

BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room by Joellyn Clark, Board Chairperson.

Members present: Joellyn Clark, Greg McGinnis, Darin Arganbright, Mandy Wright, Dean Schuler, and Adam Olson. Members absent: Brant Hasbrouck, and Eldon Pfile. A quorum was present.

ROLL CALL

Also present: Jory Thompson, Superintendent; Steve Hamel, Business Manager/Clerk; Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor; Brian Wood, Transportation Supervisor; Nathan Dunham, Activities Director; Roxanne Benjamin, Elementary Principal; Brian Miller, High School Principal; Jamie Ball, Brent Hanford, Ray Allen, Keith Ballantyne, and Tom Clark.

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 regular and final budget meeting with changes addressing Dean Schuler making a motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

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

WARRANTS

Payroll: 93254 - 93328

Claims: 58374 - 58423

Joellyn Clark asked if there was public comment on an issue not included on the agenda. There was none.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON
REPORT

Mrs. Clark shared a letter of resignation from Eldon Pfile as Board Trustee effective immediately. As per Board Policy, the Board will fill the position at the October Board Meeting so interested parties will have time to submit a letter of interest. Ray Allen and Brent Hanford have already submitted letters.

ELDON PFILE
RESIGNATION AND
REPLACEMENT
PROCEDURE

The Board discussed the possibility of a 4-day school week. Amongst the topics discussed: student and teacher attendance increase, daycare issues, concerns about achievement, teacher recruitment and retention, sports scheduling, how much of a desire for a 4-day school week is there. Mr. Thompson said he would survey all stakeholders regarding their interest in a 4-day week and report back to the Board in October.

4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK
DISCUSSION

Elementary Principal, Roxanne Benjamin, reported on the start of school, the carnival, RTI and an Assembly.

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL

Brian Miller, 7-12 Principal, discussed the first day of school cookout, a high school student who is shadowing the maintenance supervisor, the cell phone policy has been a non-issue, the start of a student-of-the-week” award, enrollment numbers, and that he has received his principal certification.

7-12 PRINCIPAL

Mr. Dunham, Activities Director, reported on the start of the fall activities and recommended the following coaches be hired:

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

It was moved by Greg McGinnis, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to hire Danielle Barnes-Smith as a middle school robotics coach. The motion passed unanimously

COACHING HIRES:

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to hire Megan Lords and Shannon Grossman as middle school boys’ basketball coaches. The motion passed unanimously.

Russ Axtman reported on the summer projects and workers, that the new video cameras were scheduled to be installed in late September, and that Falls Mechanical Engineering had submitted a proposal to oversee the asbestos project, the amount is \$15,263. Mr. Thompson added that, without objection, he would be approving the contract since it was under the bid limit set by the Board.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Steve Hamel presented the monthly financial reports.

FINANCIALS

It was moved by Greg McGinnis, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve the creation of a 2nd student activity travel account for trips to foreign countries with the current account to be used to account for domestic trips. The motion passed unanimously.

TRAVEL ACTIVITY
ACCOUNT APPROVED

Superintendent Thompson discussed the start of the school year, thanked his leadership team, and announced that he had received preliminary notification that the K-6 school may have won a national education award, the Blue Ribbon School award.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Mr. Thompson reported that Andrea Judeman had resigned her custodial position.

JUDEMAN RESIGNATION

Based on Mr. Thompson’s recommendations, the Board hired the following candidates pending background checks:

It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to hire Yvonne Zimmerman as the K-6 building custodian. The motion passed unanimously.

ZIMMERMAN HIRED AS
CUSTODIAN

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to hire Paula Young as part-time custodian at the 7-12 building. The motion passed unanimously.

YOUNG HIRED AS
CUSTODIAN

It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by, Mandy Wright to hire Joanna Smith and Lori Ullery as part time K-6 aides. The motion passed unanimously.

SMITH AND ULLERY
HIRED AS AIDES

It was moved by Greg McGinnis, and seconded by Darin Arganbright, to hire Jim O'Hara and Connor McKillop as bus drivers. The motion passed unanimously.

O'HARA AND MCKILLOP
HIRED AS BUS DRIVERS

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Adam Olson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON _____

ATTEST

CLERK _____