



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 Special Meeting

May Butler Center | 55 N. Rodney St., Helena, MT

Tuesday, November 26 | 11:00am

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- II. REVIEW OF AGENDA
- III. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** *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.*
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Items for Action**
 - 1. HB 387: Montana Advanced Opportunity Act proposal (see attached)
- V. BOARD COMMENTS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

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Forging the Future: Creating Career and College Opportunities
Montana Advanced Opportunity Act Background
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 19, 2019

House Bill 387 created the Montana Advanced Opportunity Act which provides opportunities to expand “personalized learning” allowing students to accelerate their career and college readiness and reduce out-of-pocket expenses for families. It also provides opportunity aid to Districts to support programs that advance pathways to careers and college.

Districts can apply for “advanced opportunity aid” for fiscal years 2021 and beyond. A high school district can apply for 20% of the district’s total quality educator payment. For the Helena high school district the maximum amount is \$144,166. Sixty percent of the total or \$86,500 must be used to reduce student and family out-of-pocket costs. Forty percent of the total or \$57,666 may be used to cover program/class costs.

The 60% or \$86,500 will enable the District to assist in covering portions of student/family out-of-pocket costs for the following:

- Cover a portion of the cost of AP exams at both CHS and HHS.
- Cover a portion of CTE course fees at both CHS and HHS.
- Gas costs for travel to internships and job sites for CHS, HHS and PAL.

The 40% or \$57,666 will enable the District to cover portions of costs associated with the following program/class costs:

- Project Lead the Way Teacher memberships
- Materials and equipment for CTE classes
- Teacher training for various CTE courses