

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

September 17, 2025

Chair Michael Chandler called a regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 4:00p.m. on September 17, 2025. The meeting was held in the Board conference room.

PRESENT: Lacy Jones and Michael Chandler were present, with John Boeder via Zoom at call to order. New Trustee Appointment Eric Spelhaug was also present at call to order. Superintendent Keith Tresch, Dwight Von Schriltz, Cass Cole and Business Manager/Clerk Laurie Hickethier were present.

GUESTS: Guest present was Lorelei Rosales.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

**HEARING OF
INDIVIDUALS/
CORRESPONDENCE**

None

APPROVE ADDITION

None

NEW BUSINESS

Items for Action

Approve Resignation Board Chair Michael Chandler

Michael Chandler announced that he has moved out of Yellowstone Academy District boundaries and will need to resign from the Board of Trustees. Lacey Jones motioned to approve the resignation of Chair Michael. Chandler, seconded by John Boeder. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Trustee Appointment – Eric Spelhaug

Lacey Jones motioned to approve Eric Spelhaug as a Trustee to fill the seat vacant with the resignation of Michael Chandler. Eric Spelhaug will be appointed to complete the 25-26 school year, with this seat being up for election in May 2026 for another 1-year term. Second to them motion was John Boeder, motion passed unanimously.

Business Manager Laurie Hickethier gave Eric Spelhaug his oath of office.

Reorganization of the Board

Supt. Tresch asked for nominations for Board Chair and Vice Chair. Lacey Jones nominated John Boeder as the Board Chair, no other nominations were made. Second from Eric Spelhaug, all members voting yes, John Boeder appointed to Board Chair.

Lacey Jones nominated Eric Spelhaug to serve as Vice Chair, no other nominations were made. Second from John Boeder, all members voting yes, Eric Spelhaug will serve as Vice Chair of the Board.

Approve Minutes for August 2025

A motion was made by Lacey Jones, seconded by Eric Spelhaug to approve the minutes of August 8, 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Bills for August 2025

A motion was made by Lacey Jones, seconded by Eric Spelhaug to approve the bills for August 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Option C Tuition Rate 25-26

Supt. Tresch presented the Option C Tuition Rate by OPI for School District #58's K-8 Day Treatment program has been approved at a daily rate of \$144.94. Yellowstone Academy is working hard to keep our expenses down and utilize the tuition money responsibly. With that in mind, Supt. Tresch would like to raise the K-8 daily rate from \$115 to \$125 per day and the 9-12 daily rate from \$120 to \$125 per day.

Lacey Jones motioned to approve the rate increase for the 25-26 school year as presented by Supt. Tresch. Second to the motion as Eric Spelhaug, motion passed unanimously.

Approve New Hires

Lacey Jones motioned to add Aszlyn Escobar to the new hire list for Sept 2025. Second to the motion was Eric Spelhaug, motion passed unanimously.

Supt. Tresch presented the following new hire to the board:

1. Rebecca Hoffbauer – currently has a teacher’s license from Florida
2. Deyshia Goodwin – Para
3. Aszlyn Escobar

Lacey Jones motioned to approve the above new hires. Second to the motion was Eric Spelhaug. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Resignations

Supt. Tresch presented the following resignations:

1. Jesse Kennedy - Para
2. Rebecca Sadowski - Para
3. CJ Johnson - Para

Lacey Jones motioned to approve the resignations. Second to the motion was Eric Spelhaug. Motion passed unanimously.

MTSBA Policy Updates

Supt. Tresch presented the following MTSBA Policy Updates:

1. Policy 2150: Suicide Awareness and Prevention
 - a. The district will provide on an annual basis professional development on youth suicide awareness and prevention to each employee of the district who work directly with any students enrolled in the school district. At a minimum, each employee of the district who works directly with students must receive 1 hour of youth suicide awareness and prevention training every 3 years.
2. Policy 2450 Indian Education for All
 - a. Working in consultation with Montana Tribes in close proximity to the District, when developing courses of study, when providing instruction, when implementing educational goals or adopting rules relating to the education of students in the district.
3. Policy 3310 Student Discipline
 - a. Exceptions: A student may not be subject to the disciplinary action for declining to: (a) identify the student’s pronouns; or (b) address a person by using a name other than the person’s legal name or a derivative of the person’s legal name or by using a pronoun or a title that is inconsistent with the person’s sex.
4. Policy 3416 Administering Medicines to Students

- a. “Medication” means a medicine, including inhaled bronchodilators, inhaled corticosteroids, and auto injectable epinephrine, and epinephrine nasal spray, prescribed by a licensed physician as defined in 37-3-102, a physician assistant who has been authorized to prescribe medications as provided in 37-20-404, or an advanced practice registered nurse with prescriptive authority as provided in 37-8-202(1)(h).
- b. The Board permits administration of medication to students in schools in its jurisdiction.
- c. A parent or guardian or individual who has executed a caretaker relative educational authorization affidavit has submitted a signed authorization for self-administration of medication, acknowledging that the District and its employees are not liable for injury resulting from the student self-administration of medication.
- d. A parent, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative educational authorization affidavit pursuant to 20-5-503, MCA, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative medical authorization affidavit pursuant to 40-6-502, MCA, or a guardian of a diabetic student may designate an adult to administer glucagon to their child in an emergency situation. Written proof of the designation and acceptance of the designation by the parent-designated adult must be filed with the school district.
- e. “Parent-designated adult” means a school district employee, selected by a parent, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative educational authorization affidavit pursuant to 20-5-503, MCA, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative medical authorization affidavit pursuant to 40-6-502, MCA, or a guardian of a diabetic student, who voluntarily agrees to administer glucagon to the student.
- f. The parent-designated adult must be trained in recognizing hypoglycemia and the proper method of administering glucagon. Training must be provided by a health care professional, as defined in 33-36-103, MCA, or a recognized expert in diabetic care selected by the parent, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative educational authorization affidavit, an individual who has executed a caretaker relative medical authorization affidavit, or a guardian. Written documentation of the training received by the parent-designated adult must be filed with the school district.

- [illegible]

Lacey Jones motioned to approve the above MTSBA Policy Updates. Second to the motion was Eric Spelhaug, motion passed unanimously.

Food Service – 3 Year Plan

Supt. Tresch presented the board with a draft Nutrition and Wellness Plan for Yellowstone Academy #58. Supt. Tresch will be reaching out to YBGR staff and Sodexo Food Service to revise the draft to incorporate into the Yellowstone Academy Food Service. This draft is a work in progress and will be brought to the board for final approval after the committee has met.

Superintendent Report

Supt. Tresch reported on the following:

- 1) Cognia Review – The executive summary is being finalized and will be ready to submit within the week. Please complete the survey submitted to staff, board and students if you have not done it yet.
- 2) Day Treatment Audit – The Mental Health Center Audit took place in May and June 2025. The results were good, and Yellowstone Academy received mostly all 1's.
- 3) Additional Secretary – Ashley Cardwell was hired at the last board meeting and a lot of cleanup has taken place since she was hired. Business Manager Hickethier is looking into a program, potentially Global Search – Square Nine – to work on getting records all digitally stored. More information on this will be brought to the board in the future.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Chair John Boeder called to adjourn. This meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. Next meeting is the scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

John Boeder, Board Chair

Laurie Hickethier, Clerk