

REGULAR MEETING

July 18, 2023

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Klint Flint at 6pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Karen Wang, Dalon Dyke, and Jay Quenzer were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Dom Vergara and Erin Nevers, Associate Principal/AD Bill Brist, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, Technology Director Scott Anderson, and Head Custodian Mardi Brown. Guests were Amanda Tunby, Rebecca LaCroix, Maranda Hastig, Cody Strandbakke, Makenzie Noseep, BreeAnn Schell, Josi Hadley, Mollee Stenberg, Lena Kennel, and Tony with McKinstry.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 58650 to 58727 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Flint approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

EDUCATION REPORT

Tony with McKinstry gives update on the courtyard project is on schedule for mid-August finish.

ACTION ITEMS

CERTIFIED CONTRACT(S) CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen stated an offer was made with an applicant but was not accepted.

CLASSIFIED CONTRACT(S) CONSIDERATION(S)

a. After School Program Director

Mr. Skogen presented the recommendation to hire Miss Ashley Rost as the After School Program Director for the 2023-24 school year.

Dalon Dyke moved to hire Miss Ashely Rost as the After School Program Director for the 2023-24 school year. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

b. Elementary Secretary Extra Duty Stipend

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation to have Alyson Lineback schedule substitute teachers for the K-6 building; it is also recommended to provide a \$100/month cell phone stipend as she will be required to utilize her personal phone for district business on a regular basis.

Karen Wang moved to prove Alyson Lineback with a \$100 monthly cell phone stipend to complete her extra duties for scheduling substitutes within the K-6 building for the 2023-24 school year. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

c. Paraprofessional

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation to hire Johanna Tooke as a paraprofessional in the 7-12 building.

Jay Quenzer monved to hire Johanna Tooke as a paraprofessional for the 2023-24 school year. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT(S) CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation to hire John Nowak as the final assistant coach for high school football. Dalon Dyke moved to hire John Nowak as a High School Assistant Football Coach for the 2023-24 school year. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

MCKINSTRY SUMMER CONSTRUCTION – CHANGE ORDER

Mr. Skogen stated in previous plans for the summer construction with McKinstry, it was planned to slurry seal the north parking lot at the high school. After discussion with Tony Copley with McKinstry, the lot needs to be reassessed before moving forward; the available options would be concrete or asphalt. The rough estimates are as follows:

- New Asphalt Refinish
 - Demolition and 20" subbase with two (2) layers of fabric--\$78,140
 - Install new 4" asphalt layer--\$162,000
 - Install new concrete sidewalk--\$16,000
 - McKinstry Project Lead Engineers--\$16,158
 - Total \$285,913 *includes 5% contingency (estimate)

- New Concrete Refinish
 - Demolition and 20" subbase with two (2) layers of fabric--\$78,140
 - Install new 6" concrete layer with reinforcing--\$270,000
 - Install new concrete sidewalk--\$16,000
 - McKinstry Project Lead Engineers--\$16,158
 - Total \$399,313 *includes 5% contingency (estimate)

Without solid cost prices for the project, it is being recommended to table the agenda item until McKinstry can fully evaluate the project for next summer and present to the Facilities Committee at a later date to discuss options and cost.

Chairperson Flint tables the agenda item until further evaluation and costs can be provided before a decision is made.

EXTRACURRICULAR HANDBOOK ADOPTION

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the Extracurricular Handbook for adoption. A decision must be made on the inclusion of cheer & band attending the post season play for sports; in the past the cheer team has gone to all post season play, but the band has gone to District & State tournament only. This last year, Mr. Skogen stated he made the decision to send the band to District, Divisional & State tournaments for basketball; also something to consider is a 4 day school calendar as with extra tournaments means extra days away from school. He also stated when send band and cheer is a substantial cost to the district's budget. Discussion followed.

Chairperson Flint asked about the curfew listed in the handbook and the city has an ordinance; he asks if the kids are out and get a citation for breaking curfew, what can the school do? Mr. Skogen stated he will ask the lawyers about the conflict and see if it is punishable.

Mr. Skogen stated he can organize the calendar committee together to have a contingency calendar to account for state tournaments for band and cheer so the students don't miss so many days of school; it can be discussed and presented to the board in August to discuss changing the calendar to take off extra days for tournaments to allow more staff to attend and not have to find substitutes. Mr. Skogen stated it can be done, but since we start the school year so late and want out before Memorial Day, it is a matter of adding minutes to the days to account for the extra days off the calendar.

Karen Wang moved to adopt the handbook as presented with the addition of adding all post season travel allowed for band and cheer for basketball. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CITY OF BAKER SID ASSESSMENT

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the SID assessment for the street project. It was presented to the District on July 14, 2023 by Mayor Steve Zachmann and Commissioner Steve Baldwin; the City of Baker is giving the option of local governments to pre-pay the assessment, rather than pay with their tax bill in November & May. By pre-paying the assessment, the District saves approximately \$15,000 in interest accrued. Discussion followed.

Jay Quenzer moved to commit to prepay the assessment for the City of Baker SID in full July 31, 2023 in the amount of \$17,336. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOLS & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

No changes to the plan at this time.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Lena Kennel

There will be a full staff cleaning day on July 23rd. During these cleaning days, work expectations are adjusted and clarified as needed and any new information or upcoming events are shared with the entire staff as a group.

The summer swimming lessons schedule is planned as follows:

Session 1 - June 12th through June 23rd (sign-ups May 30th)

Privates 1 - June 26th through June 30th (sign-ups June 19th)

Session 2 - July 10th through July 21st (sign-ups June 26th)

Privates 2 - July 24th through July 28th (sign-ups July 17th)

There were 120 children signed up for Session 1. Privates 1 had all 32 available spots filled. There are 88 children signed up for Session 2. Privates 2 has 22/24 available spots filled as of this morning. Session 2 has been going well so far, with the updated class times showing improvement in the skills and attitudes of students.

The class schedules for Session 1 (blue, left), Session 2 (blue, right) and Privates 1 and 2 (red) are as follows. Session 2 has slightly different class times than Session 1. We shortened Deep-End Floaters classes from 45 to 30 minutes and lengthened Floaters classes from 30 to 45 minutes. This was done to better serve the needs of each class and help students progress more quickly from one level to the next without unnecessary frustration and discouragement. There were 556 recorded swims this June, which is 104 more than in June 2022. So far, this July has a similar usage rate, with there being 316 recorded swims as of yesterday. There was no record of racquetball court usage for June 2021, but there were 12 uses in 2022. This June there were 21 recorded uses. So far, this July has 7 recorded uses compared to the 2 uses recorded in 2022.

There were 767 sign-ins for the weight and cardio rooms this June (327 more than in 2021 and 161 more than in 2022), which makes for an average of 25.57 sign-ins each day. July is currently expected to have just over 700 sign-ins. Below are charts showing this data, as well as average usage throughout the week, updated through June.

2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown

Nothing to report this month

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

The new website is active and under construction.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers

Thank you to Mrs. Hadley, Mrs. Palo, Ms. Stenberg, Mrs. Rebecca LaCroix, Ms. Ashli Wiedmer for taking on this year's summer school activities for our elementary students! Summer school 2023 started the week of July 10th and will conclude Friday, July 21st. 22 students attended class from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. They participated in visits to the Fallon County Library and the Museum, and participated in the STEM Van Tour. Students spent time in small groups getting extra time for math and reading practice. SAM Administrators Institute 2023 - Helena, July 23rd-26th; Sub Training - August 9th @ 5:30-7:00 P.M; New Staff Training - August 16th @ 5:30-7:00 P.M; Support Staff Best Practice Training - TBD – August.

Mrs. Nevers goes over some handbook changes due to the attendance of staff at the meeting; adoption will happen at the August board meeting. Changes in attendance policy will be stricter to help with kids coming to school.

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

We recently have addressed and/or focused on the various topics below:

- Working with Mrs. Burdick on various topics (Scheduling...) for next year
- Handbook Changes
- Interviews/Staffing Needs
- Helping with our new summer youth football camp (Grades 2-6)
- Will continue with the "WE/ME" theme for the 2023-2024 school year
- Adding "WE BELIEVE" mentality
- Implementing Vision Teams – Rollout
- 2022-2023 Goals – Developing a banner (x2), WE/ME Banners (Lincoln, Longfellow, Cafè)
- Planning with Mr. Anderson on various technology needs for next year

Recent Events/Meetings

- Rock Gullickson (Retired NFL Strength Coach) visit to BHS – Has interest in assisting in the weight room on a volunteer basis next year.
- AAU 5th/6thTackle Football – I will be attending the youth football scheduling in Miles City on Sunday, August 20th.
- 7th-8th grade football and AAU 5th/6th grade will split the main varsity field at the conclusion of the varsity practice around 6 pm.

Upcoming Events/Meetings

- Dr. Crystal Collier – [High Risk Behaviors](#), September 7th
- Principals Conference in Helena (July 23-26)
- PVCC Annual Administrators Meeting (August 2nd)
- Principal's Academy – School Law for Principals (August 10th)
- Spartan Youth Football Camp (July 17-18)
- JH/HS Open House Night (August 24th, 6 pm)
- August 7th, Head Coaches Meeting (All Sports), 7 pm
- August 8th, Fall Sports Parent Night, 6 pm
- August 9th, Sub Training, 5:30 pm

Rock Gullickson – Would like to continue to work with us on a voluntary basis.

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

Not in attendance this month.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Current Openings: Middle School Mathematics, Elementary, 7-12 Industrial Arts, English, Health/PE (Anticipated Application), Paraprofessional, Elementary, Kitchen Aide.

Board of Trustee Applications (Due July 19, 2023, by 2:00 p.m.): Mr. Cody Strandbakke and Mr. Carson Beach; like to try schedule a special meeting to appoint a new board member.

K-6 Elementary Student Handbook has been submitted to attorneys for review.

7-12 Student Handbook has been submitted to attorneys for review.

Strategic Planning: TBA

Montana Arbitration & Labor Relations Conference: August 29-31, 2023, Billings Montana

Considerations for the Near Future: 6-12 Model and Hybrid 4-Day School Week.

Special Meeting to appoint new member July 25, 2023 @ 6:30pm.

Next scheduled board meeting is August 15, 2023 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Kent Flint

Chairman