

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Sarah DeVries at 6:00 p.m. on November 10, 2015, in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Sarah DeVries, Chair
Rusty Niemi, Vice Chair
Joel Bertolino
Deborah Hill
Sanford Langager

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Ward Braten, Clayton Downam, Tessie Kosel, Brian Frank, Erika Binanda, James Binando, Bobby Carter

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Deborah Hill, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting as presented. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino, and carried unanimously to approve the claims, sequence, and voided checks for November, 2015 as presented. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ator stated he would like to discuss a New Business item, Classroom Procedures Review – Band Practice Slips.

Mr. Ator stated at the junior high level, students are required to take band and can receive part of their grade from performing in pep band. He stated this does require students to be at activities after school hours and if they are not able to do that, practice sheets can be done instead.

Mr. Ator stated we have had one incident where a student was at an activity but decided not to play with the pep band but that has been dealt with. He stated he doesn't feel classroom procedures are items to be brought to the Board's attention but the procedure by the parent to bring it to the Board has been followed. He added the Board could decide to remove the classroom procedure, give direction to the administration, or take no action which supports the administration and teacher by keeping the classroom procedure in place.

Mrs. Hill asked if the students have to take band.

Mr. Ator stated it is a requirement at the junior high level. He stated there was one student removed from the class because of a disciplinary issue and that student had to write papers.

Mr. Langager asked what happened when the student was at the game but didn't play.

Mr. Ator stated at first the student was given a zero but that has been changed.

Mr. Langager stated that could almost encourage students not to play in pep band.

Mrs. Hill stated she thinks it's important to have pep band but our small numbers are a disadvantage.

Mr. Ator stated he would like a motion on the table to continue discussing this item.

Motion was made by Deborah Hill and seconded by Sanford Langager to support the teacher and administration concerning the classroom procedure for practice slips for band.

Clayton Downam stated his son didn't get to pick the instrument he wanted to play and grading for band is based on something that is after school hours. He added junior high students don't letter so there is no incentive to play in pep band.

Mr. Ator stated the student wants to play guitar and that was not possible at the fifth grade level but now he is in the seventh grade, the instructor will look into the possibility. He stated the classroom procedures do provide a way to be in band and not do pep band.

The motion was voted on and carried unanimously. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none). The Board expressed their hope that the student will do better if allowed to play an instrument he likes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Hill thanked the school and staff for work done on the Veteran's Day event.

PERSONNEL

HS GIRLS' BASKETBALL ASSISTANT COACH – Mr. Ator stated earlier this year when approving coaching positions, the Board did approve for him to be the assistant coach for the high school girls' team. He stated two other people have expressed interest in the position, one of which he has spoken with who decided it wouldn't work out.

Mr. Ator stated he has spent time talking with Jake Krum and would like to do the job as he would like to see some sustainability in the program. He added Bobby Carter also applied for the position.

Bobby Carter stated when the coaching position for the boys' team was discussed, he was told there could be an assistant position open and he is interested in the position.

Mr. Niemi stated he doesn't doubt the abilities of either candidate.

Mrs. Hill stated she would like to see Mr. Ator in the position because of his administrative experience.

Mr. Ator stated if he has the position, he will need someone to assist him with the athletic director duties at home game.

Mr. Langager stated he appreciates the help given by Bobby Carter but feels Mr. Ator should be in the position.

Mr. Bertolino stated he would also like to thank Mr. Carter for his assistance.

No motion was necessary as Mr. Ator had already been approved for the position.

TEACHER REPORTS

Brian Frank gave the teacher report for the month.

Mr. Frank stated one of his priorities this year in the business department was giving the seventh and eighth grade computer class a basic foundation so all the students are on the same page. He showed some examples of their work putting together newsletters and advertisements.

Mr. Frank stated at the high school level, he is the advisor for BPA with 16 students, and proctors students enrolled in 37 Montana Digital Academy classes.

RECESS

Ms. DeVries called for a short break at 7:02 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

STAFF APPRECIATION EVENT – Mr. Ator asked for approval to spend up to \$1000 on the Staff Appreciation Event at the Roberts Café.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to approve spending up to \$1000 for the Staff Appreciation Event at the Roberts Café. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

OFFICIALS FOR JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS – Mr. Ator stated last year he started a training program for high school students as officials for junior high basketball games and asked if the Board would like to continue with that program. He stated he and Bobby Carter, who has also helped, are both MOA officials.

Ms. DeVries stated she likes seeing the older students involved and getting some training so would like the program to continue.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION PROCESS – Mr. Ator stated he would like to move this item to the end of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

SENIOR TRIP – Mr. Ator stated the seniors are working on a senior trip to Denver after Memorial Day and before graduation. He stated Jené Reinhardt has agreed to chaperone and they are looking for one more.

BID FOR PLAYGROUND UPDATES – Mr. Ator stated he had Baldwin's come and look at the playground project and they felt \$20,000 might cover it but it could go up to \$25,000.

Mrs. Hill asked if that is the only company Mr. Ator called.

Mr. Ator stated he called others but Baldwin's is the only one to get back to him.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

ACTIVITIES REPORT – Mr. Ator reported the following for activities:

1. BPA is doing some fundraising and have their first competition in January.
2. Speech and Debate had their first event last week and will be going to Belfry this weekend. Five students are involved in this activity.
3. FFA is going to Bozeman Thursday through Saturday for a John Deere event.
4. Seniors are getting ready for the craft fair.

ACADEMICS REPORT – Mr. Ator stated during the second semester, the junior high computer class will rotate to a careers class. He added following that will be an art class and then a foreign language class.

Mr. Ator stated he will begin drafting next year's calendar soon and asked if he should draft a four-day calendar and a five-day calendar or just a four-day calendar.

Ms. DeVries stated the Board made a two-year commitment to the four-day week so feels only one calendar needs to be drafted.

BUILDING PROJECTS REPORT – Mr. Ator stated D Rock Boys put new rock out front and around the marquee and thanked them for that.

USAGE OF NEW BUS – Mr. Ator stated the new bus we ordered last winter is about ready to be delivered and asked for guidance on how it should be used.

Mr. Niemi stated don't put a new bus out on these roads right now.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to direct the superintendent to not put the new bus out on the route until road conditions are better. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

Mr. Ator stated we will be looking at selling the 1994 snub nose bus and will put an item on the December agenda for disposal of obsolete property.

FOUR-DAY WEEK UPDATE – Mr. Ator stated quite a bit of research is being done on the benefits and drawbacks of a four-day school week, especially in younger students. He stated MSU recently published an article about the benefits of a four-day week.

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Ator reported the following schedule items:

1. Regional MASS meeting November 18
2. Special education co-op training November 18-19
3. Carbon County Disaster Meeting November 19
4. AD Meeting November 25
5. Regional MASS meeting December 16

POLICY REVIEW – Mr. Ator reviewed the following board policies on the website:

- 1000 – Board of Trustees
- 1100 - Organization
- 1105 - Membership (needs to be changed to reflect we are a K-12 district)
- 1240 - Duties of Individual Trustees
- 1310 - District Policy

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION PROCESS – Ms. DeVries stated the next item of business involves an individual and called for an executive session at 7:47 p.m. stating it is her determination that the individual's rights to privacy supersede the merits of public disclosure. The meeting was returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DeVries adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk