

Minutes

Chairwoman Bonnie Hepworth called the meeting to order at 6:00 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-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, Lynette Carter, Ronna Park, Tyrel Smith, Richard Johnson, Michele Hernandez, Amy Wren, Shawn Humpherys, Jared Arave, Meagan Capson, Raimee Odum, Shannon Lance, Sheila Guerra, Victor Guerra, Niki Johnson, Joe Abercrombie, Lonney Walker, Colby McCaslin and student athletes.

The board recognized the BHS Wrestlers and BHS Girls' Basketball Team. Mr. Thain Cashmore, wrestling coaches and wrestlers were honored for their wrestling talent at the state tournament. They earned the title of District Champions. All 23 wrestlers placed at the district level and qualified for state. The team has a 3.58 cumulative GPA.

Coach Raimee Odum thanked the administration for the opportunity to have the girls' basketball season. She spoke about the successful season as a by-product of creating a positive environment and working together as a team. The Girls Varsity Basketball team won the state championship. She also expressed appreciation for the community support.

Public Forum – Mrs. Amy Wren came forward during the Public Forum. She told them it was time to drop the winter blues and have some laughter.

Superintendent Update (Information) – Mr. Kress said there are great things to celebrate. He asked, "Do you remember where you were 365 days ago?" They were right here holding an emergency school board meeting to determine what to do about COVID-19. He told them that there is not a single district that has done more than the Blackfoot School District during this past year. We have accomplished amazing things. One week ago tonight we were awaiting the results for the bond and levy elections. He expressed appreciation for the great support of the community. He believes it's time to start back to normalcy. He asked Ms. Mickelsen to tell the board about the most recent grant award. She explained that the district has been awarded a 21st Century Grant of \$168,500 for the next 5 years. Mr. Kress said that the future is bright for the Blackfoot School District.

Monthly Financial Report (Information) – Ms. Rowe presented a financial report for the month of February. (Attachment A) Mr. Kress said that the SDE has decreased our discretionary funds, but it will be back filled with the ESSR II funds.

Bond Next Steps (Information) – Mr. Kress stated that bringing the bond to fruition is going to be a lot of work. The first committee meeting was held today. The baseball and softball project is the first project to begin. Thursday, there will be another steering committee meeting for the new elementary school. Moody has raised the district's standing by 2 spots. A lot of planning will be happening over the next few months. He gave them the following timeline: softball/baseball fields, atrium, elementary, soccer/football field, and BTEC. The new elementary school will likely start

next February. The district's financial advisors are asking to have the bonds financed as soon as possible. They do need to wait past the election contestation window, then special board meetings will be scheduled to act on it.

BTEC Recognition (Information) – Mr. Kress asked the members of the committee who were in attendance to come forward. Mrs. Hepworth said she is impressed how the committee members came together for the good of the community. She commended them for their professionalism and the way they stated the facts repeatedly. The right people were chosen to serve on the committee. All the board members gave them accolades and tribute them for the high percentage of support. Members of the committee present were Ron Murray, Kristi Kotter, Lee Benedixson, and Richard Johnson. Additional members of the committee were Katie Harris, Kelly Hurst, Michael Johnson and many other patrons. Mr. Kress also expressed appreciation for Krystal Murdoch and the Blackfoot Bond Website. The Blackfoot community supports our students. Mr. Kress assures everyone that he will deliver. He was commended for his vision, solid leadership and inspiration. Everyone expressed appreciation for the Shoshone Bannock Tribal support. Mrs. Hepworth told the committee that their sacrifice and commitment will benefit many generations.

Driver's Education Program Update and Esports (Information) – Mr. Shannon Lance reported that Blackfoot High School currently serves 18 students per driving session at a cost of \$154 per student. Students typically have to wait up to 7 months after they register before they can attend class. Many of the students are juniors and seniors due to the wait time. BHS continually refunds families for Drivers Ed fees due to the wait time for the courses offered, because families get tired of the wait and choose to go elsewhere. The high school administration would like to double the amount of students who can attend Drivers Ed Class. The high school program is more cost effective for students than private programs. It is held before school, because the district cannot charge fees for credit classes. BHS would like to add an additional classroom instructor to better meet the needs of the stakeholders. They plan to add two more drivers education instructors and add another classroom instructor. The Drivers Ed program is self-funding. There are only two reliable vehicles. They will need to purchase two more cars to have enough to service the students who will be in the program. Mr. Lance can see the program growing with 2 full classrooms and potentially offering the program to other schools once they have accommodated the needs of the BHS students. He told them that he feels supported by the superintendent and the district. Board members invited him to give a report in the fall.

Mr. Lance introduced Mr. Mori Dunlap to present information on esports. Mr. Dunlap explained that esports is competitive video gaming. He told how the esports club evolved. He collaborated with Ms. Mickelsen and applied for a national grant. Blackfoot High School is one of twenty-five districts in the nation that will be awarded 6 computers. On April 7th the students will begin building the PCs. Currently 20-30 students are competing nationally online with two different leagues. All practices and competitions are done outside of class. It may be an elective class in the future. Mr. Dunlap spoke about the rating categories of the games. The games that are played are teen rated or below. Students participating in esports have the potential to learn mathematics, eye-hand coordination, strategies and teamwork. Esports reaches students who are not typically in other extracurricular activities. Mr. Dunlap would like to see more local teams, so BHS students can compete with local students. Board members feel fortunate to have Mr. Dunlap as the esports advisor.

COVID Response Plan (Information) – Mr. Kress said that it has been a long time since a student has been quarantined. He is starting conversations with transportation personnel regarding when restrictions can be loosened. He is planning to stay status quo until after spring break and will consider changes after that. There will be an outside student assembly at BHS tomorrow. Field trips are also starting to happen. If staff want to have vaccines and did not have one last month, they will be responsible to get vaccines on their own. The kids are begging for more normalcy.

April’s Board Meeting (Action) – Mr. Kress said it is customary to have the April board meeting at Fort Hall Elementary School. Out of respect for the Shoshone Bannock Tribe, he recommended that the board meeting be held in the district office. Mr. Wren said it was due to COVID-19 and what patrons might bring to the reservation that the board meeting be held at the District Office. Mr. Kress also said that the financial advisors will be presenting next month. Mrs. Sonya Harris moved that the board of trustees have the April board meeting at the District Office. Mr. Wren seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Motion to Executive Session (Action) - Mrs. Mary Jo 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, (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. Chairwoman Hepworth 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

March 16, 2021
7:42 p.m.

Mr. Kress said he has met with administration since last month’s teacher complaint. They are beginning a process of improvement. Administration will also visit the classroom. Mr. Kress presented the personnel recommendations.

The board reconvened into open session at 7:54 p.m.

Consent Agenda (Action) – Mrs. Hepworth asked if bills were in order. Mrs. Harris said they were. There were no further questions. Mr. Dewane Wren moved that the board of trustees approve personnel recommendations as they appear below in these minutes and payment of February bills. Mrs. Karen Driscoll seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Personnel Recommendations

<u>New Hires</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Krystyna Czepkowski	P/T Food Service Assistant	BHSG
Anita Saldana Hernandez	P/T Para	GRO
Natalie Hunting	Food Service Assistant	RC
Jennifer Johnson	P/T Para	GRO
Daniel Summers	Seasonal Tech Support	DW
Heather Winward	Special Ed Teacher	BHS

<u>Transfers</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Katie Arave	Career Center Para – BHS	Registrar – BHS
Courtney Martinez	P/T Para – GRO	P/T Indian Ed Para – WAP/GRO
Carla McNeil	RTI Para – BHS	Career Center Para – BHS
Korina Wood	Spec Ed – BHS	RTI Para – BHS

<u>Extracurricular</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jerod Ackley	Track Assistant Coach	BHS
Kelsey Nitu	Tennis Assistant Coach	BHS


<u>Resignations/Retirements</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Gabriel Galloway	Football Assistant Coach	BHS
Lesa Huntsman	Business/Math Teacher	IHS
Angela Nelson	Registrar	BHS
Teresa Nielsen	Food Service Assistant	STA

Future Agenda Items (information) – Mr. Kress told them for April’s meeting there will be an accounting of federal stimulus money and review of the board policy for parental involvement on committees. Mrs. Harris suggested that teacher fidelity to curriculum be placed on a future agenda. The board will complete the superintendent evaluation in May.

Adjournment (action) – Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow moved that the March meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned. Mrs. Sonya Harris seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



 Bonnie Hepworth, Board Chairwoman



 JaNae Smith, Clerk

**BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Month Ending:
February 28, 2021**

ZIONS BANK

M & O - CMIA Account \$ 1,381,687.15

Outstanding Checks \$ (285,190.52)

ZIONS BANK M&O TOTAL \$ 1,096,496.63

DL EVANS BANK (School Lunch) \$ 108,373.67

ZIONS BANK

Blackfoot Performing Arts \$ 28,906.43

Outstanding Checks \$ (528.75)

ZIONS BANK - Performing Arts Total \$ 28,377.68

INVESTMENTS - GENERAL OPERATIONS

State Investment Pool \$ 6,987,046.35

Zions Investment Account \$ 287,408.30

PETTY CASH

District Balance 02/28/2021 \$ 3,500.00

**TOTAL RECONCILED DISTRICT BANK
FUNDS - February 28, 2021** \$ 8,511,202.63

**TOTAL RECONCILED DISTRICT BANK
FUNDS -February 28, 2020** \$ 7,063,354.45

Attachment A

BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
ALL DISTRICT FUNDS
For the Month Ending:
February 28, 2021

February 1, 2021 Balance Forward:

\$ 5,863,762.50

REVENUE:

State-Base Support	\$	5,149,069.49
Federal-Food Service	\$	139,451.18
Local Property Tax	\$	44,857.82
Johnson O'Malley	\$	39,513.22
Medicaid	\$	10,540.66
Federal-Title IV-A 21st Century	\$	9,083.32
Local Revenue (Rent, Donations, Tuition, Etc.)	\$	6,530.25
Local Food Service	\$	3,858.55
State-Driver's Education	\$	3,259.68
Earnings on Investments	\$	809.67

TOTAL REVENUE:	\$	<u>5,406,973.84</u>
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EXPENDITURES:

February 2021 Payroll	\$	2,055,733.26
Transportation	\$	181,529.82
Textbooks/Computer/Equipment/Technology	\$	128,866.12
Contract Service/Membership	\$	110,060.01
Custodial Contract	\$	82,632.59
Utilities/Telephone	\$	70,824.38
Food Services	\$	66,267.24
Bldg. Repair, Maint., Supplies, Equip.	\$	58,894.56
Employee/Public Relations, Travel, In-service	\$	4,657.73
Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$	68.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$	<u>2,759,533.71</u>
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NET INCREASE IN CASH POSITION:

\$ 2,647,440.13

ENDING BALANCE:

\$ 8,511,202.63

General Fund

FY21 Revenue To Date	\$	25,066,729.57	91.2%
FY21 Expenditures To Date	\$	15,528,986.01	55.5%
 FY20 Actual Revenue thru 02/28/2020	 \$	 23,460,018.80	 85.1%
FY20 Actual Expenditures thru 02/28/2020	\$	17,833,152.94	74.4%

Susan Koux
 3/9/2021