

## MEETING MINUTES

Jefferson Parent Council

April 13, 2023, | 6:00 pm

Council Members in Attendance: Sara Eldridge, Chair | Rachel Carroll Rivas, Vice-Chair | Leann Murphy, Treasurer | Leandra Lipson, Secretary | Katja Elias, Volunteer Coordinator

### 6:00 pm Welcome, announcements Sara

### 6:10 pm Principal's Report Brice

Principals are moving to other schools across the district. 4 Georgians and Jefferson have openings and are in the process of hiring permanent principals. There will be a Teams meeting with Jefferson families about their wants and needs in a principal. A decision should be made by June.

Letters in support of Principal Brice staying at Jefferson may be sent to the superintendent and vice superintendent.

Due to Ray Bjork closing, several programs will be moving. Jefferson will be getting some of the special education staff and programming.

Split grade classrooms will be instituted next year. Decisions will be made based on teacher input, parent input, and academics. Smith and Hawthorn have had split classrooms for some time and will serve as a model.

Some classes will be moving to uncarpeted rooms. Teachers may reach out to the JPC for support in purchasing rugs.

A temporary para position has been filled. This person will work with small groups starting Tuesday through the end of the year.

Jefferson will host a breakfast for retiring teachers on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The JPC will assist with recruiting volunteer playground and crossing guard coverage during that time.

### 6:30 pm PAC Report Katja\*

Deficit management and student mental health are a main focus for the district. When you subtract the district's expenses from available funding for the 2023-24 school year, for example, Helena Public Schools faces a forecasted shortage of approximately \$6 million – that's after factoring in inflationary adjustments approved by the Montana Legislature earlier this month. The inflationary adjustments were 2.7 percent and 3 percent respectively for the next two fiscal years. (State law caps inflationary increases for school districts at 3 percent.) To real-world cost increases for the 2023-24 school year:

Electricity: Up 17 percent  
Natural Gas: Up 46 percent  
Water, sewer and garbage: Up 5 percent  
Property and liability insurance: Up 15 percent  
Custodial supplies: Up 30 percent

The district also has significant increases in safety and technology needs that will need to be addressed through future levies.

Another significant factor in the budget shortfall is a gap between the cost of special education services and federal funding. District is exploring options for seeking federal funding that more accurately reflects costs.

The district will work with the [Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools](#) to address these needs. And an advisory committee consisting of 35 individuals, a mix of parents, teachers, administrators, and other members of the public will be formed to provide recommendations on how best to address the deficit. Three slots will be reserved for parent councils.

A facility master plan is in the works which will be released next fall.

Three levies are coming up for vote.

### **BUILDING RESERVE LEVIES**

Helena Public Schools is grateful for our community's long-time support of its Building Reserve Levies to pay for regular care and maintenance of school buildings and grounds.

The Building Reserve Levies are the main source of funding for the operation of school district buildings – everything from heating, plumbing and electrical work to maintaining rooftops and parking lots.

There are two Building Reserve Levies on the ballot – one for the Elementary District (K-8) and one for the High School District (9-12)

### **GENERAL FUND MILL LEVY**

General Fund Levy dollars pay for everything from books and school supplies to staff salaries and benefits. The General Fund also pays for day-to-day operational costs such as electricity, natural gas, water and custodial supplies. These dollars pay for the district's most fundamental operational needs.

Parents may find more information on the 2023 election ballot at [Helena Public Schools 2023 Election](#).

**6:45 pm Budget Report Leann**

## JPC Treasury Report - April 12, 2023

JPC MAIN				
Full Fiscal Year	Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
1000 - Carryover Balance	19,581	19,581	0	100%
<b>2000 - JPC Income</b>				
2010 - Fall Cash Drive	2,700	1,500	1,200	180%
2015 - SECGC	208	400	(192)	52%
2025 - Amazon Smile	91	100	(9)	91%
2030 - HEF Carnival	431	400	31	108%
2035 - Halloween Carnival	274	0	274	100%
2036 - Read a Thon	2,194	4,000	(1,806)	55%
2040 - Original Works	1,323	1,500	(177)	88%
2070 - Restaurant Fundraiser	191	0	191	100%
2080 - Donations/Grants	0	0	0	0%
2100 - Box Tops	0	20	(20)	0%
2200 - Black History Helena	0	0	0	0%
2300 - Playground Fundraiser	75	0	75	100%
4000 - Interest Compounded	37	30	7	124%
<b>Total 2000 - JPC Income</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>7,950</b>	<b>(427)</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>27,104</b>	<b>27,531</b>	<b>(427)</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>7000 - JPC Admin Expenses</b>				
7005 - Office Supplies	207	150	57	136%
7010 - Tax/Admin Fees	0	135	(135)	0%
7015 - Insurance	250	250	0	100%
<b>Total 7000 - JPC Admin Expenses</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>(78)</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>8000 - JPC Expenses</b>				
8001 - Hwn Carnival Expenses	0	150	0	0%
8035 - Literacy Night Stipend	200	200	0	100%
8036 - Read a Thon (to Library)	2,000	2,000	0	100%
8040 - Reading Programs	532	500	32	106%
8045 - Testing Incentives	0	250	(250)	0%
8060 - Classroom Materials	1,100	1,100	(0)	100%
8065 - Teacher Stipends	1,700	1,800	(100)	94%
8075 - Snacks for Students	194	500	(306)	39%
8080 - Field Trips	0	250	(250)	0%
8095 - Staff Support & Apprec	557	1,500	(943)	37%
8096 - Community Events	885	250	635	354%
8100 - Student Council	0	509	(509)	0%
8200 - Helena Black History	93	438	(345)	21%
9300 - Playground Equipment	0	10,000	(10,000)	0%
<b>Total 8000 - JPC Expenses</b>	<b>7,260</b>	<b>19,447</b>	<b>(12,187)</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>7,717</b>	<b>19,982</b>	<b>(12,265)</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Net Income/Current Balance</b>	<b>19,387</b>	<b>7,549</b>	<b>11,838</b>	<b>257%</b>

GALA				
Full Fiscal Year	Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
1000 - Carryover Balance	11,485	11,485	0	100%
<b>5000 - Gala Income</b>				
5001 - Ticket Sales			0	0%
5002 - Raffle Sales			0	0%
5003 - Art Sales			0	0%
5500 - Interest Compounded	22	30	(8)	72%
<b>Total 5000 - Gala Income</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,507</b>	<b>11,515</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>9000 - Gala Expenses</b>				
9005 - Art Supplies	4,332	1,500	2,832	289%
9006 - Art/Music Experiences	444	750	(306)	59%
9010 - Food Expenses	0	0	0	0%
9020 - Gala Event Expenses	0	0	0	0%
<b>Total 9000 - Gala Expenses</b>	<b>4,776</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>2,526</b>	<b>212%</b>
<b>Net Income/Current Balance</b>	<b>6,731</b>	<b>9,265</b>	<b>(2,534)</b>	<b>73%</b>

### MONTHLY NOTES:

- JPC**
- Librarian Appreciation (\$40)
- GALA**
- Art Supplies (\$363)

### 7:00 pm Updates and Upcoming

- **Jefferson Store**
  - 20 individuals have ordered. Store closes on Sunday.
  - Rachel will bag the merch and distribute to classes unless parents indicate they prefer a different mode of pick-up/delivery.
- **Broadway Crossing**
  - Next step is asking city for bulb-outs
- **Book Exchange, April 20**
  - Sara will find out if help is needed.

- **Testing Incentives, April 24-May 5**
  - Snacks for teachers to motivate students.
  - JPC will ask for donations via sign-up genius.
  
- **Kinder Orientation, May 3**
  - Sara will be there to hand out info about the JPC
  
- **Admin Day, April 26 | Principal Day, May 1 | Nurse Day | School Pathologist Day | and Teacher Week, May 1-5**
  - Katja will do Admin Day
  - Meghan will do Nurse Day
  - Leann will do Principal Day
  - Sara will teacher gifts
  - Rachel will do cards for everyone and possibly banners and coffee one morning
  - Can spend up to \$30 per teacher. 13 teachers.
  
- **Gala, May 25**
  - Sara will set up a planning committee
  
- **Planting five new trees on June 2<sup>nd</sup>**
  - Invite email and sign-up genius is needed.

**7:45 pm New business: Next Meeting will be Officer Elections Group**

**7:55 pm Review Action Items/Wrap Up Leandra**

**8:00 pm Adjournment**

**Next meeting: May 11, 6:00 pm**