



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 – Policy Committee Meeting

May Butler Center | 55 S. Rodney Ave

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

MINUTES

Attendees

Committee:

Libby Goldes, Committee Chair
Terry Beaver, Committee Member
John McEwen, Committee Member

Others:

Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Kalli Kind, Facilities Director
Elizabeth Kaleva, Attorney

I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm by Committee Chair, Libby Goldes.

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

There were no requested changes to the agenda.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

IV. REVIEW OF 02.13.2020 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

There were no requested changes to the previous meeting's minutes.

V. PRESENTATION OF POLICIES FOR SECOND REVIEW

A. Policy 9002: Facilities Master Plan

Ms. Goldes requested review of comments regarding this policy from the last Board Meeting. Ms. Ridgway replied that, in the last Board Meeting, concern was expressed over the policy being too rigid and creating extra staff work. As a result of the comments, Ms. Ridgway said, any reference to a specific number of years was removed from the policy. An additional change was the addition of the last sentence regarding the work to be reviewed annually by the Facilities & Maintenance Committee. The committee agreed to revise this policy and bring it back for review at the next meeting.

B. Policy 9210: Site Acquisition

Ms. Ridgway clarified this policy language following the last committee meeting and removed Lines 18-19 for additional clarity. The committee agreed to present this policy to the Board for a second reading.

C. Policy 9232: Educational Specifications

Mr. McEwen recommended combining Policies 9055 and 9232. Ms. Ridgway agreed that the committee could incorporate the language from Policy 9055 into Policy 9232, thus eliminating the former policy. The committee agreed to return this to the Policy Committee.

D. Policy 9350: District Wide Asbestos Plan

Ms. Ridgway said there were no requested changes to this policy at the last board meeting and recommended forwarding it back to the board for a second review. The committee agreed.

VI. PRESENTATION OF POLICIES FOR FIRST REVIEW

A. Policy 9035: Property, Plant, and Equipment Records

Ms. Ridgway explained this was an existing policy that would be moved into the Facilities Chapter. Ms. Goldes asked if the policy existed and was just being moved to a different chapter, would it still need to be approved. Ms. Ridgway answered that it would not need to be approved again. Mr. McEwen recommended removing “buildings and improvements” and changing assets to asset. He recommended removing “capital” from Line 12 and adding “assets” to Line 15. Ms. Ridgway answered “capital” could not be remove and that other changes would be reviewed by the district’s Business Manager, Janelle Mickelson. The committee decided to bring this policy back to the committee once changes had been reviewed.

B. Policy 9055: Operation and Maintenance of District Facilities

Ms. Ridgway reiterated the language in this policy will be incorporated into Policy 9232, and Policy 9055 will be removed.

C. Policy 9150: School Closure

Ms. Ridgway provided context on this policy and added it was adopted in 1999 as a result of the district not having policy in place when Ray Bjork Learning Center was closed. Mr. Beaver asked if the policy applied only to schools or also included all district buildings. Ms. Kaleva answered it applied to all buildings. Ms. Ridgway agreed to revise the language and present it back to the committee at the next meeting.

D. Policy 9460: Naming School Facilities, Spaces, and Programs

Ms. Ridgway said this policy was coming from the 8000 Series and added it was just revised in July 2019. The committee offered a few edits, and Ms. Ridgway agreed to make the changes. The committee agreed to present this policy to the full board for a first reading.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT / BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Kind provided an update regarding the removal of the solar panel lights at Four Georgians Elementary School, citing safety of students and staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair, Ms. Goldes, adjourned the meeting at 1:01pm.

Next Meeting: April 7, 2020 | MBC Conference Room