

# Helena Public Schools – Facilities Office

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**Todd J. Verrill**

Director of Facilities

1201 Boulder Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601  
(406) 324-1734  
[tverrill@helenaschools.org](mailto:tverrill@helenaschools.org)

**Helena City Commission**

City County Building, Room 323  
316 N. Park  
Helena, MT 59623  
(406) 447-8410  
[mayorandcommission@helenamt.gov](mailto:mayorandcommission@helenamt.gov)

7 November 2022

**Dear Helena City Commission,**

Representatives of Helena Public Schools and Sussex Construction, Inc. met at Kessler Elementary School on 26 October 2022. The principal topic of discussion was Sussex's Westside Woods subdivision and the school district's desire to incorporate certain safety features into the overall development plan in the vicinity of Kessler Elementary School. In general, the school district supports measures that improve the safety and walkability of the Kessler Elementary School neighborhood.

The school district believes, at a minimum, the following will enhance the safety of our students, parents, and staff, and walkability in the area:

- Granite Ave. improvements including gutters, curbs, sidewalks, and others required by the City Code of Helena and/or recommended by the city engineer
- Traffic calming measures on Granite Ave. to include pedestrian crosswalks
- An improved pedestrian walkway to the west of Granite Ave. between Knight St. and Hauser Blvd. (currently an unimproved social trail/alley)
- Radar speed signs and flashing pedestrian crossing signs where appropriate

We also discussed additional improvements to the streets in the vicinity of the school that Sussex and the city may undertake as part of a development agreement. We mentioned a desire to address road upgrades to Knight St. and Silverette St. that will improve the pick-up and drop-off of Kessler Elementary students. There is consensus that reducing school vehicular traffic on Granite Ave. is a desirable end state. Finally, the school district supports continued dialogue with Sussex and the City of Helena in order to find the best possible solutions in support of Kessler Elementary School. The point of contact for this correspondence is the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Todd J. Verrill