



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 – Teaching and Learning Committee

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 12:00 PM

This meeting will occur at the May Butler Center (55 S. Rodney – Helena, MT. 59601) and via Microsoft Teams. Due to the size constraints of our available conference room, maximum capacity at the in-person meeting is limited to six participants - including committee members (3) and the superintendent (1)

To participate remotely, please use this link: <https://helenaschools.org/event/board-of-trustees-teaching-learning-committee-meeting-03-03-2021/>.

Committee Purpose Statement: The Teaching and Learning Committee collectively works to operationalize the strategic priorities of the Helena Public Schools specifically in areas related to our goals and measures for teaching and learning.

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**
- II. **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.*
- III. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**
- IV. **REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE 02.03.2021 COMMITTEE MEETING**
- V. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
 - A. **Summer Planning/Programming Update** *(J. McKay)*
Briefly discuss ongoing planning for forthcoming summer programming
 - B. **Performance Matters Overview** *(G. Myers)*
Preview Performance Matters as a forthcoming initiative to better aid data analysis and instructional planning
- VI. **BOARD COMMENTS**
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting:
April 7, 2021 | Hybrid Meeting (online/in-person)



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Board of Trustees – Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 – 12:00pm

MINUTES - DRAFT

ATTENDANCE

Trustees:

Sarah Sullivan, Committee Chair
Jennifer Walsh, Committee Member

Others:

Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum & Instruction
Tim McMahon, Activities Director
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology
Sean Maharg, Special Education Administrator
Kayla Lunnon, Educator
Christy Mock-Stutz, Literacy Coach
Jane Shawn, HEA President

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:03pm by Committee Chair, Sarah Sullivan.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the January 6, 2021, committee meeting were reviewed.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION: High School Mathematics Overview: Curriculum and Methods and Impact of Required Third Year of Mathematics

Ms. Sullivan provided context to the discussion by reminding the committee that board made a decision six years ago to add a year of math to the curriculum. The discussion was intended as an evaluation to gauge the effectiveness of that decision.

Mr. McKay told the committee 23 credits were required for graduation – including three credits for math. He presented the current math pathways chart found in high school registration information and explained each of the paths. Ms. Davidson added there were three dual-credit math classes were offered to juniors and seniors: technical math, contemporary math, and college algebra.

Ms. Sullivan asked how this information was communicated with students and families. Mr. McKay answered it was provided in registration materials, and counselors discussed the options with students.

Mr. McKay provided committee members with a copy of the Montana University System requirements for enrollment – which included an Algebra II level class. He clarified that admission standards for two-year schools varied by program. Mr. McKay said OPI was considering requiring three years of math for all graduating seniors, but it was still on a district-by-district basis. He added the intent for requiring three years in the district was to provide students with options for their futures post-graduation.

Ms. Lunnon provided the committee with an overview of the support pieces utilized at the district, with the assistance of Michelle Douglas, to address issues with failure rates in math classes. She added the intent of continual adjustment and intervention was to help students see success. One example of support pieces detailed by Ms. Lunnon was offering students make up time to focus on key standards pieces rather than having to complete an entire semester of a class. Mr. McKay added there was a lot of professional development opportunities to determine implementation of these new practices.

Ms. Sullivan asked for confirmation that, based on the information provided, 50% of jobs needed Algebra II. Mr. McKay answered they needed the essential standards. He added it was important for students to know which classes they need for the jobs they wanted.

Ms. Walsh requested confirmation that four years of math was required for a four-year college/university. Mr. McKay confirmed.

Ms. Walsh asked if counselors were working with students to determine which pathway students should choose. Ms. Davidson answered they were, adding colleges wanted more math, science, and foreign languages, so counselors were recommending students take as many math and science classes as they could prior to graduation.

Ms. Sullivan discussed the option of presenting this information to the full board.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

No additional comments were offered.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46pm by Ms. Sullivan.

Teaching & Learning Committee

Helena Public Schools

Monthly Agenda Items

2020/2021

September 2, 2020 Committee Meeting

- Overview of Summer Planning Efforts/Accomplishments

October 7, 2020 Committee Meeting

- Development of Monthly Committee Topics
- Standards-Based Grading Update

November 4, 2020 Committee Meeting:

- Review/Discuss Preliminary Meeting Calendar/Topics
- Technology Department Overview

December 2, 2020 Committee Meeting

- Montessori Program

January 6, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Assessment Platform Update
- Draft 21/22 High School Course Offerings

February 3, 2021 Committee Meeting

- High School Mathematics Overview: Curriculum and Methods
- Impact of Required Third Year of Mathematics

March 3, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Assessment Platform Update
- Performance Matters Overview (post mid-year)

April 7, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Social-Emotional Supports (Part I: Overview and Tier I)

May 7, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Social-Emotional Supports (Part II: Tier II and Tier III)

June 4, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Survey Update