

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL District 27

7975 Pleasant Valley Rd, Marion, MT 59925

www.pvsmt.org

School Board Business Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Board Chair Ryan Wade.

ATTENDANCE:

Ryan Wade, Board Chair; Ray Anderson, Vice Chair; Richelle Sheets, Lead Teacher; and Lori Sheets, District Clerk/Business Manager. Trustee Max Edington joined remotely via Google Meet.

AGENDA:

Ryan Wade moved to approve the agenda and Ray seconded the motion. Board voted all in favor.

MINUTES:

Ryan moved to approve the minutes of the Regular February Meeting. Ray seconded the motion and the Board voted all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

CLERK'S REPORT/WARRANT APPROVAL:

Lori presented the FY26 Preliminary Budget Data Sheet. She noted that this was pre-session and did not have the expected 3% inflationary increase or the Stars act quality educator increases. It did have the information for the amount to put on the permissive levy for building reserve.

Lori reviewed the warrant report explaining expenses and gave the Board the Budget vs Actual report noting 62% committed. Ryan moved to approve the March warrant report and Max seconded. The Board voted all in favor.

TEACHER'S REPORT:

Richelle briefed the Board on the following:

Feb. 25-27th we had an outbreak of Influenza A. I was informed by our Superintendent that we were to close the school for the rest of the week due to the number of ill students. We chose the option to go to remote learning so we would not have to make up the days later in the year. Due to the outbreak, MAP testing for 2nd Trimester occurred today, March 12th. Richelle will be able to view the results tomorrow.

Events this month: March 20th – Field Trip: Central School Museum and Hockaday Art Museum

March 24-28, Spring Break

MAST Update: Window 2 concluded last month. Most of the students did well on their math and ELA testing. Richelle is seeing a weakness in writing skills this year. While reading skills are improving across the board, writing instruction is limited. Next year, Richelle plans to add more writing instruction to the schedule.

Spring Event: I would like to hold a spring event for the community this year on April 12th. This event would include an ice cream social, spring themed activities, an egg hunt and maybe bingo. During conferences, all families said they would be interested in participating.

Calendar Update: Richelle has a training class to attend on March 31st. Due to this date being the first day back from Spring Break, the parents are in agreement with shifting our first day back to April 1st and going from Tuesday – Friday that week instead of having a substitute.

New Student Round Up: Date is April 3rd. Lori will be here all day to meet any families who may be interested.

OLD BUSINESS:

OPI 2024-25 Year 2 Accreditation Process: Richelle and Lori shared about completion of year 2 tasks. All the rubrics were submitted by Cal on February 28th.

Trustees Election: April 3rd 5 pm is the deadline for write-in candidate for a trustee position on a school board to file Declaration of Intent and for trustee candidates to withdraw from the election. No one else has filed. Lori will be at the school on April 3rd until 5 pm for the close of write-in candidates Declaration of Intent, deadline to withdraw, and determination of cancellation of election.

Early Literacy Targeted Intervention: The Board had a lengthy discussion about Classroom-Based Early Literacy Program and Home-Based Early Literacy Program options, requirements and costs for implementing. They weighed the pros and cons and discussed number of 4-year-olds in community. Ryan moved that we do not offer early literacy for the school year 2025-26. The motion was seconded by Ray and the Board voted all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Establish Tuition Fund and Rental Fund: Lori explained the need to establish tuition and rental funds with the county treasurer for use by the district. The tuition fund is needed for use with the permissive levy and paying tuition. The rental fund will be used for rental payments for the teacherage. Ryan moved to establish the tuition fund and rental fund with the county treasurer. Ray seconded and the board voted all in favor.

Permissive Levy for Consideration: Trustees considered adopting a resolution to impose an increase in the permissive levy in the 2025-2026 school year fiscal year budget for the purpose of funding Pleasant Valley School’s Building Reserve, Bus Depreciation Fund, Transportation Fund and Tuition Fund. Trustees estimated an increase in revenues/mills for school fiscal year 2026 (which begins July 1, 2025) to fund the Tuition Fund. All other categories will remain the same with no increase/decrease. Two resolutions were presented. The second resolution was shortened for print in the newspaper. Ryan moved to adopt the two resolution documents as presented. The motion was seconded by Ray and the Board voted all in favor. The resolution will be published no later than March 31, 2025. Resolution attached.

School Calendar 2025-2026: Trustees did a first read of the proposed calendar for next school year.

Staffing Needs for 2025-2026: Trustees discussed staffing needs for the next school year. The Board determined the needed positions would be teacher, an aide and business manager. Lori is to prepare contracts for herself and Mrs. Presley for the Board’s consideration at the April meeting. The Board discussed whether Mrs. Presley might like a day off a few times a month. Lori will ask Mrs. Presley.

Teacher Contract Renewal for FY 2025-2026: Trustees considered the proposed contract for the lead teacher. The Board discussed the proposed salary increase of 2%. The Board would like to offer more if the budget has available funding. The Board would like to review the teacher’s salary in September. Ryan moved to present the contract to Ms. Sheets for her consideration.

Spring Groundskeeper Position: Lori had spoken with Kyle Presley and he is available to continue performing the groundskeeper duties this spring and summer. The Board instructed Lori to retain Kyle’s services.

MAINTENANCE & SAFETY:

Spring Grounds Maintenance, Tree removal and pruning. Items to be addressed at a spring work day.

INFORMATION & CORRESPONDENCE:

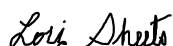
School Safety Compliance Newsletter, March 2025, emailed to trustees

Next Regular Meeting Date: The next regular school board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 5:45 pm at Pleasant Valley School.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ryan adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully,



Lori Sheets, District Clerk

Ryan Wade, Board Chair: _____

Approved as submitted: April 16, 2025

Approved as corrected: