

**LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
PAGE 1**

LINCOLN BOARD ROOM

215 7th Ave South
Lewistown, MT 59457

MONDAY, March 9, 2026

CALL TO ORDER (6:00pm)

1. Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Motion to Set Agenda
4. Report – Student Representative to the Board
5. Report – Lewistown Education Association (LEA)
6. Report – Committees of the Board
7. Report – Election Information
8. Report – Budget
9. Report – Investments
10. Report – Superintendent

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

11. Recognition of Parents, Patrons, and Others Who Wish to Address the Board on Non-Agenda Items

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA

12. Minutes
13. Claims
14. Transportation
15. Certification for Indirect Cost Rates for FY 2026-2027
16. Personnel Report

ACTION ITEMS – OLD BUSINESS

17. Second Reading of Policies

ACTION ITEMS – NEW BUSINESS

18. Pursue Necessary Pre-Bond Contracted Services and Bond Resolution Language for a Fergus High School Bond
19. 2026-2027 School Calendar
20. Collective Bargaining Agreement
21. Certified Contracts for 2026-2027
22. Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Certified Staff Contract without Cause
23. Certified Administrator Contracts for 2026-2027
24. Set Elementary District Number One General Fund Levy Amount
25. Set High School District Number One General Fund Levy Amount

**LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
-CONTINUED PAGE 2-**

LINCOLN BOARD ROOM
215 7th Ave South
Lewistown, MT 59457

MONDAY, March 9, 2026

26. Set Elementary District Number One Building Reserve Safety Fund Levy Amount
27. Set High School District Number One Building Reserve Safety Fund Levy Amount
28. Set Elementary District Number One Building Reserve Fund Levy Amount
29. Set High School District Number One Building Reserve Fund Levy Amount
30. Approve Adoption of Resolution Estimating Changes in Revenues/Mills from Tuition, Adult Education, Building Reserve, Flexibility, Transportation and Bus Depreciation Levies for School Fiscal Year 2027
31. Approve Multi-District Agreement for Technology Services

ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board of Education encourages participation at public School Board meetings. Under normal circumstances it is desirable to allow everyone to address the Board. However, when there are many persons who wish to address the Board, the following rules shall apply to protect the public's right to be heard:

- Speaker must first be recognized by the Chair and identify him/herself.
- Comments may not infringe on the rights to privacy of another.
- Each speaker shall be allowed a presentation not to exceed three (3) minutes at the appropriate time on the Agenda.
- There will be a limit of one presentation per person.
- The Board requests that organizations and groups be represented by a single spokesperson. The spokesperson for each group shall be limited to a presentation of three (3) minutes. To save repetition and time, the Board also requests that persons not speak if a previous speaker has expressed a similar position on the same issue.
- Appropriate comments are welcome but no action is likely to be taken at this time to ensure that others have the opportunity to address the same issue also. Items discussed may, at the discretion of the Board, be placed on a later agenda.
- The Board will accept comments from the public on each agenda item as it is discussed.

By a majority vote of the Board, these rules may be suspended for special reasons at any particular meeting. Further, the Board may reserve the right to adjust the length of time.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#4

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT - STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

PREPARED BY: Sophie Lark, Student Representative

SUMMARY:

Fergus High School Student Representative to the Board of Trustees will provide a report on upcoming activities at Fergus High School.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#5

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – LEWISTOWN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

PREPARED BY: Luke Brandon LEA President

SUMMARY:

The Lewistown Education Association (LEA) would like to update the Board of Trustees on the activities and happenings for their organization.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#6

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

PREPARED BY: Committees

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees has the opportunity to provide updates on their various committees.

Attached is the list for Standing Committees of the Board for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Committees Meetings since February Board Meeting:

Collective Bargaining Committee – 2/16/26, 3/2/26

Curriculum Committee – 3/18/26

Activity Committee – 3/18/26

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD
2025-2026 School Year

Committee	Number on Comm.	Kris Birdwell	Whitney Brady	Lisa Koch	Mariah Shammel	Jeff Southworth	Carson Sweeney	Eric Vanderbeek
Building & Grounds	3	X	X			X		
Safety Committee	2				X			X

OTHER COMMITTEES WITH BOARD REPRESENTATION
2025-2026 School Year

Committee	Number on Comm.	Kris Birdwell	Whitney Brady	Lisa Koch	Mariah Shammel	Jeff Southworth	Carson Sweeney	Eric Vanderbeek
Activities	3	X	X			X		
Curriculum Committees:								
World Languages	2		X	X				
Health Insurance Program	2			X				X
School Calendar	1							X
Vocational Advisory Council	2					X	X	
Gaining	3				X	X	X	
Policy Review	3			X	X			X

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#7

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – ELECTION INFORMATION

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager

SUMMARY:

Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager/District Clerk, will report on the election calendar and procedures for 2026.

Attached are the Terms of Office Listing and the 2026 School Election Calendar.

Board members terms of office that are due to expire in 2026 include: Kris Birdwell, Lisa Koch and Carson Sweeney.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD MEMBERS TERMS OF OFFICE

As currently exists, Board members terms of office are as follows:

	Expire 2026	Expire 2027	Expire 2028
SCHOOL DISTRICT #1	Kris Birdwell Carson Sweeney Lisa Koch	Eric VanderBeek Jeff Southworth	Whitney Brady Mariah Shammel

School District #1 -- Three (3) 3-Year Terms:

_____ 3-year term (to expire in 2029)

_____ 3-year term (to expire in 2029)

_____ 3-year term (to expire in 2029)

Declaration of Intents Filed for Nomination of School Board Trustee:

Karly DeMars
Scott Dubbs
Sam Helmer
Serena Overcast
Benjamin Saunders
Logan M Smith
Carson Sweeney

**LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ELECTION HISTORY**

ELEMENTARY										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002		2003	2004	2005
AMOUNT	\$268,571.05	\$169,267.06	\$165,301.94	\$27,075.62	NONE	\$29,997.63	\$46,533.25	\$15,336.91	\$31,500.00	\$98,000.00
MILLS	28.25	17.49	14.71	2.05			4.65	1.52		
FOR	560	569	497	510			786	661		
AGAINST	324	291	17	166			287	249		
PASS/FAIL	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS		PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS
MAIL/POLL	POLL	POLL	POLL	POLL			POLL	POLL		
TYPE	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	GF LEVY		TECH	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	TECH	BR LEVY (10YR)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	SEPT 2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
AMOUNT	\$24,110.65	\$77,903.95	NONE	\$123,863.99	\$111,435.00	\$10,715,000.00	\$211,108.25	NONE	NONE	\$0.00
MILLS	2.09	7.23		10.88	9.48	N/A	17.49			0.00
FOR	703	689		478	958	1421	923			991
AGAINST	287	392		521	726	2143	1165			155
PASS/FAIL	PASS	PASS		FAIL	PASS	FAIL	FAIL			PASS
MAIL/POLL	POLL	POLL		POLL	POLL	MAIL	MAIL			POLL
TYPE	GF LEVY	GF LEVY		GF LEVY	GF LEVY	BOND	GF LEVY			BUS BARN LAND

	2015		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021	2022
AMOUNT	\$98,000.00	\$79,449.41	\$98,000.00	\$68,606.20	NONE	\$44,638.12	\$51,646.08	NONE	\$20,400,000.00	\$56,896.87
MILLS	8.33	6.58	8.17	5.54		3.46	3.82		N/A	3.99
FOR	1126	1157	845	966		1295	1576		1484	1112
AGAINST	1173	1146	542	703		1039	1052		1342	1193
PASS/FAIL	FAIL	PASS	PASS	PASS		PASS	PASS		PASS	FAIL
MAIL/POLL	MAIL	MAIL	POLL	POLL		MAIL	MAIL		MAIL	MAIL
TYPE	BR LEVY (10 YR)	GF LEVY	BR LEVY (10 YR)	GF LEVY		GF LEVY	GF LEVY		BOND	GF LEVY

	2023	2024	2025						
AMOUNT	\$89,710.14	\$115,427.63	\$95,855.00						
MILLS	6.20	6.28	5.26						
# of VOTERS									
FOR	1246	1192	1171						
AGAINST	1444	1431	1352						
PASS/FAIL	FAIL	FAIL	FAIL						
VOTER TURNOUT									
MAIL/POLL	MAIL	MAIL	MAIL						
TYPE	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	GF LEVY						

HIGH SCHOOL										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002		2003	2004	2005
AMOUNT	\$32,867.01	\$107,066.90	\$69,582.16	NONE	NONE	\$51,165.05	\$87,613.29	\$55,318.87	\$101.00	\$98,000.00
MILLS	2.62	8.59	5.70				8.09	5.07	9.37	
FOR	696	673	517				758	641	514	
AGAINST	449	490	18				325	272	289	
PASS/FAIL	PASS	PASS	PASS			PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS
MAIL/POLL	POLL	POLL	POLL				POLL	POLL	POLL	
TYPE	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	GF LEVY			TECH	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	GF LEVY	BR LEVY (10YR)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	SEPT 2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
AMOUNT	\$227,354.04	\$28,399.56	NONE	\$34,998.00	NONE	NONE	\$137,765.21	NONE	\$130,492.06	NONE
MILLS	19.93	2.44		2.85			10.58		9.68	
FOR	669	718		531			919		1486	
AGAINST	332	390		483			1201		1337	
PASS/FAIL	PASS	PASS		PASS			FAIL		PASS	
MAIL/POLL	POLL	POLL		POLL			MAIL		MAIL	
TYPE	GF LEVY	GF LEVY		GF LEVY			GF LEVY		GF LEVY	

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021	2022	2023
AMOUNT	\$98,000.00	\$98,000.00	NONE	NONE	NONE	\$44,713.54	NONE	\$8,600,000.00	NONE	NONE
MILLS	7.71	7.54				3.03		N/A		
FOR	1150	875				1589		1447		
AGAINST	1256	593				1168		1509		
PASS/FAIL	FAIL	PASS				PASS		FAIL		
MAIL/POLL	MAIL	POLL				MAIL		POLL		
TYPE	BR LEVY (10 YR)	BR LEVY (10 YR)				GF LEVY		BOND		

	2024	2025							
AMOUNT	NONE	NONE							
MILLS									
# of VOTERS									
FOR									
AGAINST									
PASS/FAIL									
VOTER TURNOUT									
MAIL/POLL									
TYPE									

VOTER STATUS BY DISTRICT AS OF DECEMBER 2025					
ELEMENTARY:			HIGH SCHOOL:		
# ABSENTEE VOTERS	3782	64%	# ABSENTEE VOTERS	177	65%
# POLL VOTERS	2148	36%	# POLL VOTERS	96	35%
TOTAL # OF ACTIVE VOTERS	5930		TOTAL # OF ACTIVE VOTERS	273	

VOTER STATUS BY DISTRICT AS OF DECEMBER 2024					
ELEMENTARY:			HIGH SCHOOL:		
# ABSENTEE VOTERS	4018	68%	# ABSENTEE VOTERS	179	65%
# POLL VOTERS	1860	32%	# POLL VOTERS	97	35%
TOTAL # OF ACTIVE VOTERS	5878		TOTAL # OF ACTIVE VOTERS	276	

School Election Calendar 2026

Days From Election	Deadlines	Event (Special Instances Identified in Green)	MCA Citation
Not less than 145 days before*	Thursday, December 11	Trustees call for an election. The trustees must pass a resolution stating: 1) the date of the election; 2) the purpose of the election; 3) whether the election will be by mail or poll; 4) the voting locations and boundaries for each location, if there are multiple locations within a district (if changed from a previous school election the new locations must be specifically noted); and 5) the time the polls will open, if before noon. The trustees do NOT have to set levy amounts at this time; however, they must be set in time for the clerk to certify the ballot (not less than 30 days before the election). The resolution must be delivered to the county election administrator within 3 days of passage, but it need NOT be posted. The trustees must also appoint three election judges per precinct. Bond Elections are subject to additional requirements (see 20-9-422, MCA). Request for a mail ballot election must be sent from trustees to the election administrator. Exception: Even if no request is received, the election administrator could decide to request a mail ballot election. <i>*The deadline of 145 days ONLY applies to the regular school election. Special elections must be called at least 70 days before the election.</i>	13-19-202 13-19-203 20-9-422 20-20-201 20-20-203
At least 142 days before (within 3 days of passage of the election resolution)*	Monday, December 15	Last day to file resolutions for school election with county election administrator. To assist with the provisions of late registration, include the name and best contact number for the district's election administrator with the resolution. <i>*For special elections, the election resolution must be sent to the county election administrator within 3 days of passage (not later than 67 days before the election)</i>	20-20-201(2)(a)
No earlier than 145 days, or later than 85 days before	Thursday, December 11 through Monday, February 9	Trustee candidates file for election. A Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy must be filed with district clerk (regardless of who is running the election). NO CANDIDATE MAY APPEAR ON THE BALLOT UNLESS THE CANDIDATE MEETS THIS DEADLINE. <i>Candidates must be registered to vote by the filing deadline (exception for candidates turning 18 after the filing deadline and prior to the election).</i>	13-10-201 20-3-305
85 th day before the election	Monday, February 9 (by 5 p.m.)	Last day trustee candidates may withdraw from the election. Any candidate that has already filed for election, but wishes to withdraw their name, may do so by sending a statement of withdrawal to the election administrator.	20-3-305(3)(a)
At least 70 days before	Tuesday, February 24	Deadline for amendments to election resolutions. The trustees may amend an election resolution passed at least 145 days prior to the election. Financial considerations not indicated in the initial resolution may be included in an amendment. <i>Special elections (elections held on a date other than the regular school election day) must be called at least 70 days before the election.</i>	20-20-201



School Election Calendar 2026

Days From Election	Deadlines	Event (Special Instances Identified in Green)	MCA Citation
Not later than 5pm the 65 th day before the election	Monday, March 2 (by 5 p.m.)	Deadline for write-in candidate for a trustee position on a school board to file Declaration of Intent (must be filed with the district clerk, regardless of who is running the election). <i>*Votes only count for write-in candidates who file a Declaration of Intent.</i>	20-3-305(2)(b)
At least 60 days before	Friday, March 6	Election administrator posts mail ballot election plan/timetable/sample instructions. For elections conducted by the school district: publish the mail ballot plan in a newspaper of general circulation, if one in the district and/or in 3 public places AND publish on the school district website, if active. For elections conducted by the county election office: publish on the county election office website or other means of publication OR follow the publication instructions for elections conducted by school districts. <i>Failure to publish plans by this date and in this manner default to a polling place election. School districts conducting their own elections must send a copy of the plan to the county election administrator.</i>	13-19-205
4 weeks preceding the close of regular registration	Monday, March 9	Notice of close of regular registration. The county election administrator publishes the notice of close of regular registration for school districts at least 3 times in the 4 weeks preceding the close of regular registration. Contact the county election administrator to coordinate that publication.	13-2-301
Not less than 40 days before	Thursday, March 26	Election administrator certifies ballot. The election administrator prepares the final ballot form, listing all candidates and propositions to be voted upon. The ballot must then be delivered to the election administrator, if other than the clerk. <i>Trustees must pass a resolution stating exact levy amounts by this date for the clerk to certify the ballot. This resolution must include the durational limit, if any, on the levy.</i>	20-20-401
Not more than 35 days before	Tuesday, March 31	Deadline for mail ballot amendments. The plan may be amended by the election administrator at any time prior to the 35th day before election day by publishing in the same manner as the original mail ballot plan.	13-19-205
Not less than 30 days before	Friday, April 3	Election by Acclamation and Cancellation of Election - Notice. If the number of candidates filing a nomination petition or filing a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate is equal to or less than the number of open trustee positions to be elected, the trustees cancel the trustee election. They must then give notice that a trustee election will not be held. The trustee election may not be declared by acclamation until all candidate filing deadlines have passed. Send a copy to the county election administrator to aid with the provisions of late registration. <i>**A trustee election held in single-member or trustee nominating district is considered a separate trustee election for declaring the election by acclamation.</i>	20-3-313



School Election Calendar 2026

Days From Election	Deadlines	Event (Special Instances Identified in Green)	MCA Citation
30 days before any election	Monday, April 6	Close of regular voter registration. Registration forms postmarked by this date and received within 3 days are accepted for regular registration. Late registration must be completed at the county election office.	13-2-301
Not more than 30 days before	Monday, April 6	Contact your county election administrator for the absentee ballot list.	13-13-212 20-20-312
No later than the 30th day before	Friday, April 3	Deadline to notify election judges of appointment.	13-4-101
Not more than 30 days before	Monday, April 6	Performance Testing and Certification of Voting System. The election administrator must publicly test and certify that the system is performing properly.	13-17-212
Day after Close of Regular Registration	Tuesday, April 7	Start of Late Registration. Late voter registration starts and continues through election day. Late registration must be completed at the office of the county election administrator.	13-2-304
Not less than 10 days, or more than 40 days before	Thursday March 26 Through Saturday April 25	Notice of election is posted. The election notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district if available, posted in at least three public places in the district AND posted on the district's website for the 10 days prior to the election, if the district has an active website. Notice using any other recognized media may be used to supplement the posting. The notice must include: 1) the date and voting locations for the election; 2) voting location hours; 3) each proposition to be considered by the electorate; 4) the number of trustee positions, if any, subject to election and the length of the terms for those positions; 5) where and how absentee ballots may be obtained; and 6) where and how late registrants may obtain a ballot on election day. • If the polling place has changed from the previous school election, that change must be referred to in the notice. • If more than one proposition will be considered in the same district, each proposition must be set apart and identified or placed in separate notices.	20-20-204
At least 20 days before	Wednesday, April 15	Absentee ballots available. The election administrator prepares ballots for absentee voters. Remember to enclose four things in the absentee package. • The ballot, stamped official ballot (with stub removed); • Instructions for voting and returning the ballot; • A secrecy envelope, free of marks that would identify the voter; and • A self-addressed, return envelope with affirmation printed on the back of the envelope (affirmation must include a line for signature AND the elector's date of birth.	13-13-214 20-20-401
Not before the 20 th day or later than the 15 th day	Wednesday, April 15 through Monday, April 20	Mail ballots mailed. If conducting a mail ballot election, all ballots must be mailed on the same day (the day noted in the district's mail ballot plan). If an inactive elector reactivates after the ballots are mailed, the elector should be provided with or mailed a ballot. If the elector reactivates after noon on the day before election day, the elector must come in on election day to receive a ballot.	13-19-207



School Election Calendar 2026

Days From Election	Deadlines	Event (Special Instances Identified in Green)	MCA Citation
Not more than 12 days or less than 2 days before	Thursday, April 23 through Sunday, May 3	Absentee/Mail Ballot Counting Notice. Districts must publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the county a notice indicating the method that will be used for counting absentee/mail ballots and the place and time that the absentee/mail ballots will be counted on election day. <i>This notice may be combined with the Publication of Information Concerning Voting Systems, the Polling Location Accessibility Notice and/or with the Notice of Election if the notice is published between the 12th and 10th day prior to the election.</i>	13-15-105
Not more than 12 days or less than 2 days before	Thursday, April 23 through Sunday, May 3	Publication of Information Concerning Voting Systems. Districts shall broadcast on radio or television or publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the county a diagram showing the voting system to be used by voters and a sample ballot (newspaper only), a statement of location of where the voting system to be used is on public display, and instructions on how to vote. <i>This notice may be combined with the Absentee/Mail Ballot Counting Notice, the Polling Location Accessibility Notice, and/or with the Notice of Election if the notice is published between the 12th and 10th day prior to the election.</i>	13-17-203
Not more than 10 days or less than 2 days before	Saturday, April 25 through Sunday, May 3	Polling Location Accessibility Notice. Districts must publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the county a statement of the location of the polling places and whether each location is accessible or inaccessible. <i>This notice may be combined with the Absentee/Mail Ballot Counting Notice, the Polling Location Accessibility Notice, and/or with the Notice of Election if the notice is published between the 12th and 10th day prior to the election.</i>	13-3-105 13-3-207
Day before (By Noon)	Monday, May 4	Deadline for absentee ballot requests. Voters who wish to vote absentee may request an absentee ballot in writing or in person until noon the day before the election.	13-13-211 13-13-214
Day before	Monday, May 4	Deliver certified copy of the lists of registered electors. Before the day of election, the county election administrator shall deliver a certified copy of the lists of registered electors for each voting location to the district. The district shall deliver them to the election judges prior to the opening of a voting location.	20-20-313
Election Day 	Tuesday, May 5	ELECTION DAY. The election administrator must prepare the polling places, printed ballots, ensure election judges are present, and conduct a fair and unbiased election. Notify election judges of the names of write-in candidates	Title 13 20-20-105 20-20-401 20-20-411



School Election Calendar 2026

Days From Election	Deadlines	Event (Special Instances Identified in Green)	MCA Citation
No sooner than 3pm on the 6 th day after the election	Monday, May 12	The first date that provisional ballots may be counted. Following the election, unresolved provisional ballots are sealed. These ballots may not be opened until after 3pm on the 6 th day after election. The election judges convene, and a determination is made as to whether the ballots are counted. If there are provisional ballots in a school election, the canvass may not occur until after all provisional ballots are resolved.	13-15-107
Following receipt of the tally sheets from all polls and within 25 days after the election	By Friday, May 30	Trustees canvass the votes, issue certificates of election, and publish results. Trustees review the tally sheets compiled by the election judges to ascertain their accuracy. Recounts are ordered, if necessary. If tally is complete and accurate, trustees issue certificates of election to successful candidates. The canvassed results shall be published immediately in a newspaper that will give notice to the largest number of people in the district.	20-20-415 20-20-416
Within 5 days after the official canvass	Monday, May 12 through Wednesday, June 4	Deadline for filing a petition for recount. When a question submitted to a vote of the people is decided by a margin not exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1% of the total votes cast for and against the question, a petition for recount must be filed within 5 days after the official canvass.	13-16-201
Within 5 days of receipt of notice from the election administrator	Monday, May 12 through Monday, June 4	Deadline for convening the School Recount Board. When a tie vote has been certified to the election administrator or conditions have been met for filing a recount petition, the board shall convene at its usual meeting place to perform a recount. The recount must be completed within 5 days of receipt of official canvass or recount petition.	13-16-204 20-20-420
Within 25 days of election	By Friday, May 30	Deadline for trustees to hold organizational meeting to elect chair and appoint clerk.	20-3-321
By June 1	Friday, May 30	Deadline for trustees to request county election administrator to conduct school elections for next year. The school district clerk/election administrator is designated the election administrator for school elections. However, the trustees of any district may request the county election administrator (EA) to become the election administrator for school elections. The request must be made by a resolution of the board of trustees. If the county EA accepts, then he/she must perform all the duties the school clerk would have. The school district must assume all costs of the election.	20-20-417
Within 15 days after receipt of certificate of election	By Friday, June 13	Candidate completes and files Oath of Office with the County Superintendent. <i>*Newly elected trustees may not be seated until the oath is filed. The issuance and the oath may be administered at the organizational meeting (below) but must be completed within 15 days of issuance.</i> <i>**In the event of a recount, the deadline for a candidate to complete and file the oath is 15 days from receipt of the certificate of election.</i>	20-3-307 20-1-202 1-6-101



School Election Calendar 2026

[1-1-307](#), MCA. Postponement of day appointed for an action when it falls on a holiday or Saturday. Whenever any act of a secular nature, other than a work of necessity or mercy, is appointed by law or contract to be performed upon a particular day, which day falls upon a holiday or a Saturday, such act may be performed upon the next business day with the same effect as if it had been performed upon the day appointed.

If the deadline, as read in statute, is phrased "not later than..." the deadline does not move to a later date but an earlier one.

Additional References:

Sample forms can be found at this address: [School Finance Election Webpage](#)

Election Manual: [School Election Handbook](#)

MT Secretary of State's Office: [Secretary of State's Election Webpage](#)

Candidates for trustee positions in 1) a first-class district located in a county with populations of 15,000 or more; or 2) a county high school district with an enrollment of 2,000 or more are required to file a C-1-A Statement of Candidate within 5 days of becoming a candidate. For reporting dates and instructions contact the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices at: [Commissioner of Political Practices Webpage](#).



LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#8

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – BUDGET

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager

SUMMARY:

Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager/District Clerk, will report on Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget projections, results of the student count from February and future budgeting considerations.

☒ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

FY27 BUDGET SUMMARY

3/9/26

	ELEMENTARY	HIGH SCHOOL
FY26 Adopted Budget	\$7,529,034	\$4,117,009

2026-2027 PROJECTED BUDGETS		
	<u>ELEMENTARY</u>	<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>
Highest Budget Without a Vote:	\$7,499,158.40	\$4,552,677.37
Highest Budget With a Vote:	\$7,605,029.07	\$4,648,487.17
Potential Levy to Voters	\$105,871	\$95,810
BUDGET DIFFERENCE:		
FY27 vs FY26 w/o vote	(\$29,875)	\$435,668
FY27 vs FY26 w/vote	\$75,996	\$531,478
PROJECTED EXPENSES:	\$8,025,361	\$4,262,865
PROJECTED SHORTFALL:		
without a vote	(\$526,202)	\$289,813
with a vote	(\$420,332)	\$385,622

NOTE: These are budget projections and will fluctuate over the coming months as more "unknowns" become "knowns" (Legislature, Resignations/Retirements, Health Insurance, etc). The HS Budget includes shared expenditures with the new Central MT CTE Charter School. The Interlocal Fund will be used to absorb some of the elementary shortfall in 2026-2027.

INCLUDED IN BUDGET:

4.3% reduction for Health Insurance
 Staff moved on Certified Matrix per new CBA
 Staff moved on Principal Matrix
 Staff moved on Classified Matrix (Lane Changes)
 increase to Classified and Classified Admin Salaries
 Curriculum Funds



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

County: 14 Fergus

District: 0258 Lewistown Elem

NOTE: Information shown on the asterisked lines below (*) is subject to change if your district's certified ANB is changed; any changes will be reflected on the FY2027 final budget form. (+) This symbol indicates whether the current ANB or 3 year average ANB (whichever is greater) is used to determine budget funding. Information shown on the asterisked line below (**) means that if a District qualifies for the Teacher Incentive Program, payment is doubled.

1. Certified ANB		FY 2027			3 Year Avg ANB		
*Budget Unit		ANB	*Basic Entitlement	*Per ANB Entitlement	ANB	*Basic Entitlement	*Per ANB Entitlement
E1	LEWISTOWN K-6	616	106,346.00	4,083,772.00	642	109,474.00	4,254,469.80 +
M1	LEWISTOWN 7-8	198	125,110.00	1,686,514.50	200	125,110.00	1,703,450.00 +
2.	* Direct State Aid						2,768,049.20
3.	** Quality Educator						554,673.52
4.	At Risk Student						31,758.48
5.	* Indian Education For All						22,001.46
6.	American Indian Achievement Gap						6,144.00
7.	* Data For Achievement						21,066.84
8.	Special Education Funding (FY 2027):						
	NOTE: Block Grant Eligibility Status = "Yes" means OPI records indicate you are qualified and will receive the funding listed. Block Grant Eligibility Status = "No" means you have NOT yet qualified.						
	Special Education Block Grant Eligibility Status						Yes
	Special Education Block Grant Rates Per Current ANB						
	Instructional Block Grant Rate [IBG]						168.54
	Related Services Block Grant Rate [RSBG]						56.18
	Threshold to Determine Disproportionate Costs						3.45795135
	Special Education Allowable Cost Payments						
* a.	Instructional Block Grant Entitlement [IBG rate X Current Year ANB]						137,191.56
* b.	Related Services Block Grant Entitlement [RSBG rate X Current Year ANB]						N/A
c.	Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs - See Page 2.						217,010.24
* d.	Total Special Education Allowable Cost Payment (District) [8a + 8b + 8c]						354,201.80
	Prorated Cooperative Cost Payments (Members of Cooperatives Only)						
* e.	Related Services Block Grant Entitlement (Paid Directly to Coop)						45,730.52
	Required Local Match						
* f(i).	District's Required Match for IBG [8a X 0.33]						45,273.21
f(ii).	District's Required Match for RSBG [8b X 0.33]						N/A
* f(iii).	District's RSBG Match to be Paid by District to Cooperative [8e X 0.33]						15,091.07
* f(iv).	Total Required Local Match to Avoid Reversions [8f(i) + 8f(ii) + 8f(iii)]						60,364.28
	Minimum Special Education Budget to Avoid Reversions						
* g.	Minimum Special Education Budget to Avoid Reversions [8a + 8b + 8f(iv)]						197,555.84



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

County: 14 Fergus

District: 0258 Lewistown Elem

Reimbursement For Disproportionate Costs

	EL	HS	K12
a. FY 2025 Allowable Cost Expenditures	1,235,338.47	0.00	0.00
Total K-12 Expenditures Prorated by FY 2025 ANB			
b. FY 2025 Amount to Avoid Reversion	200,353.56	0.00	0.00
c. Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs	217,010.24	0.00	0.00
If (a-b) > 0 and a > (b * 3.45795135) then [a - (b * 3.45795135)] * 0.4			

9. FY 2027 Budget Limits:

* a.	Required % of Special Ed Funding in Maximum [20-9-306(9), MCA]	100%
* b.	BASE Budget	6,103,822.07
c.	Maximum Budget Limit	7,605,029.07
d.	Maximum Budget Limit Increase Amount	22,746.85
* e.	Highest Budget Without A Vote (excluding tuition, excess reserves, flexible non-voted levy authority and other Over-BASE revenues)	7,499,158.40
* f.	Highest Budget With A Vote	7,605,029.07
* g.	Highest Voted Amount (9e-9d)	105,870.67

10. Prior Year Information for Budgeting:

a.	FY 2026 BASE Budget	6,133,697.17
b.	FY 2026 Maximum Budget	7,634,230.33
c.	FY 2026 Budget Limit ANB	876
d.	FY 2026 Adopted General Fund Budget	7,529,033.50
e.	Highest Levy Over-BASE Authorized or Imposed Between FY 2022 FY 2026	1,395,336.33

11. Debt Service Fund and County Retirement GTB:

	Elementary	High School
County		
a. Tax Year 2025 County Taxable Value	63,712,668	63,712,668
b. FY 2026 County ANB	1,212	492
c. County Retirement Mill Value per ANB	52.57	129.50
d. County General Fund BASE GTBA Area	3,618,486.99	2,379,956.88
e. County TV per General Fund BASE Area	17.61	26.77
District		
f. Tax Year 2025 District Taxable Value	14,518,978	N/A
g. FY 2026 District Budget Limit ANB	876	N/A
h. District Debt Service Mill Value per ANB	16.57	N/A
Statewide		



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

i.	Statewide Retirement Mill Value per ANB	81.55	188.81
j.	Debt Service Assistance Mill Value per ANB	60.40	139.86
k.	Statewide General Fund BASE Value	44.97	80.37

12. Building Reserve Permissive Sub-Fund School Major Maintenance Aid Subsidy

	Elementary	High School	K-12
a. District State Major Maintenance Aid (SMMA) Allowable Amount	140,740.00		
b. Calculated Amount of State School Major Maintenance Aid Per Dollar of Local Effort****	4.00		

**** State major maintenance aid per dollar of local effort calculated as per 20-9-525, MCA assumes full state funding for this program. Proration may apply due to limitations in state appropriation and/or available state revenue for funding.



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

County: 14 Fergus

District: 0259 Fergus H S

NOTE: Information shown on the asterisked lines below (*) is subject to change if your district's certified ANB is changed; any changes will be reflected on the FY2027 final budget form. (+) This symbol indicates whether the current ANB or 3 year average ANB (whichever is greater) is used to determine budget funding. Information shown on the asterisked line below (**) means that if a District qualifies for the Teacher Incentive Program, payment is doubled.

1. Certified ANB		FY 2027			3 Year Avg ANB		
*Budget Unit		ANB	*Basic Entitlement	*Per ANB Entitlement	ANB	*Basic Entitlement	*Per ANB Entitlement
H1	FERGUS HS 9-12	282	375,333.00	2,396,083.50	333	375,333.00	2,825,172.00 +
H2	CNTRL CTE ACAD 9-12	74	375,333.00	632,607.50	74	375,333.00	632,607.50 +
2.	* Direct State Aid						1,881,175.14
3.	** Quality Educator						254,720.48
4.	At Risk Student						8,294.83
5.	* Indian Education For All						10,634.91
6.	American Indian Achievement Gap						2,304.00
7.	* Data For Achievement						10,183.14
8.	Special Education Funding (FY 2027):						
	NOTE: Block Grant Eligibility Status = "Yes" means OPI records indicate you are qualified and will receive the funding listed. Block Grant Eligibility Status = "No" means you have NOT yet qualified.						
	Special Education Block Grant Eligibility Status						Yes
	Special Education Block Grant Rates Per Current ANB						
	Instructional Block Grant Rate [IBG]						168.54
	Related Services Block Grant Rate [RSBG]						56.18
	Threshold to Determine Disproportionate Costs						3.45795135
	Special Education Allowable Cost Payments						
* a.	Instructional Block Grant Entitlement [IBG rate X Current Year ANB]						60,000.24
* b.	Related Services Block Grant Entitlement [RSBG rate X Current Year ANB]						N/A
c.	Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs - See Page 2.						0.00
* d.	Total Special Education Allowable Cost Payment (District) [8a + 8b + 8c]						60,000.24
	Prorated Cooperative Cost Payments (Members of Cooperatives Only)						
* e.	Related Services Block Grant Entitlement (Paid Directly to Coop)						20,000.08
	Required Local Match						
* f(i).	District's Required Match for IBG [8a X 0.33]						19,800.08
f(ii).	District's Required Match for RSBG [8b X 0.33]						N/A
* f(iii).	District's RSBG Match to be Paid by District to Cooperative [8e X 0.33]						6,600.03
* f(iv).	Total Required Local Match to Avoid Reversions [8f(i) + 8f(ii) + 8f(iii)]						26,400.11
	Minimum Special Education Budget to Avoid Reversions						
* g.	Minimum Special Education Budget to Avoid Reversions [8a + 8b + 8f(iv)]						86,400.35



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

County: 14 Fergus

District: 0259 Fergus H S

Reimbursement For Disproportionate Costs

	EL	HS	K12
a. FY 2025 Allowable Cost Expenditures	0.00	268,152.10	0.00
Total K-12 Expenditures Prorated by FY 2025 ANB			
b. FY 2025 Amount to Avoid Reversion	0.00	83,251.93	0.00
c. Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00
If (a-b) > 0 and a > (b * 3.45795135) then [a - (b * 3.45795135)] * 0.4			

9. FY 2027 Budget Limits:

* a.	Required % of Special Ed Funding in Maximum [20-9-306(9), MCA]	100%
* b.	BASE Budget	3,744,894.13
c.	Maximum Budget Limit	4,648,487.17
d.	Maximum Budget Limit Increase Amount	13,903.75
* e.	Highest Budget Without A Vote (excluding tuition, excess reserves, flexible non-voted levy authority and other Over-BASE revenues)	4,552,677.37
* f.	Highest Budget With A Vote	4,648,487.17
* g.	Highest Voted Amount (9e-9d)	95,809.80

10. Prior Year Information for Budgeting:

a.	FY 2026 BASE Budget	3,324,229.52
b.	FY 2026 Maximum Budget	4,117,009.03
c.	FY 2026 Budget Limit ANB	362
d.	FY 2026 Adopted General Fund Budget	4,117,009.03
e.	Highest Levy Over-BASE Authorized or Imposed Between FY 2022 FY 2026	807,783.24

11. Debt Service Fund and County Retirement GTB:

	Elementary	High School
County		
a. Tax Year 2025 County Taxable Value	63,712,668	63,712,668
b. FY 2026 County ANB	1,212	492
c. County Retirement Mill Value per ANB	52.57	129.50
d. County General Fund BASE GTBA Area	3,618,486.99	2,379,956.88
e. County TV per General Fund BASE Area	17.61	26.77
District		
f. Tax Year 2025 District Taxable Value	N/A	15,866,691
g. FY 2026 District Budget Limit ANB	N/A	362
h. District Debt Service Mill Value per ANB	N/A	43.83
Statewide		



PRELIMINARY BUDGET DATA SHEET

FY 2027

i.	Statewide Retirement Mill Value per ANB	81.55	188.81
j.	Debt Service Assistance Mill Value per ANB	60.40	139.86
k.	Statewide General Fund BASE Value	44.97	80.37

12. Building Reserve Permissive Sub-Fund School Major Maintenance Aid Subsidy

	Elementary	High School	K-12
a. District State Major Maintenance Aid (SMMA) Allowable Amount		81,630.00	
b. Calculated Amount of State School Major Maintenance Aid Per Dollar of Local Effort****		4.00	

**** State major maintenance aid per dollar of local effort calculated as per 20-9-525, MCA assumes full state funding for this program. Proration may apply due to limitations in state appropriation and/or available state revenue for funding.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#9

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – INVESTMENT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager

SUMMARY:

Interest earned for December 2025 was \$11,900.93 in the elementary and \$9,020.28 in the high school.

Interest earned for January through February 2026 was not available at the time of posting due to a staffing change at the County Treasurer's Office.

SLGS Elementary bond interest accrued for February 2026 was \$2,379.81.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#10

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: REPORT – SUPERINTENDENT

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

National Conference on Education Report

Vacancies Update

Cognia Visit – April 1, 2026

BPE Charter School Visit- May 5, 2026

Board Tours- Elementary Schools

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#11

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: RECOGNITION OF PARENTS, PATRONS AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PREPARED BY: _____

SUMMARY:

Time is provided on the agenda for anyone who wishes to address the Board on non-agenda items.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA

- 12. Minutes
- 13. Claims
- 14. Transportation
- 15. Certification for Indirect Cost Rates for FY 2026-2027
- 16. Personnel Report

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#12

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: MINUTES

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager

SUMMARY:

The following minutes are attached for your approval:

- Minutes of the February 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.
- Minutes of the February 25, 2026 Special Board Meeting
- Minutes of the March 4, 2026 Special Board Meeting

☒ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

**MINUTES
LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

LINCOLN BOARD ROOM

215 7th Avenue South
Lewistown, Montana 59457

MONDAY, February 9, 2026

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER (5:00 p.m.)

1. ROLL CALL

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Kris Birdwell, Whitney Brady, Lisa Koch, Mariah Shammel, Carson Sweeney
(online), Eric VanderBeek

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Jeff Southworth

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance

3. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA – Approved Unanimously (Brady/Shammel)

4. PRESENTATION – LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS COUNSELORS

Nora Weichel, Julia Grubb, Svea Wigert Teresa Vaughn, and Lee Crouse
introduced themselves to the Board. They each shared information about the
programs and support they offer at Lewistown Public Schools, along with the
differences and similarities in each of their schools.

5. REPORT – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

Sophie Lark, Student Representative, updated the Board on happenings at
Fergus High School.

6. REPORT – LEWISTOWN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (LEA)

Luke Brandon, LEA President, was not able to attend.

7. REPORT—COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

The Safety Committee is finishing up their projects.

The Collective Bargaining Committee has met as both a committee and with the
LEA several times. They will be meeting again next week.

The Policy Committee has finished up their major overhaul of policies and there
is a short list of policies to approve later in the meeting.

The Calendar Committee has sent calendars out to staff for a vote and will have
a calendar to present to the Board in March.

8. REPORT – ELECTION INFORMATION

Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager/Clerk, reported on the 2025-2026 election
information to the Board of Trustees, noting that the call for election and the end
to the Trustee Declaration of Intent are significantly earlier this year. The regular
election will take place on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

9. REPORT – BUDGET

Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager/Clerk, reported on the 2026-2027 budget projections.

10. REPORT—INVESTMENT

Interest earned and distributed for December and January was not available to report due to turnover in the Fergus County Treasurer's office. January Bond SLGS interest was reported at \$3,222.58 for a total of \$145,229.34 since August 2024.

11. REPORT—SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Moore will be at the National Conference on Education the remainder of the week. The Board was updated on staffing throughout the District. MQEC announced that their Executive Director is retiring. Mr. Moore reported that he recently attend a training on Multi-District Agreements and HB567 offered by MTSBA.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

12. RECOGNITION OF PARENTS, PATRONS, AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Rayna Phelps, Fergus High School and Junior High School Cheer Coach, introduced herself. She is concerned that the cheer team is not being allowed to stay overnight at the Divisional Basketball tournament due to budget constraints. She is uncomfortable driving the teams back and forth and only needs 4 hotel rooms for her team. She is concerned about safety and their ability to perform. Cheer is not supported financially by the District.

Jason O'Neal, parent of both a band and cheer member. He agreed with all that Rayna spoke about, but is also concerned with the timeline in which they were notified. Had they been notified earlier than last week, they would have been able to fundraise or react to the situation.

Dusty Rixford, band parent, expressed her concern regarding safety when traveling back and forth from the tournament. She shared that she would like to see the difference between the hotel rooms and the bus traveling back and forth. She expressed her concern regarding equality for varying groups.

Brian Blackadar, cheer team member, shared that the cheerleaders fundraise all year and does not understand why they cannot use those funds to travel to the tournament.

Hailey Williams, cheer team member, expressed how much they fundraise and how hard they work without financial support from the District. She compared the amount of travel by other teams within the district and does not feel that the cheer team is being treated fairly.

Thomas Blackadar, cheer parent, shared his concerns regarding the amount of work they put in at each tournament and the travel after. He also shared information regarding DOT travel logs and bus driver drive time considerations. He does not feel that it is reasonable that the band and cheer should have to sacrifice.

Dan Konert, cheer parent, reiterated how much work they put into what they do and is concerned regarding safety and does not feel that they should have to sacrifice.

Sterling Campbell noted that dollars have been spent on upgrades at the high school and does not understand why the band and cheer must sacrifice. He expressed his concern that the teams will be traveling late at night, then travel

further to their homes if they live out of town. He believes that hotel rooms are well worth the money for the safety of the students.

Adelaine Campbell, sibling to cheer member, reiterated that the cheer team are athletes and passionate.

Brissia Salcedo, cheer team member, shared her concerns regarding the lack of rest that they will have and the need to be alert for stunts they perform. She stated that cheer is the same as other sports and should be treated the same. The cheer team represents

Ali Kolar shared that the band and the cheer get the crowd going and that they represent the school at the tournament.

TRUSTEE SWEENEY LEFT THE MEETING AT 6:03 P.M.

Rayna Phelps shared that several girls have quit because of the negative way that the student section treats them during the games. She shared various examples of past incidents. Their team has been moved to the baseline to avoid issues with the student section.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – approved unanimously (Brady/VanderBeek)

13. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2026, REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2026 BOARD TRAINING
14. CLAIMS – approval of the claims referenced in the 2025-2026 Bill Schedule and submitted through February 6, 2026. The finance committee for January-March 2026 is Board Chair Kris Birdwell, Mariah Shammel, Whitney Brady and Lisa Koch.
15. APPROVE PERSONNEL REPORT

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS – OLD BUSINESS

16. APPROVE SECOND READING OF POLICIES – approved unanimously (Koch/VanderBeek)
17. FACILITY PLANNING DISCUSSION – no action necessary
Mr. Moore will shoot for February 25th at 5:00pm for the next Special Board Meeting. Rebekah summarized the information she received from Janel Tucek (Clerk and Recorder), Dan Semmens (Dorsey-Whitney) and Bridget Ekstrom (D.A. Davidson).

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS – NEW BUSINESS

18. APPROVE FIRST READING OF POLICIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF POLICY 2335 – approved unanimously (VanderBeek/Koch)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m. (Brady). The next regular meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Lincoln Board Room.

KRIS BIRDWELL
BOARD CHAIR

REBEKAH RHOADES
BUSINESS MANAGER/CLERK

**MINUTES
LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

LINCOLN BUILDING
215 7th Ave South
Lewistown, Montana 59457

WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2026

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER (5:00 p.m.)

1. ROLL CALL

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Whitney Brady, Kris Birdwell, Lisa Koch, Carson Sweeney, Mariah Shammel,
Eric VanderBeek

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Jeff Southworth

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to Set Agenda – approved unanimously (Brady/VanderBeek)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3. RECOGNITION OF PARENTS, PATRONS, AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public participation.

DISCUSSION

4. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING AND FACILITY REVIEW

Bridget Ekstrom, DA Davidson, was introduced to the Board and spent time reviewing the past Bond financial information, along with potential financial information if another bond is run in the near future. Shane Swandal, Hulteng, shared an updated summary of costs and priorities for Fergus High School and the Lincoln Building based on feedback from the last Special Board Meeting. The Board reviewed the entire list and determined whether or not they needed to be moved to the infrastructure column. The following items were moved to the infrastructure column:

A032 – Flooring and Ceiling Tiles in Vestibules

A044 – Bathroom Finish Fixes

A081 – Replace with Magnetic Doors Only

Shane explained that the 12.5% contingency is necessary to cover any of the unknown expenses, especially this early in the project discussions. Based on the final number and a May 2027 election, the Bond will likely be slightly over \$10 million dollars.

The Board requested that the list be reviewed by the High School Administration and appreciated the insight gained from staff in the FHS Facility Survey and the importance of linking the survey results back to items on the list. The Board emphasized the need to educate the staff and community on the upcoming Bond. In addition, the Board discussed the possibility of receiving the COPPS Grant for safety improvements, but that the outcome of that grant will not be received until October.

Election timing was discussed. Either Fall 2026 or May 2027 were discussed. Rebekah will look at the ballot timing for a Fall 2026 Election and the dates that all will need to be completed by, along with voter turnout requirements for bond elections. Construction contracts can be completed for the summer 2026 start date. Consideration of general fund levy election passage is also a concern. Overlap of elections need to be considered. All trustees agreed to pursue the bond election for Fall 2026. Bring info back to the March 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m. (Brady/Shammel). The next special board meeting to address strategic planning will be held at a future date to be determined.

KRIS BIRDWELL
BOARD CHAIR

REBEKAH RHOADES
BUSINESS MANAGER/CLERK

**MINUTES
LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Lincoln Board Room
215 Seventh Avenue South
Lewistown, Montana 59457

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER (5:30 P.M.)

1. ROLL CALL

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Whitney Brady, Kris Birdwell, Lisa Koch, Carson Sweeney, Mariah Shammel, Jeff Southworth, Eric VanderBeek

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - unanimous (Brady/Sweeney)

Board Chair Kris Birdwell called for an Executive Session at 5:32 p.m. to conduct a student discipline hearing, stating that the individual's right to privacy clearly exceeds the public's right to know.

3. STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 7:50pm.

ACTION

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

4. Motion to expel the student in question for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year with limited services at the discretion of the Lewistown Junior High staff. The student in question shall attend a school board meeting in July to request attendance to Fergus High School. Expulsion includes no access to Lewistown school district buildings or activities. – Approved Unanimously (Sweeney/VanderBeek)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5. RECOGNITION OF PARENTS, PATRONS, AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. (Brady/Southworth).

**KRIS BIRDWELL
BOARD CHAIR**

**REBEKAH RHOADES
BUSINESS MANAGER**

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#13

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: CLAIMS

PREPARED BY: Chris Gobble, Purchasing

SUMMARY:

See attached claims paid through March 6, 2026, as approved by the Finance Committee.

Members of the Finance Committee for January – March 2026 include: Board Chair Kris Birdwell, Whitney Brady, Lisa Koch and Mariah Shammel.

****The Board will need to select a new Finance Committee for April – June 2026****

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#14

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: TRANSPORTATION

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager

SUMMARY:

Attached are the first semester Elementary and High School claims for bus route reimbursement. According to state law, each yellow bus route generates a per-mile reimbursement based on the rated capacity of the bus used on the route. The money generated is used to fund home-to-school transportation in our Transportation Funds. These payments are financed 50% each by the state and county, with the county's portion financed by a permissive (i.e., unvoted) countywide levy.

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the Elementary and High School Bus Route Reimbursement Claim Forms for the first semester. Attachments will be provided at the meeting.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:



TR-6 **Bus Route Reimbursement Claim** **1st Semester 2025-2026**

08/20/2025-01/16/2026

14 Fergus
0258 Lewistown Elem

Route #	Miles			Driver	VIN	Days		Total
	%	Per Day	Rate			Claimed	Reimbursed	Reimbursement
1	70.00	82.4	2.59	Stacey L. Sramek	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	81.0	81.0	12,100.69
1	70.00	82.4	2.59	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	5.5	5.5	821.65
1	70.00	82.4	2.59	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	3.0	3.0	448.17
1	70.00	82.4	2.59	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	0.5	0.5	74.70
2	70.00	69.9	2.97	Summer R. Goodan	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	75.0	75.0	10,899.16
2	70.00	69.9	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	14.0	14.0	2,034.51
2	70.00	69.9	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	1.0	1.0	145.32
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Joe A. Boyles	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	81.0	81.0	6,587.41
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Brad A. Moore	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	40.66
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	40.66
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	6.5	6.5	528.62
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	40.66
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Stacey L. Sramek	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	40.66
3	70.00	74.0	1.57	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	40.66
4	70.00	73.5	2.97	Mary A. Wilson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	78.5	78.5	11,995.31
4	70.00	73.5	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	7.0	7.0	1,069.65
4	70.00	73.5	2.97	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	3.5	3.5	534.82
4	70.00	73.5	2.97	Sandra J. Mikeson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	0.5	0.5	76.40
4	70.00	73.5	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	0.5	0.5	76.40
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Sandra J. Mikeson	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	65.0	65.0	4,094.59
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Logan Smith	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	9.5	9.5	598.44
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	7.5	7.5	472.45
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	4.0	4.0	251.97

* Indicates that the County Superintendent must approve the TR-6 Bus Route Claim

2/11/2026 12:14:28 PM <http://OPISSRSPRD:80/ReportServer rptBusRouteReimbursementTR6>



TR-6
Bus Route Reimbursement Claim
1st Semester 2025-2026

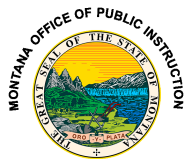
08/20/2025-01/16/2026

14 Fergus
0258 Lewistown Elem

Route #	Miles			Driver	VIN	Days		Total
	%	Per Day	Rate			Claimed	Reimbursed	Reimbursement
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRBWAAN0hb524154	3.0	3.0	188.98
5	70.00	30.3	2.97	Fred J. Wood, Jr.	4DRBWAAN0hb524154	1.0	1.0	62.99
6	70.00	60.9	2.59	David W. Robertson	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	84.5	84.5	9,329.79
6	70.00	60.9	2.59	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	3.0	3.0	331.24
6	70.00	60.9	2.59	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	2.5	2.5	276.03
7	70.00	76.3	1.57	Albert C. White	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	74.0	74.0	6,205.17
7	70.00	76.3	1.57	Logan Smith	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	7.5	7.5	628.90
7	70.00	76.3	1.57	Jade L. Watson	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	5.0	5.0	419.27
7	70.00	76.3	1.57	Robert S. Odermann	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	3.0	3.0	251.56
7	70.00	76.3	1.57	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	0.5	0.5	41.93
8	70.00	46.2	2.97	Rhonda Stewart	4DRBWTAN0NB537235	90.0	90.0	8,644.48
Total Bus Route Reimbursement								79,393.90

Board Chair

Signature



TR-6 **Bus Route Reimbursement Claim** **1st Semester 2025-2026**

08/20/2025-01/16/2026

14 Fergus
0259 Fergus H S

Route #	Miles			Driver	VIN	Days		Total
	%	Per Day	Rate			Claimed	Reimbursed	Reimbursement
1	30.00	82.4	2.59	Stacey L. Sramek	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	81.0	81.0	5,186.01
1	30.00	82.4	2.59	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	5.5	5.5	352.14
1	30.00	82.4	2.59	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	3.0	3.0	192.07
1	30.00	82.4	2.59	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN9MB486977	0.5	0.5	32.01
2	30.00	69.9	2.97	Summer R. Goodan	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	75.0	75.0	4,671.07
2	30.00	69.9	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	14.0	14.0	871.93
2	30.00	69.9	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN5KB275773	1.0	1.0	62.28
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Joe A. Boyles	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	81.0	81.0	2,823.17
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Brad A. Moore	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	17.43
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	17.43
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	6.5	6.5	226.55
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	17.43
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Stacey L. Sramek	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	17.43
3	30.00	74.0	1.57	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN5MB486975	0.5	0.5	17.43
4	30.00	73.5	2.97	Mary A. Wilson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	78.5	78.5	5,140.85
4	30.00	73.5	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	7.0	7.0	458.42
4	30.00	73.5	2.97	Logan Smith	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	3.5	3.5	229.21
4	30.00	73.5	2.97	Sandra J. Mikeson	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	0.5	0.5	32.74
4	30.00	73.5	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN7RB229260	0.5	0.5	32.74
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Sandra J. Mikeson	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	65.0	65.0	1,754.82
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Logan Smith	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	9.5	9.5	256.47
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	7.5	7.5	202.48
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWAAAN0hb524154	4.0	4.0	107.99

* Indicates that the County Superintendent must approve the TR-6 Bus Route Claim

2/11/2026 12:14:28 PM <http://OPISSRSPRD:80/ReportServer rptBusRouteReimbursementTR6>



TR-6
Bus Route Reimbursement Claim
1st Semester 2025-2026

08/20/2025-01/16/2026

14 Fergus
0259 Fergus H S

Route #	Miles			Driver	VIN	Days		Total
	%	Per Day	Rate			Claimed	Reimbursed	Reimbursement
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRBWAAN0hb524154	3.0	3.0	80.99
5	30.00	30.3	2.97	Fred J. Wood, Jr.	4DRBWAAN0hb524154	1.0	1.0	27.00
6	30.00	60.9	2.59	David W. Robertson	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	84.5	84.5	3,998.48
6	30.00	60.9	2.59	Robert S. Odermann	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	3.0	3.0	141.96
6	30.00	60.9	2.59	Jade L. Watson	4DRBWTAN3LB251473	2.5	2.5	118.30
7	30.00	76.3	1.57	Albert C. White	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	74.0	74.0	2,659.36
7	30.00	76.3	1.57	Logan Smith	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	7.5	7.5	269.53
7	30.00	76.3	1.57	Jade L. Watson	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	5.0	5.0	179.69
7	30.00	76.3	1.57	Robert S. Odermann	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	3.0	3.0	107.81
7	30.00	76.3	1.57	Brady R. Fiscus	4DRGVMMN7TB238011	0.5	0.5	17.97
8	30.00	46.2	2.97	Rhonda Stewart	4DRBWTAN0NB537235	90.0	90.0	3,704.78
Total Bus Route Reimbursement								34,025.97

Board Chair

Signature

* Indicates that the County Superintendent must approve the TR-6 Bus Route Claim

2/11/2026 12:14:28 PM <http://OPISSRSPRD:80/ReportServer rptBusRouteReimbursementTR6>

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#15

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: CERTIFICATION FOR INDIRECT COST RATES FOR FY 2026-2027

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the Office of Public Instruction proposed Indirect Cost Recovery Rate for FY 2026-2027 grants. This approval allows the District to set aside a portion (this year, 4.26%) of its grant expenditures and use that amount to pay general costs related to grant administration.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:



Office of Public Instruction
Susie Hedalen, Superintendent
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

CERTIFICATION FOR INDIRECT COST RATE

For FY 2026-2027

Due April 30, 2026

SS #	School System (SS) Name	County #	County	LE's Included
0420	Lewistown Public Schools	14	Fergus	EL 0258 Lewistown Elem HS 0259 Fergus H S K12

Proposed Restricted Indirect Cost Rate 4.26 % (Round to nearest hundredth (X.XX%) of a percent.)

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete and submit with one copy of each application for Indirect Cost Rate. A single application by School System (SS) should be submitted for the elementary and high school district. A copy of this certification will be returned upon approval of your rate.

This is to certify that I have reviewed the indirect cost rate proposal submitted herewith and to the best of my knowledge and belief:

(1) All costs included in this proposal to establish the final indirect cost rate for the periods indicated above are allowable in accordance with the requirements of the Federal award(s) to which they apply and Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200, "Cost Principles for State and Local Governments." Unallowable costs have been adjusted in allocating costs as indicated in the attached Predetermined Indirect Cost Allocation - Schedule A.

(2) All costs included in the proposal are properly allocable to Federal awards on the basis of a beneficial or casual relationship between the expenses incurred and the agreements to which they are allocated in accordance with applicable requirements. Further, the same costs that have been treated as indirect costs have not been claimed as direct costs. In addition, similar types of costs have been accounted for consistently and the Office of Public Instruction will be notified of any accounting changes that would affect the predetermined rate.

(3) Per 2 CFR 200.1 Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) means all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. Other items may only be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs, and with the approval of the cognizant agency for indirect costs.

(4) This rate is valid from July 1 through June 30 of the applicable fiscal year of approval or the term of the grant award.

I declare that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature of District Superintendent or Board Chairperson		Street Address or P.O. Box	
		215 7th Avenue South	
Printed Name of Authorized Official		City	Zip Code
Kris Birdwell		Lewistown	59457
Title		Date	
Board Chair			
Send completed form to: School Accounting and Budgeting Office of Public Instruction PO Box 202501 Helena, MT 59620-2501			
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION BY:			
Approved Rate for FY2027		Date Approved	
		Approver Signature	



Schedule A - Restricted Indirect Cost Rate For FY2026-27 Using FY25 Expenditures

14 Fergus 0420 Lewistown Public Schools

0258 Lewistown Elem

Expenditure Function	Total Expenditures (A)	Direct and Unallowable Costs (B)	Indirect Costs (C)	Excluded Costs		
				Capital Outlay (D)	Debt Financing (E)	Foods/ Other (F)
1XXX Instruction	5,680,562.96	5,680,562.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21XX Support Services - Students	115,280.10	115,280.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
221X Improvement of Instruction Services	30,932.10	30,932.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
222X Educational Media Services	242,008.52	242,008.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23XX Support Services - General Administration	248,763.74	248,763.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24XX Support Services - School Administration	847,814.24	847,814.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
258X Admin. Tech. - Technology Coordinator	165,627.81	0.00	165,627.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
25XX Support Services - Business	327,430.68	58,245.94	269,184.74	0.00	0.00	0.00
26XX Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services	1,147,160.41	1,124,680.41	0.00	22,480.00	0.00	0.00
27XX Student Transportation Services	592,282.25	482,730.60	0.00	109,551.65	0.00	0.00
31XX Food Services	778,616.26	388,234.45	0.00	6,500.00	0.00	0.00
33XX Community Services	1,689.40	1,689.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34XX Extracurricular - Activities	12,111.44	12,111.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35XX Extracurricular - Athletics	79,958.30	79,958.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4XXX Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	18,395.00	0.00	0.00	18,395.00	0.00	0.00
62XX Resources Transferred to Other School Districts, Cooperatives or ESA	21,270.36	0.00	0.00	21,270.36	0.00	0.00
Totals	10,309,903.57	9,313,012.20	434,812.55	178,197.01	0.00	0.00
Direct Costs Reclassified Indirect Costs	XXXXXXXXXX			XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX
Direct or Indirect Costs Reclassified as Excluded	XXXXXXXXXX					
Adjusted Totals	10,309,903.57					

Total expenditures include the general and special revenue funds (funds numbered less than 50) and exclude residual equity and operating transfers. Only costs in Funds 01, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 and the indirect cost recovery project in Fund 15 may be reclassified as indirect costs. Functions blocked with X's may not be reclassified as indirect costs, except for termination. A detailed listing of accounts is available upon request. Call Paul Taylor at 444-1257.



Schedule A - Restricted Indirect Cost Rate For FY2026-27 Using FY25 Expenditures

14 Fergus 0420 Lewistown Public Schools

0259 Fergus H S

Expenditure Function	Total Expenditures (A)	Direct and Unallowable Costs (B)	Indirect Costs (C)	Excluded Costs		
				Capital Outlay (D)	Debt Financing (E)	Foods/ Other (F)
1XXX Instruction	2,288,611.58	2,288,611.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21XX Support Services - Students	112,015.99	112,015.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
221X Improvement of Instruction Services	9,206.06	9,206.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
222X Educational Media Services	141,824.96	141,824.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23XX Support Services - General Administration	103,303.84	103,303.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24XX Support Services - School Administration	438,473.96	438,473.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
258X Admin. Tech. - Technology Coordinator	142,478.12	0.00	142,478.12	0.00	0.00	0.00
25XX Support Services - Business	182,753.33	20,861.61	161,891.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
26XX Operation and Maintenance of Plant Services	706,177.96	694,249.96	0.00	11,928.00	0.00	0.00
27XX Student Transportation Services	306,628.23	259,677.52	0.00	46,950.71	0.00	0.00
31XX Food Services	6,473.00	6,298.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33XX Community Services	143.21	143.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34XX Extracurricular - Activities	63,387.90	63,387.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35XX Extracurricular - Athletics	190,192.85	190,192.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4XXX Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services	6,951.00	0.00	0.00	6,951.00	0.00	0.00
62XX Resources Transferred to Other School Districts, Cooperatives or ESA	8,267.02	0.00	0.00	8,267.02	0.00	0.00
Totals	4,706,889.01	4,328,247.54	304,369.84	74,096.73	0.00	0.00
Direct Costs Reclassified Indirect Costs	XXXXXXXXXX			XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX
Direct or Indirect Costs Reclassified as Excluded	XXXXXXXXXX					
Adjusted Totals	4,706,889.01					

Total expenditures include the general and special revenue funds (funds numbered less than 50) and exclude residual equity and operating transfers. Only costs in Funds 01, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 and the indirect cost recovery project in Fund 15 may be reclassified as indirect costs. Functions blocked with X's may not be reclassified as indirect costs, except for termination. A detailed listing of accounts is available upon request. Call Paul Taylor at 444-1257.



Schedule A - Restricted Indirect Cost Rate For FY2026-27 Using FY25 Expenditures

Line A				2027 Calculated Rate	2027 Reclassified Rate*	Requested Reclassified Rate**		
LE 0258 Lewistown Elem		Indirect/Direct	434,812.55 / 9,313,012.20	4.67%				
LE 0259 Fergus H S		Indirect/Direct	304,369.84 / 4,328,247.54	7.03%				
Line B Preliminary Indirect Cost Rates			LE	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
			0258 Lewistown Elem	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	4.67%
			0259 Fergus H S	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	7.03%
Line C Approved Indirect Cost Rates			LE	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
			0258 Lewistown Elem	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	
			0259 Fergus H S	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	
Line D Higher of Preliminary or Approved Indirect Cost Rates			LE	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
			0258 Lewistown Elem	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	
			0259 Fergus H S	0.0408	0.0415	0.0413	0.0417	
Line E Five Year Average with 5% Discount			LE				2027	LE Reclaasified Rate
			0258 Lewistown Elem				4.03%	
			0259 Fergus H S				4.48%	
Line F Average of LE's contained under one School System Code (SS)							2027	SS Reclaasified Rate
0420 Lewistown Public Schools			Your Preliminary Rate by School System (SS) is:				4.26%	
This same rate is applied to both EL and HS in the same SS								

Total expenditures include the general and special revenue funds (funds numbered less than 50) and exclude residual equity and operating transfers. Only costs in Funds 01, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 and the indirect cost recovery project in Fund 15 may be reclassified as indirect costs. Functions blocked with X's may not be reclassified as indirect costs, except for termination. A detailed listing of accounts is available upon request. Call Paul Taylor at 444-1257.



Schedule A - Restricted Indirect Cost Rate For FY2026-27 Using FY25 Expenditures

* Reclassified Rate Line A: Calculate the Reclassified Rate by reclassifying allowable expenditures from direct to indirect. Then calculate by applying the following formula to each LE. Indirect/Direct.

** "Requested Reclassified Rate" column is intended as space to calculate the adjusted indirect cost rate due to reclassification of expenditures.

Line B: This is a copy of the Calculated Rate using TFS expenditures.

Line C: Enter the requested Reclassified Rate (based on reclassifying TFS expenditures) by LE from Line A.

Line D: Copy the higher value by LE from Lines B or C.

Line E: Apply the following formula: Average (all values by LE in Line D) * .95. Do this once for the Elem and once for the HS.

Line F: Average together the results from Line E.

Total expenditures include the general and special revenue funds (funds numbered less than 50) and exclude residual equity and operating transfers. Only costs in Funds 01, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 and the indirect cost recovery project in Fund 15 may be reclassified as indirect costs. Functions blocked with X's may not be reclassified as indirect costs, except for termination. A detailed listing of accounts is available upon request. Call Paul Taylor at 444-1257.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#16

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: PERSONNEL REPORT

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

Attached is the Personnel Report for your review.

☒ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

**LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA**

Monday, March 9, 2026

<i>EMPLOYEE NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED ACTION</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE DATE</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED BY</i>	<i>COMMENTS</i>
BOLTON, Kandyce	Teacher	Highland Park Elementary School	Approve appointment on 2026-2027 schedule - BA+30, Step 7 1.0 FTE for up to 187 days - with Master's Stipend	8/1/2026	Matthew Ventresca	Replacing Jodi Henderson
HAMLING, Mike	Volunteer Track Coach	Fergus High School		3/16/2026	Derek Lear	
HENDERSON, Jodi	Teacher	Lewis and Clark Elementary School	Approve transfer request from Highland Park Elementary School to Lewis and Clark Elementary School for the 2026-2027 school year	8/1/2026	Brad Moore	
HUDSON, Troy	Teacher	Fergus High School	Accept Letter of Resignation for the 2026-2027 school year.	5/31/2026	Matt Lewis	Letter on File
IRISH, Jean	Head Volleyball Coach	Lewistown Jr. High School	Accept Letter of Resignation	7/1/2026	Jeff Friesen	Letter on File
JOLLIFF, Dakota	Substitute Custodian	Fergus High School		3/10/2026	Wyatt Conard and Matt Lewis	
LEWIS, Diane	Teacher	Fergus High School	Accept Letter of Resignation for the 2026-2027 school year.	5/31/2026	Matt Lewis	Letter on File
MILLER, Jessica	Principal	Garfield	Approve request to move from the MA to MA+20 column on the Certified Administrator Matrix	7/1/2026	Brad Moore	Credits will be provided to the Business Office
ROGERS, Christy	Administrative Secretary	Central Office	Accept Letter of Resignation	5/31/2026	Brad Moore	Letter on File
STIMAC, Brittany	Volunteer/Chaperone	Fergus High School		3/18-3/20/26	Matt Lewis and Derek Lear	Pending a successful background check FCCLA Bozeman Competition
STURGILL, Trevor	Volunteer	Lewistown Jr. High School		3/10/2026	Jeff Friesen	
WOJTOWICK, Thomas	Accompanist	Fergus High School	Accept letter of Resignation	5/31/2026	Matt Lewis	Letter on File

ACTION ITEMS – OLD BUSINESS

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#17

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE SECOND READING OF POLICIES

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the attached list of policies that were reviewed by a Committee of the Board on January 22, 2026.

The full policy documents can be found at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UnnJXQJsHuUfzvwM8seZyT4ujtMdseoi?usp=drive_link

Each policy shows information that is new in highlight and text being removed in strikethrough. Policies listed in light gray are not being approved at this meeting, but will need to be in the near future.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1st READING POLICIES
March 9, 2026

1401	Records Available to Public
2158P1	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement – Student Pronoun Use
2161	Special Education
2161P	Special Education
3110	Entrance Placement and Transfer
3150	Part-time Enrollment
3600	Student Records
3600F	Student Records
3600P	Student Records
4550	Registered Sex Offenders
5015	Bullying-Harrassment-Intimidation

NEW POLICIES

~~POLICIES BEING REMOVED~~

POLICIES TO BE REVIEWED AT A LATER DATE:

5511	Classified Sick Bank – Already has had 1 st Reading, but requires further review
2335	Health Enhancement Curriculum
5321	Leaves of Absence
5321P	Conditions for Use of Leave
5334P	Vacations
7320P	Purchasing Procedures
7336P	Out of Town Travel

ACTION ITEMS – NEW BUSINESS

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#18

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: PURSUE NECESSARY PRE-BOND CONTRACTED SERVICES AND BOND RESOLUTION LANGUAGE FOR A FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL BOND

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs discuss next steps for the Fergus High School Bond. Attached are documents outlining voter turnout requirements for bond elections, as well as an estimated timeline if the election were to be run in October 2026.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMARY OF COSTS AND PRIORITIES

		PRIORITIES				
ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	COST	INFRASTRUCTURE	HIGH	CODE	FUTURE RECOMMENDED
A. ARCHITECTURAL						
A002	Fire rated covering on bottom of stairs to modeling loft	\$ 4,466.00			\$4,466	
A003	Fire rated covering on bottom of stairs from balcony to gym	\$ 4,466.00			\$4,466	
A011	Accessible restrooms	\$ 95,912.00			\$95,912	
A012	Accessible restrooms in concessions building at track	\$ 54,331.20				\$54,331
A013	Repair north wall of janitor closet by south exit of lower level	\$ 4,466.00				\$4,466
A014	Divert runoff flow away from grandstands & track	\$ 20,543.60				\$20,544
A015	Address Drainage at parking areas - deep patch/repair approx 5,000 sf	\$ 68,975.00	\$68,975			
A016	Parking Area rebuild - 35,000 sf of a total 107,000 sf	\$ 665,000.00				\$665,000
A021	Repair exterior threshold slab at nine exit doors	\$ 18,310.60	\$18,311			
A022	Sidewalk Replacement [1,500sf]	\$ 28,259.00	\$28,259			
A023	Replace Concrete landings at two locations [1000 sf]	\$ 44,089.00	\$44,089			
A024	Seal/Protect Primary Concrete Sidewalks around the building (10,000 sf)	\$ 33,450.00	\$33,450			
A025	Replace railings, select site locations	\$ 37,884.00			\$37,884	
A026	Sealant - typical around exterior	\$ 4,928.00				\$4,928
A031	Leaks: office and records room - interior repairs	\$ 2,500.00	\$2,500			
A032	Flooring and ceiling tile in vestibules [205 sf]	\$ 9,625.00	\$9,625			
A033	Replace ACT select areas [not entire building - 26000sf new + 10500sf updated]	\$ 196,000.00				\$196,000
A041	Lighting at gym exits	\$ 4,312.00			\$4,312	
A042	Areas of exit assistance	\$ 6,930.00			\$6,930	
A043	Concession laminate and benches	\$ 6,468.00				\$6,468
A044	Bathroom Finish fixes	\$ 8,408.40	\$8,408			
A045	Stair Guardrails	\$ 12,320.00			\$12,320	
A046	Railings @ stage in Auditorium both sides	\$ 1,800.00			\$1,800	
A047	Add ADA water coolers (2)	\$ 5,800.00			\$5,800	
A048	Replace rubber treads at four stairwells [90 treads/risers] @ \$350ea	\$ 37,500.00				\$37,500
A051	Repair door smoke seals	\$ 4,000.00			\$4,000	
A052	Storefront Glazing Repair at main entry	\$ 6,930.00	\$6,930			
A053	Door replacement at shop area	\$ 12,705.00	\$12,705			
A054	Secure Vestibule	\$ 81,081.00	\$81,081			
A055	Replace Non-ADA hardware	\$ 40,000.00			\$40,000	
A056	Replace glazing at cafeteria & add corner guards	\$ 8,000.00	\$8,000			
A057	Reglaze doors and storefront at lower level exit	\$ 1,500.00				\$1,500
A058	Fix exit doubledoor @ Music, Hardware and rusted door and frame	\$ 8,800.00	\$8,800			
A061	Roof Work - metal replacement complete [81,000+ sf]	\$ 3,840,000.00	\$3,840,000			
A071	Braille and ADA Signage at restrooms, exits, stairs	\$ 18,450.00			\$18,450	
A072	Paint Exterior of Building + Graffiti Resistant sealcoating	\$ 222,548.00	\$222,548			
A073	Convert Weight and Wrestling Room to Locker Rooms [3600 sf]	\$ 1,125,000.00				\$1,125,000
A081	Egress from the Lower Level (Troy Hudson's Room area if applicable)	\$ 126,450.00	\$7,500		\$126,450	
	SUBTOTAL	\$ 6,872,207.80	\$4,401,181	\$0	\$362,790	\$2,115,737

B. STRUCTURAL

S002	Replace slab in men's restroom in gym	\$	15,000.00				\$15,000
S003	Replace concrete stair at east exit out of north gym balcony	\$	34,800.00	\$34,800			
	SUBTOTAL	\$	49,800.00	\$34,800	\$0	\$0	\$15,000

C.ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

E001	Demolition (excludes Fire Alarm/Intercom as demo is included in those lines)	\$	178,545.00	\$178,545			
E002	Occupancy Sensors	\$	97,650.00			\$97,650	
E003	Lighting Dimmer Panel	\$	11,810.00			\$11,810	
E004	Replace lighting and controls	\$	841,494.00				\$841,494
E005	Replace receptacles	\$	433,375.00				\$433,375
E006	Upgrade fire alarm system	\$	601,965.00	\$75,000		\$526,965	
E011	Replace Branch Panels (19)	\$	106,000.00		\$106,000		
E012	Replace Panels with shunt trip mains (3)	\$	23,000.00		\$23,000		
E013	Replace MDP (2500A)	\$	66,500.00	\$66,500			
E014	Replace 2500A Main Disc and 30A MAU-2 Disc	\$	84,000.00	\$84,000			
E015	Elevator Disconnect	\$	2,000.00	\$2,000			
E016	MDP Feeder Replacements	\$	91,423.00	\$91,423			
E017	Branch Feeders	\$	94,000.00			\$94,000	
E021	Electrical Coordination Study	\$	30,000.00	\$30,000			
E031	Intercom System - full replacement (life safety issue)	\$	261,068.00	\$261,068			
E032	Camera System and Exterior Door Access Control	\$	295,000.00	\$295,000			
E041	Cellular Signal Repeaters/Amplifiers	\$	32,500.00	\$32,500			
	SUBTOTAL	\$	3,250,330.00	\$1,116,036	\$129,000	\$730,425	\$1,274,869

D. MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

M006	Add additional exhaust fans & ductwork in science rooms	\$	44,200.00	\$44,200			
M008	Replace existing pneumatic control components with electronic components	\$	306,800.00	\$306,800			
M009	Weight room ventilation	\$	25,300.00				\$25,300
M010	Wood, welding, and metal shop ventilation	\$	699,500.00	\$699,500			
M011	Replace heat pumps (HVAC Mechanical - not water pumps)	\$	464,400.00	\$464,400			
	Replace chiller	\$	288,600.00	\$288,600			
	Replace cooling tower	\$	342,900.00	\$342,900			
M012	Add cooling to gym	\$	458,300.00				\$458,300
P001	Column Shower Replacement (heavy leaking)	\$	88,466.00		\$88,466		
	Remove Column Showers - replace with wall-showers (1 ADA each room)	\$	45,000.00	\$45,000			
P002	Heat Exchanger Replacement	\$	14,500.00	\$14,500			
P003	1500 Gallon Storage Tank	\$	91,279.00	\$91,279			
P004	Install reduced pressure backflow preventor at city water main	\$	8,400.00			\$8,400	
	SUBTOTAL	\$	2,877,645.00	\$2,297,179	\$88,466	\$8,400	\$483,600

FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL TOTAL	\$	13,049,982.80	\$7,849,196	\$217,466	\$1,101,615	\$3,889,206
---------------------------------	-----------	----------------------	--------------------	------------------	--------------------	--------------------

VAV or fan coil unit alternate to all items in M011. \$3,536,000

Soft Costs

Architect/Engineering	9%	\$706,428	
Commissioning	0.30%	\$23,548	
Hazardous Material inspections		\$35,000	
OCR/Legal/Insurance/Utility/Misc @ 4%	4%	\$313,968	
Permitting	1%	\$39,246	
Owner Contingency	12.50%	<u>\$981,149</u>	
Total		\$9,948,534	
		\$10,296,733	2027
		\$10,657,118	2028

School Bond Election Voter Turnout Requirements:

If a district bond election is held by **poll election** at a **regular school election, or a special election** called by the trustees, the bond issue is subject to the following:

- a) If 40% or more of the qualified electors cast a ballot in the election – the proposition must be approved by a majority of the votes cast on the issue; or
- b) If more than 30%, but less than 40% of the qualified electors cast a ballot in the election – the proposition must be approved by 60% or more of the votes cast on the issue; or
- c) If 30% or less of the qualified electors cast a ballot in the election – the proposition fails.

If the school district bond election is held in conjunction with an election that is conducted by mail ballot, or in conjunction with a general or primary election, the determination of the approval or rejection of the bond issue is made by a majority of the votes cast on the issue. 20-9-428, MCA

The last Poll Election held for the High School was in 2016 for the Building Reserve Levy. Voter Turnout was 24%.

The last Mail Ballot Election held for the High school was in 2021 for the Facility Bond. Voter turnout was 47%.

Voter Participation Numbers, per the County Clerk and Recorder:

- 2025: 2000 absentee + 526 poll = 2526 total voters
- 2024: 2113 absentee + 551 poll = 2664 total voters
- 2023: 2099 absentee + 598 poll = 2697 total voters

Note: These numbers will not match the Election History report exactly, due to individuals moving out of the area and being reclassified in the county database. All 3 elections were held as mail ballot.

Election Timeline Example:

10/6/2026 – Election Day

9/16/26 – Ballots Mailed

7/28/26 – Trustees Call for Election (last day, can be done earlier)

5/28/26 – Latest Dan Semmens would like to be involved to write bond resolution language. This can be done anytime prior to this date as well.

NOTE: Election timeline dates are estimates and will need to be reviewed by the Office of Public Instruction

Bond election resolution: good description of the project(s) being financed, the maximum principal amount of the bonds, the term of the bonds, and who is conducting the election and whether or not by mail ballot.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#19

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS **OPTION 2B** 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

PIR DAYS (Pupil Instruction-Related)	
August 14	New Staff Orientation
August 17-18	All Staff Orientation/PIR
October 15-16	Staff Development Days
	Teachers Convention (Great Falls)
Nov 2-5	Parent-Teacher Conferences
	Schedules vary by school
TBD	Parent-Teacher Conferences
	Schedules vary by school
	Full school days for students
May 10	PIR Day

HOLIDAYS & VACATIONS	
No School for Teachers or Students	
September 7	Labor Day
November 6	Vacation Day
November 25-27	Thanksgiving Vacation
Dec 23 - Jan 1	Winter Break
January 18	Vacation Day
February 25-26	Vacation Days
March 25-29	Easter Break
April 9	Vacation Day
April 23	Vacation Day
May 31	Memorial Day

	New Teacher Orientation
	First/Last Day of School
	K-3 First Day
	K-8 Quarter Ends
	FHS Quarter Ends
	K-8 Qtr Mid-Term
	FHS Qtr Mid-Term
	K-8 Semester Ends
	FHS Semester Ends
	Early Out (1:30 pm)
	FHS Graduation
	PIR Day
	PT Conferences
	No School (Day Off/No School)
	Paid Holiday (Day Off/No School)

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#20

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: DECISION AND RATIFICATION OR DENIAL OF THE 2026-2028
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

PREPARED BY: Gaining Team

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to make a decision and call for a vote to ratify or decline the proposal for the 2026-2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented by the Collective Gaining Team.

The CBA is currently being revised to reflect what was agreed upon in the Collective Bargaining meetings and will be provided at the Monday meeting, if not sooner.

NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#21

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: CERTIFIED CONTRACTS FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve issuing contracts for Certified Staff for the 2026-2027 school year.

☒ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

2026-2027 CERTIFIED STAFF CONTRACTS

NAME	LOCATION	LANE	STEP	FTE	CONTRACTED DAYS
AAMOLD, DANIELLE L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+20	5	1.0	187
AKREMI, KELLI E	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	9	1.0	187
AUGER, CHASE H	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	5	1.0	187
BAWDEN, CASSIDY J	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA	4	1.0	187
BLAZICEVICH, JENIFER L	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	4	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
BOLING, AUDREY K	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+10	16	1.0	187
BRANDON, LUKE A	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
BRAULICK, DOUGLAS E	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
BREIDENBACH, BRADLEY P	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
BREIDENBACH, SHERRY J	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
BUEHLER, DYLAN C	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	8	1.0	187
CAVILL, CATHERINE A	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	2	1.0	187
CIRRINCIONE, MEGGAN M	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	11	1.0	187
CLOUD, CHARLES T	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	12	1.0	187
CLOUD, SARAH M	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
COMER, KELLY A	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+40	5	1.0	187
COMES, JULIE B	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
CRAWFORD, GINA M	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
CROUSE, LEE R	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	11	1.0	187 + up to 10 (Summer Counselor Days)
DAVIES, KATRINA V	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+50	7	1.0	187
DECOCK, ADRIENNA J	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	9	1.0	187
DENHAM, KENDALL J	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA	6	1.0	187
DOHRMANN, MARNE E	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	11	1.0	187
DONALDSON, MATTHEW S	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	11	1.0	187
FRENCH, KARI J	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+10	6	1.0	187
GIES, AMY A	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+50	8	1.0	187
GILLEN, CARRIE R	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+20	7	1.0	187
GOBBLE, CASSI J	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+20	5	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
GREMAUX, CINDY R	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
GRENSTEN, RACHAEL H	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	10	1.0	187
GRUBB, JULIA M	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	4	1.0	187
GRUENER, BRENDA L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
GRUENER, MATTHEW C	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	7	1.0	187
HANKINS, ASHLEY A	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA	9	1.0	187
HENDERSON, JODI L	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	7	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
HENDERSON, TROY I	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
HICKS, MEGAN C	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+50	6	1.0	187
HOWELL, KARA R	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	3	1.0	187
IRISH, JEAN M	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+10	12	1.0	187
IRWIN, KATHLEEN L	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
JENNI, AMANDA K	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	13	1.0	187
JENSEN, JENNIFER L	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+20	16	1.0	187
KARHI, ALYSANN L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA	1	1.0	187
KING, JOEL A	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	7	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
KIRSCH, ELIZABETH A	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
KROGSTAD, JOCELYN R	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA	13	1.0	187
LANE, EMILY C	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	9	1.0	187
LONG, JARED R	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	15	1.0	187 + up to 40 (Summer FFA Days)
LONG, LESLIE A	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
MANGOLD, MIKE T	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
METCALFE, BRIDGET K	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA	9	1.0	187
MOORE, MACELLE S	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	2	1.0	187
MURPHY, TIA L	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	7	1.0	187
NELSON, SHERI L	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	11	1.0	187
PHELPS, ALISON MARIE-GREMAUX	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	6	1.0	187

NAME	LOCATION	LANE	STEP	FTE	CONTRACTED DAYS
POSER-BROWN, LORA P	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+40	8	1.0	187
RECTOR, BROOKE M	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+20	3	1.0	187
REESOR, JULIE M	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+20	8	1.0	187
RHOADES, JACOB D	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	11	1.0	187
ROBERTS, PAMELA L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA	11	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
RUSSELL, JEFFREY L	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA	16	1.0	187
SCHILLING, AUSTIN P	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	7	1.0	187
SCHILLING, EMILY A	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	5	1.0	187
SCHWEDE, JILL E	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	11	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
SHELAGOWSKI, BRETT A	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
SHELAGOWSKI, LISA M	HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
SMITH, MELANIE K	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
SPARKS, BRIDGET K	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
SPERANZA, REBECCA L	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+10	6	1.0	187
STROUF, LEAH E	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA+30	8	1.0	187
SWIMLEY, RACHAEL A	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA	5	1.0	187
TAYLOR, JENNIFER L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA	1	1.0	187
THACKERAY, BRETT M	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	8	1.0	187
TRAFTON, MICHELLE S	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	16	1.0	187
TURNER, LOGAN A	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	2	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer FFA Days)
VAN DYKEN, ANNA DESTINNI L	GARFIELD SCHOOL	BA	6	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
VAUGHN, KERRY A	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+50	12	1.0	187
VAUGHN, TERESA M	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	13	1.0	187 + up to 10 (Summer Counselor Days)
VINCENT, MEGAN A	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	11	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer FACS Days)
WEBB, KARIN V	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+50	5	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
WEBB, THOMAS E	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	5	1.0	187 + up to 5 (Summer SPED Days)
WEICHEL, NORA N	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	5	1.0	187
WEICHEL, POLLY D	LEWIS & CLARK SCHOOL	BA+30	16	1.0	187
WERNER, CALEB W	FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL	BA	1	1.0	187
WICHMAN, NICOLE R	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+20	13	1.0	187
WIGERT, SVEA R	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	1	1.0	187
WIRTZBERGER, KATELIN E	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	5	1.0	187
ZEILER, BROOKE N	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	BA+30	11	1.0	187

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#22

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: NON-RENEWAL OF CERTIFIED STAFF FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL
YEAR WITHOUT CAUSE

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the recommendation for non-renewal of Keeley Bibler for the 2026-2027 school year.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#23

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: CERTIFIED ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

PREPARED BY: Brad Moore, Superintendent

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve issuing contracts for Certified Administrative Staff for the 2026-2027 school year.

☒ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

2026-2027 CERTIFIED ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS

Name	Position	FTE	Days	Salary
FRIESEN, JEFFREY	JHS PRINCIPAL	1.00	217	LJHS Principal Salary Matrix, MA Step 11
LEWIS, MATTHEW	PRINCIPAL	1.00	222	HS Principal Salary Matrix, MA+10 Step 15
MILLER, JESSICA	PRINCIPAL	1.00	212	Elementary/Asst Principal Salary Matrix, MA+20 Step 4
VENTRESCA, MATTHEW	PRINCIPAL	1.00	212	Elementary/Asst Principal Salary Matrix, MA Step 13
WIRTZBERGER, DANIEL	PRINCIPAL	1.00	212	Elementary/Asst Principal Salary Matrix, MA Step 11
JOHNSON, ORIN	CTE ACADEMY DIRECTOR	1.00	207	CTE Director Matrix, MA Step 2
LEAR, DEREK	K-12 ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR	1.00	207	HS Asst Principal and AD Salary Matrix, MA Step 2
DECOCK, BRENDON	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	1.00	207	HS Asst Principal and AD Salary Matrix, MA+20 Step 2

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#24

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET ELEMENTARY DISTRICT NUMBER ONE GENERAL FUND
LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

The Elementary is authorized to run a levy in the amount of \$105,870.66. However, because the current Building Reserve levy will be expiring this year, the recommendation is to run a levy in the amount of \$98,000 to equal the amount of the expiring Building Reserve Levy. The Building Reserve levy was a 10-year levy, for \$98,000 per year.

Essentially, if the Board agrees to not run an Elementary Building Reserve Levy, this will be a tax-neutral request to voters. It will be important to share this with voters for the May election.

In addition, the revenue from Out of District Tuition that is paid district-to-district will be applied to the Over-BASE, reducing the required voted levy. If voters approve the full levy amount, the tuition revenue received will reduce the actual levy amounts by the following:

Elementary Out of District Tuition *Estimate* FY27: \$71,000

High School Out of District Tuition *Estimate* FY27: \$22,000

In past years, the revenue was required to be applied to the BASE budget. In FY27, Tuition is calculated at the lesser of the two districts' levy percentages for BASE and Over-BASE, capped at 35.3%. In FY28, tuition is calculated at the lesser of the two districts' Over-BASE levy percentages, capped at 20%.

While the ballot will have higher numbers than required, the reduction in Tuition funds the following year makes it in the District's best interest to have approved a higher levy amount in order to maintain budget authority as these tuition dollars decrease.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

PROPOSITION

Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of one hundred five thousand eight hundred seventy-one dollars (\$98,000) per year which is approximately 6.03 mills, for the purpose of Maintaining and Operating the School District?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$4.58, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$13.75, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$29.37. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years.

School districts must obtain voter approval for an increase in the number of dollars budgeted for the over-BASE tax levy. The ballot language above contains all information required to be included per [15-10-425](#), MCA. As long as the information listed in [15-10-425](#), MCA is included in the ballot language, trustees are allowed to use their discretion in formulating ballot language for general fund elections.

NOTE: The proposition lists an approximate number of mills, since taxable valuation and other information necessary to determine an exact number of mills are not available at the time of the election. Actual mills will commonly differ from this estimate.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#25

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE GENERAL FUND
 LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

After receiving the Preliminary Data Sheets from OPI, the High School District is able to request \$95,809.80. It is the recommendation to the Board that the levy amounts be set to zero and an election NOT be run in May 2026 for the High School General Fund, due to the increase in funding from the Charter School 3-Year ANB and necessity to pass an Elementary District levy and focus on the Fergus High School Bond.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#26

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET ELEMENTARY DISTRICT NUMBER ONE BUILDING RESERVE
SAFETY FUND LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

Because there is a recommendation to run a General Fund levy in the elementary district, it is the recommendation to the Board that the levy amount be set to zero and an election NOT be run in May 2026 for the Elementary Building Reserve Safety Fund.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#27

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE BUILDING RESERVE
SAFETY FUND LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

Because there is a strong possibility of pursuing a Fergus High School Bond in October 2026, it is the recommendation to the Board that the levy amount be set to zero and an election NOT be run in May 2026 for the Elementary Building Reserve Safety Fund.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#28

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET ELEMENTARY DISTRICT NUMBER ONE BUILDING RESERVE
 FUND LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

Because there is a recommendation to run a General Fund levy in the elementary district, it is the recommendation to the Board that the levy amount be set to zero and an election NOT be run in May 2026 for the Elementary Building Reserve Fund.

The current Building Reserve levy will be expiring this year. This levy was a 10-year levy, for \$98,000 per year. It will be important to emphasize this to voters for the May election.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#29

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: SET HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE BUILDING RESERVE
FUND LEVY AMOUNT

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

Because there is a strong possibility of pursuing a Fergus High School Bond in October 2026, it is the recommendation to the Board that the levy amount be set to zero and an election NOT be run in May 2026 for the Elementary Building Reserve Fund.

The current Building Reserve levy will be expiring this year. This levy was a 10-year levy, for \$98,000 per year. It will be important to emphasize this to voters during bond discussions.

☐ **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED**

NOTES:

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

#30

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION ESTIMATING CHANGES IN REVENUES/MILLS FROM TUITION. ADULT EDUCATION, BUILDING RESERVE, FLEX, TRANSPORTATION AND BUS DEPRECIATION LEVIES FOR SCHOOL FISCAL YEAR 2027

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees needs to approve the attached resolution, per the requirements of Senate Bill 307 (SB307) implemented by law in the 2017 Legislative Session.

Many factors contribute to calculating the following year's budget and cannot be accurately predicted at this time. This Resolution is an **estimate** of increases in levies and will likely not be the amounts levied at the Budget Meeting held in August.

HB159, approved during the 2019 Legislature, appropriated the Natural Resources K-12 facilities payment to support school major maintenance aid in the Building Reserve Fund permissive levy. In addition, SB92 expanded permissible expenditures of state school major maintenance aid and major maintenance permissive levies to include school and student safety and security, including expenses related to school resource officers and counselors. We began taking advantage of the authority and funding in these bills in FY20 and recommend that we continue to do so as long as the State Match is offered.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Fund Levies

The Lewistown Public School District is committed to financial transparency. Nonvoted levies are an essential part of the budgeting process and this authority has been in place for many years. State law requires the District to provide notice of its intent to increase nonvoted levies in the ensuing fiscal year.

The Lewistown Public Schools Board of Trustees estimates the following increases/decreases in revenues and mills for the funds noted below for the next school fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026:

Elementary									
	2025-2026 Levy	2025-2026 Mills	2026-2027 Estimated Levy	2026-2027 Estimated Mills	Estimated Levy Change Prior to Current Year	Estimated Change in Mills	Estimated Impact on a \$100,000 House	Estimated Impact on a \$300,000 House	Estimated Impact on a \$600,000 House
Transportation Fund	\$335,730.04	20.65	\$347,000.00	21.34	\$11,269.96	\$0.69	\$0.53	\$1.58	\$3.38
Bus Depreciation Fund	\$156,081.39	9.60	\$156,250.00	9.61	\$168.61	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.02	\$0.05
Tuition Fund	\$334,661.77	20.58	\$325,000.00	19.99	-\$9,661.77	-\$0.59	-\$0.45	-\$1.35	-\$2.89
Technology Fund	\$61,497.63	3.78	\$61,497.63	3.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Flexibility Fund	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Reserve Fund (Permissive)	\$28,654.00	1.76	\$28,148.00	1.73	-\$506.00	-\$0.03	-\$0.02	-\$0.07	-\$0.15
	\$916,624.83	56.37	\$2,348,002.62	144.41	\$1,270.80	\$0.08	\$0.06	\$0.18	\$0.38
High School									
	2025-2026 Levy	2025-2026 Mills	2026-2027 Estimated Levy	2026-2027 Estimated Mills	Estimated Levy Change Prior to Current Year	Estimated Change in Mills	Estimated Impact on a \$100,000 House	Estimated Impact on a \$300,000 House	Estimated Impact on a \$600,000 House
Transportation Fund	\$188,223.92	10.69	\$209,000.00	11.87	\$20,776.08	\$1.18	\$0.90	\$2.69	\$5.75
Bus Depreciation Fund	\$163,615.16	9.29	\$162,500.00	9.23	-\$1,115.16	-\$0.06	-\$0.05	-\$0.14	-\$0.31
Tuition Fund	\$126,318.27	7.17	\$140,000.00	7.95	\$13,681.73	\$0.78	\$0.59	\$1.77	\$3.78
Adult Education Fund	\$0.00	0.00	\$10,000.00	0.57	\$10,000.00	\$0.57	\$0.43	\$1.29	\$2.77
Technology Fund	\$54,165.05	3.08	\$54,165.05	3.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Flexibility Fund	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Reserve Fund (permissive)	\$16,372.00	0.93	\$16,326.00	0.93	-\$46.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$0.01	-\$0.01
	\$548,694.40	31.16	\$1,472,914.09	83.65	\$43,296.65	\$2.46	\$1.87	\$5.61	\$11.98

Impacts above are based on current certified taxable valuations from the current school fiscal year. If the District's taxable value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expected before the final budgets are set in August.

This notice must also document the District's expected use of its Building Reserve State Major Maintenance levies and associated funding (see Building Reserve Permissive above). This funding will be used to finance capital improvement projects identified in the District's Facility Assessment and for operational costs related to student safety. By levying in this fund, the District will receive additional revenue from the State of approximately \$140,740 in the Elementary and \$81,630 in the High School.

DATED this 9th day of March, 2026.

Kris Birdwell, Board Chair

Rebekah Rhoades, Business Manager/Clerk

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Lewistown, Montana

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
#31

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

ITEM TITLE: APPROVE MULTI DISTRICT AGREEMENT FOR TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

PREPARED BY: Rebekah Rhoades, Business Office Manager

SUMMARY:

For the past 15+ years, several Central Montana School Districts have been participating in a Technology Cooperative. Based in Lewistown, our Cooperative offers technology services to area school districts. Participation in the Cooperative is voluntary. Districts that choose to participate pay a fixed amount per ANB to the Lewistown School District to finance the Cooperative's activities.

The MTSBA-approved agreement is attached for the Board's review and approval. Once the Lewistown Board approves the document, original agreements will be distributed to each participating district for their counter-approval.

☒ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

NOTES:

Regional Technology Multidistrict Agreement

This Multidistrict Agreement (hereinafter “Agreement”) is entered into on this 9th day of March, 2026 by and between Lewistown Elementary School District No. 1, Fergus High School District No. 1, Grass Range Elementary and High School District No. 27, Harlowton K-12 School District No. 16, Ayers Elementary School District No. 222, Roy K-12 School District No. 74, Winifred K-12 School District No. 115, Moore Elementary and High School District No. 44, Deerfield Elementary School District No. 15, Spring Creek Colony Elementary School District No. 104, King Colony Elementary School District No. 40, Hobson K-12 School District No. 25, Judith Gap Elementary and High School District No. 21J, Stanford K-12 School District No. 12, and Geyser K-12 School District No. 58 (collectively hereinafter “Participating Districts”).

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 20-3-363, MCA, the boards of trustees of any two or more school districts may enter into a Multidistrict Agreement to create a multidistrict cooperative to perform any services, activities, and undertakings of the Participating Districts and to provide for the joint funding and operation and maintenance of all Participating Districts upon the terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed to by the districts subject to the conditions of section 20-3-363, MCA;

WHEREAS, an Agreement made pursuant to section 20-3-363, MCA, must be approved by the board of trustees of all Participating Districts and upon approval the Participating Districts are agreeing to enter into this Multidistrict Cooperative

WHEREAS, all expenditures in support of the Multidistrict Agreement may be made from the interlocal cooperative fund in accordance with sections 20-9-703 and 20-9-704, MCA. Each Participating District of the multidistrict cooperative may transfer funds into the interlocal cooperative fund from the general fund, any budgeted fund, or any non-budgeted fund of the Participating Districts, except as limited/prohibited law as follows and as identified in paragraph Nos. 5-7 below:

1. transfers to the interlocal cooperative fund from each Participating District's general fund are limited to an amount not to exceed the direct state aid in support of the respective school district's general fund;
2. transfers from the retirement fund, the debt service fund or the compensated absence liability fund are prohibited; and
3. transfers may not be made with funds restricted by federal law unless such transfer is in compliance with any restrictions or conditions imposed by federal law.

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 20-9-703, MCA, Fergus High School District No. 1 (hereafter “Fergus High School” or “Prime Agency”) shall be designated as the prime agency. All other Participating Districts shall be designated as cooperating agencies;

WHEREAS, expenditures from the interlocal cooperative fund are limited to those expenditures that are permitted by law and that are within the final budget for the budgeted fund from which the transfer was made.

NOW THEREFORE, the Participating Districts hereby agree as follows:

1. To create a multidistrict cooperative for the purpose of providing technology services (Refer to Attachment 'A' for a description of services) for the Participating Districts;
2. To create an interlocal cooperative fund for the purpose of transferring funds from the Participating Districts for the purpose(s) stated herein;
3. Fergus High School is designated as the prime agency and as such shall establish a nonbudgeted interlocal cooperative fund for the purpose of the financial administration of this Multidistrict Agreement.
4. All other Participating Districts are designated as the cooperating agencies and in accordance with section 20-9-704, shall transfer its financial support under this Agreement to the prime agency by district warrant.
5. Any and all amounts transferred into the interlocal cooperative fund by any Participating District may come from: (a) the respective district's general fund in an amount not to exceed the direct state aid in support of the respective school district's general fund; or (b) any other budgeted fund of a participating district, except that funds cannot be transferred from the retirement fund or the debt service fund; or (c) any nonbudgeted fund of a Participating District, except that funds cannot be transferred from the compensated absence liability fund.
6. Transfers may not be made with funds restricted by federal law unless the transfer is in compliance with any restrictions or conditions imposed by federal law.
7. Any and all amounts transferred into the interlocal cooperative fund by each Participating District must be for the purpose stated herein as mutually agreed upon between the Participating Districts in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
8. This Agreement shall become fully vested on the date it is entered by all parties. The term of the services considered within this Agreement shall run for a term beginning on July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2027. Any remaining fund balance in the interlocal cooperative fund at year end may be carried over to the subsequent fiscal year.
9. The terms of this Agreement may be changed upon mutual written approval of all Participating Districts.
10. Invoices will be sent to Participating Districts no later than May 1st of each year, with payment due by July 15th of the same year. Invoices are calculated using a formula that utilizes a base funding amount and the Budget ANB (Current Year or 3-Year Average,

whichever is higher) calculated after February Count Day of the year in question. In addition, travel expenses are calculated based on the number of on-site trips per year times the number of round trip miles, with the miles being charged at the federal reimbursement rate. Once each Participating District's share is computed, the total estimated expenditures for the year are generated. The intent of the Prime Agency is to collect funding necessary to pay for the following fiscal year's expenses, as well as set aside dollars for asset replacement (vehicles, laptops, other necessary equipment). Participating Districts will additionally be billed for any software necessary for the Prime Agency to provide support. This billing will be based on a per license fee determined by the contract with the specific software vendor.

11. The Multidistrict Cooperative may be dissolved upon mutual consent of all Participating Districts in writing upon 180 days written notice to all Participating Districts. In addition, any Participating District may terminate its participation in the Multidistrict Cooperative upon 90 days written notice to the Prime Agency. In the event that the Agreement is dissolved in its entirety or any Participating District terminates its participation in the multidistrict cooperative, the provisions of Paragraph 12 below shall apply.
12. Upon termination of this Agreement by all Participating Districts, the current funds held by the Multidistrict Cooperative shall be returned to such Participating Districts on a pro rata share of the current funds held by the Prime Agency after all outstanding financial obligations have been paid. Outstanding financial obligations shall include the monies held by the Prime Agency for asset replacement which may be retained by the Prime Agency. Returned funds shall revert back to the original fund(s) from which the money was transferred as a result of said District(s) participation in the Multidistrict Cooperative.

In the event that any Participating District wishes to exit this Multidistrict Cooperative, while it remains in existence, such Participating District may exit this Agreement upon 90 day written notice to the Prime Agency. Any Participating District wishing to exit the Multidistrict Cooperative for the upcoming fiscal year shall notify the Prime Agency in writing 45 days prior to the February Count Day. As the funds collected for the administration of this Multidistrict Cooperative are calculated on a yearly basis, and take into account all Participating District's Participation, any District which exits this Multidistrict Cooperative shall have no funds returned and shall not be entitled to any of the services provided pursuant to this Agreement upon the completion of any paid for fiscal years' services. A Participating District that wishes to exit the Multidistrict cooperative during any fiscal year where the Multidistrict Cooperative is in operation, may forfeit all remaining services due to it, but shall not be entitled to any remuneration of payment.

13. This Agreement shall be interpreted according to and governed by the laws of the State of Montana.
14. This Agreement must be approved by the participating schools Board of Trustees by June 1, 2026, if not approved by any School District, such School District shall be removed

from the Participating School District's noted herein, and shall not be construed as a member of this Multidistrict Agreement or the Multidistrict Cooperative

15. By approving this Agreement, Participating Districts are agreeing to the services and other provisions as indicated in "Attachment A".

As agreed on this _____ day of _____, 20____

Fergus High School (LE0259)
Prime Agency

«School Name» (LE«LEA»)
Cooperating Agency

Board Chair, Prime Agency

Board Chair, Cooperating Agency

District Clerk, Prime Agency

District Clerk, Cooperating Agency

ATTACHMENT 'A'

Below is a list of the services provided by Lewistown Public Schools Technology Support Staff to an entity which has contracted Fergus High School District No. 1 for such services:

ISP Management: Lewistown Public Schools tech support (also referred to as "LPS") will research and make recommendations on the ISP (Internet Service Provider) the entity should use along with the amount of bandwidth they should be provided with. The entity's chosen tech contact shall be the primary contact between the LPS and any entity utilizing the tech services herein.

Network Management: Lewistown Public Schools Tech Support will research and recommend the network equipment to include, but not limited to Switches, Routers, Firewalls, wireless access points, and content filtering the participating entity should purchase. LPS will provide service to setup, install, implement, and support all network equipment and internal network connections within the entity.

Server Management: Lewistown Public Schools Tech Support will research and make recommendations for the servers and storage equipment the entity should purchase. LPS will provide support for configuring, installing, implementing, and maintaining the server environment for the entity. Recommendations may also be made for the migration of on site infrastructure management services and/or software to a cloud based platform. LPS may assist in the maintenance and usage of recommended cloud based platforms.

Computer and device management: Lewistown Public Schools Tech Support will work with the entity's tech contact and other individuals to make recommendations on computers and other devices the entity will use in its classroom and education environment. We will configure, install, implement, and maintain those devices recommended to ensure the best possible connectivity and usability. Personal devices are not supported or maintained by LPS Technology Staff.

Websites: Websites are to be managed by the individual entity. LPS support staff may provide assistance with DNS (Domain Name System) issues related to the entity's website. LPS does not own or maintain any of the DNS records or domain names the websites require to function properly.

Technology Plan: It is the responsibility of the individual entity to write a Technology Plan, if desired. The Regional Director of Technology may review and provide technical knowledge to the entity for the development of a technology plan and disaster recovery plan, in which areas pertain to the technology in use at the entity.

Data Backup: LPS Tech support staff may make recommendations for backup software or solutions. Backups of sensitive, critical, and personal data are the responsibility of the user. Verification of backups is also the responsibility of the user. LPS staff may assist in verification or restoration of lost data, but the ultimate responsibility is with the end user.

Phones: Troubleshooting and maintenance of phones and phone systems is not supported by LPS staff. If the phone system issue appears to be network related, LPS staff will investigate. Limited device support may be provided for district owned cell phones.

Technical Support: An entity's primary communication with LPS staff shall be through the ticketing system for technical support. In the event of an emergency, the telephone line may be used (406-535-8777 #5). This line will ring until the next available technician is able to answer.

Administrative Support: The Regional Technology Director shall be contacted for all bids, quotes, purchases of new software, hardware, cloud based technologies, construction, renovation, and in case of any disaster or emergency. Concerns with any technology staff shall also be reported directly to the Regional Technology Director.

On-Site District Tech Contact: Each site shall have a dedicated tech contact. This person may be determined at the discretion of the entity. This person will be responsible for creation of users in the Google Admin Console. This includes creation and naming of the user, user email, and user password. LPS Technology will assist in placing the user in the appropriate groups and organizational units as needed. LPS Technology may also assist in user creation in Active Directory, if it is being used by the district. The on-site district tech contact may also be responsible for resetting user passwords in the Google Admin console.

Additional Work. From time to time an entity may require additional work that is related to technology or hardware for the use of technology that is not specified within this document. Such work is not the responsibility of LPS. However, an entity may request such work be done by LPS. Any such additional work or services rendered by LPS not specifically indicated within this document would need prior approval by LPS and would require additional fees paid to LPS outside of the base agreement to which this document applies. Any additional work is discretionary, and LPS reserves the right to deny conducting any additional work outside of the scope of this document.

Indemnification. Any and all parties entering into an agreement which this document attaches agree that it (the "Indemnifying Party") agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless LPS (the "Indemnified Party"), its affiliates, officers, employees, directors, administration, and agents, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of or in relation to: (a) any breach by the Indemnifying Party or its representatives of its own obligations; and (b) any act or omission of the Indemnifying Party which may be found to be negligent or willful in violation of State or Federal Law, criminal or civil.

Liability Waiver, Acknowledgement and Statement of Duties: By entering into an agreement carrying this document as an attachment, any party to that agreement hereby agrees to waive any and all claims, actions, demands which may arise against LPS in relation to the services noted herein, except to the extent that such claims, actions, or demands are directly related to LPS' negligence. It is hereby acknowledged that security of an entity's data, technology, and hardware or software, including personal or commercial data, remains the duty of the individual entity. Any entity entering a service agreement with LPS hereby agrees that LPS cannot be held liable

for any cyber-attacks or security breaches of the entities hardware, software, or technology. It is further specifically acknowledged that any entity agreeing to a contract to which this document attaches retains the duty and is specifically responsible for the backup of their own data. LPS cannot be held liable for a loss of data by any entity.

Disaster Recovery. In the event of a disaster, such as natural or human cause disasters, LPS will attempt to recover data. LPS cannot be held liable for any data that cannot be recovered due to any loss of data caused by any disaster, including natural or human caused disasters.

Adverse Weather and Travel. Prime Agency staff may not travel to participating district sites during adverse weather and/or road conditions that cause travel to be unsafe. Determinations for canceling travel shall be made by the Prime Agency's Director of Technology. If more than 4 days are missed due to weather and/or road conditions, Prime Agency will attempt to schedule time for that site to recover those hours, if necessary. The Regional Coordinator and/or Director of Technology shall coordinate with site tech contacts to maintain effective communications in these situations.

LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

PIR DAYS

(Pupil Instruction-Related)

August 15

August 18-19

October 16-17

Oct 27-30, Nov 3-6

March 23-27

May 11

New Staff Orientation

All Staff Orientation/PIR

Staff Development Days

Teachers Convention (Missoula)

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Schedules vary by school

PIR Nov 7

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Schedules vary by school

Full school days for students

PIR Day

HOLIDAYS & VACATIONS

No School for Teachers or Students

September 1

November 26-28

Dec 22 - Jan 2

February 27

March 13

April 2-6

May 25

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Vacation

Winter Break

Vacation Day

Vacation Day

Easter Vacation

Memorial Day

New Teacher Orientation

First/Last Day of School

K-3 First Day

K-8 Quarter Ends

K-8 Qtr Mid-Term

K-8 Semester Ends

Early Out (1:30 pm)

PIR Day

No School (Day Off/No School)

Paid Holiday (Day Off/No School)

Flex Day (No School for Students)

FHS Quarter Ends

FHS Qtr Mid-Term

FHS Semester Ends

FHS Graduation

PT Conferences

PUPIL INSTRUCTION (INCLUDING FLEX DAYS)

First Semester					91 days	Second Semester					88 days
FIRST QUARTER					DAYS	THIRD QUARTER					DAYS
First Week	Aug 20	to	Aug 22	3		First Week	Jan 19	to	Jan 23	5	
Second Week	Aug 25	to	Aug 29	5		Second Week	Jan 26	to	Jan 30	5	
Third Week	Sept 2	to	Sept 5	4		Third Week	Feb 2	to	Feb 6	5	
Fourth Week	Sept 8	to	Sept 12	5		Fourth Week	Feb 9	to	Feb 13	5	
Fifth Week	Sept 15	to	Sept 19	5		Fifth Week	Feb 16	to	Feb 20	5	
Sixth Week	Sept 22	to	Sept 26	5		Sixth Week	Feb 23	to	Feb 26	4	
Seventh Week	Sept 29	to	Oct 3	5		Seventh Week	March 2	to	March 6	5	
Eighth Week	Oct 6	to	Oct 10	5		Eighth Week	March 9	to	March 12	4	
Ninth Week	Oct 13	to	Oct 15	3		Ninth Week	March 16	to	March 20	5	
Tenth Week	Oct 20	to	Oct 24	5						43	
					45						
SECOND QUARTER					DAYS	FOURTH QUARTER					DAYS
First Week	Oct 27	to	Oct 31	5		First Week	March 23	to	March 27	5	
Second Week	Nov 3	to	Nov 6	4		Second Week	March 30	to	April 1	3	
Third Week	Nov 10	to	Nov 14	5		Third Week	April 7	to	April 10	4	
Fourth Week	Nov 17	to	Nov 21	5		Fourth Week	April 13	to	April 17	5	
Fifth Week	Nov 24	to	Nov 25	2		Fifth Week	April 20	to	April 24	5	
Sixth Week	Dec 1	to	Dec 5	5		Sixth Week	April 27	to	May 1	5	
Seventh Week	Dec 8	to	Dec 12	5		Seventh Week	May 4	to	May 8	5	
Eighth Week	Dec 15	to	Dec 19	5		Eighth Week	May 12	to	May 15	4	
Ninth Week	Jan 5	to	Jan 9	5		Ninth Week	May 18	to	May 22	5	
Tenth Week	Jan 12	to	Jan 16	5		Tenth Week	May 26	to	May 29	4	
					46						45

PUPIL INSTRUCTION-RELATED DAYS (PIR)	August 15	New Staff Orientation	
	August 18-19	All Staff Orientation/PIR	2.0
	October 16-17	Staff Development Days <i>Teachers Convention</i>	2.0
	Oct 27-30, Nov. 3-6	Parent-Teacher Conferences <i>Schedules vary by school PIR Nov. 7</i>	1.5
	March 23-27	Parent-Teacher Conferences <i>Schedules vary by school Full school days for students</i>	.5
	May 11	PIR Day	1.0
		Floating PIR Day	<u>1.0</u>
			8.0
HOLIDAYS & VACATIONS	Dates Inclusive		
	September 1	Labor Day	
	November 26-28	Thanksgiving Vacation	
	Dec 22-Jan 2	Winter Break	
	February 27	Vacation Day	
	March 13	Vacation Day	
	April 2-6	Easter Vacation	
	May 25	Memorial Day	
	July 3	Vacation Day (12-mo employees)	

PUPIL INSTRUCTION (INCLUDING FLEX DAYS)	First Semester				81 days	Second Semester				98 days
	FIRST QUARTER				DAYS	THIRD QUARTER				DAYS
	First Week	Aug 20	to	Aug 22	3	First Week	Jan 5	to	Jan 9	5
	Second Week	Aug 25	to	Aug 29	5	Second Week	Jan 12	to	Jan 16	5
	Third Week	Sept 2	to	Sept 5	4	Third Week	Jan 19	to	Jan 23	5
	Fourth Week	Sept 8	to	Sept 12	5	Fourth Week	Jan 26	to	Jan 30	5
	Fifth Week	Sept 15	to	Sept 19	5	Fifth Week	Feb 2	to	Feb 6	5
	Sixth Week	Sept 22	to	Sept 26	5	Sixth Week	Feb 9	to	Feb 13	5
	Seventh Week	Sept 29	to	Oct 3	5	Seventh Week	Feb 16	to	Feb 20	5
	Eighth Week	Oct 6	to	Oct 10	5	Eighth Week	Feb 23	to	Feb 26	4
					3	Ninth Week	March 2	to	March 6	5
					40	Tenth Week	March 9	to	March 12	4
										48
	SECOND QUARTER				DAYS	FOURTH QUARTER				DAYS
	First Week	Oct 20	to	Oct 24	5	First Week	March 16	to	March 20	5
	Second Week	Oct 27	to	Oct 31	5	Second Week	March 23	to	March 27	5
	Third Week	Nov 3	to	Nov 6	4	Third Week	March 30	to	April 1	3
	Fourth Week	Nov 10	to	Nov 14	5	Fourth Week	April 7	to	April 10	4
	Fifth Week	Nov 17	to	Nov 21	5	Fifth Week	April 13	to	April 17	5
	Sixth Week	Nov 24	to	Nov 25	2	Sixth Week	April 20	to	April 24	5
	Seventh Week	Dec 1	to	Dec 5	5	Seventh Week	April 27	to	May 1	5
	Eighth Week	Dec 8	to	Dec 12	5	Eighth Week	May 4	to	May 8	5
	Ninth Week	Dec 15	to	Dec 19	5	Ninth Week	May 12	to	May 15	4
					41	Tenth Week	May 18	to	May 22	5
						Eleventh Week	May 26	to	May 29	4
										50
						Total Days				179

PUPIL INSTRUCTION-RELATED DAYS (PIR)	August 15	New Staff Orientation	
	August 18-19	All Staff Orientation/PIR	2.0
	October 16-17	Staff Development Days <i>Teachers Convention</i>	2.0
	Oct 27-30, Nov. 3-6	Parent-Teacher Conferences <i>Schedules vary by school</i> <i>PIR Nov. 7</i>	1.5
	March 23-27	Parent-Teacher Conferences <i>Schedules vary by school</i> <i>Full school days for students</i>	.5
	May 11	PIR Day	1.0
		Floating PIR Day	<u>1.0</u>
			8.0
HOLIDAYS & VACATIONS	Dates Inclusive		
	September 1	Labor Day	
	November 26-28	Thanksgiving Vacation	
	Dec 22-Jan 2	Winter Break	
	February 27	Vacation Day	
	March 13	Vacation Day	
	April 2-6	Easter Vacation	
	May 25	Memorial Day	
	July 3	Vacation Day (12-mo employees)	