

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
OCTOBER 16, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Sarah DeVries at 6:30 p.m. on October 16, 2019 in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sarah DeVries, Chair  
Joel Bertolino, Vice Chair  
Mariah Holdbrook  
Michelle Swansborough

Absent: Tyler Allen

Alex Ator, Superintendent

GUESTS: Sanford Langager, Nancy Langager

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting as presented. (YES –DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

**CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve warrants 45523 through 45593 for October, 2019 as presented. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sarah DeVries reported a community member approached her about the need for changing tables in the front restrooms.

**STAFFING**

CUSTODIAL -- Mr. Ator recommended hiring Ashley Devine for a custodial position for forty hours per week at \$11.50 per hour through the end of June.

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to hire Ashley Devine for the custodial position for forty hours per week at \$11.50 per hour through the end of June, 2020. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

ADDITIONS TO SUB LIST – Mr. Ator recommended adding the following person to the substitute list, pending a background check: Laurel Binns.

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to add Laurel Binns to the substitute list, pending a background check. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

RESIGNATIONS – Mr. Ator stated he received letters of resignation from William Harvison for his Ag-Ed teaching position and Candy Harvison for her paraprofessional position, both effective January 23, 2020. He recommended Mrs. Harvison's resignation be accepted and

Mr. Harvison's be referred to committee.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Mariah Holdbrook and carried unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Candy Harvison from her paraprofessional position effective January 23, 2020. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

Ms. DeVries tabled Mr. Harvison's resignation to committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTS** – Mr. Ator recommended ratification of contracts offered in September, 2019.

Motion was made by Michelle Swansborough, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to ratify contracts offered in September. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

**HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL – JV SEASON** –Mr. Ator stated with the low number of boys interested in playing high school basketball, it may be better to pursue playing a JV schedule this year. After lengthy discussion as to whether or not this is the right choice, the final consensus was this is the best opportunity for the students involved.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to direct the administration to pursue a JV season of 8 to 12 games for the high school boys' basketball team. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

**NEGOTIATION TIMELINES** – Sarah DeVries appointed Mariah Holdbrook and Michelle Swansborough to a committee to negotiate with the certified staff. Mr. Ator stated the timeline for the first meeting is early November, possibly November 6.

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**POLICY UPDATES AND REVIEW**

**POLICY 3417 – COMMUNICABLE DISEASES** – Mr. Ator presented Policy 3417, Communicable Diseases, for approval on third and final reading (see attached).

Motion was made by Mariah Holdbrook, seconded by Michelle Swansborough and carried unanimously to approve Policy 3417, Communicable Diseases, on third and final reading. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Holdbrook, Swansborough. NO—none).

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**LITERACY REPORT** – Mr. Ator reported the MCLP leadership team attended the fall conference in Helena at the beginning of the month. He stated the preschool program is starting up and the leadership team feels it needs more consistent staffing to be successful so are looking at having a staff member there as a trainer for the parent volunteers.

**ACTIVITIES REPORT** – Mr. Ator stated the 4-8 grades volleyball season is over and the basketball season has begun. He reported the high school volleyball team is currently in second place in the conference and will play in the district tournament at the end of the month.

The Red Lodge-Roberts-Belfry football team is ranked number 3 with a 6-0 record. The elementary football season is over.

High School Cross Country will be going to State Cross Country in Great Falls on October 25. The junior high season is over with both boys having a good year.

BPA is preparing for the regional competition in December and has taken over the RPPA calendar this year.

DISCUSSION ON DONATIONS – Mr. Ator stated discussion of donations is continuing.

NEXT MEETING DATES – Mr. Ator stated meeting dates for the next three months are November 20, December 18 unless the winter concert is on that date, and January 15.

SUPERINTENDENT’S SCHEDULE – Mr. Ator reviewed his schedule for the rest of October and November.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. DeVries called for adjournment at 7:34 p.m.

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Board Vice Chair

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District Clerk

**Roberts School District**  
**STUDENTS/STAFF/VISITOR**

Communicable Diseases

*Note: For purposes of this policy, the term “communicable disease” refers to the diseases identified in 37.114.203, ARM, Reportable Diseases, with the exception of common colds and flu.*

In all proceedings related to this policy, the District will respect a student’s right to privacy.

Although the District is required to provide educational services to all school-age children who reside within its boundaries, it may deny attendance at school to any child diagnosed as having a communicable disease that could make a child’s attendance harmful to the welfare of other students. The District also may deny attendance to a child with suppressed immunity in order to protect the welfare of that child when others in a school have an infectious disease, which, although not normally life threatening, could be life threatening to a child with suppressed immunity.

The Board recognizes that communicable diseases that may afflict students range from common childhood diseases, acute and short-term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The District will rely on advice of the public health and medical communities in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff.

The District will manage common communicable diseases in accordance with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services guidelines and communicable diseases control rules. The District may temporarily exclude from school attendance a student who exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease that is readily transmitted in a school setting.

**Exclusion Criteria for Children Who Are Ill**

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, when a child becomes ill but does not require immediate medical help, a determination must be made about whether the child should be sent home. Most illnesses do not require exclusion. The designated staff member should determine whether the child’s illness meets the following criteria for exclusion:

- Prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities as determined by staff members of the school.
- Results in a need for care that is greater than staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.
- Poses a risk of spreading harmful disease to others, or is on the list of specific conditions requiring exclusion.

If any of these criteria are met, the child should be excluded, regardless of the type of illness, unless a health professional determines the child's condition does not require exclusion. (Communicable Disease: A guide for Schools in Montana)

Students who complain of illness at school may be referred responsible person designated by the Board and may be sent home as soon as a parent or person designated on a student's emergency medical authorization form has been notified. The District reserves the right to require a statement from a student's primary care provider authorizing a student's return to school.

When information is received by a staff member or a volunteer that a student is afflicted with a serious communicable disease, the staff member or volunteer will promptly notify a responsible person designated by the Board to determine appropriate measures to be taken to protect student and staff health and safety. A responsible person designated by the Board, after consultation with and on advice of public health officials, will determine which additional staff members, if any, have need to know of the affected student's condition.

Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of a student or for determining appropriate educational accommodation will be informed of the specific nature of a condition, if it is determined that such individuals need to know this information.

The District may notify parents of other children attending a school that their children have been exposed to a communicable disease without identifying the particular student who has the disease.

The District will manage common communicable diseases in accordance with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services guidelines and communicable diseases control rules. The District may temporarily exclude from school attendance a staff member or visitor who exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease that is readily transmitted in a school setting.

### **Exclusion Requirements for Staff Who Are Ill**

Staff members who are diagnosed with certain illnesses may be required to be excluded from the school until they are no longer infectious. Illnesses such as the common cold and other minor respiratory infections are not generally of concern, and exclusion is not necessary. However, staff members diagnosed with diseases such as pertussis (whooping cough) would be required to be excluded by the local health officer. The designated staff member should determine whether the staff/visitor's illness meets the following criteria for exclusion:

- Prevents the staff/visitor from participating comfortably in activities as determined by staff members of the school.
- Poses a risk of spreading harmful disease to others, or is on the list of specific conditions requiring exclusion.

- Food handlers within the school who have diarrhea of any kind cannot engage in food preparation.

If any of these criteria are met, these staff/visitor should be excluded, regardless of the type of illness, unless a health professional determines the condition does not require exclusion. (Communicable Disease: A guide for Schools in Montana)

Legal Reference: 37.114.101, et seq., ARM Communicable Disease Control

Policy History:

Adopted on:

Reviewed on:

Revised on:

Reference:

[https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/publichealth/documents/CDEpi/CDGuideforSchools2018\\_Final.pdf](https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/publichealth/documents/CDEpi/CDGuideforSchools2018_Final.pdf)

- Signs and Symptoms Chart Communicable Disease: A guide for Schools in Montana for Screening Criteria
- Making A Rash Decision-When to Exclude: A guide for Schools in Montana for Screening Criteria
- Disease List A-Z: A guide for Schools in Montana for Screening Criteria