

### 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-Chairperson Kevin Callahan, Treasurer Cleon Chapman and Trustee Mary Jo Marlow. Also in attendance were Superintendent Brian Kress, Assistant Superintendent Ryan Wilson, Assistant Board Clerk Jennifer Hatch, Teresa Rowe, Jerry Martinez, Suzette Martinez, Kimberly Jepperson, Justin Jepperson, Jennifer Jacaway, Lynette Carter, Joy Mickelsen, Amy Wren, Brenda Thiebault, Laurie Kearsley, Jessie Kearsley, Carlos Mercado, Melissa Mercado, Wes Jensen, TJ Boyer, Melissa Penrod, Steve Brodhead, Roy Chiappini, Lori Kay, Nancy Merrick, Ronna Park, and virtual participants.

**Recognition of BHS Girls' Basketball team and Winter Sports Academic State Champions** – Mr. Kress talked about how excited he was to recognize our amazing students. Many ended up still competing tonight and will be present at next month's board meeting. Our BHS Girls' Basketball team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the State competition. Cheer placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the State Competition. They represented Blackfoot well. We had 3 of our 5 winter sports teams awarded as Academic State Champions: Cheer, Boys Basketball, and Wrestling. Our Girls' Basketball also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Academics.

**Public Forum** – No one came forward during the Public Forum.

**Superintendent Update (Information)** – Mr. Kress made a statement about some situations in our district. We are having some issues with non-school sponsored social media accounts. We do not have trademark rights for our building abbreviations or logos. We want to be a support to our parents. Most accounts are private, but we are doing our very best to address them. We cannot monitor social media as a school entity. We implore our parents to be active in monitoring their children's social media content. MVMS and our district will be helping to provide parents with ways to report questionable content to social media platforms. Mr. Kress will be sending an email to all parents with this information. Mrs. Marlow noted our school board harassment policy does state that it is against our policy to have any harassment, even off of school grounds, if it is detrimental to a student's learning. She would like students to be made aware that there can be consequences if the behavior continues. She wanted to know if our school electronic devices block social media. Mr. Wilson clarified that TikTok, Snapchat, and Instagram are blocked with our firewall and are not accessible at school or at home on our devices. Students could use their own data or a hot spot and access the Safari Browser, which we cannot block. Mr. Kress pointed out that a lot of our classes use web-based access for their classwork. Mrs. Hepworth wondered how our content filter works. Mr. Wilson said that we can block any site with our firewall on the devices. On or off school property our devices have the active filters that block these websites. Mrs. Hepworth invited any parent that has concerns to come in and talk to them, and we will work together to resolve this.

Next week is the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. We are 2/3 of the way through the year. We are seeing improvements in absenteeism from students and staff. He expressed gratitude to the community. They have stepped up, and we have had more than 25 new substitutes sign up to help our district. He also thanked our staff for persevering through a trying time.

Bond update- The baseball fields are on track to be ready for Spring play. The varsity dugouts are built up and waiting for the roof. It will not be a finished product for this season, but it will be playable. If needed we do have the legacy fields that we can use. We hit our first significant roadblock with our bond. We had bids out for our student center. Mr. Kress would like to wait until we have more solid numbers on the elementary school and the BTEC before we start on the BHS student center.

**January Financial Report (Information)** – Ms. Rowe presented the January Financial Report. (See attachment A)

**BHS Photography Club Presentation (Information)** – Ms. Thibeault presented a slideshow. She had asked each of her students to share their favorite photos from their trip to Yellowstone. She put them together for us to be able to see what the students were able to go and experience. She thanked the board members for allowing the students to take this trip. The students said it was a trip of a lifetime.

**April Board Meeting Location (Information)** – Mr. Kress said that for the last 2 years we have not had the opportunity to hold our April board meeting in Fort Hall. He asked the board members to give him time to check with the Fort Hall Tribe to see if we would be allowed to have a public meeting at Fort Hall Elementary School in April.

**Annual Idaho Education Law Seminar (Information)** – Mr. Kress talked about the Law Institute seminar. He asked them to let Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Hatch know if they would like to attend this conference. It will be April 25 and 26. Mrs. Hepworth said that even though it is a little overwhelming, it is definitely worth attending.

**Autism Acceptance Day – April 4, 2022** – Mr. Kress was made aware of this day and would like to acknowledge it as a district. It is a way for our school community to show support for individuals with Autism. He would like to encourage all students and staff to wear blue on April 4, 2022.

**2022-23 School Calendar (Action)** – Mr. Kress said that the calendar committee is fun to be a part of, and they have been so good to compromise and do what is best for our district. He presented the calendar to the board. He pointed out that we were attending school for more hours than any other district with a 4-day week. He put a survey out to the parents, students, and staff asking if they would like to start early and end early. We had a majority of parents, staff, and students in favor of ending before Memorial Day. He is recommending the board accept the proposed calendar. For the first week of school, we will be releasing 2 hours early because of the heat in the buildings. Next fall, the committee would like to send out a survey as to whether they prioritize a week long Thanksgiving or would rather have a longer Christmas break. They will also ask patrons if they liked the earlier start date. Mrs. Hepworth clarified that with this calendar BHS will be starting 5 minutes earlier to meet the required number of hours. Mr. Callahan pointed out that Presidents' Day and Civil Rights day are not listed as holidays for next year. Mr. Kress noted that most 4-day school districts do not have those holidays off, they are instructional days. Mr. Kress pointed out that coming to school for only 2 days before a holiday did not work well. Mrs. Marlow moved that the board of trustees approve the 2022-23 School Calendar as presented by Mr. Kress. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed.

**MVMS Supplemental Career Exploration Curriculum (Action)** – Mr. Jensen came forward and told the board that every spring they come together to try and create classes that will be interesting for the students. After looking at today's registration numbers MVMS has decided to withdraw their request for the board to adopt this curriculum. There were only 3 students signed up to take the class. Mr. Kress asked if they would be advertising this class for future trimesters. Mr. Jensen said that the students don't

seem to be interested in a professional development class. He would like to tailor the electives to be something they would be interested in. The board will not be taking any action on this item tonight.

**Motion to Executive Session (Action)** – Mr. Callahan 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. 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. Callahan – aye. Mr. Chapman – aye. Mrs. Marlow – aye. The motion passed.

### **Executive Session**

February 24, 2022  
7:17 p.m.

Mr. Kress presented the personnel recommendations.

The board reconvened into open session at 7:33 p.m.

**Consent Agenda (Action)** – Mrs. Hepworth asked if there were any questions regarding items on the consent agenda. There were none. Mr. Chapman reviewed the January bills. Mr. Chapman moved that the board of trustees approve the prior board minutes, personnel recommendations as they appear below in these minutes, and payment of December bills. Mrs. Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Board Vacancy (Action)** – Mrs. Hepworth thanked the attendees for their patience tonight. She welcomed the 4 patrons who would like to be the Zone 2 representative on the Blackfoot School Board. It is so nice to see so many people willing to come forward to serve our students.

Roy Chiappini talked about our school district motto. He agrees 100% with our motto- Children are our core. He wants to provide opportunities for our students to get the best that our teachers can give.

Suzette Martinez belongs to many groups and service organizations. Her goals for our district are improving the sharing of information and being physically present at school events to show her support. She wants to listen to the people she represents and make sure their opinions are represented.

Carlos Mercado is very passionate about our responsibilities to our children; they are the ones that matter. We need to be their advocates. He is excited about the steps our district is taking. He is excited about the new BTEC program. He wants to partner with our community and all come together.

Nancy Merrick has served on many state and local committees that have given her vital insight. She understands the kids and teachers in our schools. She would love to help out and be involved in all of the exciting projects that our district is involved in making happen.

Mrs. Hepworth said it is an excellent opportunity to have such amazing candidates come before us today. Mr. Chapman talked about how impressed he was with the candidates. He knows there is a true love and commitment to our kids. Mrs. Hepworth said that no matter what the vote decides, she would love to invite all the candidates to be involved in any of our committees. The board voted via ballot.

Mrs. Hatch read the results: 1 vote for Mrs. Merrick, 1 vote for Mrs. Martinez, and 2 votes for Mr. Mercado.

Mr. Mercado will be sworn in on March 31, 2022.

Mr. Callahan made the following motion: Whereas Zone 2 Trustee Karen Driscoll resigned her position; and whereas the board of trustees declared a vacancy for Zone 2 Trustee on December 16, 2021; therefore, be it resolved that the board of trustees appoint Mr. Carlos Mercado to fill the Trustee Zone 2 vacancy as per Board Policy 246: Trustee Vacancy and Idaho Code 33-504. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion. All approved.

**PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

<u>New Hires</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Rita Crezee	P/T Food Service Assistant	STO
Kaycee Eddington	P/T Special Ed Paraprofessional	GRO
Rebecca Garcia	P/T Food Service Assistant	RC
Zayra Munoz	P/T After School Educational Assistant	RC
Kolton Peterson	Maintenance	DW
Shanae Schild	P/T Lunch Duty Paraprofessional	GRO
Paige Chadwick	P/T SpEd Paraprofessional	IHS
<u>In-District Hires</u>	<u>Previous Position</u>	<u>New Position</u>
Amanda Whitehead	P/T Paraprofessional- STO	F/T SpEd Para- STO
<u>Extracurricular</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Dylan Fuller	Assistant Tennis Coach	BHS
Kyah Henderson	Assistant Softball Coach	BHS
Rhys Pope	Assistant Baseball Coach	BHS
Charles Reay	Assistant Baseball Coach	BHS
Troy Waters	Freshman Softball Coach	BHS
<u>Leave of Absence (2022-23)</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Elaine Stevenson	Math Teacher	BHS
Doug Turner	Technology Education Teacher	MVMS
<u>Resignations/Retirements</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Markie Cox	Tennis Assistant Coach	BHS
Michelle Gomez	F/T Special Ed Aide	GRO
Lynn Kindred	Math Teacher	BHS
Tonya Kunz	F/T Special Ed Aide	GRO
Stephanie Luker	Assistant Marching Band	BHS
Evan Stucki	JV Head Baseball Coach	BHS
Sharon Tom	F/T Special Ed Aide	STO
Yolanda Vialpando	F/T Special Ed Aide	GRO
Stacey Whitehead	Football Coach	BHS

**Future Agenda Items (information)** – Mr. Kress would like to talk about our District’s dress code policy. Mrs. Marlow would like to talk about the concert series for the BPAC. Mrs. Hepworth would like to talk about committee assignments. Usually 1 board member is on each district committee, except for the negotiations committee, which has 2 members. Mrs. Hepworth would like to discuss House bill 669 - School Scholarship Voucher, also known as the Education Savings Account. Mr. Kress will get the information on this bill.

**Adjournment (action)** – Mrs. Marlow moved that the February meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned. Mr. Callahan seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

*Bonnie Hepworth*

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Bonnie Hepworth, Chairwoman

*Jennifer Hatch*

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Jennifer Hatch, Assistant Clerk



**BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**ALL DISTRICT FUNDS**  
**For the Month Ending:**  
**January 31, 2022**

**January 1, 2022 Balance Forward:**

**\$ 6,559,365.64**

**REVENUE:**

Local Property Tax	\$ 2,168,523.62
Federal-IDEA	\$ 193,307.84
Federal-Title I	\$ 174,060.31
Federal-Food Service	\$ 134,130.36
Federal-Title II-A Improving Teacher Quality	\$ 88,098.66
Johnson O'Malley	\$ 40,720.57
Federal-Title I-C Migrant	\$ 31,319.13
Local-Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$ 29,432.93
Other State Support	\$ 29,394.00
Federal-Title III-Federal EL	\$ 19,342.42
Federal-Title IV-A 21st Century	\$ 14,522.96
Medicaid	\$ 12,441.72
Federal-IDEA Preschool	\$ 11,412.72
Local Revenue (Rent, Donations, Tuition, Etc.)	\$ 9,650.24
Homeless Grant	\$ 3,422.44
Earnings on Investments	\$ 603.10
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,960,383.02</u></b>

**EXPENDITURES:**

Jan 2022 Payroll	\$ 2,203,876.30
Transportation	\$ 193,970.57
Textbooks/Computer/Equipment/Technology	\$ 89,904.48
Custodial Contract	\$ 86,764.21
Food Services	\$ 76,664.03
Utilities/Telephone	\$ 72,518.15
Contract Service/Membership	\$ 36,999.52
Bldg. Repair, Maint., Supplies, Equip.	\$ 33,648.51
Bond Principal/Interest	\$ 13,972.50
Employee/Public Relations, Travel, In-service	\$ 12,555.81
Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$ 35.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,820,909.08</u></b>

**NET INCREASE IN CASH POSITION:**

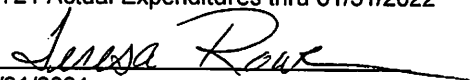
**\$ 139,473.94**

**ENDING BALANCE:**

**\$ 6,698,839.58**

**General Fund**

FY22 Revenue To Date	\$ 21,083,700.87	74.1%
FY22 Expenditures To Date	\$ 13,775,323.69	46.3%
FY21 Actual Revenue thru 01/31/2022	\$ 18,997,110.19	67.1%
FY21 Actual Expenditures thru 01/31/2022	\$ 13,028,786.91	53.2%

  
 1/21/2021