



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, May 23rd, 2023

Kessler Elementary

2420 Choteau St., Helena, MT 59601

& Via TEAMS

11:00 a.m.

Members of the public can attend in person or remotely by clicking the link below:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the time for comment on public matters that are not on the agenda. Public matters do not include any pending legal matters, private personnel issues or private student issues. Please do not attempt to address such issues at this time or you will be ruled out of order. The Board cannot enter into a discussion during General Public Comment.

IV. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

1. 4.25.2023 Open Session Board Work Session Minutes
2. 4.25.2023 Closed Session Board Work Session Minutes

V. PRESENTATIONS

Principal Riley Thatcher, Kessler Elementary School
Neal Murray, Safety and Operations Manager

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 05/23/2023

Item IV.1- IV.2

Consent Action Items

Item Title: IV. Consent Action Items

- 1. 04.25.23 Open Session Board Work Session Minutes
- 2. 04.25.23 Closed Session Board Work Session Minutes

Board Action	1st Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Other
Hathhorn					
McKee					
Beaver					
Satre					
Walsh					
Armstrong					
Hindoien					
Cleatus					



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Board of Trustees

Work Session

Tuesday, April 25th, 2023

1325 Poplar St., Helena, MT 59601

12:00 p.m.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Siobhan Hathhorn, Chair	Rex Wertz, Superintendent
Jennifer McKee, Vice Chair	Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent 6-12
Janet Armstrong, Trustee	Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent K-5
Terry Beaver, Trustee	Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology
Luke Muszkiewicz, Trustee	Jane Shawn, HEA President
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee	Bea Kaleva, District Legal Counsel
Kay Satre, Trustee	Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director
	Lona Carter, School Health Grant Facilitator
	Todd Verrill, Facilities Director
	Janelle Mickelson, Business Manager
	Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

The Board of Trustees reviewed the agenda and determined that there would not be enough time in the meeting for Item VI. Presentation from Mr. Neal Murray, Safety and Operations Manager, therefore, they pulled this item from the agenda. The Trustees discussed that this

presentation could take place at a future board meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

1. Student Discipline Hearing

(This portion of the meeting will be closed because the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. MCA 2-3-203). Any related action will be taken in open session.)

The Board of Trustees entered closed session at 12:06 p.m.

The Board of Trustees reentered open session at 2:36 p.m.

IV. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Board Decision Regarding Student Discipline Hearing
2. 03.21.23 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

1. Board Decision Regarding Student Discipline Hearing

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn asked if she had a motion regarding the student discipline hearing.

Motion: Trustee Terry Beaver moved to accept the administrative recommendation to expel the student permanently. Trustee Jennifer McKee seconded the motion.

Vote:

Terry Beaver: Yes

Jennifer McKee: Yes

Kay Satre: No

Janet Armstrong: No

Siobhan Hathhorn: Yes

Luke Muszkiewicz: Yes

Jennifer Walsh: Yes

5-2 motion passes.

2. 03.21.23 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented. "I would entertain a motion to approve the 03.21.23 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes."

Motion: Trustee Luke Muszkiewicz moved to approve the 03.21.23 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes. Trustee Terry Beaver seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 7-0 motion carries unanimously.

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn reviewed upcoming meetings with the Board of Trustees.

- Monday, May 1st, 12:00 p.m. Facilities and Maintenance Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 2nd, 12:00 p.m., Policy Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 2nd, 5:30 p.m., Special Board Meeting
- Wednesday, May 3rd, 12:00 p.m., Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 9th, 11:00 a.m., Executive Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 9th, 12:00 p.m., Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 9th, 5:30 p.m., Full Board Meeting
- Tuesday, May 16th, 5:30 p.m., Special Board Meeting
- Tuesday, May 23rd, 11:00 a.m., Board Work Session, Kessler Elementary School
- Tuesday, May 30th, 11:00 a.m., Special Board Meeting

VII. BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Luke Muszkiewicz reminded the Board of Trustees that the Facilities Master Plan Key Stakeholder meeting will be on April 26th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Lincoln Center. There were no further board comments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.

Candice Delvaux, Recording Secretary Date

Kessler Elementary

May 23rd, 2023

Presentation to the Helena Public Schools
School Board of Trustees



Mission Statement

The primary purpose of Kessler School is to provide a high-quality education for students in a safe, engaging, and caring environment where each individual becomes a successful and responsible citizen.



Kessler Elementary

Staff

- 11 classroom teachers
- 1 SPED teacher
- 1 SPED interventionist
- 1 Counselor
- 1 Librarian
- .5 Music - split with Hawthorne
- .5 PE - split with Hawthorne
- .5 SLP - split with Hawthorne
- .5 Nurse – split with HHS
- .5 School Psych- split with Central
- 8 Paraeducators: 4 SPED, 2 Gen. Ed, 1, OFFICE, .5 overage
- 1 Day & 1 Evening Custodian
- 2 Food Service Staff
- 2 SACC employees
- 1 Administrator
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Instructional Coach



Student Statistics

Enrollment = 238

- K 36
 - 1 43
 - 2 43
 - 3 41
 - 4 36
 - 5 39
- Attendance Percentage 89.74%
 - Free and Reduced Percentage 31.85%
 - McKinney Vento Percentage 10.5%
 - 2022-2023 PTC Attendance
 - 99% in November
 - 98% in March



Classrooms

- 11 gen education classrooms
 - 2 Kindergarten
 - 2 First
 - 2 Second
 - 2 Third
 - 1 Fourth
 - 1 Fourth/Fifth Combo
 - 1 Fifth

Facilities

- **Built in 1936**
 - 7 renovations
(1948, 1956, 1964, 1967,1976,1987,1994)
 - Parking lot paved 2017
 - Safety & security upgrades, staff lounge added 2020
 - Safety fence added 2022
- **Community Building Use**
 - YMCA
 - Sports clubs
 - Stampede



“All In”

Connection & Consistency



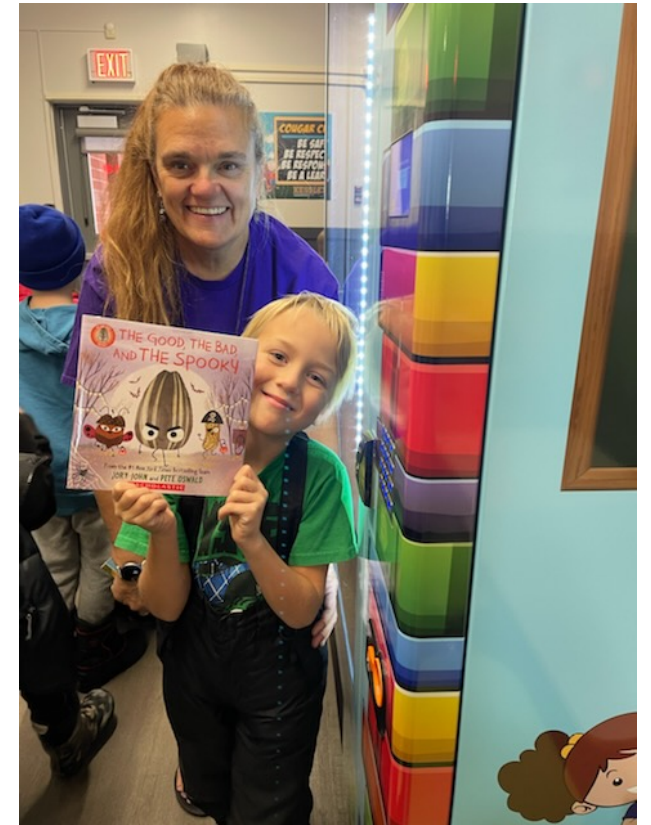
Dress up Days & Hat Days



Family Nights

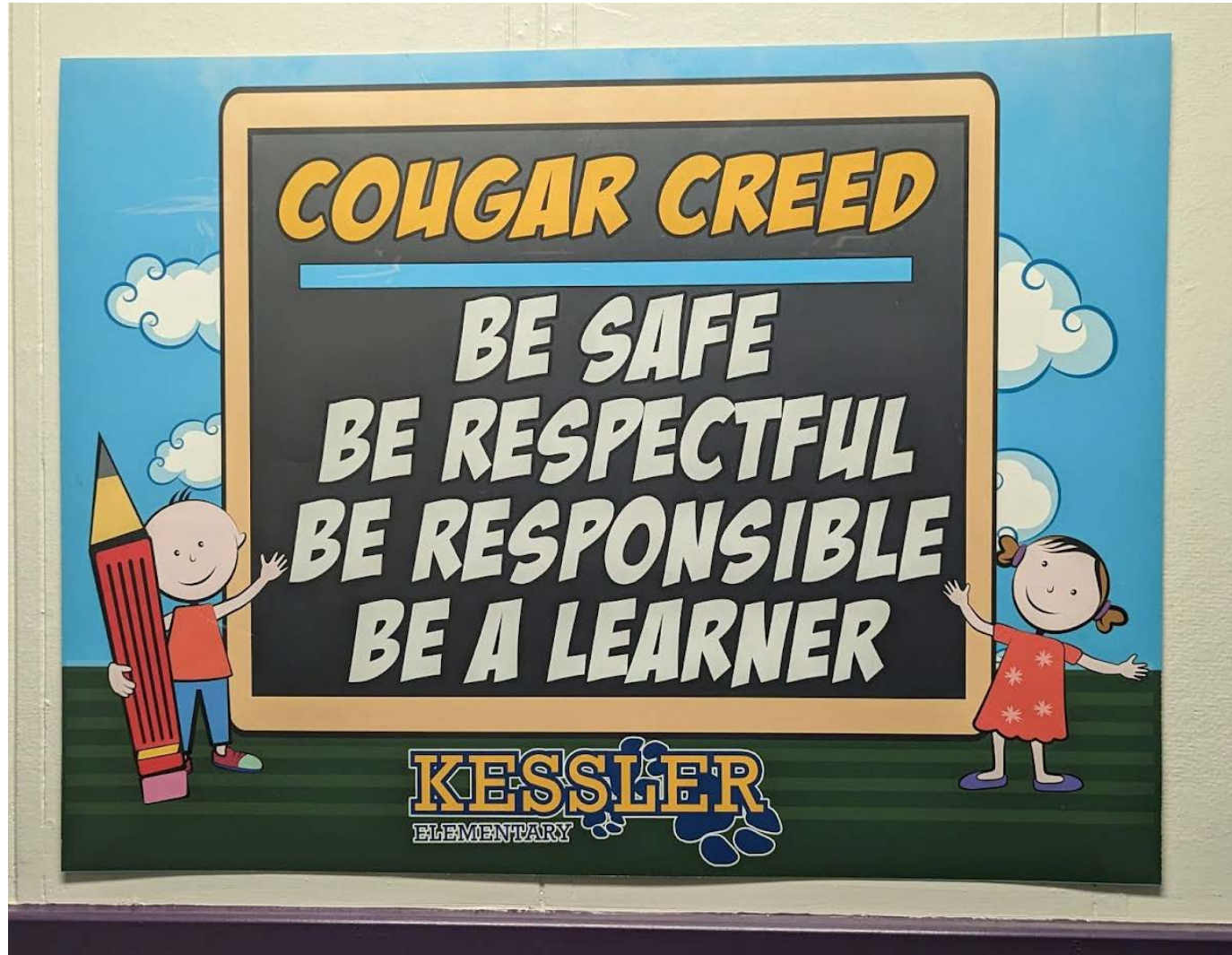


Jobs, Conflict Managers, PAX Leaders



“Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

Cougar Creed





Safety and Security

Helena Public Schools



Safety & Security Overview

- ▶ K-8 Safety & Security Bond
 - ▶ Security upgrades and new schools
 - ▶ Bond Spend Down
- ▶ 9-12 Safety & Security
 - ▶ Secured entries and emergency dial codes
- ▶ Communications upgrades
 - ▶ Automated notifications
- ▶ Systems Testing and Spot Checks
 - ▶ 911 and emergency dial codes
- ▶ SEC Report
 - ▶ Interior door numbers and additional training.




Emergency Response Preparation


- ▶ Safety Training
 - ▶ New Employee Orientation – District Safety Overview
 - ▶ Playground Safety Inspection Training
 - ▶ All elementary playground paras and day custodians
 - ▶ CPR, First Aid, AED, and Stop the Bleed
 - ▶ Fire Prevention and Extinguisher Use
 - ▶ Run, Lock, Fight Trainings / Active Shooter

- ▶ Practicing Emergency Response
 - ▶ 8 Practice Drills Required
 - ▶ 4 fire drills with evacuation
 - ▶ 4 other drills - can choose from



Meetings and Partner Collaborations

- ▶ Building Level Safety Committees
 - ▶ District Safety Committee – Monthly
 - ▶ City/County Parks Advisory Board – Monthly
 - ▶ Local Emergency Planning Committee – Monthly
 - ▶ HSD Safety and Security Group – Monthly
 - ▶ Chief of Police and City Manager - Quarterly
- 



Access Control and Facility Use

- ▶ Managing Door Access
 - ▶ 605 Exterior Doors
 - ▶ 166 Fully Managed Doors
 - ▶ Schedules and door programming
- ▶ Facility Use
 - ▶ External Community Use
 - ▶ 3252+ events
 - ▶ Internal School Use
 - ▶ 6502+ events



Safety and Operations Manager

- ▶ Trainings and Certifications
 - ▶ FEMA Incident Command Systems (ICS) Training
 - ▶ ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-700, ICS-800
 - ▶ FEMA Seismic Hazards Training
 - ▶ FEMA P-154, FEMA 395 (Earthquake Safety and Mitigation for Schools)
 - ▶ Certified Playground Safety Inspector
 - ▶ 20 hours of CE credits in two years for renewal
 - ▶ Certified Water Operator
 - ▶ 20 hours of CE credits in two years for renewal
 - ▶ Distribution – physical delivery
 - ▶ Treatment – quality assurance



Challenges & Future Needs

- High School Bond to include safety & security
- Aging doors, windows, and closures
- HVAC – Air Conditioning
- Training Materials (e.g., Stop the Bleed, CPR, AED, etc.)
- Define and document Incident Command Structure at all levels.
- Regular checks on AEDs, fire extinguishers, doors, etc.
- Future technology upgrades, cameras, fobs, etc.
- Future infrastructure repairs and replacement.
- Develop a comprehensive safety plan encompassing all safety topics.
- Accountability.