

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

April 29, 2020

6:00 PM

The special meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Gye Varner at 6:00 pm in the ITV Room of Baker High School. Trustees Johnna Koenig, Quentin Burdick, Mike Gunderson and Klint Flint were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Bo Lingle and Dave Breitbach, Vice Principal Jacob Gion, Technology Director Scott Anderson, and District Clerk Jennifer Mettler. Guests were present via video conference: Kim Cuppy, Matt Moberg, Ashlee Moore, Brook Collins, Dena Kirschten, Dustin Krech, Kalli Benter, Linda Rost, Maranda Hastig, Pam Beach, Tammy O'Donnell, Tim Robinson, Ashley Varner, BreeAnn Schell, Hailey Steinbeisser, Heidi Barth, and Jay Hoversland.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

TEACHER HIRE

Mr. Skogen presents to the board the recommendation for a teacher hire; interview with Ms. Amanda Leichtnam was conducted for the open English position.

Johnna Koenig moved to hire Amanda Leichtnam as an English teacher for the 2020-21 school year.

Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION OF DISTRICT POLICY 1310 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING MTSBA MODEL EMERGENCY POLICIES AFTER ONE READING

Mr. Skogen presents to the board suspension of board policy 1310 as recommended by Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) in order for the remainder of the emergency policies to be adopted.

Suspension of board policy 1310 enables the Board to adopt new policies after one reading.

Quentin Burdick moved to suspend Board Policy 1310 for the limited purpose of considering, reviewing, identifying need options and adopting specific policies within 1900-1912 after one reading. This motion is exclusive to the consideration of Policies 1900-1912 and may not include all the policies within 1900-1912 at the meeting held on April 29, 2020 and will not apply to other meetings or topics. Johnna Koenig seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF MTSBA MODEL EMERGENCY POLICIES 1900 SERIES AND CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF POLICIES 1900 SERIES AFTER ONE READING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING EMERGENCY POLICY FRAMEWORK AND ADOPTING IDENTIFIED EMERGENCY POLICIES WITH SELECTED OPTIONS

Mr. Skogen presents to the board emergency policies for adoption after first reading as recommended by MTSBA. The listed policies are recommended for adoption:

1005FE – Proficiency-Based ANB; 1900 COVID-19 Emergency Policies; 1901 Emergency Policies and Procedures; 1902 Alternative Grading; 1903 School District Meetings, Gatherings, Events & Visitors; 1904 Use of Transportation Funds During Periods of Emergency Declaration; 1905 Student, Staff, and Community Health and Safety; 1906 Student Instruction and Services; 1907 School District Declaration of Emergency; 1908 Family Engagement; 1909 Human Resources and Personnel; 1910 Personnel Use of Leave; 1910 F1/2 Federal Leave Forms.

Discussion followed.

Johnna Koenig moved to adopt Policies 1900, 1901, 1902, 1005FE, 1903, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1908F, 1909, 1910, 1910F1, 1910F2 after one reading for the purposes of establishing emergency policy framework and adopting identified emergency policies with selected options. The board has identified the needed policies with appropriate options as outlined in this motion. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTING DISTRICT'S UNFORSEEN EMERGENCY

Mr. Skogen presents to the board, based on legal guidance from MTSBA, we need to adopt another District Unforeseen Emergency based on the Governor's guidance/directives state on April 22, 2020. Johnna Koenig moved to declare an unforeseen emergency within the meaning of that term as set forth in Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 8 to become immediately effective and to continue through June 30, 2020. This motion is based on COVID-19 risks; in recognition that the Governor's waiver of student instruction time will expire on May 7, 2020; and in recognition that the Governor's April 22, 2020 Directive implicating Executive Orders 2-2202 and 2-2020 specifies that elected school boards and their districts that adopt their own declaration of emergency will continue to receive all state funding, including transportation funding. Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

DISTRICT PLAN FOR REMAINDER OF 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Mr. Skogen stated the board needs to decide the plan for the remainder of the school year, since the Governor has opened schools starting May 7, 2020, leaving the Board of Trustees to decide whether to continue online or reopen the school for onsite instruction.

Discussion followed.

Klint Flint moved to continue to offer instruction off-site/online using the current delivery model and in accordance with the plan submitted to the Governor's office for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Skogen presents to the board with a list of information since the motion was made to continue the remainder of the school year online:

Instruction

Seniors (12th Grade)

No new assignments or assessments after May 8th

Staff will use the week of May 11th--15th to assist Seniors in completing their work requirements.

We will have a schedule for Seniors to come on campus, return district equipment, finalize "check-out", and clean out their lockers.

Kindergarten--11th Grade

Last Day of School, May 22nd

No new assignments or assessments after May 14th

Staff will use the week of May 18th--22nd to assist all students in completing their work requirements and offer specific feedback based on student work.

We will have a schedule for students to come on campus (different for K-6 and 7-11) and return district equipment, finalize "check-out", and clean out desks and lockers.

Grading

Kindergarten--8th Grade

Proficient/Fail, P/F

Staff understand the unique circumstances of the situation and that students do not have the same access to staff and resources that were provided during the previous three (3) quarters.

The goal MUST be to provide students and parents with informative feedback as well as specific growth opportunities for students based on our ability to assess and evaluate their progress.

High School (9th--12th Grade)

A-F (current model)

The staff understands the unique circumstances of the situation and that students do not have the same access to staff and resources that were provided during the previous three (3) quarters.

Students/parents/guardians may request P/F in lieu of a traditional grade after report cards have been sent out.

Written requests are due to the District Office by June 15, 2020

60% or above is the standard for Proficiency (for this grading period only during COVID-19 Emergency Policies)

Graduation Proposal – 2020

Sunday—May 17th—2:00 p.m.—Schillinger Stadium –May need some flexibility with the date & time due to outdoor venue and possibility of bad weather—hopefully 10 day forecast will help us plan or adjust as the graduation date move closer

Set-Up

Stage/Podium @ 50 yd line about 5 yds onto the field

Admin/speaker/Board Rep. – chairs on field behind podium- 6 'apart

Class members—Chairs on track – will keep 6' between each graduate & rows

Graduation guests—each student will be allowed up to 4 immediate family members to attend ??

Bleachers will be sectioned off, each graduates family to have designated seating area

8 sections—2-8 foot/6-21 feet wide // 8 rows – 3 feet between row – could seat 32 families!

*** Orange spacing cones will be set out to help remind guests of social distancing spacing for entering and exiting graduation ceremony

Parking—Upper Lot will be used for families attending graduation ceremony

Parking along fence—Reserved for Disabled or elderly family members of graduates – spots to be assigned by BHS for those that request handicap parking—(about 37 cars—West & South-1 per family?)

Public that wishes to attend may sit anywhere outside school property, keep in mind social distancing

Ceremony

We would like to keep things as close to a normal Baker High School graduation as possible, understanding that we must follow the guidelines, restrictions and regulations set forth by Federal, State and Local medical & governing boards.

Graduates will park in GYM parking lot & walk down ramp to locker rooms under the grandstands for pre-graduation lineup.

Graduates will have processional into the stadium, practicing social distancing (2 by 2 – alone??)

Graduates will proceed to their assigned chair & ceremony will begin.

Intro-/welcome—Supt

Val & Sal speeches –

Presentation of Diplomas—how do we allow for some type of flow for parents to take pictures?

Do we set up some type of back drop for graduate to stand in front of for a picture?

Presentations of Scholarships

Top 10

Closing – Graduates exit Stadium using ramp and go to Gym parking lot & get in their car – graduation

processional – follow police escort? – try and hit 1st-6th streets with procession. Driving each street would allow the community of Baker to help the “Class of 2020” celebrate their graduation day.

(Thinking down 2nd to funeral home, up 3rd to HS 4 way, down 4th by hospital, up 5th to tank hill down 6th

to highway, up main to 1st street and then end by turning towards tennis courts or fair grounds?)

BHS will broadcast the graduation on the NFHS network (reminder there is about a 4 minute delay in airing) NFHS network access will be free of charge for the graduation viewing.

Cancelations

All MHSA Activities – Track, Tennis, Golf, Music

All-State & National Conventions—FFA, FCCLA, BPA, Student Council

Close-Up trip to Washington DC—will not go this year, unsure if we go 2 years in a row—need to discuss

Prom

MAPS Testing (7-10th)

Smarter Balance Testing (7 & 8th)

ACT testing for Jr's—will do in the fall

Math Meet – MS & HS students

National Honor Society Inductions—(maybe do in the fall)

Mother Daughter Tea & Parent Sr. Banquet—not our call

Awards Banquets – Music, Basketball, Wrestling, S & Drama, FFA, and Academic—will send awards home with student's report cards

POPS & Elem Music Concerts
8th Grade Graduation

Planning for Next Year: Next year will depend on the status of the nation, but will need to have a plan in place for the worst case scenario.

MOU – BAKER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Mr. Skogen presents an MOU is required between the District and the BEA to ensure certified staff have not been required to work more than their contractual 187 days. Originally March 27th was scheduled as a NO SCHOOL DAY, on the school calendar. Due schools being closed, effective March 16th, and after receiving guidance that the closure would extend beyond an initial two (2) week closure, the District chose to start our online instructional delivery system the week of March 23rd. Since this was our first week of being online, we chose to continue instruction on Friday March 27th, which was originally scheduled to be a day of NO SCHOOL. As such, our certified staff worked a day for which they were not originally contracted for. Thus, I am recommending that we take a day off the end of their contract to ensure they have not worked more than their 187 contractual days. Originally staff were scheduled for their last working day to be May 26th. I am asking the board to change their last day to May 22nd and asking the BEA to agree; first to the change in the last day, second to agree to allowing their 180 student contact days to be increased to 181 based on the fact that they worked with students on March 27th. Johnna Koenig moved to approve the MOU between the District and BEA as presented and if the BEA wishes to make changes and/or adjustments that the MOU would come back before the Board of Trustees for approval of suggested changes and/or adjustments. Mike Gunderson seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

MAINTENANCE – Mardi Brown

There was an issue with the heat pump in the pool and it needs to be replaced; quotes for tile work in the complex bathrooms would be about \$60,000 and shower columns in both bathrooms in the complex would be about \$30,000. Continuing to work on summer outside project lists and gathering prices to get things fixed.

TECHNOLOGY

Nothing to report at this time

PRINCIPALS

ELEMENTARY, Bo Lingle

Virtual staff meeting tomorrow; things going good.

HIGH SCHOOL, Dave Breitbach

Virtual staff meeting tomorrow, things going good.

HS VICE PRINCIPAL, Jacob Gion

Nothing to report at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT

Nothing additional to report.

There being no other business, meeting adjourns at 6:50 pm.

Clerk

Chairman