

REGULAR MEETING

February 16, 2021

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Gye Varner at 6pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Johnna Koenig, Mike Gunderson, Quentin Burdick, and Klint Flint were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Bo Lingle and David Breitbach, Vice-Principal Jacob Gion, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, and Technology Director Scott Anderson; Head Custodian Mardi Brown was absent. No guests in attendance.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 56727 to 56800 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Varner approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EDUCATION REPORT

None

ACTION ITEMS

PARAPROFESSIONAL POSITION – ELEMENTARY

Mr. Skogen presents to the board the recommendation for hiring an additional paraprofessional for the elementary school. The elementary is struggling to keep up with the demands of special education services, Title I services and general education interventions due to the impact and disruption of learning brought on by last spring's closure. Therefore, administration is recommending the board approve a new paraprofessional position on top of the current opening the district already has; this new position will be funded with the ESSER funds the district has been receiving from the Federal Government.

Johnna Koenig moved to create a new paraprofessional position at the elementary level. Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED HIRES

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the classified hire recommendation. There were 5 applicants for the open paraprofessional position; of the 5, two individuals were interviewed. Both applicants interviewed well and in discussion with the interview committee – and the new paraprofessional position being approved – both applicants are being recommended for hire. The applicants are Jennefer Wheeler and Ashley Rost.

Klint Flint moved to hire Mrs. Jennefer Wheeler and Miss Ashley Rost as paraprofessionals at the elementary level, pending the results of background checks. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

BIG COUNTRY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the new interlocal agreement with our special services cooperative for the next school year.

Johnna Koenig moved to approve the interlocal agreement with Big Country Educational Cooperative as presented. Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

MTSBA POLICY REVISIONS

Mr. Skogen presents to the board policy revisions based on changes in the legislative session. With LR 130(local government unit's authority to regulate the carry of firearms) and Initiative 190 (legalizes the possession and use of limited amounts of marijuana for adults over the age of 21) we have several policies that need to be revised in order to adhere to changes in current law. MTSBA is still trying to clarify the authority of local school boards as it relates to LR130. MTSBA is adamant that local control must remain in effect and that the board has the authority to authorize the carry and/or storage of firearms on school grounds as they determine necessary. MTSBA fears that LR130 may hinder the local boards authority in this area. I-190, the legalization initiative of marijuana does not allow for the possession, consumption, or distribution of marijuana in schools. Thus, policies need to be updated to clarify the prohibition on possessing marijuana on school property. Discussion followed.

Johnna Koenig moved to approve the policy changes for Board Policies 3310, 4315, 4332, 5223, 5226 as presented. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

BOARD POLICY 3416F2

Mr. Skogen presented to the board a new policy for 1st reading. The current policy BP3416F allows students to carry and self-administer medication per doctor's orders. However, we do not have a policy that provides a student ONLY be allowed to carry medication per doctor's orders and NOT self-administer medication. For the purpose of authorizing a student to ONLY carry medication we have developed this policy. Klint Flint moved to approve 1st reading of Board Policy 3416F2. Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

EXTRACURRICULAR HIRE

Mr. Breitbach recommended middle school coach hires; at this time the high school coaches have agreed to share the middle school coaching responsibilities. Currently, he only has three meets scheduled for middle school wrestling in the month of March.

Johnna Koenig moved to hire the high school wrestling coaches as the middle school wrestling coaches for the 2021 season. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR ELECTION

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the resolution to call for election. Deadline to file for trustee is March 25, 2021 at 5pm; mill levy amounts do not have to be set as this time. However, they must be set by the March board meeting so the clerk can certify by the ballots not less than 30 days before the election. The possibility of a mill levy and cost was discussed amongst the finance committee last week and Mrs. Mettler goes over the cost of a mill levy to the board. Discussion followed.

Johnna Koenig moved to adopt the resolution as presented for the election set for May 4, 2021. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the student attendance agreements from Ekalaka Schools and one state placed student.

Klint Flint moved Baker Public School District #12 approve the 2020-21 attendance agreement for the following student that is state placed, Leila Crazymule and further move to approve the following attendance agreements from Baker to attend school in Carter County (Ekalaka) Schools: Shayne Enos, James Enos, Ben Enos, Sarah Enos, Brennan Graham, Jolena Denton, Justin Melton, Codi Melton, Keli Melton, Sean Wolnetz, Justice Melton, Kinch Rost, Clay Rost, Rose Rost, Zoie Rost, and Cole Rost. Johnna Koenig seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board an individual transportation contract for Jessica Enos.

Johnna Koenig moved to approve the individual transportation contract as presented for the 2020-21 school year. Klint Flint seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

OIL & GAS REVENUE

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board this quarter's oil and gas revenue. Discussion followed.

Quentin Burdick moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about February 1, 2021 to the General Fund in the amount of \$280,198.02 and Flex Fund in the amount of \$100,000, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received. Johnna Koenig seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX

Darby Waldbillig was absent, but submitted a report:

As expected, it was a busy January at the Complex. We saw our usual rise in usage and membership sales-increased usage has held steady into February which is a pleasant surprise. We have had a few lifeguard discipline issues over the last few weeks that Mr. Skogen and I have dealt with, and it seems like overall their behavior and work performance is improving as a group. I am back in the Complex full time, working primarily in the evenings and weekends with a few mornings per week. This seems to be working well, as the Complex hasn't been very busy in the mornings.

COMPLEX USAGE

January 2021: Weight/Cardio Room: 617 (690 in 2020): Pool: 343 (275 in 2020)

Racquetball has surprisingly picked up in popularity again. I have started taking court reservations again.

POOL INSPECTION

Our yearly pool inspection was conducted on February 4th, which went very well.

MEMBERSHIP SALE

I'm running a membership sale from February 10-February 28th. Traditionally I've offered free months with membership purchase, however this year I moved to discounted rates to ease things administratively.

10% off quarterly memberships

20% off semi-annual memberships

30% off annual memberships.

HIRING

I'm finalizing the lifeguard/swim aid application this week and will have it out to students ASAP. I know of a couple that are interested, but I do have some concerns about having enough staff for next fall.

I'm also working to get a lifeguard training date set for new hires and necessary renewals.

UPCOMING DATES

February 19th: Complex hours TBD pending staff- District Basketball

February 27th: Lifeguarding refresher training & deep cleaning, 10am

March 27th: Complex Closed- Prom

2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown

Ekalaka Schools have taken 70 of the obsolete desks; outside lights in the south parking lot are done and working.

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Posted all the obsolete computers on the website to start selling; chromebooks should be available in June and staff surface tablets are starting to getting ready for distribution. Ashley Varner and Austin Waldbillig did some viewboard training recently for teachers in Fairview Schools.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, BO LINGLE

Elementary food drive last week and collected 1281 items to donate back to the local food pantry. Missoula Childrens Theatre will be postponed for this year but will look at next year and Kindergarten registration will be March 10th.

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, DAVID BREITBACH

Starting to schedule tournaments and things change daily so will keep everyone in the loop. Spring sports will be discussed during the divisional basketball tournament in two weeks and hoping to have guidelines developed by MHSAA. District boys basketball play-in game will be hosted here against Forsyth next Wednesday at 6pm.

c. VICE PRINCIPAL, JACOB GION

Interquest Canine Detection was on campus and had a clean campus.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, AARON SKOGEN

Received a resignation letter from Mr. Dave Breitbach so that position will be advertised starting tomorrow; the position will be listed as a high school principal only at this time. Calendar committee will meet next Tuesday so by next month hope to have a calendar proposal for the board. Congressman Matt Rosendale will be in town on February 17th to discuss with commissioners, city & school officials to talk about the impact of the Keystone XL Pipeline cancellation. Insurance quotes are starting to come in so hope by next month with have some quotes for the board to review for next year's insurance. Currently have 2 quarantined students but no active students.

Governor Gianforte is going to lift the statewide mask mandate and do not know the specifics right now or timing of how it will affect the school. Right now we have policy that states "may" enforce the masks but waiting from legal and the governor's office to decide if it will come back to local control and local boards to determine masks. From MTSBA and communication from Travis Hall, Senior Advisor and Director of Strategic Communications, and Mike Milburn, Senior Advisor to the Governor, that *"the upcoming directive allows local jurisdictions, including local school boards, to implement their own mask requirements."*

Next scheduled board meeting is Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Gye Varner

Chairman