

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 @ 12:00 PM

hosted by BNAS, Food Service/BNAS Conference Room
(Reconvene @ 5p.m. Administration Conference Room)

Present: James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman (5:14 pm.)

Mr. RunningFisher called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. BNAS; Reconvene 5:00 p.m. Administration Conference Room; Graduation Wednesday May 27, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.; Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday June 9, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Administration; Facilities Committee Meeting Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Administration; End of the Month Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, June 30, 2026 Noon Only at Big Sky Colony.

STUDENT RECOGNITION: Robert Hall recognized the following students Aiyanna Green, Kalani SunRhodes, Keesha Guerero-Gobert.

STAFF RECOGNITION: Robert Hall recognized the following staff members: Jo Ann Powell, Nick Rink, Jocelyn Big Throat, Amy Grant, Angel Marceau and Abigail Klauk.

STAFF RECOGNITION: Kellen Hall recognized the following athletic staff: Larry Woolf and Violet Sinclair Boggs, they have put in a lot of work into their score and book keeper positions and are retiring from these positions. Their commitment in the last 20 plus years had been truly valuable, they never miss a day.

BNAS Presentation: Mr. Hall and Ms. Powell gave a quick presentation on the overview of his department and working in all the buildings and explained on how that was an art ship. He stated that when they design thing they have to design from K-12. He presented a slide show of the different activities in each building. He also presents on ASLA (Accelerated Second Language Acquisition) which is a complete oral teaching method. This is the method that they are trying to expose to the whole district. He informed the board that he needs their support on how he reads and writes the language. At the end of his presentation Mr. Hall also offered a presentation in the star lab to the board.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Board Minutes 4-28-26. Second by Mr. LaFromboise. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the agenda with the removal of the following hire: Sicily Gobert-Browning High School Attendance Clerk 2026-2027. Second by Ms. Bullshoe. *No Board Discussion. No Public Participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Matthew Johnson provided public comment on his lease termination and BPS rescinding from negotiation regarding property purchase.

Mr. RunningFisher acknowledged the following building reports: Child Nutrition-Copy Center-Warehouse - Dalaina Grant; Curriculum and Instruction - Rebecca Rappold; Parent, Community Outreach, FIT - Irene Augare; Blackfeet Language-Native American Studies - Robert Hall; Gear Up

Program - Kristy CalfRobe; Prevention & Wellness - Cinnamon Salway; Athletic Department-Student Activities-Kellen Hall; Technology Department - Travis Miller; Transportation - Francis Bullcalf; Maintenance/Facilities/Security/Construction - Reid Reagan.

Ms. YellowOwl stated that on the Gear Up Report there is a survey she suggests if you are a parent or a student look at. It is a very good survey and is needed for the Gear Up program. She also stated that Transportation has a lot of birds and pigeons, she was wondering what the plan was for that. Ms. BullShoe stated that it has been like that for the past two years. Ms. YellowOwl stated that the droppings are bad and we need to figure out a solution. She also asked Mr. Reagan about the dumper garbage truck that was purchased, if it was operating. Mr. Reagan stated that he has someone repairing it. She asked if he knew what was wrong with it, we spent good money on it and it is not working. He informed her that they hydraulic pump was burned out of it.

Ms. BullShoe asked when the heating and ventilation down at the Transportation department would be repaired in the wash stall to circulate the steam and in the air. She stated that it has been sitting like that for over a year. Mr. Reagan stated that he has sent people down there to look at it.

Federal Relation Fly In Washington, DC Update- Mr. Gallup sits on the federal relations outreach committee board, he stated that they would decide every other year when congress was in during appropriations, they would hold a meeting for experts to hit appropriators one more time. He stated that they are asking for \$71 million again, he stated that they have not appropriated for the last 5 years because the way the government has been running. This is the first year they have passed all 13 bills.

On Monday they had a pre-meeting, on Tuesday they had four meetings. Mr. Gallup stated that there is a construction bill that they are trying to get introduced for four years, and we have a full forward funding bill for impact aid they have that introduced. Senator Hirono is carrying both bills. Mr. Gallup stated that they switched their MO to full forward funding and are going to make a very aggressive push towards the full forward funding. If it was full forward funding he would not have to be in Washington, DC two to three times a year, we would still have other issues to deal with. Browning Public Schools is the largest recipient in Montana of Impact Aid at about \$15 million. We are very active participants

Superintendent Report- Superintendent Rappold stated that Chairman has appointed the committee appointments, facilities committee includes Mr. Gallup, Mr. Evans and Ms. YellowOwl. She stated the facilities committee will continue to meet on the second Thursday of the month. The policy committee includes Ms. YellowOwl, Ms. Madman and Mr. LaFromboise, policy committee will meet the Thursday after the last board meeting of the month.

Mr. Evans suggested the facilities meeting be moved to the first Thursday of the month. After some discussion it was agreed to leave the facilities meeting on the second Thursday of the month.

Blackfeet Community College YES update and presentation of Certificates to the Browning Public Schools Leadership Team- by Dee Hoyt: Ms. Hoyt stated that about a year ago she reached out to the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent about a grant they were trying to get and asked if they wanted to be a part of it. They wrote the grant and was accepted for \$300,897.00 every year for the next 5 years. The grant was awarded in August and was started in late September of this year. She stated that in 2016 they had dual enrollment then covid hit, they then brought it back and the grant ran out. They then teamed up and wrote another good grant to get them through.

As of this year 2025-2026 they have put 62 juniors and seniors into the college offering 430 college credits and with this four of the students have received 25 college credits, 24 college credits, 21 college credits and four of them have 18 college credits. Ms. Hoyt stated that she has an amazing team and she never thought it would happen. She stated they needed high school students coming into the college as well as offering them work shadowing they recruited 25 of them. 23 of those students were in public schools' classrooms and the other 2 chose to do other work.

Ms. Hoyt brought down 24 classrooms down to the BCC last week with the teachers and the students and honored them. The little students and teachers said nothing about good things about their mentors. Some of the teachers reported to her that their MAST test scores have come up just from having the high school mentors being in the classroom. Their goal is to by 2030 have 2500 students introduced to college at a young age. Ms. Hoyt presented Superintendent Rappold and Assistant Superintendent Wagner with a certificate. She stated that this is their last year for the two plus two programs, she believes there was 105 teachers that went through their program not including the 18 students from Little Big Horn. She stated that it has been a journey and thank Browning Public Schools for their partnership.

Ms. YellowOwl assured that the seating was ready for tomorrows graduation and included the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council. Superintendent Rappold assured her we were.

HR Status Report: At the elementary level we need two PCA's, an instructional coach, two TA's, PE/health teacher and three sped teachers. Secondary level we need an ELA teacher, ELA/reading teacher, science teacher, two math teachers one for BHS and one for BHA, two sped teachers, TA. At Babb and the Colonies, we are in need of a half time sped teacher at each place. We are in need of a food service director as well as 5 assistant cooks and a head cook. We need a skilled technician and a department secretary for maintenance. Special services we need a half time adaptive physical ed teacher, at transportation we need a 12-month bus driver and four nine-month bus drivers.

Ms. Sinclair informed the board that they are advertising job openings on the OPI website, as well as Frontline. She stated that every time they put a job out on frontline it automatically goes to a website called K12jobspot.com which is nationwide. This year they also advertised in a magazine for Washington State University, which is available to anyone who walks into their staffing placement offices. BPS has a full-page advertisement which has our QR code, when it is scanned it directs them to our website where they can see our job openings. She also stated that they had a interview for a possible sped teacher who say this advertisement.

Coaching Worksheet: *No Board Discussion. No Public Participation.*

Resignations: Superintendent Rappold accepted the following resignation: Ronald MadPlume, Head Cook, Napi Elementary, Effective 6-5-2026.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Hiring: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Renewal Contract-Krystee Tailfeathers-Browning Middle School 2026-2027 (\$61,600.00). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following hires pending successful background check/drug test: Aaron McLean, BHS Head Basketball Coach 2026-2027 Sports Season (\$5,900.00); BHS Assistant Winter Coaches 2026-2027 (\$31,890.00); Taylee Ridesatthedeoor-BHS Assistant Girls Volleyball Coach 2026-2027 (\$3,800.00); Maggie Mountain Horse-BHS Head Girls Volleyball Coach 2026-2027 (\$5,485.00). Second by Ms. Bullshoe. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Contract Service Agreements: Motion by Ms. YellowOwl to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background check: Cindy Show-BPS PELI & PENS early literacy and numeracy assessments for the Little Learners program at Bullshoe Elementary 26-27 SY (\$2,520.00);

Ruth Shea-Big Sky & Glendale Colony Schools Library-Media Services 2026-2027 SY (\$3,377.92). *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gallup to approve the following contract service agreements pending successful background check: Ruth Shea, BPS Aimsweb ELA Assessment for BMS & BHS 2026-2027 SY (\$10,080.00); Robin Tachetti-Physical Therapy Services 2026-2027 (\$84,617.50).

Mr. LaFromboise asked where the physical therapist would be placed at. Superintendent Rappold state that it is a special education contractor who is virtual, and so we have an onsite PT/OT assistant whose office is in the sped building who goes around to each building and supports the onsite work. *No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Out of State Travel: None

In-State Travel: Motion by Ms. Bullshoe to approve the following in-state travel: Kellen Hall, Divisional Track Meet 2025-2026 in Frenchtown, MT (\$835.44); Kellen Hall, Class A Conference Summer Meeting, Big Sky, MT (\$1,193.48). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following in-state travel: Stephanie Holton-Montana OPI Summer Institute, Bozeman, MT (\$803.76). Second by Mr. Gervais. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Approvals: Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the following: Extended Contract-Amy DeRoche & Taylor Crawford, Extended Contracts Leadership Week 2026-2027 SY (\$3,330.00). Second by Mr. LaFromboise. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Motion by Mr. Gervais to approve the following: Stephanie Holton-Contract Modification-Salary Change 2026-2027 (\$3,924.00); Brandy Bremner-Contract Modification-Salary Change 2026-2027 (\$15,175.00); Corrections- Extended Contracts Math Curriculum & Planning Secondary 2025-2026 (\$6,611.20); Request for County to Conduct Elections for 2027 (\$10,000.00); NAFIS Membership Dues 2026-2027 (\$17,295.23); MQEC Membership Dues 2026-2027 (\$2,500.00); Charge \$100 fee for Drivers' Ed Course; Purchases Over \$10,000.00; District Claims Checks #91878-#91907; #444480-#444566 (\$453,061.46); Student Activities Claims #706772-#706782 (\$12,080.36); Additional Pays 5-26-26. Second by Ms. YellowOwl.

Ms. YellowOwl asked if the election will still be here in Browning. Ms. Rivas stated that it would be up to the board, unless they wanted to do an all-mail ballot which will come back to the board at a later date. Ms. YellowOwl stated she asked because it would be hard for people to have to go all the way to Cut Bank to vote. Mr. Evans stated that there is a voting center here in Browning.

Ms. YellowOwl stated that the charge of \$100 fee for the drivers ed course has two options, option one is a student would pay a \$100 fee at the beginning of the course if the student did not complete the program the money would not be refundable, if they complete all courses and requirements would receive the \$100 back as well as an award and certificate. Option two is a program support to help the program to purchase of instructional resources, curriculum materials, student incentives and additional programs to help benefit the students participating in the program.

After a lengthily discussion on the Charge of \$100 fee for Drivers' Ed Course and *No Public Participation* the motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for and James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman opposing Charge of \$100 fee for Drivers' Ed Course.

Personnel: None

Legal Issues: Board went into closed session at 6:42 p.m. for legal update. Meeting reopened at 6:57 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Second by Ms. Yellow Owl. *No board discussion. No public participation.* Motion passed with James RunningFisher, James Evans, Kristy Bullshoe, Thomas Gervais, Terrance LaFromboise, Donna YellowOwl, Brian Gallup, Cheryl Madman voting for.

Respectfully submitted:

_____Melanie HeavyRunner, Board Secretary

_____James RunningFisher, Board Chairperson

_____Sandra Rivas, District Clerk