

**BUTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 23, 2026**

The Board of Trustees held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday March 23, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the East Middle School Library with Chairperson Ann Boston presiding. Trustees present were Tom Billteen, Patti Hepola, Mike Kujawa and Kathy Milodragovich. Trustee Klobucar, Lee and Thatcher were absent. Also present were Judy Jonart, Superintendent and Karen Alley, Director of Human Resource.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**WELCOME AND DIRECTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

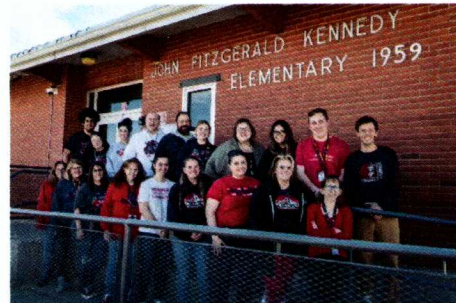
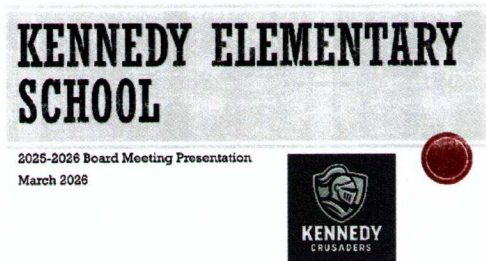
**Item 3.1 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes, February 17, 2026**

Trustee Kujawa motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Item 4.1 – Kennedy Elementary School Presentation**

Brian Anderson, Principal, went over her presentation with the Board of Trustees:



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## NEW STAFF

- Kennedy Elementary is excited to welcome our new staff for 2025-2026.



Administrative Assistant: Beth Walsh  
Counselor: Dorik Chaney  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher: Kallynn Field

## CELEBRATIONS OF KENNEDY PRIDE

- Straight A Club - students participate in an extra special get together with Principal Anderson.
- Daily Attendance - Race to the Top
  - Ms. Campbell's 1<sup>st</sup> grade won
  - Kennedy's overall attendance has increased by 2%, which may seem minimal, however it has shown an increase in our academic success.
- PAX Monthly Tootle Bulletin Boards
- Hall of Fame - 6 finalists heading to City.
- Monthly Perfect Attendance has increased each monthly.
- Students are enjoying music being played during lunch
  - Gives students a little time to enjoy some tunes



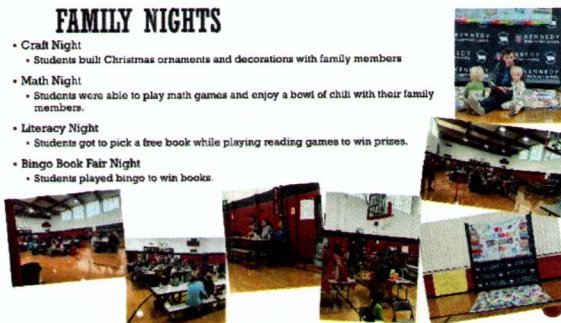
## PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

- Kennedy PTO
- Animal Wonders - Kennedy students will be presented with an educational presentation that features live exotic animals.
  - March 25<sup>th</sup>
- New jerseys for our Kennedy athletes - donated by Dream Big



## FAMILY NIGHTS

- Craft Night
  - Students built Christmas ornaments and decorations with family members
- Math Night
  - Students were able to play math games and enjoy a bowl of chili with their family members.
- Literacy Night
  - Students got to pick a free book while playing reading games to win prizes.
- Bingo Book Fair Night
  - Students played bingo to win books.



## IEFA - TALKING STICK ALL SCHOOL ACTIVITY

- Ms. Robinson taught all K-6<sup>th</sup> grade Crusaders about Native American Talking Sticks.
- All Crusaders were paired with their Big and Littles to assist in creating their very own Talking sticks with assistance of staff. It was such a fun school-wide activity that each student smiled and enjoyed collaboratively creating their talking stick.



## NATIVE FLAGS

- Our Engineer Lou Spanni hung our Native American flags in the gym for all students to see and be proud of their culture.



## SHOP WITH A COP

- Kennedy Elementary was lucky to have 6 students participate in Shop with a Cop.
- We had multiple staff members step in and help wrap presents.



## PRODIGY

- Prodigy is a fun and adaptive game that helps kids practice Math and English skills. Content is aligned with common-core standards and teachers can assign specific content for students to work on to promote learning in their classroom.
- Prodigy was introduced to students at Kennedy Elementary. Students participated in the State Challenge competing against schools around Montana to see how many correct answers they could answer in a month. The top school would win a chance to compete in the National Challenge in May.
- In the month of December, students answered 9,044 questions correctly to win 1<sup>st</sup> place.
- Kennedy Elementary will compete in the National Math Challenge in May.



# THANK YOU

## **Item 4.2 – Bridged Health Trust Alliance**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent updated the Board of Trustees stated that State Auditor Brown announced that the Bridged Health Trust was validated and that the 40 million trust was authorized by the state legislatures and Governor. This is a huge moment for public education by having a Health Trust program for the entire state. They established more than 200 Montana school districts with more than 16,000 educators and employees. They needed a minimum of 120 districts and 1000 lives, so they surpassed that number. They will be getting things enrolled in April and May and will work with our District as they go forward. Judy will continue to keep the Board updated on it.

## **Item 4.3 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Review Policy 5303P/5303F1/F2/F3/F4/F5 Staff Evaluation**

Keith Miller, Assistant Superintendent, presented the changes to policies 5303/5304 regarding Teacher Evaluation. Keith stated the process has made him excited about what they are doing in schools. They have been working on teacher evaluations for about 14 years to where we have a good tool that everyone can use and create results. The last group working on the policies have been more concentrated on what makes teaching better. Our policy reflects the Board's vision of embracing the art and science of teaching by Marzano as well as strong research by Larry Lazotte and Charlotte Danielson. The group established a vision for the teacher valuation process to develop effective instruction by consistently supporting continuous growth in teaching. This program is a whole cycle of continuous improvement that the teacher goes through with their administrator. At the end of the day, it is more about perfecting their craft. The goals are to measure strengths and weaknesses accurately and consistently to provide them with feedback and to coach to improve their practice and improving student learning. Keith stated they have pared down some of the rubrics and went over the evaluation process consisting of the rubric with five domains. Those domains are planning and preparation, feedback, content, context and professionalism. At the beginning of the year the teacher will complete a self-assessment where they will use the rubric to evaluate themselves, write a growth plan which is based on a goal in all five areas of the rubric. During comprehensive evaluations between October and April the principal will come in to do walkthroughs, scheduled visits, nonscheduled visits and data collection techniques as far as gathering information. In April they will put together the evaluation which again is the rubric. The rubric will go with other forms that go into the system to validate their year. There is an observation conference with the teacher and sign off on it. So basically with 5303 and 5304 we put the process in and take the forms out, which is different

than before. If we need to change anything then all we must do is change the forms not the whole policy. They developed two sets of forms, one for elementary, one for secondary, one that is based on walkthroughs, and one based on formal observations. Judy stated it is important for the Board to know that all the elements that are written in the teacher evaluation are of content. All the three domains in the middle of the rubric are basically the culminating project of our Marzano training that we have done. All our teachers have had extensive training in these strategies so not only are we rolling out this evaluation tool, but they have also had significant professional development and will continue another year of that training. Keith stated this will go out to the teachers next year and part of his goal is to get into every building in the first two weeks to do a once over with all the teachers that are on staff. The handbook comes as an introduction during teacher orientation, so they can participate in the whole process. There is a piece of the Danielson model still left in the policy as we want to make sure we have rubrics made for non-teaching positions such as physical therapists, psychologists that resemble their service.

**Item 4.4 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Review Policy 5304P Evaluation of Non-Tenured Certified Staff**

Keith Miller, Assistant Superintendent, presented the changes to policy 5304P and explained it in Item 4.3 along with 5303P.

**Item 4.5 – Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Item 5.1 – Approval of Claims, Budget Transfers, Revenue Reports, Budget vs. Actual Reports, Travel Requests and School Activity Fund Reports (January 2026 & February 2026)**

Please transfer from the funds listed below into the			
2/28/2026 PAYROLL CLEARING FUND			
Account	Description	Transfers	
		Debit	Credit
7761.000.2120.30.000	101 - ELEM GENERAL FUND	\$1,729,426.27	
7761.000.2120.30.000	110 - ELEM TRANSPORTATION FUND	\$85,798.07	
7761.000.2120.30.000	112 - SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE FUND	\$93,546.77	
7761.000.2120.30.000	113 - ELEM TUITION FUND	\$36,415.96	
7761.000.2120.30.000	114 - ELEM RETIREMENT FUND	\$286,940.10	
7761.000.2120.30.000	117 - ELEM ADULT EDUCATION FUND	\$5,399.04	
7761.000.2120.30.000	119 - MEDICAID	\$29,531.72	
7761.000.2120.30.000	124 - ELEM METAL MINES	\$18,958.64	
7761.000.2120.30.000	131 - TITLE I	\$49,492.65	
7761.000.2120.30.000	141 - TITLE IV, PART A	\$17,375.52	
7761.000.2120.30.000	144 - SCHOOLWIDE	\$37,239.97	
7761.000.2120.30.000	149 - RSVP	\$6,811.76	
7761.000.2120.30.000	153 - IDEA B 47-0840-7711	\$89,338.45	
7761.000.2120.30.000	155 - IDEA PRESCHOOL	\$3,153.90	
7761.000.2120.30.000	162 - 21ST CENTURY	\$10,110.67	
7761.000.2120.30.000	165 - FACILITY USE	\$2,669.94	
7761.000.2120.30.000	189 - COBRA	\$5,117.95	
7761.000.2120.30.000	186 - PAYROLL CLEARING ACCOUNT		\$2,507,327.38
7761.000.2120.30.000	201 - H S GENERAL FUND	\$891,843.38	
7761.000.2120.30.000	210 - H S TRANSPORTATION FUND	\$44,718.03	
7761.000.2120.30.000	213 - HS TUITION	\$34,995.73	
7761.000.2120.30.000	214 - H S RETIREMENT FUND	\$148,897.99	
7761.000.2120.30.000	217 - H S ADULT EDUCATION FUND	\$8,641.88	
7761.000.2120.30.000	224 - HS METAL MINE RESERVE	\$19,587.13	
7761.000.2120.30.000	225 - AGGREGATE-INDIRECT COSTS	\$19,815.23	
7761.000.2120.30.000	231 - TITLE I	\$24,023.38	
7761.000.2120.30.000	238 - GRADUATION COACH	\$5,503.16	
7761.000.2120.30.000	241 - TITLE II	\$9,597.41	
7761.000.2120.30.000	248 - ADULT BASIC ED (ABLE)	\$4,344.52	
7761.000.2120.30.000	253 - IDEA B	\$10,070.87	
7761.000.2120.30.000	265 - FACILITY US H.S.	\$1,529.03	
7761.000.2120.30.000	268 - MT DIGITAL ACADEMY	\$528.03	
7761.000.2120.30.000	275 - ACTIVITY BUS SERVICE FUND	\$17,671.39	
7761.000.2120.30.000	282 - INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FUND	\$3,626.17	
7761.000.2120.30.000	284 - HS COCURRICULAR	\$4,204.49	
7761.000.2120.30.000	186 - PAYROLL CLEARING ACCOUNT		\$1,249,597.82

Please transfer from the funds listed below into the			
Account	Description	Transfers	
		Debit	Credit
7761.000.2120.30.000	101 - ELEMENTARY GENERAL FUND	163,283.42	
7761.000.2120.30.000	110 - ELEMENTARY TRANSPORTATION FUND	28,740.72	
7761.000.2120.30.000	112 - SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE FUND	120,572.10	
7761.000.2120.30.000	117 - ELEM ADULT EDUCATION FUND	178.47	
7761.000.2120.30.000	119 - MEDICAID	6,839.51	
7761.000.2120.30.000	128 - ELEM TECHNOLOGY FUND	10,187.64	
7761.000.2120.30.000	131 - TITLE IA	2,955.52	
7761.000.2120.30.000	133 - 2025 USDA FARM TO SCHOOL SUBGRANT	2,828.65	
7761.000.2120.30.000	138 - CSCT	21,092.22	
7761.000.2120.30.000	142 - TITLE IA_SSAE	39,351.07	
7761.000.2120.30.000	149 - RSVP	918.55	
7761.000.2120.30.000	153 - IDEA B 47-0840-7711	49,260.99	
7761.000.2120.30.000	161 - ELEMENTARY BUILDING RESERVE PERMISSIVE	38,195.50	
7761.000.2120.30.000	164 - ELEM CO-CURR ACTMITY FUND	2,767.00	
7761.000.2120.30.000	187 - CLAIMS CLEARING ACCOUNT		487,171.36
7761.000.2120.30.000	201 - HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND	131,774.41	
7761.000.2120.30.000	210 - H S TRANSPORTATION FUND	14,137.28	
7761.000.2120.30.000	213 - H S TUITION FUND	200.00	
7761.000.2120.30.000	228 - H.S. TECHNOLOGY	3,138.04	
7761.000.2120.30.000	230 - HOME ECONOMICS	1,928.84	
7761.000.2120.30.000	231 - TITLE IA	1,455.70	
7761.000.2120.30.000	233 - TECH ED	2,952.09	
7761.000.2120.30.000	238 - GRADUATION COACH GRANT	374.63	
7761.000.2120.30.000	245 - CARL PERKINS 47-1212-8111	3,526.88	
7761.000.2120.30.000	248 - ADULT BASIC ED	212.65	
7761.000.2120.30.000	255 - HEALTH OCCUPATIONS	437.67	
7761.000.2120.30.000	262 - H.S. PERMISSIVE BUILDING RESERVE	26,489.00	
7761.000.2120.30.000	270 - JOBS FOR MONTANA GRADUATES (JMG)	479.00	
7761.000.2120.30.000	271 - MCKINNEY VENTO GRANT	628.00	
7761.000.2120.30.000	275 - ACTMITY BUS SERVICE FUND	1,029.24	
7761.000.2120.30.000	284 - CO-CURR ACTIVITIES FUND	26,651.06	
7761.000.2120.30.000	187 - CLAIMS CLEARING ACCOUNT		215,414.49

DATE: 3/9/2026

LETTER: #3

RE: ADJUSTING JOURNAL ENTRIES RECAP  
February 2026

TO: Brandy Gamer  
Treasurer's Office  
Butte-Silver Bow County

FROM: Kevin Patrick  
Director of Business Affairs

PUT INTO THESE FUNDS:

101	Elem General	\$	7,676.64
112	Food Services	\$	762.73
153	IDEA B	\$	19.99
225	Indirect Costs	\$	7,651.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>16,110.36</b>

TAKE FROM THESE FUNDS:

110	Elem Transportation	\$	176.33
141	Title IA_SEI	\$	3,091.00
142	Title IA_SSAE	\$	805.00
162	21st Century	\$	787.00
201	HS General	\$	7,127.57
210	HS Transportation	\$	86.84
231	Title IA	\$	2,548.00
242	Title IA_SEI	\$	420.00
284	Co-Curricular	\$	330.76
999	Warehouse	\$	737.86
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>16,110.36</b>

NOTE: A complete and detailed listing of the Payroll and Claims Warrants, Budget Transfers and Revenue Reports is on file in the Clerk's Office and by the reference is made part of these minutes.

- **Student Activity Fund Report from Butte High School (February 2026)**
- **Student Activity Fund Report from East Middle School (February 2026)**

Trustee Hepola made motion to approve, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONNEL**

**Item 6.1 – Approval of the Amended PAR, August 18, 2025**

Karen Alley, Human Resource Director, presented the following Amended PAR for approval.

**Butte School District No. 1**  
**Personnel Action Report - AMENDED**  
**Regular Board Meeting August 18, 2025**

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**Certified Personnel****Appointment:**

Luke Blaskovich	8/19/25-6/8/26	Homebound Teacher, District
Denise Bordeleau	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Pat Boroni	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Coleen Boyle	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Gayle Brooks	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Susan Cotton	8/19/25-6/8/26	Homebound Teacher, District
Sylvia Cunningham	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Corey Cutler	8/19/25-6/8/26	Homebound Teacher, District
Kailynn Field	8/19/2025	Temporary 3rd Grade Teacher, Kennedy
Kathy Hiebert	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Cheryl Holmes	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Melissa Johnson	8/19/2025	Adult Community Education Supervisor, District
Gayla Jozovich	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Faith Kelly	8/19/2025	Crossroads Teacher, BHCC
Aleesha LaBreche	8/19/25-6/8/26	Homebound Teacher, District
Krystin Lee	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Bill Lovell	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Eric Mankins	8/19/25-6/8/26	Homebound Teacher, District
Ann Monaghan	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Norma Pylypuw	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Kelly Rose	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Josh Schad	8/1/25-7/30/26	Drivers' Education Director, District
Una Schlaebitz	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Judy Schuelke	9/15/25-11/19/25	Adult Community Education Instructor
Jeremey Whitlock	8/1/25-7/30/26	DPHHS Air Quality Testing Director, District

**Retirement:**

<span style="color: red;">Mike Kenison</span>	<span style="color: red;">6/8/2026</span>	<span style="color: red;">Industrial Arts Teacher, EMS</span>
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**Resignation:**

Keith Miller	8/1/2025	Adult Community Education Supervisor, District
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## Classified Personnel

### Appointment:

Kaylie Bigrigg	8/19/2025	ParaProfessional, District
Cindy Cormier	8/6/2025	Cleaner, BHS
Awnica Fuell	8/19/2025	ParaProfessional, District
Marilyn Malesich	8/19/2025	Substitute Food Service, District
Anna Nelson	8/19/2025	ParaProfessional, District

### Resignation:

Diane Ayers	8/1/2025	Food Service, EMS
Brandy Johnston	7/22/2025	Paraprofessional, District
Marilyn Malesich	8/13/2025	Food Service, EMS
Theresa McBride	8/5/2025	Paraprofessional, District
Lois Taylor	8/6/2025	Cleaner, Distrist

## Supplemental Personnel

### Appointment:

Lexie Belice	8/19/2025	Volleyball Coach, EMS
Cole Conway	8/19/2025	Co-Assistant Football Coach, BHS
Nicole Cunningham	8/19/2025	Volleyball Coach, EMS
Levi Dawes	8/19/2025	Assistant Football Coach, BHS
Levi Dawes	8/19/2025	Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, BHS
Jacob Evans	8/19/2025	Assistant Boys' Soccer Coach, BHS
Zane Fredlund	8/15/25-11/1/25	Soccer Volunteer, BHS
Megan Graham	8/19/2025	Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, BHS
Becky Hancock	8/19/2025	Sports Coordinator, EMS
Jori Liva	11/20/25-2/21/26	Wrestling Chaperone, BHS
Jori Liva	8/15/25-10/31/25	Soccer Chaperone, BHS
Cole Stewart	8/19/2025	Co-Assistant Football Coach, BHS
Madysen Srozyk	8/19/25-11/30/25	Volleyball Volunteer, EMS

### Resignation:

Quinn Dennehy	7/24/2025	Boys' Basketball Coach, EMS
Chad Jonart	7/23/2025	Assistant Football Coach, BHS
Courtney Schad	8/12/2025	Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach, BHS
Dave Susanj	8/6/2025	Assistant Track Coach, BHS

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Item 6.2 – Approval of the PAR, March 23, 2026**

Karen Alley, Human Resource Director, is requesting approval of the following PAR for approval.

**Butte School District No. 1**  
**Personnel Action Report**  
**Regular Board Meeting March 23, 2026**

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**Certified Personnel**

\*Pending Paperwork and Background Check

**Appointments:**

Melissa Johnson	7/1/2026	Principal, BHS
Jennifer Luoma	7/1/2026	Assistant Superintendent, District

**Resignation:**

Josh Schad	6/30/2026	Principal, Whittier
Michaela Tomscheck	6/8/2026	Title I Teacher, Whittier

**Retirement:**

Brenda Floreen	6/30/2026	Assistant Principal of Academics, BHS
Laurie Hawbaker	6/10/2027	STEAM Teacher, EMS
Michele Loomis	6/8/2026	Librarian, EMS
Brenda Strong-Ayres	6/8/2026	2nd Grade Teacher, Kennedy

**Leaves of Absence:**

Amanda Curtis	8/25/2026	Teacher, District (Returning from Leave)
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**Classified Personnel****Appointments:**

Nicholas DiPasquale*	4/7/2026	Cleaner, District
Frank Schmidmeister*	4/7/2026	Cleaner, Whittier
Teague Sullivan*	3/24/2026	Substitute Student Cleaner, District

**Resignations:**

Keri Bolton	2/16/2026	Maintenance Engineer, District
Bill Hooper	3/6/2026	Cleaner, Whittier

**Retirement:**

Pamela Jensen	3/31/2026	Cleaner, BHS
Robert Tremis	6/10/2026	Bus Driver, District

**Leaves of Absence:**

Sharon Champeau	3/2/26-6/8/26	Food Service, EMS
Elizabeth Osborne	5/8/26-6/8/26	ParaProfessional, District

**Supplemental Personnel****Appointments:**

Milo Coladonato	3/24/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Theresa Dasilva*	4/7/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Abigail Harper*	4/7/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Matt Hettick	2/1/26-3/14/26	Volunteer Wrestling Coach, EMS
Monisola Ikhile*	4/7/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Douglas "DJ" Jackson	3/24/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Shawn Lewis	2/1/26-3/14/26	Volunteer Wrestling Coach, EMS
Zach Luebeck	3/16/26-5/30/26	Volunteer Tennis Coach, BHS
James Martz	3/16/26-5/30/26	Volunteer Softball Coach, BHS
Makenzy McGivern	3/17/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Steve Stosich	3/16/2026	Assistant Softball Coach, BHS

**Resignation:**

Cynthia Bigbee	3/6/2026	Substitute Teacher, District
Matt Luedtke	3/9/2026	Head Boys' Basketball Coach, BHS

Trustee Milodragovich made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS****Item 7.1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval Policy 1401-Records Available to Public**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of policy 1401 as presented last month.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Billteen. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval Policy 2161-Special Education/2161P-Special Education Continued**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of policy 2161 and 2161P as presented last month.

Trustee Hepola made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval Policy 3416-Administering Medicines to Students/3416F-B-Administration of Medication Liability Release and Medication Order/3416F-F-Administration of Glucagon (delete)**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of policy 3416/3416F-B as presented last month.

Trustee Hepola made motion to approve, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval Policy 3665-Student Safety**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of policy 3665 as presented last month.

Trustee Milodragovich made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.5 – Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Butte School District #1 and the Anaconda Job Corps**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of the MOU between Butte School District and the Anaconda Job Corps that will be in effect until June 30, 2027.

Trustee Billteen made motion to approve, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.6 – Approval of the Permissive Levy Notice**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval of the elementary high school resolution of intent to increase nonvoted levy. Per MCA 20-9-116 the trustees of a school district shall adopt a resolution not later than March 31 of each fiscal year and provide notice pursuant to subsection (2) whenever the trustees intend to impose an increase in nonvoted levy in the ensuing school fiscal year. This resolution also meets the requirements set forth in MCA 20-9-502. Judy stated that these are just an estimated amount and the actual amounts will be set in August when we set the budget.

Trustee Billteen made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously

**Item 7.7 – Approval of the ERATE Bids**

Judy Jonart, Superintendent, is requesting approval to award the bid to CompuNet for the requested technology upgrades to the District's network infrastructure. Judy presented a table showing CompuNet's bid for each of the identified items. Judy stated approval of these bids will allow the District to submit a Form 471 E-Rate application to seek funding for the identified items. Once E-Rate funding is confirmed, the District will determine which items can be supported during the current funding year. The District has established priorities for these purchases, with Firewalls, Distribution switches, and SmartNet items identified as the highest priority. Judy stated we have to submit Form-471 and based upon the funding will determine how much the District can afford. Erate will pay 80% and the District pays 20%, so based upon how much eligibility we get of these items will determine what we can purchase.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.8 – Approval of Mileage for Student Transportation**

Susan Johnson, Special Education Director, is requesting approval for an individual transportation contract for a student with an IEP. Susan stated we will be reimbursing the parents for mileage to take the child to and from school.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.9 – Approval of Destruction of Special Education Records**

Susan Johnson, Special Education Director, is requesting approval to destroy special education files of students born before 2001. Susan stated the Butte School District Special Education Department is announcing its intention to destroy the special records of former students who were born before 2001. Former students may contact the Special Education Department within 60 days of the notice to obtain their student files and identification will be required to retrieve these files.

Trustee Billteen made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.10 – Approval to Advertise and Hire for the Extended School Year Program (ESY)**

Susan Johnson, Special Education Director, is requesting approval to advertise and hire for the ESY program. ESY is defined within the students IEPs. ESY services are approved for students attending PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade. With your approval extended school year will start June 9<sup>th</sup> and end July 9<sup>th</sup> and will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Susan stated she is also requesting to hire up to three special education teachers and four paraprofessionals based on student enrollment. Speech services will also be required over the summer, so Susan is requesting that also to be hired. Funding for this program will come from the IDEA grant.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.11 – Approval to Collaborate with Helena College Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program**

Susan Johnson, Special Education Director, is requesting approval to collaborate with Helena College Occupational Therapy Assistant Program. Susan stated the Helena reached out and they would like placements for their students. This is a two-year program, and they would be doing field work experiences with the District's OT students. They would complete their field work under the supervision of the District's Occupational Therapists. This collaboration would provide the OTA students with valuable real-world clinical experiences while supporting the Butte School District and meeting the needs of our students; while offering the District increased assistance during therapy sessions, opportunities for enhanced service delivery and benefiting integrating current education practices brought through the university. Vice Chair Billteen asked Susan if there was a financial obligation from the District, which Susan stated no financial obligation. Chairperson Ann Boston asked if this would be for a year or terms. Susan stated terms.

Trustee Milodragovich made motion to approve, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.12 – Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Butte School District #1 and the University of Montana**

Susan Johnson, Special Education Director, is requesting approval of the MOU with the University of Montana to allow a school psychologist practicum student to spend the 2026-2027 school year working with K-12 students in our District for 12 hours per week. This memorandum would be viable for 5 years for additional practicum students to have the opportunity received with the same experience. The practicums are part of the School Psychologist degree program at the U of M and it is part of the US Department of Education's Mental Health Services Professional Demonstration Grant Program entitled "Raise" – Rural and Indigenous School-based mental Health and Empowerment project. Our district is eligible for this project due to the meeting the criteria for at least 20 percent of the children served by our district are children from low-income backgrounds and because there is a need for additional mental health services in our community.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.13 – Approval of the 2026-2027 School Year Calendar**

Melissa Johnson, Principal Webster Garfield Complex, is requesting approval of the 2026-2027 Butte School District Academic Calendar. The vote was open from March 9th-11th. The vote was 82 for Calendar 1 and 143 in favor of Calendar 2. Calendar 2 has a start date of September 1<sup>st</sup> with a start time of 8:13 am. Calendar 2 also has 9 PLC (Professional Learning Community) days. Beginning in September and continuing through May, there will be a PLC on the second Wednesday of each month. Grades K-3 will get out at 12:30 pm and grades 4-12 will get out at 1:30pm. May will once again have Fridays off except for Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Hepola. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.14 – Approval of the Butte Pathway Academy Student Handbook**

Melissa Johnson, Principal Webster Garfield Complex, is requesting approval of the Butte Pathway Academy Student Handbook. Melissa stated this will be the first ever handbook that contains policies from Butte High School, but also the special things that are happening at the Butte Pathway Academy that might be a little different. Students will get their handbook along with the application when they apply to make sure they are interested in a different type of setting and learning. Trustee Billteen asked about the online information being just Digital Academy or is there other opportunities. Melissa explained right now they are using Connexus through Pearson, which is like a pre and post-test. When Helena came with OPI to look at the Pathway they are using a different program that we might look at as it might be more conducive to online learning than just Connexus. Digital Academy is a bit harder as it is not under our control, but this one is self-paced pretest and post-test which Megan Graham is currently doing. They are piloting three students that are going to go to Penn Foster online. Melissa stated they put together an individual plan for those three students to see if they can keep them in the District and hopefully bring them back. They are working on Connexus and come into the school to take their tests or final exams so they can be monitored.

Trustee Billteen made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously

**Item 7.15 – Approval of the Donation by the Butte Athletic Council – New Weight Room at Butte High School**

Jeremey Whitlock, Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation, is requesting approval of the donation by the Butte Athletic Council for a new weight room at Butte High School. Jeremey stated the donation is in the amount of \$125,237.00 to upgrade and update the weight room.

Trustee Hepola made motion to approve, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 7.16 – Approval of the East Middle School Summer Program 2026**

Kelci Thatcher, Vice Principal, is requesting approval of the East Middle School Summer Program. The program starts June 1<sup>st</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday through Thursday, which is a total of 14 instructional days. Kelci is also requesting approval to hire three general education teachers and one special education teacher. This structure will allow them to have small groups and invite any student with an IEP that does not qualify for DSY services.

Trustee Kujawa made motion to approve, second by Trustee Milodragovich. Motion carried unanimously

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Hepola moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Kujawa. Motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Boston adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.



District Clerk/  
mke



Chairwoman of Board of Trustees