



# Potomac Elementary School

## School Board Minutes

for

July 14, 2014

Phone (406) 244-5581

Fax (406) 244-5840

[www.potomacschoolmontana.us](http://www.potomacschoolmontana.us)

*“Potomac School equips each student for his/her future  
within a culture of excellence that values the small community experience.”*

---

### Call to Order

Board Chair Cliff Vann called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm by leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those trustees present were: Gary Long, Craig Nelson, Jason Nordberg and Kelsy Ployhar. David Allen, Principal, was also in attendance.

### Public Input (for issues not on the agenda)

None.

### New Special Education Teacher

David recommended hiring Krystal Hughes for our Special Ed teacher. He said she is qualified and eager to jump in.

Jason made motion to hire Krystal Hughes for 2014-2015 school year. Gary seconded the motion.

### Discussion:

Jason asked how many apps we received, David said 9.

Gary asked how she will be managed as a new teacher. David said she recently student taught 22 students so has some experience, and OPI has guidelines and rules to follow. David also said that Sara, Terri and Melissa have offered to help.

### Motion Passed 5-0

### Board Workshop

Cliff talked about his workshop in Helena. These are some things he wants us to think about  
What does it take to improve student achievement? Let's advocate for GREAT public schools

Governed by elected trustees  
Responsive to the needs of each community  
Excellent, efficient and equitable  
Advancing student achievement for each child  
Transparent and trusted

### Cliff- Policy 7000 Financial Management

Budget is tight but the worst decision we can make is to cut a teacher. The principal should be aware of teachers' behavior and teachings at all times.

### Policy 6110P Administration- Craig wanted to know what was reviewed or revised last year and why.

Gary said it had to do with negotiation. Gary suggested we need to add a change block to say what was changed and what date.

Gary mentioned that he still thinks the \$25,000 approval limit is too high.

Cliff asked if he would like to see that on the next agenda and he said Yes.

**Board of Trustees..... 2**

We discussed having the teachers giving Board presentations and Terri Klein mentioned it was done in the past. Nothing was decided.

Cliff mentioned that we need to make sure we provide a good place for teachers because we don't have the best pay and we are going to be a stepping stone for some teachers. We need to keep all we can.

We discussed the need to transparency with "projects" for people to see where the money comes from. A couple examples are Grant money and the General Fund.

Can we have Alicia make us aware of available grants and we can discuss what we want to go after or give suggestions of other areas to look for available grants?

Kristina Davis mentioned that it would be nice to have a school wide discipline plan, maybe something similar to Bonner. That way every teacher is doing the same thing and it will be easier for parents and students to follow.

Cliff said he would like to see us develop the strategic plan-prioritize, refresh, track. Can we have a workable strategic plan that we can follow or update and be able to mark things off when complete? The Board members are going to look at the strategic plan individually to get familiar with it. We are going to look at it as a "Board Member" not a parent etc. We will discuss some changes at the next meeting.

How does the grant writing affect the 4 day school week?

Goal for the August meeting is to have a revised strategic plan.

Next meeting is August 7th @ 7pm

---

Cliff Vann, Chair

date

Jill M Thornton, Clerk

date