

School Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 13, 2025
Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
Hinsdale Conference Room

Present: Sherri Idler, Jared Sloan, Justin Strommen, Kent Hubbard, Gordon Hawk

Staff Present: Brittany Lacock, Aly Hirth

Superintendent: Adam Zopp

Minutes were taken by Board Clerk Tessa Handley via Google Meet.

Agenda Item:

1. Call to Order: Chair Justin Strommen called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00pm. Justin then led everyone in the Pledge.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda: Jared moved to accept the Consent Agenda, and to approve minutes of the April meeting. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Action Agenda Items:

A. Approve Canvass of Votes: Kent & Sherri won the 3-year term. Justin won the 2-year term. Jared motioned to accept the Canvass of Votes. Second: Gordon. Passed 4/0.

Kent, Sherri, and Justin were then sworn into Office.

B. Appointment of Officers:

- a. **Board Chair:** Justin Strommen was nominated by Jared. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.
- b. **Vice Chair:** Sherri Idler was nominated by Jared. Second: Kent. Passed 4/0
- c. **District Clerk:** Justin motioned to approve Tessa Handley as Clerk of the Board. Second Kent. Passed 4/0.
- d. **Transportation Representative:** Kent Hubbard was nominated by Justin. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.
- e. **Oath of Office** - Kent, Sherri, and Justin sworn in.
- f. **Approve Request for Valley County to conduct 2026 election:** Jared motion to approve. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.

C. Committee Assignments - Tabled

D. Appointment of Empty Trustee Seat - Jess Korman, Stacy Albus, and Kristie Barnard expressed interest. Justin will be reaching out, and the decision will be tabled till the next meeting.

E. Bus Reimbursement & Bus Routes - Discussion about new Vans going through Malta on the highway and not through back roads on gravel when traveling to Whitewater. Discussion of paying

for CDL for a bus driver applicant if they commit to staying for a few years. Sherri motioned to accept T-R 6's. Second: Kent. Passed 4/0.

F. Out of District Tuition - FP 14.1 are due June 30th. We will be getting reimbursed from Glasgow for 21 students. State formula decides rate. Approximately \$1900 per kid in elementary and \$2300 per kid in Jr. High/HS. We will pay Saco for 1 student.

G. Insurance Bid - Discussion of Pros and Cons was debated. Jared made the motion to change insurance to United Health (Big Sky Chamber). Second: Justin. Passed 4/0.

H. Resignation of Staff - Trisha & Zach Handley resignation. Motion to accepted by Jared. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.

I. Contracts (Classified & Certified) -

Certified:

Tenured Teachers: Alyssa Hirth, Brittany Lacock, Heidi McColly, Lacey Mogan, Jamie Remmich, and Amber Strommen. Sherri motioned to rehire all. Second: Kent. Passed 4/0.

Non-Tenured Teachers: Kristine Bowman, Sheryl Burnahm, and Grace Younkin. Sherri motioned to rehire all. Second: Kent. Passed 4/0.

Classified staff:

Administrative Assistant: Jared made the motion to rehire Gwyn Funk with a re-evaluation at the end of 1st semester. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.

Business Manager: Sherri made the motion to rehire Tessa Handley. Second: Justin Passed 4/0.

Maintenance: Kent made the motion to rehire Kyle Palmer & Paul Yeska. Second: Sherri. Passed 4/0.

Paraprofessionals: Carol Christensen, Shyanne Clem-Isaskon, Heidi Johnson, Dannette O'Connor, and Brandi Howey. Justin made the motion to rehire all. Second: Jared. Passed 4/0.

Kitchen: Joyce Leatherberry, Mabel Burshia, and Jennifer Moore. Jared made the motion to rehire all. Second: Kent. Passed 4/0.

Bus drivers: Craig Rutherford and Jim Bowman. Justin made the motion to only rehire Jim Bowman and move Craig to the sub list. Second: Jared. Passed 4/0.

J. Discussion on Teacher Housing: Discussion of needing new housing for potential new teachers. Board agreed a modular will hold up better than a manufactured home. Adam will be calling

Majestic Homes in Billings, MT, to get a quote on a 3-bed 2-bath home with a concrete slab.
Discussion of using the InterCap loan for funds to purchase a modular home.

K. STARS Act - Discussion with present teacher union; Brittany Lacock and Aly Hirth. Sherri motioned to move forward with Stars Act MOU. Second: Jared. Passed 4/0.

L. FFA Advisor Position - Discussion of no applicants for the position so far. Option of Sherri Idler dropping down from the board to become FFA Advisor. Discussion of potentially separating Ag Ed Teacher position from FFA advisor position. Patti will be working through this summer.

M. Late Claims: Motioned by Justin to pay late claims. Second: Jared. Passed 4/0.

5. Discussion Items: Check with Debbie on the concession account in Student Accounts and the student council account.

6. Superintendent's Report: Sports updates: softball & track into to postseason. Track divisional in Sidney. Softball in Conrad. Maintenance: Summer cleaning - wax Elem and buff HS.

Summer help Shyanne and Lily and another student potentially.

Adam will be gone 14-20th of June.

Earth day clean up day around town was May 1st.

Transportation: vehicles for sale soon.

50th class bought picnic table for school.

FFA banquet was success.

Kristine Bowman will be doing summer school and has gotten 2 grants. Daycare got a grant for \$3,000.

Upcoming: Graduation on Sunday. 9 of the 50th year graduates will be coming. Middle school history trip next week. Last day is May 22nd and will be a field day. Whitewater track meet Monday K-5. Havre field trip on wednesday. Stars banquet on Thursday or Monday still TBD. Calendar and Budgeting next month.

7. Business Next Month

8. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm by Board Chair Justin Strommen.

Chairperson

Clerk of the Board