

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

April 13, 2026

The Beaverhead County High School Board of Trustees met in regular session on April 13, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the High School, room 106. In attendance were Cole Cottom, Roxanne Engellant, Gary Love, Mike Richardson, Chris Rieber, Lori Smith and Phil Willett. Also in attendance were Superintendent Josh Patterson, Assistant Principal Rob Hankins and District Clerk Susanne Valach. A quorum was determined as being present.

Chairman Love called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Phil led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Hankins introduced the visitors: BCHS staff members Camy Paffhausen, Shaun Lenegar and Caleb Igo; Owner's Representative Dan McGee; and community members Mike Hendrickson, Shannon Maness and Michelle Brown.

Phil moved to approve the minutes from the March 9 regular board meeting and the March 26 special board meeting. Lori seconded and it passed 7-0.

Superintendent Patterson reviewed some of the claims. Roxanne moved to approve the claims totaling \$124,625.80. Cole seconded and the motion passed, 7-0. An additional claim was added after the board meeting for the purchase of the Bluebird travel bus that was approved later in the meeting. It was claim number 20674 to Las Vegas Bus Sales, Inc for \$77,700.00 increasing the total claims to \$202,325.80.

For public comment, Michelle Brown spoke about her son, Chase Brown. She wanted to give the board an update after they came to a meeting last spring. He participated in the Sprint program while at BCHS and graduated in 2025 and he will now graduate from Tech this spring with an associate's degree already because of the credits he earned while in high school.

Mike Hendrickson asked the board to consider not changing the potential homeschool changes for next year; which he understood to be requiring them to attend a minimum of two classes. Mr. Patterson responded that he has been in contact with OPI and has found out that the lowest possible for the school to receive ANB funding is one and a half classes. No changes have been made yet and he anticipates bringing this to the board's attention at the May board meeting for discussion. Shannon Maness also spoke on this topic and said he has reached out to OPI. He continues to get the response of "it depends" because school boards have a say in the matter. He said it would be discussed at the next legislature but that isn't until 2027. He encouraged the board to look at MCA 20-9-311 for the calculation of ANB, specifically section 4D.

Activities Director Brock Myllymaki joined the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Dan McGee presented the contract between BCHS and the building envelope specialist, NCLOSE, Building Science LLC for \$38,185. The contract between BCHS and Langlas & Associates has been under review by MTSBA for quite some time and will hopefully be complete soon. Dan said Langlas has requested him to pre-qualify sub-contractors for the window fix, specifically for the bent metal, which would save some time.

For his Superintendent report, Mr. Patterson highlighted recent staff achievements where Kim Konen was recognized by MSU and Jordan Plutt was named the MHSA Class A drama coach of the year. Caleb Igo was there to speak about his recent trip to the state FFA convention. He took 27 students who all represented very well. They were selected as the top Ag program in the state by the Ag teachers. They were also selected as the Montana representative to attend the Catalyst Conference in Indianapolis June 18-21 that is paid for except for expenses to get there.

Superintendent Patterson also congratulated Rex Whitworth on his retirement after 25 years as a Special Education paraprofessional, 23 at BCHS. Mr. Hankins mentioned that he does a great job and has worked with a lot of students

over the years. Mr. Patterson has also accepted letters of resignation from Bobbi Konen as head volleyball coach, Paige Paffhausen as JV girls' basketball coach and Mick Paffhausen as assistant football coach.

Additionally, there is a change to the 2026-27 academic calendar. The divisional basketball tournament has been moved up a week, so instead of Friday, March 5th with no school, it will be Friday, February 26th with no school.

Shaun Lenegar gave an update on the transportation department. Activity buses 98 and 99 have engines prone to failure and common breakdowns. They are past their life expectancy for travel buses and would cost around \$70,000 to replace an engine. Shaun would like to surplus out both and replace them with used Bluebirds. He has found one in Las Vegas that is included in the board packets and is looking for another similar one.

Mr. Patterson also went over the following policy and policy supplement updates: 1014FE (Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levy), 1014FE-F1 (Notice of Intent of Impose Increase in Levies form), 1111 (Election), 1310 (District Policy and Procedures) with option two, 1700 (Uniform Complaint Procedure), 2132 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 2162-P(2) (Section 504-Procedures), 3410 (Student Health), 3510 (School-Sponsored Activities) with option C, 3612 (School-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, Equipment, and Networks). Then the first reading of a new policy, 7220 (Title I Supplement Supplant).

Superintendent Patterson then covered his April schedule to date. Just today, we received our health insurance proposal from Ashley Willett at Mountainview Insurance. We received a 2.5% increase with Blue Cross and a 4.2% decrease with Pacific Source. He shared it with John Hansen, BFT union president who will share it at their meeting on Wednesday. Having this information puts us in a position for negotiations. Mr. Patterson is most interested in seeing a new activity matrix with flat rates.

For the Assistant Principal report, Mr. Hankins said the average daily attendance has gone up by one percentage point, up to 89.56%. For discipline and behavior, tardies didn't increase much but cell phones did increase a little. The seniors would like to request a trip to Idaho Falls to Chik-fil-a, the trampoline park and either the zoo or aquarium. It would be the Wednesday prior to graduation. He said graduation is ready, except maybe a couple seniors to make sure they will join us.

Mr. Myllymaki reported that spring sports are in full swing: track has 31 boys and 22 girls, tennis has 11 boys and 16 girls, softball has 23 girls and baseball has 26 boys. Band and choir are getting ready for the District Music Festival in Deer Lodge on April 16-18 and then the State Music Festival will be in Helena on May 1-2. We hosted our first home softball game this past Friday and enjoyed every type of weather possible. Phil commented that a state basketball bus driver, Jean Bergeson, sent high praise towards Mr. Myllymaki for how he handled the bad weather and having to stay an extra night with expediency, tremendous organization and swift action. Gary echoed the praise on what a good job he has done and thanked Shaun and his bus drivers as well.

Consent Agenda

Roxanne made a motion to approve Christina Rouse as the Guidance Counselor for the 2026-27 school year. Phil seconded and it passed 7-0.

Cole moved to approve the list of classified staff for the 2026-27 school year: CharRae Applegate, Jack Bergeson, John Campbell, Taralyn DeCock, Audra Ferris, Carlos Fuentes, Shaun Lenegar, Chellie Matson, Haley McDonald, Ken Parmely and Paul Tikalsky. Mike seconded and it passed 7-0.

Action Agenda

Roxanne moved to approve the A1A construction contract with Langlas and Associates, as GCCM and In2itive Architecture, as Architect, for the ASIT building repair. As is, if MTSBA approves it, or with MTSBA's suggestions and revisions allowing Mr. Patterson, Dan and Gary to approve those. Phil seconded and it passed 7-0. Dan did clarify that the final value will be decided at a later date.

Roxanne made a motion to approve the hiring of the building envelope consultant, NCLOSE, Building Science LLC, as recommended by Owner's Representative, Dan McGee not to exceed \$38,185. Chris seconded and it passed 7-0.

Phil made a motion to approve the purchase of two used activity buses, one for \$78,500 and another TBD (hopefully \$80,000-\$90,000). Mike seconded and it passed 7-0.

Cole made a motion to approve a \$5.00 per hour raise for adult education instructors (an increase from \$25 to \$30 per hour). Chris seconded and it passed 7-0.

Roxanne made a motion to approve the change to the 2026-27 BCHS academic calendar. Lori seconded and it passed 7-0.

Phil moved to approve the senior trip to Idaho Falls, Idaho. Lori seconded and it passed 7-0.

Mike made a motion to approve the FFA summer trips to Indianapolis, Indiana and Moscow, Idaho. Cole seconded and it passed 7-0.

Phil moved to approve the first and final reading of the following policy and policy supplement updates: 1014FE (Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levy), 1014FE-F1 (Notice of Intent of Impose Increase in Levies form), 1111 (Election), 1310 (District Policy and Procedures) with option two, 1700 (Uniform Complaint Procedure), 2132 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 2162-P(2) (Section 504-Procedures), 3410 (Student Health), 3510 (School-Sponsored Activities) with option C, 3612 (School- Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, Equipment, and Networks). Then the first reading of a new policy, 7220 (Title I Supplement Supplant). Roxanne seconded and it passed 7-0.

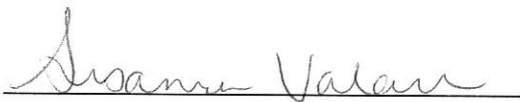
The Board went into executive session at 8:40 pm to review litigation issues against the district.

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:25 pm. Chairman Love said that pending litigation was discussed in executive session.

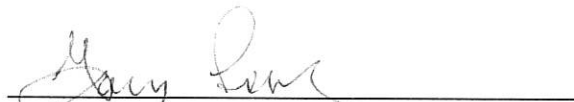
Lori moved to approve the minutes from the closed session. Chris seconded and it passed unanimously, 7-0.

The next board meeting will be moved to Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Phil seconded and it passed, 7-0.



Clerk



Board Chair