

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
2 **OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
3 **HELD JUNE 13, 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 13<sup>th</sup> day  
7 of June, 2022.

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

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

18 **Trustee Absent:** Gordon Johnson, Chairperson - Excused  
19  
20

21 **Others Present:** Tom Moore, Superintendent; Brian Patrick, Director of Business  
22 Operations; Tom Hering, Director of Information Technology; Ruth Uecker, Assistant  
23 Superintendent K-6; Heather Hoyer, Assistant Superintendent 7-12; Lance Boyd,  
24 Director of Student Services; Becky Nelson, Community Connections  
25 Coordinator/Workforce Manager; and Stephanie Schnider, GFPS Foundation Director.  
26 Also present was Tom Cubbage, GFEA President.  
27

28 At 5:30 pm, Vice Chairperson Skornogoski called to order the Regular Meeting of the  
29 Board of Trustees and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
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31

32 **ADOPT AGENDA**  
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34 Motion – Mark Finnicum, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to adopt the  
35 agenda as presented.  
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37

38 **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**  
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40 Motion –Mark Finnicum, Seconded – Bill Bronson, passed unanimously to approve the  
41 Consent Agenda as presented.  
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43 **A. Minutes of the May 23, 2022, Reorganization/Regular Board Meeting** – The  
44 Board approved the minutes of the May 23, 2022, Reorganization/Regular Board  
45 Meeting as presented.  
46

47 **B. Personnel Actions** – The Board approved the Personnel Actions as presented.  
48

1 **C. Good Apple Awards** - The Board approved the nominations for Good Apple  
2 Awards: Chris Mee, Data Center Lead; Brandi Langan, Student Systems Analyst and  
3 Tyler Blow, Data Technician all located at the District Offices Annex. Jacob Bily; Chris  
4 DiSalvatore; Mitchell Evans; Jordon Falkenhagen, all Technology Support Technicians,  
5 Patrick Douglas; Orië Fischer; Kim Krattiger; David Myles; Michael Ward, all  
6 Technology Core Technicians and Dan Sibert, Technology Lead Technician all located  
7 at the District Offices. Jamie McGraw, Principal; Nate Achenbach, Associate Principal;  
8 Dennis Morris, Science teacher; Lynn Ryan, Music teacher; Tamara Patterson and  
9 Lindsey Gustafson, both Health Enhancement teachers; Jacie Schoenen, Counselor;  
10 Erin Awtrey, English teacher; Andrew Nagengast, Art teacher; and Warren Mayes, Math  
11 teacher all located at C.M. Russell (CMR) High School.

12  
13 **D. Montana School Bus Drivers Certificates – OPI TR-35’s** – The Board approved  
14 the Montana Bus Drivers Certificates – OPI TR-35’s for the individuals listed in the  
15 agenda.

16  
17 **E. Transitional Kindergarten Student Attendance at the Early Learning Center for  
18 the 2022-2023 School Year** – The Board approved the students listed in the agenda to  
19 attend the Early Learning Center for the 2022-2023 school year due to exceptional  
20 circumstances per Board Policy 3100.

21  
22 **F. Kindergarten Early Entrance for the 2022-2023 School Year** – The Board  
23 approved the student listed in the agenda for the 2022-2023 school year based upon  
24 the requirements outlined in Board Policy 3110R.

25  
26 **G. Special Education Records Disposal Request** – The Board approved the disposal  
27 of Special Education records that have not been requested by the parent or student and  
28 that are in compliance with the approved State, Local Government Records Committee  
29 Retention Schedule.

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32 **COMMUNICATION**

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

35  
36 **B. Superintendent’s Report**  
37 Superintendent Moore and Norma Ashby-Smith stated that Eric Chaon, a Great Falls  
38 High School History teacher, will be awarded the Montana History Teacher of the Year  
39 Award in November 2022.  
40 Becky Nelson was recognized and awarded the Governor’s Community Service Award  
41 by Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras. The purpose of this award is to recognize  
42 Montana citizens who have greatly enhanced quality of life in our state through their  
43 commitment to volunteerism and service to their community.  
44 Superintendent Moore reported that both C.M. Russell (CMR) High School’s Boys’ and  
45 Girls’ Tennis teams won the Team Divisional Tennis Titles and the CMR Boys’ Tennis  
46 Team won the State Tennis Championship. CMR tennis coaches Valerie Scheevel and  
47 Byron Boyd were recognized as AA Tennis Coaches of the Year.

1 Superintendent Moore introduced Durbin Watson as the new Principal of Sunnyside  
2 Elementary School as well as Samantha Stevens who will be the new Associate  
3 Principal at C.M. Russell High School.  
4 He stated that the Flag Day is June 14, 2022. Students from Sunnyside Elementary,  
5 Meadow Lark Elementary and Lincoln Elementary will present their “What the Flag  
6 Means to Me” essays at the Flag Day Celebration.  
7 Superintendent Moore reported that the Summer Food Service Program will be running  
8 from June 8, 2022 through August 10, 2022 at different locations around Great Falls.  
9 Breakfast and lunch will be served to individuals aged 18 or younger.  
10 He stated that the Great Falls Public Schools Summer School Camp Program is in  
11 session. It has been designed to help address the learning loss experienced during the  
12 COVID-19 pandemic.  
13 Superintendent Moore stated that the annual Book Giveaway is scheduled for June 14  
14 though June 16, 2022 at the Paris Gibson Education Center.  
15 He reviewed events taking place in the District during the month of June.  
16 Superintendent Moore invited the Trustees, students and staff to join the District to  
17 participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

18  
19 **C. Audience Communication – None**

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22 **ACTION ITEMS**

23  
24 **A. Second Reading of New and Revised Board Policies 3100, 3413F1, 3413F2 -**  
25 Superintendent Moore reviewed the policies and stated that he did not receive any  
26 comments or concerns regarding policies 3100, 3413F1 and 3413F2 since the first  
27 reading on May 23, 2022.

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29 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Amie Thompson, passed unanimously to approve  
30 revised Board Policy 3100 and new Board Policies 3413F1 and 3413F2 as presented.

31  
32 **B. Staff Development Plan for 2022-2023 – Secondary Education Curriculum**  
33 Coordinator Beckie Frisbee explained that each year teachers and specialists must  
34 complete a minimum of three pupil instruction related (PIR) days dedicated exclusively  
35 to professional development. An Advisory Committee must be established to evaluate  
36 the current school year’s Professional Development Plan for the District. They also must  
37 develop and recommend a plan for the subsequent school year. The plan  
38 recommended by the Advisory Committee and adopted by the Board shall outline how,  
39 when, and from whom, teachers and specialists shall meet their PIR day  
40 responsibilities. Beckie explained that the Board shall file their adopted Professional  
41 Development Plan with the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and make their plan  
42 available to employees and the public. The estimated cost will be determined after  
43 under enrolled classes are cancelled. The anticipated amount will not exceed \$19,000  
44 and this amount will be allotted in the 2022-2023 Curriculum Department budget to be  
45 adopted in August.

46  
47 Motion – Amie Thompson, Seconded –Mark Finnicum, passed unanimously to approve  
48 the Staff Development Plan for the 2022-2023 school year as presented.

1  
2 **C. Riverview and Whittier Playground Asphalt Projects** – Director of Business  
3 Operations Brian Patrick explained that the playground asphalt at Riverview Elementary  
4 and Whittier Elementary Schools are in very poor condition and have been identified as  
5 needing to be replaced. Bid documents and specifications were created by Building and  
6 Grounds Supervisor Brent Cutler and Building and Grounds Assistant Supervisor Jack  
7 Norris. Advertising in the Great Falls Tribune was posted on May 1, 2022, and May 8,  
8 2022 and a pre-bid walkthrough was held on May 4, 2022 at Riverview Elementary and  
9 Whittier Elementary and the bid opening occurred on May 20, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. The  
10 District received one bid from Great Falls Sand and Gravel in the amount of \$194,862  
11 for both asphalt projects.

12  
13 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Paige Turoski, passed unanimously to accept the  
14 lowest qualified bidder, Great Falls Sand and Gravel, Inc. for \$194,862 for both  
15 Riverview Elementary and Whittier Elementary playgrounds asphalt projects.

16  
17 **D. Transfer of Budgeted Funds – Elementary and High School General Fund**  
18 **Budgets to the Elementary/High School Interlocal Agreement Fund** - Director of  
19 Business Operations Brian Patrick explained that there will be no increase or decrease  
20 in overall spending in the District. The transfer of non-spent curriculum funds to the  
21 Interlocal Fund will allow the Curriculum Department to better use curriculum materials  
22 for the 2022-2023 school year.

23  
24 Motion – Mark Finnicum, Seconded – Paige Turoski, passed unanimously to approve  
25 the transfer of \$71,530.69 from the Elementary General Fund Budget (101) and  
26 \$284.67 from the High School General Fund Budget (201) into the Interlocal Agreement  
27 Fund (182). This money was budgeted in the 2021-22 school year for curriculum  
28 materials and will be specifically designated for curriculum materials during the 2022-23  
29 school year.

30  
31 **E. Authority for the Director of Business Operations to Make End of Year Budget**  
32 **Transfers** - Director of Business Operations Brian Patrick explained that the Business  
33 Department is very busy the month of June taking steps to close out the fiscal year on  
34 June 30<sup>th</sup>. By allowing the Director of Business Operations the authority to make end-  
35 of-year budget transfers, it alleviates the need for a Special Board meeting at the end of  
36 June to approve transfers. All transfers made will follow the legal guidelines established  
37 by law and will be reviewed at the regularly scheduled July Board meeting or at the  
38 budget adoption meeting held in August. Mr. Patrick said this is an annual request to the  
39 Board.

40  
41 Motion – Amie Thompson, Seconded – Mark Finnicum, passed unanimously to approve  
42 the Director of Business Operations the authority to make end-of-year budget transfers.

43  
44 **F. Consideration of Baseball as a Montana High School Association (MHSA)**  
45 **Sanctioned Sport for the 2024 High School Sport Season** – Director of Athletics  
46 Mike Henneberg stated that at the annual MHSA meeting on January 17, 2022 it was  
47 voted by membership to allow schools to add Boys’ baseball as a sanctioned sport for  
48 MHSA. At the April 11, 2022 Board meeting, a proposed budget that included start-up

1 costs, possible facility use as well as the summary of local interest level and the impact  
2 on Title IX was shared. Mike stated that the District recognizes the value inherent in  
3 participating in extra-curricular activities. District administration understands the  
4 financial challenges that will be associated but is committed to working through different  
5 avenues to help defray program costs and allow for long term sustainability.

6  
7 All Trustees expressed their concerns with financial obligations, community/Legion  
8 League support and statewide participation. Trustees stated they would like a report in  
9 the Spring of 2023 showing fundraising efforts and number of statewide teams.

10  
11 Motion – Bill Bronson, Seconded – Mark Finnicum , passed unanimously to approve  
12 Baseball as a Montana High School Association (MHSA) sanctioned sport for the 2024  
13 High School Spring Sport Season with the condition that a report will be made in the  
14 Spring of 2023 to discuss financial progress, interest and probability of success.

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17 **ACTION: OTHER**

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20 **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, AND POLICIES**

21  
22 **A. First Reading of Revised Board Policies 5121, 5228P, 5314 and 5321-**

23 Superintendent Moore reviewed the changes to revised Board Policies 5121, 5228P,  
24 5314 and 5321 and asked if anyone has comments, concerns, or questions to contact  
25 him before the next Board meeting.

26  
27 **B. Annual Review of Board Policies 3300, Suspension and Expulsion and 3311,**  
28 **Firearms and Weapons** - Director of Business Operations Brian Patrick explained this  
29 is an annual School Board review of Board Policies 3300 and 3311 and Montana Law  
30 changes mirror current policy procedures. These policies were reviewed during a recent  
31 Board Policy Committee meeting with a recommendation from the committee to not  
32 make any changes to the policies.

33  
34 **C. Board Sub-Committee Assignments** – Vice Chairperson Skornogoski explained  
35 that Chairperson Johnson met with Superintendent Moore to re-evaluate the Board sub-  
36 committees. The committees will align with the District’s Strategic Plan. She said that  
37 some committee assignments will be shared with other Trustees assigned to the same  
38 committee.

39  
40 **D. Discussion, Committee Reports, and Comments –**

41 Trustees Finnicum, Turoski, Bronson and Skornogoski reported that they attended the  
42 Montana School Board Association (MTSBA) Conference either via zoom or in person  
43 in Helena. They appreciate the opportunity to attend and receive information and see  
44 how other Montana schools operate.

45 All Trustees stated that Eric Chaon is very deserving of the Montana History Teacher of  
46 the Year Award and is an exceptional educator.

47 Trustee Bronson stated that former Great Falls Public School’s History teacher Bud  
48 Robertson has passed away and will be greatly missed. He stated that the Chamber of

1 Commerce’s Business Advisory Board is inquiring how to accelerate the safety plans for  
2 schools. Trustee Bronson also thanked Dusty Molyneaux and music student for their  
3 work with the Veteran’s Organization.  
4 Trustees Thompson and Skornogoski thanked Becky Nelson for her work within the  
5 District and the community. Trustee Thompson also stated that she appreciates the  
6 New Trustee training.

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9 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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11 Vice Chairperson Skornogoski said the next Regular Board Meetings are scheduled for  
12 Monday, June 27, 2022, and Monday, July18, 2022.

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15 **ACTION TO ADJOURN**

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17 Motion – Mark Finnicum, Seconded – Marlee Sunchild, passed unanimously to adjourn  
18 the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:03 p.m.

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23 Kim Skornogoski, Vice Chairperson

24

25 Brian Patrick, Clerk