

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Brockton School District Office
Tuesday, January 21, 2025
5:30 p.m.

Present: Board Chair Sammy Nygard, Trustee Olivia Johnson, Trustee Rae Jean Belgarde, Trustee Terry Rattling Thunder

Absent: Trustee Wilfred Lambert

Also Present: Beth Ketcher, Superintendent Josh Patterson, Principal Evan Cummins, District Clerk Cheri' Nygard, Activities Director Emerson Young,

1. CALL TO ORDER – SALUTE TO FLAG

Chairman Sammy Nygard called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the time for comment on public matters that are not on the agenda. Members of the audience are encouraged to briefly address the trustees on an issue that is not on the agenda. The Chair of the Board will seek comments from the audience on significant items as they occur. Public matters do not include any pending legal matters, private personnel issues or private student issues. Please do not attempt to address such issues at this time or you will be ruled out of order.

2A Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment on items not on the agenda.

3. REPORTS – Information

3A Principal Report – Evan Cummins

Mr. Cummins reviewed attendance, discipline and events this month and next.

3B Athletic Director Report – Emerson Young

Mr. Young handed out his report to the board and reported on basketball, cheerleading, the MHSAA Annual Meeting, and the Summer Class C meeting.

Rae Jean Belgarde left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

3C Superintendent Report – Josh Patterson

Mr. Patterson reported on the main entrance progress, kitchen walk-in cooler completion, activity bus graphic wrap, school trailblazer, impact aid application progress and his January 2025 schedule.

Terry Rattling Thunder here at 5:51 p.m. and Rae Jean Belgarde back at 5:52 p.m.

4. CONSENT ITEMS – Board Action

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to approve the December 16, 2024 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to approve the Elementary and High School Districts #55-55F Warrants and Claims as presented. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to approve the student accounts financial report for November 2024. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

8. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON RECOMMENDATION FOR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEE–EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION POSSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-3-203(3), MCA.

It was determined that the matter of individual privacy is involved and Chairman Nygard closed the meeting for an executive session at 5:57 p.m.

Chairman Nygard called the meeting back to order at 6:34 p.m. No action was taken.

11. RECONSIDER APPROVAL FOR FORT PECK TRIBAL DIABETES PROGRAM TO PERFORM SCREENINGS

The district received a request from the Fort Peck Tribal Diabetes Program to access the school system during the school year(s) starting Fall of 2025 to perform student health screenings.

Sidney Gourneau and Mary Follett were present to discuss the request. All of the data is sent to Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders who will provide funding to put towards our youth. The data collection is once a year. The consent is good for one year and students will be able to participate in any event hosted by their program. They would like to collect consent forms at the beginning of the school year.

Motion: Made by Mr. Belgarde and seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the Fort Peck Tribal Diabetes Program to send out consent forms and be able to access the school system during the school year(s) starting Fall of 2025 to perform student health screenings. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

7. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION REGARDING EARLY GRADUATION REQUEST – EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION POSSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-3-203(3), MCA.

The Board of Trustees considered whether or not to allow an early graduation request for a student. It was determined that the matter of individual privacy is involved and Chairman Nygard closed the meeting for an executive session at 6:46 p.m.

Chairman Nygard called the meeting back to order at 6:51 p.m.

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to approve the early graduation request for the student with the stipulation that the student will not be qualified to be valedictorian or salutatorian. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

5. PERSONNEL – RETIREMENTS, RESIGNATIONS, & HIRES

5A Resignations

The following resignations were accepted by Superintendent Patterson:

Natalie Red Eagle

Paraprofessional – 09/20/2024

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to acknowledge the resignation of Natalie Red Eagle. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

5B Hires – Classified Staff

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to hire Ivey Lambert as Elementary Paraprofessional pending successful background check. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SENIOR CLASS TRIP REQUEST

Senior Class Advisor, Beth Ketcher, presented the senior class trip for approval. The Seniors have raised over \$10,000 to date and plan to travel to Minneapolis, Minnesota. They have contacted the bus driver, Jim Dahlberg, and asked to travel the week of April 6. There will be around 10 students participating.

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to approve the senior class to travel to Minneapolis, Minnesota for the Senior Class Trip. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

9. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF 'PAYROLL ADVANCE POLICY 5338'

The board approved a payroll advance policy at the November 12, 2024 board meeting and Superintendent Patterson recommends to add it to the policy manual as 'Policy 5338: Payroll Advances' with the following language:

Full-time employees who have served past their 90 day probationary period are eligible to request a payroll advance. Payroll advances will only be considered for the following special occasions: funerals for immediate family members, serious family illness within the immediate family, Senior graduation, the Native American Classic tournament, and District/Divisional/State tournaments. Payroll advances will be capped at up to a maximum of \$700 per occasion and must be paid back entirely at the next regularly scheduled pay period. All payroll advance requests must be pre-approved by the Superintendent.

Motion: Made by Ms. Belgarde and seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the payroll advance policy as presented. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

10. RECONSIDER AMENDING 'PROCEDURE 2410-P(1): HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS'

Superintendent Patterson recommended the board approve the following amended language for Procedure 2410-P(1)

The Brockton School District #55F permits the awarding of a Brockton High School diploma and participation in the Senior Graduation Ceremony to any Brockton High School/MYCA student who meets the following criteria: 1) Be 16 years of age or older, 2) Completes the Montana Youth Challenge Academy program of study, 3) Passes the HiSET exam before the date of the Senior Class Graduation Ceremony, 4) Must have a minimum of 20 credits in accordance with ARM 10.55.905.

Motion: Made by Ms. Belgarde and seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve the policy as presented. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

12. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF PROPERTY WITH A 3 BEDROOM HOUSE & SHOP – 10 MILES NORTH BROCKTON

There was discussion about the possibility of purchasing a property 10 miles north of Brockton for teacher and staff housing. Superintendent Patterson recommended the board wait until the end of the year to see where we are at with finances. No action was taken.

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING AGREEMENT FOR BUS DRIVER'S

Administration recommended the board approve an agreement with RDT Services, LLC (Karla/Kaleb Fisher) to administer Brockton School District's drug and alcohol testing program for all bus drivers.

Motion: Made by Mr. Belgarde and seconded by Ms. Johnson to approve a contract with RDT Services, LLC to administer the DOT Drug testing program. No further discussions.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

14. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION REGARDING VISITOR AND SPECTATOR CONDUCT- EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION POSSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-3-203(3), MCA.

It was determined that the matter of individual privacy is involved and Chairman Nygard closed the meeting for an executive session at 7:05 p.m.

Chairman Nygard called the meeting back to order at 7:15 p.m.

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Belgarde to ban Marissa Iron Leggins from the property for any and all activities for the remainder of the school year and to require her to meet with the board before the ban is lifted. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

15. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION – EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION POSSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-3-203(3), MCA.

It was determined that the matter of individual privacy is involved and Chairman Nygard closed the meeting for an executive session at 7:16 p.m.

Chairman Nygard called the meeting was called back to order at 7:38 p.m. and no action was taken.

16. ADJOURN

Motion: Made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Rattling Thunder to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. No further discussion.

Vote: Four for, none opposed. Motion carried.

ATTEST:



Sammy Nygard, Board Chair



Cheri' Nygard, District Clerk