

Mountain Home School District No. 193

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
 JANUARY 19, 2021  
 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

*Courtesy Livestream Board Meetings: Livestreaming or recording board meetings is a courtesy to give the public an alternative means of participating in the school board meeting; the board meeting would continue even if there is a failure of technology (<https://www.mtnhomesd.org/calendar.html>).*

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94234559043?pwd=dktiRVVgGdFRYMGRaTWNnbzcyY1dz09>

Meeting ID: 942 3455 9043

Passcode: 062729

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abbgjqJVr>

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Chairperson/Vice-chairperson.**

*Max Capacity: Governor Little's Social Distancing Directive leaves our boardroom at a maximum capacity of ten (10) people including the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, Clerk, Treasurer, and Technology Director. More than ten people would require those persons to sit in the foyer or other overflow rooms.*

Chairman Abrego convened the regular and livestream meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Chairman Abrego, Vice-Chair Binion, Trustee Donahue, Trustee Monasterio, Trustee Knox

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –** Chairman Abrego asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. ADMINISTER TRUSTEE OATH –** Sharon Whitman. Clerk Whitman administered the Trustee Oath of Office. *(A copy of the Oath of Office will be on file in the district office, with the Clerk of the Board.)*

**C. SIGN CODE OF ETHICS –** Clerk Whitman. Clerk Whitman had the trustees sign their Trustee Code of Ethics. *(A copy of the Code of Ethics will be on file in the district office, with the Clerk of the Board.)*

**D. ELECTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS –**

1. **Appoint acting chairperson.** Chairman Abrego appointed Clerk Whitman as the acting Chair, so that the business of nominating a Chairperson for 2021 could be conducted.
2. **Nomination and election of Chairperson, Board of Trustees, 2021.** Clerk Whitman, acting Chair, opened nominations for Chairperson. Trustee Monasterio nominated Eric Abrego as chairperson with a second from Trustee Knox. Trustee Monasterio moved to close nominations with a second from Trustee Donahue. Nominations closed. Clerk Whitman declared Trustee Abrego as Chairperson for 2021.
3. **Chairperson-elect assumes duties of acting chairperson**
4. **Nomination and election of Vice Chairperson, Board of Trustees, 2021.** Chairman Abrego opened nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Trustee Knox nominated Trustee Binion as vice-chairperson with a second from Trustee Donahue. With no other nominations, Chairman Abrego closed nominations and declared Trustee Binion as Vice-Chairperson for 2021.
5. **Election of Clerk, School District 193, for 2021.** Chairman Abrego opened nominations for Clerk. Trustee Binion nominated Sharon Whitman as Clerk. Trustee Donahue seconded the motion. With there being no other nominations, Chairman Abrego declared Sharon Whitman elected Clerk for 2021.
6. **Election of Deputy Clerk, School District 193, 2021.** Chairman Abrego opened nominations for Deputy Clerk. Trustee Binion nominated Levi Vick as Deputy Clerk, with a second from Trustee Knox. With there being no other nominations, Chairman Abrego declared Levi Vick as Deputy Clerk for 2021.

7. **Election of Treasurer, School District 193, for 2021.** Chairman Abrego opened nominations for Treasurer. Trustee Binion nominated Levi Vick as Treasurer, with a second from Trustee Knox. With there being no other nominations, Chairman Abrego declared Levi Vick elected Treasurer for 2021.

**E. GOOD NEWS –**

*Each month, the school board encourages students, teachers, administrators, and board members to recognize the notable activities, events, celebrations, student achievements & awards, etc., that have occurred in the school district or in the community.*

1. West Elementary – Eva Fowler – Donating Earnings to West for Students in Need – Nikki Crusier. Mrs. Crusier explained that Eva, a 1<sup>st</sup> grader, generously donated her earnings from chores during Thanksgiving break to West Elementary to purchase hats and gloves for students in need. She also convinced a few of her friends to do the same.

The Board thanked her for her kindness and generosity and then presented her with a Certificate of Recognition.

- II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA OR ADDENDUMS –** Chairman/Vice-chairman. Prior to the consent agenda items, Chairman Abrego asked if there was an addendum to the agenda, or if there was anything to add or remove. Chairman Abrego called for a motion to approve or amend the agenda. Trustee Binion moved to approve the agenda as published, with a second from Trustee Donahue. Agenda approved.

- III. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS –** Board of Trustees. Chairman Abrego called for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Trustee Monasterio moved to approve the consent agenda, with a second from Trustee Binion. Motion carried.

**A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2020 AND THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING – SBOE DIRECTIVE OF JANUARY 5, 2021.**

**B. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**C. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS**

**D. PERSONNEL**

**E. POLICY REVISION – 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading**

1. Veteran’s Preference Policy
2. Vacation Leave Policy – Fulltime Classified Employees
3. Restraint or Seclusion of a Student Policy
4. Promotions Grades Kindergarten – Eighth Policy
5. Special Education & Related Services Policy

IV. **DELEGATION – NONE**

*Any group wishing to be a delegation must submit a letter to the Superintendent Administrative Assistant/Clerk of the Board no later than the Tuesday prior to the next regular board meeting; the letter must include the reason for asking to be a delegation.*

V. **PUBLIC INPUT – NONE**

*Public input may be provided to the board either in person if signed up at the beginning of the meeting (public input signup sheet) or via zoom, if the [Public Input Form](#) has been submitted **by noon the day of the board meeting**. Individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes to present their views. Please do not include the names of students or staff due to FERPA Laws and privacy protection. There will be no action taken at this time, but action on a problem area could be scheduled for a subsequent meeting of the board. Face masks and social distancing must be followed, or the individual will be immediately escorted out of the building. There is limited seating in the boardroom so patrons might have to sit in the foyer or the overflow room. If you have a complaint against personnel or students by name, you need to schedule an appointment with the Superintendent.*

VI. **REPORTS –**

- A. MOUNTAIN HOME AFB UPDATE –** MHAFB Liaison. Mr. Nicksich informed the board that he had nothing to report.

- B. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/COVID19 UPDATE –** James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert reported that he had three areas he wanted to discuss with the board.

1. COVID19 Update – Our COVID numbers in where we are sitting puts us in good shape. We have three active cases in the district, which is the lowest we’ve had in a while. We do have numerous quarantines from exposures from outside of school.

2. COVID Vaccinations – We are working with Desert Sage to get our staff vaccinated. The Governor announced educators are in the next phase, but the issue is the amounts of vaccines are low. Currently, Desert Sage has 100 vaccines for first line workers. St. Luke’s is also offering vaccinations to educators. The vaccine is a two-dose vaccine with the second dose needed within six-weeks of the first dose.

Superintendent Gilbert informed the board that once the second dose is administered, the board needs to have the conversation of how we are operating schools.

Our survey of staff showed that 80% of staff want to be vaccinated. Desert Sage has been very good to us and keeps us up to date on the vaccinations.

Chairman Abrego stated that up until now, staff who were quarantined did not have to take personal or sick leave, does that still apply. Superintendent Gilbert replied that even though the Cares Act ended December 31, we have still been honoring not making teachers take personal or sick leave for quarantines, but we need to discuss what needs to be done once everyone has had the opportunity to be vaccinated and what to do with those who choose not to be vaccinated. Superintendent Gilbert said he would like to extend the options through this school year, but by next school year, everyone should have had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Superintendent Gilbert reminded everyone that the federal mandate of COVID leave was unfunded and we supported and continue to support staff by continuing with the CARES Act, but come next year, there is no additional money to continue allowing staff to quarantine without taking personal or sick leave. Discussion continued.

Chairman Abrego said he has heard from a few people that they choose not to be vaccinated, so he was wondering how that would play out and they were wondering if they would have to take their own personal or sick leave. Discussion continued.

Chairman Abrego asked to have a plan ready to address how education would look after the second round of vaccinations. Hopefully, we will know something by March or April. Superintendent Gilbert said that we will probably have to continue with some sort of social distancing, but we will know more later. Discussion continued. He added that the results from a survey sent to staff showed that 80% of staff would take the COVID vaccination.

3. Views on a possible School Bond – Superintendent Gilbert wanted to touch base with the board regarding what their thoughts were on running a building bond for a new high school. Chairman Abrego said we should have another survey before we ask the public because the last survey was very positive, and we hear more from constituents than other government entities. He added that the concern is that there are a lot of people not working so is it wise to try to run anything anytime soon.

Superintendent Gilbert agreed and stated he didn’t want to put the community in a position in which they couldn’t afford the tax increase. We have to be cognizant of where our community is financially before we make any decisions.

Trustee Donahue commented that she agreed with Chairman Abrego, but one thing we need to consider is that as we ask our constituents what their thoughts are and what they would be willing to do is we need to ask our city council and other leaders what their plans are for their projects that too would cost the community an increase in their taxes. Trustee Donahue stated that if we wait too long, the city and county is going to go after increased taxes for their projects and the school district would be out of luck.

Superintendent Gilbert said that we are fortunate because we see and hear our constituent’s day in and day out more so than other government entities. To get the super majority vote (66 2/3), we need to have a united community to approve the bond and to do that we need a community that is financially healthy. He stated that he didn’t want to put the community in a position in which they cannot afford the bond. He added that a survey would be appropriate and then follow up with the city and county to see what their upcoming bond projects are and then discuss what is the appropriate thing to bond for, a new school, renovations, etc.

Discussion continued regarding employment rates, ALICE ratios/rates, upcoming county and city

bonds for their projects, the low number of actual homeowners (about 58% that pay property taxes) versus renters therefore a lower tax base, developing a broad-reaching survey and results, try to get the city involved, etc.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

VIII. NEW BUSINESS –

A. **OUT-OF-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS – 2021-2022 (ACTION)**– James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert requested approval of the open enrollment application for the 2021-2022 school year. The parents will provide transportation to and from school.

1. Crystal Waller for her 12<sup>th</sup> grader, BMS
2. Kristin Flack for her 12<sup>th</sup> grader, MHHS

Trustee Monasterio moved to approve the Out-of-District Open Enrollment Applications as presented by Superintendent Gilbert, with a second from Trustee Binion. Motion passed.

B. **ESTABLISH SCHEDULE FOR REGULAR MEETINGS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month (ACTION)** – Sharon Whitman. Clerk Whitman asked for the board to approve holding the regular board meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. She also asked if the board would consider holding the regular board meeting at an earlier time instead of 7:30 p.m. The board discussed moving the board meetings to an earlier time. A motion by Trustee Monasterio to approve holding the regular board meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., received a second from Trustee Knox. Motion approved.

C. **DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC POSTING LOCATIONS (ACTION)** – Sharon Whitman. Clerk Whitman requested approval of the designated public posting location including the district’s website and Facebook page. Trustee Binion moved to continue to keep the designated public posting locations as presented by Clerk Whitman including the district’s Facebook page and website, for the forth coming year. Motion seconded by Trustee Knox Motion granted.

D. **PROPOSED REVISED APPOINTMENTS FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR (ACTION)** – James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert explained that this is normally approved in July, but due to the amount of personnel changes and the fact that the district must appoint records custodians, as required by Idaho Code, this needed to be approved this month. It will also be an agenda item again in July. Trustee Donahue moved to approve the appointments including the records custodians for the remainder of SY2020-2021, as presented by Superintendent Gilbert. Trustee Binion seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT SY2020-2021**

AHERA DIRECTOR.....	JERRY ZILISCH
DRIVERS EDUCATION .....	DENISE NICHOLAS
EASTSIDE PARK – SCHOOL SESSION .....	SAM GUNDERSON
EASTSIDE PARK – SUMMER SESSION.....	JERRY ZILISCH
IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY FUND .....	JEFF JOHNSON
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH HEARING OFFICER .....	LEVI VICK
SUBSTANCE ABUSE/SAFE SCHOOLS .....	JEFF JOHNSON
TITLE 1 – MIGRANT.....	JEFF JOHNSON
TITLE 1 – READING/MATH.....	JEFF JOHNSON
TITLE VI – INNOVATIVE PRACTICES .....	JEFF JOHNSON
TITLE VI-B AND 504 – HANDICAPPED.....	ALBERT LONGHURST
TITLE 8, PUBLIC LAW 103-382.....	JAMES GILBERT
TITLE IX AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION .....	JAMES GILBERT
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR.....	LEVI VICK
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION .....	SAM GUNDERSON

**RECORDS CUSTODIANS OF THE DISTRICT**

ACCOUNTING RECORDS CUSTODIAN .....	LEVI VICK
CONSTRUCTION/FACILITIES RECORDS CUSTODIAN .....	JERRY ZILISCH
FEDERAL PROGRAMS RECORDS CUSTODIAN .....	JEFF JOHNSON

PERSONNEL RECORDS CUSTODIAN ..... JAMES GILBERT  
 PUBLIC RECORDS CUSTODIAN ..... SHARON WHITMAN  
 STUDENT SERVICES RECORDS CUSTODIAN ..... ALBERT LONGHURST  
 TECHNOLOGY RECORDS CUSTODIAN ..... MATT ADAMS

**E. APPROVAL OF DISTRICT CALENDARS – MHSD & BMS – 2021-2022 (ACTION)** – James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert presented the proposed 2021-21 school calendars for approval. He explained that both calendars are the same as this school year. A motion by Trustee Monasterio to approve the 2021-2022 MHSD & BMS Calendars as presented by Superintendent Gilbert, received a second from Trustee Binion. Motion approved.

**F. POLICY REVISION (ACTION)** – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – James Gilbert.

1. **School Safety & Discipline Policy** – Superintendent Gilbert presented the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed revision of Mountain Home School District No. 193 School Safety & Discipline Policy. He said this policy was revised to incorporate the district’s Bullying, Harassment, and Abuse Against Students Policy and the Nondiscrimination Policy. The district decided a few years ago to have just one policy for everyone to refer to instead of multiple policies regarding school safety and the disciplines for violations. Trustee Binion moved to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed revision of the School Safety & Discipline Policy., as presented by Superintendent Gilbert. Trustee Knox seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**G. SCHEDULE NEXT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING – COVID19 DISCUSSION (POSSIBLE ACTION)** – Board of Trustees. The board discussed forgoing a special board meeting to discuss the COVID status and instead hold a training session for the board from the ISBA. Superintendent Gilbert explained that should changes be directed to school districts, the board could hold a special meeting with a 24-hour notice. Trustee Monasterio moved to hold a special board meeting for a training session for the entire board on February 23, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., upon approval from the ISBA. Trustee Knox seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Student & Personnel Matters**

*Executive Session – Section 74-206(1)(b) – To consider the evaluation, dismissal, or disciplining of a public school employee and to consider the evaluation of a public school student, IDAPA 08.02.01.350 – Early Graduation, and IDAPA 08.02.03.105 – High School Graduation Requirements, Idaho Code.*

Chairman Abrego called for a motion for the purpose of allowing the board to enter into executive session. Trustee Binion motioned to enter into executive session in accordance with Idaho Code to discuss student and personnel matters, received a second from Trustee Donahue, the following resolution was presented:

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

BE IT SO RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of School District No. 193 recess from an open meeting into the following executive session(s) pursuant to Idaho Code, Title 74, Chapter 2, Sections 74-202(4)(c)(6)(a) – Open Meeting (Regular Meeting), 74-204(3) – Open Meeting (Executive Session), 74-206(1)(b) – To consider the evaluation, dismissal, or disciplining of a public school employee & To consider the evaluation of a public school student, IDAPA 08.02.01.350 – Early Graduation, and IDAPA 08.02.03.105 – High School Graduation Requirements, Idaho Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That following the executive session, the Board of Trustees will convene into public session for further business or adjournment of the meeting.

Chairman Abrego called upon Clerk Whitman to do a roll call vote. Vote being had on the above and foregoing resolution, and the same having been counted and found to be as follows:

NAME OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Knox ..... Aye  
 Trustee Monasterio ..... Aye  
 Trustee Binion ..... Aye  
 Trustee Donahue..... Aye  
 Chairman Abrego..... Aye

And no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the membership in favor thereof, the Chairman declared said resolution adopted and the board recessed into executive session at 8:15 p.m.

**ACTION ITEM(S):**

- A. Student Attendance Hearing – Student A
- B. Consider the evaluation, dismissal, or disciplining of an Employee – Employee A

Others present: The attending board members, Superintendent Gilbert, and Clerk Whitman

Following a full and complete discussion of student matters the Board remained in executive session to consider the evaluation, dismissal, or disciplining a public school employee. Following a full and complete discussion of personnel matters, the board reconvened into open session at 8:32p.m. A motion by Trustee Binion to allow Student A an early graduation received a second by Trustee Knox. Motion granted. A motion by Trustee Monasterio to place Employee A on probation, was seconded by Trustee Binion. Motion passed.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT** – All business of the Board having been completed, Chairman Abrego called for a motion to adjourn. A motion from Trustee Monasterio to adjourn was seconded by Trustee Binion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**ATTACHMENT**

**RESIGNATIONS**

Rodriguez, Heather; Head Jr. Varsity Softball Coach, MHHS; effective: December 31, 2020  
Root, Douglas; Varsity Cross Country Coach, MHHS; effective: January 4, 2021

**TERMINATIONS**

Sutcliff, Samuel; B Custodian, MHHS, effective: January 6, 2021

**STUDENT TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS 2020-2021 SY**

Kelly Love – Western Governors University – January 5, 2021 – May 28, 2021 – MHJH,  
Co-operating Teacher – Lenny DeVore, Math Teacher

Meghan Teel – Practicum Placement – Liberty University – January 5, 2021 – May 28, 2021 – HMS/West  
Elementary Co-operating Counselor – Lauren Moore

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Chairman Abrego

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Clerk Whitman