

The Helena Public Schools educate, engage, and empower each student to maximize his or her individual potential with the knowledge, skills and character essential to being a responsible citizen and life-long learner.

Board of Trustees Work Session

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Notice of Online Meeting:

In compliance with the guidance of local and state Health Officials, the Helena Public Schools are conducting this Board of Trustees Work Session as an online meeting. This meeting will not occur at any specific location as all members will attend online.

Members of the public are able to attend by clicking on the below link. We ask that all participants mute their microphone until called upon by the Board Chair for general and/or specific public comments. Upon completing public comment, please ensure that your microphone is again muted.

This meeting will take place using Microsoft Teams. However, participants need only to click on the below link to join the meeting from any internet enabled device.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-

join/19%3ameeting NDY5MjNhNjctOTdkZi00NWM5LTg3Y2ltNmM2MTY2ODM4NWMw%40thread.v2/0?contex t=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22f4b4f9cd-c417-4e65-8143-10d0fe789053%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c065943be7ea-4ff8-ad53-8851a166377b%22%7d

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**
- **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** III.

This is the time for comment on public matters that are not on the agenda. Public matters do not include any pending legal matters, private personnel issues or private student issues. Please do not attempt to address such issues at this time or you will be ruled out of order. The Board cannot enter into a discussion during General Public Comment.

Libby Goldes

Trustee

Trustee

Helena Public Schools Board of Trustees

Luke Muszkiewicz **Board Chair** Jeff Hindoien Trustee

Terry Beaver Vice Chair John E McEwen Sarah Sullivan Trustee

Siobhan Hathhorn Trustee Jennifer Walsh Trustee

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items for Action

- 1. Declaration of Unforeseen Emergency (see attached)
- 2. Authorization to Determine Student Proficiency (see attached)
- 3. Authorization to Provide Offsite Instruction (see attached)
- 4. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena Elementary School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 5. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena High School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 6. Resolution to Cancel Election of School and Student Safety and Security Building Reserve Fund Levy (see attached)

B. Item for Consent

- 1. Approval of 02.25.2020 Board of Trustees Work Session Minutes (see attached)
- 2. Acknowledge Out-of-District Attendance Agreements (see attached)

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Work Session: Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at Helena Middle School

Board of Trustees Work Session

Consideration of Actions Related to School Closure



IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items for Action

- 1. Declaration of Unforeseen Emergency (see attached)
- 2. Authorization to Determine Student Proficiency (see attached)
- 3. Authorization to Provide Offsite Instruction (see attached)
- 4. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena Elementary School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 5. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena High School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 6. Resolution to Cancel Election of School and Student Safety and Security Building Reserve Fund Levy.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Background: Three specific actions are available to the Board of Trustees to ensure that the Helena Public Schools have maximum flexibility throughout the current closure of schools.

The first officially declares an unforeseen emergency and provides the district maximum flexibility to waive instructional minutes impacted by this closure. However, aside from the first three days of teacher planning (3/16, 3/17 and 3/18), the Helena Public Schools fully anticipate providing remote learning to our students throughout the duration of this closure.

The second provides the Helena Public Schools with needed flexibility pertaining to grades and ultimately, passage from one grade level to another, including graduation, should a student achieve grade level proficiency as determined by the Helena Public Schools.

The third recommended action provides the Helena Public Schools with flexibility related to transitioning our learning environment to a remote learning platform. This action is consistent with the learning environment that the Helena Public Schools transitioned to last week as a result of the closure of MT public schools.

Recommendation: Declare unforeseen emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to 20-9-801 through 20-9-806, MCA.

Recommendation: Authorize superintendent to work with district staff, if deemed necessary, in making determinations regarding pupils who are proficient in courses in which the pupils are enrolled without regard to the aggregate hours of instruction provided. The superintendent is directed to make a final determination of proficiency for each pupil for each enrolled course, using district assessments, including class grades at a minimum, and reporting a full-time equivalent conversion of ANB for such pupils, based on the scheduled time ordinarily provided through the aggregate hours of instruction for such courses.

Recommendation: Authorize the superintendent to work with district staff in providing remote instruction for pupils of the district. Such instruction may include any method or methods identified as appropriate by the superintendent in accordance with District Policy 2135, including but not limited to offsite instruction as defined and referenced in sections 20-1-101(5); 20-1-101(14); 20-7-118; and 20-9-311(11), MCA.

Board of Trustees Resolution

Declaration of Unforeseen Emergency

Approved on March 24, 2020



Helena Public Schools - Board of Trustees Resolution

WHEREAS, the Helena Public Schools (District) are preparing for the possible closure based on the statewide outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to minimize disruption of the District's operations;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Superintendent, in consultation with the Board Chair, is authorized to pay all non-discretionary claims and take any other action authorized by law during the school closure, which the Board will approve once the Board resumes regular operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the Superintendent is authorized to pay all employees associated with the Helena Public Schools and provide leave as appropriate for the duration of the possible closure.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the Superintendent is authorized to assign and utilize staff as necessary prior to, during, and after a closure, and to provide any leave and enter into agreements with staff for the purposes of protecting the health and safety of the school community, continuing the efficient operations of the District, and ensuring staff return to work in the District in the event of a closure.

rippioved on march 24, 2020.		
Board Chair	Board Vice Chair	
Trustee	Trustee	
Trustee	Trustee	
Attest:Board Clerk		

Board of Trustees Work Session

Helena Public Schools
...a great place to learn

Approval of ballot language for general fund levy propositions

I. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Items for Action
 - 4. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena Elementary School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition
 - 5. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena High School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition

Background:

Pursuant to 20-20-401, MCA, the election administrator prepares the final ballot form. The Lewis and Clark County Elections Office (election administrator) has requested the ballot language for the propositions to be voted on in the upcoming election be submitted to them by March 26, 2020. Trustees must pass a resolution stating the exact levy amount, the estimated number of mills, and the tax impact on a home with a market value of \$100,000 and a home with a market value of \$200,000. The resolution must include the durational limit, if any, on the levy.

Considerations:

Elementary:

• Under the present law, the highest levy that can be requested for the elementary general fund is three hundred one thousand four hundred forty-six DOLLARS and eighteen cents (\$301,446.18), which is approximately 2.74 mills. Passage of the proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$3.70/year and on a home with a market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$7.40/year.

High School:

• Under the present law, the highest levy that can be requested for the high school general fund is one hundred eight thousand four hundred fifty-four DOLLARS and seventy-nine cents (\$108,454.79), which is approximately .90 mills. Passage of the proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$1.22/year and on a home with a market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$2.43/year.

Other Election Information:

- There are two open trustee positions in the elementary.
- There is one open trustee position in the high school.
- If the number of candidates filing a nomination petition or filing a declaration of intent to be a write in candidate is equal to or less than the number of open trustee positions, the trustee election can be cancelled. An election by acclamation and cancellation of election must be done by April 3, 2020.
- The deadline to file a Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy is March 26, 2020.
- The deadline for filing a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate is 5:00 pm on April 2, 2020.

Superintendent recommendation:

Approve the attached ballot language for the levy propositions.

TRUSTEE RESOLUTION APPROVAL OF BALLOT LANGUAGE

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for School District No. 1, Lewis and Clark County, State of Montana, by a majority vote approves of the following ballot language for the ballot issue to be voted on at the Regular School Election to be held on May 5, 2020. The Board of Trustee of School District No. 1, further certifies that the ballot language contains all information required to be included pursuant to 15-10-425, MCA.

HELENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GENERAL FUND LEVY

Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of three hundred one thousand four hundred forty-six DOLLARS (\$301,446) per year which is approximately 2.74 mills, for the purpose of: the general operations of the district?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$3.70 and on a home with a market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$7.40. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years.

FOR the Additional Levy

AGAINST the Additional Levy

Luke Muszkiew	ricz		
Print Name of Board Chair		Signature of Board Chair	
T. Janelle Mick	elson		
Print Name of Clerk		Signature of Clerk	
DATED this	day of	, 20 .	

TRUSTEE RESOLUTION APPROVAL OF BALLOT LANGUAGE

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for School District No. 1, Lewis and Clark County, State of Montana, by a majority vote approves of the following ballot language for the ballot issue to be voted on at the Regular School Election to be held on May 5, 2020. The Board of Trustee of School District No. 1, further certifies that the ballot language contains all information required to be included pursuant to 15-10-425, MCA.

HELENA HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND LEVY

Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of one hundred eight thousand four hundred fifty-four DOLLARS (\$108,454) per year which is approximately .90 mills, for the purpose of: the general operations of the district?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$1.22 and on a home with a market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$2.43. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years.

FOR the Additional Levy

AGAINST the Additional Levy

Luke Muszkiew	vicz		
Print Name of Board Chair		Signature of Board Chair	
T. Janelle Mick	elson		
Print Name of Clerk		Signature of Clerk	
DATED this	day of	, 20 .	

Board of Trustees Work Session

Consideration of Action to Cancel High School Safety/Security Levy



IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items for Action

- 1. Declaration of Unforeseen Emergency (see attached)
- 2. Authorization to Determine Student Proficiency (see attached)
- 3. Authorization to Provide Offsite Instruction (see attached)
- 4. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena Elementary School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 5. Approval of Ballot Language for Helena High School District No. 1 General Fund Levy Proposition (see attached)
- 6. Resolution to Cancel Election of School and Student Safety and Security Building Reserve Fund Levy.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Background: After careful consideration including calculations of our multi-year budget projections, it is recommended that the Board of Trustees cancel the called, high school specific, safety and security levy.

The Helena Public Schools plan to utilize the existing Building Reserve Fund to upgrade the three high school buildings with elements consistent with our district's safety and security upgrade package. High school buildings include Helena High School, Capital High School and the Project for Alternative Learning (PAL) building. Upgrades are planned for the coming summer (2020) and include monitored, designated entry points and emergency message boards. These upgrades can be accomplished within the existing Building Reserve Fund.

Therefore, the Superintendent recommends cancelation of the called safety and security building reserve fund levy. This cancelation will allow the district to focus efforts on the two General Fund levies called for this May.

Recommendation: Cancel the high-school specific school and student safety and security building reserve fund levy and authorize the Lewis and Clark County election administrator, election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with 13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA.

TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CANCELLATION OF ELECTION SCHOOL AND STUDENT SAFETY AND SECURITY BUILDING RESERVE FUND LEVY

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for School District No. Helena High School District No. 1, Lewis and Clark County, State of Montana, by a majority vote, has determined that the School and Student Safety and Security Building Reserve Fund Levy is not required and authorizes the Lewis and Clark County election administrator, election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with <u>13-1-304</u> and <u>20-3-313</u>, MCA.

No further proce	edings were conducted relatir	ng to the election.	
Luke Mı	uszkiewicz		
Print Name of Board Chair		Signature of Board Chair	
T. Janell	e Mickelson	_	
Print Name of Clerk		Signature of Clerk	
DATED this	day of	, 20	



Superintendent Tyler Ream, Ed. D 324-2001 Business Manager Janelle Mickelson 324-2040

Board Work Session

Ray Bjork Learning Center 1600 8th Avenue Helena, MT 59601

Tuesday February 25, 2020 4:00p.m. Meeting

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE - Present unless otherwise noted

Luke Muszkiewicz, Board Chair Terry Beaver, Board Vice Chair Sarah Sullivan, Trustee Jeff Hindoien, Trustee Elizabeth "Libby" Goldes, Trustee Jennifer Walsh, Trustee Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee John McEwen, Trustee

Dr. Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Janelle Mickelson, Business Manager
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Stacy Collette, Human Resources Administrator
Sean Morrison, Special Education Administrator
Sean Maharg, Special Education Administrator
Kalli Kind, Director of Support Services
Jane Shawn, Helena Education Association President
Tim McMahon, Activities Administrator
Deb Jacobsen, Hawthorne Elementary Principal

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Luke Muszkiewicz called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Chair Muszkiewicz pulled the January minutes from the consent action items.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Item for Action:

1. Call for Annual Election

Janelle Mickelson presented the information to the Board of Trustees. The annual regular school election will be held on May 5th where trustees must call for election no later than 70 days before. HSD has an agreement with the Elections Office to conduct school elections for the district, which will be by mail. The drop off location for ballots is at the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office. Voters will select two trustees that represent K-8, Elementary district. These seats are for three-year terms. General fund mill levy approval for both the high school and elementary are also being requested at this time. In addition, the District is also requesting mill levy approval in the high school district for the cost of planning for improvements and maintenance of school and student safety and security. Such costs include the services of architects, engineers, SROs, counselors, or other staff or consultants assisting the district with school and student safety and security programs. Neither the ability to run a general fund mill levy, nor the amount of the levy will be known until after the issuance of the preliminary budget data sheets on March 1, 2020. However, due to the statutory requirements to call for the election no later than 70 days before, the recommendation is to include the mill levy request in the resolution. The student and school safety and security levies may be for any term, including perpetual.

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Call for Election for the Elementary District. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Call for Election for the

High School District. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried

2. Approval of the Hawthorne Safety and Security Bid Kalli Kind presented the bid to the Board of Trustees. The bid recommendation is for the safety security work to be completed at Hawthorne Elementary this summer. The base project bid includes controlled public access, keyless entry, exterior cameras and speakers, electronic reader Boards, and integrated communications. Alternate one is for an exterior canopy and screen wall at the entrance to the office. Alternate two is for an exterior canopy and screen wall on the remaining length of the ramp. Alternate three is for railing in lieu of the canopy and screen wall. Alternate four is for railing in lieu of the canopy and screen wall. Three bids were received: two from local contractors and one from a Bozeman contractor. All bids have been vetted thoroughly. Ms. Kind recommends to Award Abraham Construction Services the bid in the amount of \$871,000 using alternate one and two.

Deb Jacobsen offered input from the Hawthorne staff and community. The staff have been very cooperative and looking forward to the changes, especially being safe and secure for the students, as well as the community.

After much deliberation from the Board, questions about different options were brought to the table, however, taking away square footage from the playground will not work. Dr. Jacobsen offered making the school have more curb appeal. Trustee Terry Beaver argued that it is not educationally sound by eliminating a classroom within Hawthorne for the safety and security piece. Trustee Beaver does not support because he feels it isn't educationally sound. Talk of tabling the topic, however, Trustee Goldes pointed out that the district has a responsibility to the community with the bond and it shouldn't be put off. Ms. Kind pointed out that if we wait, we will not have a contract secured for this summer. Trustee Hindoien mentioned that the project will not look any differently if it is tabled. Trustee Sullivan added, the Board should have taken care of this issue with other Boards in the past and it had been put off before, therefore Trustee Sullivan is in support of the bid.

Motion: Libby Goldes moved to approve the Hawthorne Safety and

Security Bid. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Board Comment:** None

Vote: 6-2 The motion carried, Trustee Beaver and Trustee Hathhorn voted against the motion.

B. Consent Items:

1. Approval of Sabbatical Leaves for 2020-2021

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Consent Action Items.

Siobhan Hathhorn seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried.

Chair Muszkiewicz called a break at 5:28pm. The Board resumed at 5:40pm. Chair Muszkiewicz retracted the last motion, the Board will address consent items in the proper place on the agenda.

A. Item for Action:

3. HSD Policy 9000: Facility Goals

Barb Ridgway presented the policy to the Board of Trustees. This policy has had two readings. The committee believes we should continue to address our ongoing facility issues. Administration would be charged with developing procedures to ensure implementation of adopted policies.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve HSD Policy 9000. Libby

Goldes seconded the motion. **Public Comment:** None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried

4. HSD Policy 9001: Facility Planning

Barb Ridgway presented the policy to the Board of Trustees. This policy has had two reading. This policy establishes without limitation the criteria that need to be considered when building a new facility as well as maintain existing facilities.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve HSD Policy 9001. Libby

Goldes seconded the motion. **Public Comment:** None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried

5. Board Work Session Minutes January 28, 2020

Attendance needed to be corrected for the Board members and "individual" was spelled incorrectly.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve the minutes as amended. Sarah

Sullivan seconded the motion. **Public Comment:** None

Board Comment: None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried.

B. Consent Items:

1. Approval of Sabbatical Leaves for 2020-2021

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Consent Action Items.

Libby Goldes seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Board Comment:** None **Vote:** 8-0 The motion carried.

C. Items for Information:

1. HSD Policy 9002: Facility Master Plan

This policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. This policy has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy describes a process for managing the current facilities as well as defining how future facility needs will be determined. The plan will include covering three years and will list projects being considered for completion. Chair Muszkiewicz suggested making "three year" clearer.

2. HSD Policy 9210: Site Acquisition

This policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. This policy has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy requires the trustees to periodically review its land holdings in concert with other factors like area growth and the state of existing facilities to determine and best mee the needs of the District.

3. HSD Policy 9232: Educational Specifications

The policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. It has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. The primary criteria to be considered when designing new facilities are defined in general terms. The Board would like to strike "the".

4. HSD Policy 9350: District-Wide Asbestos Plan

The policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. It has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy requires the Superintendent to designate a person to ensure compliance with all requirements related to asbestos per federal and state statute. The district has always had these plans, just haven't had the policy in the past.

5. Report: District Assessment Practices

Dr. Tyler Ream presented the assessment practices to the Board. Assessment is an important part of any instructional framework. As actionable feedback, assessment data is necessary to determining instructional next steps. As a district, there are a number of assessments that are considered district level, meaning that they are not mandated by the state and are not as actionable or frequent as assessment practices employed by a school or individual teacher. The Teaching and Learning Committee has been assessing these different assessments to separate out

different practices with aligning instructional framework, reflection and adjustment, and planning and design. While the broad measures may be in attendance, climate, SES, and summative academic data and the school measures may be in standardized test, we need to keep in mind that the real meaningful assessment is below the water level. This is happening in the classroom with common summative exams, do-now, exit tickets, writing portfolios, and with project rubrics.

The narrative that assessments are harmful to instruction is, at best, misguided, and at worst, blatantly damaging. Instead of spending their time arguing about whether assessments are supplanting instructional time, educational stakeholders should be working together to gain clarity as to why they are utilizing assessments. Assessment is a critical part of every instructional cycle as the yielded data should be used to inform critical decisions related to instruction. Without these inputs, educators are left to push forward for the sake of teaching curriculum instead of ensuring meaningful learning.

Mid-year data meetings include dual-purpose meetings meant to review interim student data trends for mid-year instructional shifts and to assess educator views of current district assessment platform. These are typically included in a cross-section of teachers, an instruction coach (if applicable) and the administrator.

The next steps and planned enhancements are Analyzing (District) Interim Assessments: As a system, we are working to ensure that district assessments are actionable and aligned to MT standards (especially our identified essential standards. Furthermore, we must always ask the question, "is the data we receive back worth the effort?" Feedback trends are highlighting a number of current needs that must be addressed in advance of the 2020-21 school year. What can we reallocated in order to provide teachers with needed access to real-time data? The district wants to make sure each child grows while facilitating experiences without benchmarking.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ream updated the Board of Trustees on the Coronavirus article that was published. Superintendent Ream recently had a trading places discussion with Drenda Nieman who works for the Lewis and Clark County Health Department to address Coronavirus. At this time, however, influenza is more of a concern. A and B are in the schools. Protocols can be put in place and will be followed.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

Chair Muszkiewicz did a quick acknowledgement of Public Schools Week

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other topics for future meetings and no public comment on issues not on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m. by Board Chair Luke Muszkiewicz. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on March 10, 2020. The next Board Work Session will be held at Warren Elementary School on March 24, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,	
Luke Muszkiewicz, Chair	
Jessica Evans, Recording Secretary	Date

ACKNOWLEDGE OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS (HELENA RESIDENT STUDENTS ATTENDING OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS)

Discretionary:

Grade	District of Attendance
9	Jefferson High School
10	Jefferson High School
10	Jefferson High School
11	Jefferson High School
12	Jefferson High School
12	Jefferson High School
12	Jefferson High School

Running Total of Acknowledged Out-of-District Attendance Agreements (Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)

Grade	Clancy	Cascade PS	Townsend K-12	Jefferson HS	Total
K	1				1
1	4				4
2	3				3
3	3				3
4	2				2
5	2				2
6	4				4
7	5				5
8	2				2
9				1	1
10				2	2
11				4	4
12				3	3
					36