

REGULAR MEETING

May 17, 2024

5:00 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, Cody Strandbakke, and Jay Quenzer were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principal Erin Nevers, Associate Principal/AD Bill Brist, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, and Technology Director Scott Anderson; Principal Dom Vergara and Head Custodian Mardi Brown were absent. Guests were Jay Newell, Linda Howard, Pam Beach, Amanda Tunby, Mollee Stenberg, Jodi Varner, Julia Varner and Maranda Hastig.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 59281 to 59343 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Flint approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jay Newell and Linda Howard address the board on thoughts about the sports broadcasting at the games. He is requesting to have Newell Broadcasting be the sole provider for sports broadcasting at Baker High School; also requesting to have a non-binding agreement with the school and radio station. The board thanks Mr. Newell & Ms. Howard and they leave the meeting.

EDUCATION REPORT

None

STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION/PROGRESS

Nothing to report at this time

NON-ACTION ITEM

NEGOTIATION PROGRESS

Mr. Skogen stated a tentative agreement has been made with the union. Contacted union to ratify the contract and will be planning to schedule a special meeting to ratify the union contract so the office staff can get moving on the calendar for next school year and student schedules.

ACTION ITEMS

CERTIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

There are no recommendations for hire at this time; agenda item tabled.

EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT CONSIDERATIONS

There are no recommendations for hire at this time; agenda item tabled.

CLASSIFIED CONTRACT CONSIDERATION(S)

There are no recommendations for hire at this time; agenda item tabled.

LIFEGUARD SALARY SCHEDULE

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the recommendation for raises to the lifeguard salary schedule.

COMPLEX SALARIES 2024-25

	YEARS	2023-24	2024-25
LIFEGUARD/INSTRUCTOR CASHIER/JANITOR	0	\$11.25	\$11.50
	1	\$11.50	\$11.75
	2	\$11.75	\$12.00
	3	\$12.00	\$12.25
WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR (WSI) <i>District will pay the registration fee to become a Water Safety Instructor</i>	0	\$12.25	\$12.50
	1	\$12.50	\$12.75
	2	\$13.00	\$13.25
	3	\$13.50	\$13.75
	4	\$14.25	\$14.50
NO overtime will be paid unless approved previously by supervisors or administration		\$16.58 <i>(step 4 classified salary schedule)</i>	\$16.58

***wage is reserved for graduating seniors and returning college students

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the salary schedule for lifeguards as presented. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISIONS

Administration is still working on policy revisions at this time but will have revisions ready by next month for adoption.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL 2024-25

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the health insurance renewal for the 2024-25 school year; this year the insurance plan increased by an aggregate of 9.5%.

BENEFIT CHOICES:		2024-25 Rates	EE cost
#1 Blue Choice			
EE		\$808.25	\$0.00
Deductible	EE+Spouse	\$1,616.49	\$808.24
\$1,500 Indiv (max out \$3,500)	EE+Child(ren)	\$1,293.11	\$484.86
80%/20%	Family	\$2,182.10	\$1,373.85
#2 Blue Choice H.S.A			
EE		\$748.24	\$0.00
\$3,500 ded/max out pocket	EE+Spouse	\$1,496.47	\$748.23
	EE+Child(ren)	\$1,197.11	\$448.87
H.S.A Amount \$720.12	Family	\$2,020.09	\$1,271.85
#3 Blue Choice H.S.A			
EE		\$672.93	\$0.00
\$5,000 ded/max out pocket	EE+Spouse	\$1,345.85	\$672.92
	EE+Child(ren)	\$1,076.61	\$403.68
H.S.A Amount \$1623.84	Family	\$1,816.77	\$1,143.84

Cody Strandbakke moved to approve the health insurance rates as presented. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

OIL & GAS PAYMENT ALLOCATION

Mrs. Mettler presents to the board the oil and gas allocation; this quarter's oil and gas revenue is \$738,716.46.

1ST QTR 2022		1ST QTR 2023	
AUG--22	\$ 965,620.69	AUG--23	\$ 739,964.19
<i>avg price: \$95.01</i>		<i>avg price: \$75.99</i>	
2ND QTR 2022		2ND QTR 2023	
NOV--2022	\$ 1,179,151.14	NOV--2023	\$ 675,921.59
<i>avg price: \$108.52</i>		<i>avg price: \$73.56</i>	
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
<i>avg price: \$91.43</i>		<i>avg price: \$82.05</i>	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 3,155,760.53	SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,178,526.61
4TH QTR 2022		4TH QTR 2023	
MAY--2023	\$ 815,109.51	MAY--2024	\$ 738,716.46
<i>avg price: \$81.48</i>		<i>avg price: \$78.56</i>	
FY23 TOTAL	\$ 3,970,870.04	FY24 TOTAL	\$ 2,917,243.07

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 April, Flex Fund cash balance is \$6,348,613.62.

Karen Wang moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about May 1, 2024 to the Flex Fund \$300,000 and Building Reserve \$438,716.46, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

SET BUS ROUTES FOR 2024-25

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation for bus routes.

Julia Varner asked the board to consider a bus stop west of town, 6.5 miles 2-3 days as they will be moving out to a house next school year. Mr. Skogen stated the transportation committee did talk about the requested stop but it was decided for next year to not have the route go in that direction.

APPENDIX A: 5/17/2024
DESCRIPTION OF REGULAR BUS ROUTES

ROUTE 1:

Leave Baker and proceed North on Highway 7 to the Cabin Creek Road. Turn West and proceed 6 1/2 miles past Battleship Butte Trail, then turn around at *Hadley's stop* and continue back South to Highway 7. Travel South to Johnny Creek Trail, turn East and travel to the-Selle Home, turnaround and then turn South on School House Road to the junction with Shell Oil Road. Then turn West back to Highway 7 turn South-and proceed to Baker twice daily for a total of **110miles per day**. Bus capacity minimum **36**

ROUTE 2:

Leave Baker and proceed North on Highway 7 to the Snake Trail. Proceed North and continue to the Ollie Road to Sanders turnaround and head south to Trolley Road. Go to the junction of Trolley Road and Big Hill Road, turn west onto Big Hill Road and go back to Highway 7. Turn south on Highway 7, drive to Pennell Road, go west to Valley View Trail, turn around back to Highway 7 and turn right to Baker twice daily for a total of ~~114~~ **where you will travel South on Tatley Road. Continue South on Tatley Road to the junction of Tatley and Big Hill Road. Turn West onto Big Hill Road and go to Highway 7. Turn South onto Highway 7 and return to Baker twice daily for a total of 114 112miles per day. This route will reverse from AM to PM.** Bus capacity minimum **36**

ROUTE 3:

AM: Leave Baker and proceed South on Highway 7 to junction of Highway 7 and the 101 Road. Turn onto 101 Road and proceed to the Webster Road. Turn West onto the Webster Road and travel to the Substation and Highway 7. Turn North back to Baker
PM: Leave Baker and proceed South on Highway 7 to Substation, turn East and travel to Webster Road corner. Turn North to 101 Road back to Highway 7 and turn North back to Baker for a total of **112 miles per day**.

Cody Strandbakke moved to approve the bus routes as presented for the 2024-25 school year. Karen Wang seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT APPEAL FOR CREDIT – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Currently, administration do not have any students appealing for credit.

SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOLS & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

No changes to the plan.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX, Kelsey Miller (absent, submitted report)

The Rec. Center has received the safety equipment needed to maintain a safe facility such as the required rescue tubes needed to conduct daily operations

Facility Closure: Due to lifeguard certifications being expired and not having the required safety equipment the facility was going against several American Red Cross regulations, as well as Montana Safety Regulations. Because of this the pool had to be closed until I had a chance to get the lifeguards certifications renewed and the necessary equipment was available. Our lifeguard course ran successfully from May 10th - May 12, 2024. An additional lifeguard course will need to be run at the end of the month to recertify a few staff members that could not attend the prior.

The successful completion of the course with most of our staff has allowed us to reopen the pool as of this Monday the 13th.

We are now almost completely back in compliance with the entire facility

Swimming Lessons: Sign-ups for swimming lessons will begin at the end of this Month and will be advertised to the public by next week

June lessons will be from the (10th-21st) and July lessons will run from the (8th-19th)

We will have very limited staff available for the summer even including the swimming aids that have applied so each class will be capped at 20 to ensure the safety of staff and children attending the class and to ensure that the children are getting the necessary skill building time per class.

To better accommodate ages that will be attending swimming lessons a third floaters class will be added in place of the parent and tot classes. The parent and tot class will still be offered throughout the weeks outside of swimming lessons depending on attendance

2. MAINTENANCE, Mardi Brown (absent, submitted report)

April 23rd Montana School equipment was on site to install the new retractable hoop. They were back again on May 7th to finish. We are working on the remote receiver for remote and hope to have that project done here shortly. Fischer Construction has the new metal roof on the garage that needed to be replaced. We have a couple of pieces of fascia missing and they will be fixed next time they are in town. Kirk had been doing demo work on the gym and complex area and we have found a few extra issues. Stage area and wrestling room wall will need some extra attention. With the scissor lift in the gym we made adjustments for the Health Fair and Career Fair. Jason Cornwell went to Mandan ND and attended CPO class and passed. So We now have another person to help with the Pool. Tutt Construction was here Monday April 29-May 1st and did all of the repairs for the bleachers. NorPac hasn't been here yet for the Library and I will contact them to see what the hold up is. Direct Electric was BHS and removed the 4 telephone poles that belonged to Mid Rivers on Monday May 6th. I'm still working on the Fire Marshall inspection and the Montana Dept of labor report.

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Equipment has started to arrive and working on deployment.

Working on renewals for Securly (Filter) (www.securly.com)

Security Camera DVRs have been in place for 8 years. Working on upgrades with Cerberus.

Working with Jeff Paterson and K12Panel to move servers completely to the cloud. Current servers are 7 years old and are up for renewal.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers

Baker BPA travels to National Competition in Chicago, Illinois

Baker BPA students Kaydree Anderson and Turner Smith departed for the National BPA competition with Advisor Scott Anderson on May 10th and will return on May 15th. Kaydree finished in 16th position nationally out of 56 competitors, while Turner finished in 44th position of the 53 competitors.

Music Department Participates in State Music Festival; Gives Year-End Awards

Results from the recent State Solo and Ensemble Music Festival held in Billings on May 2, 3 & 4.

Choir Solos: Conrad Hess and Lili Toth both scored 1's (Superior) while DeeAnna Hess and Cricket Wyrwas scored 2's (Excellent). Band Solos: Tylar Smith (flute solo), Cricket Wyrwas (trumpet solo), DeeAnna Hess (flute solo and piccolo solo), Chance Follmer, (snare drum solo) all scored 1's (Superior), Conrad Hess (trumpet solo) and Jerrick Moser (trumpet solo) scored 2's (Excellent)

Choir Ensembles: DeeAnna Hess & Conrad Hess, Deanna Hess, Jessica Kruger & Tylar Smith, and the Women's Ensemble all scored 1's(Superior). Band Ensembles: Conrad Hess & Jerrick Moser Trumpet Duet, scored a 2 (Excellent)

End of the Year Band Awards: Hardest worker - Chance Follmer, Best Leader - Conrad Hess, Most Inspirational -Conrad Hess, Most Improved - Oceania Krech, Outstanding Senior - Carlee Gundlach

End of the Year Choir Awards: Hardest Worker – DeeAnna Hess, Best Leader – DeeAnna Hess, Most Inspirational –Lili Toth, Most Improved – Tylar Smith, Outstanding Senior – Conrad Hess, Recent Music Events: The Pops Concert was held on May 7th, The Music Department's Award Luncheon was celebrated on May 13th, and the Elementary Music Concert on May 14 (Lincoln at 10 AM, and Longfellow at 6:30 PM).

Golf wrap up season at Southeastern Divisional Tournament in Billings. The Baker HS Golf Team had two of their top team members travel to Billings to compete in the Southeastern B Divisional Championship Tournament. Cooper O'Connor finished tied for 42nd place, while Jayden Hastig finished tied for 53rd place. Cold, rainy and windy conditions impacted playing conditions.

Tennis travels to Miles City for Divisionals, wrap up at State Championships in Missoula. The team will have wrapped up the Divisional Qualifying tournament, hosted by Poplar, in Miles City on Thursday and Friday, May 16 – 17. Qualifiers for Singles and Doubles will earn their way to the State Championship in Missoula next week May 23-25th at the Fort Missoula Courts. Singles: Emily Enos, Avery O'Connor, Jasia Stieg, Iva Setinc, Doubles: Kayl Hadley, Kyal Hadley, Ophelia Nacey, Carlee Gundlach, Alternate: Bree Straub.

Boys Track Team wins 3B District, Girls place 2nd, Travels to Laurel for Divisional and State Championships;Baker was the host site for the District 3B Championships on May 9th with home teams winning the boys team title and placing second in the girls team division. The recently concluded the Southern B Divisional Championship on May 16 in Laurel, with 13 boys and 9 girls participating. 6 boys and 6 girls qualified for the State championships with Athletic Banquet planned for May 21 The Annual Athletic Banquet will be held at the exhibit hall on the Fallon County Fairgrounds at 6 pm. This year-end ceremony offers the opportunity for Fall, Winter and Spring Sports coaches to recognize their teams and present special awards for the 2023-24 seasons.

8th grade Graduation Activity and Graduation planned for May 22, the 8th Grade Class will be participating in their annual Graduation Day Field Trip Activity scheduled for Medicine Rocks State Park followed by their 8th grade graduation ceremony at Longfellow gym at 7pm on Wednesday, May 22nd.

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

I'd like to express my sincere appreciation to both Mrs. Burdick and Mrs. Hoversland. Mrs. Burdick's dedication was instrumental in organizing and implementing our testing programs for grades 7-12, and she is currently working tirelessly on registering students for classes next year. These efforts are critical to a smooth start to the next academic year, and they often go unnoticed. Mrs. Hoversland's initiative in launching the Pre-ETS program for our SPED program next year is commendable and will undoubtedly benefit our students.

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

Vision Team Process -24-25 Goals

NASSP AI Training Series

Transform your school with AI

Share with others when AI is implemented in the classroom

National Honors Society Induction Ceremony – 4/18/24

13 New members were inducted

Pre-ETS - Employment Transition Services (New Program we will be adding to our SPED Program)

We will receive \$100-\$500 per student with a 504 or IEP

Providing work experience and training

Heavy Equipment Operations – MCC HEO 125 – Junior and Seniors

5th & 6th Grade AAU Football (Coaches Meeting was on May 1st, Parent Meeting on May 20 at 6 pm - ITV room, July 13th Organization Meeting with Montana AAU Football)

Preparing for High School Graduation on Sunday, May 19th at 2 pm

April Spartans of the Month: (Reserved Parking Spot, Spartan T-Shirt, Breakfast w/ Principal, Certificate, Facebook, Newspaper), (HS Boy) Kane Olsen, (HS Girl) Kaydree Anderson, (JH Boy) Elias Havens, (JH Girl) Alexis Connolly.

Upcoming Events/Meetings: Region V Director, MASSP – Delegate Assembly (June 12-14) – Helena, Summer Administrator Institute (July 21-24) – Helena

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

Shout Out! Our staff has been a unified team these last few weeks, working hard to push through to the end of the year. This week was busy and full of energy at the elementary and our teachers, para, custodians, lunch and office staff were FANTASTIC!

Summer Book Study: May 10th was our deadline for signing up to participate in the summer book study. 23 people signed up, the books are ordered and we will soon set our meeting dates. Mrs. Val Johnson graciously volunteered to host our meetings. The book is, *The Magical Place We Call School: Creating a Safe Place for Learning and Happiness in a Challenging World* by Dr. Kathleen Corley. Here is a brief book trailer that provides an overview of the content covered in this book. Participants will receive 12 OPI renewal units.

Spartans of the Month for April: Lincoln - Nora Losing (2nd - Ms. Noseep) and Kaisen Conroy (2nd - Mrs. Varner), Longfellow - Abel Mitchell (3rd - Mr. Nowak) and LeaVera Loutzenhiser (3rd - Mr. Nowak).

Lunches with Law Enforcement: Lunch with a Cop wrapped up this week. Thank you to all of our local law enforcement for taking time to build relationships with the kids in our community!

Summer School

Teachers are currently able to refer students for summer school. Next week parents will be sent information about our program and have the opportunity to sign up.

Weeks scheduled - June 3rd, July 15th, August 5th

Goals for Summer and Next School Year: Establish School-wide Expectations & Handbook Updates.

Happy Campers: Last Friday, Mrs. Stranbakke's classroom was transferred into a campground, complete with campfires, coolers, and canoes. Her first grade students enjoyed a fun-filled day of learning built around this theme!

Rockets with Mrs. Johnson: In her tenure as an upper elementary teacher, Mrs. Johnson has dialed in rocket building and launching! Monday, May 13th was a fantastic day to launch rockets. Students were focused on safety and full of energy as they chased after the remains of the rocket falling from the sky. The wind even slowed down after the first 3 or 4 rockets landed in the lake. This is a huge piece of the 6th grade science curriculum that enhances their individual skills, problem solving, and ability to follow directions.

Let's Visit Antarctica: On Wednesday, May 15th Mrs. Patti Morris came into Lincoln school to present photos, stories, and interesting information about her trip to Antarctica in December and January. It was fantastic and the kids were enthralled. We are grateful to her and appreciate the time and energy she gives to Baker Public Schools.

Senior Walk Through: Also, on Wednesday, our 2024 Graduates visited Lincoln school for a send off and celebration with the elementary students.

End of the Year Awards Assemblies: As we near the end, we are celebrating all the amazing accomplishments our staff and students have made this school year!

Lincoln: 23 attendance awards for 5 or fewer days absent in the school year

Spartan of the Month for May - Eirynn Cunningham & James Hoffman (not pictured)

Highest AR Points - Over 160 points - Rafe Bettenhausen & Ledger Coulter (not pictured)

Longfellow: Classroom Behavioral, Academic, and Achievement Awards, 37 Attendance Awards
7 Music, Top 4 AR readers in each grade, 126 - Academic Awards for 10 or more points of growth in at least 1 academic area on the MAP assessments. Top 5 for each subject and grade level, and overall highest scores in each subject area also received awards.

Spartan of the Month for May - Lakaci Selle & EJ Lewis (5th Graders)

MSU Teacher Fair: Mr. Vergara and I traveled to Bozeman for the Teacher Fair on Tuesday, May 7th. We made some great contacts and connections, and are still awaiting some decisions from the recent graduates.

Class Field Trips - Week of May 20th

2nd Grade - Pinnow's Ranch - Wednesday, May 22nd

3rd Grade - Swimming - Thursday, May 23rd

4th Grade - Trail's End Ranch - Tuesday, May 21st

5th Grade - Dickinson, ND - Monday, May 20th

6th Grade - Devil's Tower, WY - Monday, May 20th

Last Day of School - May 24th - Early Release at 1:29

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Current Openings: HS Mathematics, HS Music, 7-12 Industrial Arts, Elementary, Business Education.

Resignation(s): Ms. Lynn Beach-7-12 Business Education.

Big Country Educational Cooperative (BCEC): Filling in as Director of BCEC; ½ day a month to start in Miles City but run from the office here.

2024-2025 Planning:

7-12 Schedule – with work with Mrs. Burdick to offer all that we can with staffing.

Elementary Schedule – Mrs. Never will continue to work.

School Calendar – approved through negotiations so get it ready for next year.

PIR/In-service – 8 hours throughout the year to be scheduled; will piece a needs assessment to see what professional development is needed.

Staffing – if we end up being short staffed, it will be planned

Bus Contract: once ratify the CBA, we can move forward with the bus contract.

Next scheduled board meeting is June 25, 2024 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 6:21pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Clint Flint

Chairman