BOARD MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

February 10, 2022

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Benton High School and Elementary School Districts was called to order February 8, 2022 at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room, by Joellyn Clark, Chairperson.

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

Also present: Jory Thompson, Superintendent; Roxanne Benjamin, Elementary Principal; Cali O’Hara, Business Manager/Clerk; Nathan Dunham, Activities Director; Paul Benhart, Transportation Supervisor; Bethany DeBorde- Reporter for River Press, Cassady Guinnane, Carly Vielleux, Darin Arganbright, Robyn Dickerson, Nick Bogart, Carly Weber, Aspyn Bogart, Eva Clark, Jacob Dickerson, Aedan Hanson, Kaden Bach, Liana Santos.

Joellyn Clark opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joellyn Clark asked for public comment. Darin Arganbright wanted to let the board know that the FFA meet that was in Fort Benton today went very well.

Joellyn Clark, Board Chairman- Reported that they have received a few letters of resignation that Jory will speak to later. The board members have also all received an email about a personnel issue. Based on the number of voters that have absentee ballots it might be worth revisiting if we have a mail or in-person election, as well as the increased cost of needing to use voting machines at all in-person polling places.

It was moved by Angel Johnson, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to hold a mail ballot election. Motion passed, for- Mandy Wright, Joellyn Clark, Angel Johnson, Dean Schuler, Brant Hasbrouck. Against- Adam Olson, Brent Hanford, Tyler Starman.

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve allowing the senior class to have an overnight trip to Missoula. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Tyler Starman, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2022 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Payroll: 95549-95588

Claims: 60357-60400

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE

PUBLIC COMMENT

BOARD CHAIR

MAIL BALLOT

SENIOR TRIP

MINUTES

WARRANTS

Roxie Benjamin, Elementary Principal- Introduced the new student council students. Ava Clark, Aspyn Bogart, Carly Weber, Jacob Dickerson. They are looking into more options for counselors. An interview with Mandy Rominger for the 5th grade position, this leaves a part time pre –k and part time library position available. See attached report.

Nathan Dunham, Athletic Director– Reported Wrestling is going well, Brock Hanford placed 1st at the Divisional meet. FFA District meet held in Fort Benton went well. Speech and Drama team were the Divisional champs, and they all competed well at state. The Middle School Robotics placed 11th on their zoom meet. District Basketball will be in Havre. Senior night for winter sports will be Thursday.

It was moved by Tyler Starman, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to approve Dawn Dunham as Winter Host. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Tyler Starman, to approve Jess Wood as High School Robotics volunteer coach. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Tyler Starman, to approved Ross Hanson as High School Robotics coach. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve Keith Ballantyne as Middle School Robotics coach. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to approve Marta Ferguson and Dave Rominger High School Golf coaches. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Adam Olson, and seconded by Tyler Starman, to approve Skip Ross as a volunteer Golf coach. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Brant Hasbrouck, and seconded by Tyler Starman, to approve Kevin Shaw, Jamie Ball and Connor McKillop as High School Track coaches. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to approve Emily Engen as Assistant Tennis coach. Motion passed unanimously

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve Dawn Dunham as Middle School Track coach. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve Sheena Olson as Middle School Track coach. Motion passed unanimously. Adam Olson abstained

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve Cassady Guinnane as Middle School Track coach, pending more than 40 athletes. Motion passed unanimously

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS REPORT

WINTER HOST

HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS

MIDDLE SCHOOL ROBOTICS

GOLF COACH

VOLUNTEER GOLF COACH

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK COACHES

ASST. TENNIS COACH

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK COACHES

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve a 4th Middle School Track coach, if needed due to numbers. Motion passed unanimously.

Jory Thompson, HS/MS report – Reported that the teachers have voted on the new school calendar- it is attached. They have been having staff meetings to discuss tech items and the use of personal devices at school. Thank you to Ross and Amy Hanson for their leadership with Speech and Drama. There are 3 students that have chosen a different learning experience, 2 are attending the Montana Youth Challenge and another is pursuing his CDL, but will be considered a drop out. See attached report

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve the 2022-2023 school calendar. Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Brent Hanford and seconded by Adam Olson, to approve a Tech position with a stipend. Motion passed unanimously.

Cali O’Hara, Business Manager – Reported that budgets are at the same level they were last year. There are 2 board positions up for election on the school board, one held by Joellyn Clark and the other by Brent Hanford.

It was moved by Mandy Wright, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to approve the renewal of Frontline Education. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports –

Personnel Committee- Teacher negotiations, Clerk evaluation. 2/22 @ 7

Transportation meeting- March 8th @ 6pm

Building and Grounds – February 15 @ 6pm

Resignations – Molly Willson, Wendy Truax, Karina Labuschagne, Jory Thompson- football coach.

Hires-

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve Mandy Rominger as 5th grade teacher. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION FOR SUPERINTENDENT EVALAUATION

It was moved by Brent Hanford, and seconded by Mandy Wright, to approve the rehire of Jory Thompson as HS/MS Principal and Superintendent for a 2-year contract, year one $125,000, year two 130,000. Motion passed unanimously.

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7-12 PRINCIPAL REPORT

22-23 SCHOOL CALENDAR

TECHNOLOGY STIPEND

CLERKS REPORT

FRONTLINE ED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESIGNATIONS

HIRES

REHIRE THOMPSON

Future agenda items- Building and Grounds, Personnel, Transportation meetings.

It was moved by Dean Schuler, and seconded by Brent Hanford, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CLERK\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

ATTEST