

REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 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; Trustee Cody Strandbakke was absent. 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. Guest was Trey Nansel.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 58728 to 58784 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Flint approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Trey Nansel with McKinstry updated on the courtyard project. There was a miscommunication with the contractor when pouring the concrete in the parking lot and installing rebar. Next Tuesday it is scheduled to be repoured and work with the school to move the fence for the start of school.

EDUCATION REPORT

None

ACTION ITEMS

RED ZONE SPONSORSHIP FOR FOOTBAL SEASON

Mr. Skogen presented to the board a sponsorship program from West Plains Ag located in Beach, ND. They would like to donate \$25 for every touchdown our Spartan football team scores (both home and away).

Their request for the sponsorship is that our announcer calls the Red Zone the "West Plains Inc Red Zone". This request is in accordance with board policy 7332. Jay Quenzer just wants to make sure the community knows the money donated with benefit all activities and not just football. Discussion followed.

Karen Wang moved to approve West Plains, Inc as our Spartan Football Red Zone sponsor for the 2023 High School Football Season, in accordance with board policy 7332. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

7-12 STUDENT HANDBOOK ADOPTION

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the final review of the 7-12 Student Handbook; the handbook has been reviewed by MTSBA. This year the parents will be given signature pages rather than printing all the handbooks and the handbooks will be posted on the website for the parents and students to review before signing the sheet to return to the school.

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the 7-12 Student Handbook for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

K-6 STUDENT HANDBOOK ADOPTION

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the final review of the K-6 Student Handbook; the hanbook has been reviewed by MTSBA. Discussion followed.

Karen Wang moved to approve the K-6 Student Handbook for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED HIRE CONSIDERATION

A. PART-TIME LUNCH AIDE(S)

Mr. Skogen presented a recommendation to hire MaryElla Hoffman as a part-time lunch aide.

B. PARAPROFESSIONAL(S)

Mr. Skogen presented a recommendation to hire Ashli Wiedmer as a full-time paraprofessional.

C. CUSTODIAN

Mr. Skogen presented a recommendation to hire Marie Gibson as a full-time custodian.

Karen Wang moved to hire MaryElla Hoffman as part-time lunch aide, Ashli Wiedmer as a full-time paraprofessional and Marie Gibson as full-time custodian for the 2023-24 school year. Hires are dependent on the passage of a background check and/or results of a pre-employment physical if applicable to the position. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Brist presents the recommendation for extracurricular contracts. It is being recommended to hire Lisa Burdick, Alyson Lineback and Maranda Hastig as concession mangers for the 2023-24 school year.

Jay Quenzer moved to hire as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board some attendance agreements for the 2023-24 school year.

NAME	DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE	DISTRICT OF CHOICE
Sobanski	Plevna	Baker
Turbiville	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Brown (3 students)	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Brown (4 students)	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Fuchs	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Sonsalla	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Lecoe (2 students)	Marmarth, ND	Baker
Melton (3 kids)	Baker	Ekalaka
Rost (4 kids)	Baker	Ekalaka

Karen Wang moved to approve the attendance contracts for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

1ST QUARTER 2023 OIL & GAS ALLOCATION

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board this quarters oil & gas. It is recommended to allocate oil and gas as follows:

- General Fund \$25,000
- Debt Service \$40,000
- Flex Fund \$674,964.16

This year and the following years, oil and gas will need to be allocated to debt service to pay for property taxes; this year the SID was pre-paid to the City for the District and used all cash reserves to do so. Dalon Dyke moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about August 1, 2023 as presented, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

2023-24 BUDGET ADOPTION

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the budgets for the 2023-24 school year.

Fund [A]	Adopted Budget [B]	Total Reserves (951-958) [C]	Reserve Limit [D]	% of Adopted Budget Reserved (C/D) x 100 [E]	Unreserved Fund Balance Reappropriated (2%) [F]	Other Revenue [G]	District Property Tax Requirements (B - F - G = H) F & G, enter 0 [H]	District Mill Levies H / (T x .001) [I]
01 General	4,353,400.98	171,826.17	10%	3.95%	0.00	2,105,411.72	2,247,989.26	47.77
10 Transportation	490,000.00	13,124.53	20%	2.68%	0.00	75,519.18	414,480.82	8.81
11 Bus Depreciation Reserve	50,000.00	1,338.20	N/A	2.68%	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13 Tuition	15,000.00		N/A		61,286.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
14 Retirement	810,000.00	162,000.00	20%	20.00%	128,189.34	681,810.66		
17 Adult Education	100,000.00	35,000.00	35%	35.00%	274,768.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
19 Non-Operating	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28 Technology	500,000.00	174,582.64	N/A	34.92%	496,688.39	3,311.61	0.00	0.00
29 Flexibility	2,500,000.00	2,748,894.75	N/A	109.96%	2,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
61 Building Reserve	5,000,000.00	3,966,007.39	N/A	79.32%	5,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total of All Funds	13,818,400.98	7,272,773.68			8,530,932.18	2,866,053.17	2,662,470.08	56.58
50 Debt Service								
Tax Jurisdiction								
0244	122,336.00	0.00	20-9-438	0.00%	88,393.15	40,000.00	0.00	0.00

Discussion followed.

Karen Wang moved to adopt budgets for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOLS & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

No Changes

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Lena Kennel (absent, submitted report)

There was a full staff cleaning day on August 13th. 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 complex will be closed the 17th-20th due to limited staff availability with practices, the fair, etc. The summer swimming lessons schedule was 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)

The class schedules for Session 1 (blue, left), Session 2 (blue, right) and Privates 1 and 2 (red) were as follows. As you can see, Session 2 had 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 or discouragement.

There were 120 children signed up for Session 1, 32/32 possible for Privates 1, 88 for Session 2, and 24/24 possible for Privates 2. Overall, lessons went very well, with the updated class times showing improvement in both the skills and attitudes of students.

There were 672 recorded swims this July, which is 17 less than in July 2022. So far, this August is expected to have just over the usage rate for August 2022, with there being 263 recorded swims August 1st-14th. There were 13 recorded uses of the racquetball court this July, compared to the 2 recorded uses in July 2022. So far this August has 7 recorded uses, with there only being 2 uses recorded in 2022.

There were 763 sign-ins for the weight and cardio rooms this July (125 more than in 2021 and 220 more than in 2022), which makes for an average of 24.61 sign-ins each day. Based on sign-ins for August 1st-14th, there are currently expected to be just over 700 this month with an average of 22.79 sign-ins per day. However, this number may drop due to busy schedules with the fair and then school beginning on the 23rd. Below are charts showing this data, as well as average usage throughout the week, updated through July.

2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown

Lunchroom sewer line is complete and looks really nice in the kitchen. Vestibule doors are installed and key fob can be installed. Weight room is painted and mirrors will be installed once construction is complete.

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Updated the obsolete equipment list on our website; notified by MSGIA (property & liability insurer) will be contracted with Lodestone for cyber security. MSGIA has partnered with Lodestone, a global cyber security firm committed to helping clients prevent and investigate security incidents. Within the next few weeks I will be providing Lodestone with your district's website domain so they can begin providing their Attack Surface Monitoring service for the next 12 months at no cost to the district.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers

Thank you to our fantastic team of custodians who have worked tirelessly throughout the summer to ensure that our buildings are prepared for the return of our students!

SAM Administrators Institute 2023. Thank you for sending us to the 2023 SAM conference in Helena at the end of July. There were some fantastic keynote and break out speakers. Much of the focus was student engagement, developing a culture of safety, and teacher support. The following are several handouts from keynote speaker Pete Hall: Culture of Safety Blogs, Fostering Emotional Literacy, Fostering Resilient Learners, Spectrum of Trauma-Savvy Practices, Summer PD.

Mrs. Frye and I took part in a summer book study exploring the content of the book Emotional Poverty: How to Reduce Anger, Anxiety, and Violence in the Classroom, by Dr. Ruby K. Payne. The content focused on providing understanding of the emotional states that our students are entering the classroom and the emotional noise that results. Her overall message is reducing the "less than" and "separate from" experiences for students in order to create safer classrooms. I plan to incorporate the content from this book study in providing PD to our teachers and offer this learning opportunity to others.

Sub Training: Wednesday, August 9th we held our first substitute teacher training. There was a great turnout, we had a total of 16 current and prospective substitutes attend. So far the feedback has been very positive.

Paraprofessional Training: Monday, August 14th - Mrs. Tunby, Mrs. MacKay, and Mrs. Nevers led our first paraprofessional training at Lincoln school. Five paraprofessionals attended this training. Thank you Ashli Wiedmer, Kim O'Donnell, Cheryl Goodman, Alivia Schultz and LeeAnn Powers for taking time from the end of your summer vacation to learn about reading and math instructional best practices, classroom management, and student engagement. Thank you Mrs. Tunby and Mrs. MacKay for your teaching guidance.

Upcoming events: Longfellow Meet & Greet - August 16th @ 9:00 A.M. in Mrs. Hastig's Classroom, New Staff Training - August 16th @ 5:30-7:00 P.M., Beginning of the Year PIR - August 21st & 22nd, Elementary Open House - August 22nd @ 5:30-6:30 P.M., 1st Day of School - August 23rd, No School - September 4th - Labor Day, Dr. Crystal Collier - September 8th, 10:00 A.M. - High School Gym 6:00 P.M. - Longfellow Gym

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

I'd like to thank Mrs. Nevers and Mr. Brist for all of the teamwork and collaborative time planning for this upcoming school year while attending recent AD and principal conferences. I felt like our recent trips were productive and helped improve our communication and organization moving forward. Another thank you needs to be given to Mrs. Burdick for working extremely hard on all of the schedule changes and for working hard with our team on developing our class schedule. It's a pleasure working with these outstanding educators.

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

- Handbook Changes
- Implementing Vision Teams – Rollout

- 2023-2024 Goals posted at the entrance of our high school, WE/ME Banners (Lincoln, Longfellow, Café)
- Opening School Year Presentations (Staff and Students) – Will share at next board meeting.
- Parent Meetings (Address concerns prior to the school year happening)
- Added Department Meetings – Staff Request (Monday, August 21st)
- 1st Day Back – Developing Teacher Packets
- Sub Training Survey
- Updated 23-24 Truancy Letter
- Drug Dog has been scheduled for the 23-24 school year

Recent Events/Meetings

- 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)
- August 7th, Head Coaches Meeting (All Sports), 7 pm
- August 8th, Fall Sports Parent Night, 6 pm
- August 9th, Sub Training, 5:30 pm
- August 16th, New Staff Training. 5:30 pm
- August 17th

, 7th Grade Orientation

- AAU Football Schedule Meeting(s), Parent Meetings, & Coaches Meetings (31 for 5-6, 20 for 7-8)

Upcoming Events/Meetings

- Dr. Crystal Collier – High Risk Behaviors, September 8th (10 am – Student Assembly, 6 pm – Community

Presentation) – SEE NEXT PAGE

- JH/HS Open House Night, FFA BBQ (August 24th, 6 pm)
- AAU 5th/6th Tackle Football – I will be attending the youth football scheduling in Miles City on Sunday, August 20th
- Rock Gullickson – Will be coming back to Baker in September!!!

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

High School Football, Volleyball and Cross Country began their practice season on August 11th, and Cheer started on the 14th. Early rosters from the coaches show 29 players out for HS Football, 32 players out for HS Volleyball, 4 runners out for Cross Country and 9 out for HS Cheer. HS Football will open their season on August 25th at Malta. HS Volleyball will begin at the Columbus. Tournament on August 26th and HS Cross Country will begin their season on September 1st at the Bowman Invitational. The Middle School Football team began practices on the 14th and the Middle School Volleyball team will begin on August 21st. Four 8th grade athletes have tried out for HS Volleyball.

August has been a busy time preparing for the upcoming school year. I’ve been fortunate to have a great team of individuals to help me transition into this new role. Dom Vergara was gracious in his willingness to accompany me to the Activities Directors Meeting in early July, and the recent SAM Conference at the end of July offered a great opportunity to discuss with both Dom and Erin Nevers their goals for the upcoming school year in regard to my role as an Associate Principal. I also had the opportunity to attend the Montana Coaches Clinic in Great Falls. We had seven Baker Athletic Coaches attend the clinic, which is a great opportunity to learn from many accomplished speakers from nearly every sport offered through MHSAA and Montana Schools.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Resignations: Ms. Lena Kennel–Complex Manager

Current Openings: Middle School Mathematics, Elementary, 7-12 Industrial Arts, English, Paraprofessional, Elementary. Substitute Training (8.9.23), Paraprofessional Training (8.14.23), New Teacher Orientation (8.16.23), Facilities & Finance Meeting (8.15.23), Strategic Planning-TBA.

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

MCEL, October 19-20, 2023, Billings Montana.

Next scheduled board meeting is September 13, 2023 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Clint Flint

Chairman