

## REGULAR MEETING

February 14, 2023

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Johnna Koenig at 6pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Quentin Burdick, Klint Flint, Samm Schermele, and Dalon Dyke were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Dom Vergara and Erin Nevers, Vice-Principal/AD Bo Lingle, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, Technology Director Scott Anderson, and Head Custodian Mardi Brown. Guests were Lena Kennel and Kayla Veroye.

### **Consent Items:**

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 58321 to 58367 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Koenig approves the consent items as presented.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **EDUCATION REPORT**

No report this month.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **MCKINSTRY – SUMMER PROJECT BIDS**

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the bid proposal from McKinstry for the summer projects. The facilities committee identified structural and mechanical issues on campus and the bid before the board would divert drainage away from the building in the courtyard of the high school and complex north wall and turf the courtyard to create an outdoor classroom space. The total bid cost will be \$1,637,175; it is the recommendation of the committee to move forward with the project and start construction June 2023. Discussion followed.

Quentin Burdick moved to approve the contract with McKinstry as presented. Klint Flint seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **STUDENT APPEAL FOR CREDIT – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No student appeal at this time.

#### **OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT LIST**

Mr. Anderson presented to the board his list of Chromebooks and iPads to list as obsolete and sell. The list will be posted on the District website and listed at fair market value to the public. Klint Flint moved to sell the obsolete computers at set prices to the general public. Samm Schermele seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **BOARD POLICY ADDITIONS 1<sup>ST</sup> READING – BP 3550, 3550F, 3530**

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the list of new policies for 1<sup>st</sup> reading; these policies ensure student clubs and organizations may be recognized by the school and approved to use our facilities. Board Chair Koenig approves the policies as presented for 1<sup>st</sup> reading and requests them on next months agenda for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption.

#### **CLASSIFIED HIRE CONSIDERATIONS**

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation to hire a part time elementary paraprofessional for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. It is recommended to hire Rebecca LaCroix at this time. Klint Flint moved to hire Rebecca LaCroix as a part time paraprofessional for the 2022-23 school year. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **2023-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the 2023-24 school calendar. The only change from last year would be the Friday before prom will not be taken off, but the Juniors and advisors will be let out for the day to decorate. Quentin Burdick moved to approve the proposed school calendar for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Samm Schermele seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **BAKER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION MOU – IN-SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the MOU with the BEA to address the in-service as per the approved calendar. The MOU outlines expectations and procedures for the eight (8) scheduled early-out Wednesdays for staff in-service trainings. Samm Schermele moved to approve the MOU between Baker Public Schools and the Baker Education Association as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **ONEOK TECHNOLOGY GRANT APPLICATION**

Mr. Anderson presented to the board a grant opportunity he would like to apply for; Oneok emailed Mr. Skogen and Mrs. Mettler a week ago for a technology grant opportunity for public schools and Mr.

Anderson would like to apply to purchase a new poster printer in the technology lab for general student use. The current poster printer is getting to end of life and it is used by all groups often so it would be a great use of the grant; estimated to cost \$2199. Samm Schermele moved to approve the grant request as presented. Klint Flint seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **OIL & GAS REVENUE ALLOCATION**

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the oil and gas allocation for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2022 of \$1,010,988.70. It is recommended to either put all in the Flex fund this quarter or split between the Flex fund and Building Reserve fund, mainly due to the increase of projects and maintenance on the buildings. Discussion followed. Klint Flint moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about February 1, 2023 to the Flex Fund \$300,000 and Building Reserve \$710,988.70, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### **SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOLS & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN**

No changes at this time.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **1. COMPLEX, Lena Kennel**

There was a full staff cleaning day on February 12th. During these cleaning days, work expectations are adjusted and clarified as needed. Extra cleaning was also done around the complex while the pool was closed. Richard Menger inspected the pool and locker rooms on February 8th. This inspection went well, with us receiving praise for how well the facility is maintained. A second Night Swim is scheduled for February 19th. The first one on December 18th went well with 20 people attending (10 adults and 10 children). We were unable to host the planned Night Swim in January due to the pool being down. We hope to catch more attention from the public this time. The Pool was closed from December 28th through January 29th for maintenance. A pump had to be sent out, and once the pump was reinstalled it took a few days to return the pool to normal conditions. We were able to reopen the morning of January 30th and have been continuing to monitor and adjust the pool chemistry since then. Pool usage has been up since reopening, and racquetball court usage has also been up. A survey is being put out to gauge the public's interest in different aquatic courses. Whether or not these are implemented depends on the input we receive from the community in conjunction with staff availability at the time. The total number of weight and cardio room sign-ins for 2022 was 6748, which was 354 more sign-ins than in 2021. Weight and cardio usage is up as usual this time of year, with the notable difference being that there have been just over 200 more sign-ins this January compared to the previous two years. So far in February we are still averaging about 5 more sign-ins each day than the last two years as well. Below are graphs detailing the weight and cardio room data from January 2021 through January 2023.

#### **2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown**

January 26th the repaired pool pump was installed, water added, backwash was done and chemicals added. The pool was back up and running on Monday the 30th. I met with Randy with Kruger Window and Doors for quotes on new doors for the BHS gym and entry. This is the quote for the door changes Supt and Board would like. February 7th Joel Hecker with G&J was onsite to do the yearly maintenance on the Library handicap lift. Fire Marshall was here to do his yearly walk through. We have a few exit signs that either have dead batteries or burnt out bulbs. I will Contact Jeremy Fix with Firemans and have him do the necessary repairs. The Fire Marshall will be back in 60 days to check things out. He doesn't think we can keep our gym doors going to the Rec Center closed like we do. He is going to check into it and get back to me. If we need to change them I will contact Mike with Holmlund Lock and key to make changes like the door going from entry to Complex. We had to have a new washer installed. The old model was a 2013 and too expensive to repair .

#### **3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson**

Updated Obsoulete Equipment List -

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PDhwtJXoKWB286nEsJ\\_3uy8i\\_3d8-fr\\_PIm46dHTbi4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PDhwtJXoKWB286nEsJ_3uy8i_3d8-fr_PIm46dHTbi4/edit?usp=sharing)

E-Sports Spring Season has started. We left PlayVS as the University of Montana has started to act as the administrator of the league. I plan on requesting to create an official group/club in May. Asking that everyone start generating any questions or concerns so we can have time to work any issues out.

Rocket League Team is 0-1

Overwatch League Team is 1-0

Planning to meet with the Tech Committee in March to discuss next year device orders. Normal purchases following our rotation schedule will include:

Grade 1 - iPads

100 Chromebooks

10 Surface Tablets  
Securly Filter Renewal & Parent Options (In testing phase)  
Air purifiers will be provided from DPHHS through a grant COVID funds.

#### 4. PRINCIPALS

##### a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers

Shout Outs

Congratulations to our K-6 Spartan Staff Member of the Month for January - Mrs. Maranda Hastig.

Way to go Students of the Month for January

K-2 - Charlotte Losing and Connor Wolf

3-6 - Aubree Brown and Riley Tiedemann

Montana Principals' Conference

Great information presented on student mental health and classroom behaviors. It was a great time to connect with other administrators throughout the state and

FastBridge - K-2 Winter Screening

Kindergarten Reading

SuperKids Coaches

February 9th and 10th

Observed K-2 Teachers - A team of two traveled to Baker and observed the ELA lessons presented in the K-2 classes. They then met with classroom teachers to debrief and offer suggestions for implementing SuperKids curriculum.

Super Spartan Certificates

The goal is to catch kids in the act of doing something positive: being respectful, responsible, safe or kind.

Math Committee: A K-6 volunteer committee will meet 2.15.23 to review our current math program and determine if it meets the district curriculum standards and guidelines.

Scheduling: We are currently working to fill all our para positions. Scheduling is often on a day to day basis depending upon the help we have available.

Huge WIN!

112 Students K-6 with 3 or fewer absences for Semester 1

K-2 = 45 and 3-6 = 67

Students in K-2 will be rewarded with a pizza/ice cream party on 2/20.

Students in 3-6 will be rewarded with an afternoon of swimming - date TBD.

Comparison to 2021-2022

75% increase K-6

55% increase K-2

91% increase 3-6

##### b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

We would like to thank all of our volunteers helping out in the concessions stand this year. This is a thankless

job and we appreciate everyone taking pride in making sure that we have an awesome concessions area for our visitors and home fans.

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

- Drug Dog (1/19)

- Tools for your child's success - <https://parentingmontana.org/>

- Introduction: Mrs. Burdick and I met with Beth Regan (Eastern Montana Community Mental Health Center) and Jeff Regan (Director, Mental Health Services, Miles City)

- Attendance Contracts & Eligibility Reports

##### January Spartans of the Month

(Reserved Parking Spot, Spartan T-Shirt, Lunch w/ Principal, Certificate, Facebook, Newspaper)  
Casey Koenigsfeld (HS Boy), Karlee Dyke (HS Girl), Reese Lecoe (JH Boy), DeeAnna Hess (JH Girl)

Recent Events/Meetings:

- 2023 Montana Principals Conference – Helena, MT (1/22-1/24)

o 4 Day School Week

o Retention and Recruitment of Staff / Lack of Quality Educators – Provisional/Emergency Licenses

- Army National Guard Obstacle Course (1/26)

- Baker 7-12 Professional Development Survey, Presentation (Mr. Vergara & Mrs. Rost)

o Goal: Planning PD for 23-24, Feedback/Trust/BuyIn, Team Building

##### c. VICE PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, Bo Lingle

State Speech & Drama results:

- 2nd Place- Cricket Wywras & Vicky Davis in Dramatic Duo
- 5th Place- Alynn Albritton & Chloe Thurlow in Dramatic Duo

State Wrestling Results:

- Girls Team- 3rd Place (Class A-C)
- Jayda Harbaugh- 4th Place
- Jacey Gorder- 2nd Place
- Riley Davis- State Champion

FFA- Teams and Individuals that have qualified for State Competition:

- Avery O'Connor- Junior Creed Speech (1st Place)
- Vet Science Team- Madison Butori, Jessica Stark, Halle Brown and Jaxyn Lyson (1st Place)
- Meats Evaluation Team- Aidyn Schwartz, Casey Koenigsfeld, Tucker Tuberville and Julia Schallenberger (2nd Place)
- Livestock Team- Madison Butori, Jessica Stark, Julia Schallenberger and Avery O'Connor (3rd Place)

Music/ Band

- Jazz Festival in Billings, Americanism Concert and Elementary Music Festival in Glendive went very well for all of our participants.

Upcoming Events:

- District Basketball Tournament in Colstrip- February 15-18.
- District FFA in Miles City- February 20.
- Divisional Basketball Tournament in Billings (Metra)- March 2-4.
- Middle School Academic Olympics in Miles City- March 7.
- High School Academic Olympics in Miles City- March 8.
- State Basketball Tournament in Great Falls- March 9-11.

#### 5. **SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen**

Facilities/McKinstry

McKinstry will begin scheduling work based on board approval. New Garage scheduled to be built with the Wood Shop class and supplies have been purchased. Allied Plumbing will be installing new main heatline replacement 7-12 Building.

Resignation(s): Mrs. Brandi Pool – Paraprofessional, Mr. Travis Santistevan – Industrial Arts, Mrs. Dena Kirschten – Middle School Mathematics.

Strategic Planning will be planned for sometime June or August 2023.

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

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

*s/ Jennifer Mettler*

Clerk

*s/ Johanna Kleinig*

Chairman