



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 – Budget and Finance Committee

Friday, August 06, 2021 – 12:00pm

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Committee Members:

John McEwen, Committee Chair
Terry Beaver, Committee Member
Janet Armstrong, Committee Member

Others:

Rex Weltz, Superintendent
Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent
Luke Muszkiewicz, Board Chair
Janelle Mickelson, Business Services
Administrator
Stacy Collete, Human Resources Director
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Gary Myers, Education Technology Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, John McEwen, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mr. McEwen moved agenda item VA, Create monthly agenda items for 2021-2022 year, to the bottom of Items for Information/Discussion so the committee could get right to the review of the 2021-2022 budget.

IV. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The March 16, 2021, committee meeting minutes were reviewed. No changes were made.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Review 2021-2022 Budget

Mr. Weltz commented that in his 15 years of administration and 5th year as a superintendent, this was by far the most thorough report he had ever seen. It is a testament to Janelle and her skillset. He said he was very impressed with the detail and thoroughness of this report.

The committee then reviewed and discussed the 2021-2022 budget including details such as FTE, technology needs, funds, and expenditures, ESSER funds, grants, the new salary matrix, property and liability insurance, District income, levy information, increases and decreases in state funding, and staffing changes.

The transportation budget, the building reserve budget, safety and security upgrades, the MOU with the city regarding Resource Officers in school, and the building bonds were discussed by the committee. Completed safety and security projects were also discussed.

Lastly, they reviewed the elementary and high school fund chart.

B. Review June 30th Financial Report

The committee reviewed and discussed the June 30th financial report and discussed the details of the elementary and high school fund chart.

C. Update on ESSER Funds

The committee reviewed the Corona Virus Relief Funding report and discussed the information including CARES - State Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I), CARES - Governor's Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), the CRRSA - State Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II), and the ARP - State Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER III).

The committee then discussed funds that were used towards staffing the summer school- Camp Ascension. The district has received a lot of great feedback from parents and other districts about the summer school program and how beneficial it was for the social and emotional health of students in the district.

D. Create Monthly Agenda Items For 2021-2022 Year

Possible agenda items for the future committee meetings discussed included an audit of the Special Education Department services and other programs that could fit into those services, looking at student enrollment after the fall count-school census, negotiations for collective bargaining units, update five year budget projections , tech levy, building reserve levy, the ongoing monthly report, and the high school bond. Also, an assessment of where we are regarding the buildings and what costs are needed for repairs and rebuilds.

VI. BOARD COMMENT

There were no additional board comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McEwen adjourned the meeting at 1:06 PM.