



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The mission of this Board of Trustees is to champion the cause of students in public education by establishing the framework through which all educational resources are maximized.

Regular School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

*KalisPELL Middle School
Library Media Center
205 Northwest Lane
KalisPELL, MT 59901
2/13/2018 06:00 PM*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Chair Lance Isaak, Vice Chair Jack Fallon, Bette Albright, Frank Miller, Diane Morton Stout, Mary Ruby, Mary Tepas, Jon Endresen, Anna Marie Bailey, Mark Kornick

Members Absent: Joe Brenneman

Officials Present: Superintendent Mark Flatau, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Johnson, Special Education Director Sara Cole, Transportation Director Annie (Jensen) Doolin, FHS Principal Michele Paine, Elementary Principals Bill Sullivan, Merisa Murray, and Jen Stein, and KEA President Lynn Rider, Food Service Director Jana Warnell

Others Present: Owners Representative Erick Enz, Lane Huffman from Langlas, Americorps volunteer Johnny Pena with No Child Hungry, Russell IT Teacher Liz Bernau, FHS Special Ed Teacher Sue Corrigan, Gretchen Wilk, Lark, Wynn, and Brian Olson, Hilary Mathison from the Daily Interlake

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Isaak called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Action)

Chair Isaak asked the Board to make a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9th and January 23rd Board meetings.

Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9th and January 23rd Board meetings.

Trustee Albright seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

4. RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

(Information)

Chair Isaak introduced the next item on the agenda, Recognitions and Reports.

a. RECOGNITIONS

(Presentation)

i. No Child Hungry - Americorp Vista Volunteer Johnny Pena

(Presentation)

Johnny Pena, AmeriCorps Vista volunteer with No Child Hungry works closely with Food Services Director Jana Graham. Pena addressed the Board and told them about his role as a volunteer, his work with students, the programs philosophy and the future he hopes to see. Pena stated that he was recently at the MEA MFT Conference in October and that Teachers and Counselors were saying their students are well dressed and well groomed but are not having their basic food needs met. kids who are given free snacks through the food service are telling their teachers "I eat this snack for dinner because we don't have any food at home". Pena stated that since being in MT.

he has noticed that teachers are social workers, counselors, and food service workers and are pulling out of their own pockets to feed their students.

"My mother was a gang member, I grew up in the projects in El Paso TX, I never met my father. I had to take care of myself, find my basic needs met by breaking into neighbors houses. I had no parents to fill out my paperwork to apply for free and reduced lunch programs. The lunch ladies at my school would say 'Johnny, do you have money?' my food was taken away, I would wait for enough of my peers to throw their food away then I would go through the trash can to find my food."

Pena laid out some statistics stating that at schools that serve breakfast only 30% of students take part in this free program for various reasons: stigma or arriving late, or busy with friends. In schools that offer 'Grab and Go', a type of 2nd chance breakfast, that participation number goes from 30-80%. Those numbers are even higher in MT. One of the High Schools in Billings stated that they were serving only a few students breakfast, but when they implemented "Breakfast After the Bell" those numbers rose dramatically. That school used the students in the IEP program to serve the breakfast in the classroom. Traditionally 200 to 900 students are served in the first couple of weeks of school. "I know there are lots of competing priorities in the school district. Because of tight budgets, No Child Hungry is raising their contribution to \$10,000 to help schools implement programs. Summer is coming, these students that are food insecure, we are working on getting a food truck to remove the barrier of transportation to the summer food program. I know first hand what hunger does to a kid. As I was crying listening to these kids stories, I realized I cant stop fighting, we cannot let poverty and hunger take our students." Pena concluded by thanking the District and stating that he is so happy that Food Service Director Jana Graham has the same philosophy he has and is looking forward to the new programs they are working toward.

b. STUDENT REPORTS

(Presentation)

i. KMS

None.

ii. FHS

Senior Class President John Hinchey updated the Board on recent happenings at Flathead High School. Hinchey stated that February has been an eventful month at FHS.

- Winter Formal was in January and it had a record setting attendance with 774 students. The Yeti theme went great.
- Part of the revenue from dances is to fund a student council scholarship
- Student Council is currently putting together two \$500 scholarships for any Flathead Senior called the Braves Pride Scholarship.
- There are 30 scholarship opportunities available in the Career Center for Seniors
- Boys Swimming Team, placed 3rd at State. James Boda broke the MT High School record in the 50 meter freestyle, almost slashed it by a whole second
- State Wrestling, Tucker Nadau, Payton Hume and Micheal Lee all earned individual State championships
- All 9-11 grade students at Flathead have begun registration for next year
- 8th graders recently visited, student council gave them a tour. There are 346 predicted incoming freshman
- began construction demolition and we have a lot of good things to look forward to in the future.

iii. GHS

Glacier High Senior John Sorensen, representing GHS Band, addressed the Board about what Band has meant in his high school career.

- Participated in Pep, Jazz, and Symphonic Band
- All State Band is an opportunity for all AA schools to perform with, and for, each other
- Going to State with Pep Band
- Going to District and State Music Festivals for Musical and ensemble
- Has done a lot for me by allowing me to grow a lot in my music abilities, helped with self confidence
- Band has a really good family environment, you have to know that every single person in your ensemble has to play perfectly and you make very close connections and put constant trust within them
- The opportunity has offered me a great outlet to set aside stress and get into the zone
- My sister will be a freshman next year and I am excited that she will have all the same opportunities that I have been able to have
- I play saxophone

c. BUILDING UPDATE - Russell Elementary

(Presentation)

Principal Bill Sullivan and Tech teacher Liz Bernau presented to the Board, A snapshot of Russell. Sullivan and Bernau brought four students with them who talked to the Board about a day in the life of a Russell student. Max, Wynn, Amelia, Atticus each told the Board a little bit of what they do. Bernau then played a short video, as presented.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Isaak asked if any member of the audience wished to comment on a matter not on the agenda, further stating that the Board could not take action on any matter brought up in public comment because the public had not previously been notified of the matter. No Public Comment was offered.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Isaak introduced the next item on the agenda, New Business.

a. ELECTION RESOLUTION

Superintendent Flatau stated that the Board has 3 Election Resolutions to consider for the May ballot, adding that "any of these can be withdrawn at a later date but we must meet the deadline to file."

i. Election Update

(Information)

The Kalispell Elementary District has three open seats and three people have filed.

The High School District III (Cayuse Prairie, Deer Park, and Fair-Mont-Egan) has one open seat for a three year term and we have one potential candidate.

The Elementary Trustee seats that are up are Lance Isaak, Frank Miller, and Mary Ruby. The candidates that have filed so far are Lance Isaak, Frank Miller, and Mark Merchant.

The Elementary Trustee seat that is up is Joe Brenneman and so far there has been one interested party but no official filing. The final day to file is March 29, 2018 and the paperwork is available in the District Business office or by calling 751-3412.

ii. High School Resolution

(Action)

Trustee Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-HS1, Flathead High School Election, May 8, 2018 to call for the annual high school trustee election and high school levy for 2018. .

Trustee Albright seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

iii. Elementary Resolution

(Action)

Trustee Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-E1, Kalispell Elementary Election, May 8, 2018 to call for the annual elementary trustee election and elementary levy for 2018.

Trustee Morton Stout seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously with elementary trustees only.

b. HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ZONES

(Action)

Superintendent Flatau and Transportation Director Annie (Jensen) Doolin told the Board that "By and large Idaho/Hwy 2 has been the boundary for the High School zones. There is a small portion of FHS that dips above and a small portion of GHS that dips below/ With this new proposal, everyone north would be Glacier, everyone south would be Flathead. This only applies in the elementary boundary, the partner district boundaries do not change. This currently effects 19 kids who will be granted a grandfathering if they would like." Jensen showed the current boundaries and proposed changes, as presented.

Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the recommended changes to the high school boundaries within the elementary zone, as presented.

Trustee Albright seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously with elementary trustees only.

c. ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT ZONES - MINOR CHANGE

(Action)

Transportation Director Annie (Jensen) Doolin explained to the Board the recommendation to change the dividing line between Edgerton and Russell neighborhoods. Currently the line splits Summit Ridge Dr. The suggested change is to put all of Summit Ridge in Russell's enrollment zone. This keeps the original Northridge subdivision all at one school. Only one family with elementary students lives on the north side of Summit Ridge currently. They have 2 students.

Trustee Morton Stout made a motion to make the recommended changes to the Edgerton and Russell neighborhood boundaries, as presented.

Trustee Albright seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously with elementary trustees only

d. BEHAVIOR PROGRAM - 2 ADDITIONAL FTE

(Action)

Special Education Director Sara Cole explained to the Board the need the district is seeing in her department. Cole stated that since she has been here she has "seen amazing work in our schools surrounding these students. There is a small percentage of students whose social and emotional challenges cannot be met in the neighborhood school. Jennifer Tedder, recently one of the Gold Star award winners, has many of these students in her program at Russell. There is such a need for the kids that have extreme, extreme anxiety, aggressive behavior and need social and emotional learning in addition to their academics." Cole stated that this proposal was vetted through the finance committee and all principals stating that it was met with 'One Hundred percent thumbs up in the elementary and secondary that we add two positions in Special Education." Cole added that special ed has jumped about 106 students in the last three years, as presented. "Special Ed is growing at a far greater rate than the regular population. Teacher numbers have remained consistent even though we have spiked 100 kids." Teachers are calling for help in support of their students. The proposal is to add one K-8 sped teacher and one support staff. These positions will be funded out of the Medicaid direct fund. Cole stated that she worked with Finance Director Gwyn Andersen on a 5 year average and they believe this funding would be sustainable. Cole added that this would help when the SOARS grant is up as well.

Trustee Bailey asked what exactly is the job description? Would the employees be on call or have a regular schedule?

Cole answered that she would want them to be scheduled for shared time at Rankin and Linderman, responding to crisis, consulting regarding programming, having someone who can partner at both those sights and consult with other schools as well.

Trustee Miller stated his concerns about other departments feeling left out if they cannot hire new employees and questions surrounding the tracking of Special Ed hours per student and how the funding amount is determined from Medicaid to pay these positions. Cole explained that that is why I asked for the FTE with a way to justify it. Each FTE had 19 students but by 17-18 their were 21 and 1/2 students per FTE." Cole then explained that the district gets reimbursed for direct services provided, "we document that and Medicaid reimburses us. This wouldn't be a decrease n the general fund but it wouldn't be an increase. For safety risk and educating this is almost a non negotiable. We have members of our community calling out to me: help us..we need help serving these kids."

Russell Principal Bill Sullivan stated that the Behavior program has been at Russell the whole 10 years he has been there. Sullivan said "These kids are significant in their needs. When I recently went to the classroom, a helper has one kid in his arm, four students are following into the school building and one has her limit and there are 3 tables all tipped over, desks are piled up, chairs and all things on floors, computers are all tipped up, screaming and hollering and calling every name you can think of. These challenges are not becoming less, they're there and when they can't get in to the behavioral program they are serviced in the regular classroom. What they are asking, budget wise, I know it isn't a great time but even these two positions are not enough."

Edgerton Assistant Principal Jen Stien stated that every principal needs to support that

Trustee Tepas teared up a litte and gave her personal story stating that "my son was one of the kids that would trash a room, the Principal and I would have to carry him out on occasion. He is a senior now and he's graduating this year, it doesn't matter what the budget is, it is needed and its important. When they are successful in Elementary school, they are not a problem in the High School."

Flathead Principal Michele Paine gave the high school perspective stating that a recently situation with a Special Ed student showed the difficulty the district sometimes faces trying to balance the needs of the student with the safety of everyone else, "this FTE would serve all our kids and protect them".

Trustee Miller wanted to make it know that he is not opposed to the request, "I just want to make sure we are going to be able to fund it."

Cole stated that " we don't have a crystal ball around Medicaid, but we have 5 years of consistent data".

Trustee Bailey made a motion to add: (1) special education teacher K-8 and (1) certified behavior specialist, to be split between the elementary and high school programs.

Trustee Tepas seconded the motion

Motion carries unanimously with elementary trustees only.

Trustee Miller made a motion to add: (1) certified behavior specialist, to be split between the elementary and high school programs.

Trustee Ruby seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

e. OUT OF DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

(Possible Action)

Flatau stated that the District has generally, over the years, been accepting tuition students on a High School and Middle school level but on a limited basis at the elementary level. There needs to be a clear picture so decisions can be made. Flatau laid out the Pros and Cons, as presented adding that tuition is a year by year basis and those decisions currently aren't made until the start of the school year and tuition students are only placed where there is room, which is not necessarily where the student has requested.

Trustee Tepas made a motion to move forward with accepting out of district tuition students at the elementary level, on a case by case basis, as presented.

Trustee Bailey seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously with elementary trustees only.

Flatau then talked about a possible Increase in out of district tuition rates stating that the fees try to match, on an average, what a taxpayer living in the district would pay. "We know, on the elementary side, we have increased taxation because of a tech levy and the bond so we've looked at these numbers, they are quite low and we are recommending an increase on the elementary side from \$350 to \$650 per student per year and on the high school side from \$150 to \$300 per student per year." Flatau then reminded the Board that staff members have requested that staff students be grandfathered into our old rates but that according to a discussion a year ago and looking at the statute and consulting legal council, the district can not discriminate and let staff pay a different rate than the general public.

Since this decision is tied to Policy, Flatau is recommending that the Board do a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd reading, to allow for ample discussion.

Trustee Miller stated that it might be a little sticker shock going from \$350 to \$650 for some people adding that he knows it is a reflection of the monies but something to think about.

Trustees agree to proceed as suggested.

First reading passes.

Will bring back at March meeting with a staggered fee structure for multiple children.

f. POLICY UPDATES - FIRST READING

i. Policy 3416 - Administering Medicine to Students

Passes first reading.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Chair Isaak introduced the next item on the agenda, Old Business.

a. CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

(Information)

Lane Huffman, project superintendent on Rankin project for Langlas Construction.

Everything is going well, about 9 days ahead of schedule. Monday starts sheet rocking the north wing and all of administration will be done by Saturday. Working on mechanical, electrical, and plumbing. Huffman stated that he "gave staff a tour today, most upbeat tour I have given".

Flatau stated that at this point all staff moves have been volunteer.

Rankin Rally is set for Saturday March 3rd at 10am

Unofficially, ribbon cutting has been scheduled for Tuesday August 28th, 5pm.

Owner Representative Erick Enz gave a construction update, as presented.

b. MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT

Finance Director Gwyn Andersen gave the monthly budget report, as presented

- Jana Graham, Food Service Director, is looking at a variety of ways to increase our revenues.
- 2 additional part time positions at Rankin but no more kids. Might be bringing some new ideas to the Board. After the first of March with the changes in the makeup of the buildings, the CEP program where 4 out of 5 children eat free, may be reduced. "We know that program has increased our utilization. We will be gathering data for that."
- Health Ins: looking at a negative cash balance, the further we get into the school year that balance gets us closer to 0. We don't collect premiums in July and August then collect them from September to June.
- This report is thru December

Bond report, as presented:

- represents the budgets we have initially drafted or designed, contracts left to date, and actual numbers to date

c. AMERESCO NOTICE TO PROCEED WITH TASK #3

(Action)

Brad Casteletz, from Ameresco, updated the Board on the Notice to Proceed with Task #3, as presented.

- Initially budgets came back higher than expected,
- met with Michele Paine and her team and left off a couple items like cooling for the auditorium.
- the total for task #3 comes to \$1,899,000
- work for task #1 and #2 have been completed, we are \$300,000 over what the projection was last June.

Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the Notice to Proceed with Task #3, as presented.

Trustee Bailey seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

d. DEFERRED MAINTENANCE UPDATE

(Information)

Flatau and Enz presented the deferred maintenance update, as presented. There is currently \$ 210,000 to apply to other projects instead of \$600,000. This includes getting all the work done at FHS.

- Total of priority 1, 2, and 3 is \$ 210,122
- Total of only Priority 1 is \$475,622
- whatever is left over can be transferred to Linderman

e. LEVY DELIBERATION

(Possible Action)

Flatau introduced the next topic; Levy Deliberation by stating that at the next Finance meeting and Work study there will be more information presented from the Administration team in regards to budget reductions.

The Board reviewed Options 1, 2, and 3, as presented, and listed the Pros and cons to each option.

Trustee Miller stated that the biggest decision the Board will have to make is to go out for one levy or both? Miller added that he is worried about public perception skewing toward the district being fiscally irresponsible and not budgeting well. "We need to look for a combo of more revenue and cuts. That's what you would have to do as an individual. I understand that it not easy to cut in schools."

Vice Chair Fallon stated that he thinks the district will have to be careful about the way the levy request is worded in regard to reserves vs. savings, adding that he thinks 'we need to make it clear that the reserves are there to cover us for the months we don't have the funds.'" Trustee Tepas stated that it will be more of an education to the public to understand reserves.

Vice Chair Fallon stated that he is for running both levies at the same time and "not deferring to the fact that staff has really made an effort to find reductions...that is what needs to be presented to the public."

Flatau stated there will be final recommendations presented at the finance committee in a "strong document with cuts from those working with the students. whether we do a levy or not, we will have those cuts. Then it will be finalizing information for the public, a levy brochure, etc. Remember the last Elementary levy was passed in 2007 and the last High School levy was passed in 2012. "The proposals will be based on what we need to make the budget work. you will see that we operating at 93 or 94 percent of our maximum. don't want to lose that but also don't want to cut programs that our community expects from us."

Trustee Miller concluded by saying that "We have to give our building administrators all the credit in the world.

f. POLICY UPDATES - THIRD AND FINAL READING

Passes Third and Final reading.

- i. Policy 4210 - School-Support Organizations, Boosters and Fundraising
- ii. New Additions to Policy 8425- Service Animals - 8425F and 8425P

8. CONSENT AGENDA (Action)

Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented.
Trustee Bailey seconded the motion.
Motion carries unanimously.

- a. FINANCIAL REPORTS/ BILLS AND PAYROLL (Consent Agenda)
- b. PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS (Consent Agenda)
- c. BUS DRIVER CERTIFICATION LIST (Consent Agenda)
- d. FUNDRAISING REQUESTS (Consent Agenda)
- e. TRAVEL REQUEST (Consent Agenda)
- f. NEW CLUB APPROVAL (Consent Agenda)
- g. TUITION
- h. SURPLUS PROPERTY (Consent Agenda)
- i. CONTRACT APPROVALS (Consent Agenda)

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND REPORTS (Information)

Chair Isaak introduced the next item on the agenda, Informational Items and Reports.

a. TRUSTEE REPORTS (Information)

Trustee Miller: Went to divisional wrestling tourney, really impressed me, our trainers, 3 mats going, 90% of the time there was at least 1 bloody nose, some concussion protocol, right on top of it, really well organized.
Trustee Albright: Thursday I went to Arts integration dinner and workshop at GHS. I saw all kinds of wonderful examples of visual and media arts and bringing all the art people together from schools all around. OPI states that Feb. is "I love to read month". Had you sign up to go to school and read. I am going to Russel to read to 3rd graders.
Trustee Endersen: I am reading next month
Trustee Tepas: reading to Russell
Chair Isaak: attending Vo Ag ed specs meeting. The faculty makes the architects job easy , it is amazing to see, neat thing to see is that they are trying to max space and utilize seasons. architects are enjoying the process. Attending crosstown basketball game and its exciting.

b. CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE AND CONSTRUCTION PLANNING MEETINGS (Information)

Cancelling Board Governance for the month
Next wed is Russell visitioant

c. ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS (Information)

i. Superintendent

2 versions of the Flathead High School Principal hiring brochure, brought back from FHS staff, mailer and electronic version. I sent a not e of thanks to Lynette Johnson and staff who worked on that.
Interview team, Mark Kornick would like to be part of it.
If there was another trustee who was interested there could be an informal conversation and sitting down with 2 Trustees on an informal basis. It would require a full day commitment on Wed. the 28th. Diane Morton Stout will do it.
Flatau laid out the 5 candidate schedule, as presented.

Sent out an updated schedule and deliberations will be thursday morning at 9am in the basement conference room.
Deadline for submission by applicants is the 19th.

ii. Assistant Superintendent

Johnson stated that she has spent the last two days at OPI and will bring an update to the Curriculum committee and then the Board work session.

Many teachers doing assessments.

KEA President Lynn Rider stated that the "the interim SBAC is amazing. its been a great progress monitoring tool, still figuring out to utilize and read all the data. Hoping it will take place of the STAR.

Trustee Bailey heard a rumor that FHS is not doing the PSAT and wondered about that. Johnson said she had not heard that but will check into it.

10. ADJOURNMENT

(Action)

Chair Isaak called for a motion regarding the adjournment of the meeting.

Trustee Bailey made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Isaak seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8.:24 PM

Chair of the Board

Date

Clerk of the Board

Date

Secretary of the Board

Date

11. ACCOMMODATIONS