

AGENDA
Board of Trustees
Columbia Falls School District Six
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, February 12, 2024
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. 1-6
 - b. Approval of January bills
 - c. Approval of Investment Reports
- 5. Public Participation**
 - a. Student Body Representative
 - b. Land to Hand Presentation – Annual Update – Pgs. 7-11
- 6. Reports**
 - a. Written
 - Elementary Principals – Pgs. 12-18
 - High School Principal – Pgs. 19-20
 - Special Services Director – Pg. 21
 - Curriculum Director – Pg. 22
 - Board Standing Committees – Pgs. 23-25
 - b. Verbal
 - MTSBA Update – Barb Riley
 - Clerk / Business Manager – Pgs. 26-30
 - Superintendent – Cory Dziowgo
 - Board Chair
- 7. Action/Discussion Items:**
 - a. Review of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment data.
 - b. Consideration of a kindergarten age waiver for student EJJ – DOB: 3/9/2019.
 - c. Review and consideration of the 2024 Annual MTSBA Membership Survey. – Pgs. 31-39
 - d. Consideration of the Speech Language Pathologist Independent Contractor Agreement with Clarity Speech Therapy LLC effective 1/16/24-6/9/24. 0 Pgs. 40-41
 - e. Consideration of Resolution 418 – Calling for an Election – Elementary District Trustee and General Fund Over-Base Levy. – Pg. 42
 - f. Consideration of Resolution 419 – Calling for an Election – High School District – General Fund Over-Base Levy. – Pg. 43
 - g. Consideration of Resolution 420 – High School District Building Reserve Levy. – Pgs. 44-53
 - h. Consideration of the May 7, 2024 Mail Ballot Plans:
 - Elementary District Annual Trustee Election – Pgs. 54-56
 - Elementary District General Fund Over-Base Levy – Pgs. 57-59
 - High School District General Fund Over-Base Levy Election – Pgs. 60-62
 - High School District Building Reserve Levy Election – Pgs. 63-65

- i. Consideration of the MOU between School District Six and the University of Montana for the purpose of holding Motorcycle Rider Safety classes at the JH this spring/summer 2024.

8. Personnel

a. The superintendent has accepted the following resignations:

Jessica Cleveland	Special Education Para – Glacier Gateway – effective 7-2-24
Emily Eisenschenk	Special Education Para – Glacier Gateway – effective 1-26-24
Anne Barker	Special Olympics Assistant Coach – effective 1-21-24
Denise MacDonald	Special Education Para – HS – effective 11-17-23
Emily Hackethorn	Student Council Advisor – end of SY 23-24
Cary Finberg	Head Girls Basketball Coach – end of SY 23-24
Jon Konen	High School Principal – end of SY 23-24

b. Consideration of the following hiring recommendations:

Koahl DeShazer	JH Study Hall Paraeducator
Kristine Zika	Health Aide Paraeducator
Tammy Graham	Food Service Helper – Floater
Trina Crowe	MTSS District Coordinator

c. Consideration of the attached substitute hires: Pg. 66

d. Consideration of the attached leave of absence request for Alyssa Drew: - Pg. 67

e. Consideration of the following out of state travel request: NAESP United Conference:

Ted Miller	National Association of Elementary School Principals
	Nashville, TN – July 15-17, 2024
	Funded through Professional Development

f. Executive Session:

- a. Superintendent Evaluation

g. Board Reconvenes:

- a. Consideration of the renewal of the superintendent contract.
- b. Consideration of authorization of the Negotiation Committee to determine terms.

9. Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Finance Committee Meeting – February 26, 2024 – 5:00 PM
- Work Session – CFHS Roof Proposal – February 26, 2024 – 6:00 PM
- Health Insurance Committee Meeting – February 28, 2024 – 4:00 PM
- Consideration of moving April 8 Regular Board Meeting to April 15, 2024

10. Adjournment

**The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m.,
Monday, March 11, 2024, in the School District Six Board Room**

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
JANUARY 15, 2024

Unofficial

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, January 15, 2024, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Barbara Riley Vice Chair
Megan Upton..... Trustee
Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee

Call to order at: 6:02 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Heupel, second by Mumby, to approve the agenda as presented.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 5-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda as follows:
Approve December regular board meeting minutes.
Approve December bills.
Approve the investment report.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 5-0

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

Approximately two (2) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately twenty-two (22) people attended the meeting in person.

High School Student Body Co-President Kai Golan, with Senior Class Representatives Quinn Clark, Lexi Oberholtzer, Logan Peters, and Evan Fisher read from a written statement presented to the trustees.

Land to Hand was not present for their annual update, and will attend the next meeting in February.

REGULAR MEETING

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Unofficial

REPORTS:

Written Reports:

The Elementary School Principals, Penni Anello, Brenda Krueger, and Ted Miller provided the Board with written reports.

High School Principal, Jon Konen, provided the Board with a written report.

Special Education Director, Michelle Swank, provided the Board with a written report.

Curriculum Director, Mark McCord, provided the Board with a written report.

Committees provided the Board with written reports.

Verbal Reports:

Trustee Barbara Riley was not available to make the meeting to provide the Board with the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSS-BA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). Board Chair Rocksund read an email from Trustee Riley stating that there has not been a meeting since the last report. Lance Melton was appointed to the Governors Tax Task Force. Trustee Riley was selected to attend the State Health Insurance Task Force and Summit. The summit is January 30 and 31 in Helena, Montana.

The District Business Manager/Clerk, Dustin Zuffelato, provided the Board with a written report. In the upcoming annual elections in May there are two trustees with terms expiring, Trustee Jacobsmeyer and Board Chair Rocksund. The deadline to submit declaration of candidacy is March 28, 2024. District clerks are scheduled to meet with the County Election Office on January 23rd. The District would like to track the election results by geographical areas. This will be more work for the District, but be nice to know results to strategize for the upcoming High School bond election. Ballots will be sorted by precincts and separated by four categories (1) Rural (2) City (3) Canyon (4) West Glacier.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo mentioned that on July 1, 2024, the District will have to start recording the board meetings. He is looking for a new layout of the Board Room with new desks and TVs on the walls. There have been discussions with the administration team about closing the spending window in May. A survey has been sent to shareholders regarding cost saving ideas for next year's budget. Each open position in the District is being reevaluated to make sure there is a need to fill the position. Things may look different in the future, but the District is still committed to making a positive learning environment for students. The District is working on the communication piece for the upcoming levies, and there will be more meetings regarding a portrait of a learner. OPI's CNA survey results are in and is presently being sifted through. There was a school closure last week as a result of inclement weather and a make-up date has not been determined.

Unofficial

Board Chair Jill Rocksund mentioned the Superintendent's upcoming evaluation. The new evaluation process is taking longer than in the past, but is providing more comprehensive information for feedback.

Action/Discussed Items:

Curriculum Director Mark McCord provided a recap of the January 2nd PIR. The day was divided into two sessions – Portrait of a Learner and Indian Education for All. Portrait of a Learner training used the placemat protocol to create and discuss skills and workforce readiness needed for students. The deadline for accreditation is March of 2024. Mark McCord discussed the professional development training for Indian Education for All, which is required by the State constitution. Mock lessons with specific standards were created that showed the seven essential understandings every student needs to know by graduation. Glacier Gateway Teacher Mary Ellen Getts shared what she does in her classroom and the books that are available by Native American authors. High School Art Teacher Kate Daniels has taken her advanced ceramics to learn about the Bison Bead Project.

Penni Anello, Courtney McCord, and Sam Steiner presented information by Guest Speaker Stacy York. The topic was on how to support students who are really struggling. There was talk about the development of the brain, what can happen to children's brains who have experienced trauma in the first three years of life, and the aftermath growing up. Using "brain break spots" and other ideas for brain breaks are additional tools for the EMOTE portal.

Discussion regarding the High School Building Reserve/Bond Project.
DA Davidson – Underwriting Engagement Agreement is related to the issuance of general obligation bonds and associated fees. The District is utilizing the services of DA Davidson to obtain the tax impact figures and debt service expenses to use for the building reserve levy in addition to the comprehensive bond project that will commence in a few months. Motion by Cheff, second by Heupel, to approve DA Davidson's underwriting engagement agreement.

Public comment was requested and Community Judy Territo wanted to know what the bond would be for? Clerk Zuffelato noted the bonds are issued in the public offerings market place.

Passed 5-0

Jackola Engineering – Architecture/Engineer Design Services – HS roof/HVAC phase 2 and building reserve levy election community outreach. Clerk Zuffelato mentioned that the District initiated the HVAC project a year ago and now the District needs to expand the scope of the contract to address the roofing structure issues. Jackola Engineering is preparing project specifications so that the project can be bid.

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve Jackola Engineering architecture/engineer design services.

Public comment was requested and Teacher Paula Koch asked if there were any discus-

ACTION /
DISCUSSION ITEMS

MARK MCCORD
PROVIDED A RECAP
OF THE JANUARY 2
PIR - PORTRAIT OF A
LEARNER AND
INDIAN ED FOR ALL

RECAP OF THE STACY
YORK TRAUMA
SUPPORT
PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION
REGARDING THE HS
BUILDING RESERVE
BOND PROJECT

MOTION TO APPROVE
DA DAVIDSON'S
UNDERWRITING
ENGAGEMENT
AGREEMENT

MOTION TO APPROVE
JACKOLA
ENGINEERING
ARCHITECTURE/
ENGINEER DESIGN
SERVICES

REGULAR MEETING

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Unofficial

sion about waiting on the HVAC portion of the roof project. The answer is that the District is indeed deferring the HVAC upgrades and will include this project under the comprehensive bond project.

Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
DORSEY WHITNEY
ATTORNEYS BOND
COUNCIL
ENGAGEMENT
AGREEMENT

Dorsey Whitney Attorneys – Bond Council Engagement Agreement.

Motion by Mumby, second by Cheff, to approve Dorsey Whitney Attorneys' bond council engagement agreement.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0

Building Reserve Levy Election Resolution preparation – define project scope.

A resolution calling for the election and setting the levy amount will be considered in February 2024. Superintendent Dziozgo led a discussion on the High School roof. The consideration is whether the District just replaces the roof or should we add the completion of the HVAC project infrastructure while the roof is exposed and being replaced? Adding the HVAC portion increased the cost from \$2.75 million up to \$6 million. Superintendent Dziozgo recommended simply maintaining the roof replacement project to mitigate tax impact even if completing the HVAC while the roof was exposed will be less expensive than completing it in the future as part of the comprehensive bond project. Board consensus was that completion of the HVAC should be added later and the Building Reserve Levy should be set based simply on replacing the roof. Clerk Zuffelato noted that another consideration necessary for the Resolution is the duration of the building reserve levy. If the District stays on track with a bond election in the spring of 2025, a duration of the building reserve levy for more than two years will have the levy and bond debt service being assessed at the same time. Board consensus was to limit the duration to two years and limit the project scope to replacing the roof.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE INDEPENDENT
CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT
WITH HEIDI
FLETCHER

Motion by Mumby, second by Heupel, to approve the Independent Contractor Agreements with Occupational Therapists Heidi Fletcher, February 12 to May 3, 2024, and Wendi Wanner, January 4 to May 3, 2024.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
ESTABLISHING A
STUDENT ACTIVITY
ACCOUNT #107

Motion by Mumby, second by Cheff, to establish the Student Activity Account #107 – Believe Blue Suicide Prevention.

Public comment was requested and Community Member Judy Territo asked if the funds will be taken from elsewhere in the budget? Clerk Zuffelato stated that student accounts are student lead. Like club activities, the funds are raised before money is spent. Principal Konen mentioned that this particular group would like to fundraise to bring in speakers and activities for suicide preventions.

Passed 5-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Brenda Krueger – Ruder Principal, effective end of SY 23-24; Brooklynn Keibler

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– Food Service Helper, effective December 21, 2023; Winford Collins – Custodian, effective January 3, 2024; Tracy Toavs – Bus Driver, effective December 4, 2023; Tonia Little – High School Business Education Teacher, effective January 12, 2024; Jarrod Joy – High School Special Ed Para, effective December 18, 2023; Cody Ramage – High School Assistant Tennis Coach, effective SY 22-23

Motion by Heupel, second by Cheff, to approve the termination of Food Service Helper, Raylee LaRocque.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE TERMINATION OF
RAYLEE LAROCQUE

Motion by Cheff, second by Hill, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Paige Hall – Ruder Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Dana Shields – Ruder Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Dana Shields – Ruder MTSS Campus Coordinator, Deidra Enos – Glacier Gateway Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Charles Lilienthal – Junior High Campus Lead Mentor, Ally Reamy-Butts – Junior High MTSS Campus Coordinator, Courtney McCord – Glacier Gateway MTSS Campus Coordinator, Kristy Orem – Glacier Gateway Campus Lead Mentor, David Wick – Junior High Girls Basketball Coach, Brooklynn Keibler – Glacier Gateway Kindergarten Paraeducator.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 4-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE ELEMENTARY
HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Cheff, second by Heupel, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Tiffany Hale – Food Service Helper/Floater, Gina Crouch – Custodian, Sarah Fuller – Custodian, Tanya DeShaw – Custodian, Trey Buckallew – Assistant Mechanic, Courtney Pham – Food Service Receiving/Shipping; Kitchen Helper/Backup Driver, Julia Whitman – High School MTSS Campus Coordinator, Allie Schulz – High School Track Coach

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
HS AND DISTRICT-
WIDE HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Heupel, second by Mumby, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations. Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE SUBSTITUTE
HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Mumby, second by Cheff, to approve out-of-state travel requests for the following:

Derek Andrews – Montana State FCS Conference, Lewistown, MT – April 24-26, 2024.

Leslie Pendergast and Anna Danley – USA Weightlifting Level 1 Conference, Santa Cruz, CA – April 20-21, 2024.

Nia Vestal – College Composition and Communication Conference, Spokane, WA – April 3-6, 2024.

Kate Daniels – National Art Education Convention, Minneapolis, MN – April 4-6, 2024.

Heather Gilchrist – SHAPE America National Convention 2024, Cleveland, OH – March

Unofficial

12-14, 2024.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE OUT OF STATE
TRAVEL FOR JODEE
PERKINS -
TRANSFINDER
TRAINING

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve out of state travel for Jodee Perkins – ACS, Transfinder’s Annual Client Summit 2024, San Antonio, TX – April 28 to May 1, 2024; funded through transportation budget.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0

MISCELLANEOUS
AND FUTURE
PLANNING

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

Health Insurance Committee Meeting – January 17, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

Work Session – Superintendent Evaluation – January 22, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

Negotiations with Classified Union – January 25, 2024

Calendar Committee – February 22, 2024

Finance Committee Meeting – February 28, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

Set levy amounts

Early retirement incentive program

Earlier today, the Advisory Staff would like to thank the District for the January 2 PIR.

Superintendent Dziogwo will look into other district’s that may also have Students-on-Board.

MEETING
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

Board Chair

Business Manager/Clerk

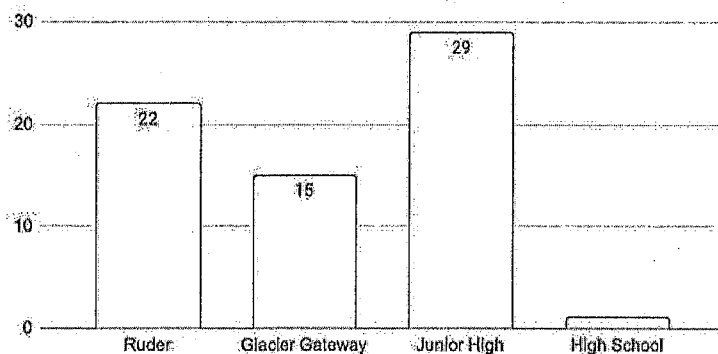


Farm to School Education

Wildcat Garden

<u>Wildcat Garden Education</u>	<u>2021-2022</u> <u>School Year</u>	<u>2022-2023</u> <u>School Year</u>	<u>Fall 2023</u>
Total lessons in the Wildcat Garden	115	96	89
Total classrooms in the Wildcat Garden	58	52	67
Total CFSD6 students in the Wildcat Garden	1156	1052	1275

Individual Classes in the Garden by School



"My students have learned so much this year and love our visits! I truly believe you are all teaching them life skills! Thank you so much!"
-2nd grade teacher

Notes

- We have been able to secure funding to pay for bussing for Glacier Gateway students to the Wildcat Garden from the Flathead Conservation District for three seasons (Spring '23, Fall '23, Spring '24). This has dramatically increased the number of classes we teach from Glacier Gateway.
- We are so excited to have the support of the school board to put in an outdoor kitchen and shed on the Wildcat Garden property. Securing architects and contractors has been a very prolonged process and we hope to complete these projects by June 2024.
- Our Junior High afterschool Garden Club has increased in popularity and we have about 25 students participating regularly through the winter. We are so excited about this and also taking steps to ensure that it is a safe and comfortable environment with that many kids in a small space.


Farm to School Education

Nutrition Education

Second Grade Program

Monthly cooking, nutrition, and gardening lessons for all second grade classes at Ruder Elementary and Glacier Gateway in their classrooms from November - April annually.

Lentil Salad



Ingredients

- 1 cup dry lentils (french green or chick)
- 3/4 cup olive oil
- 2 cups water (for lentils)
- 1 bay leaf (optional)
- 1 cucumber
- 1 box cherry tomatoes (or 1 tomato)
- 2 carrots
- 1/2 cup parsley
- 1/4 cup fresh dill
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp mustard
- 1/4 tsp honey
- 1 clove garlic
- salt and pepper

Instructions

- In a large stockpot, combine lentils with water, and a bay leaf. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat and then turn to low to simmer for 15-20 minutes and lentils are soft but not mushy.
- Make the dressing. Finely mince garlic. In a small bowl or jar, whisk together cup olive oil, 2 TBSP lemon juice, mustard, honey, minced garlic, salt, and pepper. Taste and adjust, add more lemon juice as desired.
- Finely dice cucumber, tomato, parsley, and dill and grate carrots. Combine lentils, veggies, and dressing in a bowl and toss to combine. Serve immediately or let flavors marinate for 30 minutes.

Bean Observation Journal

Name: _____

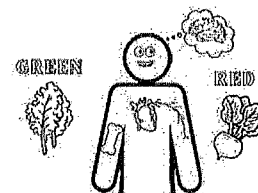
Type of Beans Planted: _____

Date Beans Were Started: _____

Draw and record your observations of the bean's growth

Day 1:	Day 3:	Day 5:	Day 7:

EAT A RAINBOW OF FRUITS AND VEGGIES!



Dressing Team

- Read ALL directions as a team, then write your hand
- Wash your hands with soap and water
- Send one person to collect your materials
- Send one person to collect your ingredients

Materials

- 1 Measuring Cup
- 2 Tablespoons
- 1 Small Mixing Bowl for combining ingredients


Ingredients

- 1 Container: Raisins
- 1 Bottle: Dijon Mustard
- 1 Bottle: Sweet Pickle Relish
- 1 Bottle: Lemon Juice
- 1 Bottle: Mayo
- 1 Container: Salt
- 1 Container: Black Pepper

Directions

- Add 1 cup raisins
- Add 2 tbsp. sweet pickle relish
- Add 1 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- Add 1/2 cup lemon juice
- Add 1 cup mayo
- Add 1 pinch salt
- Add 1 pinch black pepper

Carrot Salad Recipe

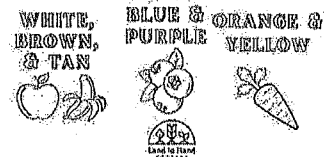


Ingredients

- 3 large carrots
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup honey or maple syrup
- 1/2 cup oil
- 1/2 cup mint or parsley leaves
- 1/2 cup roasted sunflower seeds (optional)
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries (optional)

Instructions

- Rinse the carrots and wash scrub well or peel. Grate the carrots.
- Set the honey to get about 1/2 tsp of honey rest. Juice the honey.
- In a small jar or bowl, combine the honey, lemon juice, and 1/2 cup salt. Whisk or shake to fully combine.
- Finely mince mint or parsley with seeds in a clean bowl.
- In a large bowl, combine carrots, sunflower seeds, cranberries, herbs, and dressing. Mix well and taste. Serve or store in fridge for up to 3 days.



Harvest of the Month Taste Tests

Through a grant by the National Center for Appropriate Technology, we were able to pilot three different ways to engage older students and families in the Montana Harvest of the Month program.



- Seasonal meal kits sent home through the Weekend Backpack Assistance Program
- Recipes created by Junior High Family and Consumer Sciences classes and then sampled out to other Junior High students at lunch
- Recipes created by High School Family and Consumer Sciences classes and then sampled out at Ruder Elementary School



Farm to School Program Budget

Income 2023-2024

PROJECTED

CFSD6 \$7,500

Land to Hand Raised \$70,683

Total \$78,183

Expenses 2023-2024

PROJECTED

Wildcat Garden - Staff \$14,683

Education - Staff \$60,000

Wildcat Garden - Supplies \$2,000

Education - Ingredients \$1,500

Total \$78,183

Weekend Backpack Program



Our Weekend Backpack Program distributes weekend food bags to children in families that rely on free or reduced school meals in the Columbia Falls school district. This program offers meals and snacks to food insecure children as a way to work towards ending childhood hunger. L2H also provides larger holiday bags for the Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring Breaks.

- Each weekend bag provides two weekend suppers, lunches, and breakfasts as well as a variety of healthy and high-protein snacks.
- Through this program we serve between 350-375 kids in this district each week
- L2H stocks a choice-style food pantry in Columbia Falls High School. Roughly 75 students shop for weekend food each week.

<u>Weekend Backpack Assistance Program</u>	<u>2021-2022 School Year</u>	<u>2022-2023 School Year</u>	<u>2023-2024 School Year To Date</u>
Average number of children served weekly	275	308	375
Total bags given out	9,838	11,074	6,952

In order to provide these food access programs we rely heavily on the work of volunteers. In 2023, 595 total volunteer hours were spent on packing Weekend Backpack Bags and Fresh Snack Friday.

Fresh Snack Friday

- All students at Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary, and the Junior High schools receive a fresh fruit or vegetable snack packed by L2H volunteers every Friday.
- The Fresh Snack Friday program delivered 31,220 servings of fresh fruits and veggies to CFSD6 students during the 2022-2023 school year





Weekend Backpack Program Budget

Income **2023-2024**
PROJECTED

CFSD6 \$0

Land to Hand Raised \$226,572

Total \$226,572

Expenses **2023-2024**
PROJECTED

Backpack Program - Staff \$30,000

Backpack Program - Food \$171,772

Fresh Snack - Procurement \$22,500

Backpack Program - Transportation \$2,300

Total \$226,572

School Board Report for February 2024
Glacier Gateway Elementary School

Students have been working hard on their projects for our Science Fair. The preparation classes are held three times each week. The science fair will be held on February 27th. Projects will remain on display through February 28th for students, teachers, and community members.

After school tutoring program began February 6th. Offerings include reading tutoring sessions and an ART Club sponsored by MT Art Council Grant. We have about 30 students actively participating in the program. This program will go through the month of March.

Glacier Gateway had their annual 5th grade spelling bee and will send a representative to the County Spelling Bee later this month.



Champion and Runner Up

Our PTO purchased the Missoula Children's Theater experience for our students 1st thru 5th grade. Performers had the opportunity to perform for the student body on Friday afternoon and then perform for their parents on Saturday afternoon.

February is "I Love to Read" month and we are celebrating at Glacier Gateway with dress up Fridays and community readers. We have different readers joining us throughout February.

Silverwood reading program has started and kids have the opportunity to earn a Silverwood Park ticket for 10 hours of reading.

Bikes for Books Program is back at GG. The Masons of Columbia Falls will present 2 bikes to each grade level in March. Students earn a ticket for every 20 minutes of reading at home.

Book Fair will be February 20-23 and Book Bingo will be on Thursday, February 22nd at GG. Students will be able to win gift certificates for our Scholastic Book fair during our Bingo games. We will have our annual "Pie in the Face" raffle as a fundraiser for PTO. Students love to purchase tickets to win the opportunity to "pie" a teacher in the face.

Fifth Grade students will have started practicing and preparing for their JAZZ performance at the end of February.

Testing season is upon us. Glacier Gateway Students selected from the 4th grade will participate in the NAEP assessment on February 20th. All 2nd-grade students will participate in the CoGat screener used to identify students who may need to move forward in the Gifted program. WIDA testing will wrap up at the end of the month for ELL students. The 3rd window for the MAST Pilot will be completed on February 16th and we have wrapped up our Winter Benchmark testing for STAR.

Ruder February Board Report

Enrollment: 543

Attendance: January - 90.74% School Year - 92.05%

Ruder third grade students received a set of new books from the Montana Federation of Public Employees. Between Ruder and the Junior High, about 500 books were delivered. This was made possible by a grant through Reading Opens the World and the American Federation of Teachers. Jennifer Greenberg from Ruder contacted them for an opportunity to receive free books.

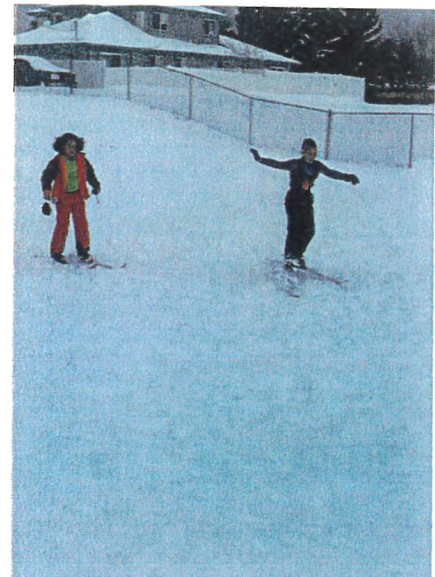
Mrs. Kehr was super excited when we got all the snow and the weather warmed up enough to be outside so she could start her cross country skiing unit. She got a few days of good snow, but then unfortunately the weather warmed up and the snow turned to ice. She is hoping for another good snowfall and to continue the unit.

Several classes have gone on some winter field trips. Kindergarten students have gone snowshoeing on Big Mountain and first grade students have been snowshoeing in Glacier. They all come back to school with red cheeks and ready for a nap.

Haley Lobbestael is hosting an art teacher who received a grant to teach her students art lessons. The first day, all second grade students were able to view and learn about sample artwork from the Glacier Artmobile. Mrs. Lobbestael's class then started their first art lesson. Lessons will be every Tuesday through April.

Students are starting to prepare for their Great Brain and Science Fair Projects. We have a large number of students participating this year with over 55 projects. We are still waiting on science fair numbers.

Students are finishing up their winter STAR benchmark test. Third through fifth grade students have also started the third MAST window. Once all STAR testing is finished, we will review the data and determine how to best use it to inform instruction to meet the academic needs of students.





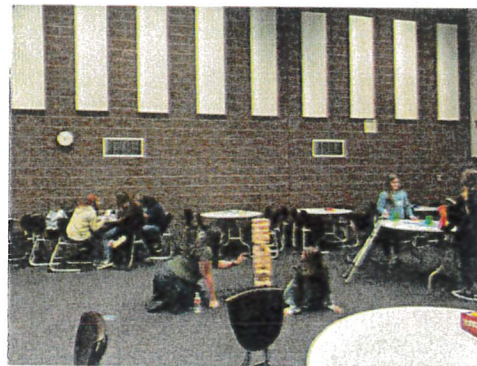
COLUMBIA FALLS JUNIOR HIGH

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 January Board Report Monday, February 12th

- Our MTSS Team decided to start a positive behavior support called Wildcat Way Tickets. Our goal is to celebrate and increase a positive school culture by recognizing the great things students do. Staff members are going to be looking for students who are showing the Wildcat Way being Polite & Respectful, Accountable, Well Prepared, and Safe. Staff members will fill out a Wildcat Way Ticket and give it to the student. It is the student's responsibility to go to the office and place it in the large Wildcat Way container. On the 2nd and 4th Mondays we will draw Wildcat Way Tickets for \$10 gift cards for students. The winning tickets will be read on the morning announcements. Drawings start over every two weeks. Also, all Wildcat Way Tickets for the two-week period will be mailed home to parents so they can see the awesome things students are doing!
- There were some fun after school activities put on by the PTO. The first one was a great 6th Grade Fun Night! There were lots of activities, laughs, and enjoyment. Students had a blast participating in many different games and events!



- The second after school activity that they PTO hosted was a 7th & 8th grade Neon Glow Dance. We had a ton of fun! There was a lot of great dancing, singing, and glowing! The PTO provided multiple glow items for free and to purchase. Lots of cool stuff. Also, thanks to Chad Huff from Peak Audio for being an awesome DJ for our kids!



- We held our annual Spelling Bee at CFJH. There were over 100 competitors! Our winner was Lily Aveson (7th)! Levi Ypma (6th) was our runner-up and Ailish Hanley (8th) came in third. Congrats to our winner and top finishers!!! It was a fierce battle! Well done to all our participants. Thank you to the staff for putting on a wonderful competition!



- Our Wildcat Building Team has been meeting monthly. This is a team of teachers that meet each month to address issues and concerns that the staff submits. We discussed some concerns around the level of rudeness and disrespect that has been happening between students and also students to adults. We have a plan to provide professional development opportunities to learn different classroom and behavioral management strategies. We also

discussed the use of a “lunch bunch” to build relationships with students, explain the effects of their behaviors on their classmates, and teach them strategies to decrease the number of disruptions.

- The MTSS Building Team met and discussed our intervention protocols. We are currently gathering a list of all of our interventions, the materials, duration of the classes, and which interventions are being used in all three tiers. It will be helpful to have all of this information in one place so we can better understand our system, protocols, collect data, and make decisions on which programs are working and which ones need adjusted. updating our behavior flow chart. The team also wants to finish our behavior flow chart update to make it clear to staff what is an office referral behavior and what is a classroom managed behavior. We are going to start by first presenting some behavior flow charts and have the staff vote on one and fine tune it to our building’s needs. We also discussed creating some common language for teachers to use when correcting behaviors that will address it quickly and in a productive manner.
- Our teachers and students filled out perspective surveys to reflect on how the first half of the year went. There are a lot of positive things happening at CFJH! The data overall was pleasant to see that we are doing an excellent job providing a welcoming and engaging learning environment. We did address any teacher concerns in our WBT and MTSS teams. Also, we are going to create Student Focus Groups based off the data we collected. It is important to incorporate student voice into our school and have them lead the charge in creating change and improvements. We are excited to get this started!
- Some of our 7th and 8th grade students from Mrs. Rosenbaum’s Montana Explorations classes visited Ruder Elementary. They taught a lot of elementary students about the myths and facts of Pocahontas. It was a great experience for our students and they really enjoyed teaching the smaller Wildcats! It is awesome to connect with the younger kids.



CFJH January Enrollment

6th Gr. - 184

7th Gr. - 186

8th Gr. - 173

Total - 543

January Attendance Rates

6th Gr. - 89.70%

7th Gr. - 89.20%

8th Gr. - 87.88

Overall - 88.93%



CFHS Board Report: February 12, 2024

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 a positive school culture. We are using the mantra of increasing the positive and decreasing the negative!

Notable accomplishments:

PIF GRANT – Jolandie Brooks is the coordinator for the Prevention Incentive Funds (PIF) Grant. This is our third year serving our junior and senior class with interventions. By the end of the first semester, this program served over 222 students through internships and job shadows, ACT prep, career exploration, and education intervention / case management. This program services students labeled as at-risk due to low GPA's, absences, and behavior. Before entering this program, case students average a passing rate of 63%. After semester one of 2023-2024 and having our interventions in place, their passing rate is 81%. We will graduate 96% - 100% of our at-risk students because of our interventions this year. Additionally, the number of "F's" students received is exactly 50% less (From 16 "F's" down to 8) from semester 1 2022-2023 as compared to semester 2023-2024. We had ZERO at-risk students dropout of high school the first semester.

CELEBRATING OUR CFHS CHOIR – CFHS Choirs has been busy preparing for our Carnegie Hall trip. We recently raised over \$6000 toward the trip at Night at the Movies, our annual fundraiser, which had an additional Silent Auction this year with amazing local contributions. Troubadours and Cantilena attended the Flathead Lake Choral festival on Monday and represented the Wildcats with honor and respect. The group of 38 students and chaperones will be departing to NYC March 9, and performing in Carnegie Hall on March 12, returning on March 13. Very excited for this adventure. Students are also preparing for the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" which will run February 29-March 2 at CFHS.

AVALANCHE AWARENESS – This week Mrs. Webb's Earth Science students are learning about avalanches. They modeled avalanches on Monday to find the common angle when avalanches occur. On Tuesday students had the education coordinator from the Flathead Avalanche Center as a guest speaker and she taught how to rescue someone from an avalanche. Wednesday students dug snow pits to observe the characteristics and layers of the snow to determine if this snow could create an avalanche. On Monday (2/12), the students plan to teach fourth graders at Ruder how to analyze the snowpack.





CFHS Board Report: February 12, 2024

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

Principal - Jon Konen
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Strategic Goal #2: High Performing Workplace

Open and Unfilled Positions at the High School - We have a few openings: three paraprofessionals for the special education program, and we are only short one person in the maintenance/custodian department at the time of this report.

Other Accomplishments:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – The administrators have been working with a national education speaker and consultant, Jimmy Casas. Jimmy Casas wrote the book, **Culturize**, and has been revered as one of the nations leaders in increasing positive school culture through his four prong framework: 1) Champion for Students, 2) Expect Excellence, 3) Carry the Banner, and 4) Merchant of Hope. In January we met online with Jimmy and discussed several ways we can tackle increasing school culture. This led to discussions on how we can create a similar framework for discussions across all school levels. The administrators that participated all agreed this would be a great next step. Jimmy gave us homework when we will meet in March: “work on our district leadership framework.”

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.” We are continually working on several areas with school culture. Our MTSS team has worked hard at implementing many Tier 1 strategies over the past year and we track grades, attendance, behavior referrals connected to the implementation of these strategies. We have seen significant improvement on the number “F’s” that students received this first semester. It was the least amount of “F’s” in the previous 6 semesters. Additionally, our behavior referrals are down almost 100 as compared to last year at this time. Our attendance has stayed relatively the same as last year when we were doing multiple incentives connected to it.

Strategic Goal #4: Family & Community Engagement

HOLIDAY MUSIC – Both the choir and band departments conducted several different performances, not only in our school but out in the community as well. The choir went to the Veterans home as well as many other businesses and schools. The band went to neighboring school districts, and had a night of jazz at the Cedar Creek Lodge. Bringing people into the school and getting out into the community is a great way we show appreciation of our students’ talents and the great community.

Strategic Goal #5: District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

AIR QUALITY UPDATE AND HIGH SCHOOL ROOF UPDATE – With open ceilings all throughout the second floor, as well as other work areas in our school we have been wondering about the air quality. We had Quinn Environmental group test several rooms across the high school campus. We will share the results here in the next couple weeks in February. Additionally, we are hoping to get information out to our stakeholders on exact numbers for a possible Building Reserve Levy that will replace our high school roof. We will then work to get information out to our community.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL SERVICES COLUMBIA FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT #6

February 7, 2024 Board Report
Submitted by Michelle Swank, Director

Professional Development:

The OPI finalized our SD6 Special Education Compliance Monitor Review. OPI provided a thorough review of SD6 Special Education document files and provided direct feedback on any corrective steps required by the school district. From over-all compliance aspects, OPI provided the following feedback: "The case managers were instrumental in ensuring completion of all necessary corrections and submitting additional Evidence of Sustained Post-Compliance documents prior to the deadlines. Our lead monitor truly appreciated the staff's communication and efforts. Please congratulate them on this accomplishment". SD6 Special Education Department will continue to strive for excellence in maintaining compliance with Federal and State IDEA regulations. Thank you to the staff for their ongoing efforts and professionalism.

*OPI performs an audit every five years for school districts across Montana.

Students Receiving Special Education Services as of 2/7/2023

Grade breakdown % of students receiving special education services per grade level

Montana Identification rate: 13.4%

(Preschool count not included)

GG Ruder CFJH CFHS

	GG	Ruder	CFJH	CFHS
K	17.5%	16.0%		
1	21.6%	16.5%		
2	23.5%	15.2%		
3	19.0%	12.0%		
4	14.3%	17.9%		
5	20.5%	20.0%		
6			20.8%	
7			16.7%	
8			12.5%	
9				11.6%
10				11.7%
11				10.8%
12				7.8%

Compared to over-all district enrollment:

Currently 16.3% of SD6 students are identified in receiving Special Education Services

Curriculum Director Report February 2024

Curriculum Pilots for the Current School Year:

The curriculum pilots for the current school year are progressing well. The Kindergarten through 5th-grade math pilot team has received training on the Bridges math curriculum. We are currently in the planning phase for a teacher visit to Big Fork Elementary to observe Bridges in action. Pilot teachers will have dedicated time to conference with their counterparts regarding the curriculum. High school math teachers are currently in the midst of their Into Math pilot. In March, they will transition to their second pilot with Big Ideas Math. These pilots are scheduled to conclude in late spring. Upon completion, we will host parent meetings and provide recommendations to the Board for adoption.

Measures of Achievement and Student Growth Testing (MAST) Pilot:

The third testing window for the MAST pilot, covering both Math and ELA, is currently open and will close on February 16th. The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is actively gathering feedback from teachers and administrators to guide future decisions regarding the MAST program.

World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Testing:

The testing window for the WIDA assessment is now open. This assessment is administered to students identified as English-language learners, tracking their progress toward English language proficiency in the domains of Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. The window for this assessment will close on February 23rd.

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT):

The window for our district-wide gifted and talented screening for all 2nd graders began on February 5th. The CogAT is a multiple-choice test designed to assess a child's academic aptitude and gifted abilities. Students who score high on the CogAT Screener will proceed to take the full CogAT test. Campus GT Coordinators collaborate with teachers to make decisions about student placement into our gifted programs based on the results. The Screener and full CogAT tests will conclude by March 6th.

Calendar Committee:

The Calendar Committee convened to initiate the development of the district's 2024-2025 School Calendar. The group revisited the guidelines established by the state and district to clarify the tasks ahead. This committee includes classified staff, certified staff, administrators, and Board members. A survey has been created to solicit feedback from district staff members. Model calendars will be drafted for staff to vote on. Our aim is to present a calendar recommendation to the Board at the March meeting.

School Board Committee Reports

February

Advisory Committee

Date: 1/15/24 at 4 pm. Members Present: Jill Rocksund, Barb Riley, Cory Dziowgo, Jenny Lovering, Jenny Martin, Mary Burns, Leslie DiMaio, Penni Anello, and Jon Konen

Recap of Previous Meeting and Progress Update

- Copier Submissions: Cory will begin conversations on what this process could look like; any necessary technology upgrades; report back in February
- Extra Duty Contracts were on the December Board Meeting and in January 2024 Mtg
- Handle with Care Announcements: we had one the next day after contact was made; it was reported that nothing had changed on 'their end' but it appears to be working now
- Bus Requests: seems to be set up as designed; will continue to monitor

Ruder Elementary

- News
 - First Grade STEM Rotations
 - Great Brain and Science Fair kickoffs
 - 4/5 Grade Spelling Contest 2/1/24 (voluntary involvement)
 - Local Business is donating Ruder Sweatshirts to students and staff
 - STAR window opening; used for designing intervention groups
 - 2/5 MAST window opens
- Calendar
 - Appreciation of ½ days for grading and report cards
 - Enjoyed PIR day coming back from break
- District Daycare/Gateway to Early Learning
 - Business is meeting to discuss with their parents
- Questions:
 - What is district policy for late starts?
 - Not in place for this year but will be discussed
 - Do we have to make up for missed day in January?
 - OPI provides on emergency day for districts to use at their discretion
 - District to decide if we will use this emergency day for 1/12/24
 - Advocacy at the State Level for Funding/Financing
 - MTSBA Resolutions for lobbying efforts
 - Individual communications from stakeholders (recommended)
 - Upcoming elections for representatives
 - Words/Actions of Staff speak volumes at the local level for public funding

Glacier Gateway

- News
 - K winter music performance 1/19/24
 - MT Children's Theatre, return after 4 years (1/29-2/3)
 - Improvement in attendance (2.4% increase) from Nov 22 to Nov 23
 - Pre-School hosting Child Find on Friday on 1/19/24
 - PTO Book Bingo 2/22

School Board Committee Reports

- Book Fair 2/20-23
- Concerns
 - Budget Shortfalls
 - Change in the amounts; split into two districts to get to the 700K

CFJH

- News
 - 4 applicants for Grant: two recipients for CFJH of \$500 each; books and 3D printer; additional funding for classroom libraries
 - Ted Miller attending Fulbright Training with Paula Koch in February (D.C.); PD for Global Education
- Questions:
 - Early Release from afternoon to morning
 - Revisit to late start policy
 - Request to keep the minutes up to date on website

CFHS

- News
 - Two Students in All State Jazz Band to Helena
- Questions
 - Quality of School Lunch: teachers feeding students in afternoons; quality is going down over the past 15 years; healthy options (not enough); students cannot learn without more calories
 - Air Quality Testing: communicating out the findings;
 - Technology Rotation: wanting to know the district plan for technology rotation; minor repairs are wasting taxpayer money; buyin for stakeholders with an assigned tech;
- Suggestion
 - Certified Teachers leaving at the end of the year: 4-Day School week for attracting teachers

Board Update

- PIR Recap
 - Board was offered the opportunity to complete the online Stacy York presentation
 - Nice for trustees to understand the current happenings and trainings of the district
- Contracts
 - HS Bond Contracts
 - Jackola (CFHS roof and levy adjustments)
 - Attorneys for Bond assistance
 - Scope of HS Levy
 - Roof Only or HVAC improvements
 - Staffing Contracts
 - Student Activity Account
 - Resignation/Terminations/Substitutes/Travel
- Future Planning
 - Work Sessions and Health Insurance Meeting
 - Finance Committee: TBD setting dates; Bond/Levy amounts; early retirement incentive possibility

School Board Committee Reports

Calendar Committee

Meeting: 1/25/24

Committee Purpose: To collaboratively develop a calendar for the 2024-2025 school year to be recommended to the CFSD6 School Board on March 11, 2024.

- Introductions
- Reviewing calendar guidance:
 - ■ Board Policy Regarding Calendar.pdf
 - 20-1-301. School fiscal year, MCA
 - ■ Calendar Calculated Aggregate Hours. 23-24.pdf
 - 20-1-304. Pupil-instruction-related day, MCA
 - 20-4-304. Attendance at instructional and professional development meetings, MCA
 - MT Administrative Rules regarding PD:
<https://rules.mt.gov/gateway/ShowRuleFile.asp?RID=1434>
 - ■ CertifiedCBAFY24 Work Year.pdf
 - ■ ClassifiedStaffCBA Holidays.pdf
 - ■ Calendar Guidelines
- Overview of draft calendar
 - school-year-calendar template 24-25.pdf model 1.pdf
- Gathering input (model calendars, survey, presentation, voting, 2-year adoption)
- Next meeting: Thursday, February the 22nd

Negotiations Committee

1/22/24: The classified union group met to begin the process of negotiating. The process was discussed as well as other language corrections that could be made. Discussions were had on the format of the agreement as well as sections to leave in or take out as the group is comparing two different documents to model.

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager/Clerk
DATE: February 7, 2024
RE: **Business Office Report for the February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting**

Future Planning:

Trustee Election:

The three-year terms of the following Trustees will expire in May:

-Jill Rocksund Elem/HS District
-Wayne Jacobsmeyer Elem/HS District

To date, I have received a Declaration of Intent from **Amanda Pacheco** to run for these positions. The due date is **March 28, 2024**.

Finance Committee Meeting:

The Board of Trustees are required to call for the General Fund Operating Levy Election at least seventy days prior to the election (February 27, 2024). The levy amount is required to be set by April 5, 2024. The FY 2025 Budget Projections will be clear upon certification of the Spring Student count conducted on **2/5/2024** e.g. we will know our maximum budget limits and overbase voted levy authority. **The last time the District asked for a general fund operating levy was in 2014.** Since this time the District's budgets have dwindled from 100% of max to 97% of max. This 3% increment is what the District is requesting to make-up for the difference between what the state is currently funding for each student (increased 2.70% in the current year) and the cost to serve these students including fuel, utilities, and insurance. Something that we will be considering is the "what if" scenario depicting how we will operate in the absence of this additional funding. Cut Package Recommendations (TBD from Admin Team): Expand-elaborate upon "reduction to programs offered". Finally, the Committee should consider the merits of a Early Retirement Incentive Program as a tool to assist with budget shortfalls.

High School Roof Project request for proposal (RFP):

The District is working with Jackola Engineering and Kaleva Law to solicit a contractor for the roof project. The intent is to work within the confines of the procurement laws to award a contract as soon as the Building Reserve Levy Election is finalized in early May. This will ensure the project can be completed this summer and prior to the Sept 30, 2024 period of availability of the ESSER Funds. The RFP will be considered by the Board during the February 26th Work Session Meeting. RFP Due Date will be April 1, 2024. Some of the considerations that a prospective contractor will be required to make are as follows:

- Bid on a project contingent that the funding will not be assured until after the election and RFP is due.
- Ensure substantial completion by September 30, 2024 in an effort to comply with the ESSER period of availability.
- Commence work in May while limiting disruption to classrooms.
- Coordination/Familiarity with the existing HVAC Project.

Finally, Jon Konen has mentioned consideration of adjusting the school calendar to help ensure this project is able to be completed this upcoming summer. Perhaps getting out of school before Memorial Day and starting school after Labor Day. More to come with this consideration during the Calendar Committee meetings.

K-8 Facility Bond Project

This project is 99% complete. \$42,015,617 has been spent in total on this project. There is \$52,502 remaining to be paid to Swank for retainage work associated with Ruder Elementary. What may prove to be the final piece is completing the playground for the RISE program at Ruder. Swank has already completed the sitework. The District is ordering the equipment and fall protection from Northwest Playground Equipment. The cost is \$85,798. The bond funds have been exhausted so the District will utilize the proceeds of the sale of the old Glacier Gateway Elementary to fund this project. The intent is to get this playground completed in the summer 2024.

Monthly Insurance Claim Summary

Paid Claims January, 2024

Medical Plan paid claims	\$ 230,486
Specific Stop Loss	\$ 233,178

Monthly medical expected claims based on an enrollment of 230 Plan participants (72 singles/158 families):
\$ 244,260
Plan claim liability as a percentage of expected claims: 94.36 %

Paid Claim summary plan year-to-date (July 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024):

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Expected</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Medical Plan paid claims	\$1,607,095	\$1,689,757	95 %
Aggregating Specific Deductible -paid YTD	\$ 100,000		
Specific Stop Loss	\$ 324,044		

Denning, Downey & Associates, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

P.O. Box 1957 Kalispell, MT 59903-1957

(406) 756-6879 • FAX (406) 257-7879 • E-Mail dda@ddaudit.com

Robert K. Denning, CPA, CGFM, CFF, CITP

January 16, 2024

Columbia Falls Schools Trustees
Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager

Columbia Falls Public Schools
P.O. Box 1259
Columbia Falls, MT 59912

We are engaged to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Columbia Falls Public School for the year ended June 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit. We would also appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this information further since a two-way dialogue can provide valuable information for the audit process.

Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and *The Uniform Guidance*.

As stated in our engagement letter dated April 21, 2022, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

In planning and performing our audit, we will consider Columbia Falls Public School's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We will also consider internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Columbia Falls Public School's financial statements are free of material misstatements, we will perform tests of Columbia Falls Public School's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions is not an objective of our audit. Also, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, we will examine, on a test basis, evidence about Columbia Falls Public School's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement applicable to each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on Columbia Falls Public School's compliance with those requirements. While our audit will provide a reasonable basis for our opinion, it will not provide a legal determination on Columbia Falls Public School's compliance with those requirements.

Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

We are also responsible for communicating particular matters required by law, regulation, agreement, or other requirements applicable to the engagement.

We gave significant consideration to particular circumstances or relationships such as financial interests, business, or family relationships, or non-attest/non-audit services provided or expected to be provided, and have implemented safeguards to ensure independence.

Generally accepted accounting principles provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI) to supplement the basic financial statements. Our responsibility with respect to Budgetary Comparison Schedule and Budget-to-GAAP Reconciliation, Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, and Schedule of Contributions, which supplement the basic financial statements, is to apply certain limited procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. However, the RSI will not be audited and, because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance, we will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We have been engaged to report on the *Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, Schedule of Enrollment, Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for the Extracurricular Fund*, which accompany the financial statements but is not RSI. Our responsibility for this supplementary information, as described by professional standards, is to evaluate the presentation of the supplementary information in relation to the financial statements as a whole and to report on whether the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Planned Scope, Timing of the Audit, and Other

An Audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding to the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to the acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. We will generally communicate our significant findings at the conclusion of the audit. However, some matters could be communicated sooner, particularly if significant difficulties are encountered during the audit where assistance is needed to overcome the difficulties or if the difficulties may lead to modified opinion. We will also communicate any internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

We expect to begin our audit on approximately January 26, 2024 and issue our report on approximately March 15, 2024. Robert Denning is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it.

This information is intended solely for the use of Trustees and management of Columbia Falls Public School and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Jonathan Mahrt, CPA

Denning, Downey & Associates, P.C.



2024 Annual MTSBA Membership Survey

Dear MTSBA Member:

First and foremost, we value your membership in MTSBA, we are appreciative of your work every day, and are honored to advocate on your behalf each and every day. In order for us to keep improving and continually meet the needs of our members, we are looking for your candid feedback on MTSBA's performance, your engagement with MTSBA, and on MTSBA's programs and services.

We are requesting that you complete the survey on or before **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, 2024**. This will give you an opportunity to discuss this survey collectively as a board at one of your regular or special board meetings and will give us time to compile the results for use by the MTSBA Board during its March 2024 Strategic Planning meeting.

The purpose of this survey is to gather feedback from MTSBA member trustees, superintendents and other administrative leaders, and business managers regarding the programs, services, communications and general performance of MTSBA.

Although there is an option for you to add your name to the survey, you are **not** required to do so to participate in the survey. Confidentiality for those not wishing to identify their name will be respected and assured.

Most of the rest of the questions in the survey do require an answer and you can identify

those questions by the asterisk (*) by the question. If you have nothing to add, please just fill in with "N/A" or something similar, which will allow you to move to the next question and to complete the survey.

The MTSBA Board and Staff are interested in your candid opinions and will be using your input to assist MTSBA's efforts in continuously improving and in continuing to meet your District's needs into the future.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in this survey. The estimated time to complete is less than 5 minutes.

Sincerely,

The MTSBA Board and Staff

1. OPTIONAL QUESTION -

Again, providing your name is optional. You are welcome to complete this question or skip it and go to question number 2.

Name

Position

School District

*** 2. DEMOGRAPHICS**

In order to separately sort answers of those participating in our survey, we request that you identify your current position with your school district.

- This survey was completed as a joint project by the board of trustees.
- Board Chair
- Trustee
- Superintendent

- Principal
- Business Manager
- Other (please specify)

*** 3. DEMOGRAPHICS**

Please identify the type of school district in which you serve or work.

- AA
- A
- B
- C
- Independent Elementary
- District Serving Predominantly American Indian Children
- Other (please specify)

*** 4. DEMOGRAPHICS**

How long have you participated in MTSBA's programs and services? If you have participated through multiple roles, please answer according to the combined number of years of participation.

- 0-5 years
- 5+-10 years
- 10+-15 years
- 15+ years

*** 5. MTSBA PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

What MTSBA programs and services has your school district used and what is your opinion of the quality of such service? Please check all boxes that apply for each program or service.

	Extremely satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Extremely dissatisfied	Unknown, no applicable interactions
MTSBA's Statewide Trainings (Back to School Legal Primer, Safety and Innovations Symposium, 504/IDEA, HR Symposium, Budget Symposium, April "Hot Employment Topic" Seminar, June Leadership Symposium, ISBC Summer Symposium, Activities/Athletics Training, Title IX Training, Collective Bargaining Training)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA In-District Customized Trainings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Lead and Learn Webinars (including the Newly-Elected Trustee Video Series)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA Publications (Daily Dispatch, Question of the Week, Monthly E-Lert, Courtroom to Boardroom, Montana Education Law Reporter (MELR), Policy Notes, 2023 Legislative Platform)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Advocacy and Engagement Opportunities					

(MTSBA Thursday Thinktanks, Delegate Assembly, Annual Membership Meeting, K-12 Vision Group, lobbying and grassroots advocacy)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA Website and Connect2 Communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Legal Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Labor Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Policy Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Strategic Planning Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's Superintendent Search Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MSGIA Workers Compensation Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MSGIA Property and Casualty Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSUIP Unemployment Insurance Program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MUST Health Insurance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MCEL (Annual Conference, MCEL.org)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (The Great Work of Montana's Public Schools, coalitionofmtk12advocates.org)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

*** 6. MTSBA GOVERNANCE AND ENGAGEMENT**

Please mark the circles below that best represent your opinion regarding the statements below.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unknown, no applicable interactions
MTSBA's provides programs and services that meet the needs of its member school boards.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MTSBA's governance structure (e.g. Delegate Assembly, Annual Meeting, Board of Directors) meets the needs of its member school boards.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The MTSBA Board and its member school boards respect and have confidence in one another.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The MTSBA Board and its member school boards embrace the philosophy of "each child in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

every public school."

MTSBA facilitates open and candid communications among its members, allowing issues to be addressed in a constructive and timely manner.

MTSBA's communications are effective in assisting me in my respective position.

Supplemental Comments

*** 7. Please mark the circle that best reflects your opinion regarding the statement below.**

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree

The MTSBA Board and Staff provide strong leadership in support of elected school board governance with the goal of developing the full potential of

each child.

Supplemental Comments

*** 8. Please mark the circle that best reflects your opinion regarding the statement below.**

More enthusiastic

Less enthusiastic

No change

In reflecting on all of your interactions with MTSBA over the last year, are you more or less enthusiastic about your school district's membership in MTSBA than you were before the year began?

Supplemental Comments



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See how easy it is to [create a survey](#).

Privacy & Cookie Notice

SPECIAL SERVICES

COLUMBIA FALLS School District # 6 Columbia Falls, Montana 59912

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST CONTRACT

This agreement is made as of the 16th of January, 2024 (the "**Contract Date**"), by and between Columbia Falls School District (the "**District**") and Clarity Speech Therapy, a Montana Limited Liability Company, ("**Clarity Speech Therapy LLC**"). This contract shall become effective beginning February 5th, 2024 (the "**Effective Date**") and remain in effect through June 7th, 2024.

IT IS AGREED TO AS FOLLOWS:

1. Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall provide the District with the services of a Speech-Language Pathologist (the "**Speech Therapy**") within the realm of her expertise and licensure. It is understood that Clarity Speech Therapy LLC is licensed by the State of Montana. Both parties recognize Clarity Speech Therapy LLC as an independent contractor providing these services.
2. It is agreed that Clarity Speech Therapy LLC will be responsible for maintaining pathologist's malpractice liability insurance, workers' compensation insurance, all other similar employee insurance coverage, tax deductions and benefits.
3. Prior to the Effective Date, Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall provide a copy of a current Independent Contractor Exemption Certificate issued by the Montana Department of Labor, a copy of current malpractice liability coverage, a completed W-9 tax form and a copy of a current State License (collectively, the "**Required Documents**") to the District. If any of the Required Documents are renewed during the contract period, updated copies must be provided to the District.
4. From the Contract date, the District shall compensate Clarity Speech Therapy LLC at a rate of \$80.00 per hour for any and all training hours required in connection with this contract. Compensation for any training hours accrued before the Effective Date may be disbursed with the initial payment made in accordance with **Section 8**.
5. From the Effective Date, the District shall compensate Clarity Speech Therapy LLC at a rate of \$80.00 per hour for the combined services of Speech Therapy and Documentation Preparation. Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall have the right to work up to twenty (20) hours per week starting from the Effective Date, until June 7th, 2024. These hours must be completed during student instruction days; however, Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall have the flexibility to work these hours either on the Premises or remotely. It is acknowledged that any hours exceeding the specified twenty (20) hours per week (the "**Additional Hours**") must receive prior written approval from the Director of Special Services. Absent such pre-approval, no compensation will be granted for any Additional Hours worked.
6. Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall be responsible for her transportation to and from 1500 12th Ave W, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 ("**Ruder Elementary School**") and 440 4th Ave W, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 ("**Glacier Gateway Elementary School**"; together with Ruder Elementary School, collectively, the "**Premises**") and insurance costs.
7. From the Effective Date, Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall submit to the Director of Special Services an invoice by the 5th of each month following services indicating the hours served. The District shall remit

payment to Clarity Speech Therapy LLC no later than the 25th of each month following services.

8. It is further expressly understood and agreed that Clarity Speech Therapy LLC shall ensure that the Speech Therapy is provided in accordance with each students Individualized Education Program (“IEP”) and she shall prepare all documentation appropriate to the practice of speech and language pathologist in the school setting (the “**Documentation Preparation**”), comply with confidentiality standards, school district policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy.

9. This contract shall remain in effect through the duration of the contract unless terminated by either party by providing thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other party.

Dated this 21 day of January, 2024.

Laura Pearce

Clarity Speech Therapy LLC, SLP

Jill Rocksund, S.D. #6 Board Chairman

Dustin Zuffelato, Clerk

RESOLUTION 418
TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN
ELEMENTARY DISTRICT ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for Elementary School District No.6, Flathead County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, which date is not less than seventy (70) days after the passage of this Resolution. The election will be conducted by **Mail Ballot Election**.

The purpose of the election is to fill the three (3) year expiring terms of Trustees Jill Rocksund and Wayne Jacobsmeyer. Approval of additional over-base levies to operate and maintain the General Fund for fiscal year 2025 will also be requested.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes Dustin Zuffelato, Election Administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with 13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA.

The electors of this District who are qualified to vote at such election are hereby appointed to act as judges at the election:

<u>ELECTION JUDGE</u>	<u>Address</u>
Dorothy Downen	PO Box 1055, Columbia Falls
Ann Stephens	1000 St. Andrews Drive, Columbia Falls
Elaine Winslow	1888 Riverwood Drive, Columbia Falls
Sandra Giroux	625 6 th Avenue West, Columbia Falls
Patricia Eppelsheimer	165 Oakmont Loop, Columbia Falls
Michael Jaworsky	2144 Witty Lane, Columbia Falls
Henry Beebe	165 Oakmont Loop, Columbia Falls
Wendy Maechtle	PO Box 649, Columbia Falls

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this School District is hereby directed to notify the above named election judges of their appointment and to notify the County Election Administrator of the date of holding said election, and request the clerk to close regular registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law. If any of these judges should not be able to serve, the Election Administrator will choose a replacement from certified judges.

Print Name of Board Chair

Signature of Board Chair

Print Name of District Clerk

Signature of District Clerk

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20__.

RESOLUTION 419
TRUSTEE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for High School School District No.6, Flathead County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, which date is not less than seventy (70) days after the passage of this Resolution. The election will be conducted by **Mail Ballot Election**.

The purpose of the election is for approval of additional over-base levies to operate and maintain the General Fund for fiscal year 2025.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes Dustin Zuffelato, Election Administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with 13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA.

The electors of this District who are qualified to vote at such election are hereby appointed to act as judges at the election:

<u>ELECTION JUDGE</u>	<u>Address</u>
Dorothy Downen	PO Box 1055, Columbia Falls
Ann Stephens	1000 St. Andrews Drive, Columbia Falls
Elaine Winslow	1888 Riverwood Drive, Columbia Falls
Sandra Giroux	625 6 th Avenue West, Columbia Falls
Patricia Eppelsheimer	165 Oakmont Loop, Columbia Falls
Michael Jaworsky	2144 Witty Lane, Columbia Falls
Henry Beebe	165 Oakmont Loop, Columbia Falls
Wendy Maechtle	PO Box 649, Columbia Falls

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this School District is hereby directed to notify the above named election judges of their appointment and to notify the County Election Administrator of the date of holding said election, and request the clerk to close regular registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law. If any of these judges should not be able to serve, the Election Administrator will choose a replacement from certified judges.

Print Name of Board Chair

Signature of Board Chair

Print Name of District Clerk

Signature of District Clerk

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20____.

#420

Building Reserve Levy

Project Cost Estimate	Annual Debt Service per Year for 2 years	Mills	Annual Tax		
			100K Home	300K Home	600K Home

Roof Replacement

Project Construction

Project Contractor Bid Estimate \$ 2,446,211 includes 10% contingency
 Jackola Engineering -Construction ^ \$ 75,000

Issuance Costs:

Dorsey Whitney \$ 25,000
 Kaleva Law \$ 2,500
 Interest: Board of Investments \$ 200,000 6% Rate 2 year term

\$ 2,748,711 \$ 1,374,356 20.52

CERTIFICATE AS TO RESOLUTION AND ADOPTING VOTE

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting recording officer of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "High School District"), hereby certify that the attached resolution is a true copy of a Resolution entitled: "A RESOLUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS), FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA, SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF IMPOSING A BUILDING RESERVE LEVY OF 20.53 MILLS PER YEAR TO RAISE APPROXIMATELY \$1,375,000 PER YEAR FOR 2 YEARS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,750,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO PAY OR FINANCE THE COSTS OF REPLACING THE EXISTING ROOF ON THE EAST WING OF THE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS" (the "Resolution"), on file in the original records of the High School District in my legal custody; that the Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the High School District at a meeting on February 12, 2024, and that the meeting was duly held by the Board of Trustees and was attended throughout by a quorum, pursuant to call and notice of such meeting given as required by law; and that the Resolution has not as of the date hereof been amended or repealed.

I further certify that, upon vote being taken on the Resolution at said meeting, the following Trustees voted in favor thereof: _____
_____ ; voted against the same: _____ ; abstained from voting thereon: _____
_____ ; or were absent: _____.

WITNESS my hand officially this 12th day of February, 2024.

District Clerk

A RESOLUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS), FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA, SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF IMPOSING A BUILDING RESERVE LEVY OF 20.53 MILLS PER YEAR TO RAISE APPROXIMATELY \$1,375,000 PER YEAR FOR 2 YEARS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,750,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO PAY OR FINANCE THE COSTS OF REPLACING THE EXISTING ROOF ON THE EAST WING OF THE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the board of trustees of a school district may establish a building reserve for the purpose of raising money for the future construction, equipping, or enlarging of school buildings, for the purpose of purchasing land needed for school purposes in the district, or for the purpose of funding school transition costs and other purposes provided in law, upon approval of the electorate of the district; and

WHEREAS, a board is authorized pursuant to Section 20-9-502, M.C.A., to call an election on a building reserve proposition by adopting a resolution to that effect; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "High School District") has determined that there should be submitted to the qualified electors of the High School District the question of whether the Board shall be authorized to impose a building reserve levy of 20.53 mills per year to raise approximately \$1,375,000 per year for 2 years for a total amount of approximately \$2,750,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay or finance the costs of replacing the existing roof on the east wing of the high school building and associated improvements and costs; and

WHEREAS, a building reserve election can be conducted by a mail ballot election; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that a mail ballot election conducted in accordance with the provisions of Title 13, Chapter 19, Parts 1-3, M.C.A. (the "Mail Ballot Act"), is in the best interests of the High School District and the electors thereof, and will notify the County Election Administrator of Flathead County of its intent to conduct a mail ballot election, which notification will be given not less than seventy days prior to the date of the proposed election; and

WHEREAS, the District Clerk will prepare a mail ballot election plan in accordance with the provisions of Section 13-19-205, M.C.A. (the "Mail Ballot Plan") and submit it to the Secretary of State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the High School District as follows:

1. Calling of the Election. The Board of the High School District hereby calls and directs an election to be held in the High School District on May 7, 2024, which date is not less than 70 days after the passage of this resolution, such election to be conducted by mail ballot pursuant to the provisions of the Mail Ballot Act. The qualified electors in the High School District would vote on the following question:

Shall the Board of Trustees of the High School District be authorized to impose a building reserve levy of 20.53 mills per year to raise approximately \$1,375,000 per year for 2 years for a total amount of approximately \$2,750,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay or finance the costs of replacing the existing roof on the east wing of the high school building and associated improvements and costs?

If this building reserve levy proposition passes, it is estimated that property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 would increase by approximately \$2.31 per month or approximately \$27.72 per year, of \$300,000 would increase by approximately \$6.93 per month or approximately \$83.16 per year, and of \$600,000 would increase by approximately \$13.86 per month or approximately \$166.32 per year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

2. Conduct of Election. All qualified electors of the High School District shall be entitled to vote at the building reserve election. Pursuant to Section 20-20-201, M.C.A., the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to give notice of the call and details of this election and to provide this resolution to the Flathead County Election Administrator no less than three (3) days after this resolution is passed. The District Clerk is directed to instruct the Flathead County Election Administrator to close registration and thereafter prepare printed lists of the electors in the High School District entitled to vote in the election in the High School District in the form and manner prescribed by law and consistent with the Mail Ballot Plan. The District Clerk shall prepare the ballot and arrange for the printing of the ballot and, with the limited assistance of the Flathead County Election Administrator, shall conduct the election in accordance with all legal requirements.

3. Notice of Election. The District Clerk is hereby authorized and requested to cause notice of the call and holding of the election to be given at least three times no earlier than 40 days and no later than 10 days before the election, in the *Hungry Horse News*, a newspaper of general circulation in the High School District, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the notice to be posted at three public places in the High School District and, if the High School District has a website, is directed to post notice on the High School District's website for 10 days prior to the election. The notice of election as published and posted shall read substantially as follows with such completions and additions as may be required by the Mail Ballot Plan or otherwise:

FORM OF NOTICE OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUILDING RESERVE LEVY ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "High School District"), that pursuant to a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Board on February 12, 2024, an election of the registered voters of the High School District will be held by mail ballot election on May 7, 2024 for the purpose of voting on the following question:

Shall the Board of Trustees of the High School District be authorized to impose a building reserve levy of 20.53 mills per year to raise approximately \$1,375,000 per year for 2 years for a total amount of approximately \$2,750,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay or finance the costs of replacing the existing roof on the east wing of the high school building and associated improvements and costs?

If this building reserve levy proposition passes, it is estimated that property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 would increase by approximately \$2.31 per month or approximately \$27.72 per year, of \$300,000 would increase by approximately \$6.93 per month or approximately \$83.16 per year, and of \$600,000 would increase by approximately \$13.86 per month or approximately \$166.32 per year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

The election will be conducted by the District Clerk solely by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible registered voters in the High School District on April 19, 2024, and must be returned by each voter, by mail or in person to the Flathead County Elections Department, 290 North Main Street, Suite B, in Kalispell, MT 59901, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), weekdays (exclusive of holidays), April 22, 2024 through May 7, 2024. Ballots may also be dropped off at the Columbia Falls Public Schools Administration Office, located at 501 6th Ave West, in Columbia Falls, Montana, during regular business hours (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), weekdays (exclusive of holidays), April 22, 2024 through May 7, 2024.

On Election Day, May 7, 2024, the only places for deposit of voted ballots will be the Flathead County Elections Department located at 290 North Main Street, Suite B in Kalispell, Montana, or the Columbia Falls Public Schools Administration Office, located 501 6th Ave West, in Columbia Falls, Montana, which will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. All ballots will be tabulated in accordance with Montana law with the preliminary results, if known, expected to be released after 8:00 p.m. on that day.

A qualified voter who will be absent from the High School District during the time the election is being conducted may: (a) vote in person at the office of the District Clerk as soon as the ballots are available and until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day; or (b) contact the District Clerk's office as early as practicable to make arrangements for delivery of the ballot to an address other than that which appears on the registration records.

An elector may obtain a replacement ballot if his or her ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the elector, by filling out and mailing, emailing, or faxing back a completed

replacement ballot request form or by the elector by personally appearing at the Columbia Falls Public Schools Administration Office, located 501 6th Ave West, in Columbia Falls, Montana.

Ballots may be returned in person at the place of deposit listed above, or returned by mail. If returning by mail, please use the then-prevailing first-class-postage price or one Forever Stamp. Postmark date does not apply; ballots returned by mail must be received at the Flathead County Elections Department by the 8:00 p.m. Election Day deadline to be counted.

Please note, all electors, as defined in Section 20-20-301, M.C.A., are those who reside within the High School District and are registered to vote by the close of registration on April 8, 2024.

For electors who miss the close of registration deadline, such electors may register late by appearing in person at the office of the Flathead County Election Administrator located at 290 North Main Street, Suite B, in Kalispell, Montana and providing to the County Election Administrator the electors' voter registration information in verifiable form prior to 8 p.m. on May 7, 2024.

DATED this 12th day of February, 2024.

/s/Dustin Zuffelato, District Clerk

Publication Date: April 17, 2024

5. Form of Building Reserve Levy Ballot. The ballot for the building reserve levy shall be printed in substantially the following form with such completions and additions as may be required or desired.

FORM OF OFFICIAL BUILDING RESERVE LEVY BALLOT

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS)
FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA

BUILDING RESERVE LEVY ELECTION
TO BE CONDUCTED BY MAIL BALLOT
ON MAY 7, 2024

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Completely fill in the oval using a blue or black ink pen before the words "BUILDING RESERVE LEVY—YES" if you wish to vote for the levy; if you are opposed to the levy, completely fill in the oval using a blue or black ink pen before the words "BUILDING RESERVE LEVY—NO."

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "High School District") be authorized to impose a building reserve levy of 20.53 mills per year to raise approximately \$1,375,000 per year for 2 years for a total amount of approximately \$2,750,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay or finance the costs of replacing the existing roof on the east wing of the high school building and associated improvements and costs?

If this building reserve levy proposition passes, it is estimated that property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 would increase by approximately \$2.31 per month or approximately \$27.72 per year, of \$300,000 would increase by approximately \$6.93 per month or approximately \$83.16 per year, and of \$600,000 would increase by approximately \$13.86 per month or approximately \$166.32 per year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

- BUILDING RESERVE LEVY – YES
- BUILDING RESERVE LEVY – NO

7. Reimbursement Expenditures.

(a) The United States Department of Treasury has promulgated final regulations governing the use of proceeds of a tax-exempt loan or bonds, all or a portion of which are to be used to reimburse the High School District for project expenditures paid by the High School District prior to the date of issuance of such bonds. Those regulations (Treasury Regulations, Section 1.150-2) (the "Regulations") require that the High School District adopt a statement of official intent to reimburse an original expenditure not later than 60 days after payment of the original expenditure. The Regulations also generally require that the loan to be made or the bonds be issued and the reimbursement allocation made from the proceeds of the loan or bonds within 18 months (or three years, if the reimbursement bond issue qualifies for the "small issuer" exception from the arbitrage rebate requirement) after the later of (i) the date the expenditure is paid or (ii) the date the project is placed in service or abandoned, but (unless the issue qualifies for the "small issuer" exception from the arbitrage rebate requirement) in no event more than three years after the date the expenditure is paid. The Regulations generally permit reimbursement of capital expenditures and costs of issuance of the loan or bonds.

(b) Other than (i) expenditures to be paid or reimbursed from sources other than the loan or bonds, (ii) expenditures permitted to be reimbursed under the transitional provision contained in Section 1.150-2(j)(2) of the Regulations, (iii) expenditures constituting preliminary expenditures within the meaning of Section 1.150-2(f)(2) of the Regulations, or (iv) expenditures in a "de minimus" amount (as defined in Section 1.150-2(f)(1) of the Regulations), no expenditures for a project within the scope of this resolution have been paid by the High School District before the date 60 days before the date of adoption of this resolution.

(c) The High School District reasonably expects to reimburse the expenditures made for costs of such a project out of the proceeds of a loan or bonds in an estimated maximum aggregate principal amount of approximately \$2,750,000 after the date of payment of all or a portion of the costs of such a project. All reimbursed expenditures shall be capital expenditures, a cost of issuance of the loan or bonds or other expenditures eligible for reimbursement under Section 1.150-2(d)(3) of the Regulations.

(d) As of the date hereof, there are no High School District funds reserved, allocated on a long-term basis or otherwise set aside (or reasonably expected to be reserved, allocated on a long-term basis or otherwise set aside) to provide permanent financing for the expenditures related to such a project, other than pursuant to the making of a loan or the issuance of the bonds. The statement of intent contained in this resolution, therefore, is determined to be consistent with the High School District's budgetary and financial circumstances as they exist or are reasonably foreseeable on the date hereof.

(e) The District Clerk shall be responsible for making the "reimbursement allocations" described in the Regulations, being generally the transfer of the appropriate amount of proceeds of the loan or bonds to reimburse the source of temporary financing used by the High School District to make prior payment of the costs of the project. Each allocation shall be evidenced by an entry on the official books and records of the High School District maintained for the loan or

bonds or the project and shall specifically identify the actual original expenditure being reimbursed.

Passed and approved this 12th day of February, 2024.

Chair, Board of Trustees

Attest:

District Clerk, High School District No. 6
(Columbia Falls)



Mail Ballot Written Plan, Timetable and Instructions

MUST BE RECEIVED BY SECRETARY OF STATE NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY. COMPLETE, SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM TO SOSELECTIONS@MT.GOV. THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE AMENDED UNTIL THE 35TH DAY BEFORE THE ELECTION. ELECTION CAN BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME PERMITTED BY LAW. A SEPARATE PLAN MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH TYPE OF ELECTION.

Written Plan		Response
1	Legal Name of Jurisdiction	Elementary District No. 6 (Columbia Falls)
2	Name of County or Counties Involved	Flathead
3	Estimated # of Electors (including Active, Inactive, and Provisional in jurisdiction; Inactive voters are only provided ballots by request but should be included in estimate)	11,166
4	Type of Election (e.g., trustee/director/governing body, levy, bond, creation, etc.)	Trustee/Director/Governing Body
5	Postage to return ballot paid by: elector or election office (& if insufficient, who pays)	Elector; jurisdiction covers insufficient postage.
6	Describe procedures you will use to ensure security and transport of ballots	Return address on affidavit envelopes will facilitate ballots being sent directly to the Flathead County Election Office. Drop Off location at the Columbia Falls School District will serve local residents. Ballots will be deposited in locked ballot box and secured in locked area. Any transportation of ballots will be conducted by at least two officials.
7	Ballots will be printed based on: precinct, ward, or district	District
8	For school elections, specify signature verification procedures:	Signatures are verified by county election office
Timetable		Date
1	Date applicable documents sent to the governing body <i>No date set by law, but should be no later than 60 days before election. Documents include: 1) written plan; 2) statement of decision to conduct election by mail; 3) list of reasons for decision; and 4) statement regarding right of governing body to object under 13-19-204.</i>	February 12, 2024
2	Actual date of submission of plan, timetable, and instructions to Secretary of State (Must be received by Secretary of State at least 60 days before election.)	March 8, 2024
3	Last day for governing body to opt out of mail ballot (no later than 55 days before election – if the election is on a Tuesday, the last day to opt out is a Wednesday)	March 13, 2024
4	Secretary of State approves, disapproves or recommends changes to plan	Within 5 days of SOS receipt of plan
5	County election administrator publishes notices at least 3 times in the 4 weeks before the close of regular registration specifying close of voter registration and availability of late registration (For all non-school and school elections, to be published by the county election administrator at least 3 times in the 4 weeks preceding the close of registration, once per week. School clerks running school elections will need to coordinate with the county election administrator to have the county election administrator publish the notices of close of registration. 13-2-301)	March 18, 2024 March 25, 2024 April 1, 2024
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10	Election Day	May 7, 2024

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[13-19-313](#) and [44.3.2710](#) (If you are a school trustee conducting a school trustee election is canceled for any reason, I understand I must follow the deadlines and process in 20-3-313 MCA.)

Dustin Zuffelato

Name(s) of Election Administrator(s) Conducting Election

*Complete the above plan and timetable **and the instructions below**, and save and email this form to soselections@mt.gov.*

Updated January 24, 2024

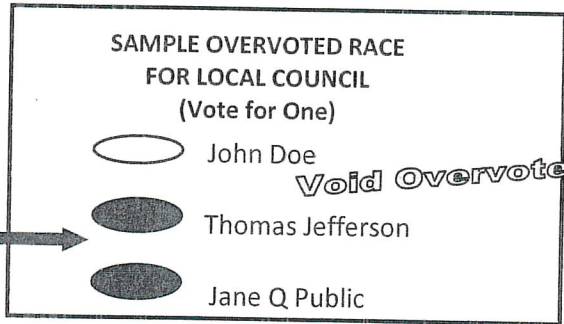
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Ballots must be received by election office by 8 p.m. on Election Day

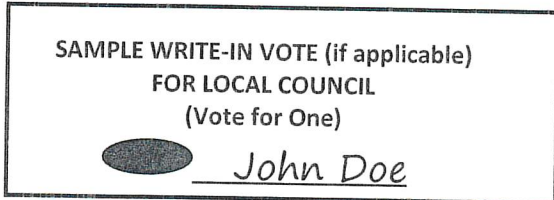
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1. VOTE YOUR BALLOT

- As instructed on the ballot, mark the designated voting area for each race using only black or blue ink pen.
- Vote in all columns and both sides of ballot(s) as applicable. *Skipping a race will not invalidate your ballot.*
- Do not** cross out, erase, or use correction fluid.
- Do not** make any identifying marks on your ballot.
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- If applicable, to write in a candidate's name, mark the designated voting area to the left of the line provided and print the name in the blank space.



- If you make a mistake or spoil your ballot, request a replacement ballot from the election office.

2. PREPARE BALLOT FOR SUBMITTAL

- Place VOTED ballot in the **SECRECY ENVELOPE** and seal (if multiple sheets, return all sheets of the ballot).
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 Administration Office
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DO NOT FORGET POSTAGE IF MAILING: **.68** cents postage required



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IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS CONTACT THE ELECTION OFFICE AT:

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Mail Ballot Written Plan, Timetable and Instructions

MUST BE RECEIVED BY SECRETARY OF STATE NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY. COMPLETE, SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM TO SOSELECTIONS@MT.GOV. THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE AMENDED UNTIL THE 35TH DAY BEFORE THE ELECTION. ELECTION CAN BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME PERMITTED BY LAW. A SEPARATE PLAN MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH TYPE OF ELECTION.

Written Plan	Response
1 Legal Name of Jurisdiction	Elementary District No. 6 (Columbia Falls)
2 Name of County or Counties Involved	Flathead
3 Estimated # of Electors (including Active, Inactive, and Provisional in jurisdiction; Inactive voters are only provided ballots by request but should be included in estimate)	11,166
4 Type of Election (e.g., trustee/director/governing body, levy, bond, creation, etc.)	Levy
5 Postage to return ballot paid by: elector or election office (& if insufficient, who pays)	Elector; jurisdiction covers insufficient postage.
6 Describe procedures you will use to ensure security and transport of ballots	Return address on affidavit envelopes will facilitate ballots being sent directly to the Flathead County Election Office. Drop Off location at the Columbia Falls School District will serve local residents. Ballots will be deposited in locked ballot box and secured in locked area. Any transportation of ballots will be conducted by at least two officials.
7 Ballots will be printed based on: precinct, ward, or district	District
8 For school elections, specify signature verification procedures:	Signatures are verified by county election office

Timetable	Date
1 Date applicable documents sent to the governing body <i>No date set by law, but should be no later than 60 days before election. Documents include: 1) written plan; 2) statement of decision to conduct election by mail; 3) list of reasons for decision; and 4) statement regarding right of governing body to object under 13-19-204.</i>	February 12, 2024
2 Actual date of submission of plan, timetable, and instructions to Secretary of State (Must be received by Secretary of State at least 60 days before election.)	March 8, 2024
3 Last day for governing body to opt out of mail ballot (no later than 55 days before election – if the election is on a Tuesday, the last day to opt out is a Wednesday)	March 13, 2024
4 Secretary of State approves, disapproves or recommends changes to plan	Within 5 days of SOS receipt of plan
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13-19-313

44.3.2710

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Dustin Zuffelato

Name(s) of Election Administrator(s) Conducting Election

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Updated January 24, 2024

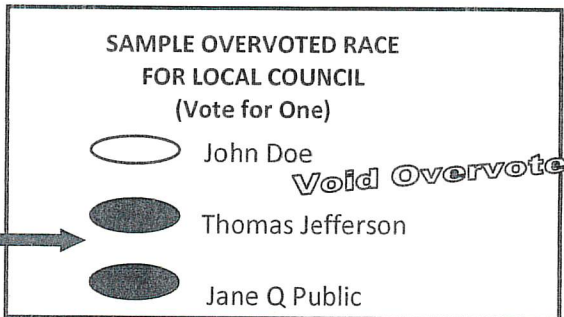
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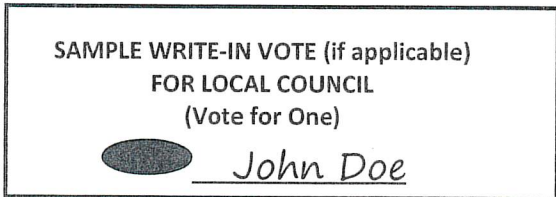
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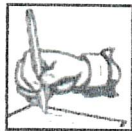
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Written Plan		Response
1	Legal Name of Jurisdiction	High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls)
2	Name of County or Counties Involved	Flathead
3	Estimated # of Electors (including Active, Inactive, and Provisional in jurisdiction; Inactive voters are only provided ballots by request but should be included in estimate)	11,699
4	Type of Election (e.g., trustee/director/governing body, levy, bond, creation, etc.)	Levy
5	Postage to return ballot paid by: elector or election office (& if insufficient, who pays)	Elector; jurisdiction covers insufficient postage.
6	Describe procedures you will use to ensure security and transport of ballots	Return address on affidavit envelopes will facilitate ballots being sent directly to the Flathead County Election Office. Drop Off location at the Columbia Falls School District will serve local residents. Ballots will be deposited in locked ballot box and secured in locked area. Any transportation of ballots will be conducted by at least two officials.
7	Ballots will be printed based on: precinct, ward, or district	District
8	For school elections, specify signature verification procedures:	Signatures are verified by county election office
Timetable		Date
1	Date applicable documents sent to the governing body <i>No date set by law, but should be no later than 60 days before election. Documents include: 1) written plan; 2) statement of decision to conduct election by mail; 3) list of reasons for decision; and 4) statement regarding right of governing body to object under 13-19-204.</i>	February 12, 2024
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Dustin Zuffelato

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Updated January 24, 2024

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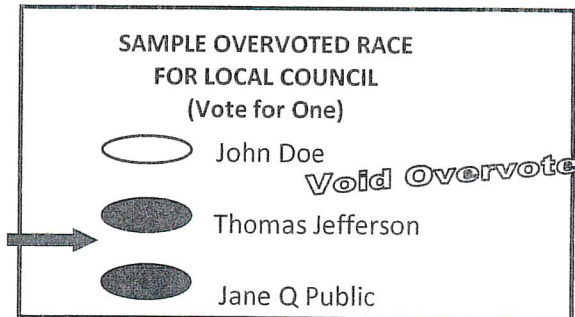
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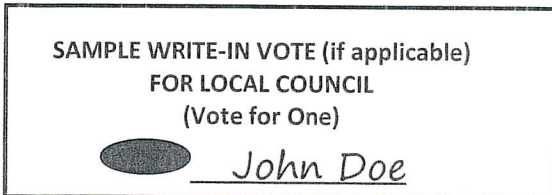
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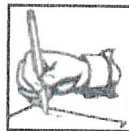
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4 Type of Election (e.g., trustee/director/governing body, levy, bond, creation, etc.)	Building Reserve
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Dustin Zuffelato

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Updated January 24, 2024

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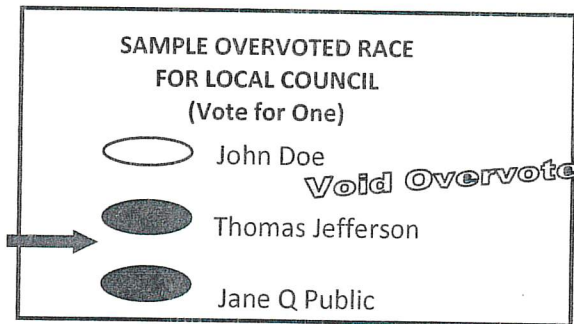
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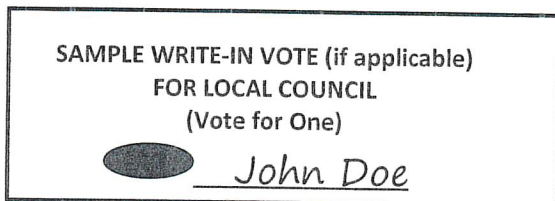
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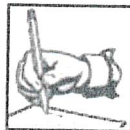
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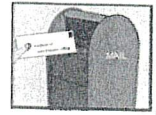
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- Place VOTED ballot in the SECRECY ENVELOPE and seal (if multiple sheets, return all sheets of the ballot).
- SIGN YOUR signature** on the voter affirmation on the back of the Signature Envelope. Failure to sign may invalidate your ballot.
- If the signature on the affirmation does not match the signature on file, the ballot may be rejected.
- Place the Secrecy Envelope containing your voted ballot into the Signature Envelope and Seal.



3. RETURN BALLOT

- Mail your ballot; or
- Drop off ballot:



The place(s) of deposit and the days and times when ballots may be returned to the places of deposit before election day and on election day are:

Columbia Falls School District
Administration Office
501 6th Avenue West
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

- This election is by mail ballot only – regular polling places will not be open. Ballots must be received at the election office by 8 p.m. on Election Day, May 7, 2024. (Note: a postmark cannot be accepted so if you mail your ballot make sure there is enough time for it to reach the election office.)

DO NOT FORGET POSTAGE IF MAILING:
.68 cents postage required



ASSISTANCE FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES: There are options for voters with disabilities. Contact your election office for information about all options.

MILITARY/OVERSEAS VOTERS: If you are an active-duty absent military voter or overseas citizen, electronic registration and voting options may be available. Contact your election office for information about all options.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS CONTACT THE ELECTION OFFICE AT:

Phone: 406-892-6554
Fax: 406-892-6552
Email: d.zuffelato@cfmtschoools.net



**Substitute Hires
Feb 2024**

Teacher

LNAME	FNAME	Teacher
Duchien	Michael	Teacher or Aide
Day	Tracy-ann	Teacher or Aide
Perry	Amanda	Teacher or Aide
Shambaugh	Samuel	Aide
McMunn	Alisa	Teacher or 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
		Bus Driver
		Bus Driver
		Bus Driver

Hot Lunch

LNAME	FNAME	Other
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch
		Hot Lunch

Custodian

LNAME	FNAME	Other
Willis- Scheeler	Dauglas	Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian

2/8/2024



Cory Dziowgo <c_dziowgo@cfmthschools.net>

Request: LWOP for student teaching

From: Alyssa Drew <a_drew@cfmthschools.net>

To: Cory Dziowgo <c_dziowgo@cfmthschools.net>

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 at 5:52 PM

Dear Mr. Dziowgo and Members of the School Board,

My name is Alyssa Drew. I currently work as a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA) for school district 6. This is my third year in the position and I love my job!

I am also working toward my master's degree in elementary education. In order to graduate, I am required to complete 12 weeks of full time student teaching.

I am writing to ask for 12 weeks of leave without pay to complete the student teaching portion of my degree. I have listed Columbia Falls as my preferred student teaching placement. I would like to complete my student teaching within our district.

My student teaching is scheduled to begin in late January/early February and end in late April/early May. After my student teaching is complete, I plan to return to my role as a COTA in our district.

I am seeking approval for a leave of absence in order to fulfill my student teaching requirement.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Drew