

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
MARCH 17, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Joel Bertolino at 6:06 p.m. on March 17, 2022 in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Joel Bertolino, Chair
Michelle Swansborough, Vice Chair
Tyler Allen
Brandon Crane
Sam Langager

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Steve Keebler, Nick Dobbler, Jackie Ronning, Sarah Shoopman, Erin Cross, Alan Schuyler, Sanford Langager, Bill Bullock, Katie Day

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Sam Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2022 regular meeting as presented. (YES— Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

WARRANTS

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve warrants 47967-48042 as written. (YES— Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erin Cross of the Carbon County Health Department reported the county did receive the grant to fund a Rural School Nurse and Health Coordinator, gave an overview of the program and distributed copies of the interlocal agreement for the district to join the program.

Mr. Ator stated we do have a contract with Beartooth Hospital for school nursing services and would like to speak with them before making any decisions. He stated he will put this item on next month's agenda.

Mr. Bertolino commended the county for getting this program going.

Mrs. Swansborough asked if there is a cost for the program. Ms. Cross stated the grant is for two-years and there is no cost to the schools as it is public health.

Sanford Langager asked if other schools in the county are on board with the program. Ms. Cross stated most are looking at the contract but seem agreeable.

Mr. Langager stated with the construction of the Career Center at the Red Lodge School, they will be able to offer more vocational classes and asked if our students could take some of those classes.

Mr. Ator stated he has had some preliminary conversations with John Fitzgerald, the Red Lodge superintendent, and will be looking more into the possibilities.

TEACHER REPORTS

Jackie Ronning gave the teacher report for the month.

Mrs. Ronning stated she has been the Literacy Coach for four years now and coaches as needed with interventions and gives teachers feedback. She stated she helps manage the literacy grant with supplies, stipends, and work with the educational consultants.

Mrs. Ronning stated she was heavily involved with the PreK program in the beginning but now Misty Pitts handles it. She added we have lots of students coming to kindergarten camp this year because of that program.

Mrs. Ronning reported this year she is working as half-time literacy coach and half-time intervention coach, both with individual students and with other teachers in their classrooms.

Mrs. Ronning stated she is the National Honor Society advisor, teaches elementary music, is senior class advisor, as well as working with Lindsay Thompson with Rocket Leadership. She added two members of Rocket Leadership are interested in attending the State Student Council Convention and the group is helping the Roberts Community Foundation with all the old graduation pictures.

ACTIVITY REPORT – Sarah Shoopman reported the following for activities:

1. High school basketball ended with the district tournament for both teams but four of our athletes made All-Conference, Hailey Croft and Elektra Shoopman first team and Bentley Bertolino and Joe Allen second team.
2. 19 boys are out for junior high boys' basketball and the season is underway.
3. High school track started on Monday and we have 18 participants. Junior high track will start on April 11.
4. FFA will be attending the state convention in Bozeman.
5. BPA State convention was last week and we have one student going to nationals on Torch Award.
6. The high school basketball schedule for next year is full and one more game is needed for volleyball.
7. Prom is April 23 in Bridger.
8. Concert and art show is May 11.
9. Community thank you pancake dinner is March 24.
10. Awards banquet is May 17. We will also be honoring George Nelson's induction into the Coaches Hall of Fame at that time.

STAFFING

RESIGNATIONS—Mr. Ator stated he received letters of resignation from Anna Prinkki, Shannyn Wilson, and Michael Estomo and asked that they be accepted.

Motion was made by Tyler Allen, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to accept the resignations of Anna Prinkki, Shannyn Wilson, and Michael Estomo with the board's thanks for their service. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

NEW BUSINESS

PLAN FOR GRADUATION PICTURES –Mr. Ator reported in the packet is correspondence from Alan Schuyler of the Roberts Community Foundation regarding preserving and displaying the graduation pictures of past graduates and developing an interactive kiosk to also display the pictures.

Jackie Ronning stated Rocket Leadership is willing to help get the original pictures ready to be rehung.

Alan Schuyler stated hopefully the kiosk could be used to display other items of interest about the school. He added the RCF will fund most of the cost.

Joel Bertolino gave the administration the directive to work with RCF on this project.

LEVY RESOLUTION – Mr. Ator stated the packet contains information on the proposed increases to permissive levies for the 2022-2023 year as well as a comparison to the 2021-2022 year. He stated this information must be published by March 31 (see attached).

Mr. Ator stated the levy resolution proposes a 7.5% increase, \$8,260, in the Transportation Fund to fund expected increases in fuel, \$35,000 in the Tuition Fund to help pay for CSCT costs for special education students, and \$10,000 in the Adult Education budget for funding some Adult Education programs. He added the total increase is \$53,260 for permissive levies.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Tyler Allen and carried unanimously to approve the levy resolution for the 2022-2023 school year as presented. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

MOU WITH CARBON COUNTY FOR VOTING MACHINES – Mr. Ator asked for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Carbon County for use of the voting machines for the May 3, 2022 trustee election.

Motion was made by Sam Langager, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve the MOU with Carbon County for the use of voting machines in the upcoming trustee election. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

CLASSIFIED STAFF NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator recommended opening negotiations with the classified staff. It was determined Sam Langager and Joel Bertolino will serve as board representatives for the negotiations with Tyler Allen doing administrative negotiations.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2022-2023 – Mr. Ator stated the proposed 2022-2023 school calendar was included in the board packet. He added the calendar begins for students on August 22, 2022 and ends on June 1, 2023 and recommended its approval.

Motion was made by Tyler Allen, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve the 2022-2023 school calendar as recommended by the superintendent. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

BATHROOM REMODEL NEXT STEPS – Mr. Ator stated our next step with the bathroom remodel project is to hire a contractor to file the necessary permits with the state. He added Pete Wisniewski has reactivated Happy Day Contracting and is willing to file the permits under his license at a cost of \$1500.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to hire Happy Day Contracting for the completion of the bathroom remodel project at a cost of \$1500. (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO--none).

OLD BUSINESS

CERTIFIED STAFF NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator stated certified negotiations have been completed and a sample contract was included in the board packet.

Mrs. Swansborough thanked the teachers for all they do.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve negotiations with certified staff as presented (see attached). (YES—Bertolino, Swansborough, Allen, Crane, Langager. NO—none).

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

MEETING DATES – Mr. Ator stated the next meeting dates are April 20, May 18, and June 15.

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Ator reported he has a MASS meeting in Billings on April 6.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION – Joel Bertolino called for an executive session at 7:50 a.m. for evaluation of the superintendent, stating the next item of business concerns an individual and the privacy rights of the individual supersede the merits of public disclosure. The meeting was returned to regular session at 8:25 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bertolino called for adjournment at 8:30 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk

Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies

As an essential part of its budgeting process, the Roberts School District #5 Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. The Roberts School District #5 Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, using certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year as provided to the district:

Fund Supported	Estimated Change in Revenues*	Estimated Change in Mills*	Estimated Impact Home of \$100,000*	Estimated Impact Home of \$200,000*
Bus Depreciation	\$0.00 increase	0 mill increase	\$0.00 increase	\$0.00 increase
Transportation	\$8,260 increase	3.81 mill increase	\$5.19 increase	\$10.38 increase
Tuition	\$35,000	16.11 mill increase	\$21.91 increase	\$43.82 increase
Building Reserve Elementary	\$0.00 increase	0 mill increase	\$0.00 increase	\$0.00 increase
Building Reserve High School	\$0.00 increase	0 mill increase	\$0.00 increase	\$0.00 increase
Adult Education	\$10,000 increase	4.61 mill increase	\$6.27 increase	\$12.54 increase
Total	\$53,260 increase	24.51 mill increase	\$33.37 increase	\$66.74 increase

*Impacts above are based on current certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year.

Regarding the building reserve levy referenced above, the following are school facility maintenance projects anticipated to be completed at this time:

1. Construction and Repairs of Existing Facilities
2. Electrical and Mechanical System Upgrades
3. Weatherization of Existing Facilities
4. General Grounds and Facilities Maintenance

Salary Raise to Base	1.75% INCREASE to base salary each year		Agreed
Steps and lanes on salary scale (as normal)			Agreed
Changes to steps and lanes matrix	1 more lane of Masters +15 to be added, along with the Masters lane being changed to a MA or BA +60	Adding verbage to show that extra credit hours apply to teaching as approved by the board on an individual basis . Credits must benefit the school district. Credits in the MA +15 lane must be graduate level.	Agreed
Increase in easily available days off to use for sickness	Use two previously earned banked sick leave for sick days without a physicians note before using discretionary days. Sunsets at the end of this negotiation period and not up for renewal.	Note - 4 banked sick days are already available for use before discretionary days, but now two will be able to be used without a doctor's note.	Agreed
Time period of negotiations cycle	2 yrs	till approximately end of grant cycle	Agreed
District Stipend for Nationally Board Certified Teachers	\$500 yearly stipend from the district for NBC teachers following completion, giving NBC teachers a total stipend of \$2,500 per year with state funds as well.		Agreed
Contracted Start Time	Contractual hours of 7:45-4:30 to be used throughout contract instead of also having in-session hours of 8:00-4:30.	Change verbage in contract to 7:45-4:30	Agreed
Minimum number of school sponsored activities outside of those specifically mentioned in contract	Certified teachers will be required to help with at least 5 school sponsored events or credits outside of those specifically mentioned in the contract. See attached matrix for a list of some events and the credit given for them.	Teachers will keep track of the events that they are involved with supporting in a shared spreadsheet and are responsible for meeting the required 5 events or credits.	Agreed
Increase of Salaries to State Minimum when incentives for district are available	Increase of salaries to state minimum IF state incentives are offered and only effective at that time. Salaries will default to current year's steps and lanes if state incentive is no longer available. (If the state offers the incentive, no teacher will be paid below the state minimum. All other teachers' salaries will remain unchanged. If incentive is removed, teachers receiving the extra will default back to steps and lanes as set out in the standard contract.)		Agreed