



Superintendent

Rex Wertz
324-2001

Business Manager

Janelle Mickelson
324-2040

Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting

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

Friday, November 21st, 2025

12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE – Present unless otherwise noted.

Jennifer McKee, Chair
Kay Satre, Trustee
Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee
Jenny Murnane Butcher,
Trustee
Linda Cleatus, Trustee
Janet Armstrong, Trustee
Keith Meyer, Trustee
Rex Wertz, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Janelle Mickelson, Business Director
Justine Alberts, Assistant Superintendent
Gary Myers, Director of Educational
Technology
Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director
Taylor Lassiter, Communications Specialist
Jane Shawn, HEA President
Shane Swandal, Hulteng CCM, Inc.
Lona Carter, Student Health Services & Special Education Director
Eric Peterson, Activities Director
Riley Thatcher, Kessler Elementary Principal
Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant
Gretchen Krumm, Mosaic Architecture
Matt Aune, Mosaic Architecture
Many guests of the public

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Jennifer McKee called the meeting to order at 12:00 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 hear general public comment.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment and the Board of Trustees moved on to New Business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Action Items

1. 10.14.25 Full Board Meeting Minutes
2. 10.25.25 Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Minutes
3. 11.7.25 Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Minutes

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

Motion: Trustee Keith Meyer moved to approve the *Consent Action Items* as presented.

Trustee Kay Satre seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 7-0 motion carries unanimously.

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

B. Item For Action

1. Approve Committee Recommendation of Mosaic/Cushing Terrell as Kessler Elementary Architect

Superintendent Rex Weltz presented the action item, *Approve Committee Recommendation of Mosaic/Cushing Terrell as the Kessler Elementary Architect*, to the Board of Trustees. He explained that three firms were interviewed for the project, and based on the interview committee’s thorough evaluation, Mosaic/Cushing Terrell was identified as the top candidate. Superintendent Weltz therefore recommended that the Board of Trustees award the Kessler Elementary new construction and site renovation project to Mosaic/Cushing Terrell in alignment with the committee’s recommendation.

Representatives from Mosaic Architecture were present and responded to questions from the Board of Trustees.

Board Chair Jennifer McKee commented, “At this point I would entertain a motion for the following action item, “*Approve Committee Recommendation of Mosaic/Cushing Terrell as Kessler Elementary Architect.*”

Motion: Trustee Janet Armstrong moved to approve the action item, *Approve Committee Recommendation of Mosaic/Cushing Terrell as Kessler Elementary Architect.* Trustee Siobhan Hathhorn seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 7-0; motion carries unanimously.

That concluded the approval of the Item for Action. The Board of Trustees moved on to hear final board and superintendent comments.

V. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

During final comments, Superintendent Wertz and Board members highlighted the district’s monitoring of state-level changes impacting education, particularly Special Education. They celebrated the successful initial bond issuances for the high school and elementary projects, noting strong investor interest and the district’s solid financial position thanks to years of careful planning and leadership, especially by Business Director Janelle Mickelson. They also recognized the strong partnership with the City of Helena in supporting upcoming construction projects.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Jennifer McKee adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Candice Delvaux, Recording Secretary

Date