

REGULAR MEETING

August 12, 2024

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Karen Wang at 6pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Dalon Dyke, Cody Strandbakke, Jodi Varner and Jay Quenzer were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principals Dom Vergara and Erin Nevers, Associate Principal/AD Bill Brist, Associate Elementary Principal BreElle Wacker, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, Technology Director Scott Anderson. Guests were Amanda Tunby, Kallie Benter and Student A parent.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 58785 to 59521 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Flint approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Tunby asks that if date changes continue to happen with the board meeting the BEA president is emailed or notified. Chairperson Wang requests such as this follow the chain of command and visit with the Superintendent.

EDUCATION REPORT

None

ACTION ITEMS

CERTIFIED HIRING CONSIDERATION(S)

Mr. Skogen stated there is not a recommended hire at this time.

CLASSIFIED HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Skogen presented to the board recommendation for hire for classified positions open as follows:

- Mrs. Pat Ehret—Part-time Cook
- Mrs. DeAnna Herbst—Part-time Cook
- Ms. April Hensley—Part-time Custodian
- Ms. Kalynn Hall—Full-time Custodian
- Mrs. Karlene Kloetzke—Elementary Paraprofessional

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the classified hires as presented for the 2024-25 school year. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

EXTRACURRICULAR HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Brist presented to the board recommendations for hire:

- Mrs. Keeja Cook—Freshman Class Advisor
- Mrs. Amy Lingle—Junior Class Advisor
- Mrs. Rebecca LaCroix—Assistant Music Director

Dalon Dyke moved to hire the individuals listed for the 2024-25 school year as presented. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the list of attendance agreements for the 2024-25 school year as follows:

16 student that live in Plevna wish to attend Baker Public Schools
 4 students that live in Baker that wish to attend Ekalaka Public Schools
 1 student lives in Baker that wish to attend Wibaux
 1 student lives in Baker to attend Missoula County Public Schools
 19 students living in Marmarth, ND wish to attend Baker Public School
 2 students state/court placed.
(In prior years we have waived tuition for the in-state parent requests and tuition is charged for the out of state (ND) students to the District; also when the students are under state/court placement, the State of Montana is charged for tuition pursuant to 20-5-323 MCA)

Student ID	District of Residence	District of Choice
113734,113708	State/court	Baker
113153,113152,113310,113308,113561,113345,113309,113601,113602,113643, 113203,113627, 113570, 113237, 113317, 113504	Plevna	Baker
113731, 113732, 113121, 113738, 113739, 111890, 113114, 113262, 113263, 113334, 113375, 113625, 113615, 113615, 113622, 113714, 113690, 113679, 113709	Marmarth, ND	Baker
457552482, 460599388, 635497737, 636451984	Baker	Ekalaka
22	Baker	Missoula County Public Schools
738129634	Baker	Wibaux
584542614	Belgrade	Baker

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the attendance agreements as presented for the 2024-25 school year. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

OBSELETE EQUIPMENT APPROVAL TO DISPOSE/SELL

Mr. Anderson presented to the board the list of obsolete technology equipment to dispose and sell. The list will be posted on our website for the public to look through and buy those pieces of equipment.

Jay Quenzer moved to dispose and sell the obsolete equipment as presented. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK REVISIONS

Mrs. Nevers stated the changes for the handbook are not ready at this time but will be ready for the meeting August 19, 2024. Chairperson Wang requested the agenda item be put on August 19, 2024 board meeting.

1ST QUARTER 2024 OIL & GAS DISTRIBUTION

Mrs. Mettler presented to the board the recommendation of oil and gas distribution.

This quarter's oil and gas revenue is (\$738,716.46); per 20-9-323 MCA.

Oil and Gas the District may keep FY25 is \$5,723,605.15

1ST QTR 2022		1ST QTR 2023		1ST QTR 2024	
AUG--22	\$ 965,620.69	AUG--23	\$ 739,964.19	AUG--24	\$ 625,978.60
avg price:	\$95.01	avg price:	\$75.99	avg price:	\$76.91
2ND QTR 2022		2ND QTR 2023		2ND QTR 2024	
NOV--2022	\$ 1,179,151.14	NOV--2023	\$ 675,921.59	NOV--2024	
avg price:	\$108.52	avg price:	\$73.56	avg price:	\$80.67
SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,144,771.83	SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,415,885.78	SUBTOTAL	\$ 625,978.60
3RD QTR 2022		3RD QTR 2023		3RD QTR 2024	
FEB--2023	\$ 1,010,988.70	FEB--2024	\$ 762,640.83	FEB--2025	
avg price:	\$91.43	avg price:	\$82.05	avg price:	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 3,155,760.53	SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,178,526.61	SUBTOTAL	\$ 625,978.60
4TH QTR 2022		4TH QTR 2023		4TH QTR 2024	
MAY--2023	\$ 815,109.51	MAY--2024	\$ 738,716.46	MAY--2025	
avg price:	\$81.48	avg price:	\$78.56	avg price:	
FY23 TOTAL	\$ 3,970,870.04	FY24 TOTAL	\$ 2,917,243.07	FY25 TOTAL	\$ 625,978.60

Recommended allocation for this quarter: General Fund \$25,000, Flex Fund \$580,978.60 and Debt Service \$20,000. Jay Quenzer moved to reallocate the oil and gas revenue on or about August 1, 2024 to the funds presented in the total amount of \$625,978.60, reserving the right to reallocate the future payments when received. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOLS & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

No changes at this time.

Chairperson Wang requests to move the Executive Session to the end of the meeting to accommodate guests in attendance.

REPORTS:

1. COMPLEX

Absent

2. MAINTENANCE, Jason Cornwell

Summer cleaning went well and ready for school to start.

3. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Updated Obsolete Equipment List -

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PDhwtJXoKWB286nEsJ_3uy8i_3d8-fr_PIm46dHTbi4/edit?usp=sharing

AVI - Took sound samples today and will generate a recommendation and quote for audio sound panels similar to Longfellow Gym.

Additional security cameras have been added outside the middle school entrance, gym lobby area & Longfellow gym entrance. Quote has been requested for the High School main entrance to put a paging system in place similar to the elementary schools.

4. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, Erin Nevers & ASSOCIATE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL, BreElle Wacker

Our buildings look amazing, thank you to all of our custodians and extra summer helpers!

Summer school was a great success this year. Thank you Ms. Stenberg for taking on the teacher leader role of planning and organizing engaging activities to keep our students learning. A big shout out and thanks to Mrs. LaCroix and Mrs. Schell for being a part of this team. Also, thank you Ms. Kloetzke for supporting our students throughout the summer!

SAM Administrators Institute 2024: The 2024 SAM conference in Helena at the end of July was fantastic. Not only were there great keynote speakers, but it was a chance to network and collaborate together as an admin team. Some of the main takeaways were:

Using AI to support and enhance student learning and teacher productivity.

Ron Clark - What's Your 1%

MT OPI - Para Pathways

Community Collaboration with 4-day School Weeks

Summer PD: Collaborative Book Study - Our book study fostered much discussion and provided both ideas and inspiration for our teachers and administrators. Some of the major ideas that were discussed were community building activities, re-evaluating parent teacher conferences, creating student support teams, maintaining high expectations, realizing that the little things can make a big difference, and collaboration toward common goals.

Discovery Education/DreamBox Learning - Mrs. Tunby and Ms. Little took part in an optional training for these free digital websites that was offered at the MCCC on August 6th.

CKLA Amplify - 3-5 grade teachers and support staff had the opportunity to participate in our Core Knowledge Language Arts program from Amplify on August 8th and 9th. Over the two days our trainer discussed our current ELA program and best practices as well as options for support and intervention.

95 Core Phonics - This phonic program will be implemented throughout the Elementary K-6.

Teacher training will be offered August 13th-16th. Classroom teachers who are unable to attend this training will have the opportunity to attend a later training in September.

Sub Training: Wednesday, August 7th we held our substitute teacher training. There was some great discussion with several returning substitute teachers. We are grateful for their willingness to serve our community.

Elementary Schedules: We have been working to build our elementary schedules, and will be making adjustments as needed to the outline provided.

Paraprofessional Training: This morning we hosted a training/orientation for our elementary paraprofessional staff from 10:00-noon. 6 of our paraprofessionals were in attendance along with Mrs. Schmid, our Longfellow SpEd teacher. This was a great chance to connect and spend time diving into school expectations. The Baker PD came in to speak briefly about crosswalks and monitoring school zones before and after school.

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mrs. Nevers, Ms. Wacker, and Mr. Brist for their exceptional teamwork and collaborative efforts in planning for the upcoming school year. Our recent principal conferences were incredibly productive, and I believe they significantly enhanced our communication and organizational abilities moving forward.

Additionally, I want to extend my appreciation to Mrs. Burdick for her tireless work on schedule changes and for her invaluable contributions to developing our class schedule. It is a privilege to collaborate with such outstanding educators.

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

Handbook Changes: 2024-2025 Goals posted at the entrance of our high school

WE/ME Banners (Lincoln, Longfellow, Custodians Café)

Opening School Year Presentations (Staff and Students) – Will share at next board meeting.

Numerous Parent Meetings (Address concerns prior to the school year happening, Proactive)

1st Day Back – Developing Teacher Packets

Sub Training Presentation/Agenda

Updated Truancy Letter

Drug Dog has been scheduled for the 24-25 school year

(NEW) Student Advisory Council / Christmas Tree / Pre-ETS

Recent Events/Upcoming Meetings:

Principals Conference in Helena (July 23-26)

PVCC Annual Administrators Meeting (August 5th)

Spartan Youth Football Camp (August 7th and 8th) – 35 Participants

August 12th, Head Coaches Meeting (All Sports), 7 pm

August 13th, Fall Sports Parent Night, 6 pm

August 7th, Sub Training, 5:30 pm

August 14th, New Staff Training, 12:00 pm

August 13th, 7th Grade Orientation

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

Fall Sports:

HS Football - 1st practice – 8/16, 1st game at Home against Malta 8/30

HS Volleyball – 1st practice – 8/19, 1st game @ Columbus Tournament 8/31

HS Cross Country – 1st practice – 8/16, 1st meet @ Bowman 8/30

HS Cheer – 1st practice – 8/19, 1st performance on 8/30

MS Football – 1st practice – 8/19, 1st game @ Glendive 9/5
MS Volleyball – 1st practice – 8/26, 1st game @ Glendive 9/14
MS Cross Country - 1st practice – 8/16, 1st meet @ 9/5

SAM Conference in Helena featured National Renown Educator and Administrator Ron Clark The School Administrators of Montana (SAM) Administrators Institute was held in Helena from Aug. 22-24 with several key speakers and many presentations for the large group in attendance. The Principals and Associate Principals from Baker were among those to benefit from this event. The highlight was Ron Clark with his keynote address. Other outstanding presentations included Two Strategies to Level Up Your Leadership by Pete Hall, Next Gen Teacher's Assistant, Putting AI at Your Service in the Classroom by Jason Neiffer and Lead Like a PIRATE: Make School Amazing for Students and Staff - Beth Houf. Listening and learning from these, and many other, speakers provided much information and enthusiasm for the upcoming school year. It was also great opportunity to get together with Mr. Vergara, Mrs. Nevers, and Miss Wacker and begin planning for the new school year. MCA Coaches Clinic in Great Falls attended by several Baker HS Coaches The Montana Coaches Association (MCA) hosted it's annual summer coaching clinic in Great Falls (July 31 – Aug 2) with several Baker Coaches in attendance. This included Coach of the Year award recipients Will Bagley (Wrestling) and Jason Coulter (Girls Basketball), along with his assistant coach. Others in attendance included Jessica Boggs and her coaching staff (Volleyball). The clinic offered presentations from several of Montana's top coaches, along with many that were brought to Great Falls from around the United States to cover topics in a variety of sports. I was fortunate to attend presentations from Rob Miller - Traits of Elite Programs, and Scott Garvis who shared his views on Leadership in Athletic Programs. Both are two of the top Activities Directors in the country. It was also beneficial to spend sessions with our current MHSA staff. They did a great job of sharing information regarding new changes to regulations for the upcoming school year. The AD roundtable was useful in picking up tips on many of the day-to-day activities encountered by Activities Directors in Montana.

5. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Current Openings: HS Mathematics, 7-12 Industrial Arts, Potential Applicant, Interview Wednesday, August 14th @ 3:00 p.m.

Resignation(s): Mrs. Kara MacKay – K-2 Special Education, Ms. Kelsey Miller – Complex Manager

Advanced Math: College Algebra, Credit (½ or full) will be offered through Miles Community College and MT Digital Academy; 11 students enrolled. It will be held on campus and will check in the office. The District needs to decide with this class it is only a semester but we require 1 full year of math – need to think if we will give the kids a full year of math or have them take another math class to graduate.

Facilities Update: Weather has pushed back with cement pouring but should be poured Wednesday; landscaper pulled their bid so we are looking for a new contractor to finish the lawn.

Strategic Planning – 3rd Session – hoping to have some dates available in the Fall.

Next scheduled board meeting is September 10, 2024 at 6 pm.

REQUEST FOR STUDENT ENROLLMENT – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Wang requests the meeting to go into executive session at 6:57pm. Everyone leaves the meeting but Mr. Skogen, Mr. Vergara, Mrs. Mettler and Student A parent.

Meeting reconvened at 7:06 pm.

Dalon Dyke moved to grant the request to enroll Student A in Baker High School with the stipulation that Student A successfully passes through the Montana Youth Challenge Academy and successfully passed the HiSet. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Karen Wang

Chairman