

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**
2 **OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 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 4th Street South, on the 26th day
7 of September 2022.

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

10
11 **Trustees Present:** Gordon Johnson, Chairperson
12 Kim Skornogoski, Vice Chairperson
13 Bill Bronson
14 Mark Finnicum
15 Marlee Sunchild
16 Paige Turoski
17

18 **Trustee Absent:** Amie Thompson
19

20 **Others Present:** Tom Moore, Superintendent; Brian Patrick, Director of Business
21 Operations; Tom Hering, Director of Information Technology; Jackie Mainwaring and
22 Heather Hoyer, Executive Directors for Student Achievement; Kerry Dattilo, Director of
23 Human Resources. Also present were Tom Cabbage, Great Falls Education
24 Association (GFEA) President and Lisa Sapp, Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB) Child
25 and Youth School Liaison.
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27 At 5:30 pm, Chairperson Johnson called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of
28 Trustees and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.
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31 **ADOPT AGENDA**
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33 Motion – Mark Finnicum, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to adopt the
34 agenda as presented.
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37 **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**
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39 Motion – Kim Skornogoski, Seconded – Paige Turoski, passed unanimously to approve
40 the Consent Agenda as presented. Special acknowledgement was given to the donation
41 of the 1996 Buick Skylark to the C.M. Russell Auto Tech Department by Whitney Van
42 Heel.
43

44 **A. Minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Board Meeting** – The Board
45 approved the minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Board Meeting as presented.
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47 **B. Personnel Actions** – The Board approved the Personnel Actions as presented.
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1 **C. Good Apple Awards** – The Board approved the nominations for Good Apple
2 Awards: Lucas Poe, Music Teacher, Anita Ranieri, Associate Principal, and Clinton
3 Topel, Administrative Intern all at North Middle School; and Shannon Guilfoyle, Principal
4 at Longfellow Elementary School.

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.

9
10 **E. Student Activity Monthly Report for July 2022** - The Board approved the Student
11 Activity Accounts for July 2022.

12
13 **F. Transitional Kindergarten Student Attendance at the Early Learning Center for
14 the 2022-2023 School Year** – The Board approved the students listed in the agenda to
15 attend the Early Learning Center for the 2022-2023 school year due to exceptional
16 circumstances per Board Policy 3100.

17
18 **G. Incoming Student Attendance Agreements for the 2022-2023 School Year** - The
19 Board approved the 2022-2023 Student Attendance Agreements for the students listed
20 in the agenda.

21
22 **H. Skills USA Students to Travel to the Montana State Leadership Conference
23 October 3-5, 2022** – The Board approved travel for two Skills USA students and their
24 advisor to travel to Billings, MT October 3-5, 2022, to attend the Montana State
25 Leadership Conference.

26
27 **I. Great Falls High School Advanced Placement Studio Art National Portfolio Trip
28** – The Board approved travel for six advanced placement art studio students and their
29 teacher to travel to Los Angeles, CA November 17-22, 2022, to attend the National
30 Portfolio Day event.

31
32 **J. Great Falls High School Student Activity Accounts** – The Board approved the
33 new Student Activity Accounts *Electrical IT Classes, Class of 2026 and Inclusion and
34 Diversity Club* at Great Falls High School. Funds earned by class fees will be used to
35 finance class projects.

36
37 **K. Donation of 1996 Buick Skylark from Whitney Van Heel to the C. M. Russell
38 Auto Tech Department** – The Board approved the donation of a 1996 Buick Skylark
39 from Whitney Van Heel with thanks.

40
41 **L. Resolution to Dispose of Unsuitable District Property** – The Board approved the
42 resolution to declare the items listed in the agenda as surplus.

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45 **COMMUNICATION**

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47 **A. Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB) Communication** – None

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B. Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Moore reported that for the last few years, First Interstate Bank has chosen to collect food for the school food pantries as part of their *Volunteer Day*. All Great Falls First Interstate Bank branches closed for an afternoon and the staff volunteered at different locations outside grocery stores and collected food and monetary donations that will support the GFPS food pantries. Kyle Herda, President of the local First Interstate Bank, said the bank partnered with the Food Bank to collect food that will be distributed to the school food pantries. Superintendent Moore thanked Mr. Herda and the First Interstate Bank staff for their time and donations that will support our families in need. He reported that Great Falls Public Schools is taking part in the *Give a Child a Book* campaign. Great Falls Public Schools partners with Scholastic Books and money donated will be used to purchase books for students. Superintendent Moore stated that teepees can be seen throughout town. This activity is designed to empower students to keep their heritage and history alive. Leadership members traveled to the Mathematics Leadership Summit at Sanford University September 13,14, 2022 and will be reviewing and updating the mathematics curriculum. Executive Director of Student Achievement Jackie Mainwaring stated that Great Falls Public Schools have ten (10) instructional coaches who travel throughout the District to assist new teachers with various tasks and new curriculum training. Superintendent Moore stated that 52 individuals have signed up to attend the Teacher Retention Event scheduled for October 1, 2022. New teachers are invited to the Dark Horse for appetizers then attend the symphony, where Chairperson Gordon Johnson is the guest conductor. The Fishers of Men, a volunteer group at Whittier Elementary School were the recipients of the Montana Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Volunteers of the Year award. He reported that the Heath Occupational Students of America (HOSA) students volunteered at the Flu Clinic drive through at the Fairgrounds. Superintendent Moore stated that a job fair is scheduled for September 27, 2022 at the University of Providence.

C. Audience Communication – None

ACTION ITEMS

A. Financial Report and Approve Check Register for July 2022 - Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Mark Finnicum, passed unanimously to approve the July 2022 Financial Report and Accounts Payable checks #122999 - #123285 in the amount of \$2,279,283.19 and Payroll checks #76131 - #76191 in the amount of \$68,482.10 as presented.

ACTION: OTHER

1 **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, AND POLICIES**

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3 **A. Staffing Update Report** – Director of Human Resources Kerry Dattilo stated that
4 employment hiring challenges are a nationwide issue. She reported that affordability of
5 housing and affordability of child care are the two (2) main challenges. Great Falls
6 Public Schools (GFPS) has come up with innovative strategies such as, job fairs,
7 advertising, recruitment events to help with these challenges. Kerry presented graphs
8 representing applications, hires and terminations for the previous five (5) years.
9

10 **B. Discussion, Committee Reports, and Comments** –

11 All Trustees thanked Kerry Dattilo and her team for their work and innovative hiring
12 strategies.

13 Trustee Skornogoski thanked the Instructional Coaches for their work. She also stated
14 that she will be attending the Safe and Secure Board Work Session scheduled for
15 Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

16 Trustee Bronson encouraged the other Trustees to partake in Montana School Board’s
17 *Think Tank Thursdays*. He reminded them that they are also recorded and available to
18 view at a later date.

19 Trustee Turoski thanked 1st Interstate Bank, Great Falls Food Bank and the donors for
20 the food drive event. She also stated that she is excited for the elementary school
21 students to present at upcoming Board meetings.
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23 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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25 Chairperson Johnson said the next Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for Monday,
26 October 10, 2022, and Monday, October 24, 2022.
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29 **ACTION TO ADJOURN**

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31 Motion – Kim Skornogoski, Seconded – Paige Turoski, passed unanimously to adjourn
32 the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 6:25 p.m.
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37 Gordon Johnson, Chairperson

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39 Brian Patrick, Clerk