



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

Wednesday, November 4, 2020 – 12:00 PM

This meeting will occur at the May Butler Center (55 S. Rodney – Helena, MT. 59601) and via Microsoft Teams. Due to the size constraints of our available conference room, maximum capacity at the in-person meeting is limited to six participants - including committee members (3) and the superintendent (1)

To participate remotely, please use this link: <https://helenaschools.org/event/board-of-trustees-teaching-and-learning-committee-meeting-11-4-2020/>.

Committee Purpose Statement: The Teaching and Learning Committee collectively works to operationalize the strategic priorities of the Helena Public Schools specifically in areas related to our goals and measures for teaching and learning.

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**
- II. **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.*
- III. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**
- IV. **REVIEW OF 10.07.2020 TEACHING & LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**
- V. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
 - A. **Review/Discuss Preliminary Meeting Calendar/Topics** *(all)*
Collectively review the draft for meeting-by-meeting topics as planned during our October Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
 - B. **Technology Department Overview** *(G. Myers/T. Ream)*
Collectively review and consider potential short and long-term improvements related to technology services within the Helena Public Schools
- VI. **BOARD COMMENTS**
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting:
December 2, 2020 | Hybrid Meeting (online/in-person)



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Board of Trustees – Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 – 12:00pm

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Committee:

Sarah Sullivan, Committee Chair
Jennifer Walsh, Committee Member
Siobhan Hathhorn, Committee Member

Others:

Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
(excused absence) Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum &
Instruction Administrator
Jane Shawn, HEA President
Derek Amos, member of the public
Christine Roberts, member of the public

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm by Committee Chair, Sarah Sullivan.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Amos referenced the email he sent trustees and offered to provide additional clarification once the board read the information.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the September 2, 2020, committee meeting were reviewed.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION:

A. Development of Monthly Committee Topics

Ms. Sullivan recommended a discussion on the online learning model – what was working, what was not, and what was the role of technology post-pandemic. Dr. Ream responded those questions would be addressed in the technology department assessment. He recommended tentatively presenting the results of the technology assessment at the November committee meeting prior to presenting them to the full board. The committee agreed.

Ms. Sullivan recommended an assessment of the current social and emotional health programs. Mr. McKay provided an overview of the current programs and listed the tools that had been added over the summer. He recommended discussing the services by tier of support. Ms. Walsh requested reviewing feedback from parents and teachers on CSET and day treatment programs to assess their effectiveness at the discussion. Ms. Walsh requested adding how the district was assessing social and emotional health for both in-person and digital-learning students.

Ms. Sullivan requested a general assessment overview. Dr. Ream replied the daily assessment platform would continue to be dynamic and it will be interesting to see ACT/SAT scores from last spring.

Ms. Walsh asked to revisit the changes made to the assessments last year and goals of the committee to determine if any changes needed to be made.

Ms. Sullivan asked if the committee would look at any necessary class offering changes at the high schools resulting from a loss of students. Dr. Ream recommended adding it as a discussion item in March or April, which was a similar timeframe to when the budget committee would discuss it.

Dr. Ream confirmed future committee meetings would include discussions as follows:

- Technology Department Assessment
- Social and Emotional Health Program Review by Tiers
- Annual Review of the Assessment Platform
- A Performance Matters Overview (tentative)
- Surveys Discussion
- High School Class Offerings

The committee agreed.

B. K-5 Standards-Based Grading Update

Dr. Ream provided background on the shift to standards-based grading to provide parents with reports more actionable to learning. Mr. McKay added the goal was to provide accurate and meaningful feedback to students and parents, which was especially important since students were not physically in school last spring. He added the elementary schools would be aligned across the district.

Ms. Sullivan asked for clarification that the standards-based report would contain metrics accompanied by a narrative instead of just a letter grade. Ms. Davidson provided an overview of the process, which included working with a team of teachers last year to identify essential standards and develop assessments aligning to the standards. She was meeting with grade level teachers later that day for feedback on the draft reports and would keep adjusting the reports based on feedback. Ms. Davidson told the committee teachers would participate in professional development in the spring to learn best practices on establishing proficiency so they would feel comfortable discussing student progress with parents. Mr. McKay added the transition to using iReady was partly driven by the fact that it was standards-based. He added iReady provided

teachers with student profiles to gauge progress aligned with standards along with habits of the student – the soft skills.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

No comments were offered.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52pm by Ms. Sullivan.

Teaching & Learning Committee

Helena Public Schools

Tentative Monthly Agenda Items 2020/2021

November 4, 2020 Committee Meeting:

- Review/Discuss Preliminary Meeting Calendar/Topics
- Technology Department Overview

December 2, 2020 Committee Meeting

- Assessment Platform (New and Developing Update)
- Performance Matters Overview

January 6, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Draft 21/22 High School Course Offerings

February 3, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Social-Emotional Supports (Part I: Overview and Tier I)

March 3, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Social-Emotional Supports (Part II: Tier II and Tier III)

April 7, 2021 Committee Meeting

- Survey Update

May 7, 2021 Committee Meeting

- TBD

June 4, 2021 Committee Meeting

- TBD