

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 27, 2024

1. OPENING ITEMS

- A. The regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 was called to order at 7:00 PM, March 27, 2024 by Trustee Ken Faunce, Chair, pursuant to Idaho Code Sections 33-506 and 33-510. The meeting was held Russell Elementary, 119 N Adams St., Moscow, Idaho, and broadcasted live via YouTube.
- B. A quorum of the Board was determined, and trustees present were Ken Faunce, Chair, Zone 2, Brian Kennedy, Vice-Chair, Zone 5, Jim Frenzel, Zone 1, Dulce Kersting-Lark, Zone 3, and Dawna Fazio, Zone 4. Staff members present were Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, Angie Packard, Board Clerk, Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager, Butch Fealy, Operations Director, and Carrie Brooks, Curriculum Director. There were seventy-six (76) viewers online and thirty-seven (37) patrons in attendance at the physical location.
- C. The agenda was amended as follows: under Presentation: add – Presentation: Reduction in Force (RIF) - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent and under Action Items: remove Item C: Reduction in Force (RIF) – Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent. The amended agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- D. The following minutes were presented for approval: February 28, 2024 Revised Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting.

RESOLUTION 24-28

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the minutes from the February 28, 2024 Revised Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting.

Trustee Frenzel moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-28, seconded by Trustee Kennedy. The motion carried 5-0-0.

2. FEE INCREASE HEARING

- A. Proposed Fee Increases for Adventure Club - Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager, reviewed the proposed changes to the fees to Adventure Club. As these fees are more than a 5% increase a public hearing is required to receive public testimony on these proposed increases. Discussion on how the program is self-sufficient and this increase will help keep the program viable.

3. INFORMATION

- A. Good News, Announcements, or Presentations
PRESENTATIONS:

1. Marianne Sletteland, Russell Elementary Principal. Supt. Tiegs briefly introduced Ms. Sletteland. Marianne went through her PowerPoint presentation about the “Ram Fam.”
2. Reduction in Force (RIF) – Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, presented a PowerPoint regarding the elimination of a need for a reduction in force (RIF.) He went through the original proposal that was impacting elementary only. He then went over the new proposal and how he got to it after discussion with MEA and the administrative staff. He also spoke on what could occur regardless of what the Board decides. Reviewed current numbers, classroom balancing, and administrative changes.

GOOD NEWS:

1. Earlier this month, MMS 6th grade Social Studies classes got to participate in a Model UN simulation called CubMUN which is guided by the high school Model UN club. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about real work issues while engaging in authentic problem-solving. The high school volunteers enrich their own educational experience and get a chance to teach and engage with the younger students. CubMUN is in its 8th year and is student-developed

and student-run. Shout out to Luisa Graden, MHS '16, Yale '20, and Harvard Law '26, for being a senior with a vision all those years ago.

2. Teams of 5th grade students from Russell, McDonald, and Lena Whitmore attended IDX at Potlatch before spring break. Students from Lena Whitmore whose project was a design and build that would slow down the rate that a dog eats competed against 13 teams from across North Idaho and took home the 2nd place award and the coveted Student Choice Award, resulting in \$550 in cash prizes and new filament for their program.
3. Congratulations to Levi Anderson, Moscow baseball, who was voted the Prep Athlete of the Week for March 15, 2024.
4. Congratulations to Rowan Thomas, Lena Whitmore 4th grader, who placed second in the 38th annual Inland Northwest Regional Spelling Bee. Trustee Fazio mentioned that Austin Hull, 4th grade at McDonald and Caitlin Dowd, 4th grade at Russell also participated in the spelling bee.
5. Congratulations to Ruby Claire Johnson Leung, MHS junior, who was named the District Championship Dean's List Semi-Finalist for the Sundome Event. She is the Lead Robot CAD Designer, Co-Lead Mechanical Student, Drive Team Coach, and Lead Business Student on the SciBorg team. Ruby Claire will continue onto the PNW Championships in Portland in early April to compete for this highest honor a FIRST student can achieve. The Dean's List Award recognizes the leadership and dedication of the most outstanding secondary school students from FIRST.
6. Congratulations to the following Moscow Athletes who have been selected as finalists for the North Idaho Athletic Hall of Fame Awards:
 - Megan Highfill – Softball
 - Levin Anderson – Baseball
 - Dylan Rehder – Track
 - Chase Lovell – Golf
 - Jack Driskill – Football
 - Ian Hillman – Basketball
 - McKenna Knott - Female Athlete of the Year
 - Tyson Izzo - Male Athlete of the Year
 - Connor Isakson - Male Athlete of the Year
7. Congratulations to Bryden Brown, MHS alumni, currently attending LCSC, who earned an individual title in a golf playoff, and for the second week in a row, was voted the Cascade Conference Rize Laboratory Men's Golfer of the Week.
8. This year, Idaho will send two delegates to the National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) as part of a cohort representing the highest levels of academic achievement in science and mathematics. One of those delegates is Geneva McClory, a senior at MHS. She will travel to the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia (the camp has been held here since 1963.) From June 29 to July 20, NYSC delegates will engage with industry professionals, conduct in-depth experiments, meet with congressional members, tour museums, and more.
9. Some students at MMS recently spent a day at SEL, where they engaged in hands-on engineering activities like designing a digital backpack. Professional engineers answered student questions during lunch, and students brainstormed interactive discovery cubes to end the day. Thanks to Ms. Sell for making this happen and accompanying our student scientists.
10. Congratulations to the following MHS students who were presented with the student recognition award "Most Improved in Academics, Attendance, and/or Attitude:"
 - 9th grade: Anthony Poulsen & Sylvia Pierce-Garnett
 - 10th grade: Kyle Gottschalk & Aaron Eiselein Thornberry
 - 11th grade: Addison Carpenter & Jenavy Zaragoza
 - 12th grade: Alexander Thrall & Spencer Kilborn

B. Public Comments - none

C. Directors' Reports

1. Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager, shared the following:
 - Attended the national Skyward ICON conference last month. It was a very good conference.
 - Completed the E-rate CAT 1 (Internet) and CAT 2 (Managed Services) renewals as well as submitted our request for a CAT 2 Basic Maintenance and Internal Connections.
 - Beginning the original budget process and preparing for upcoming interest-based bargaining.
 - ESSER III committee received requests to purchase a laptop for our ASL interpreter to support our deaf/hard of hearing students district wide and our 18-21 Vandal Quest program and a classroom set of iPads to be used at WP to access testing on iStation, Edmark and other fine motor skill apps for our students with disabilities
 2. Butch Fealy, Operations Director, shared the following:
 - Building and Grounds: Many small projects are going on around the district including the track project which includes new a new outlet for timing system and finish line display. One boiler has been removed at McDonald which will help us get started on the on the Trane HVAC project. The other boiler will come out once we are fully into spring weather.
 - Food Service: State Nutrition Review was on Monday and Tuesday of this week and focused on West Park Elementary and Paradise Creek Regional High School. Summer Meal Program will have a mobile component this summer, meals will be transported around town
 - Transportation: Hired two bus drivers that are currently getting their CDL license, and both should be ready to start driving in mid to late April. Late March and April are the busiest months for trips for the department so having extra bus drivers ready will help reduce the workload.
 - Technology: Wrapping up our E-Rate cycle. We are looking to replace some switches and battery backup. Security grant installation is happening. Added cameras to Moscow Middle School and Moscow High School, have IP Clocks in at PCR and new access doors going in at Moscow Middle School and Lena Whitmore next week.
 3. Carrie Brooks, Curriculum Director, shared the following
 - ISAT proctor training has begun and MHS and Russell Elementary have begun ISAT testing.
 - All Adoption materials for Social Studies have arrived and some PE materials have been received with the majority yet to come.
 - Science adoption is up for next year and the conversation has already begun.
 4. Butch thanked Russell 5th grade student, Logan, who was present, for his help setting up the room for the board meeting.
- D. Superintendent's Report – Shawn Tiegs
1. Moscow Middle School Principal Search Update – this will take place on April 1.
 2. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy Work and Update – Jennifer Lynn has been working on this task per Shawn's direction.
 3. Legislative Update/Discussion – shared what is happening in the legislative discussion and the bills that will directly affect public education.
 4. Harmony Change – updated the Board on the changes to the Harmony Committee.
 5. Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB) Updates – meeting for the first time tomorrow, March 28th.

Trustee Kersting-Lark addressed the AI policy that is in the works and about the enhanced ability to represent a person that has been created to seem real. She also addressed the voucher bill that is being considered.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Continuing the Discussion on Facilities - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, gave an overall update on facilities. He noted that the polling he mention early this month for high school students and their families will go out this week or early next week. Information looking to gather is student movement patterns and what they are interested in for career/technical education opportunities.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Proposed Fee Increases for Adventure Club - Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager, stated that a hearing was held earlier this evening on the proposed increase to Adventure Club fees. After a hearing, the Board must then consider whether to approve the increase.

RESOLUTION 24-29

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281, having held a public hearing as required by law, hereby approves the proposed fee increases for Adventure Club, effective June 10, 2024.

Trustee Kennedy moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-29, seconded by Trustee Kersting-Lark. Trustee Kersting-Lark commended those who are working hard to keep this a viable program for children. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- B. Facility Recommendation: Closing Russell Elementary - Superintendent Shawn Tiegs said he is recommending the closure of Russell. There is a lot of challenges to getting Russell in good operating condition. He noted that this recommendation was quicker that he thought would happen and believes it is in the best interest of the district. By closing Russell, this will free up resources for the students. Also addressed the bond challenges and that a high school / elementary remodel would be a large amount to get passed. There are a lot of challenges taking care of the buildings we currently have. The other three elementary schools have the space to absorb the students from Russell.

After Shawn presented his recommendation, the Board then discussed and shared their viewpoints on the recommendation.

RESOLUTION 24-30

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the permanent closing of the Russell Elementary school building at the end of the 2023/24 school year.

Trustee Frenzel moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-30, seconded by Trustee Fazio. Discussion on the permanency of closing the building, how this might affect the use of the building and the cost of operating the building. The motion carried 5-0-0. Trustee Faunce thanked everyone for their input and encourages everyone to continue to give their input and continue to come to the board meetings. Trustee Kersting-Lark encouraged everyone to continue to share feedback via emails also.

- C. Second Reading: Job Description - Prevention Coordinator - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, stated this is the second reading for this job description. This is a combination of two positions.

RESOLUTION 24-31

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the revisions to the job description for Prevention/Mentor Coordinator.

Trustee Kennedy moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-31, seconded by Trustee Kersting-Lark. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- D. Second Reading: Job Description - Adventure Club Director - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, stated this is the second reading for this job description. No further revisions have been made.

RESOLUTION 24-32

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the revisions to the job description for Adventure Club Director.

Trustee Kersting-Lark moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-32, seconded by Trustee Frenzel. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- E. Job Description - Adventure Club Intern - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, stated that this isn't a new position, just a small edit using the Adventure Club Group Leader job description. The need for this job description is to work with the internship program with WSU. This is just another way to get more personnel to work within Adventure Club.

RESOLUTION 24-33

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the adaptations for a new job description for an Adventure Club Intern.

Trustee Fazio moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-33, seconded by Trustee Kersting-Lark. There was some discussion on the need for this change and what an intern would do. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- F. Request for Unpaid Leave of Absence: Jillian Ochoa - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, stated that Jillian Ochoa is requesting an unpaid leave of absence for the remainder of the 2023/25 school year.

RESOLUTION 24-34

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the request for an unpaid leave of absence for Jillian Ochoa from May 4 - June 7, 2024.

Trustee Frenzel moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-34, seconded by Trustee Fazio. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- G. Request for Leave of Absence: Ashley Walker - Shawn Tiegs, Superintendent, stated that this request was received and recommends approval.

RESOLUTION 24-35

RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves the request for a leave of absence for Ashley Walker for the 2024/25 school year and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a letter of intent to return for the 2025-2026 school year must be provided to the Superintendent by March 1, 2025.

Trustee Kennedy moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-35, seconded by Trustee Kersting-Lark. The motion carried 5-0-0.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Robert's Rules, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Board by a single motion. Items listed under the consent agenda have gone through Board subcommittee review and recommendation. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member and added to the end of the agenda.

RESOLUTION 24-36

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Moscow School District No. 281 hereby approves all items listed under the Consent Agenda as presented.

Trustee Kersting-Lark moved that the Board approve Resolution 24-36, seconded by Trustee Frenzel. The motion carried 5-0-0.

A. Fiscal Services – Board Audit of February 2024 Expenditures

Payroll, Net Payroll	\$1,133,508.01
Payroll Withholdings: Benefits / Federal Tax / State Tax	\$1,043,014.76
Accounts Payable, Bill List	\$ 676,893.88
TOTAL BILLS and PAYROLL	\$2,853,416.65

B. Donations – none.

C. Human Resources

1. Certified

Hires

Eschen, Cassandra, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, 1.0 FTE, Category 2, effective 3/29/24

Eschen, Cassandra, Speech Language Pathologist, ESY Program, effective 6/17/24

Willis, James, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, 1.0 FTE, Category 2, effective 8/21/24

Attended New Certified Staff Training Outside of Contract Hours

Kirby, Allison, Teacher, PE/Health, MHS, \$31.25

Reisenauer, Sarah, Teacher, Ag Science, MHS, \$31.25

Richards, Brandon, Teacher, Math, MMS, \$31.25

Sell, Belinda, Teacher, Science, MMS, \$31.25

Incentive for Early Notice of Resignation/Retirement prior to March 1st

Mead, Kris, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, \$300

Nelson, Hannah, Teacher, English, MMS, \$300

Stefani, Kathy, Teacher, Music, McDonald, \$300

Wasko, Myrle, Teacher, Special Education, MHS, \$300

Miscellaneous

Johnson, Milton, Teacher, Math, MHS, Learning Lunch Coordinator, January, \$200

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements/Other

Mead, Kris, Speech Language Pathologist, District Wide, effective 6/7/24

Nelson, Hannah, Teacher, English, MMS, effective

Stefani, Kathy, Teacher, Music, McDonald, effective 6/7/24

Wasko, Myrle, Teacher, Special Education, MHS, effective 6/7/24

2. Classified

Hires/Rehires

Brown, Alexandra, Site Supervisor, Adventure Club, effective 4/1/24

Merk, Brandon, Site Supervisor, Adventure Club, effective 4/1/24

Miller, Marie, Relief Driver, Transportation, effective 3/18/24

Sarkkinen, Gustaf, Relief Driver, Transportation, effective 3/21/24

Sivula, Joe, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 3/5/24

Stipends

McDonald, Kyle, Bus Driver, Transportation, sign on bonus without CDL, first half, \$125

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements/Other

Godbey, Deborah, Instructional Assistant Paraprofessional, Russell, effective 3/4/24

McCusker, Dawn, Instructional Assistant Paraprofessional, MMS, effective 6/5/24

Rodriguez, Tatyana, Instructional Assistant Paraprofessional, MHS, effective 3/8/24

Sivula, Joe, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective 2/29/24

Weaver, Paige, Instructional Assistant Paraprofessional, MMS, effective 3/8/24

3. Extracurricular

Coleman, Kyle, Assistant Track Coach, MMS, effective 3/18/24

Hamma, Lance, Head Swim Coach, MMS, effective 4/8/24

Hansen, Lauren, Assistant Track Coach, MMS, effective 3/18/24

Richards, Brandon, Assistant Track Coach, MMS, effective 3/18/24

Ruspakka, Shelly, Transfer from JV Swim Coach to Head Swim Coach, MHS, effective 8/12/24

Trevino, Nicholas, Assistant Track Coach, MMS, effective 3/18/24

Volunteers

Shutte, Cody, Track, MMS, effective 3/21/24

D. Disposal for Surplus Equipment Valued Under \$500

Surplus – will be placed on the District’s Auction Site

Quantity	Item/Description	Estimated Value
40/pair	In-line skates	\$10/pair

7. SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A. Molly Hierschbiel, Para at Russell, commented on how much she appreciates the board and the superintendent for their willingness to listen to and hear their concerns and how hard they work. Also encouraged patrons to attend the board meetings.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.