

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9
Monday, July 13, 2026
EAST HELENA HIGH SCHOOL
5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REVIEW OF AGENDA

HEAR THE PUBLIC

REPORTS

1. Trustee and Committee Reports of the K – 12 Board
2. Strategic Planning- Scan for Future Needs
3. Notifications of Retirements and Resignations

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting June 8, 2026; June 29, 2026 (Special)
- B. Approval of Former & New Warrants
- C. Personnel Actions
- D. Surrounding School District Student Enrollment Approval

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. TA Grant Notice and Budget Approval
2. FY '26 Budget Update

NEW BUSINESS

1. Student Representative Recommendation
2. First Reading- Policy Revision and Update Considerations
 - a. Revise Policy #1105
 - b. Revise Policy #2050
 - c. Revise Policy #2100
 - d. Revise Policy #2151
 - e. Revise Policy #3110
 - f. Revise Policy #3120
 - g. Revise Policy #3150
 - h. Revise Policies #3231
 - i. Revise Policy #5321
 - j. Revise Policy #5322
 - k. New Policy #5323
 - l. New Policy #5324
3. Consideration of HSS Service Agreement with AWARE
4. School Board Self Evaluation Update
5. Distance Learning Provider
6. MTSBA Bylaws, Resolutions, Officers Review and Consideration
7. Consideration of Superintendent Contract
8. MCEL Planning - October 2026 in Billings

ADJOURN

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

Regular Meeting - Monday, August 10th, 2026 at 5:30 PM - East Helena HighSchool Library

Citizen Participation

All citizens are welcome and are encouraged to attend all meetings of the Board. In accordance with Montana Open Meeting Law (2-3-203, MCA) it is required that citizens have an opportunity to address the Board. All Board of Trustees meetings in which a quorum is present shall include an agenda item called 'Hear the Public.' The Board shall adopt the following guidelines for this agenda item.

Hear the Public:

Persons wanting to address the Board of Trustees on items not on the agenda can do so at this time.

- a. Each person may address the Board at the time designated in the agenda by stepping to the front of the room or the podium, giving their name and address in an audible tone of voice for the record. Each individual shall limit his/her comments to the Board to three (3) minutes.
- b. All remarks shall be addressed to the Board only and NOT to any member of the Board, staff or audience.
- c. No person, other than the Board and the person having the floor, shall be permitted to enter into any discussion either directly or through a member of the Board, without the permission of the Presiding Officer.
- d. No questions shall be directed towards any individuals except through the Presiding Officer.
- e. Under Rules of Order, questions cannot be answered by the Board, only heard. The Board is not under any obligation to respond. It is illegal for the Board to take any action on the comments.
- f. Speakers will not mention specific names of individuals in a public forum due to rights of privacy. Individual attacks will NOT be tolerated.
- g. Comments made by the person addressing the Board do not represent the opinions of the Board, or staff and are only the expressed opinion of the speaker.

MONDAY, JULY 13th, 2026 BOARD MEETING
TRUSTEE INFORMATION PACKET
East Helena High School
5:30 P.M.

HEAR THE PUBLIC

COMMENTARY: We will Adhere to the Board Guidelines as Noted on the Back of the Agenda.

REPORTS

1. Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

- a. The Board Chair will Solicit Reports from Trustees or Committees.

2. Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs

- a. The Board Chair will Solicit Comments or Observations Regarding our Current Strategic Plan and Planning Needs.

3. Notifications of Retirements and Resignations

- a. The Following Staff Resignations Have Previously Been Accepted:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| • Jonathan Cohlhepp | -Special Education Teacher |
| • Shelby Holmes | -EHHS Science Teacher/Head Volleyball Coach |
| • Tyler Murray | -EHHS PE/Health Teacher/Head Football Coach |

CONSENT AGENDA

COMMENTARY: There are Board Documents Presented that Reflect the Minutes of the Last Board Meeting(s), the Warrants to be Paid, and Personnel Actions which Include Recommendations of Personnel to Employ.

- A. Board Minutes; June 8, 2026; June 29, 2026 (Special)
B. Pay Warrants
C. Personnel Action
D. Surrounding School District Student Enrollment Approval
E. Recommended Employment of Staff:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Rylie Schoenfeld | -Summer Maintenance |
| • Rori Schoenfeld | -Summer Maintenance |
| • Bryce Schoenfeld | -Summer Maintenance |
| • Lucas Olson | -Summer Maintenance |
| • Emily Dearing | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Sara Dearing | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Heath Galbavy | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Abby Hauck | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Cole Jones | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Kendra Ostberg | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Stormi Lucero | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Tanya Hauck | -Part Time Summer Custodian |
| • Keira Klock | -Summer Program Paraprofessional |

- Jon Moore -Summer Program Instructor
- John Dollan -Paraprofessional
- Kayla Groat -Summer Program Kitchen Aid
- Misty Lockey -Summer Program Kitchen Aid
- Renee Slocum -Summer Program Kitchen Aid
- Shane Gapinski -Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach
- Destry Arntson -Teacher
- JD Ferris -Head Football Coach
- Jillian Hayter -Head Volleyball Coach
- Ken Erdahl -Substitute Bus Driver
- Laura Davis -Long-Term Substitute
- Gage Vermillion -High School CTE Teacher
- Mathias Sletten -ESports Assistant Coach

Commonly no debate is allowed when using a consent agenda on any item on the agenda and the motion to approve the consent agenda items is passed with a single motion. If any Trustee wishes to discuss an item on the consent agenda, it should be removed from the Consent Agenda Motion and debated separately.

D. East Helena School District Students Requesting Enrollment in Other School Districts for the 2025 -2026 School Year:

	<u>Helena</u>	<u>Jefferson High</u>	<u>Montana City</u>	<u>Clancy</u>
9th	1			
10th	1			
Total:	2			

East Helena School District Students Requesting Enrollment in Other School Districts for the 2026 -2027 School Year:

	<u>Helena</u>	<u>Jefferson High</u>	<u>Montana City</u>	<u>Clancy</u>
PK			1	2
K			6	
1st			2	
2nd			6	
3rd			2	
4th			1	
5th			2	
6th			2	
7th			2	
8th			1	
9th				
10th				
11th				
12th				
Total:			25	2

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item. A motion should be made to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. TA Grant Progress Update

COMMENTARY: The MDT has issued our TA Contract and it is in the supporting docs. The district has a significant match in support of this project. This project will provide a safer sidewalk and crossing of Main Street near Lane Avenue and Kalispell Street. Funds are set aside in the interlocal agreement to pay our match.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action item. I recommend the Board approve the contract.

2. FY '26 Budget Update

COMMENTARY: Dan and Jane will provide an update to the Board regarding the FY '27 budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Information item.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Student School Board Representative Recommendation

COMMENTARY: We had 3 outstanding applicants for our student rep position. A committee consisting of Mr Condon, Trustee Ulmer, and Supt Rispens interviewed the applicants. We recommend the Board appoint Abby Bishop as the 2026-27 Student Representative to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action item - I recommend the Board appoint Abby Bishop as Student Representative for the 26-27 school year.

2. First Reading- Policy Revision and Update Considerations

- a. **Revise Policy #1105** The purpose of the amendment to this model policy is to add optional language for student representation on the Board of Trustees.
- b. **Revise Policy #2050** The amendments to this model policy are intended to make grammatical corrections and improve clarity and organization.
- c. **Revise Policy #2100** The amendment to this model policy is to provide clarification regarding professional development days.
- d. **Revise Policy #2151** The amendment to this model policy corrects the assumption of risk language included in the policy. Districts cannot transfer to parents through policy "all risks for injuries resulting from participation" in interscholastic activities.
- e. **Revise Policy #3110** The purpose of the amendments to this model policy are to provide greater consistency with statute.
- f. **Revise Policy #3120** The amendment to this model policy reduces unnecessary verbiage for the purposes of brevity and clarity.
- g. **Revise Policy #3150** The amendments to this model policy are to eliminate language specific to high school.
- h. **Revise Policy #3231** The amendment to this model policy eliminates the language referring to "pat down" searches of students by district personnel.
- i. **Revise Policy #5321** The amendments to this model policy changes the title to "Sick Leave" and eliminates language related to "personal and emergency leave" and "civic duty leave." This language is then moved to two new model policies – 5323 and 5324.
- j. **Revise Policy #5322** The amendments to this model policy are intended to provide better consistency with Montana statute.
- k. **New Policy #5323 Personal and Emergency Leave**
- l. **New Policy #5324 Civic Duty Leave**

COMMENTARY: This is the policy revision from MTSBA. We belong to the MTSBA policy maintenance program which helps us stay current with Montana Law.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item. After discussion, recommend approving the policies under First Reading.

3. Consideration of HSS Service Agreement with AWARE

COMMENTARY: AWARE provides Home Support Services at Eastgate, PPE, and EHHS. This is a renewal of that agreement.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item. I recommend approval of the HSS Service Agreement.

4. School Board Self Evaluation Update.

COMMENTARY: The Board Chair will share information related to the School Board's self evaluation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Information/action Item

5. Distance Learning Provider

COMMENTARY: Our administrative staff from EHHS and EVMS have reviewed our current situation with distance learning and are recommending a change for the 2026-27 school year. The recommendation is to switch to Edmentum as our provider. Their agreement documentation is in the supporting docs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item - recommend that the Board make a motion to approve Edmentum as our Distance Learning Provider

6. MTSBA Bylaws, Resolutions and Officers Review and Consideration

COMMENTARY: The MTSBA did not have a quorum at their annual business meeting in June. Each member district will need to review the documents and vote on them. Scott will lead the discussion and Board action. The MTSBA email with the sample ballot is in your supporting documents. The entire MTSBA Booklet was attached to your board meeting email.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item. The board should consider a motion directing the board chair to cast a ballot on behalf of the EHPS School Board.

7. Consideration of the Superintendent's Contract

COMMENTARY: The Board Chair will bring a recommendation to adjust the compensation for the Superintendent's contract.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Action Item - After discussion, recommend that the Board approve the adjustments as presented.

8. MCEL Planning - October 2026 in Billings

COMMENTARY: This year Montana Conference for Educational leadership will be held in Billings on October 14-16. Jen Cordell will be handling registration for Trustees who can attend.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Information item

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

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