



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, October 5th, 2022 – 12:00pm

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Trustees:

Siobhan Hathhorn, Board Chair
Janet Armstrong, Trustee
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee

Others:

Rex Weltz, Superintendent
Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum Administrator
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Jane Shawn, HEA President
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent 6-12
Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent K-5
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology
Sarah Simpson, Principal at Smith Elementary
Justine Alberts, Principal at Hawthorne Elementary
Karen Ogden, Communications Officer
Jonna Schwartz, Instructional Coach
Melissa Romano-Lehman, Instructional Coach
Kelly Connolly, Instructional Coach
Kayla Lunnon, Instructional Coach
Christy Mock-Stutz, Instructional Coach
Kaitlyn Hess, Assessment and Federal Programs

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 09.07.22 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Overview of Fall Benchmark Data

Mrs. Joslyn Davidson-Curriculum Administrator, and Mrs. Kaitlyn Hess-Assessment and Federal Programs, gave an overview of the fall benchmark data with the Teaching and Learning Committee. Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess reviewed norm-referenced assessments (i.e. CogAT) and criterion-referenced assessments (i.e. iReady, SBAC, ACT, Acadience) with the committee and discussed that students are scored according to their own individual performance on individual standards and we can use the results to determine gaps in instructional programming and through the CIC continue to improve upon instructional programming so that students have a better opportunity to learn standards and build upon skills.

Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess reviewed grades K-5 fall assessment data with the Teaching and Learning Committee. For iReady Reading grades 2-11 there was a 95% completion rate. For iReady Math grades 1-11 there was a 95% completion rate. For Acadience Reading grades K-1 there was a 100% completion rate. For Montana Science Assessment (spring 2021) grades 5 and 8 there was a 100% completion rate. The committee reviewed the data for last year's kindergarten students in the fall of 2021 to this year's data for 1st graders in the fall of

2022. The committee next reviewed the iReady reading trend data for grades 2-5 and iReady grades 2-5 national norms and national placement distribution comparison data in reading. Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess moved on to review the iReady Math trend data for grades 1-5, the iReady grades 1-5 national norms and national placement distribution comparison data in Math, and data for the 5th grade Montana Science Assessment.

The committee moved on to review grades 6-8 fall assessment data. Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess reviewed the data for iReady Reading grades 6-8 and iReady grades 6-8 national norms and national placement distribution comparison data in reading. The committee also reviewed iReady Math data for grades 6-8, iReady grades 6-8 national norms and national placements distribution comparison data in Math, and Montana Science Assessment data for 8th grade. Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess reviewed the iReady grades 2-8 national norms and national placement distribution comparison data in reading, and iReady grades 1-8 national norms and national placement distribution comparison data in Math.

The committee concluded by reviewing grades 9-11 fall assessment data. Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Hess reviewed the data for iReady Reading grades 9-11 and iReady Math grades 9-11.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

The trustees expressed their concern with the data for the iReady Math Trends for Grades 1-5 and stressed the importance of the district focusing on math proficiency and growth in the schools.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m. by Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn.