

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Heather Crocker
Communications Director
Blaine County School District #61
208-578-5005
HCrocker@blaineschools.org

October 10, 2013

## **Blaine County School District Board of Trustees Releases Separation Agreement**

Recently, the Blaine County School District Board of Trustees reached a mutual separation agreement with former Superintendent Dr. Lonnie Barber. The separation was due to differences in leadership style and approach. Both parties also acknowledged the changing dynamics of the relationship and recognized that a positive culture is vital to student success.

Chairman Paul Bates stated, "Since Dr. Barber's employment contract was entered into in good faith, it was important to honor the contract."

After looking at the overall value of the contract, a negotiated settlement of \$600,000 was agreed upon. Trustee Kathryn Graves stated, "We recognize that this is a substantial sum of taxpayer money, but felt that the leadership considerations outweighed the financial consideration."

Vice Chair Shawn Bennion stated, "We will continue to strive to be one of the best school districts in the country. We look forward to working together with the staff and the community to make this goal a reality. The children of this community are our highest priority."

For more information on the Blaine County School District, go to www.blaineschools.org.

The mission of the Blaine County School District is to be a world-class, student focused community of teaching and learning.

####