

REGULAR MEETING

October 10, 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 Jay Quenzer, Jodi Varner, and Cody Strandbakke were in attendance; Dalon Dyke was absent. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principal Dom Vergara, Associate Elementary Principal BreElle Wacker, Associate Principal/AD Bill Brist, District Clerk Jennifer Mettler, Technology Director Scott Anderson, and Head Custodian Jason Cornwell; Principal Erin Nevers was absent. Guests were Pam Beach, Bronc Selle, and Abbey Wolenetz.

Consent Items:

The bills, investment report, activity account report, journal adjustments, and minutes were reviewed by the trustees; claim checks 59572 to 59651 were reviewed and approved. There being no objections, Chairperson Wang approves the consent items as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EDUCATION REPORT

None

ACTION ITEMS

EXTRACURRICULAR HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Brist recommended to the board recommendations for hire for each position listed:

Mrs. Marisa Varner—Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

Mr. John Nowak—Assistant BPA Advisor

Mr. Ethan Igo—Assistant FFA Advisor

Jay Quenzer moved to hire Mrs. Marisa Varner as middle school girls basketball coach, Mr. John Nowak as assistant BPA advisor and Mr. Ethan Igo as assistant FFA advisor. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED HIRING CONSIDERATIONS

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the recommendation for hire for classified staff; it is recommended to hire Miss Shianne Beach and Ms. Tammy Hunt. Jodi Varner moved to hire Miss Shianne Beach as an elementary paraprofessional and Ms. Tammy Hunt as part-time lunch aide. Jay Quenzer seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

BOILER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Skogen presented to the board the proposal for boiler replacement at the high school. We have one boiler at the high school that is needing to be replaced; out plan is to start replacing one boiler per year for the next four years.

We have three (3) phases for the initial replacement.

- Heat System Pump Replacement -- \$29,600.00
- Heat System Liquid Replacement -- \$33,440.00
- Boiler Replacement -- \$146,000.00

Mr. Skogen also adds for the future high school boiler replacements only the boiler replacement cost itself will be billed, we estimate around \$150,000 per year for the next three years after this initial replacement.

Jay Quenzer moved to approve the project cost associated with replacing the high school boiler. Cody Strandbakke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

1. MAINTENANCE, Jason Cornwell

Rock bed has been placed at Longfellow on north side of gym and will be working on the south side of the building as well. Also had inspections at Lincoln and Longfellow for by state and did well. Ordered wood for the trophy plaque re-installs; slowly starting to get the gym back in order. The sky lights in the high school gym were checked and sealed in the last week as well.

2. TECHNOLOGY, Scott Anderson

Nothing too much to report at this time; students are updating the webpage and if anyone sees something to update please let him know so he can get the students to update it.

3. PRINCIPALS

a. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPALS, Erin Nevers & BreElle Wacker

Miss Macy Varner, Miss V, will be concluding her student teaching experience with Mrs. Ashley Varner on October 25, 2024. She has done an excellent job and has built strong connections with staff, students and parents. We are looking forward to welcoming her back as our 6th grade teacher in December when she concludes her student teaching in Greece. Thank you Macy and great job! Mrs. Rebecca LaCroix is preparing to attend her graduation for her Master's degree in Arizona. She has been doing an excellent job student teaching with Mrs. Tunby, working as a K-2 intervention

specialist, and serving as our K-3 music teacher. We are grateful that you're a part of our team Mrs. LaCroix, keep up the great work!

Student of the Month - Sep 27, 2024: Lincoln: Dekker DeHaan from Mrs. Strandbakke's Class
Aimee-Kay Ailport from Mrs. Schell's Class.

Longfellow: Kazden Hoversland and Colter Huft from Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. O'Connor's Classes
Observations/Evaluation - Formative teacher evaluations and observations will be starting for non-tenured teachers and should conclude by the end of November.

Staffing/Subbing Concerns - We have concerns that we may see a shortage of substitutes and a need for more support staff in the near future. We have had a few staffing changes and an increase in our student needs. Also, many of our subs have moved to more permanent support staff positions. As we move into the winter and our demands for subs increase, we may encounter shortages.

Friday Clubs - We held our 2nd Friday Club on September 27th with our 1:30 PM release. It was another huge success! A big thank you to Miss Wacker, Miss Liv, Mr. Quenzer, Mrs. Moore, Miss Beach, Mr. Curry, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hess, Mrs. Lineback, Mrs. Fisher, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Skogen, Mrs. Frye, Mrs. Lesh, Mrs. Gilmore, and Mrs. LaCroix! The next Friday Club will be on November 22, 2024 and we hope to include more community members who will be able to share their talents and abilities with our students.

Attendance - Currently we have 33 (48 - 2023-24) elementary students with three or more absences, as compared to 9 (13 - 2023-24) at last month's board meeting.

UPCOMING:

MFPE Teachers Convention

October 17th & 18th - No School

October 17 - Assistive Technology Outreach Presentation (Voluntary)

11:00 AM - Longfellow School

1 Renewal Unit

Picture Days - October 14th-16th

High School - 10.14.2024

Longfellow - 10.15.2024

Lincoln - 10.16.2024

Fire Safety - October 14th - Lincoln School

Child Find Developmental Screening

(Ages 0-5) - October 15th - Lincoln School

End of Quarter 1 - October 16th

Parent Teacher Conferences - October 25, 2024

Fall Concert - October 29th at 7:00 - Longfellow Gym

Halloween Safety - October 30th - Lincoln & Longfellow

October Student of the Month - October 31st

Longfellow - 8:00 AM

Lincoln - 8:30 AM

b. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, Dom Vergara

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Ms. Noesep and Mrs. Varner for hosting an amazing cheer camp. The halftime performance was absolutely incredible and has been the talk of my house for weeks. We also want to recognize our amazing Kayleigh Straub and the Spartan Booster Club for organizing such a fun and exciting signing event to kick off the school year. A special thanks goes out to the Bank of Baker for sponsoring our homecoming tailgate feed and to Lane Jones Meats for providing delicious burgers and hot dogs. It was a fantastic homecoming week!

Spartans of the Month – September

Kane Olsen (HS Boy)

Emily Burdick (HS Girl)

Bracyn Hastig (JH Boy)

Ambreigh Morris (JH Girl)

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

7-12 Vision Team System Kick Off (Shared Folder)

Montana Youth Challenge Academy – October 9th (Visit to MYCA)

Drug Dog (Making a visit soon)

Code Red (9/25) – Fire Drill

MAPS Testing, Pre-SAT (Finished in early October)

Fall Ball (Homecoming Dance is coming back this year) – Saturday, October 12th

SkillsUSA (Presentation, 10/8)

Guest Speaker: Mr. Vaughn Zenko (Presented in Ms. Gustad's class) & will be presenting in Mrs. Hadley's class soon

Montana State University – Rural Education Program (Sophomores from MSU have been in classrooms)

A few fun projects to note: Dissected Sharks, Crude Oil Experiment, Flying drones, Stock Market Game...

Upcoming Events/Meetings: MASSP Board Meeting, Region V Director (Southeastern Montana, Secondary School Principals), I am hosting two zoom meetings for (Region 5- Southeastern Montana) principals to discuss various school topics that have come up in the region.

November 7th & April 11th.

FFA National Competition Send Off “7-12 Assembly” – Wednesday, October 16th

Parent Teacher Conferences – Friday, October 25th

c. ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, Bill Brist

Fall Sports: HS Football looks to conclude its regular season with games against Colstrip (10/11), Shepherd (10/18 – Senior Night) and Round-up (10/25). If they can sweep all 3 games, they will earn a trip to the playoffs as one of the top four seeds from the Eastern Conference. HS Volleyball continues to have an excellent season. They are 8-1 (5-1 3B) and have won both the Huntley Project and Shepherd Tournaments. Big matches coming up: Oct. 18 HP @ Baker and the 3B District Tournament hosted by Baker High School on Oct. 31-Nov. 1.

HS Cross Country will race at Sidney (10/12) and Culbertson (10/18) before wrapping up the season in Missoula for the State Championship Meet. MS Football, MS Volleyball and MS Cross Country all have had eventful seasons. MS Football will wrap up its season on Saturday (10/12) against Colstrip. MS Volleyball has finish up on Friday (10/11) against Colstrip. MS Cross Country will finish up at Culbertson (10/18).

MS Wrestling will begin their practices on Oct. 14, MS Girls Basketball will begin on Oct. 21.

The Cheer Squad and the Pep Band has performed fantastically at the home games for both Football and Volleyball and all of last month’s homecoming events.

FFA: The Baker FFA Chapter recently hosted the Fall Districts (9/30) at the Fallon County Fairgrounds. This was a state qualifying event for horse judging, livestock judging, and range career development events (CDEs). They will leave for Billings this next week for the Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) to compete in livestock, meats, vet science, horse and sales events. A small group of individuals that qualified at last year’s State Convention will travel to Indianapolis, IN to compete at the National FFA Convention (10/23-26).

Speech and Drama: S & D Parent’s meeting is tonight (10/10) at 6 pm with Coach Michelle Bear, with practices beginning on Oct. 14. The first competition will be in Sidney on Nov. 2nd.

Music: The High School Fall Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 29th at 7 pm at the Longfellow Gymnasium.

4. SUPERINTENDENT, Aaron Skogen

Had a video shoot company, CGI was onsite shooting a promotional video; still have voice overs with admin team. Close out meeting with McKinstry with the parking lot project; gym is coming along and admin are prepping for tournament.

Next scheduled board meeting is November 11, 2024 at 6 pm.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

s/ Jennifer Mettler

Clerk

s/ Karen Wang

Chairman