



*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 – Facilities & Maintenance Committee

May Butler Campus and via Microsoft Teams

Monday, August 02, 2021 – 12:00 pm

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# MINUTES

## ATTENDEES

*Trustees: Others:*

Siobhan Hathhorn, Committee Chair  
Libby Goldes, Committee Member  
Terry Beaver, Committee Member

Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff  
Brian Cummings, Assistant Superintendent  
Stacy Collette, Human Resources Director  
Rob Brewer, Maintenance Manager  
Gary Myers, Director of Educational Technology  
Neal Murray, Custodial Services Director

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairperson, Siobhan Hathhorn, called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

### II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

### III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

### IV. REVIEW OF MINUTES

Minutes from the 05.12.21 committee meeting were reviewed. No changes were made.

### V. NEW BUSINESS

#### **A. Facilities Master Plan Review- Discuss scope and interest for the 2021-2022 School Year**

The committee reviewed the facilities master plan. They discussed the improvements and updates that have been done on the schools in the district, and what work remained. It was

also mentioned that safety and security was a priority for the past few years and that many safety and security updates had been completed. The committee discussed the need to create an updated long-range plan that would align with our anticipated budget and our bonding capacity.

The committee discussed the need to update the enrollment numbers. They also discussed the possibility of reviewing boundaries and the process of redrawing those boundaries. It was added to the list of future discussions.

The committee discussed which schools may possibly need to be replaced in the future. They also discussed what to do with May Butler Center once it is vacated. They reviewed the need for possibly more Montessori classrooms as well as incorporating Pr-K in our buildings in the future.

**B. Westside Subdivision Update**

The Westside Subdivision is a proposed 170 home subdivision. It is one of the last, largest areas to develop in Helena. What concerns most of the current residents who are already there, is the two main exits from this community. One exits onto Granite, one block up from 9th. The other one exits to the two existing roads in the residential area that meet up with Kessler. The residents who are already there are concerned about increased traffic flow through their neighborhood. It is very narrow there. They are planning to put two bulbs out at the 9th and Granite intersection as well as a speed radar sign in that area. They are planning to put in two flashing light crosswalks at either side of Granite. This development has the potential to provide 70 students to the district.

**C. Board of Investments Land Swap**

A walkthrough of the property was done a few weeks ago where we looked at a proposed land swap. We received the appraisals for both our property and the Board of Investments Property. The Board of Investments is looking at trying to streamline their property lines and they are also looking at offloading that empty and vacant lot that is currently between Smith School and the Delta Hotel. As we look at different options and where we are at, that piece of property is a little over 2 acres. The land that they are looking at from us is a little over 1 acre and there are some other considerations. Our We need some more conversations before we get back with the Board of Investments.

## **VI. BOARD COMMENT**

The board said they would like to hear some thoughts about getting input from the educators about how they feel the new schools had improved their delivery of education, things that we may have overlooked, or thoughts that they may have gleaned. Overall, how our facilities support education. A district wide sort of survey.

The board also mentioned that the plan needs some revision and updates, and should lean towards an educational report rather than an architectural report.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Hathhorn adjourned the meeting at 1:05pm.