

Update FAQ's August 28, 2026

General Information

What is the purpose of this upcoming school election?

This election asks voters to approve funding dedicated entirely to critical infrastructure upgrades across our district. The proposed improvements focus on three core pillars: **Security, Structural Integrity (Roofing), and Health & Safety.**

1. Security Upgrades

How will this election improve the safety of our students and staff?

The proposal addresses security gaps by funding major hardware, structural, and monitoring upgrades across our campus buildings:

Comprehensive Surveillance Cameras: Installing modern, high-definition security cameras **both inside hallways/common areas and outside throughout the perimeter and parking lots** to ensure 24/7 monitoring and deterrence.

Secure Vestibules: Constructing double-entry "mantraps" at main entrances to ensure all visitors are vetted before gaining access to student areas.

Modern Fire Alarm Systems: Replacing outdated alarms with integrated, building-wide alert systems to ensure rapid evacuation and first-responder notification.

Upgraded Communications: Installing robust intercoms and emergency communication networks so staff can connect instantly during a crisis.

2. Roof & Structural Repairs

Why is the roof a priority right now?

Our current roofing system has reached the end of its operational lifespan. Ignoring these repairs is actively costing the district money in compounding damages. Funding will address:

Water Damage Control: Stopping active leaks that threaten the structural integrity of the buildings.

Classroom Rehabilitation: Repairing walls, flooring, and electrical components in classrooms that have suffered water damage.

Ceiling Tile Replacement: Swapping out stained, damaged, and compromised ceiling tiles to restore clean, safe learning environments.

3. Health & Safety

What specific health and safety issues are being addressed?

We are targeting specialized learning spaces and campus infrastructure to ensure a clean, accessible, and functional environment:

Targeted Ventilation: Installing specialized exhaust and air-filtration systems in the Art and Agriculture classrooms to safely manage fumes, dust, and chemical vapors.

Comprehensive Drainage Solutions: Fixing chronic pooling and flooding issues both inside the facilities and outside in the school parking lots to prevent slip hazards and foundational erosion.

Restroom Modernization: Updating plumbing, fixtures, and finishes in student restrooms to improve sanitation and code compliance.

Voter Note: All funds approved in this election are legally locked to these specific projects and cannot be used for administrative salaries or general operating costs.

General Questions about the School Finances and/or Bond:

Quote directly from the District Superintendent- Brad Moore

"I would like to clear up some confusion regarding the rumors circulating that the trustees are selling the Lincoln building to pay off debt. The district continues to run a positive cash balance at the end of each fiscal year. There is no need to sell the building to cover expenses and the building is not for sale. There are some changes happening with the Lincoln building in the future. Through a several year extensive approval process, the federal government granted the Education Center building and grounds to Lewistown Public Schools as long as we meet the conditions of the agreement with them. That building is now deeded, in its entirety, to the school district by the federal government to Lewistown schools at no charge. The future plans for the building include housing the Central MT Learning Resource Center and moving the administrative staff from the Lincoln Building to the Education Center. Long range goals also include expanding our Central MT CTE Academy to the Education Center and reviving an adult education program to offer more learning opportunities for our community and students."

Question 1: The number of cameras and system quoted in the newspaper seem excessive.

The quote in the Argus about 71 cameras and 14 door monitors was numbers compiled to apply for a federal grant to upgrade the camera system. This is not tied to the Fergus High School bond, but applying for a grant to help offset taxpayer burden and improve our school safety is being fiscally responsible. The trustees have the final say on all aspects of the security system with both the grants and the bond if successfully awarded and passed respectfully.

The district never paid off their bonds from an earlier bond election.

The only active bond being paid by the school district is for the Elementary bond passed in 2021. All payments have been made on time.