



*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, June 24th, 2022 – 12:00pm

### MINUTES

#### ATTENDEES

##### Committee Members:

Janet Armstrong, Committee Chair  
Kay Satre, Committee Member

##### Others:

Rex Weltz, Superintendent  
Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum Administrator  
Kaitlyn Hess, HSD TOSA  
Janelle Mickelson, Business Services  
Administrator & District Clerk  
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent  
Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent  
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff  
Gary Myers, Director of Educational  
Technology  
Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant  
Karen Odgen, Communications Officer  
Siobhan Hathorn, Board Chair

#### I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair, Janet Armstrong, called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

#### II. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were offered.

#### III. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The committee reviewed and approved the 05.13.22 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

**V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

**A. Budget to Actual Reports**

Mrs. Janelle Mickelson, Business Services Administrator and District Clerk, reviewed the budget to actual reports for the elementary with the committee. Mrs. Mickelson explained that the elementary fund is very tight due to the retroactive teacher pay. The committee moved on to review the budget to actual reports for the high school with the Budget and Finance Committee. Mrs. Mickelson proceeded to answer any questions the committee had about the budget to actual reports.

**B. ESSER Financial Update**

Mrs. Mickelson reviewed the ESSER financial report with the Budget and Finance Committee and answered any questions the committee members had about remaining ESSER funds.

**C. Overview of Budgeted Funds**

Mrs. Mickelson gave the Budget and Finance Committee members a handout that explained budgeted funds categories such as general, transportation, bus depreciation reserve, tuition, retirement, adult education, technology, flexibility, debit service, and building reserve.

**D. General Fund Discussion**

The committee had a robust discussion about the general fund, accreditation standards, class sizes, and future planning for the budget.

**E. Technology Levy Discussion**

The committee discussed the technology levy. Mr. Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology, discussed current levy statistics, why we need a new technology levy, and funding options. The last technology levy passed in 2005, and since then, there has been incredible changes in technology, and we use technology in so many ways in the school District. Mr. Myers answered any questions the committee members had about the technology levy.

**F. Building Reserve Levy Discussion**

The committee discussed the building reserve levy. This is one of the most urgent levies because there are only two years left on it, and if the levy does not pass, we lose it, whereas the tech levy is a perpetual levy. The committee also mentioned the importance of the high school general fund levy. The technology levy, building reserve levy, and high school general fund levy are real needs for the District, and incredibly important. The committee discussed the need to educate the public about the importance of these levies.

**VI. BOARD COMMENT**

There were no further comments.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.