

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 @ 5:00 PM

Administration Conference Room

Present: James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman.

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 4:59 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday, July 14, 2026 Administration Conference Room; Facilities Committee Meeting Thursday, July 16, 2026 Administration Conference Room; Next Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday, July 28, 2026 Administration Conference Room; NAFIS 2026 Fall Conference September 20, 2026 Washington, DC.

STUDENT RECONGNITION: Greg Klauk recognized the following students: Mattie Pepion, Leon Mad Plume, Cynthia Skunkcap, Farrel WolfTail, Maxine Pepion, Ja'mya-Lynn Rider, Kayson Trombley, Liah Cummins, Gordon DeRoche, Tylane Chief Calf, Addisyn McClure, Lilith Rutherford, Ashdon Wells.

STAFF RECOGNITION: Greg Klauk recognized the following staff members: Genevieve Wilson, Cheri Larson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the Regular Board Minutes 7-1-26. Second by Ms. Madman. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with no changes. Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Building Reports: None

Resignations: None

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Rappold reported that she and Assistant Superintendent LaFromboise-Wagner attended various activities for students during N.A.I.D., including serving as judges at the 4-H Fair, attending the inauguration of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, and participating in the parade with a district float.

She also reported that they have been working throughout the district painting benches and tables at the schools as part of summer maintenance efforts. Several schools have been completed, with additional schools still remaining.

HR Status Report: At the elementary level, the district currently has vacancies for two 2nd Grade teachers, five 3rd Grade teachers, one Special Education Teacher Assistant (SPED TA), two 4th Grade teachers, one Music teacher, one Instructional Coach, one 8th Grade BNAS teacher, one 6th–8th Grade Shop teacher, one Teacher Assistant (TA), and one Dean of Students.

At the secondary level, the district has vacancies for one ELA/Reading Interventionist, one Teacher Assistant (TA), and one Attendance Clerk.

The Parent Community Outreach Program is seeking a YHDP Case Manager. Ms. Sinclair reported that interviews for the GEAR UP Coordinator position were conducted today, and the selected candidate is expected to be presented to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

Food Services has vacancies for two Assistant Cooks and one Head Cook. The Maintenance Department is seeking one Skilled Technician. Special Services has an opening for one Physical Therapist. The Transportation Department continues to recruit for five 9-month Bus Driver positions.

Coaching Worksheet: Ms. Yellow Owl asked if the coaching positions in Babb are advertised. Mr. Hall and Assistant Superintendent LaFromboise-Wagner explained that they have to see what the enrollment out there is and depends on the sport. They noted that, depending on participation numbers, Babb students may either join teams with the schools in Browning or participate with De La Salle.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Rosevelle G. Gecain, Special Education Teacher-BES 2026-2027 SY (\$76,143.00); Nemia Contillo Garsuta, Special Education Teacher-BMS 2026-2027 SY (\$76,143.00); Serenity Sinclair, Personal Care Attendant-BES; Lylayna NoRunner, Personal Care Attendant-BES; Jamison Aimsback, Teacher Assistant-BES; Samuel Buffalo, Assistant Cook-Bullshoe Elementary; Doreen DeRoche, Assistant Cook-Napi Elementary; Donald J. Comesatnight Jr., Assistant Cook-Napi Elementary. Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Monina P. Albacite, Special Education Teacher-BHS 2026-2027 SY (\$76,143.00); Jonny Daso, Science Teacher-BHS 2026-2027 SY (\$69,280.00); Shaira Rubio, English Teacher-BHS 2026-2027 SY (\$64,462.00); Illahi Marites, Science Teacher-BHS 2026-2027 SY (\$64,462.00). Second by Mr. Gervais.

Mr. LaFromboise asked whether these were the hires coming from the Philippines. Superintendent Rappold confirmed that they were.

No public participation. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for and Terrance LaFromboise opposing.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background check: Chance Electric-electrical maintenance fulfilling summer work orders (\$19,000.00); Darryl Wayne Talk About-painting and touch-up of classrooms to fulfill summer work orders (\$6,500.00). Second by Mr. Gervais.

Mr. RunningFisher asked whether Darryl Wayne Talk About had already received payment. Superintendent Rappold stated that he had been paid \$700 for an initial job.

The Board discussed concerns about paying individuals before they have been formally approved for hire by the Board. Superintendent Rappold assured the Board that this requirement would be reinforced during the principal/director training at the end of July. She stated that the process is included in the district's standard operating procedures and will be strictly enforced going forward.

There was no public participation. The motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, and Cheryl Mad Man voting in favor and Donna Yellow Owl abstaining from Darryl Wayne Talk About-painting and touch-up of classrooms to fulfill summer work orders (\$6,500.00).

Out of State Travel: None

In-State Travel: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following in-state travel: Kellen Hall-MCA 59th Annual Multi-Sports, Great Falls, MT (\$1,089.88). Second by Mr. Evans.

No board discussion. No public participation. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following in-state travel: Administrators, Principal & Directors-School Administrators of Montana Institute 2026-2027 (\$1,390.48 est. each). Second by Ms. YellowOwl.

No board discussion. No public participation. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

No board discussion. No public participation. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following: Substitute Eligibility List 7-14-26; Add Jennifer Heavy Runner, BPS District Committee Tech Mentors 2025-2026 (\$1,000.00); Athletic-Activities Handbooks 2026-2027; Student-Family Handbook Addendums & Staff Handbook Addendum 2026-2027; District Staff & Student-Family Handbooks 2026-2027; Administrative Standard Operating Procedures (Admin SOPs) 2026-2027; Updated BPS Emergency Operations Plan for 2026-2029; MSGIA Property Insurance Renewal 2026-2027 (\$635,978.00); Flooring Bid for School Apartments (\$36,020.00); Purchase Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Checks #91704-#91775; #444865-#444924 (\$1,383,461.53); Student Activities Claim Checks #706790-#706812 (\$22,929.96); Additional Pays 7-14-26. Second by Ms. Madman.

Ms. Yellow Owl noted Student-Family Handbook Addendums & Staff Handbook Addendum 2026 the high school handbook was not included. Superintendent Rappold explained that the district was waiting on the results of the high school survey and that both the high school and Babb handbooks would be presented at the next board meeting.

Mr. Evans asked whether there were any major changes to the handbooks. Superintendent Rappold stated that the Student-Family Handbook remains unchanged, with the exception of updated staffing information at the beginning of the document. She noted that the Athletic Handbook includes additional clarification regarding middle school athletics and updates to provide greater clarity on high school athletics in accordance with Montana High School Association (MHSA) regulations.

Mr. Hall explained that the district reinstated its previous athletic eligibility standard, requiring students to have no failing grades in any class. He noted that while the MHSA minimum eligibility requirement is a 2.0 GPA, the district's intent is to promote class attendance and hold student-athletes accountable for their academic performance.

Ms. Yellow Owl asked how the district's eligibility requirements align with MHSA policies. Superintendent Rappold explained that school boards may adopt policies that are more restrictive than MHSA standards but may not establish policies that are less restrictive.

Superintendent Rappold also reported that the district's Emergency Operations Plans have been updated to incorporate the Standard Response Protocol.

Recess: 5:35 p.m.

Reconvene: 5:50 p.m.

Personnel: The board went into closed session at 5:52 p.m. for the following item: Termination Hearing: Consideration and Possible Action on Recommendation for Termination. Possible Executive Session. Meeting reopened at 7:06 p.m.

Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent for Termination. Second by Mr. Gervais.

No board discussion. No public participation. Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for and Terrance LaFromboise opposing.

The board went into closed session to hear and resolve a 1700 Complaint filed by Ms. SkunkCap. Meeting opened at 8:30 p.m. Motion by Mr. Evans to remove the discipline action from her personnel file. Second by Mr. LaFromboise.

No board discussion. No public participation. Motion passed with James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for and James RunningFisher abstained.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm. Second by Ms. YellowOwl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie HeavyRunner, Board Secretary

James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

Sandra Rivas, District Clerk