



AUGUST 12, 2025 REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
RIMROCK JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL 7:00 P.M.

**The Bruneau Grand View School District Mission BGVSD will: provide a high-quality education, prepare students for futures, and enable students to be positive contributors to society.**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 365  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
AUGUST 12, 2025  
RIMROCK LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Scott McNeley called the meeting to order at 7:02pm and welcomed patrons. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present:**

- Scott McNeley – Chairman
- Allen Merrick – Vice Chairman
- Steve Boren – Trustee
- Elaine Eldridge – Trustee
- Raelynn Mathews – Trustee-Absent- on the phone

**Staff Present:**

- Jeff Blaser – Superintendent, JayDene Aquiso – Clerk/Treasurer,

Clerk Aquiso confirmed that a quorum was present.

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**PUBLIC INPUT | SUMMARY** Those individuals wishing to address the Board may sign up at the board materials table and must submit the completed form to the Board Clerk. Individuals will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes to present their views. Open Meetings requirements limit the ability of the Board to discuss or take action on any topic not previously on the agenda; however, the issue may be included on a future agenda if appropriate. Please note: The Board cannot receive complaints against personnel in open session, and recommend that concerns be resolved through the following order: (1)



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Teacher or Staff, (2) Principal or Supervisor, (3) Superintendent, (4) The Board of Trustees. District  
Office Phone: 208-834-2260- No public input.

### **1. Approve Agenda**

Motion: Trustee Merrick made a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Boren seconded.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

### **2. Approve Consent Agenda**

#### **Consent Agenda Items:**

- **Approval of Minutes**
  - June 10, 2025 – Regular Meeting
  - July 8, 2025 – Regular Meeting
- **Approval of Paychecks**
  - *Ashley Merrick* – Motion: Trustee Boren made a motion to approve Ashley Merrick's paycheck. Trustee Eldridge seconded. **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.
  - *Adam and Amee-Lynn Eldridge* – Motion: Trustee Boren made a motion to approve Adam and Amee-Lynn Eldridge's paychecks. Trustee Merrick seconded. **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of Accounts Payable/Payroll**
- **Approval of School Accounts**
  - Bruneau Elementary
  - Grand View Elementary
  - Rimrock Jr./Sr. High School
- **Approval of Bus Routes**
  - 2025–2026 School Year
- **Approval of 2025–2026 Bus Drivers**
  - Rita Hall – Athletic Driver / Route Driver
  - Marie Hipwell – Simplot–Mud Flat Route/Special Route
  - Denise Collett – Oreana Route
  - John Aquiso – Little Valley–Rimrock Route
  - **Substitute Drivers:** Jeff Blaser, JayDene Aquiso, Becca Hipwell, Jason Tindall
- **Approval of Fall Coaching Assignments**
  - Laura Varga – Varsity Volleyball Coach
  - Molly Mulberry – Assistant Varsity / JV Volleyball Coach



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- Kayloni Hall – Junior High Volleyball Coach
- Sammie Ellis – Cheer Coach
- **Designation of Superintendent Jeff Blaser as Impact Aid Representative for the 2025–2026 School Year**
- **Approval of Hires**
  - Summer Virnig – Bruneau Elementary Teacher/Paraprofessional (2nd/3rd Grade)
  - Delaney Guldseth – Bruneau Elementary Teacher (Kindergarten/1st Grade)
  - Madison MacMillan – Bruneau Elementary Teacher/ABCTE (4th/5th Grade)
  - Brea Baker – Title I Paraprofessional, Grand View Elementary
  - Karla Snell – Secretary, Bruneau Elementary
  - Laura Varga – Paraprofessional, Rimrock Jr./Sr. High School

**Motion:** Trustee Boren moved to amend the agenda and approve the consent agenda, with the June 10 minutes and bus routes pulled for separate consideration. Trustee Merrick seconded.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion:** Trustee Mathews requested discussion on the June 10 minutes and the bus routes.

**E. June 10 Minutes:** Trustee Mathews noted changes she wanted to the June 10 minutes; however, she had been reviewing the wrong version. The changes had already been made.

**Motion:** Trustee Merrick made a motion to approve the June 10, 2025 minutes. Trustee Boren seconded.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Bus Routes:** Trustee Mathews inquired about the special route, which is the second route run by Marie Hipwell to pick up one student (possibly two) who require the lift bus. She also requested a conversation about the white bus running for employee students and preschool children from Rimrock. Superintendent Blaser stated he would call her to discuss further.

**Motion:** Trustee Boren made a motion to approve the bus routes. Trustee Eldridge seconded.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

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- First game: 29 Aug @ Hansen
  - Volleyball:
    - Coaches: Laura Varga, Molly Mulberry
    - First game: 28 Aug @ Glenss ferry
  - Cross-Country:
    - Coach: Melissa Raymond
    - First meet: 28 Aug @ Jerome



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#### Instructional Staff

- Returning Staff:
  - Brandi Lisle (JH ELA, Student Body Govt, Journalism, National Honor Society, 8th Grade Advisor, JH Lead Teacher, PLC Guiding Coalition)
  - Stephanie Danner (JH Math / Social Studies, 6th Grade Advisor, PLC Guiding Coalition)
  - Emily Waterlander (JH Science / Social Studies, 7th Grade Advisor, Sources of Strength Coordinator)
  - Haden Griggs (HS Social Studies, HS Lead Teacher, PLC Guiding Coalition, Senior Paper Mentor, 10th Grade Advisor)
  - Claire Smith (HS Science, PLC Guiding Coalition, 11th Grade Advisor)
  - Amanda Dygert (HS ELA, Senior Advisor)
  - Zack Dygert (CTE - Woodshop, 10th Grade Advisor)
  - Jason Tindall (CTE - Ag Shop, Work-Based Learning Coordinator, 9th Grade Advisor)
  - Ashley Merrick (CTE - Early Childhood, Athletic Director)
  - Samantha Ellis (Music, PLC Guiding Coalition, 6th Grade Advisor)
  - Kassidy Washek (SPED Teacher, 8th Grade Advisor)
  - Sariah Pearson (Counselor, Senior Advisor, IDLA Coordinator)
  - Katy Carothers (IDLA Coordinator, 11th Grade Advisor, Activities Coordinator)
  - Ruth Ann Fahl (Rimrock Secretary)
  - Martha Araujo (SPED Paraprofessional, Daycare, FHSA)
  - Sandra Jewett (SPED Paraprofessional)
- New to Positions:
  - Michelle Aquiso - HS Math (Teacher of Record)
  - Nick Ellis - HS Math (Paraprofessional)
  - Laura Varga (SPED Paraprofessional)

Athletic Conference Discussion for 2026-2027 by Jon waterlander and Athletic Director Ashley Merrick

- Background:
  - Rimrock is currently in District III, Division 2A (WIC) based on petitioning last cycle (2023)
  - Based on enrollment, Rimrock will revert to Division 1A for 2026-2028 cycle if no action taken
  - IHSA Rule 2-3 allows school to petition up or down; deadline is 10 Sep 25
  - District IV, Division 1A is receptive to Rimrock joining their conference (schools include Bliss, Carey, Dietrich, Richfield, ISDB, Hansen, Camas Co, and Lighthouse)



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- Options:
  - Do nothing; drop down to division 1A in District III (Longpin)
    - Pros: Default (will occur if no decision is approved)
    - Cons: Longer travel distances (average 140 miles, range 83 -227 miles), winter conditions riskier
  - Petition up to Division 2A, remain in District III (WIC)
    - Pros: Familiar conference; travel distances are known/reasonable (average 91 miles, range 62 - 152 miles)
    - Cons: Organizational challenges at conference; makeup of conference is shifting as new charters/schools form, often with dissimilar demographics; schools will be larger than Rimrock by enrollment
  - Seek transfer to District IV (remain in Division 1A)
    - Pros: Schools are similar in size & demographics; travel distances are reasonable (average 96 miles, range 60 -126 miles), conference is stable and open to Rimrock, winter travel is safer, no need to continue petitioning up
    - Cons: Change in opponents, competitive conference
- Recommendation: Seek transfer to District IV (remain in Division 1A)
  - Best Alternative: Petition up to Division 2A (remain in District III)
  - Strongly recommend against dropping to 1A in District III (Longpin)

- A. Superintendent Report - Jeff Blaser  
(Target goal for July is 8% in YTD Total Column for  
both Revenue and Expenditures)  
REVENUES (Total Revenues for July - 1%)  
Other Local - Received payment on Greenhouse Grant  
EXPENDITURES

Total Instructional Improvement (29%) - Payment was made for the Elementary Curriculum, new for 2025-2026.

Total Board of Educ. Prog. - Annual Insurance Payment is 70% of the budgeted amount for the year.

Total Pupil Activity Transport - Transportation Director Salary

FUND BALANCE

290-Food Service - Month to Date purchase \$4,772.35. Began \$69,890.30 in the RED. Total deficit for Food Service at the end of July is \$74,662.65-Discussion was held on the food service fund and this year we will be providing a grab and go sack lunch at Bruneau Elementary. Mr. Blaser has put in a letter of resignation for Dec 31, 2025 .



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## **ACTION ITEMS**

The Board may take action to approve, deny, amend, modify or postpone an action, or take no action, on any of the items listed below

### **A . Approve Merrick Diesel Solutions Bill**

**Conflict of Interest: Trustee Merrick left the room.**

**Motion: Trustee Boren moved to approve the Merrick Diesel Solutions bill. Trustee Eldridge seconded.**

**Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**

**Trustee Merrick returned to the meeting**

**B. Approval – 2025–2026 Elementary Student/Parent Handbook and 2025–2026 District Faculty Handbook**

**Motion: Trustee Boren moved to approve the 2025–2026 Elementary Student/Parent Handbook and the 2025–2026 District Faculty Handbook. Trustee Merrick seconded.**

**Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Discussion:**

- Trustee Eldridge asked about the in-district transfer policy, specifically whether students may choose to attend any school within the district. Superintendent Blaser explained the process for in-district transfers.
- Trustee Eldridge also inquired about the enforcement of dress code policies for students and visitors, she thought we should remove the dress code for visitors.
- Trustee Mathews expressed concern that she had not received these materials via email before the meeting and requested that board packets be emailed to her in the future for review prior to meetings.
- Chairman McNeley asked if any changes had been made to the staff handbook. Superintendent Blaser stated that some policies available on the district website had been removed from the printed handbook. Chairman McNeley then asked if the website policies were up to date, to which Superintendent Blaser replied that some policies are still under review.

## **5. Approve Petition for 2026–2027 Athletic Conference Membership**



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**Motion: Trustee Merrick moved to petition for District 4 membership and to approve the petition for 2026–2027 athletic conference membership. Trustee Boren seconded.**

**Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion: Trustee Boren and Chairman McNeley expressed support for the change. Discussion included when the membership would begin and confirmation that the change would be permanent.

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## 6. Resolution – School Closure Election

**Motion: Trustee Boren moved to approve the resolution calling for a school closure election in accordance with Idaho Code § 33-511(3)(a), and to authorize placement of the notice of school closure election and the question of closing Bruneau Elementary School for the 2026–2027 school year on the ballot for the election to be held on November 4, 2025. Further, the motion authorized publication of the ballot and election notice in both Owyhee County and Elmore County in compliance with legal requirements. Trustee Merrick seconded.**

**Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**

**Additional Notes: Chairman McNeley read the resolution calling for the school closure.**

Discussion-None

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: Trustee Boren moved to adjourn. Trustee Merrick seconded.**

**Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**

Chairman McNeley adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm.

  
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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
AUGUST 12, 2025

  
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CLERK/TREASURE