



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 – Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

May Butler Center | 55 S. Rodney Ave

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 – 12:00pm

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Committee: *Others:*

Sarah Sullivan, Committee Chair	Terry Beaver, Trustee
Libby Goldes, Committee Member	Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Siobhan Hathhorn, Committee Member	Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
	Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
	Gary Myers, Education Technology Coordinator
	Jane Shawn, HEA President

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm by Committee Chair, Sarah Sullivan.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No changes were requested.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Assessment Platform

Dr. Ream provided an overview of the previous board meeting's assessment platform presentation. Ms. Goldes recommended including assessment information in handbooks and on the website. Ms. Ridgway said the information was included in handbooks, and it would be added to the website. Dr. Ream added the assessments would be reassessed annually and modified as needed.

B. Spring Survey Update

Dr. Ream provided the following updates to the committee:

- The student survey had been finalized.
- The staff survey was being edited.
- The community survey would be finalized after the staff survey.

Dr. Ream listed a May 2020, estimate for distribution of the first survey and provided an overview of the goals for the surveys as follows:

- Fewer than 25 questions,
- A duration of no longer than 15 minutes
- Determining the most effective questions in conjunction with Panorama Education
- Developing questions that will lead to the actionable results

Dr. Ream provided a draft of the first survey to the committee. Mr. Myers added the vocabulary on surveys varied by grade level.

Ms. Sullivan asked how the surveys were conducted. Dr. Ream answered they would be sent via email. He added that while the vendor will know if the intended recipient has completed the survey, only the completion rate would be reported to the district.

Ms. Goldes asked if students would have the ability to comment on questions. Mr. Myers answered that there were textbox options on surveys. Dr. Ream added that textboxes slowed down the survey, so they would have to be added sparingly since longer surveys had lower completion rates.

Ms. Sullivan asked if the survey would be brought back to the committee before being sent to students. Dr. Ream affirmed.

C. Data-Related Next Steps

Dr. Ream provided a follow up on the feedback from the assessment presentation given at the last board meeting as follows:

- STAR, which seems to have served its purpose. Teachers and administrators have been asking for something different.
- Concern has been expressed that STAR isn't necessarily predictive of SBAC, and it has been agreed that there should be some alignment.
- Ease of reporting is important.
- Substitutions for STAR include MAP or IReady in upper level grades.
- Actionability of the tool should be a primary focus.

Mr. McKay said the district also was looking at longitudinal assessment. For example, a 4th grade teacher being able to see a 3rd grade student's performance. Mr. Myers added some of the benefits of longitudinal assessment for students as helping at the middle school and high school level and progressing on a path towards performing well on the ACT.

Ms. Sullivan asked the committee to send upcoming discussion items for future meetings. Dr. Ream added the next meeting would include a discussion on Performance Matters – one location for student assessments.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

No additional comments were offered.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06pm by Ms. Sullivan. The next Teaching and Learning Committee meeting will be at noon on April 1, 2020.