

# CASCADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 & B



## 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.

**HOME OF THE BADGERS**



# CASCADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 & B

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Conference Room #123  
321 Central Ave West, Cascade, MT 59421  
January 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

## Agenda

<https://zoom.us/j/92204174053?pwd=zbEzJKhfzkaNcugOLyGsk8y08OU2Dn.1>

Meeting ID: 922 0417 4053

Passcode: iX4hTd

### 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. Resignation – Kristen Stefonic (part-time custodian)

### Staff Reports (I)

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

### Board Report (I)

- A. Board Evaluation
- B. Board Hours

### New Business (A)

- A. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding, Calendar Revision
- B. Consideration of Recommendation for of District 3 Budget Amendment
- C. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Amber Joiner
- D. Consideration of Recommendation for Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Jessica Porter
- E. Consideration of Recommendation for Bus Route Revision
- F. Consideration of Recommendation for Activities Vehicle Replacement
- G. Consideration of Recommendation for SY2024-2025 Spring Coaches

### Grievance Hearings (E)

- A. Barton & Cherie Jennings
- B. Dustin & Becky Ogden
- C. Alicia Poliakiwski
- D. Ganetta Askeland
- E. Rani Landa

F. Callie & Josh Munski

G. Amanda Wombold

## **Annual Superintendent Evaluation (E)**

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

A. Complete the evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins

### **Announcements (I)**

A. Regular School Board Meeting – February 18, 2025

B. Strategic Planning Meeting – February 25, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

### **Adjournment (A)**

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

### Informational (I)

- A. Resignation – Kristen Stefonic (part-time custodian)

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

- A. Jen Ward, FFA Advisor
- B. Jason Raether, Activities Director – *Appendix A, Section I (pg. 3)*
- C. Michael Wilson, Principal – *Appendix A, Section II (pg. 6)*
- D. Levi Collins, Superintendent – *Appendix A, Section III (pg. 7)*
- E. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager – *Appendix A, Section IV (pg. 8)*

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

- A. Board Evaluation – *Appendix B, Section I (pg. 10)*
- B. Board Hours – *Appendix B, Section II (pg. 13)*

### New Business (A) (Appendix C)

#### A. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding, Calendar Revision

**Category:** Policy

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Attachments:** Memorandum of Understanding – *Appendix C, Section I (pg. 15)*

**Facts to Consider:** Due to a conflict in the master schedule, administration is proposing a change to the SY2024-2025 calendar. Parent/Teacher Conferences and the High School Girls Wrestling Mixer are both scheduled for January 30, 2025. This conflict creates issues for the use of the building for both events, as well as creates a hardship for parent/guardians who may be attending both events. To resolve this conflict, administration proposes moving Parent/Teacher Conferences to the following Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the CEA to revise the FY2025 calendar.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the CEA to revise the FY2025 calendar.

#### B. Consideration of Proclamation of District 3 Budget Amendment

**Category:** Finance

**Presented by:** Karsen Floerchinger

**Attachments:** Budget Amendment Proclamation, Budget Amendment Timeline – *Appendix C, Section II (pg. 16)*

**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 FY2025, LE0101 Cascade EL is eligible for a Significant Enrollment Increase payment of \$40,364.80.

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 3 Budget Amendment for FY2025.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the Proclamation of the District 3 Budget Amendment for FY2025.

#### C. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Amber Joiner

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Facts to Consider:** A very high needs student has moved into our Elementary district and requires a one-on-one aide. Ms. Joiner has been previously hired as a substitute.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Amber Joiner as paraprofessional for SY2024-2025.

**Sample Motion:** I move to hire Amber Joiner as paraprofessional for SY2024-2025.

**D. Consideration of Recommendation for Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Jessica Porter**

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Attachments:** Long-Term Substitute Contract – *Appendix C, Section II (pg. 23)*

**Facts to Consider:** Ms. Porter is being recommended to fill the absence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher during her maternity leave. Per policy 5314, “A substitute teacher may be employed to carry on a teacher’s duties not to exceed 35 consecutive teaching days. If the absence of the regular, licensed, or authorized teacher continues for more than 35 consecutive teaching days, the board of trustees shall place a licensed teacher under contract or seek an emergency authorization of employment.”

As done in past practice, the administration has calculated a daily rate of pay for Ms. Porter based on the Certified Pay Matrix.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Hire Jessica Porter as long-term substitute teacher for SY2024-2025.

**Sample Motion:** I move to hire Jessica Porter as long-term substitute teacher for SY2024-2025.

**E. Consideration of Recommendation for Bus Route Revision**

**Category:** Transportation

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Attachments:** Route Revisions – *Appendix C, Section II (pg. 20)*

**Facts to Consider:** Since the conclusion of the XCELL program, several families are needing to utilize the buses for student transportation home from school. This has caused the need to update routes.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Approve the bus route revisions.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the bus route revisions.

**F. Consideration of Recommendation for Activities Vehicle Bus Replacement**

**Category:** Transportation

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Attachments:** Activities Vehicle Proposal – *Appendix C, Section II (pg. 32)*

**Facts to Consider:** The 2014 Ford Econoline E350 (Badger Van) is rapidly approaching the end of its life. With the lack of activity bus drivers, the Badger Van is used quite frequently for small groups to travel to events. Mr. Aker proposes replacing the Badger Van with a 2024 Ford Endura 14 passenger vehicle. The Endura has higher safety ratings than our current van, is more spacious and comfortable for travel, has more storage for equipment and travel essentials, and does not require a CDL to operate. The price is quoted at \$121,900 and would be paid for out of the Interlocal fund.

**Superintendent Recommendation:** Approve the Activities Vehicle Bus replacement.

**Sample Motion:** I move to approve the Activities Vehicle Bus replacement.

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

**Category:** Personnel

**Presented by:** Levi Collins

**Facts to Consider:**

JH Boys Basketball: Kory Hastings

JH Girls Basketball: Travis Edmundson

HS Track Volunteer Assistant: Christa Hardy

HS Golf 1st Assistant: Kourtney Gearing

HS Golf Volunteer Assistant: Mike Moore

JH Track 1st Assistant: Lynn Formell

JH Track 2nd Assistant: Savannah Collins

JH Track Volunteer Assistant: Liz Edmundson

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

**Sample Motion:** I move to hire the spring coaches as listed for SY2024-2025.

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

**A.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, December 17, 2024 – *Appendix D, Section I (pg. 37)*

**B.** Business Claims – *Appendix D, Section II (pg. 40)*

**C.** Student Activity Account – *Appendix D, Section III (pg. 55)*

**D.** Sub List – *Appendix D, Section IV (pg. 57)*

**E.** Student Attendance Agreements – *Appendix D, Section V (pg. 58)*

**F.** Individual Transportation Contracts – *Appendix D, Section VI (pg. 59)*

## **Grievance Hearings (Executive Sessions)**

- A. Barton & Cherie Jennings
- B. Dustin & Becky Ogden
- C. Alicia Poliakiwski
- D. Ganetta Askeland
- E. Rani Landa
- F. Callie & Josh Munki
- G. Amanda Wombold

## **Annual Superintendent Evaluation (Executive Session)**

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

- A. Complete evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins

### **Announcements (I)**

- A. Regular School Board Meeting – February 18, 2025
- B. Strategic Planning Meeting – February 25, 2025 @ 6:00 pm
- C. Upcoming Events

### **Adjournment (A)**