



*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

Tuesday, September 6th, 2022-12:00 p.m.

Lincoln Center

1325 Poplar St., Helena, MT 59601

And via

TEAMS

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## MINUTES

### *Attendees*

#### *Committee: Others:*

Luke Muszkiewicz, Committee Chair	Rex Weltz, Superintendent
Janet Armstrong, Committee Member	Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum Administrator
Jennifer Walsh, Committee Member	Elizabeth Kaleva, District Counsel
	Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
	Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent
	Karen Ogden, Communications Officer
	Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant
	Jane Shawn, HEA President
	Gary Myers, Education Technology Director
	Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
	Jannelle Mickelson, Business Manager
	Shannon McNamee, Nurse
	Brett Zanto, CHS Principal
	Steve Thennis, HHS Principal

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Committee Chair, Luke Muszkiewicz.

**II. REVIEW OF AGENDA**

No changes were requested to the agenda.

**III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**IV. REVIEW OF THE 05.03.2022 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 05.03.2022 Policy Committee meeting.

**V. PRESENTATION OF POLICIES FOR FOURTH READING**

A. Policy 3010: School Admissions

The committee reviewed and discussed Policy 3010: School Admissions. The committee discussed lines 15 through 19 which states that: *The Trustees may also admit an individual who has graduated from high school but is not yet 19 years of age even though no special circumstances exist for waiver of the age provision or a student who is not yet 19 years of age and experienced educational disruption and was awarded a diploma as a result and seeks access to reasonable curriculum designed to advance postsecondary success.* The committee next reviewed changes reflected on lines 58 through 63 which address relocated military families and their children. The committee determined that Policy 3010: School Admissions would go to the full board for review.

**VI. PRESENTATION OF POLICIES FOR FIRST READING**

A. Policy 3070: Administration of Medication Policy

The committee reviewed and discussed Policy 3070: Administration of Medication Policy. This policy is being modified to include the administration of naloxone. The policy states: *The District will obtain naloxone through the Montana Department of Health and Human Services to be housed securely in both high schools, both middle schools and the alternative high school. The District shall develop protocols for administering naloxone and will provide training as required by law.* Shannon McNamee, Helena School District nurse, discussed Montana death statistics for students aged 12 to 17 from misuse of prescription drugs. Naloxone can save a life, and the most important thing about naloxone is you are not going to injure a person if it is in fact not an overdose. The committee also discussed the new citation § 20-5-426, MCA *Emergency use of opioid antagonist in school setting – limit on liability.* The committee determined that Policy 3070: Administration of Medication Policy

will go to the full board for review.

B. Policy 2015: Curriculum Development, Content and Assessment Policy

The committee reviewed and discussed Policy 2015: Curriculum Development, Content and Assessment Policy. This is an existing policy with additions on lines 34 through 37 which states: *The District will provide gifted and talented coursework. The District will provide structured support and assistance to teachers in identifying and meeting the diverse student needs of gifted and talented students and a framework for considering a full range of alternatives for addressing student needs.* The committee determined that Policy 2015: Curriculum Development, Content and Assessment Policy would go to the full board for review.

C. Policy 3055: Student Due Process Rights Policy

The committee reviewed and discussed Policy 3055: Student Due Process Rights Policy. The committee discussed changes reflected on lines 61 through 66 which states: *Before expelling a student for bringing a gun to school, the trustees will hold a due process hearing that includes presentation of a summary of the information leading to the allegations and an opportunity for the student to respond to the allegations. The student may not be expelled unless the trustees find that the student knowingly brought a firearm to school or possessed a firearm at school.* The committee determined that Policy 3055: Student Due Process Rights Policy would come back to the policy committee for further discussion.

D. Policy 2135: K-12 Online Learning Policy

The committee reviewed and discussed Policy 2135: K-12 Online Learning Policy. The new language on lines 12 through 14 states: *The District may charge students a reasonable fee for an online course, or an activity not required for graduation. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to waive the fee in cases of financial hardship. Any courses the District does not pay for will not be included in the ANB calculation.* The committee determined that Policy 2135: K-12 Online Learning Policy would be sent to the full board for review.

## VII. DISCUSSION: ALTERNATIVE COURSE ENROLLMENT

The committee moved on to discuss alternative course enrollment. The committee discussed the issue of full-time students taking required courses from alternative providers (e.g., homeschool, online, etc.). Requests have been made to have courses taken from alternative providers count toward graduation even if the course is offered by HPS. General consensus was that students who are enrolled fulltime must take Helena School District courses and alternative courses of their choosing will only count towards graduation if a request is pre-approved by the principal and the course is not offered by HPS. The committee determined that the topic of alternative course enrollment would require further discussion by the committee.

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD COMMENTS**

There were no additional comments.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chair, Luke Muszkiewicz, adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.