

Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9

Call to Order: Trustees of School District No 9 held a regular meeting on September 14, 2026.
Chairman Walter called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

In Attendance

Trustees Present: Chairman Scott Walter, Stacy Baird, Tristan Ulmer and Brandon Hansen.
Absent: Vice Chair Tyrel Murfitt, Martin Balukas and Tiffany Richardson

Superintendent Dan Rispens, Clerk Jane Knudsen, Athletic Director Shaun Murgel and
Technology Director Eric Power.

Principals: Gus Somerfeld, Lynsi Morris and Paul Condon. Vice Principals: Michael Kemper and
Trish Klock.

Visitors: Kate Johnson, Cameron Freiburg, Bret Charlton, Makaila Prog, Jocelyn Monroe, Tamika
Schoppe, Jenny McVay, Abby Wood, Veronica Rubio-Pratt, Matthew Krantz, Breanna Humphrey-
Gilbert and other members of the public.

Review the Agenda

No comments from the Board. Superintendent Rispens stated that Item #1 under Unfinished
Business will need to be tabled.

Hear the Public

None.

Reports

Student Report

Student Representative Abby Bishop updated the Board on sports, activities and high school
happenings.

Administrator Reports

The individual principals, the Athletic Director and the Technology Director provided their reports
as part of the Board packet.

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K – 12 Board

A Committee meeting will be scheduled for Infrastructure and Transportation.

Strategic Planning – Scan for Future Needs

Meeting with engineer about Rose Hills development.

A meeting will be scheduled with Debra Silk regarding the Strategic Plan survey which has been
sent out.

Notifications of Retirements and Resignations

Natalie Clark

-Paraprofessional

Consent Action Items

Board Minutes:

Regular Meeting: August 10

Special Meetings: August 6, 17 and September 2, 2026

Approval of Former & New Warrants (Claims #52339-52446)

Personnel Actions

Surrounding School District Student Enrollment Approval

Recommended Employment of Staff:

• Gunner Gleasman	-Assistant Football Coach
• Justine Ray	-EVMS Volleyball Coach
• Addie Mix	-Student Mentor
• Ashtyn Ridgeway	-Student Mentor
• Breanna Spiecher	-Student Mentor
• Caybree Petty	-Student Mentor
• Keira Klock	-Student Mentor
• Parker Taylor	-Student Mentor
• Korren Gillespie	-Student Mentor
• Kalli Weniger	-Student Mentor
• Lydia Weidow	-Student Mentor
• Kelsey Schaffer	-Student Mentor
• Mabel Bruno	-Student Mentor
• Jack McIntosh	-Student Mentor
• Leilani Lute	-Student Mentor
• Kendra Ostberg	-Student Mentor
• Mikaila Sumner	-Student Mentor
• Abigail Wood	-Student Mentor
• Tayton Wigen	-Student Mentor
• Kesslyn Snarr	-Student Mentor
• Myah Erickson	-Student Mentor
• Savannah Hartman	-Student Mentor
• Avery Hager	-Student Mentor
• Conor Carpenter	-Student Mentor
• Emma Taylor	-Student Mentor
• Peyton Kerpa	-Student Mentor
• Keegan Jones	-Student Mentor
• Kamdyn Delsigne	-Student Mentor
• Angila Tubbs	-Student Mentor
• Armani Holt	-Student Mentor
• Thomas Reddick	-Student Athletic Trainer
• Draven Hayes	-Student Athletic Trainer
• Brooke Hauer	-Student Athletic Trainer
• Lacey Brewer	-Student Athletic Trainer
• Cody Hahn	-Student Athletic Event Worker
• Bryson Lewis	-Student Athletic Event Worker
• Melissa St Clair	-Kitchen Aid
• Joe Guerin	-Kitchen Aid
• Laura Boltz	-After School Program Site Coordinator
• Matt Krantz	-ASP Instructor
• Eric Lehman	-ASP Instructor

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Savannah Hartman | -ASP Student Aid |
| • Veronica Rubio-Pratt | -ASP Instructor |
| • Kayla Combs | -ASP Site Coordinator |
| • Rachel Bright | -ASP Instructor |
| • Jenni Krause | -ASP Instructor |
| • Melinda Yeary | -ASP Instructor |
| • Kesslyn Snarr | -ASP Student Aid |
| • Mekenzie Vetsch | -ASP Student Aid |
| • Olivia Richardson | -Substitute |
| • Dustie White | -Bus Paraprofessional |

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

	<u>Helena</u>
6th	1
7th	1
8th	2
11th	1
12th	
<u>Total:</u>	<u>5</u>

Motion by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve the Consent Action Items as presented. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Unfinished Business

Consideration of CSCT Agreement with Intermountain Children's Home

This was originally on the June agenda, but the document was not ready for approval and needed editing and review. The agreement has not been completed.

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to table for the next meeting. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

First Reading Policies: #3231, #5322, #5323 and #5324

These policies are back for first reading this month after review by the Policy Committee.

#3231:

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve under first reading. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

#5322:

Motion by Trustee Ulmer, seconded by Trustee Baird to approve under first reading. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

#5323:

Motion by Trustee Ulmer, seconded by Trustee Baird to approve under first reading. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

#5324

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve under first reading. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Enrollment Report and Start of School Update

The Superintendent and Administrators gave an update on the start of the new school year as well as class sizes, classroom space and the impact of incoming and outgoing students.

New Business

Request for Approval for Out of State Travel - EHHS Choir

The EHHS Choir is requesting approval for out-of-state travel to New York. The choir has been invited to the Big Apple Classic Music Festival in New York on April 15-19, 2027. Fundraisers are planned to help offset the estimated cost of \$2500-2800 per person.

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Hansen to approve the out-of-state travel request for the EHHS Choir to New York City. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Request for Approval for Out of State Travel - 2028 EHHS Travel Club

The EHHS Travel Club is requesting approval for out-of-state travel to Japan in June 2028. Students will fundraise to pay for their trip.

Motion by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve the out of state travel request for the EHHS Travel Club to go to Japan in June 2028. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Summer Maintenance Update

The Superintendent recapped the summer maintenance projects that were completed for the 2026 season.

Summer School Report

The Summer School Administrators reported on the success and types of programs offered to kids in grades PreK-11 for Summer 2026.

Consideration of MOU with EHEA

This is a renewal of an MOU that allows for additional coverage in buildings by having teachers cover for absent or vacant para positions.

Motion by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve the MOU for additional coverage in buildings. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Resolution #247; Disposal of Unused and Obsolete Equipment.

Superintendent Rispens asked the Board to approve the disposal of unused and obsolete equipment, specifically a pugmill and gas range. He is also requesting a \$2000 minimum reserve be set on the pugmill.

Motion by Trustee Ulmer, seconded by Trustee Hansen to approve Resolution #247 and set a minimum reserve on the pugmill of \$2000. The motion passed 4-0 with all members present voting AYE.

Discussion of Board Committee Functions

The Board Chair led the discussion about the role, function and scope of Board Committees.

Board Team Building

The Essential School Board Book – Chapter 2 discussion.

The Board Chair led the discussion of chapter 2.

School Board Self Evaluation-Update

The Board Chair led a discussion regarding the Board's self-evaluation tool.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Future Meeting Dates: Regular Meeting Monday October 12, 2026 at East Valley Middle School.

Submitted by: _____

District Clerk, Jane Knudsen

Date: _____

October 12, 2026

Approved by: _____

Chairman, EHPS Board of Trustees

Date: _____

OCT. 12, 2026

