

**AGENDA**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Columbia Falls School District Six**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Monday, February 9, 2026**  
**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.**

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Pgs. 1-14
2. Approval of January Bills
3. Approval of Investment Reports

**5. Public Participation**

1. Student Body Representative

**6. Reports**

1. Written

- Board Standing Committees – See website for reports
- Penni Anello – Glacier Gateway – Pg. 16
- Allison Hawes – Ruder – Pg. 16
- Ted Miller – Junior High – Pg. 17
- Josh Gibbs – High School – Pg. 18
- Mark McCord - Curriculum Director – Pg. 19

2. Verbal

- MTSBA Update – Barb Riley
- Clerk / Business Manager – Dustin Zuffelato – Pgs. 20-21
- Superintendent – Cory Dziowgo
- Board Chair – Jill Rocksund

**7. Action/Discussion Items:**

- a) Consideration of the addition of the following high school classes for SY 26-27: - Pg. 22
  - Book Love and Lit
  - Outdoor Recreation and Lifetime Fitness
  - Pre-AP Geometry and Statistics
- b) FY 2027 budget projections:
  - Attendance data
  - Finance Committee recommendations
- c) Consideration of the May 5, 2026, Annual School Election:
  - Elementary District General Fund Over-Base Levy Election
  - High School District General Fund Over-Base Levy Election
  - Trustee Election
- d) Consideration of the athletic trainer contract with Logan Health. – Pgs. 23-27
- e) Consideration of substitute pay rates. – Pg. 28
- f) Consideration of the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA) membership for effective dates of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. – Pg. 29

**8. Personnel**

**a. The superintendent has accepted the following resignations:**

Heidi Freeman	JH Volleyball Coach – end of SY 25-26
Kami Heinz	JH Grade 6 Teacher – retirement = end of SY 25-26
Leslie DiMaio	JH Language Arts Teacher – retirement – end of SY 25-26
Jenasis Falbogart	PT Custodian – February 13, 2026
James Heinz	Non-CDS Driver – end of SY 25-26
Rich Pederson	Full-Time Bus Driver – effective 1/23/26
James Heinz	HS Science Teacher – retirement – end of SY 25-26
James Heinz	HS Assistant Golf Coach – end of SY 25-26
James Heinz	HS Head Track Coach – end of SY 25-26
Peter Browne	HS Social Studies Teacher – retirement – end of SY 25-26
Troy Bowman	HS Athletic Director / Athletic Trainer – retirement – end of SY 25-26

**b. Consideration of the Elementary Hiring Recommendations:**

Paula Koch	JH Track Coach
Kevin Redfield	JH Track Coach

**c. Consideration of the following High School / District-wide Hiring Recommendations:**

Natalia Posada Monsalve	Custodian
Cassandra Eshom	Non-CDL Activity Bus Driver
Paula Foster	Non-CDL Activity Bus Driver
Amy Caudill	Non-CDL Activity Bus Driver
Julia Whitman	Non-CDL Activity Bus Driver
Jenni O'Brien	Non-CDL Activity Bus Driver
Brandon Karberg	Assistant HS Soccer Coach
Abigail Holderbaum	LT Substitute Teacher – HS Girls Health / PE

**d. Consideration of the following substitute hires: - Pg. 30**

**9. Miscellaneous and Future Planning:**

- Health Insurance Committee Meeting – February 18, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

**10. Adjournment**

**The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m.,  
Monday, March 9, 2026, in the School District Six Board Room**

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Official

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, November 10, 2025, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

- Jill Rocksund ..... Board Chair
- Barbara Riley ..... Vice Chair
- Megan Upton ..... Trustee
- Keri Hill ..... Trustee
- Amanda Pacheco ..... Trustee
- Casey Heupel ..... Trustee
- Cory Dziowgo ..... Superintendent of Schools
- Dustin Zuffelato ..... Business Manager/Clerk

ABSENT:

- Justin Cheff ..... Trustee
- Heather Mumby ..... Trustee

Call to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chair Rocksund.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Upton, second by Heupel, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Passed 6-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Pacheco, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of October Bills

Approval of Investment Reports

Out-of-District Approval – SY 25-26

26-196

26-197

26-198

26-199

26-200

Passed 6-0

Public Participation:

Approximately three (3) people participated in the meeting remotely via Google Meets.

Approximately fourteen (14) people participated in person.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Senior Class President, Fiona Bryant, and Vice President, Maddy Barker, shared events occurring at the High School. The Student Council held a blood drive for anyone the age of sixteen or older who wished to participate. The High School had their annual Cats/Griz food drive for the local food bank. Fall sports ended with the girls' soccer team winning the State Championship; football and volleyball lost in their playoffs. The anatomy and physiology classes went to FVCC for a field trip to shadow some different medical fields. Upcoming events, winter sports will be starting in November. The National Honor Society will induct a record number of inductees on November 19. The annual Veteran's Day Assembly will be November 11, 2025, at 10:25 A.M.

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Community Member Russ Vukonich expressed his thoughts following the denial of the High School Bond. Mr. Vukonich does not believe that the District and the Board provided a compelling reason as to why the community should have approved an eighty-four-million-dollar project. Many community members wanted to support the High School facility but felt that the price tag was too high, especially with the jail bond on the ballot. Property taxes would have increased by too much and many citizens had to choose between the school and the county jail. Mr. Vukonich is asking the Board to put forth a stronger argument for the community to approve the much needed High School improvements.

Written Reports:

REPORTS:

Board Standing Committee reports are located on the District's Website.

The Elementary School Principals (Penni Anello, Allison Hawes, and Ted Miller) provided the Board with written reports.

High School Principal, Josh Gibbs, provided the Board with a written report.

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

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

Verbal Reports:

Trustee Barbara Riley provided the Board with the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). MCEL held their annual conference in Helena in October. The Montana Council on Economic Education (MCEE) was contracted to investigate what is included in the funding system and are requesting further inputs from communities, teachers, administrators, parents, etc. With this information Mrs. Riley stated the committee will provide a report and budget/funding package for the state legislature to consider. Mrs. Riley also attended sessions on audits, the new assembly system on maintaining district policies, and meetings on how districts are to maintain school buildings when there is no money in the General Fund formulas. Earlier in the morning Mrs. Riley received an email from Representative David Fern wanting to visit our schools. Representative Fern is gathering information to help make informed decisions.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. Federal grants are being worked through the annual grant application process. The Title funding is based on free and reduced lunch numbers, and the numbers are increasing. Glacier Gateway Elementary has eighty-two percent of students that qualify for free or reduced lunch, Ruder Elementary is at seventy-four percent, Junior High is at sixty-four percent and the High School comes in at fifty-one percent. These numbers resulted in additional Title I funding this year that the District will be using to balance the general fund budgets as a result of the certified collective bargaining agreement finalized after the budget was adopted in August. Mr. Zuffelato noted that the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) funds stayed the same. The District has received some smaller grants including the state Gifted and Talented at three thousand dollars and the McKinney Vento Homeless Grant provides ten thousand dollars. The number of students in the District that these grants serve is significant and it takes more than what the District is provided

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from the federal level to support those kids.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo discussed the High School Bond efforts being unsuccessful and the District needs to regroup and decide on future steps as the need is still there to update and improve the building. Mr. Dziowgo shared that the Charter School application has been submitted and the scheduled interview with the Board of Public Education is on December 1st at 9:00 A.M. The interview will be only thirty minutes, breaking down to ten minutes to discuss, eighteen minutes for their board to ask questions, and two minutes for public comment. Mr. Dziowgo has been in talks with businesses in the area for support as well as the Flathead Valley Community College.

Action/Discussion Items:

Glacier Gateway Principal, Penni Anello, and teacher Kristy Orem shared an update on the Early Literacy Program serving pre-kindergarten students at Glacier Gateway Elementary. This is a new program this school year. Mrs. Anello, Mrs. Orem, and many others have been working on the planning for over a year, looking at other districts' programs across the state. A slide presentation was shared with the Board showing how students are eligible, the classroom design, the curriculum used, and how the students are assessed.

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve Resolution #447 – Disposition of Abandoned, Obsolete, and Undesirable Property.

Mr. Zuffelato shared the process of disposing of items. There is a notification in the newspaper for fifteen days and then the items are recycled or put up for auction. The District has also sent items to other schools or the county if needed.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

Motion by Heupel, second by Upton, to approve participation in the Statewide Health Insurance Trust – Bridged Health Alliance:

- Multi District Agreement for the Formation of the Bridged Health Alliance Trust
- Participation Agreement – Bridged Health Alliance Trust
- Trust Agreement

It was shared that most AA schools in the state have committed to participating in the program and the numbers are approaching the twelve thousand lives and one hundred-fifty districts required to validate the program.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 5-0, Abstained - Riley.

Motion by Pacheco, second by Riley, to approve the following Transportation Committee recommendations.

- Annual School Bus Replacement – FY27
  - o Purchase SPED bus – 2027 Bluebird
  - o Dispose Bus #38 – 2009 Bluebird VIN 0672

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

Review of the November 4, 2025 High School General Obligation Bond Election.

Motion by Riley, second by Pacheco, to approve the Canvass of Votes and Declaration of

ACTION /  
DISCUSSION ITEMS

EARLY LEARNING  
LITERACY PROGRAM  
UPDATE - P. ANELLO  
AND K. OREM

MOTION TO APPROVE  
RESOLUTION 447

MOTION TO APPROVE  
THE STATEWIDE  
HEALTH INSURANCE  
TRUST - BRIDGED  
HEALTH ALLIANCE

MOTION TO APPROVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATIONS

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MOTION TO APPROVE  
CANVASS OF VOTES  
AND DECLARATION  
OF RESULTS AND  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ELECTION

Results, and Certificate of Election.

The canvass of votes was 1,489 for the bond, 3,148 against, and voter turnout was forty-five percent.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent:  
Linda Jaquette – Bus Driver; Rory Christiaens – High School Counselor

MOTION TO APPROVE  
ELEMENTARY  
DISTRICT HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Upton, second by Pacheco, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Julia Teeters – Ruder Elementary Kindergarten Paraeducator; Anna Pickard – Junior High Girls' Basketball Coach; Stephen Blados – Junior High Special Education Paraeducator; Mark Casazza – Junior High Boys' Basketball Coach; Bryan McGrath – Junior High Boys' Basketball 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 Hill, to approve the following High School/District-wide Hiring Recommendations: Alia Hanson – High School Campus Professional Development Specialist; Ross Lingle – High School Counselor; Kendra Skelton – High School Special Education Paraeducator; Benjamin Woody – High School Head Play Director/Drama Coach; Emily Hackethorn – High School Assistant Drama Coach; Kate Daniels – Non CDL Activity Bus Driver; Dean Perry – Full-time Bus Driver/Bus Washer; Aaron Finney – IT Support Technician  
Public comment was requested and Counselor Ross Lingle introduced himself to the Board.  
Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
SUBSTITUTE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Pacheco, to approve the substitute hires.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING:

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Veteran's Day Assembly – November 11, 2025 – 10:25 A.M. – High School
- Health Insurance Committee Meeting – November 19, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.
- Board Work Session – November 24, 2025 – 6:00 P.M. – Administrative Conference Room

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 6:58 P.M.

Board Chair

Business Manager/Clerk

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
DECEMBER 8, 2025

Notification

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, December 8, 2025, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

- Jill Rocksund ..... Board Chair
- Barbara Riley ..... Vice Chair
- Keri Hill ..... Trustee
- Heather Mumby ..... Trustee
- Amanda Pacheco ..... Trustee
- Casey Heupel ..... Trustee
- Cory Dziowgo ..... Superintendent of Schools
- Dustin Zuffelato ..... Business Manager/Clerk

ABSENT:

- Megan Upton ..... Trustee
- Justin Cheff ..... Trustee

Call to order at 6:00 P.M. P.M. by Board Chair Rocksund.

Motion by Heupel, second by Pacheco, to revise the agenda removing the cancellation of payroll warrants 47602 and 47728.  
Passed 6-0.

Motion by Pacheco, second by Hill, to approve the remaining agenda items.  
Passed 6-0.

Motion by Riley, second by Heupel, to approve the consent agenda.

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of November Bills
- Approval of Investment Reports
- Out-of-District Approval – SY 25-26
  - o 26-201
  - o 26-204

Passed 6-0

Public Participation:

Approximately five (5) people participated in the meeting remotely via Google Meets.  
Approximately ten (10) people participated in person.

Junior Class President Emma Wilcox and Vice President Onnikka Lawrence shared what has been happening and will be coming up for the High School. The Cats versus Griz Food Drive is complete and both boxes were filled with food for the local pantry. Many holiday celebrations are coming up with the assembly on December 19th, spirit week the last week in December containing dress up days, door decorating event, and the Freshman Class will be handing out hot coco the last day of school. Band and choir concerts are coming up. Speech and Debate

CALL TO ORDER

MOTION TO REVISE AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE REVISED AGENDA

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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will host a tournament in January and are looking for volunteer judges. The team has won all tournaments so far. The basketball teams have tip off tournaments in Frenchtown and Browning the next two weekends. The swim team will compete in Polson, and the wrestling team has been doing well. The National Honor Society has been working with businesses to provide Christmas presents for students in need serving two hundred-sixty students, all classes are sponsoring a head start student.

REPORTS:

Written Reports:

Board Standing Committees' reports are located on the District's Website.

The Elementary School Principals (Penni Anello, Allison Hawes, and Ted Miller) provided the Board with written reports.

High School Principal, Josh Gibbs, provided the Board with a written report.

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

Verbal Reports:

Trustee Barbara Riley provided the Board with the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). Mrs. Riley also shared an update for the Bridged Health Alliance stating that approximately forty school districts are voting for approval into the insurance program and more information will be coming in January. To date, three hundred districts could save a total of up to fifteen million dollars for insurance coverage in the first year.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. Mr. Zuffelato also shared that the elections for trustees and levies are coming up with February deadlines. Three trustees are up for reelection and applications are due February 9, 2026. The district's insurance claims in the current year are running a bit high and some will be pushed off to the stop loss insurer. The term of the three-year agreement with the Columbia Falls High School Baseball Association (CFSBA) to operate and fund the High School baseball teams expired at the end of the 2025 season. The District has discovered that the CFHSBA is no longer functioning. Based on discussion with the Athletic Director and Coaches, there appears to be an ability to fund the program in FY26 with banners and advertisement arrangements with businesses. For the long-term the Trustees will be seeing funding requests to consider.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo shared that the interview for the Charter School has been completed. The public comment section is still open and there are some businesses within the community that will be submitting comments on how they can help the program. It is a competitive application process in which seven districts applied and only three will likely be approved. Mr. Dziowgo shared that sixteen students have applied to join the council with the Board, two applicants are from the Junior High School. From the High School there were two seniors, three juniors, three sophomores and four freshmen. The Board is planning to meet in January.

Board Chair Jill Rocksund shared that a local state representative, Dave Fern, visited the District, gathering and sharing information and touring each building. Mrs. Rocksund was able to attend the professional develop Montana Digital Academy online and saw how AI helps learners. Mrs. Rocksund would like to consider a district policy regarding use of AI.

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Action/Discussion Items:

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo shared a presentation on enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year. Homeschool enrollment is increasing in the early primary grades, then students are transitioning to the District for upper grades.

ACTION /  
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Business Manager/District Clerk Dustin Zuffelato shared budget projections for Fiscal Year 2027. The fall enrollment count showed that enrollment is declining, which impacts budget authority. The District will likely use the three-year average for enrollment for funding, which will generate more than just using the current year's numbers. The District is down twenty-nine students in the Elementary District and ten students in the High School District. The three percent funding increase from the state will actually be a 1.45% increase for Elementary and 1.06% for High School due to the decrease to enrollment. Mr. Zuffelato shared the budget projections for next fiscal year without a levy vote and how much voted levy authority the District may have. Information was also shared on House Bill 252 in which expands the budget authority to address the high cost of housing and allowable expenditures.

FY 27 BUDGET  
PROJECTIONS  
PRESENTATION - D.  
ZUFFELATO

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve cancelation of outstanding warrants:

- Warrant 390099 – 7/12/2023
- Warrant 392764 – 8/7/2024

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUTSTANDING  
WARRANTS

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

Motion by Riley, second by Pacheco, to approve the Flathead County Elections Agreement to conduct the 2026 school district elections.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
FLATHEAD COUNTY  
ELECTIONS  
AGREEMENT

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve resolution 448 – Call for an Elementary District election by mail ballot, revising by taking out the part about Lake County.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
RESOLUTION 448

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve Resolution 449 – Calling for a High School District election by mail ballot, removing Lake County.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
RESOLUTION 449

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Samantha Jones – Junior High School Track Coach; Michelle Woodard – High School Assistant Softball Coach

PERSONNEL:

Motion by Pacheco, second by Riley, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Terri Eckel – Ruder Family Advocate; Angela Tamburelli – Glacier Gateway Family Advocate (split stipend); Alicia Hakes – Glacier Gateway Family Advocate (split stipend); Alon Golan – Junior High Part-time Custodian

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 5-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
ELEMENTARY HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

REGULAR MEETING

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MOTION TO APPROVE  
HS AND DISTRICT-  
WIDE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Heupel, second by Pacheco, to approve the following High School/District-wide Hiring Recommendations: Scarlet Kaplan – High School Assistant Swim Coach; Tatem Schweikert – High School Assistant Tennis Coach; Crystal Fisher – Non-CDL Activity Driver; Valerie Parsons – Non-CDL Activity Driver; Daniel Boutwell – Non-CDL Activity Driver; Tammy Graham – Hot Lunch Building Site Lead  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
SUBSTITUTE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Pacheco, to approve the substitute hires.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Motion by Mumby, second by Heupel, to approve the following out-of-state travel request:  
- Alia Hanson – Democracy in Dialogue Virtual Exchange Facilitator – January 11-16, 2026 – Washington D.C. – Travel expenses paid by DIDVE  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 6-0.

MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING:

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Scheduled Finance Committee Meeting – December 22, 2025 – 3:00 P.M. – Administrative Conference Room
- Transportation Committee Meeting will wait until January 2026.
- Superintendent Evaluation – January 26, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:08 P.M.

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Board Chair

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Business Manager/Clerk

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
JANUARY 12, 2026

Unofficial

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, January 12, 2026, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair  
Barbara Riley ..... Vice Chair  
Megan Upton ..... Trustee  
Justin Cheff ..... Trustee  
Keri Hill ..... Trustee  
Heather Mumby ..... Trustee  
Amanda Pacheco..... Trustee  
Casey Heupel ..... Trustee  
Cory Dziowgo..... Superintendent of Schools

ABSENT:

Dustin Zuffelato ..... Business Manager/District Clerk

Call to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chair Rocksund.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Heupel, second by Pacheco, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Passed 8-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Upton, second by Cheff, to approve the consent agenda.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of December Bills
- Approval of Investment Reports
- Out-of-District Approval – SY 25-26
  - o 26-202

Passed 8-0

Public Participation:

Approximately nine (9) people participated in the meeting remotely via Google Meets.  
Approximately twelve (12) people participated in person.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Sophomore Class President, Chloe Kinsella, and Vice President, Grace Kinsella, shared the happenings at the High School. Before the winter break there were many holiday celebrations. The student council is in the planning stages for Bleed Blue Week. Athletic teams have been busy with competitions and the Speech and Debate team won their last tournament over Whitefish. Finals are here next week and the Senior Reality Fair is February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Written Reports:

REPORTS:

Board Standing Committees' reports are located on the District's Website.  
The Elementary School Principals (Penni Anello, Allison Hawes, and Ted Miller) provided the Board with written reports.

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High School Principal, Josh Gibbs, provided the Board with a written report.

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

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report.

Verbal Reports:

Trustee Barbara Riley provided the Board with the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). There is a board meeting at the end of January. Bridged Health Insurance will have a board meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2026. There are no final numbers as of yet on the number of school districts joining or the number of lives enrolling.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo thanked the High School for moving the flag pole and marquee. The work was donated by Swank Industries. Mr. Dziowgo shared an enrollment report from the 2018-2019 school year and the predictions for enrollment in the 2025-2026 school year. The prediction was very close at a plus/minus three to four percent. The Board of Public Education work session is coming up on Thursday and Friday, January 15 and 16 to consider the Charter School applications. The report currently has the District ranked third. Principals at the High School and Junior High will chat with students interested in the Student Advisory Council and will schedule a meeting around the needs of the students. The plan is to meet three to four times per school year.

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

ACTION/  
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Action/Discussion Items:

Motion by Mumby, second by Upton, to approve the Columbia Falls School District #6 Advanced Opportunities Grant Procedure Outline.

Last spring the District was approved for the grant and is able to reserve funds year after year. The idea is to remove expenditures to help parents. Ideas for the money must meet the strategic plan adopted by the School District.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO DENY  
OUT-OF-DISTRICT  
APPLICATION  
FOR STUDENT 26-205

Motion by Hill, second by Mumby, to deny the out-of-district application for student 26-205.

No comments were requested without going into an executive session for the privacy of the child.

Passed 8-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Ellie Green – Junior High Track Coach; Megan Blackman – High School/Ruder Special Education Paraeducator; Bryan McGrath – High School Track Coach

Motion by Pacheco, second by Cheff, to approve the following Elementary District hiring

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recommendations: Sarah Day – Ruder Kindergarten Paraeducator; Katie Robinson – Junior High Girls’ Basketball Coach  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
ELEMENTARY  
DISTRICT HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Upton, second by Heupel, to approve the following High School/District-wide Hiring Recommendations: Zulay Gonzalez – Custodian; Jessie Schaeffer – Non CDL Activity Bus Driver; Ellen Rogers – Food Service Helper/Floater; Melissa Davis – High School Assistant Softball Coach  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
HS AND DISTRICT-  
WIDE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Cheff, to approve the following out-of-state travel requests paid for by the Professional Development Fund:

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUT-OF-STATE  
TRAVEL  
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Jenny Lovering – Northwest Council for Computer Education Annual Conference, February 25-27, Seattle WA
- Alia Hanson – Northwest Council for Computer Education Annual Conference, February 25-27, Seattle WA
- Jeanette Price – French for All Institute, June 22-26, Austin TX
- Jenny Martin – Spanish Lessons in Columbia, Summer 2026.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

The Board acknowledged the following in-state travel requests paid by the Professional Development Fund, but do not need Board approval:

- Alicia Hakes – Montana Council of Exceptional Children, April 8-9, Bozeman MT
- Callie Moore – Montana Council of Exceptional Children, April 8-9, Bozeman MT
- Alex George – Montana Council of Exceptional Children, April 8-9, Bozeman MT
- Amy Caudill – Montana Council of Exceptional Children, April 8-9, Bozeman MT
- Derek Andrews – Family and Consumer Science State Conference, April 15-17, Dillon, MT

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Bond Steering Committee – Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 11:00 A.M. – Admin Conference Room
- Finance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 21, 2026 – 4:00 P.M. – Admin Conference Room
- Work Session – Superintendent Evaluation – Monday, January 26, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.
- Student Advisory Council – Principals will pick a date that works for the students.

MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING:

Executive Session:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board considered a uniform complaint regarding Policy 1700.

As the individual’s right to privacy outweighs the public’s right to know, Chair Rocksund call the meeting into Executive Session at 6:16 P.M.

Open Meeting resumed at 7:22 P.M.

The Board considered the Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2026

PAGE 4

Unofficial

MOTION TO APPROVE  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES

Motion by Cheff, second by Pacheco, to approve the executive session meeting minutes.  
Passed 8-0

MOTION TO DENY  
THE APPEAL OF THE  
UNIFORM COMPLAINT  
DECISION

Motion by Mumby, second by Upton, to deny the appeal of the uniform complaint decision.  
Passed 8-0

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:23 P.M.

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Board Chair

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Business Manager/Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
JANUARY 26, 2026

Official

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, January 26, 2026, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair  
Barbara Riley ..... Vice Chair  
Megan Upton..... Trustee  
Justin Cheff..... Trustee  
Keri Hill ..... Trustee  
Amanda Pacheco ..... Trustee  
Cory Dziowgo ..... Superintendent of Schools

ABSENT:

Heather Mumby..... Trustee  
Casey Heupel..... Trustee  
Dustin Zuffelato..... Business Manager/District Clerk

Call to order at 6:00 P.M.

Motion by Riley, second by Cheff, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Passed 6-0

Public Participation:  
No public Participation.

Action/Discussion Items:  
Review of the superintendent evaluation process using the Marzano-aligned evaluation system.  
- Instrument  
- Process and rubric.

Executive Session:

The Board reviewed the superintendent evaluation.

As the individual's right to privacy outweighs the public's right to know, Chair Rocksund called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:03 P.M.

Open Meeting resumed at 7:21 P.M.  
The Board considered the Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Upton, second by Cheff, to approve the executive session meeting minutes.  
Passed 6-0

Motion by Cheff, second by Pacheco, to approve a three-year superintendent contract starting July 1, 2026.  
Passed 6-0

CALL TO ORDER  
APPROVE AGENDA  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:  
ACTION /DISCUSSION ITEMS:  
EXECUTIVE SESSION:  
OPEN MEETING RESUMED  
MOTION TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
MOTION TO APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

SPECIAL MEETING

JANUARY 26, 2026

PAGE 2

Unofficial

MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING:

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Steering Committee Meeting for the High School Bond – Thursday, January 29, 2026 – 11:00 A.M.

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:23 P.M.

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Board Chair

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Business Manager/Clerk

# February Board Report

COLUMBIA FALLS  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6

Schools: Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary,  
Columbia Falls Junior High, Columbia Falls High School



## Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive Learning Environment

GG continues to take the steps necessary to implement the CKLA reading curriculum. Creating a supportive learning environment with a new curriculum begins with investing in high-quality professional development. On January 12th and 13th, we had a CKLA trainer model lessons deepening our understanding of evidence-based literacy practices, differentiation strategies, and analyzing informal assessment data.

## High Performing Workplace

With the end of the semester we begin to thoughtfully examine disciplinary, academic, and attendance data to understand trends, strengths, and areas of need. When teachers and leaders use this information to develop a clear, collaborative action plan we create a high performing workplace for staff and students. We use this information to ensure supports are targeted, resources are used effectively, and interventions timely.

## Organizational Effectiveness

Reteaching during the winter months for both students and staff on systems that make a school function is important. During January and February we are reteaching playground expectations and kindness. We enjoyed our first week back from break with daily lessons on playground expectation and have daily lessons planned for kindness the week of February 9th.

## Family & Community Engagement

One of our most popular events, Book Bingo and Book Fair was the kick off to "I love to Read" month. We have several family engagement activities happening through reading. We are participating in the Silverwood Reading challenge for a free ticket to Silverwood and Bikes for Books. We are working on planning our Annual Art night and Dinner evening. We will conduct our family survey, showcase student art, and have dinner.

## District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

We have had spaces added to our building for storage of supplies keeping our classrooms tidy. We are starting to freshen up paint in common areas that are showing some wear and tear. We are excited to follow in the CFH footsteps and hang our MT Tribal flags in our common space. Maintaining our new school takes teamwork from all staff and students.

## Upcoming Events

- Kindness Week February 9-13
- Bikes for Books Month of February and March
- PTO sponsored Ice Skating at the Den, February 16th

## Attendance Celebrations

- 56 students with Awesome Attendance
- January Golden G Award for 1st grade
- Wildcat photos for Early Learning Awesome Attendance

# Glacier Gateway

# February Board Report

## SCHOOL DISTRICT #6

Schools: Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary,  
Columbia Falls Junior High, Columbia Falls High School



# Ruder Elementary

### Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive Learning Environment

Over the past month, grade-level teams at Ruder Elementary have utilized the Amplify CKLA self-assessment tool to reflect on their implementation of the new reading curriculum. Results were reviewed and discussed during grade-level PLCs to inform instructional decisions and ensure alignment with research-based best practices.

### High Performing Workplace

Ongoing Professional Development Ruder Elementary speech-language pathologists will be providing professional development for staff focused on the use of AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) devices, equipping educators with strategies to effectively communicate with and support several of our students who rely on these tools.

### Organizational Effectiveness

Ruder Elementary Student Support Team (SST) continues to streamline systems for identifying and supporting students while intentionally carving out weekly time to review Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) and maintain clear, consistent communication with teachers. This collaborative work strengthens alignment across programs and ensures timely, coordinated support for students.

### Family & Community Engagement

Ruder Elementary continues to strengthen community partnerships by welcoming former Ruder teacher and current Columbia Falls Police Sergeant, Brandon Rice, as a guest speaker at this week's awards assemblies. Officer Rice will share his career journey from education to law enforcement while connecting his experiences to the "L" in GROWL—Leadership, providing students with meaningful real-world career insight.

### District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

Ruder Elementary continues to foster a safe and welcoming learning environment by opening its classrooms to two interns from Columbia Falls High School. These students are spending time supporting ESL learners and working in lower elementary classrooms, creating meaningful educational opportunities while strengthening cross-school relationships within the district.

### Upcoming Events

- Ruder Spelling Bee - February 11th
- Leadership Awards Assemblies - February 13th
- Books for Bikes - February & March
- Great Brain/Science Fair - February 19th

### Ruder PTO Shout Out

- Missoula Children's Theatre will be back at Ruder the first week of May. A huge shout out to the Ruder PTO for fundraising and providing this awesome opportunity for our students.

# February Board Report Building/Department

COLUMBIA FALLS  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
Schools: Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary,  
Columbia Falls Junior High, Columbia Falls High School



## Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive -learning Environment

We have switched our WIN intervention and Extended Studies classes to continue a responsive and differentiated learning environment. The 3rd quarter WIN intervention focuses on reading. Extended Studies has shifted a bit to include a maker space. In addition, we are looking at offering alternative activities, such as weightlifting as a pilot.

The Nate Chute Foundation presented to our 7th graders about mental health and suicide awareness.

## High Performing Workplace

During our most recent collaborative sessions, Department PLCs and WIN teams utilized their meeting times to review student data to inform planning for the third quarter. This work focused on refining the quarter's curriculum and strategically organizing the next cycle of WIN learning groups. In addition, teachers were able to meet with their content partners to plan for and adjust classroom instruction.

## Organizational Effectiveness

The MTSS team recently met to refine the BLUE expectations re-teach protocols, ensuring that behavioral and academic norms are reinforced effectively. Furthermore, the team reviewed the SWAT referral process, streamlining the pathway for staff to identify and connect students supports.

Our scheduling committee met for the first time to start identifying needs.

## Family & Community Engagement

The energy in the building was electric during our 6th Grade Activity Fun Night! Hosted by our incredible PTO, the evening was a huge win, giving our youngest Wildcats a chance to bond, laugh, and have fun. Students participated in many different activities, including face painting, dodgeball, jenga, and more! The event raised money for our PTO & 8th grade class. 8th graders & 6th gr. Student Council helped with the event, which was a success.

## District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

Our school got a vibrant & meaningful upgrade! We are incredibly proud to announce the addition of tribal flags representing the Montana Tribes and Reservations. This beautiful display is a powerful celebration of our state's rich heritage and serves as a daily reminder that every student's history and culture have a place of honor right here at Columbia Falls Junior High!

## Upcoming Events

- No School Monday, Feb. 16th
- Pops & Pies Concert w/HS Thursday, Feb. 19th
- Bleed Blue Tour Tuesday, Feb. 24th
- Girls Basketball Tournaments Feb. 23rd-28th
- NWMNT Youth Sing Event Friday, Feb. 27th

## Wildcat Way

- We love our Wildcat Way Assemblies! We awarded students for attendance and uniting others. We played a game with Wildcat winners. Student Council continues to find ways to add to CEJH by planning dances and activities

# Junior High

# February Board Report Building/Department

Schools: Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary,  
Columbia Falls Junior High, Columbia Falls High School

COLUMBIA FALLS

SCHOOL DISTRICT #6



## Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive Learning Environment

Members of the high school MTSS team attended Wayne Calendar presentation on MTSS behavioral supports for Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III. The team is working to apply these strategies to strengthen behavior supports and further support the implementation of the high school's MTSS program. This work supports a positive school climate and ensures students receive appropriate behavioral interventions based on need.

## High Performing Workplace

Both building principals attended a regional principals conference focused on leadership development, school improvement strategies, and innovative programming. Principals participated in sessions on topics such as the use of artificial intelligence in schools, instructional and program supports, and leadership roundtables that provided practical ideas for implementation. The conference also provided opportunities to engage with new business and community partners and explore potential collaborations that could enhance student learning experiences across the district.

## Organizational Effectiveness

Our focused efforts to improve student attendance are already showing positive results. Overall attendance has increased from 91.87% to 92.56%, and total days absent have decreased from 5,287 last year to 4,566 this year. We believe the impact of this initiative will be even greater in the spring. Fall attendance data reflects more lenient practices due to transportation challenges and the complexity of operating across three campuses. As these conditions stabilize, we anticipate continued improvement in keeping students engaged and learning every day.

## Family & Community Engagement

In partnership with the Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber's Education Committee has been developing a micro-credential program designed to support students as they transition into the local workforce. This program provides students with opportunities to earn micro-credentials in key skill areas aligned with local business needs. The district is currently piloting the first micro-credential focused on professionalism with a small group of students, with plans to expand offerings as the program continues to develop.

## District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

Janitorial staff have been developing daily and weekly cleaning checklists for each area of the building to establish clear standards of cleanliness and ensure consistency across facilities. These checklists support effective onboarding of new and substitute custodial staff and help maintain consistent cleaning practices. This work also includes identifying priority areas and developing plans to address cleaning needs during periods of short staffing, ensuring school environments remain clean, safe, and supportive of learning.

# High School

## Upcoming Events

- No School Monday, Feb. 16th
- Pops & Pies Concert w/HS Thursday, Feb. 19th
- Bleed Blue Week 2/23 - 2/27
- High School Musical Play 2/26-2/28

Shout out to our lunch staff for their creativity and dedication! They've started offering a grab-and-go option near the exit to help students get their lunches as they leave campus, while also supporting and sustaining participation in our Community Eligibility Program.

# February Board Report

## Building/Department

COLUMBIA FALLS  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
Schools: Glacier Gateway, Ruder Elementary,  
Columbia Falls Junior High, Columbia Falls High School



### Challenging, Diverse, and Supportive Learning Environment

The district staff participated in multiple sessions focused on curriculum implementation, including Enhanced Planning for CKLA (K-5), IXL Elevate training (6-8), and Montana Education Curriculum Consortium work for high school ELA.

### High Performing Workplace

The Calendar Committee met twice to synthesize January staff survey feedback into two draft calendars. These options will be submitted for a staff vote, with a final recommendation scheduled for presentation to the Board on March 9th. I

### Organizational Effectiveness

The District MTSS Leadership Team has been working to develop tracking systems for students who are in interventions and is currently exploring how Infinite Campus can be leveraged for this purpose. This includes investigating how system "flags" can be established to provide teachers with immediate visibility into active interventions, ensuring better alignment between classroom instruction and support services.

### Family & Community Engagement

The district is in the middle of the second Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST) assessment window for grades 3-8 on March 6. These assessments provide immediate performance data in English Language Arts and Mathematics to inform instruction, while parents have been granted access to digital reports to monitor their child's progress.

### District Facilities Support & Enhance Learning

The Technology Committee convened to evaluate hardware lifecycles, specifically interactive displays at the high school. Consequently, the committee established a plan to replace high school interactive boards with Smart Boards to modernize instructional delivery tools.

- ### Upcoming Events
- Calendar Committee 2/24
  - District MTSS Leadership Team Meeting 3/2
  - Tech Committee Meeting 3/5

Quotable

"Live to learn and you will really learn to live."

John Maxwell

# Curriculum

**TO:** Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager/Clerk  
**DATE:** February 5, 2026  
**RE:** **Business Office Report for the February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting**

### **Annual School Election**

Trustee Election –Three Elementary District Trustee positions expire in May

- Barb Riley
- Megan Upton,
- Keri Hill

**Deadline to file for candidacy is February 9, 2026.**

### **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee has been active. Conducted a meeting December 22, 2025. Conducted a follow-up meeting January 21, 2026. The Committee recommended not utilizing the levy authority related to high-cost housing as too many unknowns concerning the use of funds and the ongoing levy authority. Additionally, the community support to raise taxes to support District staff with the issue of high-cost housing was not deemed appropriate as the entire community is grappling with this issue. The Committee reviewed the federal funding, specifically the Title I program in which an additional \$238k was appropriated in FY26. Committee recommendation regarding the most effective use of these (additional) funds is to retain flexibility to mitigate issues if the funds were no longer available in the future. Continue funding (limited amount) of professional development and secure funds for curriculum licenses/materials as opposed to using for ongoing funding of staff FTE. The Committee reviewed enrollment, class offerings, and staffing levels and determined it necessary to align staff to declining enrollment. The Committee recommendation is to balance the budget without requesting a general fund operational levy.

### **Flathead Rapids Youth Soccer – Facility Use Agreement**

You recall the District executed a two-year agreement for the term FY26 and FY27. This agreement covers use of the Canyon Elementary and the Multi Use Fields. Use of the Canyon Elementary is January-April and limited to the evenings as well as weekends. The Rapids reserve the fields one month in advance. The agreement grants priority to the Flathead Rapids. Flathead Rapids pay \$15 per player per season. This equated to \$6,315 in FY25. This revenue did cover the cost of water to irrigate the fields. As you recall, the District recently purchased a striping machine. Flathead Rapids proposed an amendment to the agreement to leverage the use of this equipment to stripe/paint the fields. Flathead Rapids will pay an additional \$5,000 for this maintenance service. The amendment defines the responsibilities, locations, schedule, and compensation related to the athletic field striping services. The District is responsible to stripe the multi-use fields as well as the fields at Horine Park that the Rapids (lease) from the City. I have confirmed with the City that the District is granted access to perform this work on the city owned fields. Striping will occur every two weeks during the Spring and Fall soccer seasons; April to mid-June and mid-August to mid-October. Additional discussions are ongoing regarding the condition of the fields. Recommended improvements include top dressing, soil testing, fertilizer, field rotation, and defined watering schedule(s).

## **High School Baseball Program**

As you recall, the baseball program for the upcoming season is operating without a formal funding commitment from another entity and without an appropriation within our current year general fund operating budget. The initial term of the MOA with the now defunct Columbia Falls High School Baseball Association expired at the end of last season. The Coaches and Athletic Director are confident that the program can fundraise the \$30,000 necessary to cover the upcoming seasons' operating costs. As we look ahead, the District is currently working on determining how they would secure use of the Sapa Johnsrud Field including the applicable cost and maintenance requirements. Operating an athletic program without a District owned facility is unchartered territory. Ensuring the School Board understands the obligations and general landscape of the shared use agreements will be necessary for you to make an educated decision as to continue this program. I will be reporting back as we learn more about the current arrangements as well as how the renewal of the lease for the property with the DNRC in March 2027 will impact the District's ability to utilize this field. The District is meeting with the Columbia Falls Baseball Association who has had this lease since 1992. Just a couple of tidbits of information to share at the current juncture: Columbia Falls Baseball Association (CFBA) retains exclusive rights to renew the lease with the DNRC. All field improvements (including the grandstands) are owned by the CFBA. Current lease rate is \$5,603 per year. This is likely to triple (at least) upon renewal, based on current market value appraisals that DNRC is statutorily required to align to. The District currently pays 50% of this lease amount. The Glacier Babe Ruth League currently subleases use of the facility from the CFBA akin to the District's sublease to use the field. Numerous youth baseball programs intertwined in sharing use of the field and splitting the applicable costs including insurance, electricity, water, maintenance, etc. will make it a bit tricky to formalize agreements and ensure all parties are communicating and working together.

## **Athletic Trainer**

The District reviewed this position based on the retirement of Troy Bowman in June 2026. Logan Health has offered to provide this service akin to the other High School(s) in the Flathead Valley (at no fee). The services will be provided at all varsity athletic events and will be available to provide such services in and around the training room when other sub-varsity events are occurring. The position is currently served through a combination of a full-time teacher contract, an athletic trainer stipend, and an athletic director stipend. The District is working to restructure the teacher responsibilities through class schedule adjustments. The Athletic Trainer responsibilities would be contracted through Logan Health. The remaining duties conducted by Mr. Bowman, who is truly a unicorn to try to replace, will be placed into an **Activities Director** job description that provides leadership, supervision, and community engagement to serve the High School Athletic and Activity programs.

## **Teacher Union Negotiations**

The Spring enrollment count date was 2/2/2026. This information will be used to generate FY27 budget projections. Preliminary budget figures will be provided by OPI before the end of February. The intent is to formally begin negotiations before spring break. In the interim, the District is working with union leadership to share information in an effort to ensure the meetings are effective. This information includes resolving the fifteen teachers who landed off-schedule as a result of the "catch-all" clause that assured everyone had at least a 3% increase in FY26 considering the seismic changes made to the salary schedule. In addition to the placement matrix on the salary schedule, the admin and union are sharing teacher tenure data concerning years of service to SD6 as well as total teaching experience in an effort to understand the impact(s) of changing the eligibility for the various career stipends. Information will be conveyed regarding the changes to the health insurance program under the new statewide trust. This includes access to new benefits including disability insurance, telehealth, and other ancillary services with no out-of-pocket costs. Sharing information in advance, starting formal meetings before spring break, all in an effort to ratify a contract before June 1.

### **Book Love and Lit**

Grades: 11, 12

1 year

1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Students must complete and pass English 9 and 10 with a grade of a C or better in order to enroll. Book Love and Lit is an English elective designed to build a genuine love of reading through the study of modern young adult literature. This course places an emphasis on contemporary, high-interest novels rather than traditional classic texts, giving students the opportunity to explore stories that reflect current issues, experiences, and perspectives. Students enrolling in this course should enjoy reading and demonstrate solid reading skills. Through reading, discussion, analysis, and creative response, students will develop critical thinking skills while exploring how literature connects to their own lives and the world around them.

### **Outdoor Recreation and Lifetime Fitness**

Grades: 10, 11, 12

1 year

1 credit

This full-year elective introduces students to a variety of lifelong outdoor recreational activities using the resources of the Flathead Valley, with units such as: mountain biking, hiking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, fly fishing, and water safety. Students will learn the essential skills, safety protocols, and principles for responsible enjoyment of the outdoors. A required Lifetime Fitness component is integrated throughout the year, utilizing free weights, cardio, and mobility exercises. This course emphasizes practical skills, physical wellness, and environmental stewardship.

### **Pre-AP Geometry and Statistics**

Grades: 12

1 year

1 credit

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits of Math, OR the completion of Algebra 2

\*\*\*\*Math Teacher Approval Required to ensure correct placement.

This course is offered primarily for those seeking a 4th credit of math, but not seeking College level credit or AP Classes. The course will cover Montana State HS Mathematics Statistics Standards, as well as more in-depth and advanced topics in Geometry. Topics include, but are not limited to, categorical and quantitative data, inferences and conclusions, conditional probability and rules of probability, tools and techniques of geometrical measurement, measurement in congruent and similar figures, measurement in 2 and 3 dimensions, proof and transformational geometry.

## CONTRACT FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES

This Agreement is entered into by and between Columbia Falls School District, 501 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 ("School") and The Summit Medical Fitness Center dba Logan Health Medical Fitness Center, 205 Sunnyview Lane, Kalispell, Montana 59901 ("Service Provider"), effective on the date of the last signature below ("Effective Date"). School and Service Provider are referred to herein at times individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties."

### RECITALS

School operates public school facilities in Columbia Falls, Montana and requires that certain health care services be provided to it. Service Provider agrees to perform those services for School under the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

### AGREEMENT

In consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, it is agreed between School and Service Provider as follows:

- I. **Services.** The services to be provided by Service Provider under this Agreement are those set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein.
- II. **Payment/Monthly Statement.** As part of its community benefit program, the Service Provider agrees to provide the services at no cost to School. Service Provider will transmit to School each month a statement describing the character and amount of services provided during the previous month.
- III. **Service Provider Representations.** Service Provider hereby represents and warrants that:
  - A. It has familiarized itself with the terms of this Agreement and the Exhibit to this Agreement and that it has investigated and fully understands: (1) the conditions under which it will be providing services; (2) the character, quality, quantity and scope of the work required of it; and (3) the requirements of this Agreement and Exhibit "A" to this Agreement;
  - B. It will render the services called for under this Agreement with care, skill and diligence in accordance with the generally accepted practices and standards of the profession in which it is engaged;
  - C. It has the methods and means to provide the services called for under this Agreement, including but not limited to the necessary infrastructure, plant, equipment, capital and staff; and
  - D. It is engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession or business and that the services it is providing under this Agreement are being rendered in the course of such trade, occupation, profession or business;

IV. **Relationship of the Parties.** The Parties intend that an independent contractor relationship be created by this Agreement. School is interested only in the results to be achieved and responsibility for the conduct and control of the work will lie solely with Service Provider. Service Provider undertakes and agrees to furnish and pay for all labor, supervision and other overhead costs necessary to perform any services hereunder, except where School has otherwise agreed herein in writing.

Service Provider is not to be considered an agent or employee of School for any purpose. Service Provider shall be responsible for all applicable federal and state taxes and for complying with all state workers' and/or unemployment compensation laws pertaining to the employees that it may utilize in providing services to School under this Agreement. Neither Service Provider nor its employees shall be eligible for any benefits provided by School to its employees including, but not limited to, social security, unemployment insurance, sick leave, vacation leave, and public employee's retirement benefits.

V. **Staffing/Subcontractors/Assignment.** Service Provider agrees to provide a qualified workforce of sufficient size to perform the services called for under this Agreement. Service Provider will identify its staff members to School by name and qualifications and School expressly reserves the right to terminate this Agreement should staff qualifications not be adequate to insure completion of the work in a professional and timely manner.

Service Provider also agrees to identify any and all subcontractors, firms or other individuals who will perform work on behalf of Service Provider and are not employees of Service Provider. Service Provider agrees that it will not assign or subcontract any of its rights or obligations under this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the express written approval of School. All subcontracted work must be approved by School and Service Provider agrees to ensure that each of its subcontractors is bound to it by the same terms and conditions of this Agreement.

In an effort to comply with 20-3-323, MCA, all individual(s) who will perform work on behalf of the Service Provider shall complete a fingerprint-based national criminal history background check pursuant to the educator licensure policies of the Board of Public Education. The background verification shall be provided to the School District prior to performing services defined in this agreement.

VI. **Access to Facilities.** School agrees to provide Service Provider with such access to its facilities, supplies, and equipment as may be necessary to allow Service Provider to perform its obligations under this Agreement. Service Provider will be responsible for maintaining the security of any keys or other forms of access mechanisms provided to it by School and shall promptly notify School in the event that such keys or other forms of access mechanisms are lost or otherwise compromised.

VII. **Record Confidentiality and Retention.** School and Service Provider agree to comply with state and federal privacy requirements that each may be subject to, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 USC 1232g) ("FERPA") and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"), as applicable.

VIII. **Compliance with Laws/Nondiscrimination.** The Parties agree to conduct their relationship under the Agreement in full compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws. In addition, the Parties certify that they, and their respective subcontractors, will not violate the Anti-Kickback Statute and the Stark Law with respect to their performance of the Agreement. Service Provider agrees that any hiring that it or its subcontractors may undertake in the performance of this Agreement will be made on the basis of merit and qualifications and that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, national origin or any other category protected by law.

IX. **No Referral Requirement.** The Parties agree that there is no requirement that School, student athletes, and/or the student athlete's parents will be required to choose to use Service Provider's providers or services for any necessary follow up healthcare services.

X. **Dispute Resolution/Severability/Wavier.** If controversies arise that cannot be resolved by the Parties through informal meetings and discussions in good faith.

In the event that any provision of this Agreement may be held to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable by law, the remaining provisions shall be binding upon the Parties. Any waiver by either Party of any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement in any instance shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver of any such term or condition for purposes of establishing any subsequent breach of the term or condition.

XI. **Indemnity/Insurance.** The services to be provided by Service Provider under this Agreement will be performed entirely at Service Provider's risk. Each Party agrees to defend, indemnify and hold the other Party and its officers, directors, trustees, agents and employees harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, causes of action, losses, liabilities costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs awarded by a duly appointed arbitrator) based upon, arising out of or in any way attributable to (i) such Party's negligence, intentional wrongdoing or misrepresentation, (ii) the failure of such Party to perform its obligations under this Agreement, or (iii) such Party's violation of any law or regulation applicable to its duties under this Agreement, provided that the indemnified Party notifies such Party of the claim and grants such party authority and control of the defense of settlement of such claim. This indemnification shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Service Provider agrees to carry and maintain appropriate workers compensation coverage for all of its employees and will provide proof of such coverage to School upon request. Service Provider further agrees to maintain appropriate professional liability insurance extending coverage to its activities under this Agreement.

XII. **Miscellaneous.**

A. **Force Majeure.** Neither Party shall be deemed to be in default under this Agreement for any delay or failure to perform under this Agreement which may be considered to result, directly or indirectly, from acts of God, civil or military authority, acts of public enemy, war, terrorism, accident, fire, explosion, earthquake, flood, other weather conditions or natural disaster, failure of transportation, or strikes or other event that is not within the reasonable ability of the Party to avoid ("Force Majeure"). The Parties will use reasonable commercial efforts to avoid adverse effects from a Force Majeure event and perform as promptly as possible upon elimination of the event.

B. Notification. The Service Provider and School agree to designate in writing a person authorized to act as their representative and to receive any notice called for under this Agreement. School will give prompt written notice to Service Provider whenever School observes or otherwise becomes aware of any defect in the services or other event that may substantially affect Service Provider's performance under this Agreement.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE:  
Superintendent Cory Dziowgo  
Columbia Falls School District  
PO Box 1259  
Columbia Falls MT 59912  
406-892-6550

SERVICE PROVIDER REPRESENTATIVE:  
Kelly Malmin, Youth Development Manager  
The Summit Medical Fitness Center  
406-758-7323

C. Term and Termination. The term of this Agreement shall be for one (1) year commencing on the Effective Date and will renew automatically for successive one (1) year terms. Either Party may terminate this Agreement without being required to state a reason for termination upon at least sixty (60) days' advance written notice.

Either Party may terminate this Agreement without cause by providing at least sixty (60) days advance written notice.

D. Entire Agreement/Modification. This Agreement represents the sole and entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes any and all prior negotiations, representations and agreements between them, oral or otherwise relative to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may be amended only by written instrument signed by both School and Service Provider.

**THE SUMMIT MEDICAL FITNESS CENTER**  
**("SERVICE PROVIDER")**

**Columbia Falls SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**("SCHOOL")**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

## EXHIBIT A

The Parties agree that Service Provider will provide professional athletic training services to School as outlined below:

1. Provide services attendant to the recognition, evaluation, care and treatment of student athlete athletic injuries for School programs in accordance with NATA, MHSA and School guidelines;
2. Provide guidance and direction to School Athletic Director, coaching staff and when necessary support staff with regard to the care and prevention of athletic injuries, including but not limited to the provision of information concerning optimum health and safety, nutrition, conditioning, preventive measures, etc.;
3. Coordinate an injured athlete's follow-up treatment with their selected healthcare provider(s) or rehabilitation specialist(s), and facilitate communication with the injured athlete and family to allow for a prompt return to play;
4. Establish and maintain an effective system of record-keeping for records pertaining to a student athlete's physical, consent forms, medical release forms and other medical records;
5. Assist the coaching staff in the preparation and maintenance of travel med-kits;
6. Establish and maintain an effective system for documenting access to School's training facilities by other health care providers, including but not limited to procedures to ensure that appropriate consent and authorization forms are secured by such providers from students and maintained as part of the records referred to in Item 4 above;
7. Effectively communicate with School Athletic Director, coaching staff and when necessary support staff concerning the status of injured athletes;
8. Effectively communicate with physicians, school/coaching staff, parents, and teachers concerning athletic training issues.
9. To the extent that any individuals on the coaching staff sustain injuries during the athletic event, the Athletic Trainer will be available to provide the aforementioned services to such individuals.

Service Provider will provide the above services at all varsity athletic events to the extent possible, recognizing that some varsity events occur simultaneously at different locations, and will be available to provide such services in and around the training room when other sub-varsity events are occurring. School will provide a separate schedule of times when Service Provider will be required to be available to provide the services called for under this Agreement, and that Schedule shall be considered a part of this Exhibit A.

**Substitutes  
Temporary Staff**

Pay Rates  
FY 2026

	Current		Proposed
<b>Custodian</b>			
Substitute Custodian	\$ 16.00	\$ (5.49) 74%	\$ 17.00
Custodian-year 0	\$ 21.49		
Temporary Summer Custodian	\$ 19.25		

<b>Para Educator</b>			
Substitute Para	\$ 15.00	\$ (4.98) 75%	\$ 17.00
Para-year 0	\$ 19.98		

<b>Hot Lunch</b>			
Substitute Hot Lunch	\$ 15.00	\$ (6.49) 70%	\$ 17.00
Hot Lunch Helper-year 0	\$ 21.49		
Temporary Summer Food Service	\$ 19.25		

<b>Sub Teacher</b>			
	\$ 115	Day	\$ 16.43 per hour/7 hours per day
	\$ 125	Day	\$ 17.86
	\$ 135	Day	\$ 19.29
		Certified	

Dustin Zuffelato <d\_zuffelato@cfmthschools.net>



**Invoice**

1 message

MTSBA <info@mtsba.org>

Fri, Jan 30, 2026 at 12:11 PM

To: "d\_zuffelato@cfmthschools.net" <d\_zuffelato@cfmthschools.net>, "lcarparelli@mtsba.org" <lcarparelli@mtsba.org>

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

Block sender | Report

**INVOICE**

863 Great Northern Blvd Ste 301  
Helena, MT 59601 United States  
Phone: (406) 442-2180  
www.mtsba.org

Invoice Number	0019584
Invoice Date	6/1/2026
Invoice Term	30
Due Date	7/1/2026

Columbia Falls Pub Schls  
Dustin Zuffelato  
PO Box 1259  
Columbia Falls, MT 59912  
United States

**Memberships**

Membership Renew for  
Membership Type: Public School District Boards of Trustees  
Membership Term: 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
Public School District Board of Trustees	1	\$14,970.00	\$14,970.00

Total: \$14,970.00  
 Tax Total: \$0.00  
 Shipping Total: \$0.00  
 Grand Total: \$14,970.00  
 Payment: \$0.00  
 Balance: \$14,970.00

**Thank you for your business!**

Please detach the portion below and return it with your payment.

**REMITTANCE**

Please make checks payable to:  
Montana School Boards Association

863 Great Northern Blvd Ste 301  
Helena, MT 59601 United States  
(406) 442-2180

Invoice Number	Order 0019584
Name	
Due Date	7/1/2026
Balance	\$14,970.00

29

**Substitute Hires**

**Feb 2026**

**Teacher**

LNAME	FNAME	Teacher
Inabnit	Trevin	Teacher or Aide
Wambaugh	Kurt	Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide
		Teacher or Aide

**Secretary / Nurse**

LNAME	FNAME	Other
Meyer	Brittney	Secretary
Grilley	Mary	Secretary
		Nurse

**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
Seal	Amanda	Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian
		Custodian

2/3/2026