



*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 Work Session

Tuesday, November 29th, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. | Smith Elementary and via TEAMS

### MINUTES

#### ATTENDEES

<i>Trustees</i>	<i>Others</i>
Siobhan Hathhorn, Board Chair	Rex Weltz, Superintendent
Jennifer McKee, Vice Chair	Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent 6-12
Luke Muszkiewicz, Trustee	Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Terry Beaver, Trustee	Janelle Mickelson, Business Manager
Lois Fitzpatrick, Trustee	Todd Verrill, Facilities Director
Janet Armstrong, Trustee	Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent K-6
Kay Satre, Trustee	Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology
	Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director
	Karen Ogden, Communications Officer
	Sarah Simpson, Smith Elementary Principal
	Lona Carter, School Health Grant Facilitator
	Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant
	Several Guests of the Public

#### I. TOUR OF SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### II. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. PRESENTATION

The Board of Trustees and Superintendent Weltz reviewed a short presentation given by Sarah Simpson, Principal of Smith Elementary. Principal Simpson began by discussing the demographics at Smith Elementary School.

#### Staff

21 Educators  
9 Para Educators (including 2 overage and 1 MLL para educator)  
1 Speech Pathologist  
PT School Psychologist  
PT OT & PT  
1 Instructional Coach  
1 Title Teacher  
PT School Nurse  
2 CSCT  
1 School Counselor  
PT IEFA Tutor  
1 Secretary

#### Students

293 Students  
12% of students with an academic IEP  
20% of students with a Speech and Language IEP

#### School

Title School  
Lower and Upper Montessori Classrooms  
Afterschool SACC program  
Parents for Smith and HPMP

Principal Simpson concluded her presentation by discussing academic goals, instructional goals, building relationships, communication, and the School Leadership Team.

### IV. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Board Chair Siobhan Hathorn reviewed the agenda with the Board of Trustees. Due to an error in the 10.25.22 Board Work Session Minutes (*Trustee Kay Satre was in attendance at*

*the 10.25.22 Board Work Session meeting, however, the minutes did not reflect that) the Trustees determined that those minutes would be pulled as a Consent Action Item on the agenda and amended. The Trustees will individually take action on the amended 10.25.22 Board Work Session minutes.*

The Board of Trustees moved on to General Public Comment.

**V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no general public comment offered.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Item For Information**

**1. Spring Levies Discussion**

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent Weltz, and other members of the administrative team attending the meeting had a robust discussion about spring levies, and how many levies should be put forth this spring. Mrs. Janelle Mickelson, Business Manager for the Helena Public Schools, provided the group with a proposed elections timeline. The document included proposed levies for May 2023, May 2024, May 2025, and May 2026. For each proposed levy it also showed the estimated proposal amount, the estimated dollar increase, the impact on a \$100,000 home, the impact on a \$200,000 home, the current impact on a \$100,00 home, the current impact on a \$200,000 home, the duration, and uses of funds. The group discussed that the proposed numbers for May 2023 could change based upon the spring enrollment count. The Trustees discussed that bills in the upcoming legislative session could have an impact on passing the levies. In conclusion, the Trustees discussed that the group would come to a collective final decision in January about what levies they would want to run in the spring.

The Board of Trustees moved on to review the Item For Action.

**B. Item For Action**

**1. 10.25.22 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes**

Siobhan Hathorn, Board Chair, commented. "I would entertain a motion for the 10.25.22 Board Work Session meeting minutes as amended."

**Motion:** Trustee Luke Muszkiewicz moved to approve the 10.25.22 Board Work Session meeting minutes as amended. Trustee Jennifer McKee seconded the motion.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote:** 7-0 motion carries unanimously.

**VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Siobhan Hathhorn, Board Chair, discussed upcoming meetings with the Board of Trustees.

- December 5<sup>th</sup>, Facilities and Maintenance Committee Meeting, Noon
- December 7<sup>th</sup>, Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting, Noon
- December 9<sup>th</sup>, Policy Committee Meeting, Noon
- December 13<sup>th</sup>, Executive Committee Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
- December 13<sup>th</sup>, Budget and Finance Committee Meeting, Noon
- December 13<sup>th</sup>, Full Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

**VIII. BOARD COMMENTS**

There were no additional board comments.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

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Candice Delvaux, Recording Secretary