

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
DECEMBER 16, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Roberts School District No. 5, Roberts, Montana was called to order by Chair Sarah DeVries at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2020 in the library at the Roberts School.

(All attendance was via teleconferencing.)

ATTENDANCE

Sarah DeVries, Chair
Joel Bertolino, Vice Chair
Tyler Allen (6:25 p.m.)
Brandon Crane
Michelle Swansborough

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Emma DeVries, Skyler Hess, Michael Garcia, Jackie Ronning, Jesse Hall, Caitlin Hall, Darryl Grove, Peter Wisniewski, Anna Prinkki, Sarah Shoopman, McKenzie Pitts

MINUTES

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting as presented. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none),

WARRANTS

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to approve warrants 46636-46735 as presented. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

TEACHER REPORT – Peter Wisniewski and Darryl Grove gave the teacher reports for the month.

Mr. Wisniewski stated it has been pretty busy this year with doing observations, testing, and trying to keep everyone safe and he would like to thank Mr. Grove for all his help. He added he will be taking the Praxis test over the break.

Mr. Ator stated he thinks we've overloaded Pete this semester but because of him, our building is immaculate and we owe him our thanks.

Brandon Crane stated he has heard awesome things about what Mr. Wisniewski does in the building and special education and thanked him. The remaining board members echoed those sentiments.

Mr. Grove thanked the board for the opportunity to work at the school. He stated he enjoys teaching and he also likes working on maintenance projects around the school.

Mr. Grove stated he has 22 students in Ag-Ed, two of which he has four hours per day, and is working at getting students involved with FFA. He stated classes have been working on projects which should be done by Christmas and the juniors and seniors have spent time organizing the shop and even hanging some drywall.

(Tyler Allen joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.)

Mr. Grove stated the FFA meets once a month and students have done some virtual contests and one live team competition. He stated the fruit sales fundraiser went very well with over 50 fruit baskets sold and fresh fruit provided to the community.

Mrs. Swansborough thanked Mr. Grove for all he's doing and stated her daughter speaks very highly of Mr. Grove. Mr. Crane added his daughter is really enjoying his class and what they're working on.

Mr. Ator stated Mr. Grove is an exceptional team player who not only teaches his classes but is always willing to help out around the building and has even subbed for other teachers.

Sarah Shoopman stated she is impressed with how he has gotten FFA going.

Ms. DeVries expressed appreciation for what Mr. Grove does.

STAFFING

CUSTODIAL – Mr. Ator recommended extending the hire of Erica Cooper as custodian at the current rate of pay for thirty hours per week through June 30, 2021.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to extend the hire of Erica Cooper as custodian at the current rate of pay for thirty hours per week through June 30, 2021. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

Mr. Ator recommended extending the hire of Jim Burows as custodian at the current rate of pay for 25 hours per week through June 30, 2021.

Motion was made by Tyler Allen, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to extend the hire of Jim Burows as custodian at the current rate of pay for 25 hours per week through June 30, 2021. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

PARAPROFESSIONAL – Mr. Ator recommended extending the hire of Lisa Young as paraprofessional at current rate of pay for 35 hours per week through June 30, 2021.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to extend the hire of Lisa Young as paraprofessional at current rate of pay for 35 hours per week through June 30, 2021. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

NEW BUSINESS

SENIOR TRIP – Anna Prinkki stated members of the senior class would like to present their proposal for a senior trip to the board.

McKenzie Pitts stated the proposal for the senior trip is to go to Silverwood near Coeur d'alene, Idaho and the Berkeley Pit in Butte, Montana. She stated the trip would take place June 1-4, 2021, which is after graduation. She added the group is proposing renting a house in the area for \$809.

Mr. Ator asked if all fees for renting a house have been added in such as the cleaning fee.

Ms. Pitts stated they have been.

Emma DeVries stated the group is planning on renting a van and figure they will need \$500 for fuel and another \$1400 for food.

Skyler Hess reported Silverwood is a theme park near Coeur d'alene and tickets for the group for a day would run about \$600.

Ms. Pitts stated there are places to rent lake toys such as kayaks and paddle boats near where they will be staying.

Jesse Hall, senior class advisor, stated that if Silverwood hasn't reopened yet, there are quite a few things to do in the area such as hiking and biking trails so there is a contingency plan.

Mr. Ator stated the per diem rate for Coeur d'alene is \$61 per day and that should probably be used to figure an amount for food.

Michael Garcia stated visiting the Berkeley Pit in Butte would be the educational part of the trip. He added there are also educational podcasts about the Butte mine the group could listen to while traveling.

Ms. Prinkki reported the group currently has \$5359.78 in their fund and if \$1000 is saved for graduation, there is \$4359.78 available for the trip.

Mr. Crane asked how many days would be spent in Silverwood. Ms. Prinkki stated there would be one day at Silverwood, one day at the lake, and two travel days.

Mr. Ator recommended granting the senior class access to their funds for a senior trip.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to grant the Class of 2021 access to their funds for a senior trip. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

SKI DAYS – Mr. Ator stated he is looking for guidance from the board on using a school day for skiing or only scheduling two ski days. He stated it is getting harder every year to coordinate ski days and one of the days we've been given is a Friday that we are scheduled to go to school (January 8).

The board indicated it had no problem with the ski day being held on a school day.

STAFF APPRECIATION – Mr. Ator stated discussion was held last month on giving staff a \$300 bonus this month instead of having a staff appreciation event. He stated a motion is needed to authorize the bonus and added it will be paid from the General Fund.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Tyler Allen and carried unanimously to authorize a \$300 bonus to each staff member to be paid from the General Fund and to thank them all for their hard work. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

STATE COVID FUNDS – Mr. Ator stated the district received a total amount of \$62,262 of Covid-19 funds through the state of Montana, starting with an initial \$49809 and then requesting additional funds of \$12,953. He stated the packet included a breakdown of how the money was spent (see attached) and asked for approval of the final \$5209.64 in expenditures to spend all the funds by December 31, 2020.

Motion was made by Brandon Crane, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve the expenditure of the final \$5209.64 of state Covid-19 funds. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

BOILER AND WATER HEATER REPAIR – Mr. Ator stated he and Mr. Wisniewski have been working all fall on bids for some needed heating repairs and recommended acceptance of the bids from Montana Boiler in the amount of \$19,172.01 for repairs to the heating system, including a new water heater.

Motion was made by Tyler Allen, seconded by Brandon Crane and carried unanimously to accept the bid from Montana Boiler for \$19,172.01 for repairs to the heating system. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Allen, Crane, Swansborough. NO—none).

GYM LIGHT REPAIR – Mr. Ator stated we were unable to find an electrician willing to replace the burnt out light in the gym so we rented a lift and he, Mr. Wisniewski, and Mr. Grove took the light down and took it to an electrician to find a replacement. He added when the new light is here, they will bring back the lift and replace the light.

ELECTIONS CALENDAR – Mr. Ator stated the elections calendar put out by the Office of Public Instruction for the trustee election on May 4, 2021 is in the packet. He added Ms. DeVries and Mr. Crane's seats are up for election.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ACTIVITIES UPDATE – Sarah Shoopman reported the following:

1. 19 elementary and junior high girls participated in girls' basketball. It was challenging to get them all playing time but it was a fun season.
2. High school basketball has started and at the beginning of the season, the girls will play first and the second half the boys will play first. Ticket prices have been set by the league at \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and spectators will be limited to two per player.
3. Music department held a junior high/high school band and choir concert live on December 15 with the elementary scheduled to have a televised concert on December 22.
4. FFA competed in district competition on December 10.
5. BPA regional competition is January 21.

Mr. Ator stated the Carbon County Health Department does want athletes to have spectators at their games but masking and social distancing protocols must be followed. He added he knows

two spectators per player is difficult but it is a league decision. He thanked Mrs. Shoopman for all she does.

LITERACY UPDATE – Mrs. Ronning stated she is so proud of the teachers and staff who are still engaged with learning new things and using best practices to give the best to our students. She added the students are seeing growth and aren't behind even though we've been dealing with Covid-19.

Mr. Ator stated Mrs. Ronning brings a positive attitude every day and is really helpful to the staff. He stated he would like to publicly thank her as he had to be out quite a few days this fall and school carried on in his absence and he is grateful to have such a wonderful staff.

MEETING DATES – Mr. Ator stated meeting dates for the next few months are January 20, February 17 (week of district basketball tournament), and March 17, 2021. He asked that trustees look at their calendars and get back to him with conflicts.

COVID UPDATE – Mr. Ator stated in November he received information about receiving some Covid-19 testing materials and we are now a licensed testing center. He stated we have caught two cases with these rapid tests but will send most staff wanting tested to Beartooth Billings Clinic and Joliet Riverstone Clinic. He stated he has worked on a plan with the county health department of who and when a person could get tested in the school.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DeVries called for adjournment at 7:58 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk

Item	Vendor	Amount	Funds	COVID FUNDS 770
			62262	
Salary	SM	15632.68	46629.32	
Salary	KR	11125.32	35504	
Salary	TH	520.24	34983.76	
Total		27278.24		
Tech Supp	Rimrock	1800	33183.76	
Food	Sysco/USF	11103.47	22080.29	
Covid Supplies	Amazon	5345.61	16734.68	
	Eckroth	144	16590.68	
	Red			
	Rock	516.25	16074.43	
	Hanson	1073.79	15000.64	
Chromebooks	Rimrock	9791	5209.64	
Total Paid/Supplies/Support		29774.12		
Total Paid		57052.36		
Mastercard (not paid)				
Test fee	US govt	180	5029.64	
Shields/guards	Amazon	1488.92	3540.72	
Heaters	Amazon	474.75	3065.97	
Cleaning supplies	Hanson	3068.35	-2.38	