

Minutes

Vice Chairwoman Mary Jo Marlow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Marlow welcomed the audience and led them in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members in attendance were Chairwoman Bonnie Hepworth (via audio), Vice-Chairwoman Mary Jo Marlow, Treasurer Sonya Harris, Trustee Karen Driscoll and Trustee Dewane Wren. Also in attendance were Superintendent Brian Kress, Assistant Superintendent Ryan Wilson, Board Clerk JaNae Smith, Teresa Rowe, Joy Mickelsen, Amy Wren, Krissy Lamont, David Brinkman, Liam Pope and 9 virtual participants.

Board Training – Krissy Lamont and David Brinkman gave a presentation to the board. Some highlights from the training are as follows. Board Roles were discussed. Board members are the school district's biggest advocate. Board members serve the patrons, govern the district and the outcome is student achievement. Board members also oversee policy, personnel, finance, safety, and CIP. Mr. Brinkman showed them a diagram of the governance clock. ISBA Training manuals plus the following booklets were distributed: Idaho Open Meeting Law Manual, Idaho Public Records Law, and Idaho Ethics in Government Manual. The public has a right to watch board members come to a decision. They discussed daisy chaining and deliberation. Mr. Brinkman and Ms. Lamont gave them examples. If board members have questions they should ask the superintendent and not each other. The chairman can discuss factual information with a board member without sharing opinions. Mr. Brinkman asked them to think about how they are serving the patrons. He reminded them that text messages, emails and telephone calls are subject to open meeting laws. The public has a right to attend board meetings but not a right to participate unless requested by the board chairperson. The public does have a right to speak and ask questions at the budget hearing. Mr. Brinkman told them that a second on a motion does not mean a yes vote. It means the board is ready to vote on the motion. If a board member has received calls from concerned citizens and listened to their opinions then the identity of the callers must be disclosed as well as a general description of what the caller said. Listening sessions are a good way to hear public opinion when there are controversial issues. During the listening sessions board members should not give feedback. Bond rules and elections were discussed. The superintendent can individually seek information from board members. He can inform board members of happenings in the district. The superintendent reports to the board as a whole not to individual board members. The trainers agreed to come back another time for more training in May.

Public Forum – Mrs. Amy Wren came forward during the Public Forum. It's time to have some fun. We need to be back together. We need to bring the joy back into school. We are Nordstrom's. We have come to work, and we are doing it. Teachers want to be in school. Mrs. Marlow expressed appreciation to Ms. Wren.

Superintendent Update (Information) – Mr. Kress is ready to bring the fun back into education. Election Day is less than 2 weeks away. The district had a successful second vaccination clinic at BPAC for those employees who desired to have the COVID vaccine. Last week was elementary parent teacher conferences. They were offered face to face and virtually. The racquetball court project has begun. Staff will be getting bids for BHS windows. Spring sports will begin in March. The winter sports season just concluded. The BHS Girls Basketball Team had a historic win. They will be invited to next month's board meeting. Mrs. Marlow commented that she is so proud of the girls and coaches for the way they have conducted themselves. They had outstanding sportsmanship and worked together as a team. Mr. Wilson was impressed with the community support coming together at the Movie Mill to watch them play on the movie screen.

Monthly Financial Report (Information) – Ms. Rowe presented a financial report for the month of January. (Attachment A)

English Language Arts (Information) – Ms. Silzly thanked them for the opportunity to present. This year the Blackfoot School District purchased grades K-6 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) for all students. The training for the HMH program has gone very well. There have been six trainings this school year. The district has been piloting 2 Comprehensive ELA Curriculum programs at the MVMS and BHS: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH): Into Literature and McGraw-Hill: StudySync. Each company representative was able to provide the Blackfoot School District a second year to pilot their online program for each program, Into Literature and StudySync for grades 7-12. The pilot for each program began at the beginning of the school year and will run through June 4, 2021. The committee will hear input from the teachers. Board members were able to ask Ms. Silzly clarifying questions. She is planning to recommend that the committee decide on a single curriculum so it can be consistent for the benefit of our student's academic achievements. Parents will be involved in the review committee. Mrs. Harris is also on the committee as well as patrons. Ms. Silzly is planning to present a recommendation to the board in May.

Dean of Students (Information) – Mr. Kress would like to seek permission to have a dean of students at Blackfoot High School. It will not be an administrative contract. It would be an extended teacher contract with 183 days with teacher benefits not administrative benefits. Mrs. Marlow asked if there was a need to have this position at Blackfoot High School. Mr. Kress explained that the Blackfoot School District can't be compared to other districts, because our district is not like other districts. We have a different culture. The current admin would be able to focus on educational priorities, if there was a Dean of Students at the high school. Mr. Kress foresees it being a current employee. The office would be downstairs near the counselors. It would be similar to a third administrative position. Board members would like to re-evaluate it after one year. Mr. Kress will open it up to in-district employees only. Anyone interested in the district would be allowed to interview. The three counselors are very busy. Current administrators feel this position will be very helpful.

Emergency Closure at Groveland Elementary School (Action) – Mr. Kress explained that there were officials from the Fire Department, Police Department, Intermountain Gas Company and Idaho Power that showed up at Groveland Elementary School due to smoke in the hallway due to a stalled ceiling fan. Students were evacuated to a nearby church building. Mr. Dewane Wren moved that the board of trustees approve the school closure at Groveland Elementary School on February 11, 2021 due to a ventilation malfunction. Mrs. Karen Driscoll seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Board Policy Quarterly Updates (Action) – Mr. Wilson presented the following quarterly policy updates for approval. Policy 228: Board Member Conflict of Interest, Policy 418: Personnel Conflict of Interest, Policy 430: Qualifications and Training Requirements of Instructional Paraprofessionals, Policy 579: Student Groups in School Facilities, Policy 652: Library and Resource Center Materials, Policy 694: District-Provided Mobile Computing Devices (New), Policy 698 and 698F1 and 698F2: Acceptable Use of Internet, Computer, Mobile Computing Devices and Network Resources for Students, Policy 850: Purchasing, and Policy 850P1: Supplemental Purchasing Procedures. Mrs. Harris expressed appreciation to Mr. Wilson on Board Policy 579 for helping her understand the policy. She shared her concerns regarding the student groups and the safeguard of the administration to oversee them. She also expressed concerns with Board Policy 652. She wants to be sure that there is no questionable materials in the library. Mr. Kress told her that Ms. Mickelsen meets with the librarians regularly and oversees that questionable

materials are not brought into the library. She reports to the superintendent. Mrs. Marlow noted that Board Policy 698 states that there is an annual parent meeting to receive input. Mr. Wilson explained that it is part of the registration process at the beginning of each school year. It can also be included in the Title 1 Parent meetings. Mr. Kress and Mr. Wilson said they will see if this meeting meets the requirements in the policy. Mrs. Sonya Harris moved that the board of trustees approve the board policy quarterly updates as presented by Mr. Wilson. Mr. Dewane Wren seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Board Policy 809: Bond Fund Policy (Action) – Mr. Kress stated that this policy comes from our public financial advisor. The policy does not impact students or teachers. It impacts the business office and creates a separate bank account for bonds. This keeps those funds separate from the general Maintenance and Operation funds. Mrs. Karen Driscoll moved that the board of trustees waive the first reading of the Bond Fund Policy and approve Board Policy 809. Mrs. Sonya Harris seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

New Bank Account (Action) – Mr. Kress said that the new policy requires that the district have a separate bank account. He requested permission to establish a new savings account for the Blackfoot School District. The purpose of this account will be to hold in reserve the received funds to pay any and all bond payments owed by the District. It is advised by our public finance advisor that these funds be kept completely separate from our General Maintenance and Operation funds. In order to demonstrate complete separation of these funds, he asked for permission to create a “Bond Account” with D L Evans Bank. This will meet the recommendation of our finance advisor and the credit reviewers, Moody’s Investor Services, and will result in a better credit rating for the school district. Mr. Dewane Wren moved that the board of trustees approve opening a new bank account with D L Evans Bank to hold in reserve the received funds to pay any and all bond payments owed by the district. Mrs. Sonya Harris seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Motion to Executive Session (Action) - Mr. Dewane Wren moved that the board of trustees recess into executive session in the manner and for the purposes authorized by Section 74-206, Idaho Code, (a) to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, and (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. Vice Chairwoman Marlow noted that this is proper business for consideration in executive session as per Idaho Code 74-206. Mrs. Karen Driscoll seconded the motion. All board members in attendance voted in the affirmative in a roll call vote. Mrs. Hepworth – aye. Mrs. Marlow – aye. Mrs. Harris – aye. Mrs. Driscoll – aye. Mr. Wren – aye. The motion passed.

Executive Session

February 25, 2021
8:18 p.m.

Mr. Kress presented the personnel recommendations and answered questions the board had about the new hires. He discussed the preliminary certified staffing for the 2021-22 school year. He also heard complaints about employee 2021A.

The board reconvened into open session at 8:45 p.m.

Consent Agenda (Action) – Mrs. Marlow asked if there were any questions regarding items on the consent agenda. There were no questions. Mrs. Sonya Harris moved that the board of trustees approve the prior board minutes, personnel recommendations as they appear below in these minutes, payment of January bills, and BHS Softball Trip to St. George, March 19-21. Mrs. Karen Driscoll seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>New Hires</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Zahra Almahmod	Part-time Paraeducator	FH
Autumn Crawford	Special Ed Teacher (2021-22)	BHS
Jessica First	Indian Ed Paraprofessional	MVMS
Jeremy Folkner	Maintenance	DW
Mia Haskett	Part-time Paraeducator	FH
Matthew Kulicke	ISS Paraeducator	BHS
Scott Lawhon	Maintenance	DW
Tadraschell Murray	Indian Ed Paraprofessional	BHS
Linda Neff	Indian Ed Paraprofessional	STO
Amanda Watt	Media Paraprofessional	RC
<u>Transfers</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Lynette Huff	Part-time Food Service Asst-BHSG	Part-time Food Service Asst-GRO
Rebecca Garcia	P/T Food Service Assistant-BHSG	P/T Food Service Assistant-STO
<u>Extracurricular</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Beau Hoskins	Golf Head Coach	BHS
Amy Wren	Golf Assistant Coach	BHS
<u>Resignations/Retirements</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Elizabeth Baldwin	Media Paraeducator	BHS
Brynn Drafs	Special Ed Paraeducator	BHS
Shanelle Elmer	Food Service Assistant	RC
Tanya Espindola	Part-time Paraeducator	FH
Scott Fields	Special Ed Teacher	STO
Roger Goodman	Maintenance	DW
Anna Inskip	Assistant Tennis Coach	BHS
Mark Kartchner	Principal	IHS
Ashlei Martin	Media Paraeducator	RC
Joseph Orchard	Computer Technician	DW
Zach Reay	Football Freshman Head Coach	BHS
Nicole Robinson	Cheer Advisor	MVMS
Miriam Vail	Special Ed Teacher	BHS
Skyler Young	Maintenance	DW
<u>Contracted Services</u>	Southeastern Idaho Development Center, Inc	

Future Agenda Items (information) – Topics mentioned for future board meetings were Drivers Education Program Update (March), Accounting of the CARES funds, Sources of Strength (May), COVID discussion (March), and Gear Up Update. The board would like to have a special work meeting for the next ISBA training.

Adjournment (action) – Dewane moved that the February meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned. Karen seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Bonnie Hepworth, Board Chairwoman



JaNae Smith, Clerk

BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Month Ending:
January 31, 2021

ZIONS BANK

M & O - CMIA Account	\$ 3,105,348.85
Outstanding Checks	\$ (533,658.85)

ZIONS BANK M&O TOTAL	\$ 2,571,690.00
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DL EVANS BANK (School Lunch)	\$ 107,537.69
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ZIONS BANK

Blackfoot Performing Arts	\$ 28,981.87
Outstanding Checks	\$ (558.75)

ZIONS BANK - Performing Arts Total	\$ 28,423.12
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INVESTMENTS - GENERAL OPERATIONS

State Investment Pool	\$ 2,865,212.33
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Zions Investment Account	\$ 287,399.36
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PETTY CASH

District Balance 01/31/2021	\$ 3,500.00
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TOTAL RECONCILED DISTRICT BANK FUNDS - January 31, 2021	\$ 5,863,762.50
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TOTAL RECONCILED DISTRICT BANK FUNDS -January 31, 2020	\$ 4,709,492.89
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BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
ALL DISTRICT FUNDS
For the Month Ending:
January 31, 2021

January 1, 2021 Balance Forward:

\$ 5,625,163.15

REVENUE:

Local Property Tax	\$	1,969,415.74
Federal-PL 81-874 Impact Aid	\$	600,370.00
Cares Act	\$	120,603.61
Federal-Food Service	\$	111,724.94
Federal-Title I-C Migrant	\$	19,977.35
Gear Up Grant	\$	10,286.33
Federal-Title IV-A 21st Century	\$	9,519.49
Local Food Service	\$	2,328.13
Earnings on Investments	\$	1,607.85
Local Revenue (Rent, Donations, Tuition, Etc.)	\$	8.00

TOTAL REVENUE:	\$ 2,845,841.44
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EXPENDITURES:

January 2021 Payroll	\$	2,027,129.09
Transportation	\$	166,470.50
Contract Service/Membership	\$	123,297.10
Custodial Contract	\$	82,632.59
Utilities/Telephone	\$	77,015.90
Food Services	\$	37,797.84
Textbooks/Computer/Equipment/Technology	\$	36,188.34
Bond Principal/Interest	\$	27,037.50
Bldg. Repair, Maint., Supplies, Equip.	\$	26,437.81
Employee/Public Relations, Travel, In-service	\$	2,936.42
Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$	299.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$ 2,607,242.09
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NET INCREASE IN CASH POSITION:	\$ 238,599.35
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ENDING BALANCE:

\$ 5,863,762.50

General Fund

FY21 Revenue To Date	\$ 19,882,469.42	72.4%
FY21 Expenditures To Date	\$ 13,146,970.68	47.0%
 FY20 Actual Revenue thru 01/31/2020	 \$ 18,473,346.41	 67.0%
FY20 Actual Expenditures thru 01/31/2020	\$ 13,322,455.91	55.6%

Susan Rowe

 2/16/2021