

School Board Meeting Minutes

Hot Springs School

3/12/2025 7:00 PM



@ High School Library


Attendance

Present:

Members: Gerald Chouinard, Jennifer Christensen, Mandie DePoe, Ricky DePoe, Lynette Ek, Carmen Jackson, Julie White



Guests: Michele Bangen, Alan Shafer, Brady Ovitt, Kara Christensen, Steve Love, Adam & Joanne Burke, Justin Silva, Tara Key, Hollis Key, and Georgia Uski

1. CALL TO ORDER (7:00 pm)
 - 1.1. Roll Call
 - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.3. Trustee Explanation of Procedures
 - 1.4. Public Participation
 - 1.5. Correspondence
 -  [FY26 MTOA AWARD.pdf](#)
 -  [Request Letter from Association.pdf](#)

2. Approve/Disapprove of Minutes
 - 2.1. February 12, 2025
 -  [Minutes 2-12-2025.pdf](#)

Approval of February 12, 2025 Minutes:

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Julie White.
Passed

3. Warrant's Report
 - 3.1. Approval of Claim Warrants
 -  [2-25 CLAIMS.pdf](#)
 -  [CLAIM AS OF 3-11-25.pdf](#)

Approval of Claim Warrants #20729 - 20811 and ACH Payments (\$182,537.85):

Motion moved by Lynette Ek and motion seconded by Julie White. Passed

- 3.2. Approval of Payroll Warrants

 [3-6 PAYROLL.pdf](#)

Approval of Payroll Warrants #44015 - 44029 and ACH Payments (\$165,897.97):

Motion moved by Mandie DePoe and motion seconded by Jennifer Christensen.
Passed

3.3. Approval of Extracurricular Activity Checks

 [FEBRUARY EXTRACURRICULAR REPORT.pdf](#)

Approval of February Extracurricular Activity Checks:

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Lynette Ek.
Passed

4. Reports/Discussion/Information

4.1. Maintenance Report (5 minute report)

- Placed "No Parking" Signs
- Exit sign replacements in progress
- Removed temporary safety fence from the elementary playground
- Removed all ice dams from building roofs
- Projects:
 - Elementary Bathrooms - replace fixtures and plumbing
 - High School Boiler
 - New gym porcelain replacements
 - Gutters & eaves
 - Water testing for DEQ

4.2. Superintendent Report (5 minute report)

 [3-12-2025-Superintendent's Report.pdf](#)

 [3.12.25 Hot Springs In-Person Visit.pdf](#)

4.3. Athletic Director Report (5 minute report)

 [March 3 12 2025 Board Meeting.pdf](#)

4.4. Budget Review

 [2-25 GENERAL FUND BUDGET VS ACTUAL.pdf](#)

 [2-25 Board Fund Review.pdf](#)

5. New Business

5.1. Montana Youth Challenge - Steve Love

5.2. Recommend to Approve/Disapprove 2025-2026 & 2026-2027 School Calendars

 [2025-2026 PROPOSED CALENDAR.pdf](#)

 [2026-2027 PROPOSED CALENDAR.pdf](#)

Approve 2025-2026 Proposed Calendar:

Trustee Ek brought up the 2022 survey, which showed that parents preferred a Labor Day start date. Why are the parents not being taken into consideration? Mr. Chouinard stated that this is the calendar committee that met and agreed to these calendars. If the Board does not wish to approve this calendar, it will be returned to the committee for reconsideration. A new survey will be conducted for community, student, and parental comments.

Motion moved by Mandie DePoe and motion seconded by Jennifer Christensen.
Failed

Oppose 2026-2027 Proposed Calendar :

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Lynette Ek.
Passed

- 5.3. Recommend to Approve or Disapprove Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levies Resolution

 [Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies.pdf](#)

Approve Resolution of Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levies:

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Julie White.
Passed

- 5.4. Recommend to Approve/Disapprove Resolution 2025-1 Disposition of Abandoned, Obsolete and Undesirable Property

 [2025-1 resolution - declaration of obsolete-buses.pdf](#)

Approval of Resolution 2025-1 Disposition of Abandoned, Obsolete, and Undesirable Property:

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Julie White.
Passed

- 5.5. Summer Drivers Education - Information Only

Adam Burke introduced himself to the board and outlined the general structure of the driver's education class he would conduct this summer. The class is scheduled to start around June 15th, with sessions being held in the morning. Drive time would be split into two two-hour groups, except for one trip to Missoula. An approximate end date would be July 30th. He will have a complete schedule for approval at the April Board meeting.
There are 15 students whose parents are interested in enrolling their child in the class, three of which are from Plains. The maximum class size is 18 students.

6. Old Business

7. April Agenda Items

8. Adjourn

Motion:

Motion moved by Jennifer Christensen and motion seconded by Mandie DePoe. Passed