

REGULAR MEETING

February 13, 2024

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 Paul Schwartz, Amanda Tunby, Josi Hadley, Lisa Burdick, Aidyn Schwartz, Conrad Hess, Brittany Hoversland, Kaitlyn Moberg, Mallory Varner, Brittany O'Connor, Jaren Lingle, Emily Burdick, Aiden Renner, Jaron Kessinger, Andee Albrighton, Kallie Benter, Mollie Stenberg, Maranda Hastig, Bodee Swarts, BreeAnn Schell, and Zander Rost.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 59092 to 59162 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Flint approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EDUCATION REPORT

Not at this time

STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION/PROGRESS

ACTION ITEMS

CLOSE UP TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Brittany Hoversland presents to the board the travel assistance request for the Close-Up students and gives a summary of their trip; they will be going to Washington DC April 6th – 14th. Jay Quenzer moved to approve the travel assistance per student for their Close-Up trip as presented. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

EXTRACURRICULAR GROUP REQUEST – E-SPORTS

Scott Anderson presents to the board the request for E-Sports as a club/activity. Jaron Kessinger is Rocket League captain and Conrad Hess, Overwatch captain further explain the process of their club currently as they have been competing together for the last year. They provide the board with their by-laws and charter to get started as a club as MHSA has announced it as a new and emerging activity. It is more of a pilot program in the state and will be re-evaluated by MHSA in the next year. Right now, the students are playing the games at home but end vision as it moves through MHSA would be to establish a place to practice at the school. Mr. Anderson said this has been student driven and he is there to support the students; the students created the by-laws for the club.

Karen Wang moved to approve the group request per BP3550F for Baker High School E-Sports activity.

Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

BP 2410 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Skogen presents to the board the administration was recently contacted by Ms. Melissa Robbins, the Montana Youth Challenge Academy Public School Liaison. She was wondering what our policy was regarding students from Baker in the program and if we award them a high school diploma if they complete the program. Several High Schools throughout Montana allow students whom complete the Montana Youth Challenge program to be awarded a high school diploma. Ms. Robbins proved several examples of verbiage. Below is Billings Public Schools wording in their policy and being recommended to include in our BP2410:

Baker High School allows students who complete the Montana Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) to receive a high school diploma. The board approves the awarding of a Baker Public Schools diploma to an BPS/MYCA student who meets the following criteria: 1) Completes the Montana Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) program of study, 2) Pass a HiSET exam at MYCA, and 3) Receive an endorsement from the BPS administrative team.

The administration feels this would be a great opportunity in addition to an incentive for our students who attend and complete the Montana Youth Challenge Academy. Karen Wang moved that the Board of Trustees approve changes to Board Policy 2410 as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR ELECTION

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the election resolution.

TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for School District No. 12, Fallon County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, 7th day of May, 2024, which date is not less than seventy (70) days after the passage of this resolution.

The election will be conducted by **mail ballot** election. Voting will end at 8:00 pm on Election Day. The designated place of deposit will be located at Baker Public Schools Boardroom, 1015 S 3rd St W, Baker, MT.

The purpose of the election is to:

1. Elect **one (1)** trustee for a three-year term and **one (1)** trustee for a one-year term.
2. Approval of additional levies to operate and maintain Baker Public Schools for the 2024-25 school year.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes Jennifer Mettler, election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with **13-1-304** and **20-3-313 MCA**.

Three electors of this district who are qualified to vote at such election are hereby appointed to act as judges of the election: Elaine Stanhope, Candace Mettler, and Therese Thompson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of this school district is hereby directed to notify the above-named election judges of their appointment and to notify the county election administrator of the date of holding said election, and request the clerk to close regular registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law. If any of these judges should not be able to serve, the election administrator will choose a replacement from certified judges.

No further proceedings were conducted relating to the election.

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the election resolution as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT APPROVAL TO SELL/DISPOSE

Mr. Anderson presents to the board a list of obsolete equipment.

	School TAG #	Serial Number	Type	Brand	Model	Purchased
Discarded 8/28/2023	272-20100370	MYS0251064	Inkjet Printer	HP	Photosmart Pro 89100	Spring 2011
HS 5008 - Discard	265-20140036	Q2ED-6EDY-N8KX	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140050	Q2ED-F6WU-ABDY	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140044	Q2ED-DTLC-TL8Q	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140043	Q2ED-DTCL-FDWQ	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140039	Q2ED-6GKG-FLGL	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140045	Q2ED-I2HF-MPW6	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140047	Q2ED-HY4X-86YF	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
HS 5008 - Discard	20140051	Q2ED-DYND-HVYQ	Wireless AP	Cisco	Meraki MR24	Spring 2014
2024-1	20150102	86KXC42	Desktop	Dell	Optiplex 9030 AIO	Spring 2015
2024-Printer1	272-20100464	JPDF022501	Laser Printer	HP	Laserjet P4014	Spring 2010
2024-2	20150091	86KVC42	Desktop	Dell	Optiplex 9030 AIO	Spring 2015
2024-3	20150094	86N1D42	Desktop	Dell	Optiplex 9030 AIO	Spring 2015
Parts (Parts Pulled 11/25/2023)	20140087	F7C7X21	Laptop	Dell	Latitude E5440	Spring 2014
Parts (Parts Pulled 11/25/2023)	20120146	4H4FC11	Laptop	Dell	Latitude E5520	Spring 2012
Parts (Parts Pulled 11/25/2023)	1GBW6W93		Chromebook	Dell	Chromebook 11	SPring 2023
Major Water Damage	45159403253		Tablet	Microsoft	Surface Pro 1807	Spring 2021
2024-4	20130530	24368531153	Tablet	Microsoft	Surface Pro 128	Spring 2013
Non Working - Discard	NP00265516020F		Inkjet Printer	HP	Design Jet 3200	Spring 2015
2024-5	20110121	JOC1FP1	Desktop	Dell	Optiplex 960 Slim	Spring 2011
HS 5008 - Discard	272-20100467	JPDF022463	Laser Printer	HP	Laserjet P4014	Spring 2010
2024-6	270-20140009	CO2LCUY6F812	Desktop	Apple	iMac	Fall 2013
2024-C1	20170197	JSWSMF2	Chromebook	Dell	Chromebook 11	Spring 2017
2024-C2	20170134	6306MF2	Chromebook	Dell	Chromebook 11	Spring 2017
2024-7	20140005	CO2LLAW7FB12	Desktop	Apple	iMac 21"	N/A

Karen Wang moved to approve the list of obsolete equipment as presented. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen stated based on the interview process, we are recommending the following individuals be hired for the 2024-2025 school year, for the below stated positions:

- Mrs. Kathryn Vergara – Elementary
- Mrs. Christina Schmid – Special Education
- Ms. Keeja Cook -- English

Jay Quenzer moved to hire Mrs. Kathryn Vergara as an elementary teacher, Mrs. Christina Schmid as a special education teacher and Ms. Keeja Cook as an English teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. All hires are contingent passage of a background check.. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen presented to the board based on the interview process, we are recommending the Board of Trustees hire Mrs. Danielle Fisher as a paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year.

Cody Strandbakke moved hire Ms. Danielle Fisher as a paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year. Hire is contingent on passed of a background check. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the following individuals are being recommended for each stated position for the 2024-2025 school year:

Mr. Scott Anderson – Technology Director

*Mrs. Erin Nevers – K-6 Principal

Mr. Bill Brist – Associate Principal/Activities Director

Mr. Dom Vergara – 7-12 Principal

*indicates tenured contract being offered.

Jay Quenzer moved to hire Mr. Scott Anderson as Technology Director, Mrs. Erin Nevers as K-6 Principal, Mr. Bill Brist as Associate Principal/Activities Director, and Mr. Dom Vergara as 7-12 Principal for the 2024-2025 school year. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

3RD QUARTER OIL & GAS ALLOCATION

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board this quarters oil and gas revenue. This quarter’s oil and gas revenue is (\$762,640.83); per 20-9-323 MCA. Oil and Gas the District may keep FY24 is \$5,645,904.04

1ST QTR 2022		1ST QTR 2023	
AUG-22	\$ 965,620.69	AUG-23	\$ 739,964.19
avg price: \$95.01		avg price: \$75.99	
2ND QTR 2022		2ND QTR 2023	
NOV-2022	\$ 1,179,151.14	NOV-2023	\$ 675,921.59
avg price: \$108.52		avg price: \$73.56	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,144,771.83	SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,415,885.78
3RD QTR 2022		3RD QTR 2023	
FEB-2023	\$ 1,010,988.70	FEB-2024	\$ 762,640.83
avg price: \$91.43		avg price: \$82.05	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 3,155,760.53	SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,178,526.61
4TH QTR 2022		4TH QTR 2023	
MAY-2023	\$ 815,109.51	MAY-2024	
avg price: \$81.48		avg price: \$78.56	
FY23 TOTAL	\$ 3,970,870.04	FY24 TOTAL	\$ 2,178,526.61

To date, \$478,562.42 oil and gas has been allocated to Building Reserve Fund; \$1,674,964.16 has been allocated to the Flex Fund. As of end of January, Flex Fund cash balance is \$6,123,349.28.

Jay Quenzer moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about February 1, 2024 to the Building Reserve \$262,640.83 and Flex Fund \$500,000, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received.. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Kelsey Miller

No report at this time.

2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown

Taking advantage of the warm weather we changed the Filters for the Pool vent on the roof along with the Gym AHU units. Jason Cornwells 3 month evaluation was done on January 23rd and he is doing a great job for the district. BHS and Longfellow generators were checked and I added extra antifreeze to one of the Longfellow units as it was alarming coolant to temp to low. Custodial staff was very busy the last month with the Basketball season in full swing. Everyone worked diligently to cover games and cleanup.

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Nothing more to report at this time.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers

January Students of the Month

Lincoln - Madison Johnson and Chantz Huft

Longfellow - Jason Benedict and Rye Rost

2023-2024 - 2nd Semester Absences - Starting January 16th

Currently we have 65, 26% of our students in K-6 have 3 or more absences for the 2nd semester.

30% (44%), 75 (113) students, with 0 absences in January! Mid-Term Quarter 3 - Wednesday,

February 14th Early Release at 2:15. No School - District Basketball Tournaments - February 15th

& 16th; Missoula Children’s Theatre - February 19th - 24th; Performances are Saturday, February

24th at 3:30 and 6:00 PM - Longfellow Gym; Divisional Basketball Tournaments - February 29th -

March 2nd; State Basketball Tournaments - March 7th - 9th

Staff In-service - Wednesday, March 13th

Early Release at 2:15

End of Quarter 3 - Friday, March 15th
Easter Break - Thursday, March 28th - Holiday Schedule 1:29 Release
Friday, March 29th - No School
Monday, April 1st - No School

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

I would like to take a moment to thank Mr. Skogen for all of his hard work on the 4-day school week surveys and calendar options. I'd also like to give a big thank you to Ms. Dunn and Mr. Menger for all of the work in upgrading our greenhouse. It's worth taking the time to visit and see the progress they have made.

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

- Principals Conference Update
 - o Graduation Requirements 2026
 - We are currently making the necessary changes to meet the new graduation requirements. (Adding: Financial Literacy Courses)
 - o Charter Schools
 - Next Charter School application window opens June 1st
 - 19 out of 26 applications were approved for new charter schools in Montana
 - o Privatization vs. Public Schools – The battle over funding
 - CHA – Community Health Survey Meeting (Mrs. Murnion)
 - o School District Component
 - Graduation Planning
 - o Scholarships
 - o Outcomes – College Applications, Job Applications
 - o Valedictorian/Salutatorian Conversation / Writing Graduation Speech
 - COLS 111- Career Development and Interpersonal Skills (MCC Offering)
 - o Print off handout
 - Youth Risk Behavior Survey (*22-23 Last year)
 - o How often do you use social media? 33% are using social media multiple times per hour, over 80% are using social media every hour
 - Tutoring Service provided by our National Honors Society
 - o Positive Feedback (Student Example)
 - Decrease in major behaviors (December and January)
- Discipline Report
- 2023-2024 (As of 2/7/2024): 189 Handbook Violations, 73 Cell Phone Violations, Major (OSS/ISS) – 34; Minor (Detentions) - 82*Not Including detentions for tardies.
- January Spartans of the Month (Reserved Parking Spot, Spartan T-Shirt, Lunch w/ Principal, Certificate, Facebook, Newspaper): Jaron Lingle (HS Boy), Avery O'Connor (HS Girl), Lukas Rost (JH Boy), Adison Menger (JH Girl)
- Upcoming Events/Meetings: Summer Administrator Institute (July 21-24); Recruitment Fairs

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

Wrestling Teams Earn Hardware at Championship Tournaments

At the Eastern B/C Division Tournament in Wolf Point, both the girls and boys wrestling teams earned Division Trophies with their team performances. Girls – 217 points (110 more than 2nd place team) with 13 individual placers (all were top 8) and ten state qualifiers (including 3 division champions). Boys – 176 pts (Behind HP, ahead of Glasgow) with 10 individual placers (top 8) and nine state qualifiers (including 4 division champions). At the MHSAA All Class State Championship Tournament in Billings, the girls team won the B/C State Team Championship with an 89-point performance. That was 3 points better than runner-up Cut Bank. The team was led by All State performers Macy Tate (4th) and Jayda Harbaugh (2nd). The early rounds set the team up, and the later rounds allowed them to hang on. The boys team finished tied for ninth place with 62 pts. They were led by Individual State Champion Riley Davis and All-State Wrestlers Jesse and Chris Brawley. High School Basketball teams enter 3B District Tournament looking to extend seasons The Girls Varsity team is currently ranked number one in the state having defeated Huntley Project near the end of the regular season. They go into the District Tournament as the number two seed on a tie-breaker. The Boys Varsity team enters the District Tournament as the number three seed. They open up against Colstrip to begin the Tournament. The top three teams will move on to the Divisional Tournament schedule for Billings beginning on 2/29. The HS Junior Varsity, C and Middle School teams have all recently wrapped up their competitive schedules. With the end of the regular season, I'd like to mention our local officials that handled the bulk of our sub-varsity games this season: Paul Schwartz, Steve Schweigert and Courtney Dietz. They did a fantastic job for us, as did all of those

who stepped up to help cover the Activities List for the winter sports. Our concessions did an outstanding job, as well.

Music Department's Participation at the Americanism Concert a Success The Americanism concert was held on Feb. 6th at the Longfellow Gymnasium. This event, hosted by the American Legion, featured several musical ensembles including groups from both the Middle and High School Music Departments. Upcoming: Missoula Children's Theatre at Baker MS (February 19 – 24) Pep Band and Cheer Squad to perform at Basketball Tournaments Both the Pep Band and the Cheer Squad will perform during the upcoming District, Divisional and State Basketball Tournaments representing Baker High School during the pre-game, half-time and post-game time slots. Spring Sports – Tennis, Golf and Track & Field – Start Practice on 3/11- Academic Olympics & State BPA The Spring Sports Parents Night will be held on Monday, March 4th. Academic Olympics MS-3/5, HS 3/6 in Miles City. State BPA will be in Billings on March 10th, 11th and 12th.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Current Openings: MS Mathematics, HS Mathematics, 7-12 Industrial Arts, Elementary Vice Principal (One (1) internal application). Resignation(s): Mr. Jay Shumaker–HS Mathematics

Bus Contract: Currently open for bid, Closes February 20th, 2024.

Negotiations, 4th Meeting: Thursday February 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

Strategic Planning: Tuesday February 20, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided

Graduate Profile (Accreditation requirement)

Summer projects: drainage in the north parking lot at the high school, refinish the high school gym, new drop down basketball hoop on east end of gym, remove carpeting off the walls in the high school gym, continue with the flooring district wide. Plan to contract with McKinstry to start a design build to look at the feasibility to build more apartment complex.

Next scheduled board meeting is March 12, 2024 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Clint Flint

Chairman