



*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, April 28, 2026

4:00 p.m.

Helena Middle School

## **MINUTES**

### **ATTENDEES**

#### *Trustees*

Jennifer McKee, Chair  
Siobhan Hathorn, Trustee  
Kay Satre, Trustee  
Jenny Murnane Butcher, Trustee  
Keith Meyer, Trustee  
Linda Cleatus, Trustee

#### *Others*

Rex Weltz, Superintendent  
Sam Holman, Business Director  
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology  
Cal Boyle, Helena Middle School Principal  
Candice Delvaux, Executive Assistant  
Keri Mizell, Human Resources Director  
Taylor Lassiter, Communications Specialist  
Jane Shawn, HEA President  
Dr. Kaitlyn Hess, Data & Federal Programs  
Director  
Dr. Justine Alberts, Assistant Superintendent  
PreK-5  
Nick Radley, Central Elementary School  
Principal  
Kathleen Prody, C.R. Anderson Middle School  
Principal  
Erin Maxwell, Helena Middle School Assistant  
Principal

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

Board Chair Jennifer McKee called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m., and the Board participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Board Chair Jennifer McKee 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**

**Principal Cal Boyle, Helena Middle School**

Mr. Cal Boyle, Principal of Helena Middle School, provided a comprehensive overview of the school and reviewed the pamphlet included in the agenda.

Demographics

Grade (FTE)	Enrollment – 723
6 <sup>th</sup> (11)	242
7 <sup>th</sup> (11)	253
8 <sup>th</sup> (11.5)	228
Special Education (6)	Total: 146
20%	6 <sup>th</sup> – 45
	7 <sup>th</sup> – 53
	8 <sup>th</sup> – 48
	Speech IEP
504	Grade 6 – 19
Total: 6.5%	Grade 7 – 13
	Grade 8 – 15
IEFA	Grade 6 – 28
79	Grade 7 – 27
	Grade 8 – 24
Gifted & Talented	Grade 6 – 37
84	Grade 7 – 27
	Grade 8 – 20
ELL	Grade 6 – 7
18	Grade 7 – 4
	Grade 8 – 7
Free & Reduced	36.82%

McKinney - Vento	Grade 6 – 13
41	Grade 7 – 9
	Grade 8 – 19
Food Share	119
Paraeducators	8
Custodians	1 day/4 night
Food Service	4
Secretaries	3
Administration	2
Librarians	1.5
Counselors	2
School Psych	.5
Speech Path	1
Instructional Coach	1

Principal Boyle provided an overview of the clubs, activities, and student support services offered at Helena Middle School. He also presented fall i-Ready Reading and Mathematics data and outlined his action plan goals focused on literacy achievement, mathematics growth, family engagement, and social-emotional learning (SEL). Principal Boyle responded to questions from the Board of Trustees regarding the information presented.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Consent Action Items

1. 3/24/26 Board of Trustees Work Session Meeting Minutes
2. 3/26/26 Board of Trustees Work Session Meeting Minutes
3. 4/22/26 Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Open Session Meeting Minutes
4. 4/22/26 Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Closed Session Meeting Minutes
5. Personnel Actions
6. Approval of FY 2025-26 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Non-Resident Students Attending HPS)
7. Acknowledge FY 2025-26 Out-Of-District Attendance Agreements (Helena Resident Students Attending Other School Districts)

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

**Motion:** Trustee Siobhan Hathorn moved to approve the *Consent Action Items* as presented. Trustee Kay Satre seconded the motion.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote:** 6-0; motion carries unanimously.

**VI. BOARD OR SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

The Board and Superintendent briefly discussed student meal debt, free and reduced lunch eligibility, and district procedures for waiving fees and handling unpaid balances. They reaffirmed the district's philosophy of ensuring all students are fed regardless of debt, while acknowledging the associated financial impact. The discussion also included free and reduced lunch application processes and outreach efforts to increase participation, as well as broader community perceptions regarding meal debt.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Jennifer McKee adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

---

Candice Delvaux, Recording Secretary