



Board of Trustees Meeting

Lincoln Center | 1325 Poplar St. | Helena, MT 59601

Tuesday, March 11th, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.

Lincoln Professional Development Center and via
TEAMS

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AGENDA

I. **CALL TO ORDER /PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**

III. **RECOGNITIONS**

A. **National Merit Finalists-Capital High School**

Congratulations to the following students who have advanced from a competitive pool of over 16,000 semifinalists to earn the prestigious distinction of National Merit Finalists. Representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, National Merit Finalists are selected based on their exceptional academic performance, as well as their proven accomplishments, leadership abilities, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. This remarkable achievement reflects their dedication and hard work, positioning them for continued success in higher education and beyond.

- Adeline Walters
- Mason Whitney

B. **National Merit Finalists-Helena High School**

Congratulations to the following students who have advanced from a competitive pool of over 16,000 semifinalists to earn the prestigious distinction of National Merit Finalists. Representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, National Merit Finalists are selected based on their exceptional academic performance, as well as their proven accomplishments, leadership abilities, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. This remarkable achievement

reflects their dedication and hard work, positioning them for continued success in higher education and beyond.

- Evelyn Callery
- Eva Skibicki

C. **Speech and Debate National Qualifiers for Capital High School & Helena High School & NSDA Montana West Student of the Year-Helena High School**

The Board of Trustees extends its heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding students from Capital High School and Helena High School for their exceptional achievements in Speech and Debate. The Board commends these students for their academic and extracurricular accomplishments and wishes them continued success as they prepare for their respective national competitions.

Capital High School

Zaraj Carrucini-Original Spoken Word Poetry

Tanner Davis-Informative Speaking

Jack Tobin-World School Debate

Mason Whitney-Prose

Helena High School

Maverick Franklin-Expository Speaking

Layla Riggs-Congressional Debate

Ethan Taylor-Impromptu Speaking

Additionally, the Board extends its congratulations to Layla Riggs from Helena High School, who has been selected as the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Montana West Student of the Year. This honor is a testament to her exceptional contributions to the field of Speech and Debate.

The Board would like to express its deep gratitude to Coach Jen Hermanson and Assistant Coach Nick Taffs for their unwavering dedication in guiding all of their students toward success.

D. **State Wrestling Tournament Recognition-Capital High School**

The Board of Trustees is proud to extend its sincere congratulations to Taylor Lay, a student from Capital High School, for her exceptional achievement as the State Champion in the 130-pound wrestling category. Taylor's dedication, perseverance, and outstanding skills have earned her this prestigious title, demonstrating her hard work and athletic excellence. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Coach Shawn Graham for his unwavering support and

guidance, not only for Taylor but for all the student-athletes he mentors. We celebrate Taylor's remarkable accomplishment and wish her continued success in her future athletic endeavors.

E. State Swimming Tournament Recognition-Capital High School

The Board of Trustees is proud to extend its sincere congratulations to the following Capital High students for their exceptional achievements at the State Swimming Tournament:

Elizabeth Urban-State Champion in the 100 Butterfly

Isaac Urban-State Champion in the 100 Freestyle and 50 Freestyle

Elizabeth and Isaac's dedication, perseverance, and outstanding skills have earned them these prestigious titles, highlighting their hard work and athletic excellence. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Coach Julie Shannon and Assistant Coach Eddie Lary for their unwavering support and guidance, not only for Elizabeth and Isaac but for all the student-athletes they mentor. The Board celebrates Elizabeth and Isaac's remarkable accomplishments and wish them continued success in their future athletic endeavors.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

V. 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.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Action Items

1. Personnel Actions
2. Warrants
3. Approval of FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Non-Resident Students Attending HPS)
4. Acknowledge FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)
5. 2.11.25 Board of Trustees Full Board Meeting Minutes

B. Items For Action

1. Smith HVAC Replacement Project
2. Policy 5000 Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination
3. Policy 5050 Montana VEBA (Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association) Health Benefit Plan-Repeal

C. Items For Information

1. Bond 101, Bridget Ekstrom of D.A. Davidson & Co
2. Pre-Bond Update, SMA Architecture + Design

D. Reports

1. Student Representatives Report
2. Helena Education Association Report
3. Facilities & Technology Committee Report
4. Budget & Finance Committee Report
5. Policy Committee Report
6. Teaching & Learning Committee Report
7. Health Benefits Committee Report
8. Wellness Committee Report
9. Montana School Boards Association Report
10. Parent Council Visit Report
 - Chair Siobhan Hathhorn-Kessler Elementary School
 - Trustee Kay Satre-Capital High School & Warren Elementary School

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item I.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item II.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Review of Agenda

HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item III.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Recognitions

A. National Merit Finalists-Capital High School

B. National Merit Finalists-Helena High School

C. Speech and Debate National Qualifiers for Capital High School & Helena High School & NSDA Montana West Student of the Year-Helena High School

D. State Wrestling Tournament Recognition-Capital High School

E. State Swimming Tournament Recognition-Capital High School

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item IV.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Superintendent's Report

HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

To: Board Chair Ms. Siobhan Hathhorn and Board of Trustees
FROM: Mr. Wertz, Superintendent
RE: Superintendent Report
DATE: March 11th, 2025

- Recognition
 - Board of Trustees Work Session At Bryant Elementary School- February 25th, Thank You Principal Tia Wilkins & Bryant Staff
 - March 3 Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day
 - Thank you to Lisa Cordingley and the Helena Education Foundation for distributing grant awards across the district to our outstanding educators.
 - Congratulations to the following 105.3 KMTX Teacher of the Month Recipient for February:
 - Mrs. Kristin Lynde-Helena Middle School
 - Other

- New Business
 - USI Data Dive
 - HSD Pre-Bond Community Meeting & Facility Tour at HHS
 - Master Facilities Plan Update with PAL Staff
 - Technology 2025 Levy
 - Master Facilities Planning
 - Pre Bond-Work - SMA
 - Helena High School
 - Capital High School
 - Kessler Elementary
 - Activity Facilities Pre-Planning
 - County Elections Office Meeting – Timing
 - 2025 Legislative Session – Busy
 - Summer Jumpstart Program
 - Continuing Work with CMS To Develop a Compensation Manual and Classification Tool
 - Copier RFP
 - Work Compensation RFP
 - Food Service RFP
 - Accreditation Process – Mr. Myers & Mr. McKay
 - Superintendent Recommendations for Future Consideration and Action by the Board of Trustees

HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Outreach/Meetings
 - AA Superintendents
 - HPS All Administrative Meeting
 - Parent Advisory Committee
 - Teacher Advisory Committee
 - Board Leadership
 - Hometown Helena
 - HSD/HEA Meeting
 - HEF
 - HEF-Executive Committee
 - Hawthorne Staff Communication Meeting
 - Cabinet & Leadership
 - TV, Print, Radio Media
 - USI Insurance Services
 - Meeting With Student Board Representative Charlie Snellman to discuss Health Science Education in Schools
 - Sustainability Partners Discussion
 - CMS Meetings
 - SAM 2025 Legislative Advocacy Meetings
 - Bond Committee Meeting
 - Quarterly Meeting with City of Helena
 - Read Across America Event-Four Georgians Elementary School
 - Kiwanis – Scheduled
 - Business Partner Meetings
 - Other

- Other
 - March 31st – April 4th Spring Break-No School

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item V.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: General Public Comment

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.A.1 - A.5

- Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- Review of Agenda
- Recognitions
- Superintendent's Report
- General Public Comment
- Consent Action Items
- Items For Action
- Items For Information
- Reports
- Upcoming Meetings
- Board Comments
- Adjournment

Item Title: Consent Action Items

1. Personnel Actions
2. Warrants
3. Approval of FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Non-Resident Students Attending HPS)
4. Acknowledge FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)
5. 2.11.25 Board of Trustees Full Board Meeting Minutes

Board Action	1st Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Other
Hathhorn					
McKee					
Robison					
Satre					
Hindoién					
Cleatus					
Walsh					
Armstrong					

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

February 26, 2025 – March 11, 2025

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Appointments

<u>Location/Assignment</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Offered Salary</u>	<u>Accepted Salary</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
HHS/Spanish	Baranek, Leah	\$229.26/day	\$229.26/day	02/18/2025 ***
CHS/Part-time (.50 FTE) Mathematics	George, John	\$220.82/day	\$220.82/day	03/03/2025 ***

**Prorated salary

***Long term substitute

Terminations/Retirements

<u>Location/Assignment</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
HMS/Science	Berry, Kristin	Resignation	06/10/2025
Warren/Grade 4	Bonney, Angela	Resignation	06/10/2025
FSLC/Athletic Administrator/Director	McMahon, Timothy	Retirement	06/30/2025

Leaves

<u>Location/Assignment</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Type of Leave</u>
Warren/LOAWOP	Ford, Danielle	2025-2026	LOAWOP
PAL/LOAWOP	Ditch, Heather	2025-2026	LOAWOP
CHS/LOAWOP	Harris, Zachary	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Four Georgians/Kindergarten	McCarl Warwick, Alyssa	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Central/LOAWOP	Mitchell, Jessie	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Central/LOAWOP	Nyhof, Abigail	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Broadwater/LOAWOP	Owen, Kyla	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Broadwater/LOAWOP	Sichelstiel, Jessica	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Jefferson/LOAWOP	Smith, Stacy	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Smith/LOAWOP	Sorensen, Linda	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Rossiter/Special Education -Resource	Stief, Halstyn	2025-2026	LOAWOP
Four Georgians/Kindergarten	Stusek, JoAnna	2025-2026	LOAWOP
CRA/LOAWOP	Suchy, Alison	2025-2026	LOAWOP

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

Appointments

<u>Location/Assignment</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Offered Salary</u>	<u>Accepted Salary</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
CRA/Evening Custodian	Homer, Dennis	\$18.39/hr.	\$18.39/hr.	03/03/2025
HHS/Evening Custodian	Lindeman, Vickie	\$16.90/hr.	\$16.90/hr.	03/05/2025
Facilities/Custodial Services Supervisor	McGuire, Mark	\$56,284/yr.	\$56,284/yr.	02/20/2025
Kessler/Para Educator	Meacham, Quincy	\$15.10/hr.	\$15.10/hr.	03/03/2025
Bryant/Para Educator	Olsen, Sarah	\$15.75/hr.	\$15.75/hr.	02/18/2025
CRA/Float Custodian	Waples, Brian	\$16.90/hr.	\$16.90/hr.	03/10/2025

Terminations/Retirements

<u>Location/Assignment</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Central/SACC Site Manager	Seliskar, Candace	Retirement	06/13/2025
Lincoln-IT/Inform. Systems Data Dev.	Fortune, Kelly	Resignation	03/07/2025
Business Office/Accounts Payable	Guevin, Tyler	Resignation	02/21/2025
HHS/Para Educator	Ruether-Affor, Daniel	Resignation	03/28/2025
CHS/Attendance Secretary	Wamsley, Margaret	Resignation	06/11/2025

Helena School District #1

Warrants February 1 to 28, 2025

Direct Deposits: \$3,315,724.19

Payroll Warrants: 70132117-70132154

Payroll Deduction: 69303531-69303554

Non-Check Payroll Deductions: \$ 5,258,354.45

Non-Check Accts Payable Deductions: \$ 1,288,832.53

Non-Check Accts Payable Deductions- HHS Extracurricular: \$0

Claim Warrants: 69303360-69303656

CRA Middle School Student Activity Checks: 17455

HMS Middle School Student Activity Checks: 8792

Capital High Student Activity Checks: 24897-24930

Helena High Student Activity Checks: 36860-36897

Cancelled Warrants: \$1,109.96

We certify that all warrants herein listed were prepared and previously paid for, are just and correct to the best of our knowledge, and that the board of trustees has authorized the issuance of the same.

Chairperson _____

Business Manager _____

APPROVAL OF **FY 2024-25** OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS
(NONRESIDENT STUDENTS ATTENDING HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT)

Fiscal Year 2024-25

Discretionary Attendance:

Grade	District of Residence	Address	School of Attendance
2	Trinity Elementary	Helena, MT59602	Broadwater Montessori
5	Trinity Elementary	Helena, MT59602	Broadwater Montessori
7	Trinity Elementary	Helena, MT59602	CR Anderson Middle School
10	Jefferson High School	Clancy, MT59634	Capital High School
10	Jefferson High School	Clancy, MT59634	Helena High School
12	Jefferson High School	Clancy, MT59634	Helena High School

**APPROVAL OF FY 2024-25 OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS
(NONRESIDENT STUDENTS ATTENDING HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT)**

Running Total of FY2024-25 Out-of-District Attendance Agreements

Address

Grade	East Helena	Clancy	Montana City	Jefferson City	Basin	Wolf Creek	Boulder	Elliston	Trinity	Chinook	Butte	Billings	Deer Lodge	Missoula	Townsend	Radersberg	Browning	Winston	Ronan	Superior	Whitehall	Total	
Ksprouts	3								1													4	
K	5	1				1			5													1	13
1	9	4							5														18
2	6	1				1	1	1	5													1	16
3	3	1							6	1									1				12
4	6	2							4														12
5	6		1				1		10		1	1											20
6	5	1						1	3		1										1		12
7	3	2			1				6														12
8	3	5	1			1		1	3				1										15
9	7	50	10											1									68
10	9	29	2												1		1	1					43
11	12	19	4	3																			38
12	12	28	3	2											1	1			1				48
	89	143	21	5	1	3	2	3	48	1	2		1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	331

ACKNOWLEDGE OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS
(HELENA RESIDENT STUDENTS ATTENDING OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS)

Fiscal Year 2024-25

Mandatory Attendance:

Grade	Address	District/Center of Attendance
7	Helena, MT59601	Great Falls Elementary

**ACKNOWLEDGE OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS
(HELENA RESIDENT STUDENTS ATTENDING OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS)**

Running Total of Acknowledged Out-of-District Attendance Agreements
(Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)

Grade	East Helena K-12	Montana City Elementary	Clancy Elementary	Jefferson High School	Trinity Elementary	Cascade High School	Huntley Project K-12	Fairfield High School	Augusta High School	Kalispell High School	Great Falls Elementary	Aware CFE	New Day	Total
Pre-K	4	10	6											20
K	11	13	1				1							26
1	6	8	5		1									20
2	12	2	5											19
3	15	13	5											33
4	10	1	4		2									17
5	15	8	9		2								1	35
6	13	11	7											31
7	7	4	5								1			17
8	16	2	4										1	23
9	21			1										22
10	24			4		2		1	1	1		1	1	35
11	19			4		4								27
12	25			4		2			2	1				34
	198	72	51	13	5	8	1	1	3	2	1	1	3	359



Superintendent

Rex Wertz
324-2001

Business Manager

Janelle Mickelson
324-2040

Board of Trustees Meeting

Lincoln Center
1325 Poplar St., Helena, MT 59601
And on TEAMS

Tuesday, February 11th, 2025
5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE – Present unless otherwise noted.

Siobhan Hathhorn, Chair
Jennifer McKee, Vice Chair
Linda Cleatus, Trustee
Jeff Hindoien, Trustee
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee
Kay Satre, Trustee
Rachel Robison, Trustee
Janet Armstrong, Trustee
Charlie Snellman, Capital High School Student Representative for the Board of Trustees
Adella Harris, Helena High School Student Representative for the Board of Trustees
Rex Wertz, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Janelle Mickelson, Business Director
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Todd Verrill, Facilities Director
Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology
Justine Alberts, Curriculum Director
Kaitlyn Hess, Data and Federal Programs Director
Tim McMahon, Activities Director
Jane Shawn, HEA President
Lona Carter, Student Health Services & Special Education Director
Karen Ogden, Communications Officer
Lisa Cordingley, HEF Executive Director
Brian Kessler, Helena High Principal
Brett Zanto, Capital High School
Many guests of the public as well as Helena School District Staff

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and the Board participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. REVIEW AGENDA

The Board of Trustees reviewed the agenda and there were no suggested changes.

The Board of Trustees moved on to the recognitions portion of the agenda.

III. RECOGNITIONS

The Board of Trustees recognized the students and staff listed below.

2025 Montana Thespian Festival Recognition-Capital High School

The Board of Trustees would like to extend its sincere congratulations to the following Capital High School students for their exceptional accomplishments at the 2025 Montana Thespian Festival: Lexi Flath – Recognized with the Outstanding Debut Performance Award and Raine Lafond – Honored as a State Thespian Officer & Festival Liaison. These students have shown extraordinary skill, passion, and dedication to their craft, and their accomplishments reflect the high standard of excellence at Capital High School. Special thanks to educator Laura Brayko for her unwavering support and dedication, which have been instrumental in the success of these students and the theater program.

2025 Montana Thespian Festival Recognition-Helena High School

The Board of Trustees would like to extend its sincere congratulations to the following Helena High School students for their exceptional accomplishments at the 2025 Montana Thespian Festival: Karl Zimmerman - Outstanding Costumes Award, and Nadja Bolotsky and Luke Wilkins - Outstanding Performers. Additionally, the Board is pleased to recognize the entire Helena High School Theater Troupe for receiving the Outstanding Troupe Award and Outstanding Comedy Award. These students have shown extraordinary skills, passion, and dedication to their craft, and their accomplishments reflect the high standard of excellence at Helena High School. Special thanks to Roger Scruggs and Madelyn Sechrist for their unwavering support and dedication, which have been instrumental in the success of these students and the theater program.

United States Presidential Scholars Program-Capital High School

Congratulations to the following Capital High School students who have been selected as candidates for the prestigious United States Presidential Scholars Program: Meika Arensmeyer, Kathleen Cook, Adeline Walters, and Mason Whitney. This honor recognizes these students as some of the nation’s most distinguished students, celebrated for their academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to their education. This remarkable achievement is a testament to their hard work and the dedication of the educators who have supported them along the way. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to their success.

United States Presidential Scholars Program-Helena High School

Congratulations to Helena High School student, Evelyn Callery, who has been selected as a candidate for the prestigious United States Presidential Scholars Program. This honor recognizes Evelyn as one of the nation's most distinguished students, celebrated for her academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to her education. This remarkable achievement is a testament to Evelyn's hard work and the dedication of the educators who have supported her along the way. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to her success.

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

It is with great pride and admiration that we extend our sincere congratulations to Capital High School educators Sarah Urban and Jake Warner, who have been selected to receive the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This esteemed honor, administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, celebrates exemplary educators for their exceptional contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). As recipients of this award, Sarah and Jake will each receive a certificate signed by the President and a monetary award from the NSF. Additionally, they will be invited to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony in recognition of their outstanding achievements. We commend Sarah and Jake for their dedication, passion, and remarkable impact on the lives of their students, and we are proud to see their efforts celebrated on a national level. Congratulations once again to these exceptional educators!

Montana DECA Advisor of the Year

It is with great pride and admiration that we extend our sincere congratulations to Kacey Askin, an exceptional educator at Helena High School, for being named the Montana DECA Advisor of the Year at the State DECA Conference. This prestigious recognition is a testament to Kacey's dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to his students. His tireless efforts have made a lasting impact on the DECA program, and this award reflects the remarkable contributions he has made to the educational community. We applaud Kacey for his outstanding achievements and are honored to celebrate this well-deserved recognition.

The Board of Trustees moved on to review the Superintendent's Report.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Weltz gave his Superintendent Report to the Board of Trustees.

Recognition

- I want to extend our district's deepest thanks to all who donated to Helena Public Schools through the Montana Innovative Educational Tax Credit Program. Thank you for investing in our students' futures.

- Board of Trustees Work Session At Four Georgians Elementary School- January 28th, Thank You Principal Carrie Shinkle & Four Georgians Staff
- Congratulations to the following 105.3 KMTX Teacher of the Month Recipient for January:
 - Mrs. Wilma Tabaracci- Warren Elementary School
- February 3-7 National School Counseling Appreciation Week
- February 15 National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day
- Thank you to the Board of Public Education for touring our Helena Charter Schools. Special thanks to Assistant Superintendent Josh McKay and Chief of Staff Barb Ridgway for organizing these visits and Sodexo for generously donating lunch.
- Thank you to Lisa Cordingley and the Helena Education Foundation for hosting a Trustee Appreciation Lunch. We deeply appreciate their recognition of our Board of Trustees and their ongoing support of our schools and community.
- LC Recognition
 Superintendent Wertz acknowledged Ms. Lisa Cordingley, Executive Director of the Helena Education Foundation, who will be retiring at the end of this year after over 16 years of dedicated service. Under Lisa's leadership, the Foundation awarded over a million dollars in grants, engaged thousands of community members through programs like Great Conversations, Carnival Classic, and Fabulous Firsts, and celebrated nearly 150 outstanding educators. She also facilitated student programs such as Pen and Ink and the Harrison Writing Awards and secured significant grants for various initiatives. Lisa's remarkable contributions have left a lasting impact on Helena's educational community.

New Business

- USI Data Dive
 Mr. Scott Haas from USI Insurance Services provided an overview of their consulting services for Helena Public Schools regarding health insurance. USI, a national healthcare consulting firm, specializes in data analysis and healthcare risk management. Their team has been hired to help the district make informed decisions related to health plan structure and funding. USI will conduct a detailed analysis of the district's healthcare data, including contributions and plan designs, and compare these with other districts such as Missoula and Kalispell. The goal is to provide Helena Public Schools with an actuarial value and competitiveness profile of their current health plans, helping the district make well-informed business decisions about their healthcare options.
- Technology 2025 Levy
 Mr. Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology, presented information about the Helena Schools tech levy. The district is facing an urgent need for technology funding, totaling \$4 million, to adequately support the integration and maintenance of technology across our schools. This funding is essential for providing devices for teachers, students, and classrooms, ensuring reliable network services, covering necessary software licensing, and supplying the ongoing support required to prepare students for college and future careers. In response, the district is proposing a \$3 million increase to the existing technology levy.

It is important to note that our current technology levy has remained unchanged since 2004. Over the past two decades, the role of technology in both education and the workplace has grown exponentially, becoming a fundamental tool that is now ubiquitous in nearly every aspect of life. Presently, the district allocates approximately \$2 million annually toward technology, with an additional \$1 million or more drawn each year from our interlocal fund. However, these funds are one-time dollars, which cannot be replenished once spent. The existing levy, currently set at \$1 million, merely "keeps the lights on" by supporting essential functions. Unfortunately, it falls short in allowing for the replacement of outdated devices for both students and teachers or for updating critical network infrastructure. As it stands, if a device or system fails, we lack the resources to address the issue.

The proposed levy increase is specifically earmarked for essential technology funding and is designed to cover the next 10 years, ensuring the district can meet current and future technology demands. This levy will not be perpetual, providing a targeted and time-limited solution to the district's technology funding needs.

- Master Facilities Planning
 - Pre Bond-Work – SMA
 - Helena High School
 - Capital High School
 - Kessler Elementary
 - Activity Facilities Pre-Planning

- County Elections Office Meeting – Timing
- 2025 Legislative Session – Busy
- Winter Conditions Across the District

Chief of Staff Barb Ridgway provided an update on the district's procedures for managing winter weather conditions. The district's Transportation Manager Drew VanFossen monitors road conditions starting at 3:30 a.m. to determine if bus routes can safely operate. If necessary, routes may be canceled or altered based on weather conditions, with families being notified through an automated system. The district follows a contract stipulating that buses do not operate when temperatures reach –30 degrees Fahrenheit, or when wind chill reaches –40 degrees Fahrenheit or lower (as reported at the Helena Regional Airport) for safety reasons.

- Central Elementary/SMA Klint Fisher Memorial Project
- Helena High School, Capital High School, and Kessler Elementary School Site Visit by the Facilities and Technology Committee

Facilities Director Todd Verrill provided an update on ongoing electrical issues at Capital High School. The main breaker, installed a few years ago, has been repeatedly tripping, and despite efforts from the district's long-time electrical contractor the exact cause remains unclear. The team is exploring solutions, starting with the replacement of some breakers in the building. The electrical system at Capital High has undergone several upgrades over the years, including a new transformer and power supply for the CTE building. While the power supply to the CTE building is stable, the issue seems to be internal to the main building. Some of the switch gear, which is original to the building, is beyond its useful life and may be contributing to the problem. As the team continues to diagnose the issue, there is concern that any investments in repairs could ultimately be wasted if the equipment needs to be replaced during a future remodel. However, efforts are being made to avoid unnecessary costs and ensure that any reusable equipment is preserved. In the meantime, an electrician is on-call to quickly restore power when needed. Further recommendations will be provided once a solution is determined.

- Summer Jumpstart Program

- Continuing Work with CMS To Develop Compensation Manual and Classification Tool
- 2nd Enrollment Count – Completed
- Food Service RFP
- Copier RFP
- Accreditation Process
- Work Compensation RFP
- Other

Outreach/Meetings

- Public Education Day of Advocacy
- Coalition of Advocates
- MFPE Day Of Advocacy Feb 17th
- Lewis & Clark County Elections Meeting
- AA Superintendent’s Meeting with Susie Hedalen-Superintendent of Public Instruction
- AA Superintendents/Counsel Winter Summit
- Parent Advisory Committee
- Teacher Advisory Committee – Rescheduled
 - Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences
- SAM
- AA Superintendents
- Board Leadership
- Hometown Helena
- HSD/HEA Meeting
- HEF
- HEF-Executive Committee
- Cabinet & Leadership
- TV, Print, Radio Media
- Shodair Children’s Hospital – Funding Meeting
- Other

Other

- February 17th, President’s Day-No School K-12

That concluded the Superintendent’s Report portion of the agenda. Superintendent Weltz addressed any questions the trustees had about his Superintendent Report. The trustees moved on to hear general public comment.

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment, and the Board of Trustees moved on to review the consent action items.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Action Items

1. Personnel Actions
2. Warrants
3. Approval of FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Nonresident Students Attending Helena School District)
4. Acknowledge FY 2024-25 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)
5. 1.14.25 Board of Trustees Full Board Meeting Minutes
6. Approval of Sabbaticals for 2025-2026 School Year

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Action Items as presented.”

Motion: Trustee Jennifer McKee moved to approve the Consent Action Items as presented. Trustee Jennifer Walsh seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

That concluded the approval of the Consent Action Items. The Board of Trustees moved on to review the Items for Action.

B. Items for Action

1. a. Call for Annual Election- Elementary Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election

Ms. Janelle Mickelson, Business Director for Helena Public Schools, introduced the action item *Call for Annual Election- Elementary Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election* to the Board of Trustees.

Background:

The annual regular school election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, which is May 6th this year. Pursuant to 20-20-201, MCA, trustees must call for the election by resolution no later than 70 days before election day. Helena Public Schools entered into an

agreement with the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office to conduct school elections for the district. The annual regular school election will be by mail ballot. The drop off location for ballots is at the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office located in the City-County Building. Voters will elect three trustees who reside within the elementary district boundaries to serve a three-year term. General fund mill levy approval for both the elementary and high school is also being requested at this time.

The District will also be requesting an increase in the technology mill levy for both the elementary and the high school districts for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platforms, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel. If approved, the increased levies will be for a term of 10 years and will take effect July 1, 2025, and expire June 30, 2035. If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, that portion will be cancelled.

Considerations:

- Neither the ability to run a general fund mill levy nor the amount of the levy will be known until after the spring enrollment count is finalized and the issuance of preliminary budget data sheets. However, due to the statutory requirement to call for the election no later than 70 days before the election, the recommendation is to include the general fund mill levy request in the resolution. If the Board later determines that the mill levy cannot be requested or is not desired, that portion of the election can be cancelled.
- The exact dollar amount of the technology fund levies has yet to be decided and therefore, the estimated tax impact cannot be calculated at this time.
- If the number of candidates filing a nomination petition or filing a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate is equal to or less than the number of open trustee positions, the trustee election can be cancelled, and trustees may be seated by acclamation.
- The county elections office has requested that the exact language, including amounts, for any and all levies be transmitted to their office by March 28th so they may begin to prepare the ballot layout in the week leading up to the April 4th ballot certification deadline. Any portion of the election may still be cancelled up until the April 4th deadline.
- The cost of running an election can range (depending on the number of ballots and number of voters) is approximately \$60,000-\$87,500.

Superintendent recommendation:

Approve the resolution calling for the annual regular election.

Ms. Mickelson addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Call for Annual Election- Elementary Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve the action item, *Call for Annual Election- Elementary Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election* as presented.”

Motion: Trustee Jeff Hindoien moved to approve the resolution calling for the annual regular school election for the Helena Elementary School District No. 1. Trustee Kay Satre seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 7-0 motion carries unanimously. *(Please note that Trustee Jennifer Walsh did not vote as she is a trustee strictly for the high school district and this action item is for the elementary district).*

b. Call for Annual Election- High School Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election

Ms. Janelle Mickelson, Business Director for Helena Public Schools, introduced the action item *Call for Annual Election- High School Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election* to the Board of Trustees.

Background:

The annual regular school election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, which is May 6th this year. Pursuant to 20-20-201, MCA, trustees must call for the election by resolution no later than 70 days before election day. Helena Public Schools entered into an agreement with the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office to conduct school elections for the district. The annual regular school election will be by mail ballot. The drop off location for ballots is at the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office located in the City-County Building. Voters will elect three trustees who reside within the elementary district boundaries to serve a three-year term. General fund mill levy approval for both the elementary and high school is also being requested at this time.

The District will also be requesting an increase in the technology mill levy for both the elementary and the high school districts for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platforms, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district’s information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel. If approved, the increased levies will be for a term of 10 years and will take effect July 1, 2025, and expire June 30, 2035.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, that portion will be cancelled.

Considerations:

- Neither the ability to run a general fund mill levy nor the amount of the levy will be known until after the spring enrollment count is finalized and the issuance of preliminary budget data sheets. However, due to the statutory requirement to call for the election no later than 70 days before the election, the recommendation is to include the general fund mill levy request in the resolution. If the Board later determines that the mill levy cannot be requested or is not desired, that portion of the election can be cancelled.
- The exact dollar amount of the technology fund levies has yet to be decided and therefore, the estimated tax impact cannot be calculated at this time.
- If the number of candidates filing a nomination petition or filing a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate is equal to or less than the number of open trustee positions, the trustee election can be cancelled, and trustees may be seated by acclamation.
- The county elections office has requested that the exact language, including amounts, for any and all levies be transmitted to their office by March 28th so they may begin to prepare the ballot layout in the week leading up to the April 4th ballot certification deadline. Any portion of the election may still be cancelled up until the April 4th deadline.
- The cost of running an election can range (depending on the number of ballots and number of voters) is approximately \$60,000-\$87,500.

Superintendent recommendation:

Approve the resolution calling for the annual regular election.

Ms. Mickelson addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Call for Annual Election- High School Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve the action item, *Call for Annual Election- High School Trustee Resolution Calling for the Annual Regular Election* as presented.”

Motion: Trustee Jeff Hindoiien moved to approve the resolution calling for the annual regular school election for the Helena High School District No. 1. Trustee Janet Armstrong seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

2. Capital High School Auditorium Stage Lighting Upgrade Project

Mr. Todd Verrill, Facilities Director for Helena Public Schools, presented the action item *Capital High School Auditorium Stage Lighting Upgrade Project* to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Verrill is respectfully requesting the Board of Trustees award the Capital High School Auditorium Stage Lighting Upgrade Project to Eagle Electric, Inc. The facilities office received bids from four contractors, and Eagle Electric, Inc. submitted the lowest proposal at \$141,100.00.

During the bid opening they did notice a variation in Eagle Electric’s submission. They did not properly acknowledge an addendum to the original plan as specified in the project manual (i.e. “acknowledged addenda shall be attached to the bid form”). Eagle Electric did not follow these instructions but instead acknowledged on a sticker affixed to the mailing envelope. In consultation with our legal counsel, we determined this was a minor variation to the instructions and should not disqualify Eagle Electric’s bid. By accepting this bid the district may face a protest from one of the other contractors; however, our legal counsel believes the decision is defensible because we have the right to waive informalities according to state administrative rules governing procurement of public contracts. Mr. Verrill recommends the board accept the low bid and award the contract to Eagle Electric, Inc.

Mr. Verrill addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Capital High School Auditorium Stage Lighting Upgrade Project*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve the action item, *Capital High School Auditorium Stage Lighting Upgrade Project* as presented.”

Motion: Trustee Linda Cleatus moved to waive the irregularity to the addendum of the Eagle Electric bid and approve that award. Trustee Kay Satre seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

3. Calendar Committee Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Calendar

Mr. Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent for Helena Public Schools, presented the action item *Calendar Committee Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Calendar* to the Board of Trustees. Mr. McKay’s memorandum stated, “Members of the committee this year were: Thomas Baty, Jane Shawn, Gary Myers, Jonna Schwartz, Shannon Callahan, Leighann Wilson, Kathleen Prody, Chelsea Kingston, Justine Alberts, Brian Kessler, and Josh McKay. This proposed calendar begins with students attending a 3-day first week, then a 4-day week (Labor Day), and then a 5-day week. Along with this startup routine, they included a weeklong spring break and a two weeklong winter break. The winter break is 2 weeks long, due to the location of January 1. Returning for a 2-day school week is not a preferred practice for learning. Other aspects of the calendar are like past calendars. The committee has recommended maintaining a very similar calendar to the 2024-2025 calendar. The Calendar Committee is an enjoyable group of thoughtful participants. Together, we have rich discussions about our own ideas and the ideas shared with us from our partners throughout

the district. We are continuing the committee work through the spring as we discuss ways to improve learner outcomes in combination with serving our community and continuing with our positive work atmosphere.” Mr. McKay addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Calendar Committee Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Calendar*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve the action item, *Calendar Committee Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Calendar* as presented.”

Motion: Trustee Kay Satre moved to approve the action item, *Calendar Committee Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Calendar*. Trustee Jennifer McKee seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

4. **Policy 1075: Records Management and Access to Public Records**

Ms. Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff for Helena Public Schools, presented the action item *Policy 1075: Records Management and Access to Public Records* to the Board of Trustees. The only change that has been made to this policy is extending the general length of time allowed to respond to a public records request from 10 business days to 20 business days. Ms. Ridgway addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Policy 1075: Records Management and Access to Public Records*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve *Policy 1075: Records Management and Access to Public Records*.”

Motion: Trustee Jennifer McKee moved to approve *Policy 1075: Records Management and Access to Public Records* as presented. Trustee Linda Cleatus seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

5. **Policy 2000: Student Instructional Goals**

Ms. Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff for Helena Public Schools, presented the action item *Policy 2000: Student Instructional Goals* to the Board of Trustees. The only change to this policy was adding the category of gender identity, as required under Title IX on line 12. Ms. Ridgway addressed all questions proposed by the trustees regarding the action item *Policy 2000: Student Instructional Goals*.

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion to approve *Policy 2000: Student Instructional Goals*.”

Motion: Trustee Jeff Hindoien moved to approve *Policy 2000: Student Instructional Goals*. Trustee Kay Satre seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 8-0 motion carries unanimously.

That concluded the Items for Action, and the Board of Trustees moved on review the Items for Information.

C. Items for Information

1. Policy 5000: Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

Ms. Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff, presented for information to the Board of Trustees *Policy 5000: Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination*. The Policy Committee recommended the removal of the phrase “*and will not discriminate in its educational programs or activities, including in the area of employment*” on lines 9 and 10. Additionally, the committee proposed adding the phrase “*genetic information*” after “*gender identity*” on line 12. This revision is being made to comply with Title IX requirements. Ms. Ridgway addressed questions the Board of Trustees had regarding *Policy 5000: Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination*.

2. Policy 5050: State of Montana VEBA Health Benefit Plan

Ms. Ridgway presented for information to the Board of Trustees *Policy 5050: State of Montana VEBA Health Benefit Plan*. The Policy Committee recommended repealing the policy due to changes in program requirements and believes there is no longer a need for it. The committee determined that if a future request to participate in VEBA arises, an updated policy will be presented to the Board for approval. Ms. Ridgway addressed questions the Board of Trustees had regarding *Policy 5050: State of Montana VEBA Health Benefit Plan*.

The Board of Trustees moved on to hear reports.

D. REPORTS

1. Student Representatives Report

Ms. Adella Harris, Helena High School Student Representative for the Board of Trustees, gave her Student Representative Report. Ms. Harris commented, “As Helena High moves into the

second half of the school year, as always, our students and staff are immersed in academics, athletics, music, and art; fulfilling and pursuing passions in every corner.

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will be underway shortly. Our annual 8th grade visit and tour will be taking place on Wednesday, February 26. The 8th grade information night for parents will be held on March 3 in the HHS gym. All other grades will register throughout the month of March.

Currently, HHS is conducting our spring round of mental health screening. We appreciate the opportunity to be able to provide this screener to all students at our school. This screening helps break down the barriers and stigmas associated with mental health and is helping us save lives.

Aware of the importance of mental health, The University of Montana has put together a travelling event to help bring awareness. We are excited to host this event at HHS on March 3. Early in the afternoon, the university will host a listening and learning session with our students centered around mental health in our community and how to support those around us. The information and insights gained from the session will then be shared with teachers and community members. An interactive play will be presented at the Holter Museum that night, with a final community stakeholder action meeting the next day at the Myrna Loy. This will be an incredible opportunity for our school and community to continue to build on the conversation around mental health and how we support our students through difficult situations.

Helena High has had an amazing opportunity to work closely with our individual departments, providing opportunities for departments to come together and plan for literacy and engagement strategies in the classroom. Rich and insightful discussions have been taking place around the skills students need to be successful and how to implement those in the classroom.

Thank you to the foresight of engineers at Morrison-Maierle and connections built by Mr. Jonathan Driggers, our Technical Math and Physics students will be competing in a bridge building competition at the end of this month. Students will be working through the math and physics associated with load weights and structures. They will then put their designs to the test with a bridge destroying event in the HHS gym! The students whose bridges are able to withstand the greatest amount of pressure will win prizes!

As part of our family engagement goals this year, we are working to find ways to build the connection between students' home and school by inviting parents into our building. During finals week, we held our first "Breakfast with Bengals," which we have now dubbed – Start Your Day the Bengal Way! We were fortunate to have parents and teachers help students start their day off the right, or "Bengal" way, with a doughnut. We will be doing this on the fourth Thursday of each month for the remainder of the school year. We will mix up which breakfast items we provide and will continue to encourage parents and community members to help start our students' days off on the right foot. Board members are more than welcome to join us in the fun!!

With the wintery weather that arrived last week, our orchestra students unfortunately were not able to make it down to the AA Orchestra Festival. This did not stop Mr. Cleary, though, from still creating an amazing event for our students. We appreciate his tenacity to find guest conductors and put together an opportunity for our students to still show off their talents and

grow as musicians despite the hand they were dealt.

Congratulations again to Mr. Askin for his recognition as the State DECA Advisor of the Year. Mr. Askin works hard to provide opportunities for our students to develop their skills and be prepared for the next chapter of their lives.

We have been very fortunate to have Mrs. Erin Cleveland join our staff this year. While she mainly oversees our transitions classroom, she has a deep desire to provide stability and opportunity for students who may not always have that in their lives. Thanks to her go-getter attitude and the connections she has built over the years, she is successfully implementing a mentor program at our school this semester. The time she is putting into this opportunity to connect students with the community and help them find their sense of belonging is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations again to our Thespian Troupe – as was highlighted earlier tonight, our Thespians had a spectacular showing at the Thespian Festival a few weeks ago. These students work incredibly hard to perfect their craft and were rewarded for their commitment. There is still one play left for the school year – *Legally Blonde, Junior*. We encourage you to come and see it!

Congratulations to all our student athletes who have signed so far this year to further their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level. So far this year, there are 15 members from the class of 2025 that will be competing next year across the board from track and field, cross country, soccer, basketball, dance, and football. This is a testament to the time and effort these individuals put in each day to be better at the sport, while working hard in the classroom to be eligible for the next level.

Congratulations to our Welding students for their sweep of the podium in their competition against EHHS a few weeks ago. The annual weld-off put on by the HHS AWS club is a great opportunity to build community connections and show off the job-ready skills our students are learning in our CTE courses. The theme this year was Native American heritage, and all groups did an amazing job of paying homage to Native American culture with their sculptures. Thank you to Mrs. Galbavy for all of her work on this and to the businesses and judges who gave their time to help make the event special.

Congratulations to our DECA students who did great at the state competition, a few of whom qualified for the national competition. Special congratulations to Mackenzie Groom for her selection as a State DECA Officer. It has been many years since we have had a student earn this honor at HHS!

Congratulations to our Speech and Debate students on a great season. Congratulations to Ethan Taylor on his 3rd place finish in Impromptu speaking and 7th place finish in Original Oratory. Shout out to Layla Riggs for her 6th place finish in Legislative Debate. Good luck to all our HHS Speech and Debaters as they compete in the National Qualifiers this weekend!

Congratulations to Evelyn Callery on her nomination as a Presidential Scholar.

COMING UP.....

The annual Night to Shine talent show will take place on February 18. Tickets are still available – come out and see the amazing talent of our Helena students.

Good luck this week to our wrestling and swimming teams as they compete at their respective state tournaments! Wrestling will be at the All-Class event in Billings, while swimming will be up in Great Falls for their meet.

Good luck to our Speech and Debaters as they compete to qualify for a spot in the National Speech and Debate competition in Whitefish this weekend.

Lastly, our basketball teams are having strong seasons so far and are making their way down the home stretch. We are hopeful for strong post-season representation from our teams!

Our Bengal team remains involved, full of spirit, and hopeful for the exciting new month to come.”

Ms. Harris addressed questions the Board of Trustees had regarding her report.

Mr. Charlie Snellman, Capital High School Student Representative for the Board of Trustees, gave his Student Representative Report. Mr. Snellman commented, “Good evening, Trustees, As we move further into the second semester, Capital High students and staff are staying busy with academics, extracurricular activities, and career readiness opportunities. Here’s what’s been happening at CHS:

All CHS students recently completed the RBHI (Rural Behavioral Health Institute) Winter Screener during their 2nd period classes. Therapists from PureView Health Center and RBHI were present to provide immediate support for students who scored in the higher ranges of the index. This screener is an important tool that we use to gauge student mental health and it is crucial especially during winter months, when vitamin D deficiencies tend to cause higher than normal rates of seasonal depression. Freshman PE students have started the YAM (Youth Aware of Mental Health) curriculum, a mental health education program designed to build awareness and coping strategies. The first session is currently running, with a second session planned for later this spring. Last Wednesday, CHS administered the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to all students during 3rd period. This survey, conducted by the Office of Public Instruction, was completed online with unique identification numbers to ensure anonymity.

Scholarship Night Recap: Career Counselor Aspen Herndon hosted Scholarship Night on January 28, covering essential topics such as:

- Scholarship opportunities and essay assistance
- FAFSA guidance (March 1 is the preferential deadline)
- WUE (Western Undergraduate Exchange) and GI Bill Education Benefits

In honor of CTE Education Month, CHS hosted Trades Day yesterday, providing students with hands-on experiences in various skilled trades. Thanks to the efforts of Tom Kain, Lucas

Canney, and Ted Riehl, students in Fundamental Woodworking and Design Classes rotated through interactive stations, including:

- Hanging and taping sheetrock
- Trim work
- Plumbing simulators
- Electrical wiring
- Flooring installation
- Sheet metal work
- Welding
- Cabinetmaking

Student Events & Activities:

The annual DECA Night to Shine talent showcase will take place on Sunday, February 18th, at 7:00 PM at the Civic Center. Tickets are now available and proceeds from the event will help support CHS & HHS DECA programs. Students have been working hard in preparation, and it promises to be a fantastic evening celebrating talent and creativity.

Rehearsals are in full swing for CHS's first-ever winter musical, *"Mean Girls"*, which will debut later this month. The cast and crew have been working tirelessly, and anticipation is building for an exciting set of performances.

CHS HOSA, in conjunction with the Helena Health Science Advisory Board and Carroll College Student Nursing Association, will host a Fusion Event on Sunday, February 25th, from 6:30-8:00 PM in O'Connell RM107 at Carroll College. This event will focus on cardiovascular health and will feature a hands-on CPR breakout session. All students, regardless of age or ability, interested in healthcare careers or general health education are encouraged to attend.

CHS basketball, wrestling, and swimming teams are in the thick of their seasons, with key competitions coming up as we approach the postseason. Our speech and debate team has also had a strong season, competing in multiple tournaments and representing CHS with excellence.

CHS National Honor Society members logged an impressive 3,085 community service hours during the first semester alone, demonstrating their commitment to leadership and service within Helena.

With 2nd semester now underway, it is time to look forward to next year. CHS teachers have been engaged in ongoing curriculum discussions, reviewing current pathways, course preferences, and scheduling logistics. These conversations will help determine staffing needs and course offerings for the upcoming school year. Student registration for the 2025-2026 school year will begin later in February, allowing students to select courses that align with their academic and career goals.

Capital High is thriving as we continue to provide students with meaningful academic experiences, career readiness opportunities, and mental health support. Thank you for your continued commitment to our students, and I look forward to sharing more updates next

month!”

Mr. Snellman addressed questions the Board of Trustees had regarding his report.

2. **Helena Education Association Report**

There was no Helena Education Association Report this evening.

3. **Facilities & Technology Committee Report**

Trustee Jeff Hindoien gave the Facilities & Technology Committee Report. The members of the Facilities and Technology Committee, along with other attendees, boarded a bus for a guided tour of Helena High School, Capital High School, and Kessler Elementary School. The tour provided an opportunity to observe the facilities firsthand and engage in discussions regarding their current state and needed improvements. Trustee Hindoien noted at Helena High School the aging boiler room and the damage caused by failed pipes in the library. Trustee Hindoien emphasized the need for improvements, particularly at Helena High, which is in critical condition. Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn, who participated in the tour, shared her observations about Kessler Elementary, describing it as a series of interconnected buildings that, while once functional, have become inadequate. She pointed out the narrow hallways and the lack of space for group activities, noting that the building would be a really good choice for replacement. Trustee Janet Armstrong, who participated in the tour added that there are rooms in the building that are inaccessible to students with mobility issues, as well as rooms that require walking through classrooms to reach. In discussing Helena High, Trustee Armstrong highlighted significant electrical and technology issues, noting that the building lacks the capacity to install essential items such as digital clocks for safety purposes. She also mentioned ongoing challenges at Capital High, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

4. **Budget and Finance Committee Report**

Trustee Janet Armstrong gave the Budget and Finance Committee Report. She discussed the necessity of cell phone stipends for certain groups, explaining that while efforts have been made to reduce these costs, the stipends remain a complicated issue due to contractual obligations. The committee also reviewed the interlocal fund which began the year with just under \$6 million but is currently down to around \$3.9 million. This fund is being used to offset the district's deficit, though it is a limited resource and cannot continue to be relied upon at this rate. The district is anticipating a potential 3% increase in state funding, though Trustee Armstrong cautioned that this will not provide additional resources due to rising costs, such as steps and lanes, contractual obligations, and increases in utilities. For example, the district faced a 17% increase in liability costs last year, and a 15% increase is projected for this year. While the increase in funding will help, it is unlikely to be enough to provide additional compensation for staff, who are deserving of more support. Trustee Armstrong addressed questions from the Board of Trustees regarding her update.

5. **Policy Committee Report**

Trustee Jennifer Walsh gave the Policy Committee Report. The committee reviewed several policies, with some not requiring any changes. Notably, they discussed the repeal of the VEBA policy. The committee also revisited Policy 5085, concerning substitute compensation, particularly regarding paraeducators substituting for teachers. It was clarified that paraeducators would be paid the higher of their hourly rate or the substitute rate when filling in for teachers. Lastly, the committee discussed Policy 5055, focusing on leave, with an emphasis on bereavement leave, gathering additional information for further policy updates. Trustee Walsh addressed questions the Board of Trustees had regarding her report.

6. **Teaching & Learning Committee Report**

Trustee Jennifer McKee provided a report from the Teaching and Learning Committee meeting, where the focus was on how data is utilized within schools. Bryant School was highlighted for meeting its year-long growth goals in just three months, achieved through a collaborative approach involving staff sharing their values before the school year began. This strategy helped align everyone's efforts toward common goals and contributed to the school's rapid progress. The committee also discussed the challenges faced by schools with high student turnover, such as Bryant, where 40% of students frequently come and go. This turnover creates additional complexity in tracking and supporting student progress, as students must be quickly assessed and moved up to the appropriate level, even if they only remain in the district for a short time. At HMS, similar challenges were noted. This constant turnover requires schools to adapt quickly, ensuring students are caught up on missed assignments or gaps in learning. Capital High School Principal Zanto also shared insights, particularly regarding the school's efforts to provide enrichment and intervention time. At Capital High, as with other schools, this time is essential to address academic gaps and ensure students are meeting learning goals. Principal Zanto emphasized the importance of this time for students, especially those who may struggle with assignments or need extra support. The committee acknowledged the challenges and complexities faced by these schools, with an emphasis on meeting the varied needs of students, especially in environments with high mobility and diverse learning requirements. Trustee McKee addressed questions from the Board of Trustees regarding her report.

7. **Health Benefits Committee Report**

Trustee Kay Satre provided a report from the Health Benefits Committee meeting, which took place on January 30. The committee focused on developing a framework for moving forward with the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. A scoring process for evaluating submissions was solidified, and the committee is planning to have finalist presentations in early April, though the exact date is still to be confirmed. Additionally, a survey will be distributed to all members to assess their preferences and understanding of the current health benefits plan. The survey aims to gather valuable feedback and help inform the decision-making process. Trustee Satre addressed questions from the Board of Trustees regarding her report.

8. **Wellness Committee Report**

There was no Wellness Committee Report this evening.

9. **Montana School Boards Association Report**

Board Chair Siobhan Hathhorn gave the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Report. Chair Hathhorn provided an update on the ongoing legislative efforts at the Capitol, specifically those involving the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA). She highlighted the association's focus on several key bills. House Bill 15, which aims to address the inflationary gap, has successfully passed its second reading. Additionally, House Bill 320 has also passed its second reading. This is the tax credit bill that creates two additional tax credits for private school students and would result in incremental funding cuts to public schools. Trustees Cleatus and Trustee Satre have also been actively involved in advocating for education-related legislation. Chair Hathhorn addressed questions from the Board of Trustees regarding her report.

10. **Parent Council Visit Reports**

There were no Parent Council Visit reports this evening.

That concluded the Reports portion of the agenda. The Board of Trustees moved on to review upcoming meetings.

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

- Tuesday, February 25th, Board of Trustees Work Session, Bryant Elementary, 3:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 4th, Policy Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m., Lincoln Center
- Wednesday, March 5th, Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m., Lincoln Center
- Friday, March 7th, Budget & Finance Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m., Lincoln Center
- Monday, March 10th, Facilities & Technology Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m., Lincoln Center
- Tuesday, March 11th, Full Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Lincoln Center
- Tuesday, March 25th, Board of Trustees Work Session, Helena High School, 3:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees moved on to hear final board comments.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no further board comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Siobhan Hathorn adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Candice Delvaux, Recording Secretary Date

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.B.1.

- Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- Review of Agenda
- Recognitions
- Superintendent's Report
- General Public Comment
- Consent Action Items
- Items For Action
- Items For Information
- Reports
- Upcoming Meetings
- Board Comments
- Adjournment

Item Title: **Item For Action**
 1. Smith HVAC Replacement Project

Board Action	1st Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Other
Hathhorn					
McKee					
Robison					
Satre					
Hindoiem					
Cleatus					
Walsh					
Armstrong					

Todd J. Verrill

Director of Facilities
1201 Boulder Ave.
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 324-1734
tverrill@helenaschools.org

Helena School District Board of Trustees

1325 Poplar St.
Helena, MT 59601-0939
boardoftrustees@helenaschools.org

11 March 2025

Dear Helena School District Board of Trustees,

I respectfully request the board of trustees award the Smith Elementary School Heating System Replacement project to Tri-County Mechanical and Electrical, LLC (Tri-County). Work for this project includes:

- Replace building steam heating with hydronic heating system
 - Two high efficiency modular boiler plants
- Replace classroom floor mounted unit ventilations
- Replace roof mounted air handling equipment
- Replace temperature control equipment
- Install A/C throughout

The facilities office received two sealed bids and conducted a public bid opening on 4 March 2025. Tri-County submitted the lowest bid with a proposal of \$1,672,755.00. (see attached memos and bid tabulation worksheets). Tri-County is a reputable local company, and I am confident they will complete the project in a timely and professional manner.

Sincerely,



Todd J. Verrill

Attachments

- 1: Memo dated 5 March 2025: Award Recommendation
- 2: Bid Tabulation Worksheet

MECHANICAL / ELECTRICAL
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS



1629 AVE D STE 7C, BILLINGS MT 59102
PHONE: 406.252.3237 FAX: 406.252.3276

March 5, 2025

Helena Public Schools
Todd Verrill, Director of Facilities
1201 Boulder Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

RE: Smith Elementary School
Heating System Replacement
Con'eer #24040

Dear Todd:

After review of the bids received March 4, 2025, I am recommending that the Board accept the bid from Tri-County Mechanical and Electrical, LLC in the amount of \$1,672,755.00 (One Million Six Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Five and 00/100 Dollars) for the base bid.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey A. Gruizenga', is written over a thick blue horizontal bar.

Jeffrey A. Gruizenga, PE

Project: Smith Elementary School
 Heating System Replacement
 Con'eer Project #: 24040

Contractor	Tri-County Mechanical & Electrical LLC	Montana City Plumbing & Heating Inc.
Contractor #	3485	156435
Addendum #1	X	X
Addendum #2	X	X
Addendum #3	X	X
Bond	X	X
Base Bid Total	\$1,672,755.00	\$1,699,730.00

Policy Background
Board of Trustees Work Session
March 11, 2025

The following policies are being presented for Action:

5000 Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

Minor changes to clarify language. Added a required protected class.

5050 State of Montana VEBA Health Benefit Plan

The committee is recommending repeal of this policy. It hasn't been acted on since 2016 and program requirements have changed. If there is a request to participate in VEBA an updated policy will be brought forward for approval.

Policies Reviewed by the Policy Committee – No Changes

4120 Public Relations

5060 School Holidays

7050 Food Service

7065 Contracts with Third Parties Affecting Student Records

7070 School Related Fundraising and Individual or Outside Organizational Fundraising

9210 Site Acquisition

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.B.2.

- Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- Review of Agenda
- Recognitions
- Superintendent's Report
- General Public Comment
- Consent Action Items
- Items For Action
- Items For Information
- Reports
- Upcoming Meetings
- Board Comments
- Adjournment

Item Title: **Item For Action**
 2. Policy 5000 Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

Board Action	1st Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Other
Hathhorn					
McKee					
Robison					
Satre					
Hindoiem					
Cleatus					
Walsh					
Armstrong					

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3 PERSONNEL

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5 Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

6
7 As required by federal law, including but not limited to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX,
8 and Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act and their regulations the District will
9 provide equal employment opportunities ~~and will not discriminate in its educational programs or~~
10 ~~activities, including in the area of employment,~~ with respect to all persons, regardless of their
11 race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity
12 and expression, genetic information, ancestry, marital status, military status, citizenship status,
13 culture, social origin or condition, use of lawful products while not at work, political affiliation
14 or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic if
15 otherwise able to perform essential functions of a job with reasonable accommodations, and
16 other legally protected categories

17
18 The District shall not retaliate against any employee for complaining about not receiving equal
19 employment opportunities or other unlawful discriminatory practices, participating in a
20 proceeding regarding the denial of equal employment opportunities, or otherwise opposing
21 discrimination.

22
23 The District will make reasonable accommodation for an individual with a disability known to
24 the District, if the individual is otherwise qualified for the position, unless the accommodation
25 would impose undue hardship on the District. Covid-19 vaccine status will not be used as a basis
26 to deny or allow equal opportunity to employment.

27
28 Persons who believe they have not received equal employment opportunities or have been
29 retaliated against should report their claims to the building principal or department supervisor.
30 Inquiries regarding sex discrimination or sexual harassment may also be directed to the District’s
31 Title IX Coordinator, the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education, or both.
32 Claims of sexual harassment will be handled through the District’s Title IX Sexual Harassment
33 Grievance Procedures. Claims of disability discrimination will be handled through the District’s
34 Section 504 and ADA Grievance Procedure. All other claims will be handled through the
35 Uniform Complaint Procedure.

36
37 No employee or applicant will be discriminated against for initiating a complaint, serving as a
38 witness, supplying information or otherwise participating in an investigation or proceeding
39 involving an alleged violation of this policy or State or federal laws. The District reserves the
40 right to take action against any individual who knowingly makes false accusations or knowingly
41 provides false information.

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43 Retaliation against an employee who has filed a discrimination complaint, testified or
44 participated in any manner in a discrimination investigation or proceeding is prohibited.

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Cross References: [Policy 5015 Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation Prevention Reporting](#)
[Policy 1085 Uniform Complaint Procedure](#)
Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure
Section 504 and ADA Grievance Procedure

Legal References: [29 U.S.C. §§ 621, et seq. Age Discrimination in Employment Act](#)
[42 U.S.C. §§ 12111, et seq. Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I](#)
[29 U.S.C. § 206\(d\) Equal Pay Act](#)
[8 U.S.C. §§ 1324\(a\), et seq. Immigration Reform and Control Act](#)
[29 U.S.C. §§ 791, et seq. Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#)
[20 U.S.C. §§ 1681, et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments](#)
[34 C.F.R. Part 106 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education](#)
[Montana Constitution, Art. X, § 1 - Educational goals and duties](#)
[§ 49-2-101, et seq. MCA Human Rights Act](#)
[§ 49-2-301, MCA Retaliation Prohibited](#)
[§ 49-1-102, MCA Freedom from discrimination](#)
[§ 49-2-303, MCA Discrimination in employment](#)
[§ 49-3-201, MCA et seq Governmental Code of Fair Practices](#)

[§ 49-2-101, et seq., MCA Human Rights Act](#)
[§ 49-2-312 Discrimination Based on Vaccine Status or Immunity Passport Prohibited](#)
[§ 50-16-502, MCA Legislative findings \(Cited by House Bill 702\)](#)
Bostock v. Clayton County, 140 S. Ct. 1731 (2020)

Policy History:

Adopted on: 8.13.2013
Revised on: 11.10.2020, 11.9.2021, 2.13.2024

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.B.3.

- Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- Review of Agenda
- Recognitions
- Superintendent's Report
- General Public Comment
- Consent Action Items
- Items For Action
- Items For Information
- Reports
- Upcoming Meetings
- Board Comments
- Adjournment

Item Title: **Item For Action**
 3. Policy 5050 Montana VEBA (Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association) Health Benefit Plan-Repeal

Board Action	1st Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Other
Hathhorn					
McKee					
Robison					
Satre					
Hindoiem					
Cleatus					
Walsh					
Armstrong					

2
3 PERSONNEL

4
5 Montana VEBA (Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association) Health Benefit Plan

6
7 The Helena School District #1 is eligible for participation in the State of Montana VEBA
8 Health Benefit Plan and Trust (“the Plan”) which was adopted by the Board of Trustees on
9 December 8, 2015, by acceptance of a completed Employer Adoption Agreement by the
10 State of Montana Department of Administration.

11
12 This policy will be in effect for the following group as defined below.

13
14 ~~———— Classified/Non-Certified employees who are members of the Montana~~
15 ~~Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS) and eligible for retirement~~
16 ~~from MPERS, i.e. at least 50 years old with 5 years vested in MPERS, or~~
17 ~~members of the district “Administrative and Independent Group” with~~
18 ~~management of at least 2 employees. Contributions made on behalf of the~~
19 ~~employee by the District shall be applied uniformly to all eligible~~
20 ~~employees and such contributions shall be made on behalf of all eligible~~
21 ~~employees. This policy requires that all employees separating from service~~
22 ~~in such group while this policy is in effect shall be required to contribute the~~
23 ~~value of a quarter of their accumulated sick leave, and the value of any~~
24 ~~other periodic employer provided retirement benefit for this group that may~~
25 ~~be approved by the Board of Trustees for Helena School District No. 1.~~

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27
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29 Policy History

30 Adopted On: ~~————~~ 3.8.2016

31 Revised On: ~~—~~

HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.C.1

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Item For Information

1. Bond 101, Bridget Ekstrom of D.A. Davidson & Co

BOND INFORMATION OVERVIEW



HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Elementary School District No. 1
Lewis & Clark County, Montana
(the “Elementary”)

High School District No. 1
Lewis & Clark County, Montana
(the “High School”)



BRIDGET EKSTROM

Managing Director, Public Finance Banker

(406) 556-6965 | bekstrom@dadco.com

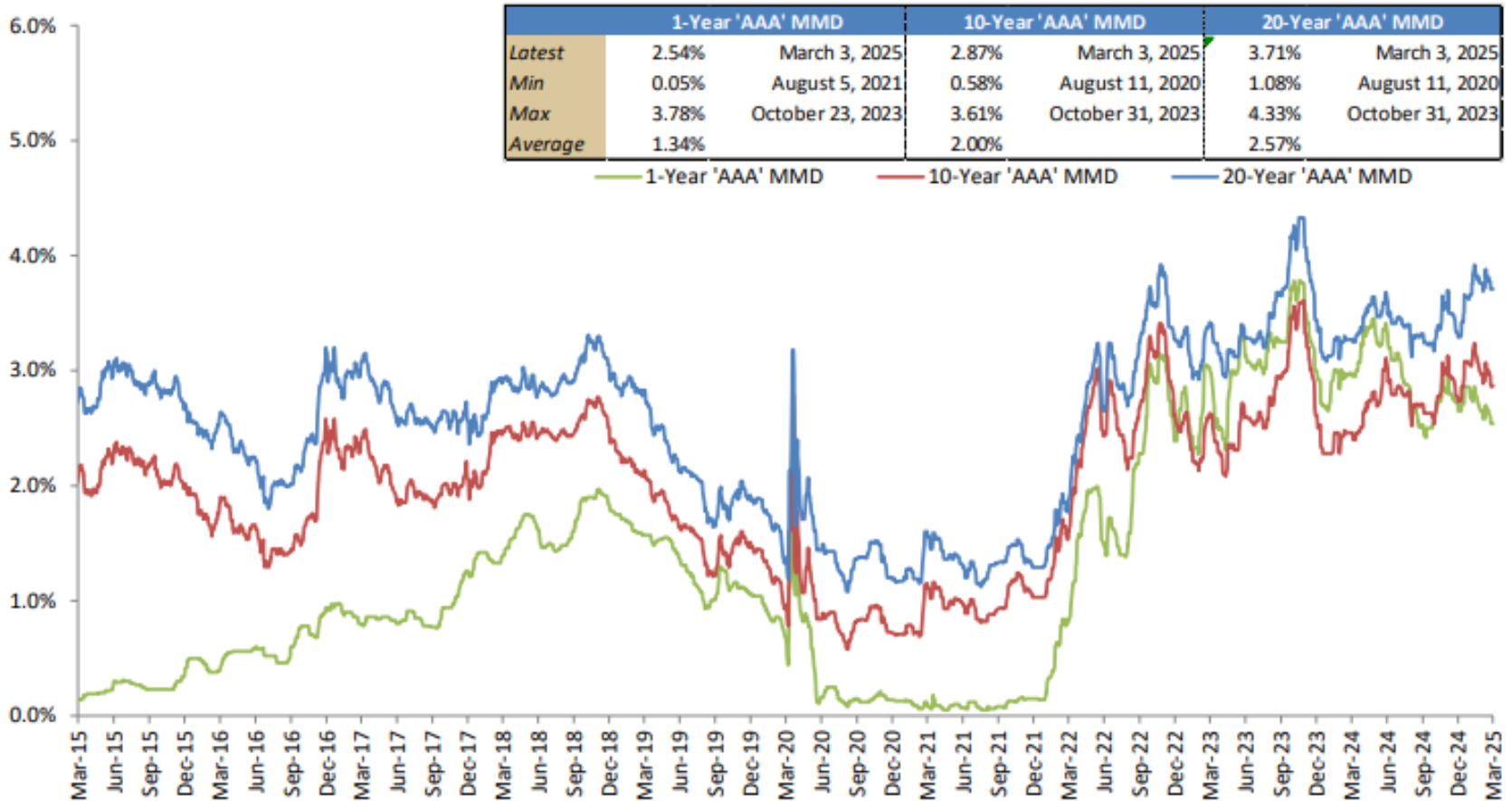


Tax-Exempt Bond Market Update

MUNICIPAL MARKET UPDATE

March 3, 2025

“AAA” MUNICIPAL MARKET DATA INDEX (MMD), 1-YEAR, 10-YEAR & 20-YEAR MATURITIES: 03/03/2015-03/03/2025



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General Obligation Debt Limitation

D.A. Davidson & Co.

March 2025

HELENA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS General Obligation Debt Limitation Calculations

The debt limitation is the greater of Option 1 or Option 2 as highlighted below.

DEBT LIMITATION CALCULATION:	Elem District	HS District
OPTION 1 – STATEWIDE AVERAGE FORMULA		
2025/26 State Average Taxable Valuation Per ANB	\$58,240	\$135,170
X School District's ANB for 2025/26 (3-Year Averages)	<u>5,345</u>	<u>2,511</u>
Total	\$311,292,800	\$339,411,870
X Debt Limit Rate of 1.00	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Maximum Debt Capacity	<u>\$311,292,800</u>	<u>\$339,411,870</u>
Less: Outstanding General Obligation Bonds as of 2024/25 (next payment 7-1-25)*	<u>\$47,530,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Current Debt Capacity Calculation	<u>\$263,762,800</u>	<u>\$339,411,870</u>
OPTION 2 – DISTRICT TAXABLE VALUATION FORMULA		
Total <u>2024/25</u> District Taxable Valuation	\$157,447,014	\$172,176,483
X Debt Limit Rate of 1.00	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Maximum Debt Capacity	<u>\$157,447,014</u>	<u>\$172,176,483</u>
Less: Outstanding General Obligation Bonds as of 2024/25 (next payment 7-1-25)*	<u>\$47,530,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Current Debt Capacity Calculation (Option 2)	<u>\$109,917,014</u>	<u>\$172,176,483</u>

* Helena Elementary District has two Bonds outstanding in the total principal amount of \$47,530,000 as of fiscal year 2024/25 (with the next payment due on 7-1-25), which include a Series 2017 Bond in the amount of \$41,050,000 with a final maturity in 2037 and a Series 2019 Bond in the amount of \$6,480,000 with a final maturity in 2039.



ELEMENTARY - 2017 & 2019 Bonds

Official Statement Covers

OFFICIAL STATEMENT dated September 21, 2017

**NEW ISSUE
BOOK-ENTRY ONLY**

**NOT BANK QUALIFIED
RATING: Moody's: "A1"**
(See "RATING" herein.)

In the opinion of Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Bond Counsel, under existing laws, regulations, rulings and decisions, assuming compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income of the recipient for purposes of federal income taxation and State of Montana individual income taxation. Interest is not an item of tax preference in determining federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals. Interest is includable, however, in the computation of the alternative minimum taxable income of corporations for purposes of the alternative minimum tax imposed under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Bonds are not "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. (See "BONDS NOT BANK QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS" and "TAX EXEMPTION AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS" herein.)

\$55,000,000
School District No. 1 (Helena)
Lewis and Clark County, Montana
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2017

DATED: Date of Delivery (expected to be September 29, 2017) **DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover** School District No. 1 (Helena), Lewis and Clark County, Montana (the "District") provides this Official Statement in connection with the issuance of its General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2017 (the "Bonds"). The Bonds mature annually on July 1 in each of the years and amounts set forth on the inside cover hereof and will bear interest from their Date of Delivery to their respective maturities, or date of prior redemption, at the rates as shown on the inside cover herein.

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases and sales of the Bonds may be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 within a single maturity and in integral multiples thereof. Purchasers of the Bonds (the "Beneficial Owners") will not receive physical bond certificates. Interest on the Bonds will be payable semi-annually on each January 1 and July 1, commencing January 1, 2018. The District has appointed U.S. Bank National Association to serve as registrar and paying agent (the "Registrar") for the Bonds. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable by the Registrar to DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to DTC Participants for subsequent disbursement to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds. (See "THE BONDS - Book-Entry Form" herein.)

The Bonds are general obligations of the District payable from the proceeds of an ad valorem tax that the District will covenant to levy annually on all taxable property within the District, without limitation as to rate or amount. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Montana Code Annotated.

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used for the purpose of (i) paying a portion of the costs associated with the Project (defined herein) and (ii) paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the Bonds. The District has determined to proceed with the issuance of the Bonds in the principal amount of \$55,000,000 as the first series of bonds to be issued under the Bond Authorization (defined herein), and expects to issue up to \$8,000,000 of the remaining Bond Authorization (defined herein) over the next two years. (See "THE BONDS - Authorization," "- Security," and "- Purpose and Sources and Application of Funds" and "DISTRICT FINANCIAL INFORMATION - Future Financing" herein.)

The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2028 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2027 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. (See "THE BONDS - Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice, and to the opinion as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds by Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Missoula, Montana and Minneapolis, Minnesota, Bond Counsel. It is expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about September 29, 2017 (the "Date of Delivery" or "Closing").

This cover page contains certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of this issue. Investors must read the entire official statement to obtain information essential to making an informed investment decision.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT dated May 16, 2019

**NEW ISSUE
BOOK-ENTRY ONLY**

**BANK QUALIFIED
RATING: Moody's: "A1"**
(See "RATING" herein.)

In the opinion of Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Bond Counsel, under existing laws, regulations, rulings and decisions, assuming compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income of the recipient for purposes of federal income taxation under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and for State of Montana individual income taxation. Interest is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed by Section 55 of the Code. Interest on the Bonds is not excludable, however, from the computation of income for purposes of the Montana corporate income tax and the Montana alternative corporate income tax. The District will designate the Bonds "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code. (See "QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS" and "TAX CONSIDERATIONS" herein.)

\$8,000,000
School District No. 1 (Helena)
Lewis and Clark County, Montana
General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2019

DATED: Date of Delivery (expected to be June 5, 2019) **DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover** School District No. 1 (Helena), Lewis and Clark County, Montana (the "District") provides this Official Statement in connection with the issuance of its General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2019 (the "Bonds"). The Bonds mature annually on July 1 in each of the years and amounts set forth on the inside cover hereof and will bear interest from their Date of Delivery to their respective maturities, or date of prior redemption, at the rates as shown on the inside cover herein.

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases and sales of the Bonds may be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 within a single maturity and in integral multiples thereof. Purchasers of the Bonds (the "Beneficial Owners") will not receive physical bond certificates. Interest on the Bonds will be payable semi-annually on each January 1 and July 1, commencing January 1, 2020. The District has appointed U.S. Bank National Association to serve as registrar and paying agent (the "Registrar") for the Bonds. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable by the Registrar to DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to DTC Participants for subsequent disbursement to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds. (See "THE BONDS - Book-Entry Form" herein.)

The Bonds are general obligations of the District payable from the proceeds of an ad valorem tax that the District will covenant to levy annually on all taxable property within the District, without limitation as to rate or amount. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Montana Code Annotated.

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used for the purpose of (i) together with proceeds from the District's General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2017 (the "2017 Bonds"), paying a portion of the costs associated with the Project (defined herein) and (ii) paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the Bonds. The District has determined to proceed with the issuance of the Bonds as the second and final series of bonds under the Bond Authorization (defined herein). (See "THE BONDS - Authorization," "- Security," and "- Purpose and Sources and Application of Funds" herein.)

The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2030 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2029 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. Term Bonds are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. (See "THE BONDS - Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice, and to the opinion as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds by Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Missoula, Montana and Minneapolis, Minnesota, Bond Counsel. It is expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 5, 2019 (the "Date of Delivery" or "Closing").

This cover page contains certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of this issue. Investors must read the entire official statement to obtain information essential to making an informed investment decision.



Helena Public Schools

HIGH SCHOOL - Original 1996 & 1997 Bonds Refinanced in 2004, 2009 & 2012



NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Moody's ("Aa") (FSA Insured)

\$9,800,000

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (HELENA) LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY, MONTANA GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 1996

DATED: August 15, 1996

DUE: July 1, as shown below

The Series 1996 Bonds (the "Bonds") are general obligations of High School District No. 1 (Helena), Lewis and Clark County, Montana, as to rate and amount. The Bonds will be issued for the purpose of paying a portion of the costs of building an addition, furnishing and equipping Helena High School and Capital High School, as well as paying all costs associated with the issuance and sale of the Bonds. The Bonds are issued pursuant to and in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the State of Montana, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated, as amended.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, to the approval of legal counsel by Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich, P.L.L.P., of Billings, Montana, Bond Counsel, and to certain other conditions. It is expected that the Bonds will be made available for delivery on or about June 3, 1997.

NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Standard & Poor's ("AAA") (FSA Insured)

\$4,210,000

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (HELENA) LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY, MONTANA GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 1997

DATED: June 1, 1997

DUE: July 1, as shown below

The Series 1997 Bonds (the "Bonds") are general obligations of High School District No. 1 (Helena), Lewis and Clark County, Montana, as to rate and amount. The Bonds will be issued for the purpose of paying a portion of the costs of building an addition, furnishing and equipping Helena High School and Capital High School, as well as paying all costs associated with the issuance and sale of the Bonds. The Bonds are issued pursuant to and in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the State of Montana, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated, as amended.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, to the approval of legal counsel by Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich, P.L.L.P., of Billings, Montana, Bond Counsel, and to certain other conditions. It is expected that the Bonds will be made available for delivery on or about June 3, 1997.

NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Moody's ("A2") (underlying) (FSA Insured)

\$2,155,000

High School District No. 1 (Helena) Lewis and Clark County, Montana General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2009

DATED: June 1, 2009

DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Code & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, DTC Book-Entry System. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated. The Bonds are being issued for the purpose of paying and refunding the District's outstanding General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 1997 maturing in the years 1998 through 2007 (the "Refunded Bonds") and paying costs associated with the refunding, sale and Application of Funds" herein. The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2015 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2014 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. (See "The Bonds - Optional Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, and to the option as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds as expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 1, 2009.

D.A. DAVIDSON & CO.

This cover page contains certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of this issue. Investors must read the entire official statement to obtain information essential to making an informed investment decision.

Year	Amount	Coupon Rate	Yield To Maturity	Price
2008	\$210,000	5.000%	5.000%	100.000%
2009	220,000	5.100	5.100	100.000
2010	230,000	5.200	5.200	100.000
2011	245,000	5.250	5.250	99.480
2012	255,000	5.350	5.350	99.460
2013	270,000	5.300	5.400	99.420
2014	285,000	5.350	5.400	99.422
2015	300,000	5.350	5.400	98.822
2016	320,000	5.400	5.500	98.822
2017	335,000	5.400	5.500	98.788

(Par Accrued Interest)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and received by the Purchaser, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, to the approval of legal counsel by Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich, P.L.L.P., of Billings, Montana, Bond Counsel, and to certain other conditions. It is expected that the Bonds will be made available for delivery on or about June 3, 1997.

NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Moody's ("A2") (underlying) (FSA Insured)

\$6,455,000

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (HELENA) LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY, MONTANA GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2004

DATED: December 1, 2004

DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Code & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, DTC Book-Entry System. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated. The Bonds are being issued for the purpose of paying and refunding the District's outstanding General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 1996 and 1997 maturing in the years 1998 through 2007 (the "Refunded Bonds") and paying costs associated with the refunding, sale and Application of Funds" herein. The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2015 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2014 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. (See "The Bonds - Optional Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, and to the option as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds as expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 26, 2012 (the "Date of Delivery" or "Closing").

D.A. DAVIDSON & CO.

NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Moody's ("A2") (underlying) (FSA Insured)

\$2,765,000

High School District No. 1 (Helena) Lewis and Clark County, Montana General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012

DATED: Date of Delivery (expected to be June 26, 2012)

DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Code & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, DTC Book-Entry System. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated. The Bonds are being issued for the purpose of paying and refunding the District's outstanding General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 1996 and 1997 maturing in the years 1998 through 2007 (the "Refunded Bonds") and paying costs associated with the refunding, sale and Application of Funds" herein. The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2015 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2014 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. (See "The Bonds - Optional Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, and to the option as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds as expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 26, 2012 (the "Date of Delivery" or "Closing").

D.A. DAVIDSON & CO.

NEW ISSUE BOOK-ENTRY ONLY

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

RATING: Moody's ("A2") (underlying) (FSA Insured)

\$2,155,000

High School District No. 1 (Helena) Lewis and Clark County, Montana General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2009

DATED: June 1, 2009

DUE: July 1, as shown on the inside cover

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds and will be registered in the name of Code & Co., as registered owner and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, DTC Book-Entry System. The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the provisions of Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 4, Montana Code Annotated. The Bonds are being issued for the purpose of paying and refunding the District's outstanding General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 1997 maturing in the years 1998 through 2007 (the "Refunded Bonds") and paying costs associated with the refunding, sale and Application of Funds" herein. The Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2015 are subject to redemption at the option of the District on July 1, 2014 and on any date thereafter at a price equal to the principal amount being redeemed plus interest accrued to the date of redemption, without premium. (See "The Bonds - Optional Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the District, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the Bonds without notice, and to the option as to validity and tax exemption of the Bonds as expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for book-entry delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 1, 2009.

D.A. DAVIDSON & CO.



\$14,200 000 High School Bonds

Passed in 1996 – Originally Issued in 1996 & 1997 - Paid in Full in 2017

(1) \$13,500,000 Improvements - (2) \$700,000 Land Purchase, of which only \$510,000 issued)

The electors of the District authorized the issuance of \$14,200,000 in general obligation bonds at an election duly called, noticed and held on June 4, 1996. A total of 41.41% of those registered to vote in the District cast ballots on the purpose of issuing bonds not to exceed \$13,500,000, to provide improvements to Helena High School and Capital High School, with 8,909 voting in favor and 5,361 voting against the issuance of the Bonds. A total of 41.41% of those registered to vote in the District cast ballots on the purpose of issuing bonds not to exceed \$700,000, to purchase property near Helena High School, with 8,164 voting in favor and 6,008 voting against the issuance of the Bonds. Of qualified voters eligible to vote in the election, 41.41% voted in the election.

In August, 1996, the District issued the 1996 Bonds in the amount of \$9,800,000 to pay the costs of purchasing property near Helena High School, and to pay for a portion of the costs of improvements to the high schools. The total cost of purchasing the land was \$510,000; and \$9,290,000 of the proceeds of the 1996 Bonds issue was applied to pay for the costs of improvements made to the high schools, leaving the District with \$4,210,000 in authorization to issue bonds for the remaining portion of improvements to the high schools.

The Bonds are being issued to finance a portion of the costs of designing, constructing and equipping improvements to the two existing high school buildings to address safety and building codes, compliance with disability and gender-equity laws, to provide additions and repairs to various departments, provide ground improvements, and to pay for costs associated with the sale and issuance of the Bonds (the "Project"). The sources and uses of funds from the Bonds and the 1996 Bonds for the Project are estimated below:

Sources of Funds

Bond Proceeds, Series 1996	\$9,290,000	
Bond Proceeds, The Bonds (Series 1997)	<u>\$4,210,000</u>	
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS		<u>\$13,500,000</u>

Uses of Funds

Costs of Issuing Bonds	\$35,000	
Engineering and Design	\$1,328,000	
Capital High Parking Construction	\$279,000	
Capital High Construction	\$5,300,000	
Helena High Construction	<u>\$6,558,000</u>	
TOTAL USES OF FUNDS		<u>\$13,500,000</u>



ELEMENTARY

Sample New Debt Service (With 2% Tax Base Growth)

EXAMPLE TAX LEVY TABLE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES (2% GROWTH)

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (HELENA)
 LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY, MONTANA
 GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2025
 Option 4: 20-Year Term, Wrap, Assumes "A1" Rating, Non-BQ, 7/1/35 Par Call
 [Preliminary - For Discussion Only]

Year Ending	Sample 2025 Bond Debt Service	2017 Bond Debt Service	2019 Bond Debt Service	Total Debt Service	Example State Aid for Debt Service	Net Debt Service	Taxable Value ¹	District Mill Levy	\$100,000 Monthly Home Impact ²
07/01/2022	-	\$4,106,100	\$575,975	\$4,682,075	(\$235,928.75)	4,446,146	\$119,927.915	37.073	\$4.17
07/01/2023	-	4,108,150	571,675	4,679,825	(\$343,121.57)	4,336,703	122,617.535	35.368	3.98
07/01/2024	-	4,108,150	572,225	4,680,375	(\$262,592.61)	4,417,782	157,031.116	28.133	3.16
07/01/2025	-	4,107,650	573,350	4,681,000	(\$900,000.00)	3,781,000	157,447.014	24.014	2.70
07/01/2026	\$1,180,000	4,106,400	573,300	5,859,700	(\$900,000.00)	4,959,700	160,595.954	30.883	3.47
07/01/2027	1,181,000	4,103,150	574,500	5,858,650	(\$900,000.00)	4,958,650	163,807.873	30.271	3.41
07/01/2028	1,181,500	4,104,900	573,700	5,860,100	(\$900,000.00)	4,960,100	167,084.031	29.686	3.34
07/01/2029	1,181,500	4,104,900	572,600	5,859,000	(\$900,000.00)	4,959,000	170,425.711	29.098	3.27
07/01/2030	1,178,500	4,106,700	576,200	5,861,400	(\$900,000.00)	4,961,400	173,834.226	28.541	3.21
07/01/2031	1,180,125	4,105,800	575,400	5,861,325	(\$900,000.00)	4,961,325	177,310.910	27.981	3.15
07/01/2032	1,181,125	4,106,000	574,000	5,861,125	(\$900,000.00)	4,961,125	180,857.128	27.431	3.09
07/01/2033	1,181,500	4,106,200	572,000	5,859,700	(\$900,000.00)	4,959,700	184,474.271	26.886	3.02
07/01/2034	1,181,250	4,106,200	573,800	5,861,250	(\$900,000.00)	4,961,250	188,163.756	26.367	2.97
07/01/2035	1,180,375	4,105,800	575,600	5,861,775	(\$900,000.00)	4,961,775	191,927.032	25.852	2.91
07/01/2036	1,181,375	4,104,800	571,600	5,857,775	(\$900,000.00)	4,957,775	195,765.572	25.325	2.85
07/01/2037	1,179,125	4,108,000	572,000	5,859,125	(\$900,000.00)	4,959,125	199,680.884	24.835	2.79
07/01/2038	2,443,750	-	576,600	3,020,350	(\$900,000.00)	2,120,350	203,674.501	10.410	1.17
07/01/2039	2,444,375	-	575,200	3,019,575	(\$900,000.00)	2,119,575	207,747.991	10.203	1.15
07/01/2040	2,733,500	-	-	2,733,500	(\$900,000.00)	1,833,500	211,902.951	8.653	0.97
07/01/2041	2,734,000	-	-	2,734,000	(\$900,000.00)	1,834,000	216,141.010	8.485	0.95
07/01/2042	2,731,875	-	-	2,731,875	(\$900,000.00)	1,831,875	220,463.830	8.309	0.93
07/01/2043	2,732,000	-	-	2,732,000	(\$900,000.00)	1,832,000	224,873.107	8.147	0.92
07/01/2044	2,731,500	-	-	2,731,500	(\$900,000.00)	1,831,500	229,370.569	7.985	0.90
07/01/2045	2,732,625	-	-	2,732,625	(\$900,000.00)	1,832,625	233,957.980	7.833	0.88
Total	\$35,451,000	\$65,698,900	\$10,329,725	\$111,479,625	(\$19,741,643)	\$91,737,982			

¹ Assumes 2% annual growth after 2024/25 for example purposes.

² Home values are expected to appreciate over time. This calculation assumes a set value of \$100,000 as an example based on current tax rates for residential homes of 1.35%.



ELEMENTARY

Sample Mill Levy Tax Impact Analysis – 10 Mills

D.A. Davidson & Co.

Mar-25

Helena ELEMENTARY District MILL LEVY IMPACT ANALYSIS SAMPLE IMPACT FOR 10 MILLS

Estimated Mill Levy Computation:	Sample Impact of 10 Mills
Par Amount of the Bonds:	TBD
Total Estimated Interest Over Life of Bond (1):	TBD
Estimated Annual Bond Payment on Tax Rolls (1):	TBD
Less: Estimated State Aid for Debt Service Figure (for Example Purposes)	TBD
EQUALS: "NET" Debt Service Levy Amount (After State Aid)	TBD
Divided By: District's 2024/25 Mill Value:	<u>\$157,447.014</u>
EQUALS: Estimated Number of Mills Required:	10.00

Estimated Tax Increase for Individual RESIDENTIAL TAXPAYERS:

2024/25 Tax Year "MARKET VALUE" of Residential Property (2)	2024/25 Tax Year "TAXABLE VALUE" of Residential Property (2)	Estimated ANNUAL Tax (3)	Estimated MONTHLY Tax (3)
\$100,000	\$1,350	\$13.50	\$1.13
\$200,000	\$2,700	\$27.00	\$2.25
\$300,000	\$4,050	\$40.50	\$3.38
\$400,000	\$5,400	\$54.00	\$4.50
\$500,000	\$6,750	\$67.50	\$5.63
\$600,000	\$8,100	\$81.00	\$6.75

NOTE: All property owners (including farming and ranching operations, commercial businesses, home owners etc...) should use the following formula to calculate the estimated tax impact of the Bond issue. Look up the Property's "Taxable Value" from Personal Tax Statement or the following State website (<http://svc.mt.gov/dor/property/pre>) and use the following formula: "Taxable Value" X Mills/1,000 = Estimated Annual Tax Impact of the Bonds

- (1) Based on estimated true interest cost rates (TIC) of ____%.
- (2) Based upon Class 4 residential property. The "Market Valuation" for tax purposes will be different than the valuation of most residential real property for resale purposes. To better calculate the estimated tax impact of the bond issue, property owners should look up their exact taxable value as shown on their personal tax statement and use the formula shown above in grey.
- (3) Tax Impacts are based on property tax legislation adopted at the 2015 Legislative Session and the 2023 Department of Revenue reappraisal effective for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 tax years. Tax impact information varies every year depending on such factors as District Mill Value, method of calculating taxable valuation and actual debt service.



ELEMENTARY Trends in Taxable Value

TAXABLE VALUE Trends in HELENA ELEMENTARY DISTRICT (2008-2024)

Description	CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4	CLASS 4	CLASS 5	CLASS 7	CLASS 8	CLASS 9	CLASS 10	CLASS 12	CLASS 13	CLASS 14	CLASS 15	CLASS 16	CLASS 17	TOTAL (Includes Tax Increment)	Percent Growth in Taxable Value from Prior Year Value
Net proceeds of mines	Gross proceeds of metal mines	Agricultural land	Residential land	Commercial land	Pollution control, electric and telephone cooperatives, new and expanding industry, etc.	Non-centrally assessed utilities	Business equipment	Pipelines and non-electric generating property of electric utilities	Forest land	Airlines and railroads	Telecommunication utilities and electric generating property of electric utilities	Renewable energy production and transmission property	Carbon dioxide and liquid pipeline property	High Voltage Direct-Current Converter Stations	Data Centers			
<u>Tax Rate:</u> 100% of annual net proceeds less expenses	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 3.00% of annual gross proceeds	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 2.16% of productive capacity	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 1.35% (Except any portion in excess of \$1.5 million has a tax rate of 1.89%)	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 1.89% (except golf courses have a tax rate of 0.945%)	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 3%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 8%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> the first \$300,000 is exempt, 1.50% for the first \$6 million (and 3.00% in excess of \$3 million) and starting with tax year 2024/25 the first \$1,000,000 will be exempt	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 12%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 0.37% of forest productivity value	<u>Tax Rate:</u> Varies	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 6%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 3%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 3%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 2.25%	<u>Tax Rate:</u> 0.90%			
2024 Percent of Total:	0.00%	0.00%	0.23%	63.11%	20.78%	0.03%	0.00%	2.71%	8.52%	0.01%	0.65%	3.96%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	
2024	0	0	366,814	101,801,020	33,513,720	50,175	0	4,369,830	13,747,746	14,085	1,051,909	6,379,510	0	0	0	0	161,294,809	0.44%
2023	0	0	368,503	101,879,381	34,051,330	46,938	0	4,520,330	12,911,507	13,800	702,741	6,095,716	0	0	0	0	160,590,246	29.94%
2022	0	0	363,981	70,704,828	26,507,354	54,930	0	3,610,091	14,467,359	13,238	852,028	7,014,839	0	0	0	0	123,588,648	2.35%
2021	0	0	367,470	69,595,934	25,822,582	27,083	0	3,881,750	13,090,560	12,674	877,557	7,080,636	0	0	0	0	120,756,246	7.59%
2020	0	0	395,498	62,747,777	24,146,944	24,221	0	4,265,534	13,221,621	11,828	893,319	6,529,287	0	0	0	0	112,236,029	1.44%
2019	0	0	397,234	62,125,549	24,192,450	21,524	0	4,024,705	12,671,256	11,911	784,093	6,419,237	0	0	0	0	110,647,959	6.93%
2018	0	0	354,303	57,041,818	22,618,727	20,595	0	3,495,184	12,433,421	11,730	720,322	6,780,197	0	0	0	0	103,476,297	1.67%
2017	0	0	351,282	56,011,709	21,910,385	20,826	0	3,615,325	12,100,891	11,790	720,057	7,029,422	0	0	0	0	101,771,687	6.73%
2016	0	0	320,423	51,124,868	20,904,032	21,881	0	3,604,692	10,618,754	11,723	721,788	8,025,087	0	0	0	0	95,353,248	2.22%
2015	0	0	313,856	50,593,986	21,320,706	21,481	0	3,035,813	9,488,155	11,717	651,529	7,846,669	0	0	0	0	93,283,912	4.86%
2014	0	1,758	375,134	48,398,483	21,227,822	21,798	0	2,737,251	8,908,844	16,749	705,564	6,564,510	0	0	0	0	88,957,913	-2.53%
2013	0	0	377,517	47,554,334	20,534,597	19,996	0	3,609,068	8,810,803	16,306	748,040	9,597,600	0	0	0	0	91,268,261	2.77%
2012	0	0	377,828	46,742,672	19,824,650	20,718	0	2,907,808	8,364,834	16,292	736,287	9,814,510	0	0	0	0	88,805,599	1.18%
2011	0	0	376,352	46,161,314	19,317,439	18,189	0	3,207,832	7,605,147	16,587	768,091	10,300,306	0	0	0	0	87,771,257	1.96%
2010	0	0	380,466	45,310,425	18,766,164	17,670	0	3,360,525	8,760,674	16,530	840,822	8,628,227	0	0	0	0	86,081,503	4.99%
2009	0	0	386,447	41,646,913	21,432,326	17,647	0	3,500,654	8,009,559	16,310	649,555	6,327,964	0	0	0	0	81,987,375	8.59%
2008	0	0	389,635	40,312,421	16,958,625	14,559	0	3,358,632	8,341,352	13,727	660,577	5,450,456	0	0	0	0	75,499,984	

Note: The State of Montana Department of Revenue went from a 6-year revaluation period to a 2-year revaluation period in 2015. For the above table, revaluation years were 2009, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023.



HIGH SCHOOL Trends in Taxable Value

TAXABLE VALUE Trends in HELENA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (2008-2024)

	CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4	CLASS 4	CLASS 5	CLASS 7	CLASS 8	CLASS 9	CLASS 10	CLASS 12	CLASS 13	CLASS 14	CLASS 15	CLASS 16	CLASS 17		
Description	Net proceeds of mines	Gross proceeds of metal mines	Agricultural land	Residential land	Commercial land	Pollution control, electric and telephone cooperatives, new and expanding industry, etc.	Non-centrally assessed utilities	Business equipment	Pipelines and non-electric generating property of electric utilities	Forest land	Airlines and railroads	Telecommunication utilities and electric generating property of electric utilities	Renewable energy production and transmission property	Carbon dioxide and liquid pipeline property	High Voltage Direct-Current Converter Stations	Data Centers	TOTAL (Includes Tax Increment)	
Tax Rates	Tax Rate: 100% of annual net proceeds less expenses	Tax Rate: 3.00% of annual gross proceeds	Tax Rate: 2.16% of productive capacity	Tax Rate: 1.35% (Except any portion in excess of \$1.5 million has a tax rate of 1.89%)	Tax Rate: 1.89% (except golf courses have a tax rate of 0.945%)	Tax Rate: 3%	Tax Rate: 8%	Tax Rate: the first \$300,000 is exempt, 1.50% for the first \$6 million (and 3.00% in excess of \$3 million) and starting with tax year 2024/25 the first \$1,000,000 will be exempt	Tax Rate: 12%	Tax Rate: 0.37% of forest productivity value	Tax Rate: Varies	Tax Rate: 6%	Tax Rate: 3%	Tax Rate: 3%	Tax Rate: 2.25%	Tax Rate: 0.90%		Percent Growth In Taxable Value from Prior Year Value
2024 Percent of Total:	0.00%	0.00%	0.53%	62.80%	19.21%	0.07%	0.00%	2.57%	8.90%	0.08%	1.16%	4.68%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	
2024	0	0	924,886	110,546,666	33,818,700	126,848	0	4,517,654	15,669,619	141,147	2,038,435	8,240,322	0	0	0	0	176,024,277	0.54%
2023	0	0	949,024	110,702,519	34,367,366	125,959	0	4,609,614	14,775,797	150,314	1,664,988	7,732,230	0	0	0	0	175,077,811	29.09%
2022	0	0	929,507	76,753,876	26,708,735	123,713	0	3,670,375	16,612,080	144,455	1,862,730	8,824,388	0	0	0	0	135,629,859	2.18%
2021	0	0	933,047	75,478,995	26,035,784	100,558	0	3,951,894	15,381,506	141,142	2,005,553	8,703,638	0	0	0	0	132,732,117	7.76%
2020	0	0	953,425	68,097,057	24,345,967	117,671	0	4,341,417	15,099,042	133,470	1,986,066	8,097,879	0	0	0	0	123,171,994	1.71%
2019	0	0	957,467	67,397,051	24,401,364	48,629	0	4,102,110	14,416,600	134,361	1,715,950	7,924,279	0	0	0	0	121,097,811	7.01%
2018	0	0	874,785	61,752,259	22,809,499	43,417	0	3,579,283	14,036,314	134,463	1,678,699	8,258,513	0	0	0	0	113,167,232	-10.94%
2017	0	0	1,078,065	72,494,505	23,311,671	54,129	0	3,948,943	15,287,677	135,169	1,972,781	8,784,157	0	0	0	0	127,067,097	7.48%
2016	0	113	986,551	65,543,362	21,962,862	100,244	0	3,958,340	13,601,099	135,275	2,110,657	9,822,518	0	0	0	0	118,221,021	2.60%
2015	0	3,213	966,968	64,968,605	22,274,831	99,913	0	3,396,311	12,205,953	134,952	1,616,911	9,561,275	0	0	0	0	115,228,932	3.76%
2014	0	245,596	1,190,932	62,407,039	22,198,301	107,856	0	3,136,533	11,554,947	196,161	1,645,648	8,368,222	0	0	0	0	111,051,235	-2.91%
2013	0	1,112,493	1,211,694	61,287,645	21,499,066	105,506	0	4,279,876	11,476,691	195,721	1,721,014	11,494,848	0	0	0	0	114,384,554	3.21%
2012	0	250,996	1,193,023	60,194,254	20,726,126	105,873	0	3,499,699	10,987,693	195,263	1,697,288	11,981,673	0	0	0	0	110,831,888	1.30%
2011	0	0	1,200,331	59,366,120	20,190,441	102,666	0	3,823,045	10,025,031	193,161	1,917,409	12,591,522	0	0	0	0	109,409,726	1.85%
2010	0	0	1,213,236	58,249,195	19,607,847	103,728	0	3,989,034	11,455,720	192,862	1,653,071	10,960,642	0	0	0	0	107,425,335	4.53%
2009	0	0	1,226,483	54,104,998	22,616,066	96,205	0	4,020,866	10,498,304	191,561	1,359,806	8,653,141	0	0	0	0	102,767,430	7.48%
2008	0	0	1,245,112	52,286,970	17,856,267	106,570	0	3,875,168	11,003,297	122,660	1,250,332	7,871,933	0	0	0	0	95,618,309	

Note: The State of Montana Department of Revenue went from a 6-year revaluation period to a 2-year revaluation period in 2015. For the above table, revaluation years were 2009, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023.



ELEMENTARY 2024/25 Top 50 Taxpayers

HELENA ELEMENTARY DISTRICT TOP 50 MAJOR TAXPAYERS					
Taxpayer Impact for Sample Bond Example				10 Mills	
	Taxpayer Name	Taxable Value	% of District Taxable Valuation	Yearly	Monthly
1	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	\$14,395,278	9.14%	\$143,953	\$11,996
2	THE BOEING COMPANY	\$2,635,236	1.67%	\$26,352	\$2,196
3	VERIZON INC	\$1,878,183	1.19%	\$18,782	\$1,565
4	CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS INC	\$1,044,293	0.66%	\$10,443	\$870
5	YELLOWSTONE PIPELINE CO	\$984,422	0.63%	\$9,844	\$820
6	BNSF RAILWAY CO	\$932,694	0.59%	\$9,327	\$777
7	LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES INC	\$699,788	0.44%	\$6,998	\$583
8	TRC REMINGTON LLC	\$508,573	0.32%	\$5,086	\$424
9	HELENA SKYWAY LLC	\$504,312	0.32%	\$5,043	\$420
10	CAPITAL GROUP HOLDINGS LLC	\$432,217	0.27%	\$4,322	\$360
11	TOUCHMARK ON SADDLE DRIVE SPE LLC	\$406,607	0.26%	\$4,066	\$339
12	PIONEER AEROSTRUCTURES LLC	\$403,854	0.26%	\$4,037	\$336
13	COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION	\$390,945	0.25%	\$3,909	\$326
14	GRIZZ GREEN MEADOWS LLC	\$369,111	0.23%	\$3,691	\$308
15	WINCO FOODS LLC	\$356,230	0.23%	\$3,562	\$297
16	WAL MART STORES INC	\$339,606	0.22%	\$3,396	\$283
17	FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS	\$326,568	0.21%	\$3,266	\$272
18	GONOCO INC	\$320,762	0.20%	\$3,208	\$267
19	PAR MONANA LLC	\$313,509	0.20%	\$3,135	\$261
20	HELENA FEDERAL OFFICE COMPLEX LLC	\$312,466	0.20%	\$3,125	\$260
21	HELENA FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING LLC	\$307,685	0.20%	\$3,077	\$256
22	HARBOR HILLS 1009 LLC	\$296,548	0.19%	\$2,965	\$247
23	HELENA LEISURE LLC	\$290,956	0.18%	\$2,910	\$242
24	LOWE'S HIW INC	\$288,310	0.18%	\$2,883	\$240
25	HYDRA LLC	\$279,369	0.18%	\$2,794	\$233
26	TDS METROCOM LLC	\$279,276	0.18%	\$2,793	\$233
27	406 RENTALS LLC	\$271,130	0.17%	\$2,711	\$226
28	AMERICAN FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK	\$260,357	0.17%	\$2,604	\$217
29	HELENA COLONIAL LLC	\$249,126	0.16%	\$2,491	\$208
30	HELENA MONTANA ASSOCIATES LLC	\$244,341	0.16%	\$2,443	\$204
31	QUEENS ANN HELENA LLC	\$238,043	0.15%	\$2,380	\$198
32	HD DEVELOPMENT OF MARYLAND INC	\$233,963	0.15%	\$2,340	\$195
33	INTREPID CREDIT UNION	\$231,223	0.15%	\$2,312	\$193
34	GLACIER BANK	\$225,606	0.14%	\$2,256	\$188
35	AT&T MOBILITY LLC	\$219,714	0.14%	\$2,197	\$183
36	GN HOTEL LLC	\$218,816	0.14%	\$2,188	\$182
37	MONTANA RAIL LINK INC	\$207,053	0.13%	\$2,071	\$173
38	ZAYO GROUP LLC	\$206,048	0.13%	\$2,060	\$172
39	HELENA SAND & GRAVEL INC	\$203,502	0.13%	\$2,035	\$170
40	HELENA DIRT LLC	\$202,469	0.13%	\$2,025	\$169
41	TARGET CORPORATION	\$201,574	0.13%	\$2,016	\$168
42	OPPORTUNITY BANK OF MONTANA	\$200,845	0.13%	\$2,008	\$167
43	SLEEPING GIANT HELENA LLC	\$198,263	0.13%	\$1,983	\$165
44	HELENA 5 & HOTEL RE LLC	\$196,515	0.12%	\$1,965	\$164
45	TRINITY RESTORATION LLC	\$191,932	0.12%	\$1,919	\$160
46	FIRST INTERSTATE BANK	\$186,887	0.12%	\$1,869	\$156
47	TRC HELENA PROPERTIES LLC	\$183,203	0.12%	\$1,832	\$153
48	STOCKMAN BANK OF MONTANA	\$180,601	0.11%	\$1,806	\$151
49	LUNDY'S CENTER INC	\$168,864	0.11%	\$1,689	\$141
50	GANESHAY HELENA LLC	\$163,646	0.10%	\$1,636	\$136
TOTAL		\$34,380,319	21.84%	\$343,803	\$28,650
District's 2024/25 Taxable Value:		\$157,447,014			



HIGH SCHOOL 2024/25 Top 50 Taxpayers

HELENA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT TOP 50 MAJOR TAXPAYERS					
Taxpayer Impact for Sample Bond Example				10 Mills	
	Taxpayer Name	Taxable Value	% of District Taxable Valuation	Yearly	Monthly
1	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	\$17,883,544	10.39%	\$178,835	\$14,903
2	THE BOEING COMPANY	\$2,635,236	1.53%	\$26,352	\$2,196
3	VERIZON INC	\$2,028,299	1.18%	\$20,283	\$1,690
4	BNSF RAILWAY CO	\$1,921,946	1.12%	\$19,219	\$1,602
5	CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS INC	\$1,044,293	0.61%	\$10,443	\$870
6	YELLOWSTONE PIPELINE CO	\$1,007,767	0.59%	\$10,078	\$840
7	LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES INC	\$740,000	0.43%	\$7,400	\$617
8	TRC REMINGTON LLC	\$508,573	0.30%	\$5,086	\$424
9	HELENA SKYWAY LLC	\$504,312	0.29%	\$5,043	\$420
10	CAPITAL GROUP HOLDINGS LLC	\$432,217	0.25%	\$4,322	\$360
11	TOUCHMARK ON SADDLE DRIVE SPE LLC	\$406,607	0.24%	\$4,066	\$339
12	PIONEER AEROSTRUCTURES LLC	\$403,654	0.23%	\$4,037	\$336
13	COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION	\$390,945	0.23%	\$3,909	\$326
14	GRIZZ GREEN MEADOWS LLC	\$369,111	0.21%	\$3,691	\$308
15	WINCO FOODS LLC	\$356,230	0.21%	\$3,562	\$297
16	WAL MART STORES INC	\$339,606	0.20%	\$3,396	\$283
17	FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS	\$326,568	0.19%	\$3,266	\$272
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22	HARBOR HILLS 1009 LLC	\$296,548	0.17%	\$2,965	\$247
23	HELENA LEISURE LLC	\$290,956	0.17%	\$2,910	\$242
24	LOWE'S HIW INC	\$288,310	0.17%	\$2,883	\$240
25	HYDRA LLC	\$279,369	0.16%	\$2,794	\$233
26	TDS METROCOM LLC	\$279,276	0.16%	\$2,793	\$233
27	406 RENTALS LLC	\$271,130	0.16%	\$2,711	\$226
28	AT&T MOBILITY LLC	\$264,914	0.15%	\$2,649	\$221
29	AMERICAN FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK	\$260,357	0.15%	\$2,604	\$217
30	HELENA COLONIAL LLC	\$249,126	0.14%	\$2,491	\$208
31	HELENA MONTANA ASSOCIATES LLC	\$244,341	0.14%	\$2,443	\$204
32	QUEENS ANN HELENA LLC	\$238,043	0.14%	\$2,380	\$198
33	HD DEVELOPMENT OF MARYLAND INC	\$233,963	0.14%	\$2,340	\$195
34	INTREPID CREDIT UNION	\$231,223	0.13%	\$2,312	\$193
35	GLACIER BANK	\$225,606	0.13%	\$2,256	\$188
36	GN HOTEL LLC	\$218,816	0.13%	\$2,188	\$182
37	ZAYO GROUP LLC	\$208,203	0.12%	\$2,082	\$174
38	MONTANA RAIL LINK INC	\$207,053	0.12%	\$2,071	\$173
39	HELENA SAND & GRAVEL INC	\$203,502	0.12%	\$2,035	\$170
40	HELENA DIRT LLC	\$202,469	0.12%	\$2,025	\$169
41	TARGET CORPORATION	\$201,574	0.12%	\$2,016	\$168
42	OPPORTUNITY BANK OF MONTANA	\$200,845	0.12%	\$2,008	\$167
43	SLEEPING GIANT HELENA LLC	\$198,263	0.12%	\$1,983	\$165
44	HELENA 5 & HOTEL RE LLC	\$196,515	0.11%	\$1,965	\$164
45	TRINITY RESTORATION LLC	\$191,932	0.11%	\$1,919	\$160
46	FIRST INTERSTATE BANK	\$186,887	0.11%	\$1,869	\$156
47	TRC HELENA PROPERTIES LLC	\$183,203	0.11%	\$1,832	\$153
48	ADAPTURE RENEWABLES INC	\$182,917	0.11%	\$1,829	\$152
49	STOCKMAN BANK OF MONTANA	\$180,601	0.10%	\$1,806	\$151
50	LUNDY'S CENTER INC	\$168,864	0.10%	\$1,689	\$141
TOTAL		\$39,138,136	22.73%	\$391,381	\$32,615
District's 2024/25 Taxable Value:		\$172,176,483			



Recent Rating Information Excerpts

RATING

Issuer Rating¹

A1 No Outlook



New York, June 29, 2021 – Moody's Investors Service has today affirmed Issuer Ratings and debt instrument ratings (as applicable) of 277 US K-12 public school districts in conjunction with the implementation of the US K-12 Public School Districts Methodology published on January 26, 2021. Issuer Ratings reflect school districts' ability to repay debt and debt-like obligations without consideration of any pledge, security, or structural features. These actions affect issuers with approximately \$17.5 billion in debt.

The outlook for each issuer and its debt instruments are unchanged from the outlook currently assigned. An outlook is an opinion regarding the likely rating direction over the medium term. There are four possible outlooks: STA (stable); NEG (negative); POS (positive) or NOO (no outlook). NOO is typically assigned to school districts with less than \$250 million of rated debt.

Please click on this link http://www.moodys.com/viewresearchdoc.aspx?docid=PBM_PBM907220831 for the List of Affected Credit Ratings. This list is an integral part of this Press Release and identifies each affected issuer.

RATINGS RATIONALE

The affirmation of Issuer Ratings reflects an evaluation of the key factors of the analysis for K-12 school districts including the economy, finances, institutional framework and leverage together with other relevant considerations.

The affirmation of debt instrument ratings reflects the individual school district's Issuer Rating and each debt instrument's security considerations.

RATING OUTLOOK

The outlook for each issuer and its debt instruments are unchanged from the outlook currently assigned. An outlook is an opinion regarding the likely rating direction over the medium term.

FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UPGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Improvement in fundamental credit factors, including those related to economy, finances, institutional framework, or leverage

FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO A DOWNGRADE OF THE RATINGS

- Deterioration of fundamental credit factors, including those related to economy, finances, institutional framework, or leverage

METHODOLOGY

The principal methodology used in these ratings was US K-12 Public School Districts Methodology published in January 2021 and available at https://www.moodys.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBM_1202421. Alternatively, please see the Rating Methodologies page on www.moodys.com for a copy of this methodology.

REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

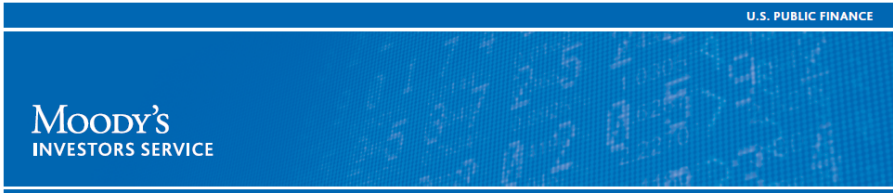
The List of Affected Credit Ratings announced here are all solicited credit ratings. Additionally, the List of Affected Credit Ratings includes additional disclosures that vary with regard to some of the ratings. Please click on this link http://www.moodys.com/viewresearchdoc.aspx?docid=PBM_PBM907220831 for the List of Affected Credit Ratings. This list is an integral part of this Press Release and provides, for each of the credit ratings covered, Moody's disclosures on the following items:

- Rating Solicitation
- Issuer Participation
- Participation: Access to Management
- Participation: Access to Internal Documents
- Disclosure to Rated Entity
- Endorsement
- State

For further specification of Moody's key rating assumptions and sensitivity analysis, see the sections Methodology Assumptions and Sensitivity to Assumptions in the disclosure form. Moody's Rating Symbols and Definitions can be found at: https://www.moodys.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBC_79004.



Recent Rating Information Excerpts



U.S. PUBLIC FINANCE

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE

U.S. PUBLIC FINANCE

ISSUER COMMENT

8 December 2023

RATING

Issuer Rating¹

A1 No Outlook

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CLIENT SERVICES

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Asia Pacific 852-3551-3077

Japan 81-3-5408-4100

EMEA 44-20-7772-5454

Lewis & Clark County S.D. 1 (Helena), MT

Annual comment on Helena SD

Issuer profile

Lewis & Clark County S.D. 1 (Helena) is located in Clark County in west central Montana, approximately 70 miles southwest of Great Falls.

Key indicators

Exhibit 1

Lewis & Clark County S.D. 1 (Helena), MT

	2019	2020	2021	2022	A Medians
Economy					
Resident income	113.5%	111.2%	105.7%	N/A	95.2%
Full value (\$000)	\$5,928,415	\$6,482,082	\$7,075,330	\$7,185,940	\$1,229,496
Population	54,877	55,152	55,863	N/A	13,416
Full value per capita	\$108,031	\$117,531	\$126,655	N/A	\$88,743
Enrollment	5,243	5,340	5,153	5,222	1,823
Enrollment trend	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	-0.1%	-1.6%
Financial performance					
Operating revenue (\$000)	\$52,697	\$55,841	\$57,191	\$57,568	\$28,852
Available fund balance (\$000)	\$12,143	\$11,732	\$14,163	\$15,645	\$7,245
Net cash (\$000)	\$12,734	\$11,881	\$14,882	\$15,860	\$8,211
Available fund balance ratio	23.0%	21.0%	24.8%	27.2%	25.4%
Net cash ratio	24.2%	21.3%	26.0%	27.6%	28.9%
Leverage					
Debt (\$000)	\$60,363	\$64,952	\$62,284	\$59,569	\$22,330
ANPL (\$000)	\$99,441	\$114,877	\$157,533	\$132,851	\$60,157
OPEB (\$000)	\$4,198	\$4,326	\$3,489	\$3,567	\$4,165
Long-term liabilities ratio	311.2%	329.8%	390.5%	340.4%	379.5%
Implied debt service (\$000)	\$3,942	\$4,401	\$4,651	\$4,369	\$1,561
Pension tread water (\$000)	\$3,002	\$3,063	\$3,967	\$2,911	\$1,526
OPEB contributions (\$000)	\$441	\$163	\$271	\$1,392	\$154
Fixed-costs ratio	14.0%	13.7%	15.5%	15.1%	13.3%

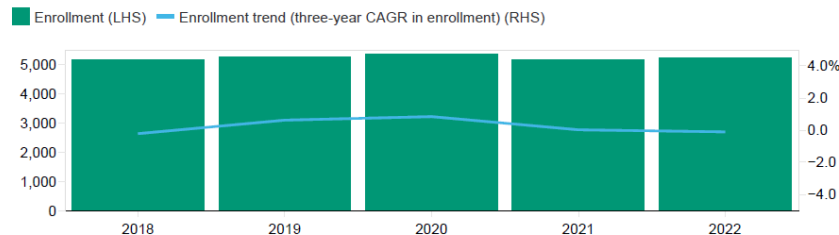
For definitions of the metrics in the table above please refer to the [US K-12 Public School Districts Methodology](#), or see the Glossary in the Appendix below. Metrics represented as N/A indicate the data were not available at the time of publication. The medians come from our most recently published [K-12 Median Report](#).
Sources: US Census Bureau, Helena Elementary School District 1 (Lewis & Clark County)'s financial statements and Moody's Investors Service

Credit overview

Economy

Exhibit 2

Enrollment

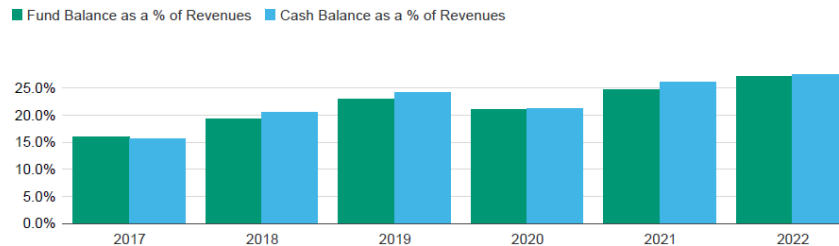


Source: Moody's Investors Service

Financial performance

Exhibit 3

Financial Trends



Source: Moody's Investors Service

Leverage

This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the issuer/deal page on <https://ratings.moody.com> for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.



Recent Rating Information Excerpts

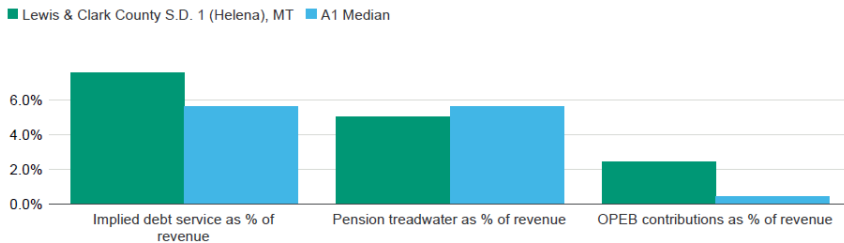
MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE

U.S. PUBLIC FINANCE

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE

U.S. PUBLIC FINANCE

Exhibit 4
Fixed costs components



Source: Moody's Investors Service

Appendix

Exhibit 5
Key Indicators Glossary

	Definition	Source
Economy		
Resident income	Median Household Income (MHI), adjusted for Regional Price Parity (RPP), as a % of the US	MHI: American Community Survey (US Census Bureau) RPP: US Bureau of Economic Analysis
Full value (\$000)	Estimated market value of taxable property accessible to the district	State repositories, district's audited financial reports, offering documents or continuing disclosure
Population	Population of school district	American Community Survey (US Census Bureau)
Full value per capita	Full value / population of school district	
Enrollment	Student enrollment of school district	State data publications
Enrollment trend	3-year Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of Enrollment	State data publications; Moody's Investors Service
Financial performance		
Operating revenue (\$000)	Total annual operating revenue in what we consider to be the district's operating funds	Audited financial statements
Available fund balance (\$000)	Committed, assigned and unassigned fund balances in what we consider to be the district's operating funds	Audited financial statements
Net cash (\$000)	Net cash (cash and liquid investments minus short-term debt) in what we consider to be the district's operating funds	Audited financial statements
Available fund balance ratio	Available fund balance / Operating Revenue	Audited financial statements
Net cash ratio	Net Cash / Operating Revenue	Audited financial statements
Leverage		
Debt (\$000)	District's direct gross debt outstanding	Audited financial statements; official statements
ANPL (\$000)	District's pension liabilities adjusted by Moody's to standardize the discount rate used to compute the present value of accrued benefits	Audited financial statements; Moody's Investors Service
OPEB (\$000)	District's net other post-employment benefit (OPEB) liabilities adjusted by Moody's to standardize the discount rate used to compute the present value of accrued benefits	Audited financial statements; Moody's Investors Service
Long-term liabilities ratio	Debt, ANPL and OPEB liabilities as % of operating revenue	Audited financial statements, official statements; Moody's Investors Service
Implied debt service (\$000)	Annual cost to amortize district's long-term debt over 20 years with level payments	Audited financial statements; official statements; Moody's Investors Service
Pension tread water (\$000)	Pension contribution necessary to prevent reported unfunded pension liabilities from growing, year over year, in nominal dollars, if all actuarial assumptions are met	Audited financial statements; Moody's Investors Service
OPEB contributions (\$000s)	District's actual contribution in a given period, typically the fiscal year	Audited financial statements; official statements
Fixed-costs ratio	Implied debt service, pension tread water and OPEB contributions as % of operating revenue	Audited financial statements, official statements, pension system financial statements

*Note: If typical data source is not available then alternative sources or proxy data may be considered. For more detailed definitions of the metrics listed above please refer to the [USK-32 Public School Districts Methodology](#).
Source: Moody's Investors Service

Endnotes

1 Issuer Rating reflects the government's ability to repay debt and debt-like obligations without consideration of any pledge, security or structural features. In some circumstances, credit characteristics are sufficient to result in a GO bond rating that is higher than the Issuer Rating. Local governments with Moody's rated debt outstanding will have separate ratings detailed by security pledge on their Moody's.com issuer page and credit opinions explaining our credit view for each rating.

HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting

Item VI.C.2

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: **Item For Information**
2. Pre-Bond Update, SMA Architecture + Design



PRE-BOND PLANNING

Board of Trustees Update

MARCH 11, 2025



AGENDA

1. PRE-BOND PLANNING PROCESS
2. FACILITY NEEDS STAFF STAKEHOLDER MEETING RECAPS
 - Staff Stakeholder Meeting Recaps
3. PRELIMINARY PROJECT SCOPES + HIGH-LEVEL COSTS
4. NEXT STEPS

PRE-BOND PLANNING PROCESS

PRE-BOND PLANNING

MASTER PLAN

FACILITIES CONDITIONS REPORTS
UTILIZATION & ENROLLMENT STUDIES/PROJECTIONS
IDENTIFY & PRIORITIZE NEEDS
STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS & COMMUNITY SURVEYS
LONG-TERM COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT

August 2022 -
February 2024

PRE-BOND PLANNING

TEACHER & STAFF NEEDS
BOND CAPACITY
COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS
ADDRESS IMMEDIATE (5, 10 YEAR) NEEDS
BOND LANGUAGE & SCOPE
NOTICE OF ELECTION
COMMUNITY INPUT & FACILITY TOURS

January 2025

BOND CAMPAIGN

COMMUNITY INPUT & FACILITY TOURS
MEET WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS
EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN
ELECTION - September 9, 2025

May 2025

MASTER PLAN - INITIAL ACTION PROJECTS

VISION | GOALS

- SAFETY AND SECURITY
- BALANCED BUDGET
- EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACROSS THE DISTRICT
- 21ST CENTURY LEARNING FACILITIES
- FLEXIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE

INITIAL ACTION PROJECTS

- LAND ACQUISITION | 60-80 ACRES
- HELENA HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT ————— \$200M-\$250M
- CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL MAJOR RENOVATION AND ADDITION ————— \$200M-\$250M
- KESSLER ELEMENTARY ————— \$70M-\$80M
- WARREN ELEMENTARY ————— \$70M-\$80M
- PRIORITIZED HIGH-MEDIUM DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROJECTS — \$15M-\$30M

PROJECT PRIORITIES

VISION | GOALS

- SAFETY AND SECURITY
- BALANCED BUDGET
- EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACROSS THE DISTRICT
- 21ST CENTURY LEARNING FACILITIES
- FLEXIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE



INITIAL ACTION PROJECTS*

- HELENA HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT \$160M-\$200M
- CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL MAJOR RENOVATION AND ADDITION \$160M-\$200M
- VIGILANTE STADIUM AT HHS SITE \$10M-\$12M
- CENTRAL KITCHEN RELOCATION \$6M-\$8M
- PROJECT FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING RELOCATION \$10M-\$12M
- KESSLER ELEMENTARY \$40M-\$50M
- PRIORITIZED HIGH-MEDIUM DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROJECTS \$15M-\$30M

***PROJECT COSTS INCLUDE SOFT COSTS, CONTINGENCY, & INFLATION**

PRE-BOND PLANNING

MASTER PLAN

FACILITIES CONDITIONS REPORTS
UTILIZATION & ENROLLMENT STUDIES/PROJECTIONS
IDENTIFY & PRIORITIZE NEEDS
STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS & COMMUNITY SURVEYS
LONG-TERM COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT

August 2022 -
February 2024

PRE-BOND PLANNING

TEACHER & STAFF NEEDS
BOND CAPACITY
COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS
ADDRESS IMMEDIATE (5, 10 YEAR) NEEDS
BOND LANGUAGE & SCOPE
NOTICE OF ELECTION
COMMUNITY INPUT & FACILITY TOURS

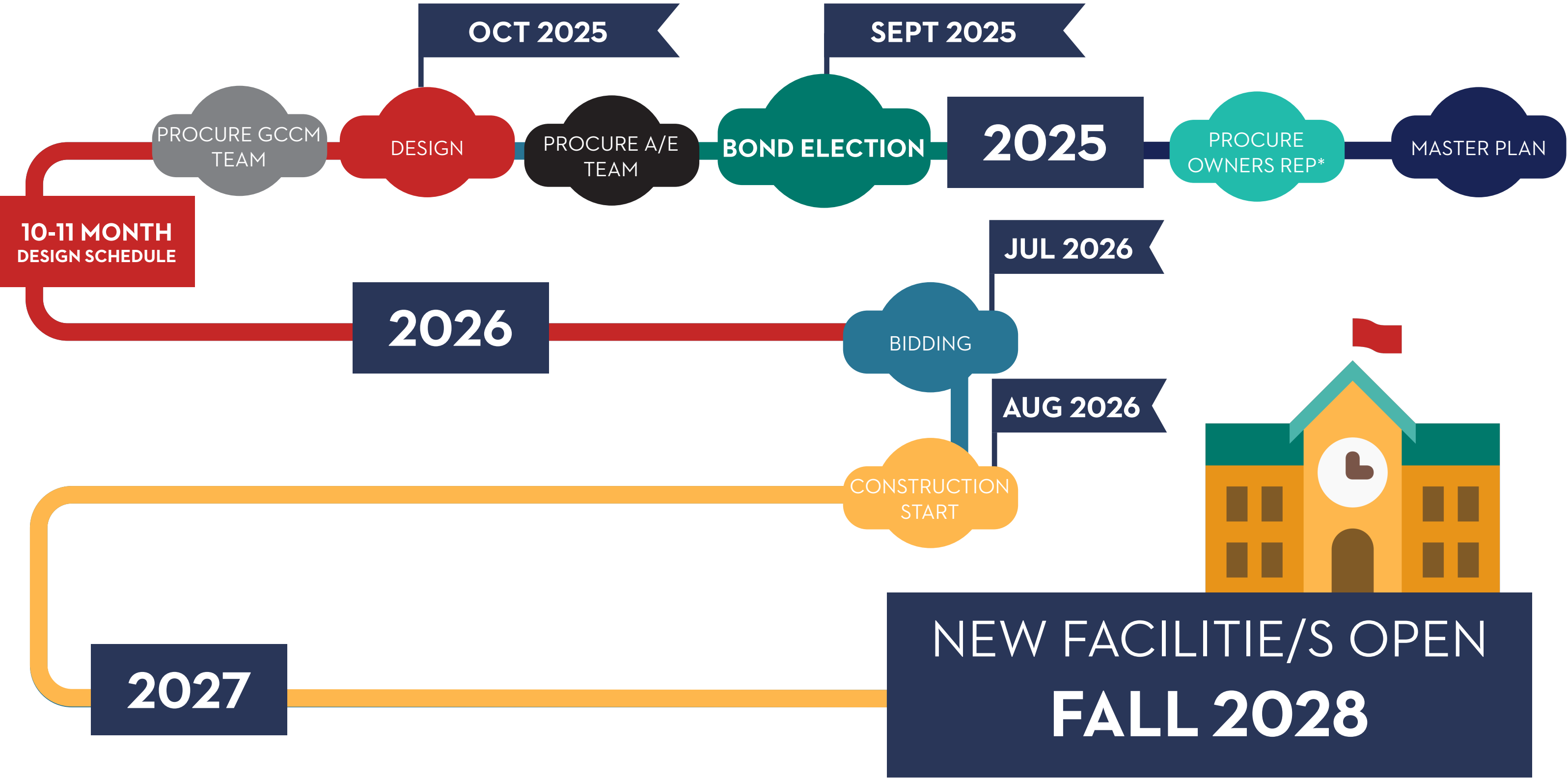
January 2025

BOND CAMPAIGN

COMMUNITY INPUT & FACILITY TOURS
MEET WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS
EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN
ELECTION - September 9, 2025

May 2025

POST-BOND SCHEDULE



TIMELINE NOT TO SCALE

NEXT STEPS

MARCH:

- Core Stakeholder Meeting at HHS
- Draft Bond Language
- Bond Committee Meeting

APRIL:

- Draft Language Development
- **April 8: Board of Trustees Meeting - Bond Resolution Draft Review**
- Community Meeting & Tour at CHS
- Community Meeting & Tour at Kessler *(tentative)*

MAY:

- Bond Committee Meeting
- **May 13: Board of Trustees Meeting - Bond Resolution Approval**



THANK YOU



**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VI.D.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

Items For Information

Reports

Upcoming Meetings

Board Comments

Adjournment

Item Title: Reports

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item VII.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

Items For Action

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Upcoming Meetings

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Item Title: Upcoming Meetings

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Item VIII.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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Item Title: Board Comments

**HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Item IX.

Meeting Date: 3/11/2025

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Recognitions

Superintendent's Report

General Public Comment

Consent Action Items

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Item Title: Adjournment