

Minutes

Chairwoman Bonnie Hepworth called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Hepworth welcomed the audience and led them in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members in attendance were Chairwoman Bonnie Hepworth, Vice-Chairman Carlos Mercado, Treasurer Cleon Chapman, Trustee Mary Jo Marlow and Trustee Kevin Callahan. Also in attendance were Superintendent Brian Kress, Board Clerk JaNae Smith, Assistant Board Clerk Jennifer Hatch, Teresa Rowe, Stephen Adams, Kayla Adams, Jeromy Pharis, Travis Henderson, Brindie Henderson, Chuck Wisdom, Billie Wisdom, Stephanie Beamis, Wes Wisdom, Tradyn Henderson, Kylan Guerra, Carter Inskeep, Dallin Ellis, Tanner Ellis, Landen Anseth, Chase James, Vicki Chase, Shaila Guerra, Victor Guerra, Heather Lulloff, Katie Lindsay, Dee Williams, Christine Williams, Kyle Williams, Benjamin Sorensen, Kim Jepperson, Lynette Carter, Joy Mickelsen, Ronna Park, Kerry Park, Stephanie Wren, Christy Madsen, Nikki Moysh, Janet Moysh, Priscilla Gutierrez, Cody Shelley, Shannon Lance, Joseph Abercrombie, Camille Georgeson, Debbie Steele, Roger Thomas, Shellie Hall, Oakley Hall, Preston Hall, Kim Wolfley, Ella Aullman, Amanda Aullman, Sophie Aullman, Tyler Weaver, Mindy Lawes, Jeremy Lawes, Kent Taylor, and Judy Taylor.

Approval of the Agenda- Mrs. Hepworth asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Due to the number of public input sheets that were submitted, there was a need to amend the agenda. She explained that personnel issues cannot be presented in open session. Mrs. Marlow moved that the board of trustees amend the agenda to add an executive session after public forum. The good faith reason is that our policy states that we cannot speak about personnel in open public forum. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Public Forum – Jeromy Pharis expressed support for the wrestling staff. The wrestling program impacts many students in this community.

Benjamin Jay Sorensen came to support the wrestling staff. Eight-four students tried out for wrestling this year.

Kyle Williams supports the wrestling staff and has been a volunteer for many years. The wrestling program has blessed the lives of a lot of students. Mr. Williams has concerns about the future of the program.

Dee Williams expressed support for the wrestling coach. Mr. Williams has spent a lot of time in the program and would like to see it continue. He asked the board to do the best thing for the kids and the program. He has concerns about where the program is headed.

Tradyn Henderson, a senior at BHS and 5 other wrestlers thanked wrestling staff. He is sad about a recent resignation. He has concerns about the future of wrestling program.

Travis Henderson shared that he has been a part of the wrestling program for a long time. The wrestling program is like fraternity. The wrestlers are part of a nationwide culture. He said the board would be shocked to hear the comments that others are saying about Blackfoot. Even though the coach has made some mistakes, he supports him.

Wes Wisdom said that he was a two time state champion. He is grateful to have coached with wrestling staff this year.

Stephen Adams thanked the board. He is on a cemetery board and recognizes the responsibility. He is the head coach for the girls' wrestling program, an MVMS wrestling assistant coach, and a proud parent of 3 children who have participated in the wrestling program. The wrestling coach is the best thing that has happened to the wrestling program. He feels like the wrestling coach had no other option but to step down because of persecution from administration. Mr. Adams wants to be part of the decision in hiring a new coach.

Kent Taylor, the famous coach Taylor and 5 times coach of the year, has been a wrestling coach for 34 year. He shared past experiences during his time coaching. The Blackfoot Wrestling program is as he left it.

Mrs. Hepworth thanked those who spoke in the open public forum and stated it was time for an executive session.

Mrs. Marlow moved that the board of trustees recess into executive session in the manner and for the purposes authorized by Section 74-206, Idaho Code (1)(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All board members in attendance voted in the affirmative in a roll call vote. Mrs. Hepworth – aye. Mr. Mercado – aye. Mr. Chapman – aye. Mrs. Marlow – aye. Mr. Callahan – aye. The motion passed.

Executive Session

April 26, 2023
7:03 p.m.

Kent Taylor, Stephanie Wren, Katie Lindsey, Stephen Adams and Travis Henderson submitted public input sheets which pertained to an employee. They individually shared their concerns during the executive session.

The board reconvened into open session at 7:40 p.m.

Superintendent Update (Information) – Mr. Kress said believe it or not, today was the first day of spring. School was closed earlier in the month due to a threat. He is working on an attendance waiver with Ms. Critchfield, the state superintendent. The whole spring sports season is being crammed into a couple of weeks due to the bad weather we have had. Testing assessments are in full swing. Next week is May. Graduation will be here in a few weeks. BHS Graduation is Thursday, May 25th. Board members can let Mrs. Hepworth know if there are any graduates for which they would like to give diplomas. They will receive 2 tickets for the BHS graduation. IHS graduation is Friday, May 26th.

Legislative Update (Information) – Mr. Kress stated he has attended two events where the legislative session has been discussed. Funding for next year will revert back to average daily attendance. This funding will be a big hurdle for the district. He doesn't think pre-pandemic attendance will return. The State Board will be holding a special meeting in Boise to see how the state funding will trickle down to the district. Reverting back to attendance funding will be a 7% reduction in funding. There are only 3 states in the whole nation that are funded by attendance. State legislators need to hear from educators. This funding changes how Mr. Kress will look at the budget for the coming year.

March Financial Report (Information) - The March Financial Report was given by Ms. Teresa Rowe.

Indian Education Update (Information) – Ms. Mickelsen said that board members received a knapsack with a logo representing both the Shoshone tribe and the Bannock tribe. Washington DC Fellows attended the district last week. They were impressed with the 4th Grade Field Trip that was organized by the Indigenous Club. There was an essay contest that helped build cultural bridges. A public hearing was held last week. Over 300 Needs Assessment Surveys have been returned. A Diversity Center will be opened next year which will focus on math tutoring. The Blackfoot School District educates five times more Native American students than ShoBan High School. This year there will be over 40 Native American students who will graduate. One of the fellows told Ms. Mickelsen that he had never attended a public hearing where there was financial transparency like Mr. Kress presented at the Hearing. The Diversity Center will be located in the old library of the Irving Student Support Center.

Board Policy 677.8 Indian Policies and Procedures (Information) – Mr. Kress said that this policy is part of compliance that is in place for Native American students. There has been input from Tribal Counsel on this policy. This policy states what the district is doing in regard to Indian Policies and Procedures. He had no changes to recommend.

Request Permission for School Meal Price Increases (Information) – Mrs. Jepperson requested a price increase for meals as follows: Elementary Breakfast \$2.15, Secondary Breakfast \$2.30, Adult Breakfast \$2.75, Elementary Lunch \$3.00, Secondary Lunch \$3.15, Adult Lunch \$4.75 Milk \$.55 The state sets the prices for the increase. As per state guidelines the reduced meal prices remain the same. Mrs. Hepworth thanked Mrs. Jepperson for the work she is doing. Our district makes sure that a child never goes hungry.

Superintendent Evaluation (Information) – Mrs. Hepworth said that the board would follow the same format with the superintendent evaluation as last year. Mrs. Smith has emailed the template to them. They can complete and submit the evaluation electronically or as a hard copy by the Monday prior to the next board meeting. Mrs. Smith will compile and average the scores.

Quarterly Policy Updates (Action) – Mr. Kress stated that Mr. Wilson presented these quarterly policy updates last month. The policies have been posted on the website for the past month. The following were presented: 404: Employer Recommendations, 404.50: Information on Past Job Performance, 413: Political Activities, 419: Worker’s Compensation Benefits, 440: Employment of Certificated Employees, 441: Assignment, Reassignment, and Transfer of Certificated Employees, 444: Employment Contracts with Certificated Employees (DELETE) 447: Recruitment of Certificated Employees, 670: Special Education (IDEA), and 670.10: Special Education: Written Agreements. Mrs. Hepworth said that board members have had a month to review these policies. There were no concerns or questions. Mr. Chapman moved that the board of trustees approve the quarterly policy updates as presented in written format by Mr. Kress. Mrs. Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Intent to Operate 2023-24 Food Service (Action) – Mrs. Jepperson requested authorization to renew the agreement with Idaho Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs for the 2023-24 school year. The agreement states that the district will operate all Child Nutrition programs within the regulations set by the US Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Department of Education Child Nutrition Program. The district will once again be operating the National Breakfast and Lunch Programs, After School Snacks, and Summer Meals. Approximately 2,000 meals each day are served to students. Mr. Chapman moved that the board of trustees approve the intent to operate food service for the 2023-24 school year as presented by Mrs. Jepperson. Mr. Mercado seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Request Permission for Paper Bids (Action) – Ms. Rowe asked the board for permission to send out requests for paper bids. She will include the consortium. She wants to complete the process earlier this year than last year. Mrs. Marlow moved that the board of trustees approve the request to seek for paper bids for the 2023-24 school year as presented by Ms. Rowe. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

Motion to Executive Session (Action) – Mr. Mercado moved that the board of trustees recess into executive session in the manner and for the purposes authorized by Section 74-206, Idaho Code (1) (a) to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student. Mrs. Hepworth noted that this is proper business for consideration in executive session as per Idaho Code 74-206. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All board members in attendance voted in the affirmative in a roll call vote. Mrs. Hepworth – aye. Mr. Mercado – aye. Mr. Chapman – aye. Mrs. Marlow – aye. Mr. Callahan – aye. The motion passed.

Executive Session

April 26, 2023
8:11 p.m.

Mr. Kress presented the personnel recommendations. Mr. Thomas presented complaints against Employee 2023A. Mr. Mercado brought up complaints that have been shared with him.

The board reconvened into open session at 10:49 p.m.

Consent Agenda (Action) – Mrs. Hepworth asked if there were any questions regarding items on the consent agenda. There were no questions regarding the minutes or bills. An area of need was declared for Special Education and Elementary Education teachers. The following student trips were approved : BPA to National Competition, MVMS GT Program to State History Day Competition, BHS Speech and Debate to Tournament of Champions, Boys Basketball to BB Camp in St. George, Girls Basketball to Tournament in St. George, and BHS Drill and Dance Team to Summer Camp in Murray, UT. Mr. Mercado moved that the board of trustees approve the consent agenda as presented. Mrs. Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed.

PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>New Hires</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Natalie Baker	Kindergarten Teacher	STO
Justin Bissonnette	Maintenance	Districtwide
Christopher Esmerio	Food Service Assistant	Summer Lunch Program
Dan Hale	Grounds Foreman	DW
Deegan Hale	Grounds Crew	DW
Dexter Hale	Grounds Crew Assistant Foreman	DW
Duncan Hale	Grounds Crew	DW
Suzanne Hieb	Interventionist	STA
Katie Luke	6 th Grade Teacher	BHSG
Katie Roberts	Speech Language Pathologist	DW
Alan Southern	Science Teacher	MVMS

Carrie Sponholz	Kindergarten Teacher	GRO
James Taylor	Maintenance	Districtwide
Kayla Webster	Food Service Assistant	STO

Area of Need

Jill Beck (ALT AUTH)	STO – Spec Ed Para	STO - 2 nd Grade Teacher
Emily Olson (ALT AUTH)	STO – Spec Ed Para	STO - Special Education Teacher

New Hires within District

Mary Spiker	<u>From</u> STO – Kindergarten Teacher	<u>To</u> FH - Interventionist
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Transfers

Jennifer Hatch	<u>From</u> DO - Personnel Clerk	<u>To</u> DO - Administrative Assistant – Personnel
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Extracurricular

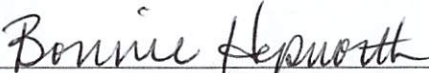
Chelsey Arave	<u>Position</u> Volleyball Varsity Head Coach	<u>Location</u> BHS
Susan Underwood	GT Stipend	WAP

Resignations/Retirements

Jillian Cameron	<u>Position</u> Head Cheer Coach	<u>Location</u> MVMS
Sharon Hoge	Drama Teacher	BHS
Jaxson Holmes	ASP Para	RC
Kaleb Hone	ERR Paraprofessional	STA
Terri Jansma	6 th Grade Teacher	BHSG
Laurie Kearsley	Secretary	STA
Debra Leiseth	P.E. Paraprofessional	Districtwide
Lupita Maria	Classroom Paraprofessional	FH
Kelly Moysh	Head Wrestling Coach	BHS
Jennifer Neeser	4 th Grade Teacher	STA
Terri Palmer	Paraprofessional	RC
Doug Turner	Technology Education	MVMS

Future Agenda Items (Information) – The board will act on Board Policy 577: Extended Field Trips next month.

Adjournment (action) – Mr. Mercado moved that the April meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m.



 Bonnie Hepworth, Chairwoman



 JaNae Smith, Clerk