

The Helena Public Schools educate, engage, and empower each student to maximize his or her individual potential with the knowledge, skills and character essential to being a responsible citizen and life-long learner.

Board of Trustees Work Session

Tuesday, October 28th, 2025 4:30 p.m. Jim Darcy Elementary School

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Trustees Others

Jennifer Walsh, Vice Chair Rex Weltz, Superintendent Jenny Murnane Butcher, Trustee Jane Shawn, HEA President

Kay Satre, Trustee Janelle Mickelson, Business Director

Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee Jill Nyman, Jim Darcy Elementary Principal

Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant

Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent 6-12

Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology Justine Alberts, Assistant Superintendent PreK-5

Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director

Kaitlyn Hess, Assessment & Federal Programs

Director

Taylor Lassiter, Communications Specialist Abby Kuhl, Warren Elementary Principal

Emily Harris, Trustee Candidate

Several Jim Darcy Elementary School Staff

Members

Guest of the Public

I. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Vice Chair Jennifer Walsh called the meeting to order at 4:42 p.m. and the Board participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Board Vice Chair Jennifer Walsh reviewed the agenda with the Board of Trustees and there were no changes.

The Board of Trustees then proceeded to hear general public comment.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

IV. PRESENTATION

Ms. Jill Nyman, Principal of Jim Darcy Elementary School, and several staff members provided a comprehensive overview of the school and reviewed the pamphlet included in the agenda.

Enrollment

Kindergarten (4) 62

First (4) 74

Second (4)

76

Third (3)

76

Fourth (3)

85

Fifth (3)

82

Total School Enrolllment:455

IEPs-57

504s-10

McKinney Vento-14

Gifted and Talented-15

English Language Learners-2

Free and Reduced-112 (24%)

SACC-18 Morning/26 Afternoon

Student Council-70

Community Partnerships/Connections

- Open House
- Fabulous Firsts
- Grade Level Family Engagement
- State Basketball Special Olympics
- Trunk or Treat
- Veterans Day Celebration
- Movie Night
- Family Folk Dance g4-5
- Bring Your Grown Up to PE
- Library Family Learning
- Agriculture Day
- Kindergarten Ice Cream Social
- Shelley Sharp Art Show
- Family Picnic on the Playground
- Field Day
- Carnival Classic
- P/T Conferences (97%)
- Winter Music Program
- Mustang Manners
- Student Council
- Fifths Giving
- Community Partnerships/Field Trips
- Charlie Cart
- Food Drive
- Jim Darcy Birthday Celebration
- Spirit Weeks
- PTO Movie Afternoon
- PTO Family Bingo Day
- Holiday Bazaar
- Book Fair
- WYC- Playground Social
- StarBase
- Run2Learn
- IEFA
- Unified Champion School

Principal Nyman provided an overview of the various groups that support Jim Darcy Elementary and their respective roles including the School Leadership Team-Academics, School Leadership Team-Pax, School Leadership Team-Behavior, Jim Darcy PTO, Sunshine Supporters, Academic Social Emotional Learning Team, and Office Care Team. Principal Nyman highlighted the school's nationally certified teachers, highly qualified paraeducators, and recent Educators of the Year. She also spoke about the school's strong staff legacy—

noting that at least 50 current or former students are children of staff members— which fosters a deep, multigenerational investment in the school community and its future.

Principal Nyman concluded her presentation by highlighting the school's attendance targets, 24/25 iReady ELA overview, 24/25 Acadience Overview, and 24/25 iReady Math Overview and responding to questions from the Board of Trustees regarding the information presented.

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

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Item For Information

1. <u>Interview of Candidates for Board of Trustees Vacancy</u>

The Board interviewed one candidate, Ms. Emily Harris, for the vacant Board of Trustees position. During the interview, the Board of Trustees also addressed questions posed by the candidate. Applications for the position will be accepted through October 31, 2025. Additional candidate interviews took place on October 28 and will take place on November 7, 2025, with the Board's final decision and appointment anticipated following the November 7, 2025, Special Board Meeting.

VI. BOARD OR SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

There were no further board or superintendent comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Board Vice Chair Jennifer Walsh adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

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