### **AGENDA**

# Board of Trustees Columbia Falls School District Six Special Meeting Monday, August 25, 2025 6:00 p.m. School District Six Board Room

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Pledge to the Flag
- 3. Approval of Agenda
- 4. Public Participation
- 5. Action/Discussion Items:
  - a. Consideration of Resolution 445: Resolution Calling for a Bond Election
- 6. Miscellaneous and Future Planning
- 7. Adjournment

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m., Monday, September 8, 2025 in the School District #6 Board Room.

#### 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 "District"), hereby certify that the attached resolution is a true copy of Resolution No. 445, entitled: "A RESOLUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS), FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT THE OUESTION OF WHETHER THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY SELL AND ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT IN ONE OR MORE SERIES IN THE TOTAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO EIGHTY-FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$84,800,000.00) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COLUMBIA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING AND CAMPUS; RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS; AND PAYING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS" (the "Resolution"), on file in the original records of the District in my legal custody; that the Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the District at a meeting on August 25, 2025, 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notice of such meeting given as required by law; and that the Resolution has not as of the date hereof been amended or repealed.

or were absent:  VITNESS my hand officially this 25th day of August, 2025.
WITNESS my hand officially this 25th day of August, 2025.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 445

A RESOLUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS), FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY SELL AND ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT IN ONE OR MORE SERIES IN THE TOTAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO EIGHTY-FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$84,800,000.00) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COLUMBIA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING AND CAMPUS; RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS; AND PAYING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS

#### **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, a board of trustees is authorized pursuant to Section 20-9-421, M.C.A., to call a bond election 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 "District"), has determined that there should be submitted to the electors of the District qualified to vote at bond elections the question of whether the Board shall be authorized to sell and issue bonds of the District in the total principal amount of up to Eighty-Four Million Eight Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$84,800,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs of designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing improvements to the Columbia Falls High School building and campus; related improvements and costs; and paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the bonds; and

WHEREAS, the bonds shall be payable semiannually during a term of not more than twenty-five (25) years, subject to redemption as required by law, and shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined by the Board at the time of the sale; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 13-19-104, M.C.A., a school district bond 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 District and the electors thereof, and notified the County Election Administrator of Flathead County of its intent to cause the County Election Administrator to conduct a mail ballot election, which notification was not less than seventy days prior to the date of the proposed election; and

WHEREAS, the County Election Administrator 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

WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board that the sum of up to Eighty-Four Million Eight Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$84,800,000.00) will be necessary to carry out the purpose set forth in such question; and

WHEREAS, the indebtedness to be evidenced by the proposed bonds and all other indebtedness of the District does not exceed the limitation as set forth in Section 20-9-406, M.C.A.

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

Calling of the Election. The Board of the District hereby calls and directs an election to be held on the question of issuing bonds of the District on November 4, 2025, which date is not less than 70 days after the date of passage of this resolution, such election to be conducted by mail ballot pursuant to the provisions of the Mail Ballot Act, for the purpose of paying the costs of creating contemporary learning environments, enhancing safety and security, and upgrading critical infrastructure by designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing improvements to the Columbia Falls High School building and campus, to include building new and upgrading existing learning spaces to increase student capacity and facilitate the delivery of modern education through flexible, career-focused classrooms, technology, and collaborative areas for student interaction; improving or adding safety and security features, such as installing secure entryways, updating communication systems, aggregating educational and related spaces and amenities under one roof, and making other building safety enhancements; upgrading aging infrastructure, to include exterior walls, heating, ventilation, and electrical and plumbing systems; and redirecting and making traffic flow more orderly by constructing new access features and associated parking and drop-off improvements; if proceeds of bonds are available after paying costs of the foregoing undertakings, reconfiguring sports fields and adding amenities to make field areas and amenities more functional; related improvements and costs; and paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the bonds.

The bonds shall be payable semiannually during a term of not more than twenty-five (25) years, subject to redemption as required by law, and shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined at the time of the sale of each series of bonds.

- 2. <u>Debt Service Assistance</u>. The District may receive debt service assistance under Sections 20-9-367 and 20-9-371, M.C.A., for debt service payments on the bonds. The availability and amount of debt service assistance is difficult to calculate because of the variability in and conditions to funding the debt service assistance program.
- 3. <u>Conduct of Election</u>. All qualified electors of the District shall be entitled to vote at the bond 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 later 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 District entitled to vote in the election in the District in the form and manner prescribed by law and consistent with the Mail Ballot Plan. The County Election Administrator shall prepare the ballot and arrange for the printing of the ballot and conduct the election in accordance with all

legal requirements. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the District Clerk and the Superintendent, or either one of them, to undertake all actions and execute and/or deliver any and all documents as are necessary or appropriate for the bond election proceedings, including, without limitation, causing notices to be published; posting notices in public places, on a website, or elsewhere; making filings with governmental agencies; coordinating with and providing information to county election officials and/or other election officials, including, but not limited to and only if required, mail ballot plans; and any other activity or undertaking related to the bond election proceedings.

4. <u>Notice of Election</u>. The County Election Administrator is hereby authorized and requested to cause notice of the call and holding of the election to be given by publishing notice at least three times no earlier than 40 days and no later than 10 days before the election, in the *Daily Inter-Lake*, a newspaper of general circulation in Flathead County, and to perform such other undertakings as may be required under Montana law. The District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the notice to be posted at three public places in the District and, if the District has a website, is directed to post notice on the 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 or revisions as may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the Mail Ballot Plan or otherwise:

#### FORM OF NOTICE OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "District"), that pursuant to a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Board on August 25, 2025, an election of the registered voters of the District will be held by mail ballot election on November 4, 2025 for the purpose of voting on the question of whether the Board may sell and issue general obligation school building bonds of the District in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount of up to Eighty-Four Million Eight Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$84,800,000.00) for the purpose of paying the costs of creating contemporary learning environments, enhancing safety and security, and upgrading critical infrastructure by designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing improvements to the Columbia Falls High School building and campus, to include building new and upgrading existing learning spaces to increase student capacity and facilitate the delivery of modern education through flexible, career-focused classrooms, technology, and collaborative areas for student interaction; improving or adding safety and security features, such as installing secure entryways, updating communication systems, aggregating educational and related spaces and amenities under one roof, and making other building safety enhancements; upgrading aging infrastructure, to include exterior walls, heating, ventilation, and electrical and plumbing systems; and redirecting and making traffic flow more orderly by constructing new access features and associated parking and drop-off improvements; if proceeds of bonds are available after paying costs of the foregoing undertakings, reconfiguring sports fields and adding amenities to make field areas and amenities more functional; related improvements and costs; and paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the bonds. Each series of bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined at the time of sale and be payable semiannually during a term of not more than twenty-five (25) years.

If this bond election passes, based on the taxable value of the school district, it is estimated that the property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 are estimated to increase by \$72.26 in the first year, of \$300,000 are estimated to increase by \$216.79 in the first year, and of \$600,000 are estimated to increase by \$498.23 in the first year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

The election will be conducted by the County Election Administrator solely by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible registered voters in the County on October 17, 2025, 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) October 20, 2025 through November 3, 2025.

On Election Day, November 4, 2025, 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 and such other ballot drop-off locations as are identified in the election instructions provided by the Flathead County Election Administrator, which will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. All ballots will be tallied in accordance with Montana law with the preliminary results, if known, expected to be released after 8:00 p.m. on November 4, 2025.

A qualified voter who will be absent from the District during the time the election is being conducted may:

- (a) vote in person in the office of the Flathead County Election Administrator as soon as the ballots are available and until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day; or
- (b) make a written request prior to noon on November 3, 2025, signed by the applicant and addressed to the office of the County Election Administrator requesting the ballot be mailed 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 personally appearing at the Flathead County Elections Department located at 290 North Main Street, Suite B in Kalispell, Montana.

Ballots may be returned in person at the places of deposit listed in the election instructions of the Flathead County Election Administrator, 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 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 District and are registered to vote by the close of registration on October 6, 2025.

For electors who miss the close of registration deadline, such electors may register late and vote in the election by appearing in person at the Flathead County Election Administrator office 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 beginning October 7, 2025 through 12:00 p.m. on November 3, 2025, and then from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

DATED this day of , 2	2025.
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Flathead County Election Administrator

Publish: October 6, 2025, October 13, 2025, and October 20, 2025

5. <u>Form of Ballot</u>. The ballot shall be printed in substantially the following form with such changes as are deemed necessary or appropriate:

#### FORM OF OFFICIAL BALLOT

## HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (COLUMBIA FALLS), FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA SCHOOL BOND ELECTION TO BE CONDUCTED BY MAIL BALLOT ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025

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

Shall the Board of Trustees of High School District No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County, Montana (the "District") be authorized to sell and issue general obligation bonds of the District in one or more series in the total principal amount of up to Eighty-Four Million Eight Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$84,800,000.00), bearing interest at rates to be determined at the time of sale, payable semiannually, during a term as to each series of bonds of not more than twenty-five (25) years, for the purpose of paying the costs of creating contemporary learning environments, enhancing safety and security, and upgrading critical infrastructure by designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing improvements to the Columbia Falls High School building and campus, to include building new and upgrading existing learning spaces to increase student capacity and facilitate the delivery of modern education through flexible, career-focused classrooms, technology, and collaborative areas for student interaction; improving or adding safety and security features, such as installing secure entryways, updating communication systems, aggregating educational and related spaces and amenities under one roof, and making other building safety enhancements; upgrading aging infrastructure, to include exterior walls, heating, ventilation, and electrical and plumbing systems; and redirecting and making traffic flow more orderly by constructing new access features and associated parking and drop-off improvements; if proceeds of bonds are available after paying costs of the foregoing undertakings, reconfiguring sports fields and adding amenities to make field areas and amenities more functional; related improvements and costs; and paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the bonds?

If this bond election passes, based on the taxable value of the school district, it is estimated that the property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 are estimated to increase by \$72.26 in the first year, of \$300,000 are estimated to increase by \$216.79 in the first year, and of \$600,000 are estimated to increase by \$498.23 in the first year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

○ BONDS – YES○ BONDS – NO

#### 6. Reimbursement Expenditures.

- (a) The United States Department of Treasury has promulgated final regulations governing the use of proceeds of tax-exempt bonds, all or a portion of which are to be used to reimburse the District for project expenditures paid by the District prior to the date of issuance of such bonds. Those regulations (Treasury Regulations, Section 1.150-2) (the "Regulations") require that the 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 bonds be issued and the reimbursement allocation made from the proceeds of the 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 bonds.
- (b) Other than (i) expenditures to be paid or reimbursed from sources other than the 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 District before the date 60 days before the date of adoption of this resolution.
- (c) The District reasonably expects to reimburse the expenditures made for costs of such a project out of proceeds of bonds in an estimated maximum aggregate principal amount of up to \$84,800,000 after the date of payment of all or a portion of costs of such a project. All reimbursed expenditures shall be capital expenditures, a cost of issuance of the 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 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 issuance of the bonds. The statement of intent contained in this resolution, therefore, is determined to be consistent with the 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 bonds to reimburse the source of temporary financing used by the District to make prior payment of costs of the project. Each allocation shall be evidenced by an entry on the official books and records of the District maintained for the bonds or the project and shall specifically identify the actual original expenditure being reimbursed.

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ATTEST:	Chair, Board of Trustees	
District Clerk, High School District		
No. 6 (Columbia Falls), Flathead County		

Passed and approved this 25th day of August, 2025.