, they are always so willing to let us use their forklift. Again thank you to Larry and Travis they have been working hard to make sure things are clean and sanitized, ready for the next morning. Fall prep has begun – sprinklers will be blown out this next week. The boiler project is near completion, with 12 days left on the project. Classrooms are to have heat, the control company is set to come next week to install.

MAINTENANCE

Brian Miller, 7-12 Principal – Reported that Homecoming week when well. Thank you to all the teachers and staff that stepped up to help out. The student council has a meet and improve to work on student focused items. They are currently working through the student dress code. The student of the week nominations have been so encouraging to see the positive impact of our students. The teachers nominate students for specific reason, so that they are able to demonstrate the specifics of positive actions that got the student nominated. Millers Assemblies this month have been on gossip. ACT testing is currently under way with the senior make up test, the juniors to test on 10/20, sophomores 10/29, and freshman with the pre-ACT on 10/27.

7-12 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal – Reported that they have added some students since the beginning of the year. They have completed their Dibels testing and shared the data from fall testing with the board, from this data they will create intervention plans for students. They have been working hard to overcome obstacles that have developed from distance learning. The involvement of teachers, paras during COVID-19 shut down was huge, in that our students were able to for the most part stay on track with their learning plans. Red Ribbon week is October 26-30. They are having assemblies one per grade level, this last month they learned about courage, High school students came to talk to them about being courageous and how that can come in many different forms.

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL REPORT

Cali O’Hara, Business Manager/Clerk – Reported that the 1st quarter expenditure numbers were compiled, and we look to be on track financially. Obsolete property of a prep spray booth was mentioned and will be further discussed at a building and grounds committee meeting. The fall child count has been submitted to OPI.

CLERKS REPORT

Jory Thompson, Superintendent – Jory would like to thank the teachers for their amazing flexibility, as well as the leadership team (Brian, Roxie and Nathan) they are a great example. He is thankful that our students are still in our buildings. Many in the community have express their thanks as well for all the school has done to return to school. He went on to thank Russ Axtman as well for all the extra work and time he has committed to making sure the elem. project stays on track for completion. Reported that he would like the board to take a look at our current Substitute pay. It has been a long time since we have increased the daily pay that we offer our substitutes. Jory reached out other schools in the area to see what they were paying substitutes, we were on the low end. Some schools offer a sliding scale to reward individuals who seem to sub frequently. There has been one small change to the school re-opening plan, temp checks are now only being conducted on the route buses.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

It was moved by Mandy Wright and seconded by Joellyn Clark to approve the Classified Staff MOA. The motion passed unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF MOA

It was moved by Tyler Starman and seconded by Brent Hanford to increase Substitute pay to \$80/per day for the first 10 days, \$90/per day for 11-20 days, \$100/per day 20 or more days. When a teacher is on personal leave, he/she will have no more than \$72/per day deducted from his/her pay. The motion passed unanimously.

SUBSTITUTE PAY RAISE

It was moved by Mandy Wright and seconded by Brent Hanford to approve the second reading of the following policies, Policy 3210, 3225, 3225P,3225F,3226,3310,5010,5012,5012F5012P,5015. The motion passed, Dean Schuler opposed.

APPROVAL OF POLICY

Future Agenda Items - Building and Grounds Committee meeting 10/22/2020 @ 10 a.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

ATTEST

CLERK _____

