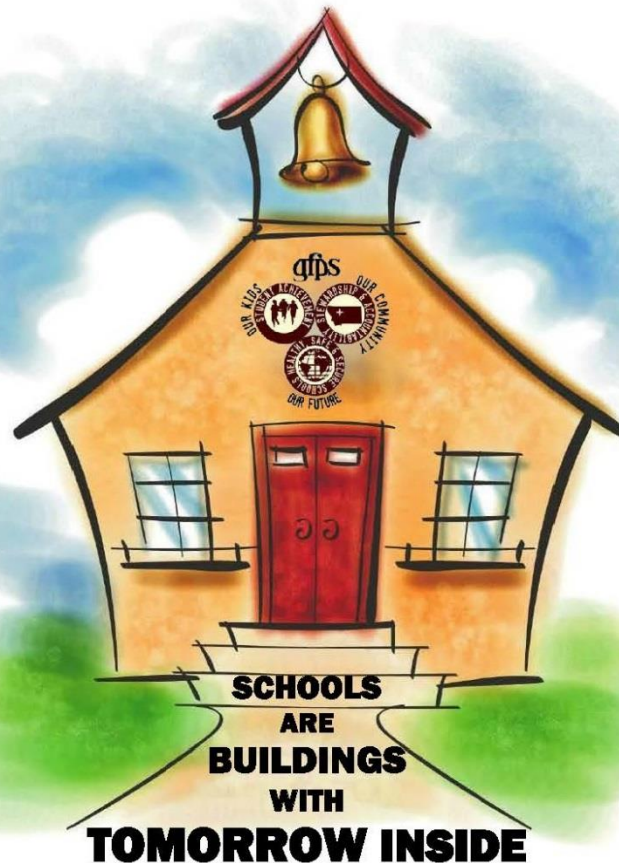


**Our Kids...**  
(And Staff)...  
deserve modernized  
schools that foster  
learning.

**Our Community...**  
demands safe and  
secure schools in  
which to educate our  
children.



**Our Future...**  
depends on a strong  
public education  
system in buildings  
that will last for  
years to come.

Your Trustees have adopted a \$98.8M Facility Plan  
and Bond Levy Ballot Issue to invest in  
**OUR KIDS, OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR FUTURE!**

# The Community's Buildings

- 28 Buildings
- 1.9 million square feet of building space
- 295 acres of land
- **Pre-School—Skyline Center**
  - 31 IDEA students
  - 69 Title 1 students
  - Headstart
  - Parent Participation Pre-School
  - County Extension Agency
- **15 Elementary Schools**
  - 250-500 students
- **2 Middle Schools**
  - 1450 students
- **3 High Schools**
  - 2 @ 1400
    - CMR
    - GFHS/Fieldhouse/S. Campus
  - PGEC: 204 students



- **Buildings and Grounds at Lowell**
- **Little Russell Storage**
- **District Office Building**
- **Annex**
- **Buildings and Grounds Shop**
- **Warehouse**
- **Paris Gibson Square (leased)**

Great Falls Public Schools		
School Building History		
SCHOOL/BUILDING NAME	DATE BUILT	AGE
CENTRAL SCHOOL/PARIS GIBSON SQUARE	1896	120
ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1928	88
GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL	1931	85
WHITTIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1938	78
LOWELL	1939	77
LITTLE RUSSELL	1939	77
PARIS GIBSON EDUCATION CENTER	1948	68
LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1951	65
LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1952	64
WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1952	64
LEWIS & CLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1953	63
EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL	1957	59
MEADOW LARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1960	56
MORNINGSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1960	56
RIVERVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1960	56
SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1960	56
VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1960	56
CHIEF JOSEPH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1962	54
SACAJAWEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1962	54
LOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1963	53
CHARLES M. RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL	1965	51
MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1970	46
SKYLINE EARLY LEARNING CENTER	1970	46
NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL	1970	46
BISON FIELDHOUSE	1979	37
GFHS - SOUTH CAMPUS	1998	18

**Average Age of  
School Buildings =  
58 years old**

#### Decades of School Building:

1890's	1
1920's	1
1930's	4
1940's	1
1950's	5
1960's	9
1970's	3
1980's	0
1990's	0
2000's	0

# Community Process for Facilities

- **Community Informational Meetings, 2015:**
- Wednesday, February 25 – 5:30-7:30 – CMR Auditorium
- Monday, March 2 – 5:30–7:30 pm – Roosevelt gym
- Tuesday, March 10 – 5:30–7:30 pm – Longfellow cafeteria
- Wednesday, March 25 – 5:30-7:30 pm – GFH Auditorium
- **14 Board Work Sessions:**
- Monday, November 4, 2013, 5:00-8:00 – GFHS South Campus
- Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 5:00-7:00 – Aspen
- Wednesday, December 10, 2014, 4:30-6:30 – Aspen
- Monday, January 5, 2015, 4:30-6:30 – Aspen
- Monday, March 30, 2015, 5:30-7:30 – Aspen
- Monday, May 11, 2015, 6:30-8:30 – Aspen
- Monday, June 15, 2015, 5:30-7:30 – Aspen
- Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 5:30-7:30 – Aspen
- Tuesday, August 4, 2015, 5:30 -7:30 – Aspen
- Monday, August 17, 2015, 5:30-7:30 – Aspen
- Monday, August 31, 2015, 4:00-6:00 – Aspen
- Monday, November 2, 2015, 5:00-8:00 – GFHS
- Monday, December 21, 2015, 5:30-7:00 – Aspen
- Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 5:30-7:30 – Aspen

Schools



Calendar



Employment



Home > Community > Facility Planning

## Facility Planning

### Preliminary Conceptual Facility Plan

#### DEAR COMMUNITY MEMBER: YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

FACT: The average age of all GPPS school buildings is 57 years old.

FACT: All school buildings are in need of infrastructure repair.

FACT: 80 GPPS elementary classrooms exceed Montana class size standards.

FACT: GPPS enrollment is projected to increase over the next 10 years.

FACT: The need for technology enhancements further strains infrastructure.

#### Facility Repair and Maintenance Worksheet

WHAT: Community Informational Meeting to Discuss Facility Concerns

WHEN:

**Wednesday, February 25, 5:30-7:30, CMR Auditorium, 225 17th Ave. NW**

Tours of CMR will be held at 4:30, 4:45 and 5:00 starting from the CMR Office

AGENDA: To discuss a) Increased Enrollment/Building Capacities, b) Building Infrastructure Status, c) Preschool Opportunities, d) Technology, and e) Optimal Learning Environments

February 25, 2015 Community Informational Meeting PowerPoint

WHAT: Community Informational Meetings for Ideas to Address Facility Concerns WHEN:

**Monday, March 2, 5:30-7:30 pm, Roosevelt Gym**

Tours at 4:30, 4:45 & 5:00

Tours start from the Office: 1501 2nd Ave. N.

March 2, 2015 Facilities Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, March 10, 5:30-7:30 pm, Longfellow Cafeteria**

Tours at 4:30, 4:45 & 5:00

Tours start from the Office: 1101 8th Ave. S.

March 10, 2015 Facilities Meeting Agenda

**Wednesday, March 25, 5:30-7:30 pm, GPPS Auditorium** Tours at 4:30, 4:45 & 5:00

Tours start from the Main Campus Office: 1500 2nd Ave. S.

March 25, 2015 Facilities Meeting Agenda

AGENDA: Same agenda for all three meetings. May attend one, two or all three meetings:

a) To present facility related ideas that have been suggested by Cabinet and the Board; b) To gain ideas from participants; and c) To discuss pros and cons of ideas

**Monday, March 30, 5:30 - 7:30 pm - District Offices Building**

March 30, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

March 30, 2015 Facilities Work Session PowerPoint

**Tuesday, April 7, 5:30 - 7:30 pm - District Offices Building**

April 7, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

**Monday, May 11, 2015, 6:30 pm - District Offices Building**

May 11, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

May 11, 2015 Facility Plan Final Draft #1

**Monday, June 15, 2015, 5:30 pm - District Offices Building**

June 15, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

June 15, 2015 Facility Plan Final Draft #2

June 15, 2015 Facilities Work Session PowerPoint

**Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 5:30 pm - District Offices Building**

July 14, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

July 14, 2015 Facilities Work Session PowerPoint

July 14, 2015 Facilities Work Session West Elem. Options

**Tuesday, August 4, 2015, 5:30 pm - District Offices Building**

August 4, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

August 4, 2015 Facilities Work Session PowerPoint

August 4, 2015 Facilities Work Session Cabinet Recommendation

**Monday, August 17, 2015, 5:30 pm - District Offices Building**

August 17, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

August 17, 2015 Facilities Work Session PowerPoint

August 17, 2015 Facilities Work Session GPPS PowerPoint

August 17, 2015 Facilities Work Session CMR PowerPoint

**Monday, August 31, 2015, 4:00 pm - District Offices Building**

August 31, 2015 Facilities Work Session Agenda

For more information, contact Superintendent Leszy at 408-288-8001



## Preliminary Conceptual Facility Action Plan

Great Falls Public Schools

Board Approved: September 14, 2015

A conceptual plan to address increasing enrollment, aging buildings, safety and technology in Great Falls Public Schools.



# HIRED AN OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE

- **Hulteng CCM, Billings, Montana**
  - **Shane Swandal**
  - **Andy Becker**
  - **Eric Hulteng**
- **Assist GFPS with the final stages of Plan development:**
  - **Viability of the concepts**
  - **Feasibility of the concepts**
  - **Reasonability of the preliminary cost estimates and provide modified cost estimates.**



# Board unanimously adopted on February 22, 2016

Great Falls  
Great Schools  
Greater Tomorrows

Minstrom Air Force Base &  
Montana Air National Guard

gfps

District Parents & Students Community Staff Directory Site Map search... Search

Schools

Calendar

Employment

School Board

Budgeting  
Class Reunions  
Facility Planning  
School Elections  
Superintendent's Newsbits  
Messages to Staff  
Tammy's Top 10 on Tuesday

Facility Planning

SCHOOLS ARE BUILDINGS WITH TOMORROW INSIDE

Election October 4, 2016

[Sample Ballot](#)

[GFPS Facility Action Plan](#)

[Facility Bond Levy Information](#)

- [2016 Facility Plan PowerPoint in pdf](#)
- [2016 Facility Plan Summary Information Brochure](#)
- [GFPS Facility Plan ASKED AND ANSWERED](#)
- [School Bond Election Costs and Calculator](#)
- [Community Invitation for Bond Levy Presentation and Tours](#)

[Property Tax Relief Info](#)

[Action Planning Process - February 2015 thru January 2016](#)

HEALTHY, SAFE & SECURE SCHOOLS

STEWARDSHIP & ACCOUNTABILITY

gfps

OUR KIDS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

OUR COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP & ACCOUNTABILITY

HEALTHY, SAFE & SECURE SCHOOLS OUR FUTURE

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## Facility Action Plan

Great Falls Public Schools

Board Approved: February 22, 2016

A conceptual plan to address increasing enrollment, aging buildings, safety and technology in Great Falls Public Schools.

<http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/facility>

Calendar



Employment



School Board



## Q: HOW MUCH WILL THE 2016 SCHOOL BOND COST A PROPERTY OWNER?

*Great Falls Public Schools consists of an Elementary District and a High School District. There is a bond election amount designated for each district.*

### BASIC INFORMATION:

An Elementary Bond of \$45,907,033 which equates to approximately 21.52 mills annually. This levy is estimated to cost a homeowner approximately \$29.05 per year on a home with a market value of \$100,000.

A High School Bond of \$52,951,752 which equates to approximately 26.82 mills. This levy is estimated to cost a homeowner approximately \$36.21 per year on a home with a market value of \$100,000.

### Steps to Figure out individual tax impact.

Step 1: Go to the website: <http://itax.tylertech.com/cascademt/>

Step 2: Type in the last name of the property owner - hit search and choose the correct property parcel from the list by clicking on the parcel number.

Step 3: The tax statement details will come up. In the 2015 Section there are two figures. These include the Market Value and the Taxable Value. See below.

Step 4: Under the "2015 Value", find the "Taxable Value" amount.

Step 5: Insert the "Taxable Value" amount into Yellow box in the Bond Calculator below.

The screenshot shows a web interface for a 2015 tax statement. It is divided into three main sections: 2015 Value, 2015 Taxes, and 2015 Payments. An arrow points to the 'Taxable' value in the 2015 Value section.

2015 Value:	
Market:	\$152,900
Taxable:	\$2,064

2015 Taxes:	
First Half:	\$705.74
Second Half:	\$705.74
Total:	\$1,411.48

2015 Payments:	
First Half:	\$705.74
Second Half:	\$0.00
Total:	\$705.74

### Great Falls Public Schools Bond Impact Calculator

Insert "Current Taxable Valuation" amount Here (number):\$2064

	Yearly	Monthly
Estimated Elementary Amount:	\$ 44.42	\$ 3.70
Estimated High School Amount:	\$ 55.36	\$ 4.61
Total:	\$99.77	\$8.31

Elementary Formula: Current Taxable Amount x .02152 = Annual Tax Impact

High School Formula: Current Taxable Amount x .02682 = Annual Tax Impact



## OBSOLETE & INEFFICIENT BOILERS



## PLUMBING ISSUES





**LEAKING ROOFS**



**OBSOLETE SYSTEMS**

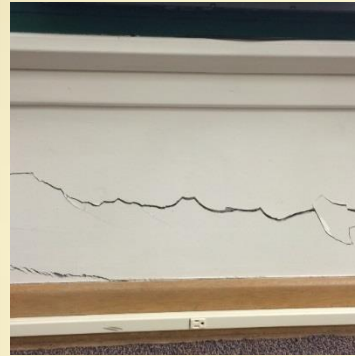


**INEFFICIENT  
AND  
DETERIORATED  
WINDOWS**





# FOUNDATION ISSUES



# Elementary (K-8) Investments:

Upgrade infrastructure in all K-6 buildings (except Longfellow & Roosevelt) **\$7.3M**

## Chief Joseph

**Lockdown Warning Lights**

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Gym Foundation Repair & Remodel**

**Foundation Repair & Stabilization**

## Lewis & Clark

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Domestic Water Piping Upgrade**

## Lincoln

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**ADA Compliant Lift Install**

## Loy

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Manual Excavation of Tunnels**

**Parking/Bus/Traffic Safety Improvements**

**Electrical Upgrades**

## Meadowlark

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Parking/Traffic Safety Improvements**

## Morningside

**Electrical Upgrade**

**Temperature Control Upgrade**

**Water Main Line Replacement**

**Foundation Repair & Stabilization**

## Mountain View

**Conversion of Storage to Education Space**

## Riverview

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

## Sacajawea

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

## Sunnyside

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Electrical Upgrade**

## West

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Exterior Auditorium Stair Replacement**

## Valley View

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

## Whittier

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade**

**Elevator Installation**

**Foundation Repair & Stabilization**

**Mechanical (13)**

**Foundation (4)**

**Electrical (3)**

**Safety (4)**

**ADA (2)**

**Plumbing (2)**

**Remodel (1)**

**\*Mechanical System Upgrade includes:**

Boiler replacement

Air handling equipment upgrades

Heating, ventilation, and air controls upgrades

Related equipment upgrades



# Upgrade infrastructure in EMS and NMS 7-8: \$5.4M

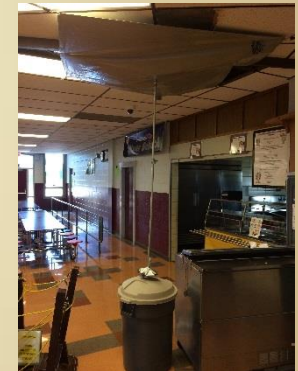
## East

\*Mechanical System Upgrade  
Fire Alarm System Replacement  
Roof Repair  
Partial Window Replacement



## North

Fire Alarm System Replacement  
Fire Suppression System Upgrade  
Exterior Door Replacement  
\*Mechanical System Upgrade  
Partial Roof Replacement  
Foundation Repair & Stabilization  
Remodeling Due to Foundation Repair



### \*Mechanical System Upgrade includes:

- Boiler replacement
- Air handling equipment upgrades
- Heating, ventilation, and air controls upgrades
- Related equipment upgrades

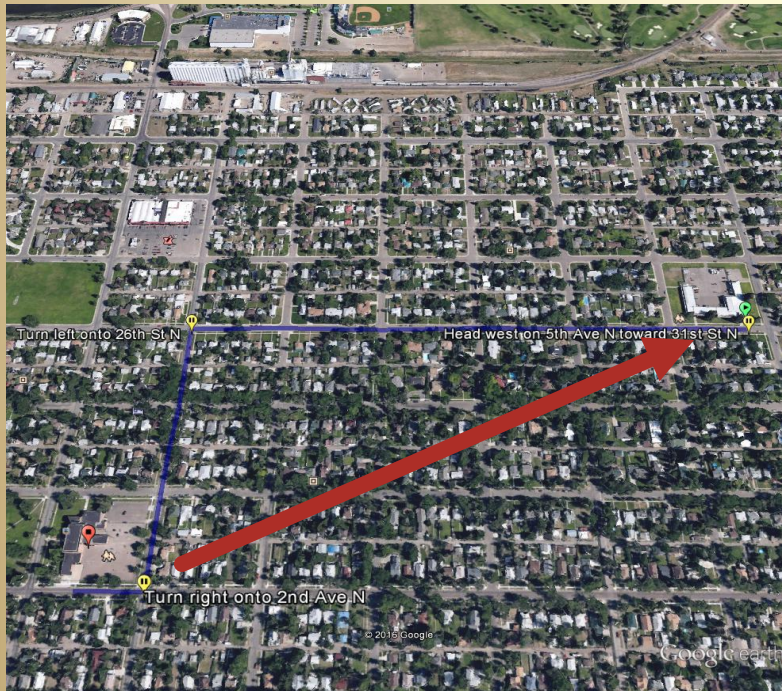


# Build a new school to replace 88-year old Roosevelt Elem. School

## \$17.5M (Oldest building)

### 6 Steps:

1. Slightly remodel & build storage building at Little Russell
2. Move Grounds Center to Little Russell
3. Demolish Lowell and build new school: 3117 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.
4. Move Roosevelt student/staff to new school (Name?)
5. Use Roosevelt for Longfellow students until their new school is complete
6. Sell or repurpose current Roosevelt





# Build a new school to replace 64-year old Longfellow Elementary School on site    **\$15.2M**



Temporarily locate Longfellow students at the current Roosevelt Elementary after they are in their new building.

## Phones \$500K (Elementary)

- Purchase and install a new Voice Over IP system that:

- Ties in with the Microsoft Active Directory
- Has advanced Emergency-911 Notification Services
- Is fault tolerant which allows it to remain operational during power failures



- It makes sense to replace the 18-year old phone system because:

- Reached its end-of-life in 2009
- Manufacturer is no longer in business, so no parts
- The District is running out of in-stock parts & internet parts
- There are frequent outages... bad for communication, safety and security
- Major failure of the current system is possible
- VOIP is most commonly used in modern organizations and is considered best practice.
- This concern was first identified in 2008 at a cost of \$1.2M. The cost has decreased.





# High School Investments (9-12)

- Upgrade CMR infrastructure

**\$4.3M**

Fire Alarm System Replacement  
\*Mechanical System Upgrade  
Plumbing Upgrade  
Foundation Repair & Stabilization  
Elevator Repair  
Perimeter Sidewalk Repair  
Partial Locker & Bleacher Replacement  
Window Panel Replacement



Construct CMR multipurpose  
space, upgrade track/field and  
add on STEM classrooms

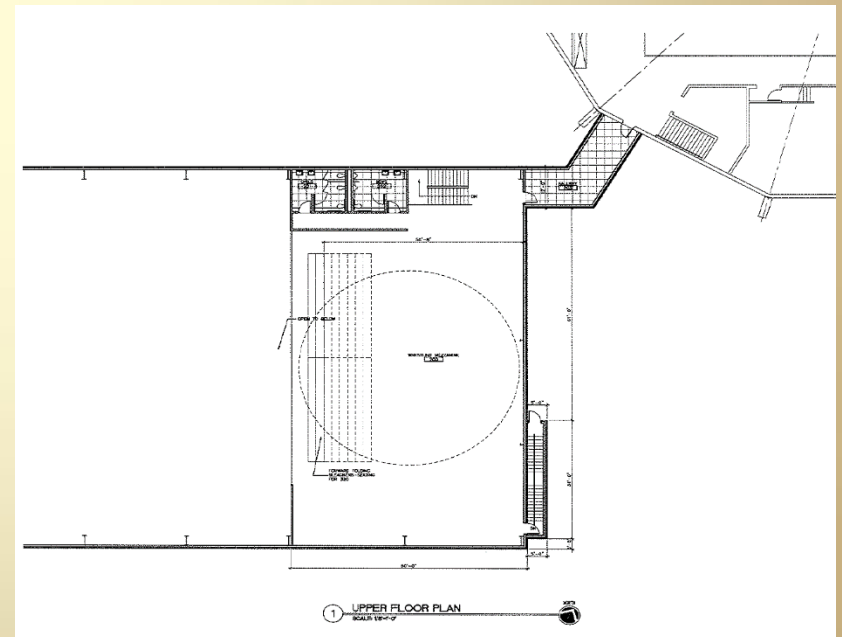
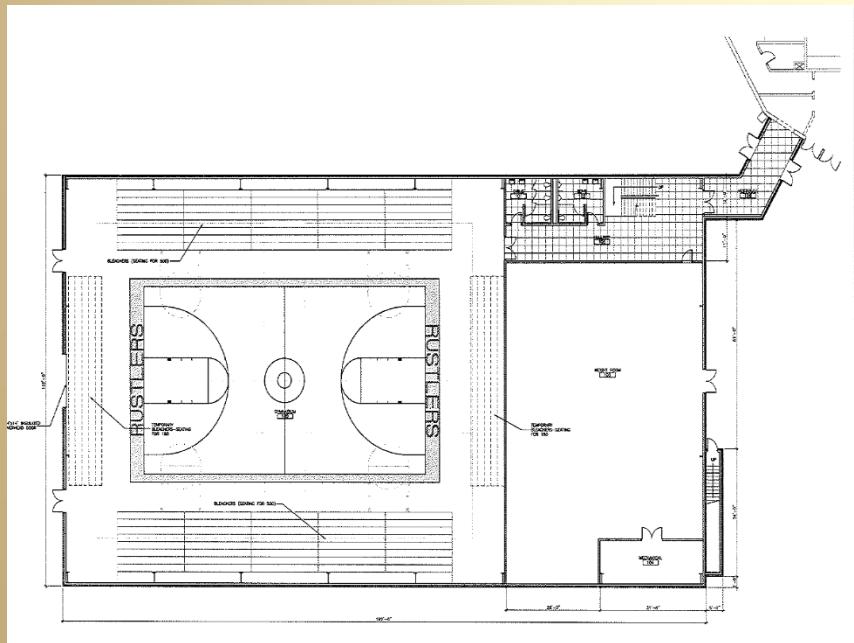
**\$7M**





Infrastructure Needs





CONCEPTUAL PLAN ONLY

## Upgrade PGEC infrastructure **\$3.4M**

Partial Roof Replacement

\*Mechanical System Upgrade

Window Replacement in Cafeteria and Library

Installation of an Elevator,  
Elevator Shaft & Enclosure,  
and Stair Lifts

Plumbing Upgrades

Cafeteria Furnishing Upgrade



## Upgrade Memorial Stadium **\$705K**

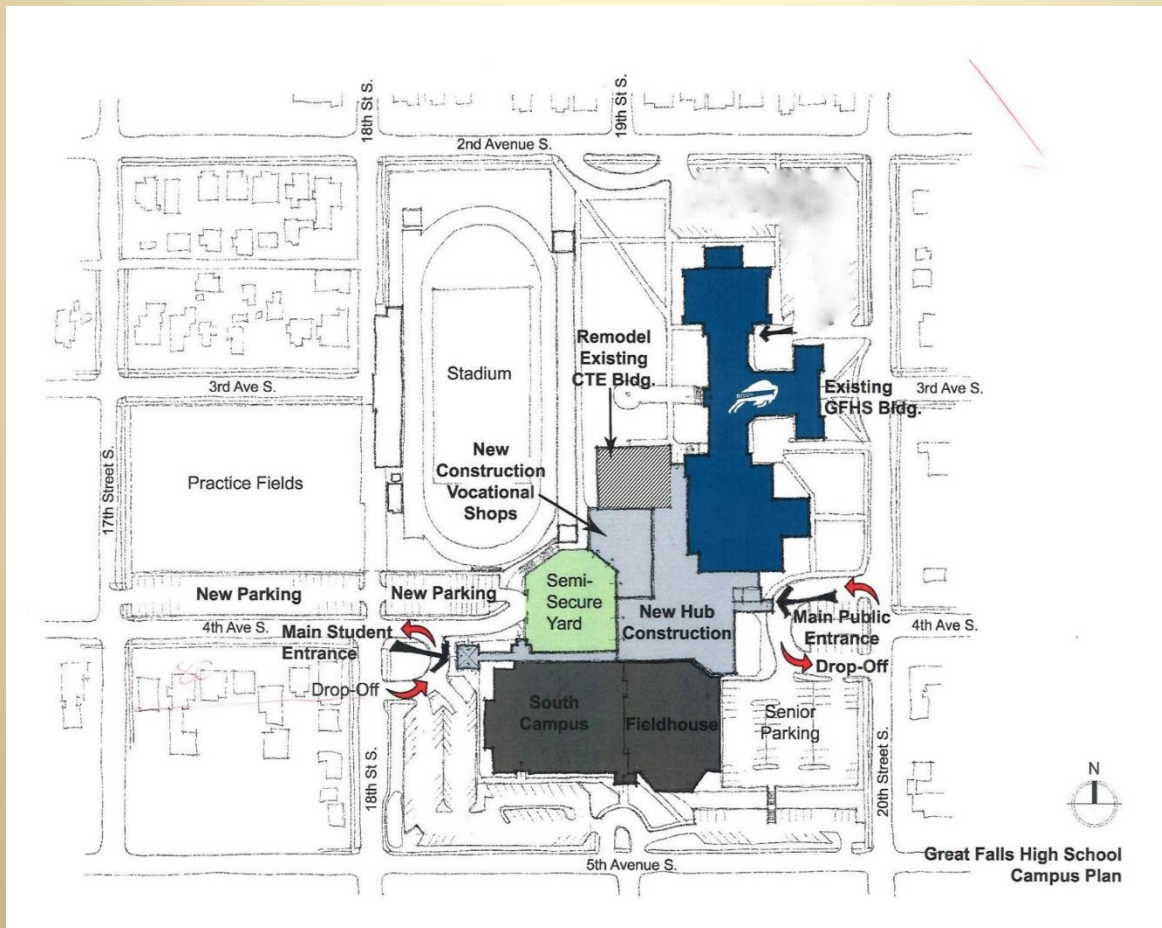
Turf... more use/revenue

Fewer expenses... fertilizer,  
mowing, etc.



**Phones** **\$250K (High School)**

- Upgrade GFHS infrastructure (HVAC, electric, plumbing, etc.), classrooms, technology & parking **\$20.8M**
- Modernize and expand GFHS Career & Technical Education (CTE) facilities/Construct a classroom/hub building between Main and South Campuses **\$16.6M**





# SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS

## K-8 FACILITY ISSUES ADDRESSED

1. Upgrade Infrastructure in All K-8 Buildings	<b>\$12,723,051</b>
2. Build a New School to Replace Roosevelt Elementary	<b>\$17,450,771</b>
3. Build a New School to Replace Longfellow Elementary	<b>\$15,233,211</b>
4. Replace Phone System	<b>\$ 500,000</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL K-8</b>	<b>\$45,907,033</b>

## 9-12 FACILITY ISSUES ADDRESSED

1. Replace Phone System	<b>\$ 250,000</b>
2. Upgrade Memorial Stadium	<b>\$ 705,000</b>
3. Upgrade Paris Gibson Education Center Infrastructure	<b>\$ 3,352,560</b>
4. Upgrade CMR Infrastructure	<b>\$ 4,364,844</b>
5. Construct CMR Multipurpose Space, Upgrade the Track/Field and Add STEM Classrooms	<b>\$ 6,952,200</b>
6. Upgrade GFHS Main Campus Infrastructure, Classrooms, Parking and Technology	<b>\$20,758,574</b>
7. Upgrade GFHS Career & Technical Education (CTE) Facilities, Lunch/Dining Areas, and Building Entrances; Add STEM and CTE Classrooms	<b>\$16,568,574</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL 9-12</b>	<b>\$52,951,752</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$98,858,785</b>
--------------	---------------------

# Estimated Costs: \$100K Home

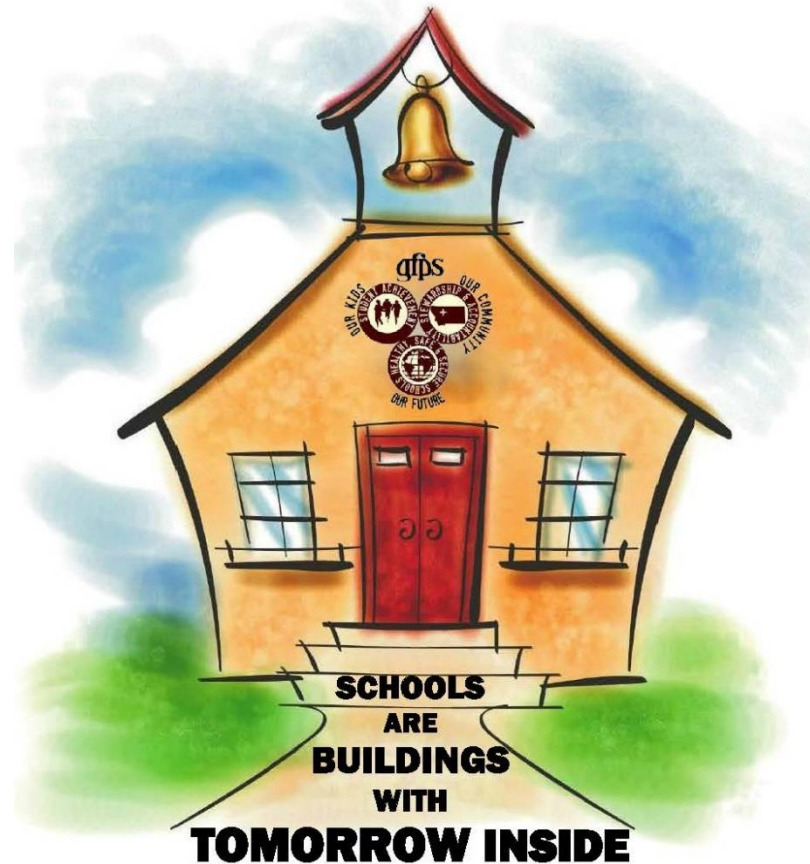
High School Components:		Estimated Cost	Per Year	Per Month
GFHS Infrastructure	\$	20,758,754	\$ 14.21	\$ 1.19
GFHS Construction	\$	16,568,574	\$ 11.33	\$ 0.94
CMR Infrastructure	\$	4,364,844	\$ 2.98	\$ 0.25
CMR Construction	\$	6,952,020	\$ 4.75	\$ 0.40
PGEC Infrastructure	\$	3,352,560	\$ 2.29	\$ 0.19
Memorial Stadium	\$	705,000	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.04
Phone System Upgrade	\$	250,000	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.01
Sub Total	\$	52,951,752	\$ 36.21	\$ 3.02
Elementary Components:				
K-8 Infrastructure	\$	12,723,051	\$ 8.05	\$ 0.67
New Roosevelt School	\$	17,450,771	\$ 11.04	\$ 0.92
New Longfellow School	\$	15,233,211	\$ 9.64	\$ 0.80
Phone System Upgrade	\$	500,000	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.03
Sub Total	\$	45,907,033	\$ 29.05	\$ 2.42
TOTAL	\$	98,858,785	\$ 65.26	\$ 5.44



It's a big ask!  
It's not going to be easy, but it's going to  
be worth it!

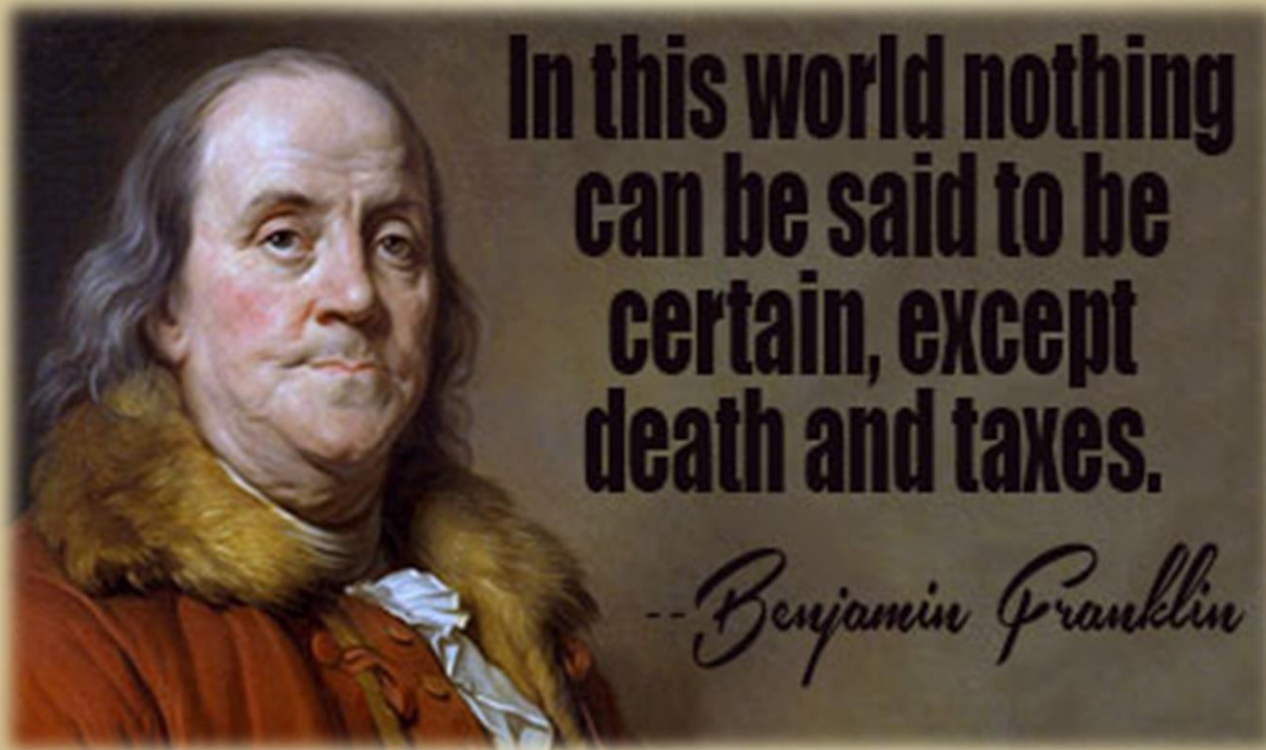
**Our Kids...**  
(And Staff)...  
deserve modernized  
schools that foster  
learning.

**Our Community...**  
demands safe and  
secure schools in  
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children.



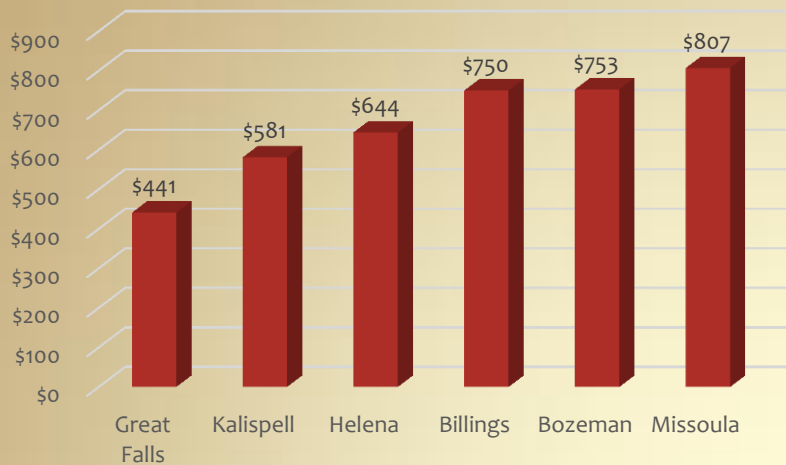
**Our Future...**  
depends on a strong  
public education system  
in buildings that will last  
for years to come.

# Let's Talk Taxes

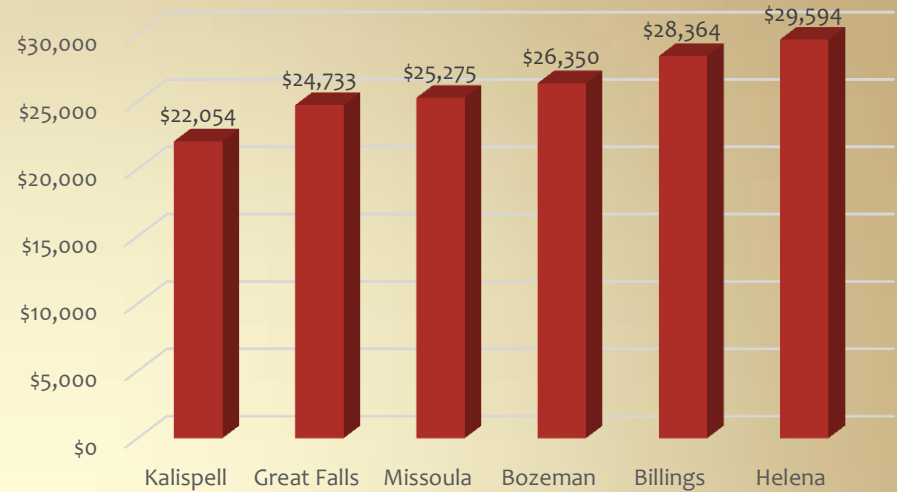


# Tax Comparisons

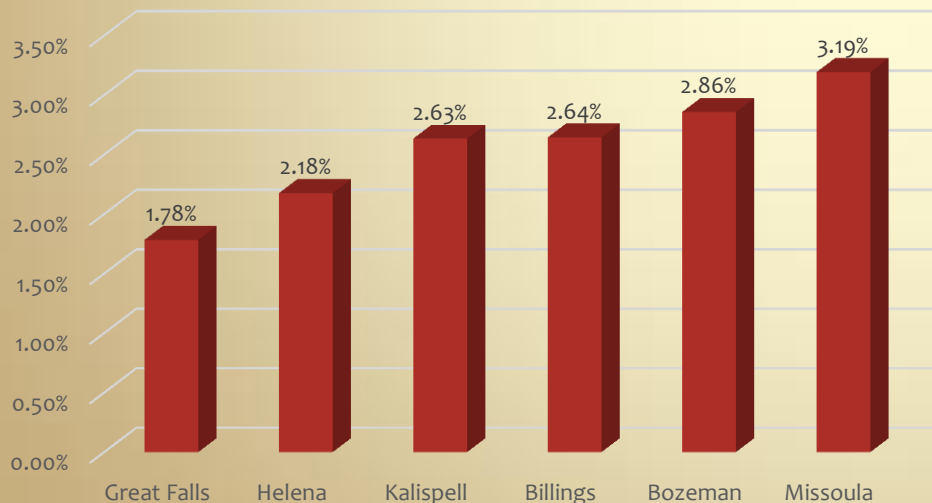
## Taxes/Fees Per Person



## Per Capita Income



## % Taxes of Per Capita Income

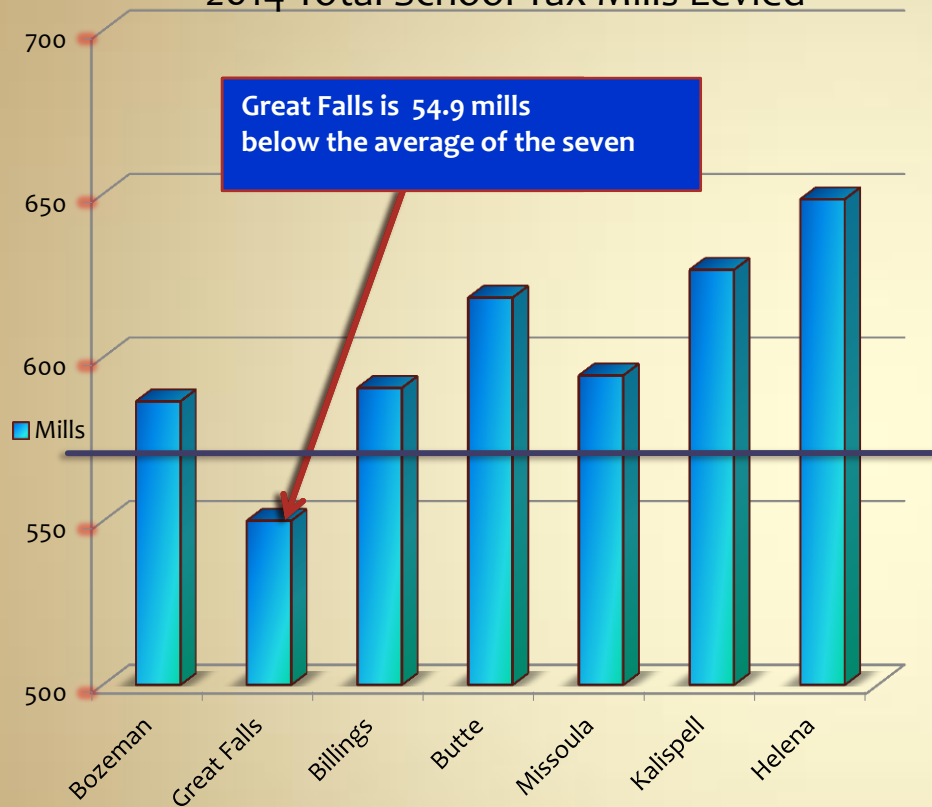


- Per capita income or average income measures the average income earned per person in a given area. It is calculated by dividing the area's total income by its total population
- In 2000, Cascade County per capita income was 82% of the national average.
- In 2014, it had climbed to 97% of the national average.
- In 2014, Cascade County per capita income grew by 4.2%. That growth is 17% higher than the national average and higher than the other 6 largest Montana counties.

Taxes/Fees: Mt Bureau of Business and Economic Research Report, 2016  
Per Capita Income: US Census, 2015

## How do we compare with the Montana AA Districts?

### 2014 Total School Tax Mills Levied



GFPS has been a stable and well-managed community institution since 1888.

**No long-term  
taxpayer debt**

South Campus... 1998-2007

# Property Tax Relief Available

- **Property Tax Assistance Application**
  - Own and occupy your home for at least 7 months of the year
  - Based on Federal Adjusted Gross Income:
    - Single: \$21,032
    - Married: \$28,043
- **Elderly Homeowner/Renter Credit Application (2EC)**
  - 62 years or older
  - Occupied for 6 months (own or rent)
  - Reside in Montana for 9 months
  - Gross household income less than \$45,000
  - Refundable credit up to \$1000
- Links and printables on GFPS website:
  - <http://gfps.k12.mt.us/content/property-tax-relief-info>



# Bond Levies: 2 Ballot Questions


Elementary of	\$45,907,033
High School of	\$52,951,752
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$98,858,785</b>

**October 4, 2016  
Mail Ballot**

If passes, bonds are like a 20-year loan/mortgage. Once it is paid off, the payments (taxes)  !

On a \$100,000 “market valued” home:

- Approximately \$65.26 or \$5.44/month for 20 years
- Adjusted with community factors...  
mill value, housing developments,  
economic development, etc.
- Calculator on webpage.
- Taxes not imposed until 2017.

2015 Value:	
Market:	\$152,900
Taxable:	\$2,064
Vet Exempt:	\$0
Net Taxable:	\$2,064
 Detail	

# October 4 Election Details

- Important enough to have its own day at the polls
- General election mail & commercials would overwhelm
- Changed from October 11 as per Secretary of State
- Ballots mailed on or around September 16
- Requires a simple majority
- Information about voter registration:
  - <http://departments.cascadecountymt.gov/elections>
- Be sure to vote!



# Why now?

- If not now, when? If not us, who?
  - Escalation example: Longfellow now = \$15M; In 2020 increases to \$17M
- Great Falls is on the move!
  - **Total wages in Great Falls grew 9.5% in the last 2 years** (JobsEQ, 3/2016)
    - Equals an additional \$124 million dollars a year earned in wages
  - **Average annual wages set another record in 2015Q4, up 8% in two years.**
    - An increase of \$2,768 in annual earnings.
  - **Great Falls ranked as the most affordable housing market amongst Montana's 7 largest cities.** The average Great Falls homeowner saves mortgage, taxes and insurance:
    - \$1,574/year over Billings
    - \$3,023/year over Helena
    - \$3,732/year over Flathead County
    - \$4,947/year over Missoula County
    - \$6,105/year over Gallatin County
  - **In 2015, personal income, per capita income, average wages and new property tax revenue increased.**
    - Personal income grew 4.7%
    - Total wages grew 4.9%.
    - Average annual wages in 2015Q3 were up 5% over the previous year.
    - Property tax revenue from new development totaled over \$1.4 million in the City of Great Falls and Cascade County.

SmartAsset 3/2016

# Why Now?

- End of life... Plan B?

- Other districts

- Billings: \$122M passed in November, 2013
- Missoula: \$158M passed in November, 2015
- Bozeman: \$103M passed in last 10 years
- Roundup: \$17M passed in September, 2014
- Belgrade: \$25M bond; \$9.9M reserve, passed in May, 2016
- Hellgate K-8 (Missoula): \$19.8M, election September 20, 2016
- Kalispell: \$54M bond levy, election October 4, 2016
- Helena: \$70M failed in June, 2015

- Interest rates

- A prudent investment

- Schools impact business recruitment.
- Schools are an important part of economic development.
- Nice neighborhood schools actually improve property values.







## GFPS Facility Plan Process

1. ✓Issues identified: Aging buildings/modernization, enrollment/overloaded classrooms, technology
2. ✓Solutions: community input → concept development → Preliminary Conceptual Facility Plan
3. ✓CONCEPT Clarification: Consultants (\$ ESTIMATES); Board consensus; Facility Plan

5+  
Years

### 4. Paying for the concepts:

- a. ✓Board Action:      Bond Levy Amount      Elem/HS      Election Date
  - i. ✓February 22: Amount and Date (October 11, 2016)
  - ii. ✓April 25: Formal Resolution

### b. Community Education:

- i. ✓Start February 23
- ii. ✓Spring
- iii. ✓Summer
- iv. August/September

No 🙅

Yes 👍

Maybe 🤔

PLAN B?

### c. Vote: October 4, 2016

Possible Results: ALL YES; ALL NO; YES/NO

### 5. If YES, spending limits are established:

#### a. RFPs for concepts:

- i. GCCM (General Contractor/Construction Mgr.)
- ii. DBB (Design/Bid/Build)

GFHS  
CMR  
LF/RS  
PGEC  
Little Russell  
Infrastructure  
Memorial Stadium

#### b. Selection process by consultants and MCA: designers, builders, installers, remodelers

#### c. DESIGN: stakeholder input processes; plans; Board approval

## 6. CONSTRUCT/INSTALL/REMODEL/ETC.



# 5 Take Away Points

- Our buildings are important community assets that have been carefully maintained but the time is now to address infrastructure issues that have been deferred.
- Addressing facility issues has been a careful, thorough 5+ year process. It's complicated. If it were easy, it would already have been done. Get the facts.
- Every school is getting an upgrade with the oldest and most heavily used schools getting the most work and resources. This is not a fancy plan.
- Improving the infrastructure of our schools is a good investment in economic development for Great Falls.
- Working together WE have the opportunity to improve education in Great Falls for years to come.

# Questions?

- Brian Patrick, Director of Business Operations
- Shaun Hammatt, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
- Ruth Uecker, Assistant Superintendent K-6
- Tom Moore, Assistant Superintendent 7-12

# SCHOOLS ARE BUILDINGS WITH TOMORROW INSIDE

