

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. Mrs. JaNae Smith administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed board member Carlos Mercado. Board members in attendance were Chairwoman Bonnie Hepworth, Vice-Chairman Kevin Callahan, Treasurer Cleon Chapman, Trustee Mary Jo Marlow and Trustee Carlos Mercado. Also in attendance were Superintendent Brian Kress, Assistant Superintendent Ryan Wilson, Board Clerk JaNae Smith, Teresa Rowe, Kim Jepperson, Jennifer Jacaway, Amy Wren, Joy Mickelsen, Becky Walker, Vicki Chase, Kirt McKinlay, Ronna Park and 8 virtual participants.

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

Superintendent Update (Information) – Mr. Kress said that the district staff are getting back into things after spring break. BPAC liaisons will attend board meeting next month. The field complex is not completed, but we hope to be able to play on some of the new fields in a couple weeks. Construction on the complex has been delayed due to the difficulty in the supply chain and shortages in the labor force. The end product will be worth waiting for. The lights will be installed next year. The first drawings of the new elementary school had the capacity for 550 students. Due to the projected building costs we are working to scale down the classrooms to the committed capacity of 450 students. We are still in the running for a \$3.3 million grant for the BTEC complex. Mr. Kress gave an update on the child nutrition program. It has been performing well with two phenomenal ladies leading the department, Kimberly Jepperson and Jennifer Jacaway. Spring registration will start happening next week. Secondary administrators and staff will be responsible for getting out information on course options. Parents can register their students online. Mr. Kress explained that he has been championing for enrollment-based funding. Both the Senate and House passed the bill, but Governor Little vetoed the bill. There could be a temporary bill put in place. Mrs. Hepworth said she appreciates the work that Mr. Kress has done and encouraged him to keep up his good work. Mr. Kress explained that attendance-based funding would reduce the district by 16 support units. Idaho Ed News had an article from RISE. Our students continue to achieve in the upper percentile. The national report card shows we are doing great in spite of being funded so low.

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

Review of Engagement Survey (Information) – Mr. Kress presented the Parent Engagement Survey. Over the past few years, the State of Idaho has required school districts to provide a survey to parents, staff and students regarding their schools. 955 parents in our district have participated in the survey. He presented all the questions to the board members. The question/statement which is the most important to him is “At least one caring adult in our school knows my child well.” The survey results show where we can improve and shows what we are doing well. We need to increase participation with our parents. He acknowledged that there were some low scores, but the high scores help to offset them. Mrs. Marlow and Mr. Callahan would like to see the parents made more aware of the resources and information to support learning at home. Data from the survey will be used for future goals and the CIP plan.

District Committees (Information) – Mr. Kress said that there are committees to which board members belong. Current committees and board members are as follows: Calendar committee – Mary Jo Marlow; Finance Committee – vacant; Parent Advisory Committee – Kevin Callahan; BPAC Committee – needs to be reformed; Negotiations Committee – Bonnie Hepworth and Mary Jo Marlow. There are two inactive committees: curriculum review committee and school wellness committee. Mr. Mercado will be on the BPAC Committee; Mr. Chapman will be part of the Finance Committee; and Mrs. Hepworth will be a member of the school wellness committee.

Letter from Blackfoot Mayor (Information) – Mr. Kress said that the mayor sent him a letter that the city of Blackfoot has abandoned the swimming pool. Therefore, according to the agreement made in the 70s, the property reverts ownership back to the school district. The district administration will be researching the options. It would be too expensive for the district to operate it as a swimming pool. It will have to serve a different purpose.

House Bill 669: Education Savings Account (Information) – Mr. Kress explained that House Bill 669 is an educational savings account. Information was given to board members from the Idaho School Boards Association. Mrs. Hepworth said she feels like this bill does not support public education. Funding would go to a very small percentage of Idaho students who could attend private schools, and it would take away from money going to public schools. It caters to those who would participate in private school. It failed committee with a tie this legislative session. They anticipate that the bill will come back again. They discussed how House Bill 669 could affect public education. Moving forward Mrs. Hepworth encouraged board members to talk to the legislators so they understand how they feel about this bill. Mrs. Marlow mentioned she would like to see a get together with the legislators for a luncheon and discuss concerns before the legislative session.

Board Policy 517: Student Dress Code (Information) – Mr. Kress stated that concerns about the dress code came about because of students identifying as furies. According to the dress code policy, the building administrators may identify additional dress code requirements to address specific needs within a building or specific activity. Administrators are addressing the situation and ensuring that students are kept safe. Policy states all students are required to dress in a manner that promotes a safe and healthy environment and is not disruptive of the educational climate and process. Hissing and meowing are not part of the dress code. Mr. Kress believes furies are a group of students looking to belong. The dress code policy is to be enforced by all staff members. There was a lengthy discussion regarding head coverings and the dress code. Mr. Kress will get input from administrators and teachers. Student dress code is different from student harassment.

Quarterly Policy Updates (Information) – Mr. Wilson presented the quarterly policy updates as follows: 294P1: Civil Rights Grievance Procedure, 448: Reduction in Force, 448P1: Reduction in Force Procedures, 448F1: Reduction in Force Form, 498: Staff/Student Relations, 506: Student Harassment, 506.50: Prohibition Against Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, 620: Credit Acceptance for Transferring Students, 710: Student Transportation, 732: School Bus Emergencies, 738: School Bus Drivers, 808: Conditions for Use of District Vehicles, 850.60: Service Contracts, 922: Acquisition and Transfer of Real Property, 1006: Registered Sex Offenders. These policy updates will be posted on our website.

April's Board Meeting (Action) – Mr. Kress said for the past two years we have not been able to have a public meeting at Fort Hall Elementary due to Covid. He has received tribal permission to hold the board meeting in Fort Hall next month. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow moved that the board of trustees April board

meeting be held on April 28th at Fort Hall Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Carlos Mercado seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Review of Safe Reopen Plan (Action) – Mr. Kress said that the board of trustees needs to review and update the Safe Reopen Plan. There have only been two classrooms that were closed earlier in the year due to Covid, but otherwise the plan has not had anything come up. They discussed updating the re-entry criteria from 7 days from symptom onset to 5 days. Mr. Kevin Callahan moved that the board of trustees approve the Safe Reopen Plan, changing the re-entry criteria from 7 days to 5 days. Mr. Cleon Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Autism Acceptance Day (Action) – Mr. Kress said a group of patrons have asked the district to support Autism acceptance day by wearing blue on April 4th. Mr. Kevin Callahan moved that the board of trustees recognize April 4th as Autism Acceptance Day in the Blackfoot School District. Mr. Cleon Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Emergency Closure, February 23, 2022 (Action) – Mr. Kress explained that last month all district schools were closed because of the extremely cold temps on February 23rd. Mr. Carlos Mercado moved that the board of trustees approve the emergency closure on February 23, 2022 due to inclement weather. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Intent to Operate 2022-23 Food Service (Action) – Mrs. Jepperson and Mrs. Jacaway requested authorization to renew their agreement with the Idaho Department of Education and Child Nutrition Programs for the 2022-2023 school year. The district will be operating the National Breakfast and Lunch Programs, After School Snacks, and Summer Meals. They anticipate that next year there will be price increases for meals. They will have price increase amounts next month. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow moved that the board of trustees approve the intent to operate food services for the 2022-23 school year as presented by Mrs. Jepperson and Mrs. Jacaway. Mr. Cleon Chapman seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Motion to Executive Session (Action) – Mr. Carlos 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, (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. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow 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. Mr. Mercado – aye. The motion passed.

Executive Session

March 31, 2022
7:55 p.m.

Mr. Kress presented the personnel recommendations and complaints against Employee 2022A.

The board reconvened into open session at 8:33 p.m.

Consent Agenda (Action) – Mrs. Hepworth asked Mr. Chapman about the bills. He reported that the bills were good. There were no questions regarding the items on the consent agenda. Mr. Carlos

Mercado moved that the board of trustees approve the prior board minutes, personnel recommendations as they appear below in these minutes, and payment of February bills. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS


<u>New Hires</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Merva Fisher	F/T Special Ed Para	MVMS
Peggy Gallegos	P/T Food Service Assistant	BHSG
Michelle Gomez	P/T Paraeducator	STO
Heidi Taylor	F/T Special Ed Para	GRO
Steven Young	F/T Special Ed Para	GRO

<u>Extracurricular</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
KayLynn Hammond	Assistant Marching Band Director	BHS
Benjamin Hutchinson	Assistant Marching Band Director	BHS

<u>Resignations/Retirements</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Courtney Martinez	F/T Indian Ed Para	GRO
Susan Simms	F/T Counselor	BHS

Future Agenda Items (information) – The following topics were presented as future agenda items: BPAC report, dress code policy follow-up, sources of strength report, and school meal pricing.

Adjournment (action) – Mr. Carlos Mercado moved that the March meeting of the board of trustees be adjourned. Mrs. Mary Jo Marlow seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



 Bonnie Hepworth, Chairwoman



 JaNae Smith, Clerk

**BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Month Ending:
February 28, 2022**

ZIONS BANK

M & O - CMIA Account \$ 1,254,292.52

Outstanding Checks \$ (749,891.58)

ZIONS BANK M&O TOTAL \$ 504,400.94

DL EVANS BANK (School Lunch) \$ 111,726.65

ZIONS BANK

Blackfoot Performing Arts \$ 40,361.51

Outstanding Checks \$ (390.00)

ZIONS BANK - Performing Arts Total \$ 39,971.51

INVESTMENTS - GENERAL OPERATIONS

State Investment Pool \$ 7,643,742.08

Zions Investment Account \$ 287,519.29

D.L. Evans-Bond \$ 80,329.37

PETTY CASH

District Balance 02/28/2022 \$ 3,500.00

TOTAL RECONCILED DISTRICT BANK FUNDS -February 28, 2022 \$ 8,671,189.84

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

Attachment A

BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
ALL DISTRICT FUNDS
For the Month Ending:
February 28, 2022

February 1, 2022 Balance Forward: \$ 6,698,839.58

REVENUE:

State-Base Support	\$	4,949,278.08
Federal-Food Service	\$	212,825.53
Local Property Tax	\$	67,529.49
Federal-Title VII Indian Education	\$	23,250.00
Federal-Title I-C Migrant	\$	16,861.98
Local Food Service	\$	13,046.44
Local-Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$	4,682.02
Earnings on Investments	\$	524.95

TOTAL REVENUE: \$ 5,287,998.49

EXPENDITURES:

Feb 2022 Payroll	\$	2,280,744.95
Contract Service/Membership	\$	237,994.09
Bldg. Repair, Maint., Supplies, Equip.	\$	218,777.20
Transportation	\$	206,206.50
Food Services	\$	99,341.19
Textbooks/Computer/Equipment/Technology	\$	93,915.52
Custodial Contract	\$	86,764.21
Utilities/Telephone	\$	78,922.23
Employee/Public Relations, Travel, In-service	\$	7,272.93
Blackfoot Performing Arts Center	\$	5,709.41

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$ 3,315,648.23

NET INCREASE IN CASH POSITION: \$ 1,972,350.26

ENDING BALANCE: \$ 8,671,189.84

General Fund

FY22 Revenue To Date	\$ 26,070,421.42	91.6%
FY22 Expenditures To Date	\$ 16,181,907.56	54.4%
 FY21 Actual Revenue thru 02/28/2021	 \$ 25,066,729.57	 88.6%
FY21 Actual Expenditures thru 02/28/2021	\$ 15,528,986.01	63.5%


3/14/2022