

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
2 **OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
3 **HELD OCTOBER 10, 2022**  
4

5 A duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Great Falls Public  
6 Schools was held at the District Offices Building, 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day  
7 of October 2022.

8  
9 **ROLL CALL:** Brian Patrick took roll call.

10  
11 **Trustees Present:** Kim Skornogoski, Vice Chairperson  
12 Bill Bronson  
13 Marlee Sunchild  
14 Amie Thompson – via Zoom

15  
16 **Trustees Absent:** Gordon Johnson, Chairperson  
17 Mark Finnicum  
18 Paige Turoski

19  
20 **Others Present:** Superintendent Tom Moore; Director of Business Operations Brian  
21 Patrick; Executive Directors for Student Achievement Lance Boyd and Jackie  
22 Mainwaring; Director of Human Resources Kerry Dattilo; Director of Technology Tom  
23 Hering and Director of GFPS Foundation Stephanie Schnider.

24  
25 Also present was Tom Cubbage, Great Falls Education Association (GFEA) President.

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27 At 5:30 pm, Vice Chairperson Skornogoski called to order the Regular Meeting of the  
28 Board of Trustees and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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31 **ADOPT AGENDA**

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33 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Marlee Sunchild, passed unanimously to adopt the  
34 agenda as presented.

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37 **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

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39 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Marlee Sunchild, passed unanimously to approve  
40 the Consent Agenda as presented.

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42 **A. Minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Board Meeting** – The Board  
43 approved the minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

44  
45 **B. Personnel Actions** – The Board approved the Personnel Actions as presented.

46  
47 **C. Good Apple Awards** - The Board approved the nominations for Good Apple  
48 Awards: Riverview PTA members Jamie Ronholdt, Tara Hageman, Kami Bramlette,

1 Arika Hagel, Steve McGregor and Christine Phelps, Morningside Elementary School  
2 Teacher Caressa Hewitt, West Elementary School Counselor Dana Freshly and  
3 Starbase Instructors Blaine Goosen, Shannon McInerney, Lisa Hering, Kara Bates and  
4 Teryn Brown.

5  
6 **D. Montana School Bus Drivers Certificates – OPI TR-35’s** – The Board approved  
7 the Montana Bus Drivers Certificates – OPI TR-35’s for the individuals listed in the  
8 agenda.

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10 **E. TR-1 Bus Route Reimbursement Claims** – The Board approved the TR-1 Bus  
11 Route Reimbursement Claims for bus routes of the high school and elementary districts.

12  
13 **F. Transitional Kindergarten Student Attendance Agreements at the Early**  
14 **Learning Center for the 2022-2023 School Year**– The Board approved the Early  
15 Learning Family Center Transitional Kindergarten Student Attendance Agreements  
16 listed in the agenda for the 2022-2023 school year.

17  
18 **G. Incoming Student Attendance Agreements for the 2022-2023 School Year.** The  
19 Board approved the 2022-2023 Student Attendance Agreements listed in the agenda.  
20 The tuition will be paid by the parents, district of residence, and/or state.

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23 **COMMUNICATION**

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25 **A. Report of the Student Representatives**

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27 Paris Gibson Education Center (PGEC) Student Representatives Stratton Kiser, Miah  
28 LeDeau and Taelar Severson reported that the aquaponic tanks are growing produce,  
29 the hot peppers are ready to be harvested, herbs are growing for use in the culinary  
30 classes and the recent honey harvest was a huge success. They explained that the  
31 science students designed and built rafts from recycled water bottles which floated and  
32 successfully held a student. Science students recently went to Monarch, MT to hunt for  
33 fossils in limestone and more students will be visiting the World Museum of Mining in  
34 Butte, MT to study minerals. Stratton, Miah and Taelar reported on events that were  
35 held during Native American Heritage Week and on the Warrior Health Society that took  
36 place at PGEC on October 10. The students announced the next Bison Harvest is  
37 scheduled for November 11. Other recent events for PGEC students included Free  
38 College Application Week, a College and Career Fair at the University of Providence,  
39 and Self-Care classes offered by school counselor Randy Faechner.

40  
41 Great Falls High (GFH) School Student Representatives Hayley Bouchard, Ryan  
42 Harrington and MacKenna Medina reported on the Homecoming events held  
43 September 26-30, 2022 and congratulated crowned Homecoming King Wyatt DeVoss  
44 and Queen Marika Semana. They gave updates on the fall sports of football, soccer,  
45 golf, cross-country and volleyball. During the school break on October 20-21, many  
46 band, orchestra and choir students will be attending All-State in Bozeman, MT. The  
47 students announced the GFH 2022 Musical is *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor*  
48 *Dreamcoat*. Performances are scheduled at 7:30 pm on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and

1 11<sup>th</sup> and at 2:30 pm on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Hayley, Ryan and MacKenna reported  
2 that Honors Anatomy and Physiology classes had the opportunity to do a Cell  
3 Observation Lab and that Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) students  
4 opened their store at the school where snacks, Bison gear, etc. can be purchased. On  
5 October 18<sup>th</sup>, Worlds of Work (WOW) will take place at the University of Providence and  
6 Great Falls College – Montana State University campuses. The event is designed to  
7 showcase career opportunities for all 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. The students  
8 reported that the Character Strong word for October is *Responsibility*. Great Falls High  
9 students are helping freshman navigate high school *responsibilities* with their *Our Teach*  
10 *Too Tuesdays* and *What We Do Wednesday* activities.

11  
12 C.M. Russell (CMR) High School Student Representatives Luke Banks and Caroline  
13 Hermiller reported on the Homecoming events held October 3-7, 2022, that included a  
14 Powder Puff football game, hall and door decorating and Homecoming parade. In the  
15 month of October, CMR students and staff will be spending time focusing on  
16 *Responsibility* during their *What We Do Wednesday* presentations for the Character  
17 Education Program. The students gave updates on the fall sport teams and announced  
18 the start of the 45<sup>th</sup> High School House last month. Mr. Halverson recently taught the  
19 Advanced Placement Government class about media bias and how it functions as a  
20 linkage institution between voters and the government. Honors Anatomy and Physiology  
21 students learned about the different anatomical landmarks of the body along with some  
22 of the body's planes. Students practiced the terminology by creating people of clay and  
23 marking the different regions. Luke and Caroline reported on the Fall Exhibit Art Show,  
24 the upcoming presentation of Beauty and the Beast, the Fall Leadership Conference  
25 attended by the Business Professional of America (BPA) students and the baskets  
26 made by the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) students for the nursing  
27 stations during a recent community flu shot clinic. They announced the CMR Peer  
28 Mentor Groups have started back up this week and that the seniors took their yearbook  
29 class picture on Friday.

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31 **B. Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB) Communication – None**

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34 **C. Superintendent's Report**  
35 Superintendent Moore thanked the student representatives for their academic updates  
36 and said he is impressed on how they are implementing the Character traits of each  
37 month into their daily activities. He extended his appreciation to students and staff for  
38 making each high school's Homecoming special.

39 The 2022 City Cross-Country meet is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> at Anaconda Hills with  
40 elementary, middle and high school students participating.

41 Superintendent Moore thanked Community Connections Manager Becky Nelson for  
42 hosting an event for new teachers to get-together and enjoy a night at the Great Falls  
43 Symphony. Music Director Dusty Molyneaux and Great Falls Symphony guest  
44 conductor Gordon Johnson spoke to the new teachers and their guests prior to the  
45 concert.

46 Congratulations was extended to the Great Falls High School's Grand Opening of their  
47 DECA store. Superintendent Moore said the co-curricular activities students are  
48 involved in help with their student learning and academic achievement. He reported that

1 the Fall VISIONS Newsletter is currently on the District’s website and is filled with  
2 important information for all high school students and their families.  
3 Superintendent Moore reviewed the agenda for the Worlds of Work (WOW) event on  
4 October 18 and said volunteers are still needed.  
5 National School Lunch Week is October 10-14. Superintendent Moore acknowledged  
6 the District’s food service workers for their dedication to feed our students and staff.  
7 The annual United Way giving campaign is underway and this year’s goal is to raise  
8 \$60,000 district-wide.  
9 The school district continues its efforts to hire in all employee categories.  
10 Superintendent Moore said the next Job Fair is scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup> and will be  
11 held at Paris Gibson Education Center.  
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14 **D. Audience Communication – None**  
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17 **ACTION ITEMS**  
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19 **A. Consideration of Roosevelt Elementary School Sale Extension –** Director of  
20 Business Operations Brian Patrick explained that during the Master Facilities Plan,  
21 Roosevelt Elementary School was replaced by Giant Springs Elementary School.  
22 During bond construction projects, it was used as a temporary school while Giant  
23 Springs and Longfellow Elementary Schools were being built. After that time, the  
24 Roosevelt Elementary School property was placed for sale. A full-price offer of  
25 \$899,000 was made with the closing date set for September 23, 2022. The purchaser  
26 of the property has requested an extension until February 1, 2023. Trustee Bronson  
27 asked if there is a significance with the February 1, 2023, closing date request. Mr.  
28 Patrick said he believes this extension will allow the purchaser more time to secure  
29 grant funding for the property.  
30

31 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Marlee Sunchild, passed unanimously to approve  
32 the extension of the deadline of the sale of Roosevelt Elementary School until February  
33 1, 2023, since the original offer continues to be for the full sale price listed.  
34

35 **B. Two-Year Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with Local Union 400 of the**  
36 **International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO –** Director of Human  
37 Resources Kerry Dattilo explained the CBA for the Operating Engineers expired on  
38 June 30, 2021. The District bargained with the engineers throughout the 2021-2022  
39 school year and continued until September 2022. The District and the Union have  
40 come to a tentative agreement. Mrs. Dattilo explained the proposal includes a salary  
41 increase for the 2021-2022 year, being retroactive to July 1, 2021, with the addition of  
42 some positions within the group being moved to different classifications. She explained  
43 the other changes within the CBA that were included in the agenda. There has been no  
44 financial agreement made for the current 2022-2023 year. It was agreed within the CBA  
45 to begin these discussions between November 14, 2022, and January 16, 2023.  
46 Community member Rodney Meyers asked if there was an opportunity to bargain with  
47 the Operating Engineers for an additional year since one year of the CBA has already

1 passed. Mrs. Dattilo said the Operating Engineers were not interested in bargaining for  
2 more than a two-year contract.

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4 Motion – Marlee Sunchild, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to approve  
5 the two-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Operating Engineers as  
6 presented.

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9 **ACTION: OTHER**

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12 **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, AND POLICIES.**

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14 **A. Building Enhancement Agreement with Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS)**  
15 **Foundation** – Great Falls Public Schools Foundation Director Stephanie Schnider said  
16 that since the bond passed in 2016, the GFPS Foundation has partnered with Great  
17 Falls Public Schools to enhance the facilities throughout the district with private funding  
18 from community members and businesses. Informed by the experiences of the past six  
19 years, A Building Enhancement Committee was created in March 2021 to develop  
20 framework for approaching privately funded facility enhancements. An agreement has  
21 been developed that sets guidelines for processes and communication to coordinate  
22 between all entities involved in a major donation to improve school facilities. The  
23 agreement also outlines the guidance for naming rights and pledge commitments for  
24 large donations. The agreement is included in the agenda.

25  
26 **B. Indigenous Education Report –**

27 Director of Indigenous Education Dugan Coburn reported that 1,665 American Indian  
28 students attend GFPS and that 60 tribes are represented. He gave an overview of the  
29 Indigenous Education Department staff that includes: one (1) Director, one (1)  
30 administrative assistant, five (5) Youth Development Specialists, two (2) Academic  
31 Achievement Facilitators, and two (2) Instructional Coaches. He reported on the  
32 opportunities within the Indigenous Education Department that enriches cultural  
33 development such as regalia making, beading Eagle Feathers, traditional games,  
34 ceremonies, bison hunts, drumming and dance. Mr. Coburn said he and his staff  
35 continue to encourage family and community engagement through Lighting of the  
36 Lodges, Youth Pow Wows and Christmas story and activities. Ceremonies such as  
37 Naming Ceremonies, Pipe Ceremonies and Eagle Feather Ceremonies take place  
38 throughout the year. Indigenous Education students and staff look forward to  
39 participating in land-based learning such as plant identification at Giant Springs, trips to  
40 Yellowstone and bison harvests. The next bison harvest is scheduled for November  
41 11<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Coburn asked Board members to contact him if they were interested in  
42 participating. Student programs within the Indigenous Education Department that  
43 encourage culture learning are the Indigenous Student Club, Culture Club,  
44 InterTRIBALStrong. Mr. Coburn thanked the Board and administration for their  
45 continued support of Indigenous Education.

1 **C. Discussion, Committee Reports, and Comments –**

2 Trustee Bronson encouraged anyone that has not participated in a Bison harvest to do  
3 so. He said that he and Trustee Turoski attended C.M. Russell High School’s  
4 Coronation last week and that he will be participating in the upcoming Worlds of Work  
5 event on October 18.

6 Trustee Sunchild thanked Dugan Coburn for all he does and said it is so important to  
7 learn about the Indigenous Peoples culture. She encouraged everyone to visit the Paris  
8 Gibson Education Center’s aquaponics classroom.

9 Trustee Thompson thanked Dugan Coburn for continuing to grow the Indigenous  
10 Peoples program. She said she appreciates everything teachers go through in  
11 preparation to become teachers and for all the hard work that goes into the profession.

12 Vice Chairperson Skornogoski said there are still many volunteers needed for the World  
13 of Works (WOW) event on October 18.

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16 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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18 Vice Chairperson Skornogoski said a Board Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled  
19 for October 13, 2022, and the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 24,  
20 2022. She said several Trustees will be attending the Montana Conference of  
21 Education Leadership (MCEL) October 19-21, 2022, in Missoula, Montana.

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24 **ACTION TO ADJOURN**

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26 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Marlee Sunchild, passed unanimously to adjourn the  
27 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 6:56 p.m.

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Kim Skornogoski, Vice Chairperson

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Brian Patrick, Clerk  
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