



# CASCADE

PUBLIC SCHOOLS MT. DIST. 3&B  
HOME OF THE BADGERS



### Cascade School's Mission:

*Through collective efforts of our community and school, we strive to be an innovative educational system committed to excellence and focused on developing responsible citizens.*

#### **By promoting excellence for all students through:**

- *Engaging curriculum with rigor and relevance*
- *High-quality instruction*
- *21st Century technology*
- *Personal and academic pride*

#### **Cascade Schools will strive to:**

- *Deliver an academic program that inspires and motivates every student to value education for his/her lifetime.*
- *Customize and individualize our educational program to meet every student's strengths and needs.*
- *Incorporate technology into all aspects of our education program in a manner that best prepares our students for the 21st Century.*
- *Strategically focus resources on student's achievement and identify wants and needs of the Cascade community.*
- *Connect our curriculum and assessment data to the common core standards.*



**Align your governance with the 8 characteristics of effective school boards through MTSBA model policy:**

- |   |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>1.</b>   | <b>2.</b>  | <b>3.</b>  | <b>4.</b>  | <b>5.</b>   | <b>6.</b>  | <b>7.</b>   | <b>8.</b>  |
| <b>Commit</b> to a vision of high expectations for student achievement and quality instruction. Define clear goals for that vision. | <b>Share</b> strong beliefs and values about what is possible for students and their ability to learn, and of the system and its ability to teach all children at high levels. | <b>Accountability driven,</b> spending less time on operational issues and more time focused on policies to improve student achievement. | <b>Collaborative</b> relationships with staff and the community. Establish a strong communications structure to inform and engage both internal and external stakeholders in setting end achieving district goals. | <b>Data savvy.</b> Embrace and monitor data, even when the information is negative, and use it to drive continuous improvement. | <b>Align and sustain resources,</b> such a professional development, to meet district goals. | <b>Lead as a united team</b> with the superintendent, each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust. | <b>Take part in team development and training</b> to build shared knowledge, values and commitments for their improvement efforts. |



# CASCADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Cascade Board of Trustees  
Cascade Public Schools Conference Room #123  
321 Central Avenue West, Cascade MT 59421  
**December 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**

---

## Agenda

<https://zoom.us/j/95075657618?pwd=NzJPUk9iOEFuL280YXV2UmxOLzczUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 7565 7618

Passcode: 531hp6

### Call to Order

6:00

Reading of Notice Regarding Public Comment and procedures to be followed when addressing the Board.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Members of the community are given opportunity to make brief comments to the Board on any matters not included in the agenda. By law the Board cannot deliberate, debate or take any action on any matter presented during Public Comment. **Comments about any staff, student, or member of public are not allowed due to rights of privacy laws.**

Public Comment on action (A) agenda items is to be addressed when the item is being considered on the agenda. Informational and Staff Reports are reported to Board of Trustees as information only.

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

### Informational (I)

- A. Letter of Resignation, Kodey Hansen (HS Science Teacher)

### Staff Reports (I)

- A. Jen Ward, FFA Advisor
- B. Jason Raether, Activities Director
- C. Michael Wilson, K1-12 Principal
- D. Levi Collins, Superintendent
- E. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager

### Board Report (I)

- A. Board Evaluation
- B. Board Training Hours

### New Business (A)

- A. Consideration of Recommendation for Addition of Math Credit
- B. Consideration of Proclamation of District B Budget Amendment
- C. Consideration of Recommendation for Kitchen Aide, Richard Martin
- D. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Michelle Erickson
- E. Consideration of Recommendation for Drivers Ed Instructor, Charlie Brown
- F. Consideration of Recommendation for Volunteer Science Fair Advisor, Kendra Lane
- G. Consideration of Recommendation for SY2024-2025 Fall Coaches
- H. Consent Agenda
  - a. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, November 21, 2023
  - b. Business Claims

- c. Student Activity Account
- d. Sub List

### **Board Meeting Evaluation (I)**

- A. Complete the evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins

### **Announcements (I)**

- A. Regular School Board Meeting – January 16, 2024
- B. Upcoming Events

### **Adjournment (A)**

**7:30**

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

### Informational (I)

- A. Letter of Resignation, Kodey Hansen (HS Science Teacher)

Kodey Hansen  
P.O. Box 343  
Cascade, MT 59421

December 12, 2023

Cascade Public Schools  
321 Central Avenue West  
Cascade, MT 59421

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to inform you of my decision to resign as a science teacher at Cascade Public Schools. My last day will be on the 22nd of December.

The job has taken a toll on my physical and mental health, and I can no longer do this to myself and my family. I am not a secondary teacher and must focus on what I excel at and what will make me happy.

I appreciate the job opportunity, and I apologize that I cannot continue. I wish the school success.

Sincerely,



Kodey Hansen

### Staff Reports (I) (Appendix A)

- A. Jen Ward, FFA Advisor – *Appendix A, Section I (pg. 3)*
- B. Jason Raether, Activities Director – *Appendix A, Section II (pg. 5)*
- C. Michael Wilson, K1-12 Principal – *Appendix A, Section III (pg. 7)*
- D. Levi Collins, Superintendent – *Appendix A, Section IV (pg. 8)*
- E. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager – *Appendix A, Section V (pg. 9)*

### Board Report (I) (Appendix B)

- A. Board Evaluation
- B. Board Training Hours – *Appendix B, Section I (pg. 11)*

## New Business (A) (Appendix C)

### A. Consideration of Recommendation for Addition of Math Credit

**Category:** Policy/Curriculum

**Presented by:** Michael Wilson

**Attachments:** Student Handbook Credit Page, OPI Core Credit List – *Appendix C, Section I (pg. 13)*

**Facts to Consider:** Per the OPI approved Montana K12 Course Codes, Pre-Algebra is an accredited core course that students are allowed to receive one of their four required math courses for graduation. Our handbook does not list Pre-Algebra as a course that students may receive graduation credit for, nor is it listed as a core math or on our offered course list. We currently have 15 students enrolled in Pre-Algebra that will not receive graduation credit for if it is not added to the handbook as an approved course. Administration recommends adding Pre-Algebra to this list.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Add Pre-Algebra to the approved Math graduation credits.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to add Pre-Algebra to the approved Math graduation credits.

### B. Consideration of Proclamation of District B Budget Amendment

**Category:** Finance

**Presented by:** Karsen Floerchinger

**Attachments:** Budget Amendment Proclamation, Budget Amendment Timeline – *Appendix C, Section II (pg. 15)*

**Facts to Consider:** OPI has provided notice of HB 36 (2023 Legislative session) that revises the funding for significant enrollment increases. HB 36 modifies section 20-9-166, MCA, to allow significant enrollment increase (SEI) payments as described below. It also repeals 20-9-314, MCA, which provided procedures for determining eligibility and the amount of increased average number belonging (ANB) due to unusual enrollment increase. Based upon the OPI calculations for FY2024, LE0102 Cascade H S is eligible for a Significant Enrollment Increase payment of \$12,544.00.

In general, the SEI payment eligibility process is described in the bill as follows:

- School districts that experience an enrollment increase based on the October enrollment count in the current year converted to ANB must be greater than the budget limitation ANB for the fiscal year three years prior by 110%.
- The SEI payment is described in HB 36 as an amount that is the difference between 80% of the district's total per-ANB entitlement for that fiscal year using the most current October enrollment count minus the "absorption factor", and 80% of the district's initial per-ANB entitlement for that fiscal year.
- The absorption factor is defined as an ANB amount rounded to the nearest whole number equal to the sum of five ANB plus 3% of the district's budget limit ANB for that fiscal year.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Approve the Proclamation of the District B Budget Amendment for FY2024.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the Proclamation of the District B Budget Amendment for FY2024.

### C. Consideration of Recommendation for Kitchen Aide, Richard Martin

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Richard Martin as Kitchen Aide for SY2023-2024.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to hire Richard Martin as Kitchen Aide for SY2023-2024.

### D. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Michelle Erickson

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Facts to Consider:** Ms. Erickson was approved as a route driver at last month's meeting. To fill her time during the day, Ms. Erickson has applied to be a paraprofessional in the high school on a part-time basis.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Michelle Erickson as Paraprofessional for SY2023-2024.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to hire Michelle Erickson as Paraprofessional for SY2023-2024.

### E. Consideration of Recommendation for Drivers Ed Instructor, Charlie Brown

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Facts to Consider:** Mr. Brown taught Drivers Ed at Cascade this summer and has many years of experience teaching the course.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Charlie Brown as Drivers Ed Instructor for SY2023-2024.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to hire Charlie Brown as Drivers Ed Instructor for SY2023-2024.

### F. Consideration of Recommendation for Volunteer Science Fair Advisor, Kendra Lane

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Facts to Consider:** Mrs. Lane has helped with the Science Fair for several years. With the turnover in the Science Department, Mrs. Lane has offered her services as a Science Fair Advisor on a volunteer basis.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Kendra Lane as Volunteer Science Fair Advisor for SY2023-2024.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to hire Kendra Lane as Volunteer Science Fair Advisor for SY2023-2024.

**G. Consideration of Recommendation for SY2024-2025 Fall Coaches**

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Jason Raether

**Facts to Consider:**

Stephanie Perry – HS Cross Country Head Coach

Jeremy Butcher – HS Football Head Coach

Liz Edmundson – HS Volleyball Head Coach

Jason Raether – JH Football Head Coach

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire the fall coaches, as listed, for SY2024-2025.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the recommendation to hire the fall coaches, as listed, for SY2024-2025.

**H. Consent Agenda (A) (Appendix D)**

**A.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, November 21, 2023 – *Appendix D, Section I (pg. 18)*

**B.** Business Claims – *Appendix D, Section II (pg. 23)*

**C.** Student Activity Account – *Appendix D, Section III (pg. 36)*

**D.** Sub List – *Appendix D, Section V (pg. 37)*

**Board Meeting Evaluation (I)**

**A.** Complete evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins

**Announcements (I)**

**A.** Regular School Board Meeting, January 16, 2023

**B.** Upcoming Trainings

a. Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities – January 9, 16, 23<sup>rd</sup> (Virtual/On-Demand) - \$150/person

b. HR Symposium – February 6, 13, 20<sup>th</sup> (Virtual/On-Demand) - \$150/person

c. Collective Bargaining Training – TBD

d. Strategic Governance Leadership Conference – TBD

**Adjournment (A)**