

MONTANA CITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 27 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Montana City School District No. 27 Board of Trustees was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Boysen at 6:30 pm in the Montana City School Library.

Trustees present were Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Boysen, Tony Lamping, Betty Ferriter, and Mikal Wilkerson.

Others present included: Superintendent Tony Kloker, Principal Connor Kline, Clerk Diane Smith, and Branna Schmidt.

Betty Ferriter made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 Regular Meeting as written. Mikal Wilkerson seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

Mikal Wilkerson made a motion to approve the list of claims warrants #67141 through #67179 the list of payroll warrants #2187 to #2212 and the direct deposits #85408 to #85495 all totaling \$420,422.38. Betty Ferriter seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

Mikal Wilkerson made a motion to approve the following extracurricular checks as written: #2892 Mark Schoenfeld \$80; #2893 Eddie Black \$80; #2894 Adam Sackman \$80; #2895 Sam Cummins \$50; #2896 Scholastic Book Fairs \$4,203.11 Betty Ferriter seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

The Prickly Pear Cooperative Director, Maria Pace, sent a letter to the board recognizing Emily Lewis for her exemplary performance as a new special education educator within the cooperative. Emily has demonstrated a level of professionalism, dedication and growth that reflects the high standards of the cooperative and is deeply appreciated.

The Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to plan for spring projects, and look at estimated projections for levies to propose to the voters. Jordan Beasley is looking at options to bring the boilers up to par, we recently updated controls but have major issues in regard to the expansion tank and other structural components that may need updating - costs could be in excess of \$25,000. We will also be looking at updating the camera system because it is relied upon more often than prior years, with several areas not covered or not accessible currently. Also, plans need to be made for replacing the expiring Technology Fund levy of \$40,000. This is the last year to receive the funds approved in 2016. All curriculum materials are accessed digitally rather than by textbooks, providing students with up-to-date interactive and adaptable resources but these costs are supported by the Technology Fund. Mrs. Heggen just purchased Chromebooks for 5th Graders to begin using next fall through their 8th grade year and is looking at purchasing the first grade Chromebooks this spring that they will use through 4th grade.

Branna Schmidt, on behalf of the MCEA, requested the board look at offering a retirement incentive this year. The board will make a decision on a retirement incentive at the February 4 meeting.

The Special Education monitoring review resulted in a few findings which have been easy to address, consisting mainly of how IEP test scores were posted. The board and administration appreciate the support of the Prickly Pear Cooperative for Emily Lewis taking on this role.

Tony Kloker reported on projects covered under the E Rate grants. We received bids to replace all Cat 5 cables going to 45 wireless access points with Cat 6 cables. The bid accepted is for \$12,250 and through ERate Funding, the cost to the district will be \$6,125. We plan to begin this project in early June and will use the existing Cat5 lines that went to our wireless access points for the upgrades to the Intercom/clock system. The internet service provider was also bid through ERate. Our current provider, Spectrum, was the only response and we have agreed to a 3 year contract. The services are an upgrade from our current 500 Mbps for \$875 per month to 1 Gbps at \$737 per month for 3 years.

Tony Kloker reported on the quotes received for the bell/intercom system. Liberty was over \$200,000 the quote from Carehawk was \$259,000 which included \$89,000 for install and the most recent quote is a G2 system is under \$80,000 which includes \$17,000 for install. This installation will be completed by K-12 Montana who we work with taking care of our current system. The contract for the G2 was approved and work will begin on this project in July. This system is expandable should the administration/board find it desirable to add features they deem necessary in the future.

MTSBA felt it was necessary to provide amendments to policies 3665 and 5122 to ensure compliance with HB 745. The amendment to Policy 3141 addresses issues identified by Mr. Kline which affect enrollment in the Mini Mustang program to accommodate in-district kindergartners who may not have attended the 4 year old program, as they move on to Kindergarten. Tony Lamping made a motion to approve policies 3665 Student Safety, 5122 Fingerprints and Criminal Background Investigations, and 3141 Nonresident Student Attendance as amended. Betty Ferriter seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

A paraprofessional position has been advertised and we have recently expanded our search to include a part time paraprofessional position to replace Jaclyn Reynolds, who recently resigned to accept a position in her career field. Branna Schmidit stated that the staff had talked, and had ideas of possibly posting on Helena Classifieds and many had offered to share info of the open positions if they knew more information.. Currently, it's on the school Facebook page, in Mustang Moments, and posted through OPI. Tony Kloker said he would get a summary out to staff and to share the info that is out there, while checking into Helena Classifieds and free postings on InDeed.

Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Boysen closed the meeting at 6:54 pm for the board to meet in Executive Session to discuss the 2025-2026 Superintendent Evaluation with Mr. Kloker. Tony Kloker's right of privacy clearly exceeds the public's right to know in this matter in accordance with Section 2-3-203, MCA. Connor Kline and Branna Schmidt left the meeting.

The meeting was reopened at 7:15 pm

Mikal Wilkerson made a motion to approve the summary of the executive session. Tony Lamping seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

Vice-Chairperson Stephanie Boysen adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm

Submitted by



Approved by

Date