

REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 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, Samm Schermele, and Dalon Dyke were in attendance; Klint Flint was absent. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Dom Vergara and Erin Nevers, Vice-Principal/AD Bo Lingle, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, and Technology Director Scott Anderson; Head Custodian Mardi Brown was absent. Guests were.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 58434 to 58498 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Koenig approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Amanda Tunby addressed the board as they start to interview new teacher candidates to help in retaining teachers – she passes a handout to the board. Also includes as the board hires the extracurricular positions and continue to hire outside the CBA, there is approximately \$50,000 hired as non-district coaches and advisors.

EDUCATION REPORT – Brittany Hoversland

Mrs. Brittany Hoversland reports the education report and discusses how she uses the Quantum Learning Keys of Excellence in her classroom.

ACTION ITEMS

NATIONAL BPA TRAVEL ASSISTANCE REQUEST

Avery O'Connor and Iva Setinc address the board about their trip for National BPA in Anaheim, CA; Cadence Brown qualified as well and will be attending nationals as well, she had prior commitments and wasn't able to attend the meeting. All the students are asking for travel assistance based on their concession work hours for the year; Cadence Brown \$10.44, Iva Setinc \$114.96 and Avery O'Connor \$202.92.

Samm Schermele moved to provide travel assistance to Cadence Brown, Iva Setinc, and Avery O'Connor as presented. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

NATIONAL SCIENCE TRAVEL REQUEST

Mrs. Linda Rost presented to the board the request to travel as the advisor for the National Science Fair with Conrad Hess. The expenses are covered for Mr. Hess and most of Mrs. Rost; she is requesting reimbursement of expenses per Board Policy 2320.

Quentin Burdick moved to approve the request from Mrs. Linda Rost to travel out of Montana to attend the National Science Fair with a Baker High School student. Samm Schermele seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

E-SPORTS TRAVEL REQUEST

Mr. Skogen presented to the board a request for E-Sports to travel for state competition. Mr. Anderson has been overseeing the group for two (2) years and now has the opportunity, based on playoff results from tomorrow evening, to compete at the State Championship hosted live at the University of Montana campus. Students have the opportunity to compete for college scholarships based on their performance and application. E-Sports has been running a pilot program for the last two(2) years and MHSA has discussed its potential sanction as a MHSA sponsored activity. Mr. Anderson would accompany the team, if they qualify to compete. He would travel in a school vehicle, need meals and hotel rooms. Mr. Anderson is also working with the state organization on potential funding/grants to elevate the burden of cost.

Dalon Dyke moved to approve the travel request from Mr. Anderson as presented. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

2023-24 INSURANCE RATE APPROVAL

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the health insurance renewal with Blue Cross Blue Shield for 2023-24. The average increase to rates was 11% and impacting the employees out of pocket premiums less than \$100/month. The District will be impacted about \$4,800/month and overall cost increase approximately \$58,000 for the year.

| BENEFIT CHOICES: | | <u>2023-24 Rates</u> | <i>EE cost</i> | <i>\$\$ increase</i> | <i>increase</i> | <u>2022-23 Rates</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| #1 Blue Choice | EE | \$728.94 | \$0.00 | \$49.28 | 7.251% | \$679.66 |
| Deductible | EE+Spouse | \$1,457.88 | \$728.94 | \$98.56 | 7.251% | \$1,359.32 |
| \$1,500 Indiv (max out \$3,500) | EE+Child(ren) | \$1,166.30 | \$437.36 | \$78.84 | 7.250% | \$1,087.46 |
| 80%/20% | Family | \$1,968.06 | \$1,239.12 | \$132.98 | 7.247% | \$1,835.08 |
| | | | | | | |
| #2 Blue Choice H.S.A | EE | \$693.50 | \$0.00 | \$79.73 | 12.990% | \$613.77 |
| \$3,500 ded/max out pocket | EE+Spouse | \$1,387.00 | \$693.50 | \$159.46 | 12.990% | \$1,227.54 |
| | EE+Child(ren) | \$1,109.61 | \$416.11 | \$127.58 | 12.991% | \$982.03 |
| <i>H.S.A Amount \$425.28</i> | Family | \$1,872.38 | \$1,178.88 | \$215.20 | 12.986% | \$1,657.18 |
| | | | | | | |
| #3 Blue Choice H.S.A | EE | \$599.88 | \$0.00 | \$70.95 | 13.414% | \$528.93 |
| \$5,000 ded/max out pocket | EE+Spouse | \$1,199.76 | \$599.88 | \$141.91 | 13.415% | \$1,057.85 |
| | EE+Child(ren) | \$959.80 | \$359.92 | \$113.52 | 13.414% | \$846.28 |
| <i>H.S.A Amount \$1,548.72</i> | Family | \$1,619.62 | \$1,019.74 | \$191.52 | 13.411% | \$1,428.10 |

Samm Schermele moved to approve the health insurance renewal with Blue Cross Blue Shield of MT for the 2023-24 school year. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATION

A. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Mr. Skogen presented to the board a recommendation for hire for the Associate Principal/Athletic Director for the 2023-24 school year; based on three (3) interviews conducted, it is recommended to hire Mr. Kole Passes for the position.

Quentin Burdick moved to hire Mr. Kole Passes as Associate Principal/Activities Director for the 2023-24 school year; the hire is contingent on successful passage of a background check. Samm Schermele seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

2023-24 CERTIFIED TEACHER CONTRACT CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Skogen presents to the board a list of certified teachers for 2023-24 school year. The following is a list of certified teachers:

| First Name | Last Name | Position | 23-24 contract given | 22-23 contract given | |
|------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----|
| LISA | BURDICK | Counselor | 29 | 28 | |
| CATHY | FRYE | Counselor | 4 | 3 | ** |
| KALLIE | BENTER | Elem Teacher | 9 | 8 | |
| JENNIFER | DUKART | Elem Teacher | 8 | 7 | |
| JOSI | HADLEY | Elem Teacher | 8 | 7 | |
| MARANDA | HASTIG | Elem Teacher | 14 | 13 | |
| JODEE | HESS | Elem Teacher | 9 | 8 | |
| VAL | JOHNSON | Elem Teacher | 18 | 17 | |
| KIM | LESH | Elem Teacher | 15 | 14 | |
| MAKENZIE | NOSEEP | Elem Teacher | 2 | 1 | |
| JOHN | NOWAK | Elem Teacher | 12 | 11 | |
| SHEILA | O'CONNOR | Elem Teacher | 7 | 6 | |
| EMILY | PALO | Elem Teacher | 4 | 3 | ** |
| BREEANN | SHELL | Elem Teacher | 11 | 10 | |
| SHAWNA | SCHILLINGER | Elem Teacher | 25 | 24 | |
| JILL | SHELHAMER | Elem Teacher | 9 | 8 | |
| MOLLEE | STENBERG | Elem Teacher | 4 | 3 | ** |
| KARI | STRANDBAKKE | Elem Teacher | 6 | 5 | |
| AMANDA | TUNBY | Elem Teacher | 8 | 7 | |
| ASHLEY | VARNER | Elem Teacher | 7 | 6 | |
| BReELLE | WACKER | Elem Teacher | 3 | 2 | |
| TIM | ROBINSON | Elem/HS Teacher | 32 | 31 | |
| BO | LINGLE | HS Teacher | 22 | 21 | |
| MICHELLE | ANDERSON | HS Teacher | 18 | 17 | |
| LYNN | BEACH | HS Teacher | 12 | 11 | |
| PAMELA | BEACH | HS Teacher | 44 | 43 | |
| JESSICA | BOGGS | HS Teacher | 10 | 9 | |
| TOM | BREITBACH | HS Teacher | 9 | 8 | |
| ABBEY | DUNN | HS Teacher | 2 | 1 | |
| HILLARY | FRANK | HS Teacher | 4 | 3 | ** |
| KOLLEEN | GUSTAD | HS Teacher | 2 | 1 | |
| HAILEY | HAAN | HS Teacher | 2 | 1 | |
| BRITTANY | HOVERSLAND | HS Teacher | 11 | 10 | |
| JAY | HOVERSLAND | HS Teacher | 18 | 17 | |
| LINDA | ROST | HS Teacher | 10 | 9 | |
| BLAKE | SCHWAGLER | HS Teacher | 6 | 5 | |
| JAY | SHUMAKER | HS Teacher | 22 | 21 | |
| DERYK | VAN ZEE | HS Teacher | 11 | 10 | |
| JILL | WHITEMAN | HS Teacher | 28 | 27 | |
| DAVID | CARPENTER | Special Education | 2 | 1 | |
| KARA | MACKAY | Special Education | 3 | 2 | |

The following are teachers up for tenure: Cathy Frye, Emily Palo, Mollee Stenberg and Hillary Frank.

Samm Schermele moved to offer contracts to all certified staff as listed in grades K-12 for the 2023-24 school year and offer tenured contracts to Mrs. Cathy Frye, Mrs. Emily Palo, Miss Mollee Stenberg and Mrs. Hillary Frank. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATIONS

A. CUSTODIAN

B. PARAPROFESSIONAL

C. SUMMER CUSTODIAL

Mr. Skogen presented to the board a list of various positions to hire. The following are being recommended for hire:

Mrs. Sheila Olsen, Custodian
Mrs. Cheryl Goodman – Paraprofessional 2023-24
Mrs. Loveden Uecker – Summer Custodian
Ms. Rorie Piil – Summer Custodian (fill-in part-time)
Miss Cheyanne Dame – summer painter
Mr. Tim Robinson – Groundskeeper
Mr. Jaren Lingle – asst groundskeeper (fill-in)

Samm Schermele moved to approve the recommendation and hire the above listed individuals as presented. All hires are contingent on the pending results of a background check and/or passage of an employment physical should the position require it. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Lena Kennel

There was a full staff cleaning day on April 16th. 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. A survey was put out on March 9th to gauge the public's interest in different aquatic courses being held throughout the school year. The options in this survey included Children's Private Swimming Lessons, Parent & Tots Classes, Adult Private or Group Swimming Lessons, Water Aerobics Classes, and Water Safety Classes. Whether or not these are implemented depends on the input we receive from the community in conjunction with staff availability at the time. We've had a total of 44 responses, with Water Aerobics and Children's Private Swimming Lessons being the most popular options and people showing interest in all other options as well. This survey also included a section in which other classes for the recreation center to hold could be suggested. Group fitness classes seem to be the biggest request so far, with specifically listed suggestions including TRX bands, Zumba, dance classes, tabata, weight training, Pilates, yoga, cycling, weight loss challenges, and wallyball. Other requests included a women's volleyball league, gymnastics, track, and any other classes or activities for children. I have been looking into possible ways to accommodate as many of these requests as possible. I currently have someone interested in reserving times and renting the fitness class room to teach yoga classes. Other things I'm continuing to research are the possibilities of wallyball/racquetball classes for children, wallyball/racquetball tournaments for adults, weight loss challenge options, and Zumba classes for both adults and children, as any other requested classes would require teachers to be 18+ while Zumba may be possible with parental consent. I am remaining in contact with instructors in Dickinson and Billings regarding the availability of LGI and WSIT courses so I can hold all staff training at our facility and offer training to anyone in the surrounding area. Neither currently have any courses scheduled. I am looking into available LG and WSI courses in the event that I am unable to receive certification before other staff needs to be trained. We have one lifeguard leaving at the end of April and another at the end of May. Three others are expected to leave for college by the end of summer.

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)

Pool usage is still up, with there being 550 swims this March. This is 172 more than March of 2021 and 287 more than in 2022, as well as an increase from February's total of 458 (247 in 2021 and 283 in 2022). There was no record of racquetball court usage for March 2021 or 2022, but this March we had 52 sign-ins. This is a significant increase from the 17 in January and 12 in February. This difference would be in part due to more accurate tracking of usage through sign-in sheets, but also increased general foot traffic. Weight and cardio room usage is still up. There were 872 sign-ins for March (169 more than in 2021 and 213 more than in 2022). This made for an average of 28.13 sign-ins per day. In April, we will likely see the usual drop in use as the weather gets nicer. Below are charts showing this data, as well as average usage throughout the week, updated through March.

2. **MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown**

Submitted written report in absence. Exit Lights for BHS and Lincoln Schools and will be installed when Direct Electric can fit us in. Gym doors leading to the Complex are fixed and the bars taken off. Fire hoses have been removed from all stations and we will be reinspected after the signs are installed. Kirk has the new sink installed in the wood shop that needed to be replaced and he's working on the supply and return line under the High School. Prom went off without any problems and we had a great crew that helped with cleanup on Sunday. Sports booster shed, and blue garage have been moved for the new garage project in the South parking lot. Baker Jam was held April 1st and 2nd in the BHS and Longfellow gyms. The Rec Dept did an excellent job of cleaning up afterwards. Both concession areas were cleaned very well by the organizations that had them. Water has been turned on for the Stadium and Tennis courts. We have been busy this week cleaning to get ready for the 1st Track and Tennis meets on Saturday April 15th.

3. **TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson**

Updated Obsolete Equipment List -

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PDhwtJXoKWB286nEsJ_3uy8i_3d8-fr_P1m46dHTbi4/edit?usp=sharing

Awarded Oneok Grant for a new poster printer. New equipment purchasing is underway: 1st Grade iPads, 3rd Grade & 7th Grade Chromebooks. Staff Surface Tablets to be purchased as well. Hallway Monitor Expansion (Middle School and South Hallway). Spring Testing - Tech side of things, everything has gone smoothly.

4. **PRINCIPALS**

a. **ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers**

Students of the month at the elementary were K-2 - Ophelia Miller and Brezden Sanders
3-6 - Treylan Harbaugh, Ryder Heiser, Danica Croy, and Ailey Bettenhausen.

March 21st Mrs. Tunby hosted a pizza party for the students in her class. Parents were invited to come to read with their child and enjoy a pizza party dinner served by the high school student council members. April is Autism Awareness Month, students and staff wore blue and Mrs. MacKay shared with our K-2 what it means to have autism and why we have a month to raise awareness. April 4th Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Hadley attended the PVCC Robotics PD on Edison Programmable Robots. These are a great educational tool that can be used at all grade levels. PTA had a food drive at Longfellow. Students in grades 3-6 brought in over 1,000 cans of food and nearly \$1,000. Mrs. Palo's fourth graders had the most donations. Their reward was to pie the principal! Thank you to Mrs. Benter for planning and organizing the checkers and chess tournament before Easter break. It was a HUGE success. Lane Wyrick was the overall winner. On March 30th we had 23 Kindergarteners register. Based on this, our projected classrooms for each building is as follows:

Lincoln: Kindergarten (2), 1st Grade (2), 2nd Grade (3)

Longfellow: 3rd Grade (2), 4th Grade (2), 5th Grade (2), 6th Grade (2)

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

Mrs. Hillary Franks and Mrs. Connie Alberts deserve thanks for organizing a fun prom this year. Thank you to Mr. Scott Anderson for his help announcing the grand march at Prom. I'd like to also thank Mrs. Lisa Burdick for all of her hard work on administering our MAPS and ACT testing this spring and for help organizing/assisting with the Baker Career Fair.

We recently have addressed and/or focused on the various topics below: NFHS Broadcast Profit Sharing - \$2,925.08 (21-22 School Year), PE Curriculum Restructure (PE1, PE2, Lifetime Fitness, Weights, "0" Hour Weights), Adding Financial Literacy courses to our offerings (MS Exploratory, 8th grade & JR years), MCC - Opportunity Realized Program, COLS 111 - Career Development and Interpersonal Skills, Exploring an MCC Partnership for Meat Processing and Nursing Courses (23-24) 5th-6th Grade AAU Tackle Football (Registration Completed, 28 Participants) Baker Jam Concessions (\$1,850), Looking for sponsorships (See Baker Rec Letter). Attended the Dan Stanton Coaching Clinic and the Vance Peterson Memorial Coaching Clinic. Montana Youth Challenge Academy In-Person Experience (Blackhawk Helicopter to Dillon, MT) April 12th. May 3rd MYCA will be presenting at Baker High School for interested students, 1-on-1 family sessions.

March Spartans of the Month: Owen Stieg (HS Boy), Madison O'Connor (HS Girl), Cru Schwartz (JH Boy), Bree Straub (JH Girl).

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

Mrs. Burdick is busy with Spring Testing. MAP, SBAC and SAT tests. AP Tests will take place in early May. Pre-registration for next year's classes is wrapping up. District Music Festival- April 21 & 22 in Glendive. Health Fair- April 26 in the High School Gym. National BPA- April 26-30 in Anaheim, CA (3 Students Qualified). State Music Festival- May 5 & 6 in Billings. Divisional Golf-

May 8 at Lake Hills (Billings). Pops Concert- May 9 in Longfellow Gym. Student Council Speeches/ Elections- May 9 & 10. District Track Meet- May 11 in Baker. Music Awards Luncheon- May 15 in High School Concession area. State Golf- May 15-17 in Shelby. Elementary Concerts- May 16. Divisional Track- May 18 in Laurel. Divisional Tennis- May 18 in Glendive (Hosted by Wolf Point). FFA Banquet- May 19 at the Exhibit Hall. High School Graduation- May 21 at 2:00 pm in Longfellow Gym. Athletic Banquet- May 23 at 6:00 pm (Exhibit Hall). 8th Grade Picnic and Graduation- May 24. State Track- May 26 & 27 in Butte. State Tennis- May 26 & 27 in Great Falls. Last day of School- May 26. Spring Sports Schedules for the Regular Season changes from day to day. We try to post all the changes on Facebook and the Daily Bulletin as soon as possible.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Bus route requests have been made and call the committee together in the next few weeks to get a proposal for next year's routes for approval. Starting to finalize summer projects; planning timeline with McKinstry as we dig out the courtyard and finish up by August. Current openings are MS Mathematics, 7-12 Industrial Arts, English, Special Education, Paraprofessional(s) - Elementary & High School

Next scheduled board meeting is May 22, 2023 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Johanna Keenig

Chairman