

AGENDA
Board of Trustees
Columbia Falls School District Six
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, October 9, 2023
6:00 p.m.
School District Six Board Room

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of board meeting minutes – Pgs. 1-12
- b. Approval of September bills
- c. Approval of Investment Reports

5. Public Participation

- a. Glacier Gateway Students - Garden – Mary Ellen Getts
- b. Student Body Representative
- c. New Teacher Introductions

6. Reports

- a. K-8 Facility Bond Project – Dave Jolly – Pg. 13
- b. Elementary Report – Pgs. – 14-19
- c. High School Principal – Pgs. 20-22
- d. Clerk / Business Manager – Pgs. 23-24
- e. Curriculum Director – In Person – Pgs. 25-26
- f. MTSBA Board Report – Trustee Riley
- g. Superintendent – Cory Dziowgo
- h. Board Chair

7. Action/Discussion Items:

- a. Consideration of the Glacier Gateway Library Accreditation Variance. – Pgs. 27-33
- b. Consideration of the Independent Contractor Services Agreement with Linden Rigler – ADOS Services for SY 23-24. – Pg. 34
- c. Consideration of a Request for Qualifications for Architecture/Engineering Services for a high school capital bond project. – Pgs. 35-40

8. Personnel

a. The superintendent has accepted the following resignations:

Jeremy Grilley	JH Girls Basketball Coach – end of SY 22-23
David Wanner	FT to PT Sped Para – Ruder
Austin Barth	JH Basketball Coach - end of SY 22-23
Sydni Newbury	Hot Lunch Helper / Floater – September 15, 2023
Desiree Albertoni	Drama Coach – end of SY 22-23

b. Consideration of the following hiring recommendations:

Melanie Burley	Sped Para – Ruder
Ashley McCormick	Speech Language Path – Glacier Gateway
Tarry Middlesworth	Volleyball Coach – Junior High
Ted Miller	Football Coach – Junior High

Hiring Recommendations: (Continued)

Emily Hagreen	Sped Para – Glacier Gateway
Margaret Jalowiec	PT Sped Para – Glacier Gateway
Margaret Jalowiec	PT LTS – HE/PE Teacher – Glacier Gateway
Valerie Parsons	Sped Para – Ruder
Diane McDonald	Sped Teacher - Ruder
Derek Andrews	Boys' Basketball Coach – Junior High
Brooklynn Keibler	HL Helper / Floater
Susan McCombs	Sped Teacher – Junior High / High School
Reed Miner	PT Custodian
David Wanner	Bus Driver
Denise MacDonald	Sped Para – High School
Kavin Wickham	Assistant Speech and Debate Coach – High School
Chad Green	Head Baseball Coach – High School
Ben Schaeffer	Head Girls' Wrestling Coach – High School

c. Consideration of the attached substitute hires: Pg. 41

d. Consideration of the following travel request:

Becky Bates	NW Council for Computer Education Seattle, WA February 14-16, 2024 Paid through Carl Perkins
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Emily Hackethorn	Choir Trip with UM Choir Carnegie Hall New York City March 9-13, 2024 Paid through fundraising
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Professional Development Grant Approvals
See attached list – Pg. 42

9. Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Long Range Planning Committee – need to schedule
- Transportation Committee – need to schedule
- Policy Committee – need to schedule
- Work Session Meeting – Monday, October 23 – 5:00 PM
- Health Insurance Committee Meeting – October 24, 1012 – 4:00 PM

10. Adjournment

**The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m.,
Monday, November 13, 2023, in the School District Six Board Room**

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
JULY 24, 2023

Unofficial

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, July 24 2023, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

- Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair
- Barbara Riley Vice Chair
- Megan Upton..... Trustee
- Justin Cheff..... Trustee
- Keri Hill Trustee
- Heather Mumby Trustee
- Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee
- Casey Huepel Trustee
- Cory Dziowgo Superintendent of Schools
- Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/ Clerk

Call to order at: 6:01 P.M

Motion by Mumby, second by Heupel, to approve the agenda as presented.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 7-0

Public Participation:

Approximately twelve (12) people attended the meeting in person.

There was no public participation at that time.

Action/Discussion Items:

There was discussion regarding 8th graders participating in high school sports. It was previously shared that the High School Athletic Director, Troy Bowman, does not support 8th graders in high school sports.

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to consider changing policy for 8th graders to participate in high school sports.

Public comment requested and many members of the audience wanted to be heard.

Jolandie Brooks, HS Varsity Volleyball Coach, supports 8th graders playing in high school sports and asked to give the choice to parents, coaches and administrators. Coach Brooks is asking to change the policy from "based on program numbers" to the "needs of the program".

Community Parent Allison Dorr would like to see the District adopt 8th graders playing high school sports. Many athletes are looking for more competition and the District should accommodate differences for those more gifted-skilled. Mrs. Dorr feels the Montana High School Association (MHSA) rule should not only pertain to rural, smaller schools.

Jessie Schaeffer, HS Head Wrestling Coach, has mixed feelings regarding participation of 8th graders in high school athletics. His daughter was frustrated in Junior High Wrestling because of the short six-week program and wanted more; she wanted to keep building on skills to be successful later on in her High School career. Coach Schaeffer also feels that there are some parents that might try to push their own kids too hard if allowed. The Junior High program had

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

MOTION TO CONSIDER CHANGING POLICY FOR 8TH GRADE PARTICIPATION IN HS SPORTS

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eleven 8th grade girls at the state wrestling tournament, one in the finals. With girls who mature faster than boys, they would be able to handle the high school competition better. He feels that the athletes deserve quality coaches.

Amy Caudill, HS Head Swim Coach, supported 8th graders to participate in the high school programs. There are not a lot of opportunity to swim unless athletes join the city team and do more traveling than in the high school program. Participation on the city team can be too expensive for some parents. Coach Caudill would like to have athletes for five years to help develop athletes in swimming and to help them grow personally. The High School Swim Team provides everything for a student to swim instead of having to pay \$150 per month with another team.

Ben Schaeffer, Assistant Wrestling Coach, feels blessed to be able to coach the first year of girls wrestling at the high school level. Girls Wrestling is the fastest growing sport in the nation right now. If the high school team is going to grow and build the program, it would be easier with 8th grade girls participating. Right now, 8th grade girls are having to compete against males. At that age, it is not ideal for a female to wrestle a male. Coach Ben Schaeffer expressed support for 8th graders competing at the high school level.

Tanya Stoltz, Deer Park Parent, stated that her son would have had an extra year to participate in athletics. Ms. Stoltz's daughter is currently an 8th grader and plays volleyball. Her daughter is choosing not to play volleyball at Deer Park this year because the competition is weak and Deer Park always destroys the other schools. By participating at Deer Park, her daughter would not gain that competitive school environment when her team is always destroying others.

Community Member, Michael Pederson, feels that the Board should give consideration for 8th graders to compete in high school sports.

Trustee Jacobsmeyer is concerned that adding 8th graders to high school athletics will affect the District's busses, but it was determined that each team can only fill so many athletes on a roster.

Trustee Hill, feels that the Board hired high school coaches and are entrusting them to these programs. The Board needs to honor that.

Trustee Upton, mentioned that it is a select few that would be able to move up to high school athletics as an 8th grader and the numbers won't impact the teams much.

Trustee Cheff reminded everyone that Columbia Falls High School is one of the largest Class A schools in the state. Trustee Cheff was told that the District's Junior High is not grooming for the high school sports. He has some concerns with younger kids participating and thought MHSA was not properly addressing the issue. The original rule was for Class C and it is not a Class A type rule. Trustee Cheff mention he does believe in the coaches present, but also worries about a "Glacier High incident" in any sport and especially if it was an 8th grader.

Trustee Mumby would like to amend the original motion to add 8th graders to be used only when it was necessary to fill an adequate roster.

Chair Rocksund would like to have more time to consider the effects of 8th graders participating in high school athletics. Chair Rocksund added that she would like to have the administration come up with a few options.

Motion by Heupel, second by Upton, to table this decision and consider at next board meeting.

If we get information earlier, we could call a special board meeting.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO TABLE THE
DECISION TO
ALLOW FOR 8TH
GRADE PARTICIPATION
IN HS ATHLETICS

Motion by Mumby, second by Cheff, to approve the following activity ticket increases for SY 23-24: \$40 - students, \$65 adults, \$200 - family.

MOTION TO APPROVE
ACTIVITY TICKET
INCREASE FOR SY 23-24

Public comment requested and Trustee Riley mentioned the Wildcat Endowment is a good

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resource to help offset the increase as well as help with spirit packs. Coach Jessie Schaeffer feels the increase is definitely needed. The High School fee to participate is minimal compared to other school districts.

Passed 8-0

Motion by Heupel, second by Upton, to approve the recommended changed to Policy #1400 – Board Meetings.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #1400 -
BOARD MEETINGS

Motion by Heupel, second by Cheff, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #1700 – Uniform Grievance Procedure.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #1700 - UNI-
FORM GRIEVANCE
PROCEDURE

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #2132 – Student and Family Privacy Rights.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #2132 -
STUDENT AND FAM-
ILY PRIVACY RIGHTS

Motion by Heupel, second by Upton, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #2158 – Parent/Family Engagement.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #2158 -
PARENT/FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT

There was a discussion regarding Policy #2423 and what was brought to the Board through Senate Bill 8 and House Bill 214. This policy is to align with Montana Law.

Motion by Heupel, second by Cheff, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #2423 – Personalized Learning Opportunities.

Public comment requested and there were audience members who spoke.

Community Member, Chuck Territo, said that if the legislature passed this and we have to follow it, then Bill 562 was also passed and the Board had taken oaths that children have the right to an education. Mr. Territo feels the policy is not applicable. It is all theories from the 60s and 70s. He does not feel this has anything to do with education and does not need to be in Columbia Falls. The District needs to be more concerned with test scores and I think you should take more time to look at that. Teacher Amy Caudill has a child going to into first grade. Mrs. Caudill values this learning and values open concepts. Community Member, Judy Territo is against the policy because it is a theory. It is not the school's responsibility and we are an independent school district and we can choose to follow or not. Mrs. Territo asks that the District vote against this policy. The District's proficiency scores are not high enough to be based on a theory. She asks that the Board at least table the decision, study it some and come back with what you see is necessary. Community Member, Lisa Tate feels the District is starting at the back end of education and does not really know what it is to look like. The District has not shown what it looks like in a classroom. If the pathway is tracking, the District should look into that because it used to be illegal. There is no plan for it here.

Members of the Board had continued the discussion. Trustee Cheff said that the Legislature approved the policy with their guidelines. Trustee Jacobsmeyer said it feels that we have to pass it before we know what it truly is. Chair Rocksund said that those from the Board at the legislature sessions had an opportunity to hear what the policy is about and does not feel

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #2423-
PERSONALIZED
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES

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MOTION TO TABLE
POLICY #2423 - MOTION
DENIED

uninformed. The Policy Committee recommends the definition and it referenced the law, so others can look them up. Trustee Mumby feels the theory is not what the legislature approved and that the Board members are well informed. The District is trying to teach every student the way they need to be taught. Trustee Riley feels that the District needs a policy in place to see what it will look like to share with parents and community. The Board has been asked to be better for each individual student. The policy is law and we don't know how this will look. The Board needs a starting point and the policy does that.

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #2423

Motion by Jacobsmeyer, second by Upton, to table the vote on Policy #2423.

Failed 6-2, yes votes by Jacobsmeyer and Upton.

As there were no other comments, the original motion passed 6-2, no votes - Jacobsmeyer and Upton.

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #2450 -
RECOGNITION OF
NATIVE AMERICAN
CULTURAL HERITAGE

Motion by Mumby, second by Heupel, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #2450 - Recognition of Native American Cultural Heritage.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY 3150 - PART-
TIME ATTENDANCE

Motion by Heupel, second by Upton, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #3150 Part-Time Attendance.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #3310 -
STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Motion by Cheff, second by Hill, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #3310 - Student Discipline.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #4315 -
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL
PROPERTY

Motion by Mumby, second by Heupel, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #4315 - Conduct on School Property.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
POLICY #8301 -
DISTRICT SAFETY

Motion by Heupel, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the recommended changes to Policy #8301 - District Safety.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

MOTION TO APPROVE
ELEMENTARY EXTRA
DUTY CONTRACTS

Motion by Mumby, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the hiring recommendations of the Elementary District Coaches.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
HS AND DISTRICT-
WIDE EXTRA DUTY
CONTRACTS

Motion by Heupel, second by Hill, to approve the hiring recommendations of the High School District Coaches.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

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Motion by Mumby, second by Cheff, to approve the hiring recommendations for the Administration Staff.

Public comment requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
ADMINISTRATIVE
CONTRACTS

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Certified Negotiations – Tuesday, July 25, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.
- Classified Negotiations – Wednesday, July 26, 2023 – 3:00 P.M.

MISCELLANEOUS
AND FUTURE
PLANNING

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:29 P.M.

MEETING
ADJOURNED

Board Chair

Business Manager/Clerk

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
AUGUST 14, 2023

Unofficial

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, August 14, 2023, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

- Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair
- Barbara Riley Vice Chair
- Megan Upton..... Trustee
- Justin Cheff..... Trustee
- Keri Hill Trustee
- Heather Mumby Trustee
- Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee
- Casey Huepel Trustee
- Cory Dzioewgo Superintendent of Schools
- Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/ Clerk

Call to order at 6:00 P.M.

Motion by Heupel , second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the agenda as presented.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approve June bills
- Approve the investment report.
- Approve Student Activity Account Transfers

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

Public Participation:

Approximately nine (9) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately twenty-two (22) people attended the meeting in person.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

High School Principal, Jon Konen, wanted to thank Swank Construction and Monte Moultray for the work that was completed on the first phase of HVAC system and bringing a crew to deep clean before the school year started.

Reports:

K-8 Facility Bond Project – Finishing up with the PreK playground and fall protection. The grant from Round Up for Safety was used. Everything else is getting wrapped up and the entire budget spent down.

REPORTS:

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. There was no change to premiums for employees because of the use of reserves. The Health Insurance Program experience higher than expected claims last year and the committee will continue to work hard to ensure that the District can keep costs low. The District is working with VezaHealth to make sure employees are going to appropriate places to save money. The Committee is planning for less claims this next year.

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 14, 2023

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Trustee Barbara Riley updated the Board about the recent proceedings of the National School Board Association (NSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). Regional meetings are occurring around the state. Region 1 was hosted locally last Wednesday afternoon with six different school districts attending. The discussion was about what occurred in the legislature as well as how to positively impact the 2025 legislature. The next meeting will happen at the MCEL conference located in Billings.

The Canyon Building Use Committee conducted a meeting on July 24, 2023. Trustee Cheff mentioned a conversation regarding tutoring sessions at the school. Students could ride the bus and staff living in the Canyon could be there to help kids in need of academic help. He then asked principals to please ask staff members that may want to help with tutoring in the community. Trustee Heupel discussed that the monthly community dinner had over 200 people attend for a pig roast. Food and cash were donated and the dinner was put on by the three churches in the canyon area. The building is also currently used as a medical clinic as well as a probation office on Fridays. The library is still full of books and classrooms are still set up for use. Trustee Upton mentioned that the community would like the District to promote their monthly meals at the schools, wanting to serve more students and would like the district to be a little more engaged with the community in the Canyon.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo mentioned the possibility for a strategic planning meeting. Superintendent Dziowgo would like more communication with the community as well as obtain information from trustees. He asked for trustees to help serve the beginning of the year breakfast, located at Glacier Gateway Elementary.

Board Chair Jill Rocksund had nothing to report at this time.

ACTION /
DISCUSSION ITEMS

Action/Discussed Items:

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the renewal of the Canyon Building Use Agreement with All Saints Episcopal Church effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Public comment was requested and there was none. Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE E-RATE CONSULTANT SERVICES PROVIDER AGREEMENT

Motion by Mumby, second by Jacobsmeyer to approve the E-rate Consultant Services Provider Agreement effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Public comment was requested and there was none. Passed 8-0.

There was a discussion regarding potential MTSBA legislative resolutions. The Trustees will need to think if there are any resolutions to craft to benefit the District. Some examples could be: A cost of living and/or tax structure to make funds more accessible for school districts. To see a review on how schools are funded and provide a more simple funding formula as opposed to relying on permissive levies. Possible alternate funding for schools for example the marijuana tax or other resources that could be used for schools. Removing some of the special education requirements that the private and charter schools don't have to comply with. Chair Rocksund will look at what resolutions that other schools have around the state.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE RATIFICATION OF
THE TEACHERS' CBA

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Columbia Falls Teachers Union for SY23-24. Public comment was requested and there were no comments from public.

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Passed 8-0

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the Agreement to Furnish Food Service for the National School Lunch Program with Deer Park Elementary District for SY23-24.

Public comment was requested and it was discussed that Deer Park's use of the program is increasing. Our District has concerns with staffing this school year. The District will ensure serving our students takes priority, which could change the arrangement. There was no public comment.

Passed 8-0

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to maintain the current status with 8th graders not being able to participate in high school athletics at this time. Superintendent Dziowgo was asked to do further research and put together a committee. The suggestions from the Committee are in the Board Packet, but there are still many questions to the policy. Current Administration would like to stay at status quo at this time.

Motion by Upton, second by Jacobsmeyer, to table for further review and vote again in a year. There was then a retraction for tabling the subject because the first motion was to maintain status quo.

Public Committee was asked and there were several individuals wanting to speak: High School Principal, Jon Konen, is not in favor of 8th graders participating in high school activities. The High School is required to include homeschool students in extracurricular activities and the District only receives partial ANB funding. The District would not receive funding for the 8th graders from Deer Park School District. Another concern would be insurance and coverage for athletes not enrolled within our District. Continued research to see how this is working in other states should be done to move forward. Teacher and Volleyball Coach, Gretchen Miller, is in favor for an adjustment to allow 8th graders that are emotionally and physically capable to participate in high school sports. The District can create a policy that promotes creativity and could offer an innovative solution. Teacher and Golf Coach, Josiah Osborne, supports 8th grade participation in High School athletics. There are three 8th graders who love golf and they don't have an opportunity to play or participate in the Junior High. It could be life changing for them and he is speaking in favor for those kids. Freshman Student Loisa Miller would welcome the challenge for 8th graders to participate and want them on her team. Teacher and Volleyball Coach, Anna Danley, is in favor of 8th grade participation. Head Volleyball Coach, Jolandie Brooks, wants the Board to trust the coaches that were hired to make the right decision for 8th grade athletes. It is a new MSHA regulations and there is a solution to every issue that the community has brought to the Board. Coach Brooks gave her promise that the coaches will continue to work with the principals. Club sports have changed sports in our nation and there are 16-year-olds playing in the World Cup. Parent Allyson Dorr supports 8th grade participation. Her 8th grade daughter is a student at Deer Park which is a small school and does not offer all of the sports the Junior High offers. These Deer Park students reside within the Columbia Falls School District and there are reasons the kids go to Deer Park instead of the Junior High. The Deer Park Principal has already drafted a letter in support of 8th grade students participating in high school athletics. Online, Community Member Kristi Hoerner, is against 8th grade participation and would like to see the District's Junior High programs meet the needs of the junior high students. These kids need another year to grow and coaches can help the lower grades. It is difficult to decide who is mature and capable to participate with high school students. There is more potential for serious injury if kids are starting high school level of athletics too early.

Board Members had continued discussions regarding 8th graders being moved up to participate

MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT TO FURNISH FOOD SERVICE FOR DEER PARK ELEMENTARY FOR SY 23-24

MOTION TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT STATUS OF 8TH GRADE PARTICIPATING IN HS ATHLETICS

MOTION TO TABLE, THEN RETRACT THE MOTION FOR 8TH GRADE HS ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FOR FURTHER REVIEW AND TO RE-VOTE IN A YEAR

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in high school sports. Trustee Hill is in favor and feels the District should also support 8th graders, who take high school courses, to get high school credits. Trustee Riley felt that Mr. Konen had brought up several thoughts that have not been considered and need to be looked at closer. There are too many unanswered questions. Trustee Mumby feels the Board does not have the answers to make a decision.

Chair Rocksund offered an amendment to the motion to maintain the status quo and get answers to make a decision by the end of the current school year to reconsider 8th graders participating in high school activities, second by Mumby.

Passed 7-1, to approve the motion amendment. No – Hill.

Vote to maintain status quo and review before next year.

Passed 7-1, no - Hill.

MOTION TO AMEND
THE MOTION TO
MAINTAIN THE STATUS
QUO AND TO RECON-
SIDER 8TH GRADE HS
ATHLETIC PARTICIPA-
TION LATER ON THIS
SCHOOL YEAR

BUSINESS MANAGER,
DUSTIN ZUFFELATO
DISCUSSED THE PRO-
POSED FY 24 BUDGET

Business Manager/Clerk, Dustin Zuffelato presented details concerning the proposed FY 2024 Budget. In summary: ANB/Enrollment increased 24. Spring enrollment 2,247. High School experienced the largest uptick. Legislature provided 2.70% increase to the funding formula. Although state employees received a 4% increase, the District worked very hard to settle for a 3% increase, which the staff compensation cost still exceeded the general fund budget authority increase by \$148,248. Increased the *permissive* Tuition Fund Levy by \$475,000 to fund the budget deficit as well as add back some ESSER funded staff. Looking forward, the District still has over \$525,000 of staff to move from federal funds carryover and ESSER. It will be essential to propose an overbase operating levy to take advantage of the \$515K general fund levy authority in an effort to maintain current programs in FY25. Total tax levy increased \$1,123,689 – General Fund, Technology Fund, and Tuition Funds. Total mill levy decreased 56.08 mills as a result of 42% increase to tax value. Net impact to taxpayers as a result of School District levy is 9% increase.

MOTION TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION 415

Motion by Riley, second by Hill, to approve Resolution 415 – Elementary District – Apportionment of Ending Fund Balances.

Public comment was requested and there were none.

Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION 416

Motion by Heupel, second by Riley, to approve Resolution 416 – High School District – Apportionment of Ending Fund Balances.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
ELEMENTARY
DISTRICT FY 2024
BUDGET

Motion by Riley, second by Cheff, to approve the adoption of the Elementary District FY 2024 budget.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT FY 2024
BUDGET

Motion by Riley, second by Heupel, to approve the adoption of the High School District FY 2024 budget.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Demi Sullivan – Teacher Ruder Elementary, Morgan Hargin – Paraeducator

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Glacier Gateway, Thomas James – JH Football Coach, Allyson Reamy Butts – HS Assistant Speech and Debate Coach

Motion by Riley, second by Hill, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Caitlin Bloom – Hot Lunch Helper, Warren Law – Bus Driver, Tonia Little – HS Business Education Teacher

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE HS AND DISTRICT-WIDE HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE SUBSTITUTE HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Health Insurance Committee – August 23, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.
- Breakfast on August 29 - 8:00 A.M. - Glacier Gateway

MISCELLANEOUS AND FUTURE PLANNING

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Board Chair

Business Manager/Clerk

WORK SESSION MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

Unofficial

A Work Session Meeting of the Board of Education of School District Number Six was held at 6:00 P.M. Monday, September 25, 2023, in the boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair
Megan Upton..... Trustee
Justin Cheff..... Trustee
Keri Hill Trustee
Heather Mumby Trustee
Casey Huepel Trustee
Cory Dziowgo Superintendent of Schools
Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/ Clerk

ABSENT

Barb Riley Vice Chair
Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee

Board Chair Rocksund called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Heupel, second by Cheff, to approve the agenda as presented. Passed 6-0
Trustee Mumby recommended the Board discuss Board Self Assessments.

APPROVE AGENDA

Public Participation:

Board Chair Rocksund requested public participation on any agenda or non-agenda items.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

Action/Discussed Items:

The Board discussed the Superintendent evaluation including the Board Policy and the evaluation tool. Superintendent Dziowgo recommended using the Marzano evaluation to align with the other staff/teachers. Superintendent Dziowgo shared his goals for the upcoming school year. Board consensus was to utilize the Marzano evaluation tool. The Board discussed the timing of the evaluations. Board Chair Rocksund presented an annual timeline in which specific monthly activities are conducted that are part of the evaluation process.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Board discussed the District's Strategic Plan. Chair Rocksund noted that it is important to consider the time burden and ensuring the time results in a worthwhile plan. Furthermore the Montana School Board Association has facilitated a boiler plate process in the past that may not be the best fit for the District. The Board reviewed the current Strategic Plan adopted for 2018-2022. The Board discussed the best way to facilitate a discussion and communicate ways to improve and alter the current Strategic Plan.

The Board discussed professional development for the Board members including the budget and the discretion of which courses/classes are attended.

WORK SESSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

PAGE 2

Unofficial

MISCELLANEOUS
AND FUTURE
PLANNING

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

Health Insurance Committee Meeting – September 27, 2023 4:00 P.M.

Regular Board Meeting - October 9, 2023 6:00 P.M.

Work Session Meeting – October 23, 2023 focused on budget and finance. 6:00 P.M.

MEETING
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:53 P.M.

Board Chair

Business Manager/Clerk

**Columbia Falls K-8 Construction Project
Project Budget
September 30, 2023**

Revenue:	Budget	Revenue Month-to-Date	Revenue Project-to-Date	Budget Balance
Par Amount Bond Sale	37,072,000		37,072,000	-
Premium on bonds	5,339,746		5,339,746	(0)
Bond Premium used to Debt Service	(649,991)		(649,991)	-
Underwriters Discount	(230,040)		(230,040)	-
Sale of Surplus Property	5,000	-	6,123	1,123
Interest on bond proceeds	525,000		523,814	(1,186)
	<u>42,061,715</u>	-	<u>42,061,651</u>	(64)

Expenses:	Budget	Expenses Month-to-Date	Expenses Project-to-Date	Budget Balance	YTD Spent % of Budget
Owner's Rep	449,748	9,400	417,691	32,057	92.87%
Architect & Engineering Ruder	904,722		886,953	17,769	98.04%
Architect & Engineering Glacier Gateway Elementary	1,767,240		1,767,235	5	100.00%
Architect & Engineering Multi Use Sports Fields	39,680		32,220	7,460	81.20%
Architect & Engineering Junior High Safety and Security	18,500		18,500	-	100.00%
Architect & Engineering-Reimbursables	10,000		8,280	1,720	82.80%
Architect & Engineering-Additional Services	257,342		230,536	26,807	89.58%
Construction - Multi-Use Sports Fields	1,002,009		1,008,092	(6,083)	100.61%
Construction - Ruder Addition and Remodel Phase One	3,766,156	A	3,767,822	(1,666)	100.04%
Construction - Ruder Addition and Remodel Phase Two	7,400,701	A	7,304,731	95,970	98.70%
Construction - Glacier Gateway Elementary	21,970,000	326,994	21,919,516	50,484	99.77%
Construction - Glacier Gateway Elementary Change Orders to D:	995,776	54,316	995,776	-	100.00%
Construction - Jr. High Safety and Security	185,263	A	187,547	(2,284)	101.23%
Playground equipment-Ruder	180,000		181,832	(1,832)	101.02%
Playground equipment-Glacier Gateway	173,069		173,668	(599)	100.35%
Technology (classroom technology)	660,000		656,469	3,531	99.47%
Furnishings & Equipment - Multi Use Fields	120,000		119,638	362	99.70%
Furnishings & Equipment - Ruder	410,000		404,378	5,622	98.63%
Furnishings & Equipment - Glacier Gateway	1,006,871		1,025,027	(18,156)	101.80%
Soils & Geotech	40,000		39,467	533	98.67%
Hazardous Material Assessment - Removal	12,000		11,077	923	92.31%
Building Permits	128,000		128,000	-	100.00%
Impact Fees	1,000		586	414	58.60%
Utilities	150,000		151,251	(1,251)	100.83%
Site Surveys-LPW	19,200		20,300	(1,100)	105.73%
Materials Testing	42,000		41,753	247	99.41%
Moving Costs	50,000		50,566	(566)	101.13%
Commissioning	125,617		112,912	12,705	89.89%
Election Costs/Legal Fees	30,000		30,655	(655)	102.18%
Bond Issuance Costs	125,000		121,868	3,132	97.49%
District Contingency	-		-	-	0.00%
	<u>42,039,894</u>	<u>506,142</u>	<u>41,814,345</u>	<u>225,548</u>	<u>99.46%</u>

Budget Balance

21,821

School Board Report for October 2023
Glacier Gateway Elementary School

September has been an extremely busy month at Glacier Gateway. Students and staff are excited to be back at school establishing a consistent routine. We had an excellent Professional Development day on Sept. 25th. We reviewed several areas in our MTSS Handbook. We reviewed our Student Support Team referral and procedure. We also reviewed our office referral data from the 22/23 school year, making changes to our referral process, supervision and disciplinary systems. We took the time to reflect, complete a self-reflection survey, and write our professional growth plans for the 23/24 school year. The Gifted and Talented representatives from the district presented for about 45 minutes about strategies to use in our classrooms that enhance the learning environment.

Homecoming Spirit Week was a fun week filled with dress up days, the homecoming parade, and the Wildcat Dance parties.



September Assembly introduced WILDCAT PRIDE to all of our students. We will focus on being Positive and teaching about how Wildcats can show PRIDE with a positive attitude. We will continue to purposefully recognize students that show WILDCAT PRIDE in our assemblies and everyday with our WILDCAT Cards. The Zones brought back our Hero the Toolbox from summer vacation to share tools we can use to regulate our emotions.



October is Fire Prevention Month. Students are participating in a poster contest with the theme emphasizing the importance of Fire Safety in the Kitchen. On October 12th, we will have a fire drill with the help of the Columbia Falls Fire Department. Students will meet firefighters in full gear during our assembly. We have practiced our evacuation plan for fire drills and are ready to show Sparky how safe we can evacuate.

September's beautiful weather has been wonderful for fall field trips. We have enjoyed the Wildcat Garden opportunities. Our first grade and Preschool will travel for a fall field trip to the Pumpkin Patch.



On October 24th we will have another opportunity to show off our GG building to the community. We will host a community tour night from 5pm-7pm. Our building is close to being completely finished. The Engineer team that designed GG sent a professional photographer for a photoshoot. We are excited to share those photos with the Chamber Lunch on 10/10 and during our community tour.



We are looking forward to a month of fall activities which include PTO Trunk or Treat, Girls on the Run, and preparing for our annual Turkey Trot

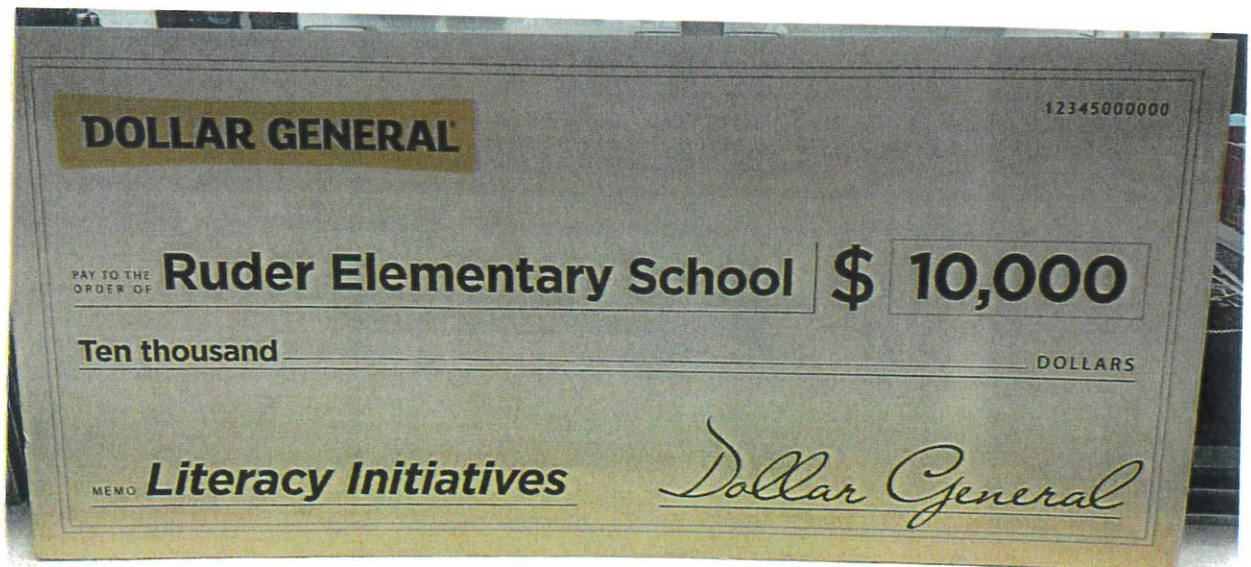
Ruder September Board Report

The big news for Ruder was a surprise gift of \$10,000 from Dollar General! We were asked to come to their grand opening because they wanted to give us 100 books. When they had me come up for the photo, they presented me with a check for \$10,000 to be used for our library. As you can imagine, I was totally shocked! We are very grateful for Dollar General's amazing gift.

Students have been participating in many fun and educational field trips. Second grade went to Big Creek. Fifth and fourth grade went to Glacier Park and first grade went to the Pumpkin Patch.

High school students from Lindsey Racioppi's Culinary Arts class held a taste testing for our fourth and fifth grade students. They prepared over 200 samples of two different types of salads. The students then voted on how well they liked the salads. The high school students were all dressed in Chef's attire and did a great job with the students. Lindsey's other class, Child Development, also comes over once a week and goes to recess with our primary students. We love having the high school students come and interact with our students.

On our PIR day, teachers worked in groups to help develop our MTSS handbook. Currently, they have been teaching and modeling the expectations across the school. Our theme is "The Wildcat Way" of being respectful, responsible, safe, and kind. Part of MTSS is providing positive incentives for students who demonstrate behaviors that exemplify, The Wildcat Way. Our counselor created Caught Ya card slips for teachers to give to students. She then goes every Friday to every classroom and chooses two students to choose prizes. Teachers who write their name on the back of the card will get their name put in for a chance to win a coffee gift card. By being proactive instead of reactive, we hope to see fewer behaviors and more learning time for students.





COLUMBIA FALLS JUNIOR HIGH

Ted Miller - Principal x 4009
John Cooper - Assistant Principal x 4008
Cory Dziowgo - Superintendent
(406) 892-6550 x 1422

cfjuniorhigh.org (406) 892-6530 Fax: (406) 892-6528

CFJH October Board Report Monday, October 9th

- Wow, we have reached the 1st quarter midterm already! Midterm was Monday, Oct. 2nd. Our midterm and report card process is different this year. All of our midterms and report cards are going to be delivered digitally on Infinite Campus. We had digital report cards at the end of last year and it worked well and we didn't receive any negative feedback. There will not be printed midterms or report cards for everyone. If families request a printed copy we can do that for them. This first round of midterms were available in the "official" format on Friday, October 6th.
- We had a fun time celebrating Homecoming week with a different dress up day each day. Our students enjoyed the opportunity to dress up and show school spirit. Also, our fantastic band and choir represented at the Homecoming parade! They played and sang the school fight song along with a couple of others. They sounded great! Go Wildcats!

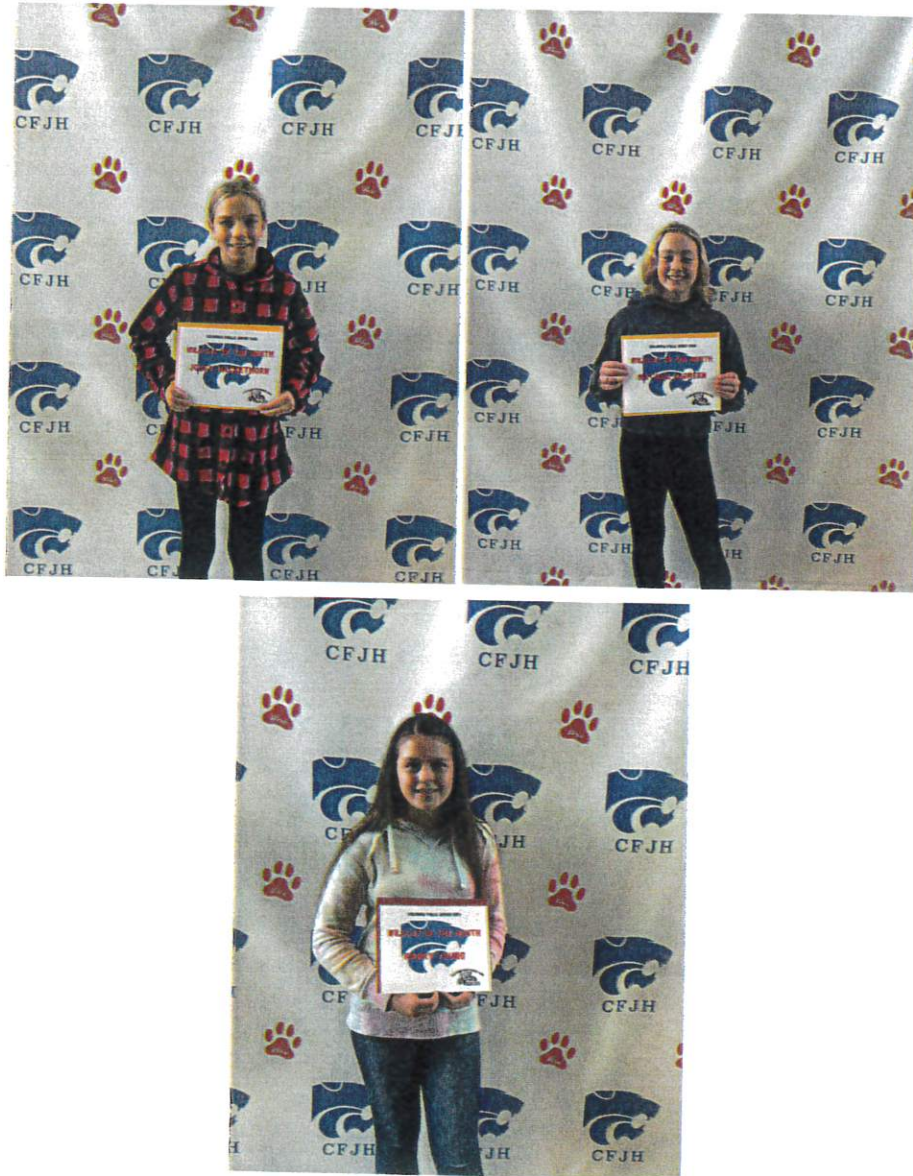


- There has been a lot of discussion in our building about an instructional focus for the year. We want to increase student achievement, focus on learning and using sound teaching strategies, be able to observe that practice in the classroom, and conduct walkthroughs on the focus. The staff decided on two top choices. They were self-grading/reflection and feedback to students and peer feedback. Also, during our discussions executive functioning was brought up numerous times that students are struggling in this area. The CFJH PD committee decided to have a training in that area during an early release PD day. Jasna Stafford and Aericka Butler are going to present on Oct. 11th. We are excited to learn more strategies to help support our students.
- We have been talking about some of our safety procedures and practicing them. We had a “non-emergency hold” when the canine search took place. We also discussed our fire drill procedure and made a couple of changes to make that process safer and more efficient. Each month a safety procedure will be discussed at a staff meeting and we will continue to have practice drills as well.
- Our students participated in a Cider Press Day in the Wildcat Garden. Land to Hand put on a great event for us. Many our students pressed apples and pears into cider, learned about apples, farms, and different processes, and drank the cider they made. It was great learning and a fun experience! Thank you Land to Hand for a wonderful opportunity!



- Preparation for the MAST (Montana Alternative Student Testing) Pilot is underway. These tests will replace the SBAC testing. Students will be tested in math and ELA. There are 5 testing windows throughout the year. Teachers have received information about testing, set the math topics for each testing window, and will continue to prepare for the first testing window opening on October 23rd.
- MTSS work continues to be a focus. We have been working on our MTSS handbook and updating procedures, processes, supports, and services. A piece of our support is after-school tutoring. It just started and is earlier in the year than usual to help students learn and stay on track. We are also looking at changing some structure to our study hall to help students be more productive and provide assistance. Students have learned school expectations and our staff continues to try different ways to keep that teaching process going throughout the year. When we teach and practice expectations and procedures the little behavior issues will not continue and turn into bigger ones. Our school culture and environment will be more positive and productive.

- Teacher observations have started. The observation process consists of teachers' goals, informal, formal, and summative observations. Teachers submitted their yearly goals and the informal observations are underway. I look forward to working with our great educators in this professional growth opportunity.
- We started the CFJH Wildcat of the Month! Last year we had students of the week but decided to change the recognition to monthly. Students are nominated by staff based on the "Wildcat Way" school expectations. The staff then votes on the award. All nominees and the winners are acknowledged on the announcements and receive some Wildcat pencils. The winners get a certificate, a photo posted on social media and in the foyer, some Wildcat "goodies", and a Wildcat of the Month t-shirt. It is a great way to celebrate our awesome students! There were a lot of nominations! Congratulations to Josey Hackethorn, Natalie Hagreen, and Kamry Young as this month's winners!



Student Enrollment

- Enrollment 544: 6th- 182, 7th- 184, 8th- 178



CFHS Board Report: September 11, 2023

Columbia Falls High School
610 13th St W
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Principal - Jon Konen
Asst. Principal - John Thompson
Athletic Director - Troy Bowman

(406)892-6500 Office (406)892-6583 Fax

Submitted by Jon Konen, CFHS Principal

Strategic Goal #1: Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive Learning Environment

Our school wide goal this year is to continue to build school culture. We are communicating the mantra of increasing the positive school culture and decreasing the negative! Here is a view into several of our classrooms and school experiences:

Notable accomplishments:

- **A VIEW INTO AN ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS CLASSROOM** – Students in Mrs. Vestal's APLANG are currently reading Sebastian Junger's, Tribe, and are looking to understand the need for belonging in our society. College classes are preparing research for podcasts which will be made public at the end of the semester. These podcasts will have topics ranging from nasal breathing to missing indigenous women. Lastly, English 10 are becoming playwrights and drama students in Arthur Millers, *The Crucible*.

- **UPCOMING ART SHOWING AND A DAY AT THE BRAY** – Students in Mrs. Daniel's classroom will be showing their work in a Printmaking Art Exhibit on display at ImagineIF Library throughout the month of December. A field trip is planned for November 16th: *A Day At The Bray & The Bison Bead Project*. This field trip will be catered and tailored to students' interests. The Bison bead project could be in conjunction with a tailor-made hands-on creative project, a short and engaging video about Cannupa Haska Luger, a Native American Ceramicist, showing his website and previous community bead projects along with information about the bison bead project. Then, make some beads and have discussions around the importance of this work, after a while of making beads and having conversations with the students, introduce different artworks like this (multiples, numbered quantities, and/or collective community artworks) and ask students to consider the different things in their lives that might inspire a project of their own.





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- **BLEED BLUE TICKETS** – As a staff we started a positive behavior intervention where we are acknowledging and celebrating students for CFHS (Character, Focus, Honor, and Strength). We believe recognizing the positive is helping our school culture in several ways. In fact, we had some great data to share about the decrease in office referrals for this time period as compared to last year. Last year we had 45 referrals up to September 26, 2022, and this year we have had 21 referrals for the same date. Attendance has improved over 1% for this time period as well. 92.9% of our students were in attendance the first month of school!
- **OUR LIBRARY IS HOPPING** – During September, all freshmen and sophomores participated in an onsite library orientation. All students, freshmen to seniors, were in the library checking out books of their choice, and all students currently have books checked out not only for class, but also for personal enjoyment. Seniors have begun working on their senior projects, and nearly all of them have had 1:1 research meetings with Ms. Hanson about research materials selection and/or the process of their final project. Underclassmen will begin their research projects and instruction this month, though these projects will be much less intensive, as the underclass curriculum works to break down the skills students need to be successful at the senior level. The library also offers several programs at lunch: Mondays we have about 15 students participating in a teen-led Book Club. Our first novel pick is a newly released young adult fantasy novel called *A Forgery of Roses* which is about a young woman whose paintings have the power to change real life. We also have chosen a young adult historical thriller called *Daughters of a Dead Empire* which takes place in Russia during the Bolshevik revolution. On Wednesdays at lunch, the library hosts the Democracy Project, a non-partisan teen-led group whose focus is to give teens the resources to engage in an evolving democracy through civic engagement. Currently, we are working on recruitment and brainstorming ideas for a project. Thus far, students are interested in tackling a variety of issues, including food scarcity in our community, getting young people registered and engaged in the voting process, building an online civics toolkit for students, working with the government classes to promote civics engagement, and building an outdoor classroom. Finally, on Fridays, our new library assistant Leigh Clausen (who is a certified yoga instructor) is offering a quick mindfulness and yoga quick fix at lunch, open to all students and staff.

Strategic Goal #2: High Performing Workplace

Open and Unfilled Positions at the High School - We have a few openings: two paraprofessionals for the special education program, two maintenance/custodian, as well as one position for food service.

The staff had a tremendous amount of teaming on September 27, 2023. The PIR (Pupil Instruction Related) full day started with a staff breakfast, setting expectations, and a presentation on the teaming process called, PLC (Professional Learning Community). Staff then worked together in their departments, setting goals, sub goals, and plotting out the rest of the year's tasks and responsibilities.



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Other Accomplishments:

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** – Willow Moran, Gretchen Miller and Jaime Bell received a grant to attend the National Conference Teachers of English conference in Ohio.

Strategic Goal #3: Organizational Effectiveness

The third goal under Organizational Effectiveness on the strategic plan states, “Goal 3: Establish and foster a positive collaborative culture in all district departments.” Our Leadership Team chose school culture as a goal area. An organizational tool we have developed is the Teacher Dashboard. It includes topics, links, and standard operating procedures for most every area within our school.

Other Notable Accomplishments

- **Professional Development** – Staff tackled the content in Chapter 1 from the book, *Culturize*, by Jimmy Casas this past month. We are implementing ideas from this chapter.

Strategic Goal #4: Family & Community Engagement

HOMECOMING – Homecoming week was a huge success. Thank you to the businesses that supported our schools during this festive week. Many businesses purchased flags that can be hung to celebrate Bleeding Blue. To purchase please see Mr. Konen or Mrs. Hackethorn for your flag.

OUR STUDENTS BLEED BLUE – Our staff has mailed out over 167 Bleed Blue tickets to parents this past month. Staff find students who exhibit the CFHS characteristics (Character, Focus, Honor, and Strength).

Strategic Goal #5: District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

HIGH SCHOOL ROOF – As Swank opened up our roof this past summer, we have found the need to address some issues. As this roof was first put on in 1959, and then reinforced 15 years ago, we need to update the roof. We are currently working on a plan to do so.

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager/Clerk
DATE: October 5, 2023
RE: Business Office Report for the October 9, 2023 Regular Meeting

Health Insurance Committee

The Health Insurance Committee conducted a meeting September 27, 2023. The Committee discussed the plan YTD claims through August 2023. Claims were higher than expected in July and August as a result of prior year carryover as well as specific stop loss claims being rolled over to a new deductible year. The plan has two members who are close to exceeding the specific stop loss deductible. 30% of the total claims paid were for these two members. In summary, claims are 110% of expected as of 8/31/2023. The Committee discussed Recuro Health, which the plan utilizes as a Telemedicine option in an effort to save primary office visits. Utilization is low and the District will work to educate staff about the benefits of using this resource. The Committee considered enriching our voluntary worksite benefits offered through AFLAC. A group plan will be enacted effective January 1, 2024 in an effort to improve participation in disability/cancer/and other insurance to provide additional financial support for our staff. These policies will be at no cost to the District, but will be administered through the payroll deduction process.

High School Facility – capital bond programming

You recall discussing the various facility needs for the high school during the recent HVAC Upgrade Project contract discussions. Roof, Windows, Safe/Secure Entryway, Gym Floor, completing the air conditioning/mechanical system. These upgrades/replacements are all items the 66-year-old facility needs to be able to effectively function for the next fifty ++ years. The District replaced the roof of the classroom wing in 2009. The roof is reaching the end of the warranty/manufacture life expectancy, however, it was recently discovered (when installing the rooftop HVAC equipment) that the original roof structure has been compromised. This discovery in August has kicked started the capital bond project since the roof will need to be repaired/replaced in the summer of 2024. Proposed timeline:

- October 9, 2023 – RFQ for Architect/Engineer.
- November 3, 2023 – RFQ Due Date.
- Week of November 13th Architect/Engineer – interviews/presentation to Board.
- November 27th – approve an Architect/Engineer.
- December 2023 - Preliminary Design/Scope setting.
- January 2024 – Community/Staff Input.
- February 2024 – Final Design/Bond Amount determined.
- March/April 2024-garner community support.
- May 2024 – Bond Election held in conjunction with annual school election.

K-8 Facility Bond Project

As the District embarks on another facility bond project, I thought I would share the financial information concerning the Elementary District bond project as of September 30th.

Total Proceeds	\$42,061,651
Total Expenses	\$41,814,345
Remaining	\$ 247,306

Projected Expenses to completion:

Commissioning	\$12,705
Ruder Contract-Swank	\$95,970
GG Elem Contract – Swank	\$46,533
Owners Rep – Sept-Dec	\$37,600
	\$192,808

Contingency Funds Remaining	\$54,498
Ruder PreK Playground	\$100,000

Federal Program Grant Updates

Federal Grants for the FY 2024 have been completed thanks to the efforts of Diane Marsh – former Carl Perkins Administrator, Mark McCord-ESSA School Wide Coordinator, and Michelle Swank – IDEA Grant.

ANNUAL Appropriation	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Carl Perkins	\$ 61,254	\$ 50,246	\$ 47,543	\$ 46,184
IDEA	\$ 564,452	\$ 551,237	\$ 566,944	\$ 598,568
Title School-wide	\$ 984,676	\$ 985,558	\$ 977,599	\$ 967,532

Other Federal Grants:

	Appropriation	Spent as of June 30, 2023	Remaining Available	Period of Availability
ESSER III Base	\$ 4,094,083	\$ 782,559	\$ 3,311,524 *	September 30, 2024
ESSER III Learning Loss	\$ 1,023,520	\$ 684,502	\$ 339,018 **	September 30, 2024

*ESSER III Base funds are budgeted to be used for the HS HVAC Project

** ESSER III Learning Loss Funds are budgeted for summer school, STAR Assessments, 5.0 FTE-Support Staff (FY24), and the BookMobile Program.



Introduction: Based on ARM 10.55.601(2), the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) has aligned the accreditation process to include a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) and gap analysis process for all schools before creating an Integrated Strategic Action Plan (ISAP).

Purpose: Conducting a Comprehensive Needs Assessment helps a district identify, understand, and better address educational challenges. It is a systemic examination of the gap that exists between the current state and the desired state of the district. The CNA is the first step in planning and improving the effectiveness of education investments that lead to better outcomes for students.

Time Needed to take the CNA: There are 8 separate stakeholder groups. The length of the survey itself is determined by your stakeholder

role. In preparation for taking the survey, see below to see how many questions there are in each stakeholder group.

School Board Member: 59 questions

District Administrator/Principal: 157 questions

Certified Staff/Teacher: 139 questions

Non-Certified Staff/Support Staff: 75 questions

Parent/Guardian: 55 questions

Student Grades 9-12: 20 questions

Student Grades 5-8: 15 questions

Business Partner: 22 questions

Scoring each statement: Each question will be rated from 1-4, please see the description for each number below.

1 = I don't know or not being implemented

2 = Basic Implementation

3 = Proficient Implementation

4 = Effective or Sustained Practice

Library School Improvement/Variance Committee Meeting
September 22 at 10:30 am

Agenda:

Accomplishments of Library

- Increasing digital library
- Moving into our new library: Refreshing our collection with an entire review of collection, appropriate disposal of damaged or outdated books, physical relocation.

Goals

- Create an atmosphere to develop a passion for reading
- Satisfy the academic needs of our students
- Raise circulation through offering books that interest a variety of readers
- Continue to incorporate STEAM activities for students
- Bulking non-fiction collection to support our Curriculum needs

Review accreditation shortfall and review the variance requested:

Currently a 1.0 FTE fully licensed School Library Media Specialist is at Glacier Gateway Elementary. We are out of compliance with accreditation standard 10.55.709 (1)(c) which requires 1.5 (FTE) of Librarian for every 501-1000 students. Glacier Gateway Elementary enrollment is close to fluctuating over 500 in the fall of 2023.. We would like to apply for a variance allowing Glacier Gateway to employ 1.0 FTE librarian. In conjunction with 1.0 FTE librarian, we have assigned a highly qualified paraprofessional to continue to provide 6.0 hours of highly qualified staff time per day. The full time paraprofessional is assisting students in locating books, check-out, and maintaining organization of our school library. We also established standards that are taught by our certified technology teacher. (see standards document)

Committee Members:

(In Attendance)

Simon Van Der Weide (5th Grade Teacher)

Penni Anello (Principal)

Becky Sorenson(Parent)

Rogan Sorenson(Student)

Kaia Kane(Student)

Jill Rocksund (Board Member)

Denise Osborne (Librarian)

Deidra Enos (Technology Teacher)

Barbara Bocksnick (Community Member)

Questions and Discussion by Committee

Vote to approve plan for Library: Yea x Nay

Meeting Notes:

Group reviewed the accomplishments of the library. Stakeholders comments on the beautiful new space and the organization of the space was easily accessible for students. Students commented on the SORA app for digital access as a great way to check out books.

Group reviewed the goals for the upcoming year in the library. Stakeholders were curious of the STEAM activities and a review was given. This work would not be able to be done without the help of the full time para. Standard LM.NK is taught effectively through our STEAM activities. Student agreed that the additions to the non-fiction collection has increased her desire to be in the library. Students notes a couple of books they would like to see at the GG library that they have had access to at the public library.

Standards were reviewed and the discussion of Tech integration teacher focusing on the LM.SLE standard.

All members of the meeting had the opportunity for questions and agreed that the division of work made sense for the variance.

The variance was approved at the committee meeting level.

The application and documents will be passed on to the board.

(notes recorded by PenniAnello)

VARIANCES TO STANDARDS APPLICATION Initial Application (two years)

Purpose: [ARM 10.55.604\(1\)](#) "A local board of trustees may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to implement variance to an assurance standard or a section of assurance standards, excluding standards stating statutory criteria, standards pertaining to educator licensure or endorsement, and content standards as defined by the Board of Public Education and provided in guidance from the Superintendent of Public Instruction."

DUE DATE

First semester implementation; second Monday in October

COUNTY:

DISTRICT:

LIST EACH SCHOOL THAT IS REQUESTING THE VARIANCE:

Flathead County, School District 6, Glacier Gateway Elementary

1. Standard(s) for which a variance is requested, e.g., 10.55.709. If there is a program delivery standard, be sure to list it as well, e.g., 10.55.1801.

10.55.709 (1)(c)

2. Describe the variance requested.

Currently a 1.0 FTE fully licensed School Library Media Specialist is at Glacier Gateway Elementary. We are out of compliance with accreditation standard 10.55.709 (1)(c) which requires 1.5 (FTE) of Librarian for every 501-1000 students. Glacier Gateway Elementary enrollment is close to fluctuating over 500 in the fall of 2023. We would like to apply for a variance allowing Glacier Gateway to employ 1.0 FTE librarian. In conjunction with 1.0 FTE librarian, we have assigned a highly qualified paraprofessional to continue to provide 6.0 hours of highly qualified staff time per day. The full time paraprofessional is assisting students in locating books, check-out, and maintaining organization of our school library. In addition to the paraprofessional we have established standard LM.SLE and essential learnings for this standard will be focused on during our technology class K-5.

3. Describe how and why the proposed variance would be:

a. Workable.

With the fluctuation of enrolled students the continued assignment of the 1.0 FTE paraprofessional allows our librarian time to instruct students, develop a relationship with students, and create an environment that encourage students to become lifelong readers.

The district has appropriately assigned resources in a manner that is feasible with our budget, curriculum needs, scheduling and school configuration. Services available through our library are not diminished and the equality of educational opportunity for our Glacier Gateway student population is considered in the employment of 1.0 full time librarian, the addition of the full time highly qualified paraprofessional serving full time in the library, and the implementation of a full time certified teacher for technology integration.

b. Educationally sound.

TEAMS report will reflect the 1.0 FTE librarian, 1.0 FTE Technology Teacher, and 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional.

We will collect data for growth in reading through STAR testing. Advancing scores in the area of reading will demonstrate the success of our library and reading instruction. Glacier Gateway staff will monitor the independent reading of students through the Accelerated Reader program. The librarian uses Titlewise Analysis and Alexandria to determine the needs and interests of students. We use SORA digital library to expand access for a variety of books for our students.

(See attached reports: Titlewise, Alexandria, and SORA)

c. Designed to meet or exceed results under established standards.

The mission of this variance is to fully comply with the Montana School Accreditation Standards and Procedures in a variance to the standard that is still an appropriate interpretation of the library curriculum needs of the children. The goal of the proposed variance is to continue to have 1.0 FTE fully licensed School Library Media Specialist with 1.0 FTE highly qualified paraprofessional. This will ensure efficient staffing for the fluctuating school enrollment varying between students over and dipping below the standard of 500 students.

- d. Where applicable, aligned with program standards under ARM 10.55.1101 through 10.55.2101.

See attached program standards alignment document.

4. **Attach Board of Trustee meeting minutes that show the Board of Trustees adopted the application for a variance at an official, properly noticed meeting that provides evidence that local school community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed variance to an assurance standard or a section of assurance standards.**
(Stakeholder groups include trustees, administrators, teachers, classified school staff, families, community members, and students as applicable.)

See attached Agenda and meeting notes.

Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: _____

Board Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

Superintendent Name: Cory J. Dziugala

Superintendent Signature: Cory J. Dziugala Date: 10/2/23

Email the signed form to:

OPIAccred@mt.gov

**SPECIAL SERVICES
COLUMBIA FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
Columbia Falls, Montana 59912**

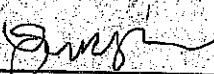
Consulting Speech and Language Pathologist Contract

This Agreement is made the 26th of September, 2023, by and between Columbia Falls School District and Linden Rigler.


IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Linden Rigler shall provide Columbia Falls School District the services of a consulting speech/ language therapist to participate in the ADOS (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-2) team. It is understood that Linden Rigler is board certified by ASHA and licensed by the state of Montana.
2. Consulting services within the realm of her expertise, will include, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Reviewing student records related to the referral of a student for the ADOS-2 Evaluation
 - b. Participate in the ADOS-2 Administration
 - c. Completion of scoring and determining the outcome of the evaluation
 - d. Completion of a brief report outline the results which will be provided to the school district, prior to the scheduled Evaluation Team meeting with parents/guardian(s)
3. It is agreed that Linden Rigler will be responsible for maintaining the Consultant's malpractice liability insurance, licensure, tax deductions and benefits. Copies of professional license and proof of malpractice will be provided to Columbia Falls School District with this contract.
4. The Columbia Falls School District shall reimburse Linden Rigler at the rate of \$75.00 per hour for the completion of the above services.
5. This contract shall remain in effect through the 2023-2024 school year, unless terminated by either party by providing a 30 day written notice to the other party.


Date this 26th day of September, 2023



Linden Rigler, Speech Language Pathologist



Dustin Zuffelato, SD6 Business Clerk



Jill Rocksund, SD6 Board Chairman

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
FOR ARCHITECT/ENGINEERING SERVICES
HIGH SCHOOL Capital Bond Project**

Completed Response Due Date: 4:00 PM MST November 3, 2023.

Delivery Requirements: Deliver 1 electronic copy + 15 original copies to:

Cory Dziowgo, Superintendent
Columbia Falls School District
501 6th Avenue West
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
C_dziowgo@cfmthschools.net

The Columbia Falls School District is soliciting through this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) the services of a qualified Architectural/Engineering firm to assist in the areas of comprehensive master programming for the District's high school facilities, meeting facilitation, user input, preliminary space planning, educational specifications, design standards and guidelines, preliminary cost estimating, cost benefit analysis for alternatives and options, property assessment and assistance with the development of a capital bond programming. The RFQ also seeks qualified firms to assist in the areas of any programming, planning, design and construction administration for the potential renovation and/or addition to existing facilities and/or construction of new facilities depending upon the approved alternatives and outcome of the capital bond election. The District reserves the right to terminate the services in the event of an unsuccessful bond election and/or to solicit qualifications for post-bond architect/engineering services.

A sealed envelope that is prominently marked "Request for Qualifications, Architecture/Engineering, High School Facilities" containing 15 original copies plus one electronic copy (USB flash drive or CD Rom in PDF) of a proposal meeting all criteria listed in this document must be received at the Columbia Falls School District office, 501 6th Avenue West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 by **4:00 PM MST, November 3, 2023**. Late, faxed, or emailed copies will not be accepted for consideration. It shall be the responsibility of the firm submitting the proposal to ensure that it has been properly received by the deadline. If a proposal is not legible, the District has the discretion determine that the proposal is non-responsive.

Each proposing firm shall submit a proposal that is signed in ink by an authorized individual or officer of the firm submitting the response and no proposals shall be withdrawn for a period of 90 days after receipt. In order to control information disseminated regarding this RFQ, firms are **not** to make personal contact with the Board of Trustees and/or any District Employees with exception of the person listed above.

All submitted items will become property of the District and the District reserves the right to make use of any or all information it contains or reject any or all proposals, information in the proposal will become public property and subject to disclosure laws.

All costs associated with the preparation or submission of the proposal for this RFQ are solely the responsibility of the candidates.

The District may, for good cause, reject any or all proposals and to rescind the award of any contract at any time before the execution of said contract by all parties with no liability against the District.

1) BACKGROUND

The Columbia Falls School District currently has one High School building. The High School was built in 1958 and serves 700 students. Columbia Falls School District is the only High School District in the County that has not proposed a facility-debt service levy. The District is seeking assistance with upgrading/repairing/renovating/replacing the High School facility in order to address the needs of students in the 21st Century and growth within the Columbia Falls community.

The District is seeking to engage an Architectural/Engineering firm to complete master programming documents which identify the goals and needs for its high school students. This involves a multi-phased approach focusing on community involvement, facility assessment, programming requirements and options, developing preliminary design documents based upon selected options, as well as potential programming, permitting, design and construction-related services.

2) SCOPE OF SERVICES

The specific scope of services will be negotiated prior to signing the Architect/Engineering Contract. In general, services are anticipated to include, but are not limited to the following:

- Develop process to engage stakeholders (students, staff, parents, community) in identifying current and future needs.
- Develop and assist District with outreach activities for opportunities for input during the programming process.
- Evaluation of current elementary buildings and grounds, including current programs and curriculum activities.
- Identify current facility and space use and the sufficiency of such use.
- Prepare plan to identify potential facility modifications.
- Develop master plan through identification of goals, guiding principles, board priorities, educational specifications, current trends in education programming and curricula, facility needs and options to address needs.
- Develop cost benefit analysis for facilities alternatives and options through master plan for consideration by Board.
- Develop preliminary plans and documents to assist in capital bond program, including development of renderings and 3-D modeling as needed and incorporating responsible and sustainable design practices.
- Provide conceptual cost estimates for capital bond program
- Participate in presentations to the public and the Board

- Detailed planning/design (at discretion of Board)
- Bidding (at discretion of Board)
- Permitting and Construction Administration (at discretion of Board)

While the District is interested in seeking the qualifications of firms to provide all consulting and design-related services from master planning through completion of any construction, the District's Board of Trustees reserves the right to terminate the services of the selected firm in the event of an unsuccessful bond election or solicit architecture/engineering services for post-bond design and construction-related activities.

3) TENTATIVE PROJECT SCHEDULE

PROPOSAL AND AWARD TIMELINE:	
October 10, 2023	RFQ issued
November 3, 2023	RFQ Proposals due at 4:00 PM
November 6, 2023	Proposals submitted to be reviewed and scored by committee; maximum of four finalists for interviews determined
Week of November 13, 2023	Finalists interview (if determined to be necessary)
November 20, 2023	Interviews scored by committee and recommendation determined for approval by Board of Trustees
November 27, 2023	Recommendation for approval of Architect/Engineer by Board of Trustees

4) PROPOSAL CONTENT

Proposers shall provide the following information, clearly separated by tabs for the written copies provided, in the order listed below:

1. Cover letter and your firm's statement of interest.
2. Identification of your firm's location, including all offices maintained by your firm.
3. Description of your firm's relevant experience with projects of similar size and scope, with specific focus on experience with K-12 facilities.
4. Explanation of your firm's process for public outreach and community involvement.
5. Examples of your firm's specific experience with designing projects including your firm's ability to meet the District's unique needs. Provide information containing how your firm used the information gathered from District Staff/Community Members/School Board to devise the appropriate project scope that meets their specific financial bonding threshold established by the School Board.

6. **References and contact numbers from previous projects completed of similar size and scope.**
7. **Proposed staff with their qualification and relevant experience.**
8. **Current and projected work load.**

5) EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Submissions will be assessed by the District's long-range planning committee based upon the following:

1. Experience with projects of similar size and scope with focus toward experience with K-12 projects (15%)
2. Process for public outreach and community involvement (25%)
3. Qualifications and experience of personnel to be assigned to the project (25%)
4. Capability to meet critical timelines and project budget requirements (5%)
5. Local professional resources to be utilized for this effort and location of offices (5%)
6. Recent and current work for Columbia Falls School District (15%)
7. Current and projected workloads (10%)

A maximum of four candidates with the highest numeric scores will be invited to an interview with the District's long-range planning committee. Unsuccessful candidates will be notified immediately after the selection process is complete. After approval by the Board of Trustees, the District will enter negotiations with the firm determined to best fit the needs of the District based upon the criteria identified herein. If negotiations are successful, the other candidates will be informed immediately. If negotiations are unsuccessful with the selected firm, the negotiations will be terminated. The District reserves the right to commence negotiations with the firm next determined to best meet the needs of the District based upon the criteria identified herein or to begin the solicitation process anew.

The District reserves the right to negotiate a contract for master programming and other services to assist in the development of a capital bond program. The District, at its sole discretion, may enter into a separate contract following a successful bond election with the selected firm for post-bond design and construction-related services. However, the selected firm acknowledges that it has no right or guarantee that the District will continue to retain its services for post-bond design and construction-related services and that the District may, at its sole discretion, issue a request for qualifications for schematic-, design-, and construction services.

Depending on the number and quality of submittals received, the District reserves the right to make the selection of the preferred firm based on the submittal information alone and may decline to conduct the interview stage of the selection process.

Selection of the successful firm will be entirely at the discretion of the District, and the District reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in the selection process and to reject any and all proposals.

This RFQ shall not commit the District to enter into any agreement, to pay any expenses incurred in preparation of any response to this request, or to procure or contract for any supplies, goods or services. The District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all responses received as a result of this RFQ if it is in the District's best interest to do so. By offering to perform services under this procurement, proposers agree to be bound by the laws of the State of Montana, including but not limited to: applicable wage rates, gross receipts taxes, building codes, Equal Opportunity Employment practices, safety, etc.

**Substitute Hires
Oct 2023**

Teacher

LNAME	FNAME	Teacher
Windauer	Maureen	Teacher or Aide
Newell	Ashley	Teacher or Aide
Anderson	Lindsay	Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide

Secretary / Nurse

LNAME	FNAME	Other
		Nurse
		Nurse
		Secretary

Bus Driver

LNAME	FNAME	Other
Bates	Michelle	Bus Driver
Rupp	Robert	Bus Driver
		Bus Driver

Hot Lunch

LNAME	FNAME	Other
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch

Custodian

LNAME	FNAME	Other
Miller	Evan	Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian

10/5/2023

PD Grant Applications 23-24
\$60,000 set aside

Leslie DiMaio 2023 **NCTE Convention** and ALAN Workshop. November 16-21, Columbus, Ohio. \$1,556

☒ Leslie DiMaio: Final Professional Development Grant Application w Budget 2023 ...

Jessica Schwaderer 2023 **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,684

☒ Jessica Schwaderer Copy of Final Professional Development Grant Application w ...

Cami Bowler **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,684

☒ Cami Bowler Copy of Final Professional Development Grant Application w Budget...

Kami Heinz 2023 **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,626

☒ Kami Heinz - Professional Development Grant Application w Budget (Generic).docx

Willow Moran **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,800

☒ Willow Moran Professional Development Grant Application.docx

Jaime Bell **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,800

☒ PD Grant 23

Gretchen Miller **NCTE Convention**. November 16-19, 2023 Columbus, OH \$1,800

☒ NCTE Conference Final Professional Development Grant Application w Budget.docx

Callie Moore **Get Your Teach On**, Las Vegas, NV January 14-15, 2024 \$1,434

☒ Copy of Final Professional Development Grant Application w Budget (Generic).docx

Tricia Hall **Get Your Teach On**, Las Vegas, NV January 14-15, 2024 \$1,064

☒ 23/24 Professional Development Grant Application w Budget (Generic).docx

Jenny Lovering **Northwest Council for Computer Education** Seattle, Washington February 14-16, 2024 \$1,800

☒ Lovering - Professional Development Grant Application w Budget 2023-24.docx