

NOTICE OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of High School District No. 1 (Fergus), Fergus County, Montana (the “District”), that pursuant to a certain resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Board on June 29, 2026, an election of the registered voters of the District will be held by mail ballot election on September 29, 2026 for the purpose of voting on the question of whether the Board may sell and issue general obligation school building bonds of the District in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount of up to Ten Million Five Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$10,500,000.00) to provide funds to pay the costs of repairing or replacing high school facility components that are beyond their useful lives and making Fergus High School more secure, to include: adding a secure vestibule, intercom system, camera system, and exterior door access control; repairing or replacing the fire alarm system; repairing or replacing the roof; painting and sealing the building exterior; making electrical system repairs; repairing or replacing heating, ventilation, and air condition systems; replacing doors, flooring, ceiling tiles, and bathroom features; repairing exterior door thresholds, sidewalks, concrete landings, and stairs; making related repairs or replacements at the high school; and paying costs associated with the sale and issuance of the bonds. Each series of bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined at the time of sale and be payable semiannually during a term of not more than twenty (20) years.

If this bond election passes, based on the taxable value of the school district, the property taxes on a home with an assessed market value for tax purposes of \$100,000 are estimated to increase by \$30.75 in the first year, of \$300,000 are estimated to increase by \$92.24 in the first year, and of \$400,000 are estimated to increase by \$124.23 in the first year. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

The election will be conducted by the County Election Administrator solely by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible registered voters in the District on September 10, 2026, and must be returned by each voter, by mail or in person to the County Election Administrator’s Office, 712 W. Main, Suite 204, Lewistown, Montana 59457, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), weekdays (exclusive of holidays), September 11, 2026 through September 28, 2026.

On Election Day, September 29, 2026, the only places for deposit of voted ballots will be the office of the County Election Administrator’s Office, 712 W. Main, Suite 204, Lewistown, Montana, which will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and all ballots must be in the County Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. in order to be counted. All ballots will be tallied in accordance with Montana law with the preliminary results, if known, expected to be released after 8:00 p.m. on September 29, 2026.

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

- (a) vote in person in the office of the County Election Administrator as soon as the ballots are available and until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day; or

(b) make a written request prior to noon on September 28, 2026, signed by the applicant and addressed to the office of the County Election Administrator requesting the ballot be mailed to an address other than that which appears on the registration records.

An elector may obtain a replacement ballot if his or her ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the elector, by filling out and mailing, emailing, or faxing back a completed replacement ballot request form or by the elector personally appearing at the office of the Fergus County Election Administrator at 712 W. Main, Suite 204, in Lewistown, Montana.

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

Please note, all electors, as defined in Section 20-20-301, M.C.A., are those who reside within the District and are registered to vote by the close of registration on August 31, 2026.

For electors who miss the close of registration deadline, such electors may register late and vote in the election by appearing in person at the Fergus County Election Administrator office at 712 W. Main, Suite 204, in Lewistown, Montana and providing to the County Election Administrator the electors' voter registration information in verifiable form beginning September 1, 2026 through 12:00 p.m. on September 28, 2026, and then from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

DATED this 4 day of August, 2026.

/s/ Janel J. Tucek
Fergus County Election Administrator

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