



*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 Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 12:00pm

### MINUTES

#### ATTENDANCE

##### *Trustees:*

Sarah Sullivan, Committee Chair  
Jennifer Walsh, Committee Member  
Jennifer McKee, Committee Member  
Siobhan Hathhorn, Committee Member

##### *Others:*

Tyler Ream, Superintendent  
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent  
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff  
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology  
Justine Alberts, Hawthorne Principal  
Erin Hunt, CR Anderson Educator  
Jane Shawn, HEA President

#### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm by Committee Chair, Sarah Sullivan.

#### GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

#### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the February 3, 2021, committee meeting were reviewed.

#### IV. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

##### A. Summer Planning/Programming Update

Mr. McKay provided the committee with an overview of the math and reading recovery instruction planned for this summer. This Grade K-8 program will be offered Monday through Friday, with SAAC available before and after school. It will focus on having a “camp feeling” rather than the traditional summer school. The program will target students identified by schools as having the most need – academically, socially, and emotionally, and remaining slots may become available for other students. Mr. McKay said sites best fitting the program would

be utilized, and special education opportunities would run parallel to the program. Over the summer, high schools would focus on credit recovery for students.

Ms. Hathhorn asked if class sizes would be smaller than during the school year. Mr. McKay replied they would be smaller, or they would have tutors.

Ms. Sullivan asked how long the program would run. Mr. McKay answered it would be offered for seven-eight weeks beginning in June. He added they wanted to identify the approximate number of participating students prior to considering staffing needs. The program would need staffing other than educators since meals would be provided and transportation was being considered.

Ms. Walsh asked if preference would be given to students who had a sibling recommended for the program. Dr. Ream replied it could be an option; they had yet to determine the process for awarding empty slots.

Ms. Sullivan asked if there would be a DLI option. Mr. McKay replied they were working through the logistics of that option.

Ms. Sullivan asked if there would be testing in the program. Mr. McKay answered groups of students would be tracked to best allocate appropriate resources.

## **B. Performance Matters Overview**

Mr. Myers provided the committee with an overview of the Performance Matters tool, which helped teachers leverage data in real time to maximize instruction in the classroom. Previously, assessment data from iReady, state assessments, benchmark testing, STAAR results, etc. was compiled into a spreadsheet, which made monitoring and evaluating the data an arduous project. Mr. Myers said that while rollout initially has been scheduled for spring of 2020, it was extended through last summer.

Mr. Myers informed the committee of Performance Matters' hosted environment, which allows focus to be placed on the end-user experience. Teachers and administrators logged in via PowerSchool, and a student/parent option may be added in the future. Data was retained for students for their entire k-12 experience and was archived for five years beyond that. This allowed for teachers and administrators to get to know their students academically prior to having them in class.

Mr. Myers walked through the Performance Matters platform at the district, administrator, and teacher levels.

Ms. Hunt provided an update on how she utilizes Performance Matters to propagate reports with student-specific data. She added an additional benefit was pulling assessment data from incoming students to assist in master scheduling. She added it was important to see data in real time for students rather than seeing results when it was too late to make instructional adjustments.

Ms. Sullivan asked if one person at each school was responsible for pulling data from Performance Matters. Ms. Hunt answered any teacher could view the data, but not all teachers had been trained.

Ms. Sullivan asked if Performance Matters takes the place of a Data & Assessment Administrator. Mr. McKay replied experts were still needed to evaluate data for the district as a whole.

Ms. Hathhorn asked if the platform allowed for state comparisons. Ms. Hunt answered those comparisons were available through OPI's GEM site, not Performance Matters.

**V. BOARD COMMENTS**

No additional comments were offered.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12pm by Ms. Sullivan.