

**Swan River School Board  
AGENDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Monday, May 9, 2022  
4:30 p.m  
Swan River School Eighth Grade room**

**Mission Statement:** To provide a safe and healthy learning environment and curriculum for all students of all abilities with the use of modern technology while maintaining a solid base foundation of math, reading and writing. Offer support to teachers and staff as needed to achieve a positive learning environment. Keep our learning bar raised at Swan River School for all students and staff.

**\*At this time, a member of the public is welcome to address the Board on any public matter that is a non-agenda item; however, the audience must remember the Right to Privacy act concerning individuals. The Chairperson may interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, or irrelevant. A patron who wishes to speak on an Agenda item will be recognized by the Board Chair when the Board gets to that item on the agenda. The public should realize that this is a Trustee business meeting conducted in a public forum.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Correspondence**

**\*Public Participation on Non-Agenda items**

**The board chair must recognize members of the audience wishing to speak on any public matter that is not on the agenda. The Board is legally prohibited from taking action on any matter discussed unless specific notice of that matter is included on the agenda.**

**CONSENT AGENDA - The consent agenda may be presented by the Board Chair. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member**

- A: Approval of the agenda**
- B: Consideration of minutes (April 11, 2022)**
- C: Consideration of Claims approval**

**ITEMS FOR REPORT (AS NEEDED)**

- A. PTO:**
- B. Teachers Organization:**
- C. Committee Reports:**
- D. Administration Report : Projects list updates**

**AGENDA**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A:**

**NEW BUSINESS ACTION AND/OR DISCUSSION**

- A: Consider Brianne Fuzesy resignation letter**
- B: Consider Nicole Greene resignation letter**
- C: Consider letter of request for county election dept to run 2023 trustee election**
- D: Consider approval of Certified staff negotiations**
- E: Consider approval of Classified staff request for wage increase**
- F: Consider approval of Administration wage increase**
- G: Consider Jan Lord request for wage increase**
- H: Consider Middle School Math Curriculum**
- I: Consider quotes for approval for basketball hoops/package**
- I: Principal Evaluation (closed session)**

**POSSIBLE TOPICS/DISCUSSIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

**Adjourn Meeting**

**Future regular board meetings:**

**June 13, 2022**

**July 1, 2022**

Swan River School District #4  
1205 Swan Hwy  
Bigfork, MT 59911

DRAFT

unofficial  
minutes

April 11, 2022

The Swan River School Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium (moved from Eighth grade room) Dan Elwell, Board chair, presided over the entire meeting.

TRUSTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Elwell, Brooke Johnston, Brianna Anderson, Linda Stewart and Kim Johnston  
TRUSTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Principal JJ Lamb and District Clerk Dee Johnson. There is a sign up sheet with 60 people on it including parents and students

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Correspondence: None

Public participation on non-agenda items: None

ACTION ITEMS:

Consideration of approval of Consent Agenda

April 2022 Claims

March 2022 Minutes

Principal's recommendation for renewals/non renewals of staff for the 2022-2023 school year

Motion to approve items on the Consent Agenda

Motion : Brooke Johnston

Second: Kim Johnston

Passed unanimously

PTO report: Teacher appreciation luncheon will be May The book fair will take place may 11-13 and dessert night. \$4:00 will be given to each student from PTO for the book fair. FrozenTurkeys that were left over from Christmas will be taken to the food bank.

Teachers Organization: Shanna Read a letter from the Teachers Association in support of fellow staff members. (attached)  
Subject about fellow staff and the importance of more transparency on teacher performance.

Committee reports: Would like to form a committee for library books review and purchases. Brianna Anderson volunteered to be on the committee as a board member. Shanna Burchwell and Christina Brevik would also like to be on the committee. Any parents or public interested can talk to JJ about being on the committee also.

Administration Report: Annual letter from Denning, Downey & associates informing the board of the yearly audit they are working on.  
The Freezer is in for the kitchen and will be installed in June after school is out.

Reader board also in, and we just need a firm location and power hookup will be needed.

Received quotes for new phone system & door fobs, possible key pad for gym access. Will discuss it in a future board meeting. Dan informed the board that the cross walk and speed zone with the DOT is moving forward. May be dropped to 35 mph and new led signs and placards. Should know more by the end of the month. We will work on getting bathroom remodel quotes, treasure state on the books to repave the parking lot and west side and improve sidewalks. Permissive levy & Esser Money will help with funding

Brooke would like the board to go over all projects and costs for the next board meeting

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A: NONE

## **NEW BUSINESS ACTION AND/OR DISCUSSION**

A: Consider Tracey Stahlberg letter of resignation

Motion: Kim Johnston

Second: Brianna Anderson

Public comment

Letters read and submitted will be on file

Stephanie Hall spoke of how her child was lacking confidence and struggling. Tracey went out of her way to work with him and he is flourishing and has so much more confidence

Marcia Ham read a letter stating how it will be so difficult to find a replacement and not everyone has that gift for teaching as Mrs. Stahlberg. Marcia asked the board to please consider not to accept Mrs. Stahlberg's resignation

Christina Brevik also read a letter and is shocked and feels there is not the support for teachers. She will be devastated to lose Mrs. Stahlberg

Melinda Brown also spoke about how she has 5 kids and 1 child in 3rd grade. When they came he could not read or do math. Tracey took him and made him not feel apart from others, and gave him confidence. He is caught up with his class and doing math. Tracey Invests in their learning and will be a tremendous loss to SRS.

Motion on the table to accept Tracey Stahlberg's letter of resignation and a second.

Linda Stewart opposed the motion

Motion passed to accept resignation by majority vote

B: Consider Hayden Congdon resignation letter

Motion to accept the resignation of Hayden Congdon Middle School math Teacher

Motion: Brooke Johnston

Second: Brianna Anderson

Public comment

Bud Gaiser read a letter stating that as the P.E. Teacher and being here for several years, he has worked with many staff but none so committed as this year's staff as a unit. This staff should be able to continue to guide students without disruptive and unnecessary changes in staffing. Please consider letting us move forward together.

Marcia Ham read a letter in support of Hayden Congdon as an exemplary Teacher who is respected and adored by all. As a Teacher and coach who loves his job and is the type of educator we need to keep for our school and not send him off to make another school great. Please consider to renew Hayden Congdon

Ken Sharr spoke and as a former tenured teacher he knows what it is like for the first years and it takes time. Ken is a current substitute teacher at Swan River School and interacting with Mr. Congdon knows it will be a disservice letting him go. Instead lets nurture and help and be invested in Mr. Congdon

Kailee Adoretti spoke as a parent of 2 children who have been or currently in Swan River School she knows that Mr. Congdon encourages kids to fight for what they believe in and offers comfort and security. He was an advocate for them explaining the new Mid School Math they struggled with. And encouraged them to be advocates for themselves. Kailee feels that the board is causing harm. Mental health in kids is so important and he connects with the students.

Let him be a teacher and asset for our school.

Kirk Johnston spoke as a parent and Teacher himself at Flathead School. Kirk has worked with Hayden in coaching and it will be a big disservice to the school to let him go. Help him succeed and with the lack of good teachers, why would we let this one go. Please reconsider and reject the resignation.

Melinda Brown spoke of her daughter who has never been to school until this year and a son in High School who says there is no connection with teachers at the high school. Having Mr. Congdon as a teacher for her

daughter is part of her day that is not filled with anxiety. Mr. Congdon has made a huge difference in her day. Please reconsider and reject the resignation of Mr. Congdon

Sherry Bradstreet read a letter from a 1st grade teacher about Mr. Congdon, and she is so excited to be in the 8th grade. Mr. Congdon takes the time to greet all kids and interact with them, not just middle school kids.

Rosey Adamson spoke about how all kids love Mr. C and he connects so well with all grades. He is one of the reasons they came back from Homeschooling. Please reconsider and reject the resignation letter

Steve Waddle spoke and asked the board to consider rejecting Mr. Congdon's resignation. Steve has worked here for 11 years, as a Janitor and this is his first year as the special education teacher and he knows the math curriculum is old and Hayden had outdated curriculum to work with and is trying to revive with new curriculum. Also as a new teacher, it will take about 5 years to really get good at your job. Please consider him to stay to become the great math teacher we need.

Dayra Schmidt spoke and as a former teacher she remembers being a novice at her job, with a lot to learn. To quote her middle schooler, "he's my favorite" Dayra is already jealous of who gets him next.

Ashley Lau spoke as a parent and employee. Feels you can tell the ones who shouldnt be around kids and this is not the case with Mr. C. He goes out of his way to make students feel special and important. You cannot teach someone to care.

Carson Johnston 6th grade student at SRS spoke about Mr. C. being a great teacher and person. Please consider keeping him.

Shawna Benson read a letter stating that she and her family have been a part of SRS for 10 years now. Which makes this very difficult. This is a Very difficult decision that shouldn't be. This is a no brainer. Shawna

stated that she has always stood up and supported the board in the past. We would fight this hard for you too if you were wronged. We are a family, and one of the best teacher's, supporter and coach is being thrown away for what?

This school will be just like all other schools with this wrong decision. Please reconsider and reject the resignation letter of Mr. Congdon

Lindsey Wheeler spoke of their move from Washington and they chose SRS for their kids with family and community support. Seeing the kids favorite teacher on the agenda for resignation was a shock. Especially learning that the resignation was not his decision. This is a huge blow to kids, especially as no discipline has been done. The board is setting a dangerous precedent with 2 teachers not being asked back. Please reconsider and reject resignation.

Shanna Burchwell spoke of how Hayden, and the middle school teachers are the dream team and very close knit. Please don't take that away from us.

Kim Brown spoke of how it was a huge decision to come to the area as homeschoolers and the influence in today's world is difficult. They felt this was a community they wanted to be a part of. The Inspiration from middle school has been huge, especially in Mr. C's class. Not many teachers can exceed beyond a textbook or curriculum. Young men need strong men to look up to

Joseph Brown spoke about how you can't coach the heart. His son comes home and talks of Mr. C. If you have something good you don't just discard it.

Jen Woll spoke as a parent and cook at the school. Please reconsider and reject Mr. Congdon's resignation.

Stephanie Tinney spoke of how they chose SRS because of the amazing school they were told it was. They are out of district and Mr. C. Has been incredible for her son who has a strong personality and Mr. C. matches it.



Stephanie is confused that at the last board meeting in March there was nothing but praise for the math program demonstrated by Mr. C. She is confused about the resignation because he does not want to go.

Norah Adoretti, 8th grade student, spoke about how she has had Mr. C since 6th grade. Mr. C. 8th grade math has prepared her for high school, the basketball kids say he is an amazing coach. It Hurts her heart to know he wouldn't be here.

Shelley Emslie spoke of how Norah is an amazing artist and chose Mr. C's fitness class over art class. Shelley admits she has been wrong in the past, but not wrong about Mr. C

Rhett Billington read a letter explaining that Mr. C has helped him understand math more than any other teacher. He is Inspired to do math for a reason and is excited to have him as coach next year

Shannon Woll, 8th grade student spoke and said that as her teacher and coach he never gets mad and encourages them all. The new curriculum was hard to understand and the kids were upset but Mr. C had a conversation with kids to hear them out and help them understand moving to a new curriculum in the middle of the year is hard, but he is there for them to help and encourage. Please reconsider keeping Mr. C as a teacher at SRS

Rhonda Holman spoke briefly in support of Mr. C

You can't train the heart. This should be an obvious decision to reject the resignation. Hopefully the pros outweigh the cons. Please reconsider and keep Mr. C

End of public comment

Motion on the table to accept resignation and a second

Linda Stewart opposed the resignation

Resignation passed by majority vote

**Topics/ Discussions for next agenda:**

May 9 evaluation closed session

Projects list

Motion to adjourn @ 5:33 p.m.

Motion: Brianna Anderson

Second: Brooke Johnston

Passed unanimously

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Dan Elwell

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Dee Johnson, District Clerk

	SWAN RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT	5/9/2022	P.O.	AMOUNT	TOTAL	FUND #	Last check #
							12353
	Peak Sign Solutions	Balance on Electric sign and installation			\$7,247.56	115-785-2600-730-385	12354
833	Advanced Restaurant Supply Inc	Walk in freezer			\$11,418.80	112-910-3100-770	12355
		Note: Pay \$11418.80 in May, pay balance \$5500 after installation					
915	Bigfork Harvest Foods	Milk for lunch			\$69.00	112-910-3100-630	12356
861	BMO Mastercard	see below					
	Amazon	Supply Closet supplies		\$33.83		101-100-1000-610	12357
	USPS	Mailed records		\$12.90		101-100-2300-532	
	Amazon	Flush repair kits		\$103.00		101-100-2600-610	
	Amazon	Wooden xylophone for band		\$449.99		101-100-1000-610	
	US Chef Store	Kitchen supplies		\$26.66		112-910-3100-610	
	Scholar within	Classroom curriculum		\$47.00		101-100-1000-610	
	Amazon	Medicine cabinet supplies		\$21.98		101-100-1000-610	
	Amazon	4th grade supplies		\$41.77		101-100-1000-610	
	Amazon	Gift Cards for creative writing		\$45.00		101-100-1000-610	
	Amazon	Combustible steel cabinet		\$870.51		101-100-2600-610	
	Amazon	KGN Mats		\$145.32		101-100-1000-610	
	Farver Farms	Kitchen supplies		\$24.33	\$1,822.29	112-910-3100-610	
105	Bud Galser	Outdoor ed supplies		\$194.58		101-100-1000-610	
		Ink for printer		\$87.05	\$281.63	101-100-1000-610	12358
33	Century Link	Monthly phone bill			\$382.56	101-100-2300-531	12359
919	Century Link/Lumen	Fiberoptic bill			\$1,203.27	101-100-2300-531	12360
467	Culligan	Salt			\$30.75	101-100-2600-440	12361
103	(The) Daily Interlake	Permissive levy's ad		\$121.00		101-100-2300-540	
		2 Certified Elementary positions ad		\$341.58	\$462.58	101-100-2300-540	12362
	Denning, Downey & Associates	Work in Progress Billing - 2021 audit			\$2,907.50	101-100-2300-330	12363
10	DFA Dairy Brands/Meadowgold Dairy	Milk for lunch			\$1,139.36	112-910-3100-630	12364
	Previously Dean Foods/Meadow Gold						
540	Evergreen Disposal	Cardboard recycling			\$31.45	101-100-2600-431	12365
78	Flathead Electric	Monthly electric			\$1,636.00	101-100-2600-412	12366
811	Green Montana Recycling	March Service			\$85.00	101-100-2600-431	12367
615	J2 Business Supplies	Maintenance supplies		\$645.17		101-100-2600-610	
		Copier maintenance		\$144.51	\$798.68	101-100-1000-440	12368

504	Jan Lord	Art Services			\$750.00	101-365-1000-340	12369
320	Kalispell Copy Center	Substitute Slips Printing and cutting			\$141.00	101-100-2300-610	12370
	Kim Johnston	4th/5th Girl talk supplies			\$63.42	101-100-1000-610	12371
	Montana CAD	3/4 Crush rock			\$561.56	101-100-2600-440	12372
878	Montana Medical Billing	7% Surcharge for special needs students			\$446.74	115-100-1000-582-561	12373
	Montana Sky	Monthly remote management and support			\$1,760.00	101-100-2580-440	12374
311	Republic Services	Garbage pickup			\$245.71	101-100-2600-431	12375
37	Sliters	Maintenance supplies			\$167.60	101-100-2600-610	12376
836	Steve Waddle	Food for cooking lesson			\$10.08	101-100-1000-610	12377
222	STS Safewater Testing Simplified	Bactl-monitoring			\$244.95	101-100-2600-440	12378
704	Swan River Gardens	Fertilizer			\$15.73	101-100-2600-610	12379
30	US Foods	Kitchen lunch supplies			\$2,394.86	112-910-3100-630	12380
	General Fund \$ 13,550.87						
	Food Service \$ 15,073.01						
	ESSER \$ 7,247.56						
	Misc \$ 446.74	TOTAL			\$36,318.08		

Swan River School  
1205 Swan Highway  
Bigfork, MT 59911

April 21, 2022

To all it may concern,

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from Swan River School upon completion of the 2021-2022 school year. It is apparent that a shift in values has occurred among the district's decision makers; these values no longer align with mine.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brianne Fuzesy".

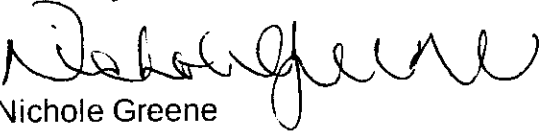
Brianne Fuzesy  
music and library media specialist  
Swan River School

April 21, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as a formal notification that I am leaving my position as the school counselor and paraprofessional at the end of my current contract (2021-2022 school year) at Swan River School.

Sincerely,



Nichole Greene

## **Swan River School**

**Request for Flathead County Election Administrator to conduct the 2023 annual school election**

WHEREAS pursuant to 20-20-417, Montana Code Annotated, the trustees of a district may request the County Election Administrator to conduct certain elections during the ensuing school fiscal year.

WHEREAS the School Election Administrator does not have access to the voter registration database containing the details necessary to effectively administer an election including demographic information and validation information including the elector's signature. The School District does not maintain the necessary equipment including ballot counting machines, telemark voting machines and ballot boxes, and bulk mailing accounts. The School Election Administrator is inept to train election judges. The Flathead County voters inherently perceive bias when a School District employee administers an election that could impact the District budget and employee compensation.

WHEREAS the Swan River School Board of Trustees recognize that conducting the election for each of the twenty three (23) school districts within Flathead County is a significant burden on the County Election Administrator.

WHEREAS the election laws for School Districts defined under Title 20 Montana Code Annotated differ from the general election statutes the County Election Administrator is currently trained to follow and comply.

IN CONSIDERATION THEREOF the School District agrees to pay the cost of the election as provided in 13-1-302, Montana Code Annotated. The School District agrees to conduct a mail ballot election. The School District offers to continue to administer the following school election functions:

- Accept Trustee candidate applications and ensure they are qualified to be placed on the ballot.
- Administer the resolutions calling for the election and publish the various notifications.
- Certify the ballot

BE IT RESOLVED the specific election administration functions the District is requesting the Flathead County Administrator to perform in an effort to conduct the school elections with fidelity, independence, and ensuring utmost integrity to the registered voters within Flathead County:

- Complete and file the mail ballot plan with the Secretary of State.
- Appoint and train election judges.
- Print ballots, prepare and mail ballots, scan/track/verify signatures for returned ballots.
- Count ballots and tally results of the election.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Clerk

MidSchoolMath, LLC  
PO Box 2276  
Taos, NM 87571  
(575) 224-1480  
www.midschoolmath.com

# MSM

## MidSchoolMath

### Quote

#### ADDRESS

Swan River Elementary School  
1205 Swan Highway  
Bigfork, MT 59911

QUOTE # MSM-1536  
DATE 03/09/2022

SKU	PRODUCT/SERVICE	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
6150000000005	<b>MSMCC6YR Grade 5 Student License</b> Core Curriculum by MidSchoolMath: Grade 5 Annual Student License for 6 Years Includes full online access to all digital materials and printable PDFs, plus system and material updates	25	135.95	3,398.75
6150000000006	<b>MSMCC6YR Grade 6 Student License</b> Core Curriculum by MidSchoolMath: Grade 6 Annual Student License for 6 Years Includes full online access to all digital materials and printable PDFs, plus system and material updates	27	135.95	3,670.65
6150000000007	<b>MSMCC6YR Grade 7 Student License</b> Core Curriculum by MidSchoolMath: Grade 7 Annual Student License for 6 Years Includes full online access to all digital materials and printable PDFs, plus system and material updates	31	135.95	4,214.45
6150000000008	<b>MSMCC6YR Grade 8 Student License</b> Core Curriculum by MidSchoolMath: Grade 8 Annual Student License for 6 Years Includes full online access to all digital materials and printable PDFs, plus system and material updates	22	135.95	2,990.90
TOTAL				<b>\$14,274.75</b>



# Estimate

## AchillionSports

52 The Heights  
 Mashpee, MA 02649  
 Phone/Fax: 888-754-0280  
 info@achillionsports.com

Date	Estimate #
5/4/2022	TH2613

Name / Address
Swan River Elementary School

Project

Item	Description	Qty	Rate	Total
THRNSLFT FREE FREIGHT!	First Team Ruffneck Select FREE FREIGHT!	4	2,240.70 0.00	8,962.80 0.00
ACHILLIONSPO...	ACHILLIONSPTS DISCOUNT		-400.00	-400.00
			<b>Sales Tax (0.0%)</b>	\$0.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,562.80</b>



# Quote Only

TO: Dee Johnson

**MT. SCHOOL EQUIPMENT CO.**  
**6100 3rd. AVE. SOUTH**  
**GREAT FALLS, MT 59405**  
**406-454-0420 454-0439 (fax)**

SCHOOL: Swan River

CITY: Bigfork

DATE: 10/18/2021

**Chad Benson**  
**3635 Jack Drive**  
**Missoula, MT 59803**  
**406-531-2870 454-0539 (fax)**  
chad@mtschoolequipment.com

**PRICES INCLUDE FREIGHT  
 AT THESE QUANTITIES**

ITEM #	Q	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	TOTAL
FT270	4	First Team Aluminum Basketball Backboard	\$440.00	\$1,760.00
	4	First Team Brute Select Outdoor Basketball Package	\$2,230.00	\$8,920.00
		***INSTALL BY OTHERS***		
		Thanks, Chad		
				\$10,680.00

**NOTES:**