

**The Bruneau-Grand View School District Mission**

**BGVSD will: provide a high quality education, prepare students for futures, enable students to be positive contributors to society.**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 365  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FEBRUARY 13, 2024-1:00PM  
RIMROCK JR. SR. HIGH ROOM 102  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 P.M. by Chairman Scott McNeley. Chairman McNeley welcomed patrons and led the pledge.

Board members present were:

Scott McNeley	Chairman
Allen Merrick	Vice Chairman
Steve Boren	Trustee
Gary Jones	Trustee
Raelynn Mathews	Trustee
Jeff Blaser	Superintendent
JayDene Aquiso	Clerk/Treasure

Clerk Aquiso confirmed a quorum was present.

**ACTION ITEMS I**

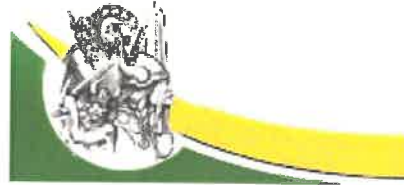
**A. Approve Agenda**

**Trustee Merrick made a motion with a second by Trustee Boren to approve the agenda, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

Vice Chairman Merrick abstained from discussion and voting on Action Items B and C.

**B. Approve Merrick Diesel Solutions bill**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Jones to approve the Merrick Diesel Solutions bill, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**



**C. Approve Ashley Merrick's paycheck**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Jones to approve Ashley Merrick's paycheck, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

Chairman McNeley abstained from discussion and voting on Action Items D.  
Vice Chairman Merrick took control of the meeting.

**D. Approve Kelli McNeley's paycheck**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Jones to approve Kellie McNeley's paycheck, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**  
**Chairman McNeley took back control of the meeting.**

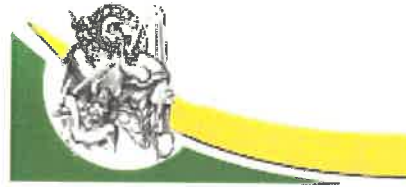
Trustee Boren abstained from discussion and voting on Action Item E.

**E. Approve Mandi Boren's paycheck**

**Trustee Jones made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to approve Mandi Boren's paycheck, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

**F. Consent Agenda**

- Approve minutes of January 9, 2024 regular meeting
- Approve Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Approve Bruneau Elementary, Grand View Elementary, and Rimrock Accounts
- Approve Senior Trip to Oregon Coast
- Approve Policies for Transportation  
8100,8103C,8105,8105P,8105F,8110,8115,8120,8120C,8130,8140,8140C8150,8160,8170,8170P,8190,8195
- Approve Resignations:
  1. Sydnie Huschle-Renk, Counselor as of May 24, 2024
  2. Jaylyn Etter, Title I Paraprofessional Bruneau Elementary
  3. Michelle Lehman, Rimrock Jr. Sr. High Math Teacher as of May 24, 2024
  4. Naya Bradshaw Jewett, Special Education Paraprofessional
- Approve Hires:
  - Joe Aquiso, Jr. High Boys Assistant Basketball
  - Amanda Dygert, Head High School Track
  - Melissa Raymond, Head Junior High Track



- Adam Eldridge-Baseball Coach
- TJ Gomez-Golf Coach
- Alyssa Rodriguez, Title I Paraprofessional Bruneau Elementary
- Makayla Carothers, Title I Paraprofessional Grand View Elementary

**Trustee Merrick made a motion with a second by Trustee Boren to approve the consent agenda, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

## **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

### **A. Elementary Principal Report - Alex Meyers**

#### **Elementary Data**

Scores and data shared by Mr. Meyers-they tested the 2nd week of December. Students are growing. Mr. Meyers is hoping to reach 80%. Chairman McNeley made a suggestion he would like to see a year to year graft to show progression. Wida testing is under way for our English Language Learner students, testing on speaking, reading and writing

#### **Upcoming Events**

February 12 -WIDA Access testing

February 14 - BES Valentine's Caroling

February 21 - Delta Dental at GVE

March 8 - Professional Development

Employee Recognition-Kailee McClure

### **B. Secondary Principal Report-Jon Waterlander**

Rimrock Academic Report-Being the best school we can be!

#### **Senior Class:**

100% have been accepted to college and received scholarships / funding

All on track to graduate...monitoring 1 closely (with supports) for grades in grad requirements

College & Career Fair: hosted ~12 schools & recruiters for grades 8 - 12 today

Semester 1 Honor Roll (>3.3 GPA / B+ Average)

35 High School / 85 Enrolled (41%)

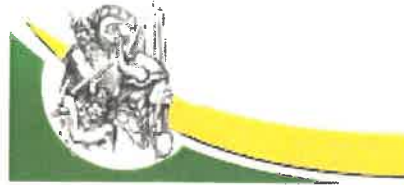
24 Junior High / 56 Enrolled (43%)

Overall Semester 1 GPA 3.03 . . . Top Classes: 11

100% have completed Idaho Launch applications

All Senior Papers complete, 2 pending grading;

13/14 firmly on track to graduate...monitoring 1 closely (with supports) for grades in grad requirement classes



**Winter MAP Results (Reference)-Language**

Goal: 60% / 60th percentile-Reading Goal: 60% in 60th percentile

Math Goal: 70% in 60th percentile

**Rimrock Behavior**

Only 15 violations in Jan-Year To Date (206 violations):

Trend is DOWN (~3/day to 1/day)

Repeated violations minimal

9 V3s = 4.4% (goal <10%)

4 V4s = 1.9% (goal <4%)

Only 8 students (<6%) have V3s/V4s

**Observations:**

Types of violations remain largely same

Disruptive Behavior most frequent

Uptick in personal electronics in class

>90% are meeting expectations

**Other Discipline:**

5 suspensions issued in Sem 2

3 for vapes (4 days OSS)

2 for Behavior Contract Violations

4 students on behavior contract

**Rimrock Culture**

Enrollment = 143 (+4) as of 12 Feb 2023 (5 new students, 1 drop)

Attendance Rate (Semester 2): 89.5% (Target > 95%, Semester 1: 97.0%)

**Sources of Strength:**

Hosted speaker on healthy activities at assembly on 5 Feb

No One Eats Alone (NOES) day this Thursday (15 Feb)

Class Power Rankings (Academic + Behavior + Attendance + School Spirit)

8th graders leading the way in January (continued from December)

Seniors still have overall lead for the year

**Athletics Update**

HS Girls Basketball: 14-7 (8-1 Conf)...**DISTRICT CHAMPIONS!** State begins Thursday @ 1400 (at Columbia)

HS Boys Basketball: 6 - 12 (5-5 Conf), District Play Starts Today against Riverstone



JH Boys Basketball: 5 - 2 (3-1 Conf)

**Employee Recognition: Katy Carothers**

Instrumental in administering IDLA classes and helping students complete advanced opportunity credits

Helps us survive basketball season . . . set-up, take-down, and everything in between-she takes in a lot of work and she is thinking about getting a degree.

**Superintendent Report - Jeff Blaser 1:26 pm**

**Financial Report**

**Monthly Financial Report-REVENUES**

- ❑ Revenues should be at approximately 58% at the end of January.
- ❑ Del Taxes Int & Penalty – Received 79% of projected earnings.
- ❑ Earnings on Investments continues to show aggressive gains from 110% to 139% (Month)
- ❑ Other Local – 99% (Budgeted \$3K, Current Balance = \$50,506.37)
- ❑ State Based Apportionment - 100% We budgeted to receive \$2,335,373.00 – Received.
- ❑ Border Tuition - 72% has been received
- ❑ Lottery/State Maintenance - 108% Received
- ❑ Impact Aid - 110% Fed Reimbursement for lost tax revenue associated with Duck Valley IR

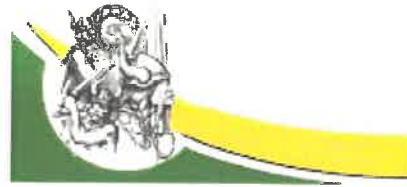
**EXPENDITURES**

- ❑ Special Services Program - 69% - Speech, OT services and travel expenses
- ❑ Total Board of Education Program – 70%, Model Policy purchase, fingerprints, Advertising, Job Posting, ISBA membership, etc.
- ❑ Fund Transfers – 100% moved \$200K into Plant Facilities in anticipation of the upcoming remodel work at the Integrity building. Wanting to keep the Plant Facility Line at a minimum of \$500K
- ❑ Depreciation Transfer (Bus) – Funds received for bus depreciation \$22,988 moved 100% for a future bus purchase

Trustee went over the expenditures sheet and we talked about the border contract with Elko.

**Grants-Idaho Workforce Development Council Grant**

Grant Applications Levy Committee Report-Purpose - Increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.



### Program Goals

- Increase childcare seats statewide by approximately 1,000 by the end of 2024.
- Prioritize small providers, and providers who practice evidence-based high quality care.

3-year matching grant award = \$168,000.00

Discussion was held that if we could spend all that money in one year, we did not think that there would be a problem with wages, equipment and rent.

### SOF#2 Grant

Rimrock Fire Alarm System

The grant is due on March 15, 2024 the awards will be in June 2024

State Objective: To competitively disburse funds to help schools to improve safety and security projects/equipment that will improve the overall safety and security profile of a school.

Funding requests must be directed toward one of the following:

Life Safety (Fire Alarm) Systems , Access Control, Visitor Management, Surveillance Communications

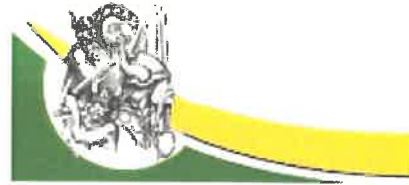
We have 3 bids so far

Need Action Items II: Board "approval of the scope of the work for the Securing our Future #2 Grant

### Levy Committee Report

#### Committee Members

- |     |                      |  |
|-----|----------------------|--|
| 1.  | Beth Gasper          | my3.loves@yahoo.com  |
| 2.  | Jo King              | kattleking1987@gmail.com                                     |
| 3.  | Katie Colyer         | katie@hereford.com   |
| 4.  | Lynn Bachman         | lrcattle@hotmail.com   |
| 5.  | Randall Raymond      | randall.raymond@simplot.com                                  |
| 6.  | Sammie Steiner       | sammiejames77@gmail.com                                      |
| 7.  | Trina Fowers         | rainydayphotos4@gmail.com                                    |
| 8.  | Sid Erwin            | snjerwin@gmail.com   |
| 9.  | Sherry Colyer        | <a href="mailto:sherry@hereford.com">sherry@hereford.com</a> |
| 10. | Jett Fowers          | rainydayphotos4@gmail.com                                    |
| 11. | Alex Meyers          | ameyers@sd365.us   |
| 12. | Peggy Newman         | pnewman@sd365.us   |
| 13. | Brandi Lisle         | blisle@sd365.us  |
| 14. | Jonathan McClure     | jmclure@sd365.us   |
| 15. | Jonathan Waterlander | jwaterlander@sd365.us  |



16. JayDene Aquiso                                      jaquiso@sd365.us  
17. Jeff Blaser    jblaser@sd365.us

December 18, 2023

Purpose, Understanding Public School Funding Process, Current Budgetary Reality  
Possible Solutions and Considerations, Discussion

January 15, 2024

Recommendation arrived at-Appoint a committee representative for Feb. 13 Board Meeting  
February 13, 2024

**Committee Recommendation – Beth Gasper -1:43 pm**

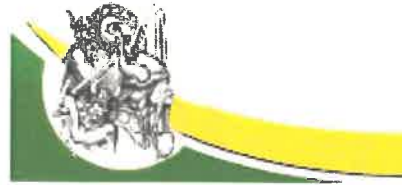
Bruneau-Grandview Trustees,

The Ad Hoc Levy Committee met in December and January. At the end of the January meeting the majority consensus included keeping all of our school buildings open. In order to stay on mission, the district will need a supplemental operating levy.

Two levy proposals have been given to you as recommendations. The first being a levy in the amount needed of six hundred fifty thousand dollars and the second being in the amount of four hundred thousand dollars with the intent to use money from the fund balance to cover the remainder. The \$650,000 proposal keeps us operating as we currently are with approximately \$150,000 worth of cuts by "tightening our belts" within the budget. The proposal of \$400,000 does the same but asks for less from tax payers and uses a portion of the fund balance. The committee saw pros and cons to both proposals due to uncertain economic times for both patrons and our district.

In addition to running a levy, the committee majority would like to propose that the board begin the process to draw up plans for a one campus, PreK-12 layout located at Rimrock to see if it is a supportable option to consider as decisions are made in the uncertainty of the district's future. We request these plans are drafted by July 1st and feel it would be beneficial to use money from the fund balance to render a blueprint for the physical property to see if this is a viable option. The committee had much discussion and concern regarding the continued decline in student enrollment as well as a nationwide teacher shortage. We feel that it is in the best interest of students, staff, families and communities to make a transition in a manner that is planned with thought out intent rather than forced, if possible. We would like the board to take into consideration and prepare for a shortage of elementary teachers even in light of a passed levy. It was evident from the opening of our first meeting that these are concerns of all representatives of our communities. I don't believe I am speaking out of turn as the representative of this committee by saying that keeping our communities in unity to move in a





direction that is best for our youth is top priority. It is our desire for our children to have the highest quality education within a positive culture environment at school and in our communities.

The committee recognizes this is not an easy decision but feel that it is time to become serious in our intent. The often talked about "long term plan" is becoming more present due to a steady drop in enrollment that continues to trend downward, the decline in funding, and staffing shortages along with retention and we recognize all of these issues play into the pass or fail of the proposed levies. Open communication and well thought out planning is key as we prepare for the future, long term and short term.

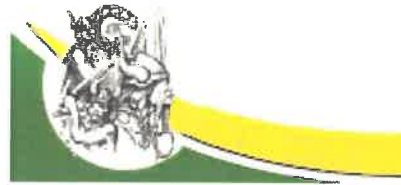
Trustee Boren asked which one the committee was more in favor of. Let's start with a dollar amount that would cover all our needs and then if it does not pass we can go back and try to pass a different recommendation. Randall Raymond discussed if we really wanted to erode the fund balance. One of the thoughts was that if we are going to move forward with the changes in the future planning that we would have a fund balance to help with those changes.

## **PUBLIC INPUT I**

Those individuals wishing to address the Board may sign up at the board materials table and must submit the completed form to the Board Clerk. **Individuals will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes to present their views.** Open Meetings requirements limit the ability of the Board to discuss or take action on any topic not previously on the agenda; however, the issue may be included on a future agenda if appropriate. Please note: The Board cannot receive complaints against personnel in open session, and recommend that concerns be resolved through the following order: (1) Teacher or Staff, (2) Principal or Supervisor, (3) Superintendent, (4) The Board of Trustees. District Office Phone: 208-834-2260

1. Written public input from Sherry Colyer was read by Trustee Jones. Trustee Mathews stated that it is unfair that there was only 1 member that was from Grand View. There were 2 others that were invited to the committee from Grand View that declined. The primary purpose of the ad hoc committee was for a levy. At the Ad Hoc Committee meeting discussion was held on the declining enrollment in the district. Mr. Blaser has shared concerns that we have worked really hard to staff Bruneau Elementary and we said we would and keep it open. We had some interested people, but after the interviewing and checking backgrounds they would not be a fit and create problems for the board, so it was decided not to hire the candidate. We did hire a candidate that was getting her certification and she left after 3 days.





**Concerns:**

The resolution needs to go to the county in March and the vote in May if it does not pass then we could try again in August and that is after school starts. Trustee Merrick made a comet about students getting grade level material for ninety minutes in a one grade classroom, the students at Bruneau Elementary in combined classrooms are getting thirty minutes a day. As a board and as administration how do we get this done to make sure the students are getting what they need. Superintendent Blaser explained that it causes stress on the staff when they hear we are making cuts. We have a big enough campus here if we need to go in the direction of combining. If it goes to July without Bruneau teachers being hired, we will need to make a plan for a long term vision. How do we unify?

Trustee Mathews has been on the board since 2017 and we have grown our fund balance every year. Trustee Mathews said we need to get our budget and revenues under control. Discussion was held on the budgets.

Chairman McNeley said we need to make a plan for the next few years and go down a path of planning while we are in the position to do this. He would like to see a high quality education, preparing students for futures that enable them to be positive contributors to society.

Trustee Jones thought we cannot maintain the culture and climate and current schools if we do not pass some kind of levy. Trustee Jones will not be a part of this process if we are going to continue to go through this turmoil. He will not be fulfilling his term.

Trustee Boren would like to clarify that he is not frustrated with the staff and that the board needs to step up and help the administration.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

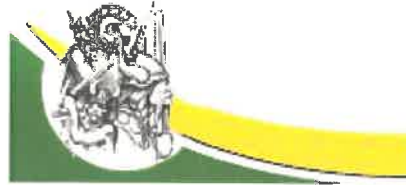
In accordance with Idaho Code Section T74-206(1) (a)(b), the Board may hold an Executive Session after the presiding officer has identified the proper authorization for the purpose of: The Executive Session will be held in the Boardroom (Room 102 ). All patrons will be excused to visit outside the room and will be notified when open session reconvenes.

1. Open Enrollment application
2. Superintendent Evaluation

Trustee Jones made a motion with a second by Trustee Boren to move into executive session, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion carried.

Chairman McNeley asked Clerk Aquiso to poll the board. Roll call vote:

Steve Boren – yes  
Gary Jones – yes  
Scott McNeley – yes  
Allen Merrick – yes



Raelynn Mathews – yes

The Board moved into executive session at 2:30 P.M. Trustee Boren, Trustee Jones, Chairman McNeley, Trustee Merrick, Trustee Mathews, Alex Meyers, Jeff Blaser, JayDene Aquiso were present

2:40 P.M. Board discussed open enrollment for students A and B.

2:46 pm-Alex Meyers and Jeff Blaser left the room

Board discussed superintendent evaluation

2:56 pm Jeff Blaser came back into executive session

Board returned to open session at 3:10 P.M.

## **ACTION ITEMS II**

**A. Possible action item(s) resulting from executive session-None**

**B. Approve Open Enrollment Applications**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Mathews to approve open enrollment applications of students A and B and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

**C. Approve Superintendent Evaluation**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to approve Superintendent Blaser's Evaluation and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

**D. Approve the adoption of one of two options (\$650,000) or (\$400,000) given by the Ad Hoc Committee for Supplemental Maintenance and Operation Levy Election on March 21, 2024.**

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to approve the Resolution for Supplemental Levy to be held on, Tuesday, May 21, 2024 election and a vote by the Board agreed.**

Discussion -

Trustee Boren thinks we need to take action on it now or the 12th of March.

Chairman McNeley thought it would be good to wait for the month to hear some more information from patrons.

Trustee Jones' preference is to go with the 400,000 dollar levy.

Chairman McNeley could go either way.

Trustee Jones thinks it is going to be difficult either way.

Chairman McNeley would like to operate with a levy and leave the fund balance where it is.

Trustee Mathews does not vote to raise taxes.



Trustee Boren would like to keep a healthy fund balance.

Trustee's think we need to run a levy but not sure what options.

**Trustee Mathews made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to table motion item D until the March meeting and a vote by the board agreed. Motion passed**

E. Approve Bruneau Elementary, Grand View Elementary and Rimrock Jr. Sr. High school closures due to road conditions on January 17, 2024.

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to approve Bruneau Elementary, Grand View Elementary and Rimrock Jr. Sr. High due to road conditions on January 17, 2024 and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

F. Approve Bruneau Grand View Joint School District 2024-2025 School Calendar

**Trustee Merrick made a motion with a second by Trustee Jones to approve 2024-2025 School Calendar and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

G. Approve the approval of the scope of the work for the Securing our Future #2 Grant

**Trustee Merrick made a motion with a second by Trustee Mathews to approve the scope of the work for the Securing our Future #2 Grant and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

## DISCUSSION

A. March afternoon meeting at Grand View Elementary-1:00 pm

## ADJOURN

**Trustee Boren made a motion with a second by Trustee Merrick to adjourn, and a vote by the Board agreed. Motion passed.**

All businesses of the Board having been completed, Chairman McNeley adjourned the meeting at 3:34 P.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
February 13, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK/TREASURE