

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SD #58 YELLOWSTONE COUNTY  
BILLINGS, MT 59106

January 20, 2014

Chair John Dailey called the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

PRESENT: John Dailey, James Holliday, Chelsea Mandler, Superintendent Mike Sullivan, Principal Keith Tresch, and Roger Heimbigner. Member absent: none. A quorum was present.

GUESTS: Pat Montgomery and Cindy Himmelspach.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

**ADD AGENDA ITEM** None

**HEARING OF  
INDIVIDUALS/  
CORRESPONDENCE** None

**OLD BUSINESS** **Approve Minutes/Bills**

Correction was made to minutes of Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> as start time was 8:30 a.m. A motion was made by Chelsea Mandler seconded by James Holliday to approve the minutes of December 16<sup>th</sup> and December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

The board discussed per diem, replacement of aides, and taking advantage of educational discount for Windows. James Holliday discussed briefly YBGR's goal of building reserves and capital investments using foundation dollars. Roger Heimbigner updated the board on the status of the budget and ending cash reserves based on today's enrollment and projected revenues through the end of the year. Chelsey Mandler moved, seconded by James Holliday to approve the bills for payment. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS** **Items for Action**

**Hire New Equestrian Program Specialist**

Supt. Sullivan stated that Kim Schwarm is moving into an open aide position and he is recommending the hire of a certified equestrian to fill the now open position. This position is not a

certified teaching position but would be a contracted position as a specialist. Supt. Sullivan recommended hiring Whitney Hawk at \$14.00 per hour to fill this position. Chelsea Mandler moved, seconded by James Holliday to approve Whitney Hawk as the Equestrian Program Specialist. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Superintendent Report**

Supt. Sullivan presented to the board on the EBO goals for the administration and the progress of those goals to date. Goals and progress are as follows:

#### EBO Goals:

#### **YA Leadership will meet with local district officials to promote YA programs:**

##### Districts visited to date:

Red Lodge Schools, Columbus Schools, Laurel Schools, Lockwood Schools, Huntley Project Schools, Shepherd Schools, Blue Creek Schools, Canyon Creek Schools, Absorakee Schools, Bridger Schools.

##### Districts still needing to visit:

Independent Schools and Round Up Schools

#### **YA leadership will meet with School District 2 to discuss possible alternative HS at Garfield:**

Meeting is set up for Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> with the Special Education Director and the Coordinator of Special Education. All three of the Admin team will be in attendance.

#### **YA leadership will make presentations to service clubs and other organizations in Yellowstone County:**

In early September I made two presentations. One was to the YBGR Foundation and the other was for the AdvancedEd Conference in Bozeman. To date I have not presented to any local service clubs. I have contacted the West End Exchange Club and asked to be placed on a future agenda, and will work to get on the Downtown Exchange's agenda as well.

#### **YA leadership will join local service club(s):**

Have not met this goal yet.

#### **Leadership at YA will build stronger relationships with local school districts and increase the day school population by 10% from the September 1st enrollment count:**

September 2013	41
January 20, 2014	43

**YA will establish a partnership with CBS/SBMH to implement Day Treatment classrooms for all Day School Youth.**

We are VERY happy to report that all four of the day treatment teams have been staffed and the bugs are being worked out. There are still unanswered questions about the costs associated with an unfunded youth. Currently, all of our kids are placed from sending districts and FAPE may come into question if we try to charge the families and/or their insurance companies.

**YA will engage local districts in a discussion to establish ESY/Summer School as a mandatory part of placement.**

Discussions have begun. Some districts have voiced support, however the ESY model is deep in academic history and a few districts are hesitant to make the change.

**YA Leadership will review and revise all policies to ensure compliance with State and Federal guidelines.**

**YA Leadership will meet with YBGR Human Resource department to evaluate and align the two agencies' policies.**

Rachelle and I have met and are in the process of alignment. The goal is not to create a new set of policies, but to be sure YA policies include any non-negotiable policies that the Ranch must have in place.

**Conduct weekly trainings for all YA staff to build emotional, behavioral and academic competencies.**

In Progress (Continually changing on needs and assessment)

**Educate staff on research-based best practice models of educational delivery.**

In Progress (Currently the focus is the new State standardized assessment)

**YA Leadership will connect with MSU-B School of Education to establish better communication and opportunities for collaboration between the two entities.**

A contact has been made with Greg Allard from the Special Education Department at MSU-B. I am waiting to hear back on a meeting with his staff and the Admin team.

**YA Leadership will develop a staff satisfaction/needs survey to better understand staff's satisfaction and needs.**

Have not yet started on this goal.

Chairman John Dailey discussed adding the goals pertaining to using Evolve for tracking, finding fundraising ideas, telemed

practices for IEPs and distance learning, and a character development piece.

### **Trustee Reports**

### **Executive Session**

Chairman John Dailey stated “I have determined that the next matter to come before the board for consideration involves a legal matter. Further, the demands of individual privacy in this matter clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure. Therefore, I am declaring this portion of the meeting closed in accordance with Section 2-3-203(3) MCA”.

### **Open Session**

No action taken.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Chelsea Mandler, seconded by James Holliday to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:** 5:18 p.m.

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John Dailey, Chairman

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Roger Heimbigner, Clerk