# MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

# **Meeting**

# Tuesday, March 29, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Administration Building A - Boardroom

**Note:** If you have questions regarding the agenda, please contact the Superintendent's Office (728-2400, ext. 1026, prior to the meeting).

**Board of Trustees:** Board Chair Diane Lorenzen, Jeffrey Avgeris, Grace M. Decker, Michael Gehl, Nancy Hobbins, Vicki McDonald, Koan Mercer, Vice Chair Wilena Old Person, Jen Vogel, Vice Chair Ann Wake, Arlene Walker-Andrews

**Student Trustees:** Brogan Callaghan-HHS, Owen Hoag-SSHS, Madalyn Jones-BSHS, Aubrey Kleinhuizen-Willard, Daisy Kulina-SHS, Makenna Laverdure-BSHS, Analise Migliaccio-BSHS, Brandon Pannell-SHS

# **AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ROLL CALL
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. REVIEW, REVISE, AND APPROVE AGENDA Action
- 4. APPROVE MINUTES Action
  - A. Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting March 8, 2022

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- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE
  - A. Public Comment Regarding Non-Agenda Items (3 Minutes each speaker)
  - B. **Correspondence** See attached written correspondence.

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- 6. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS Information
  - A. **Announcements from Superintendent** Superintendent Rob Watson will report on items of interest.
- 7. CONSENT AGENDA In accordance with BP 1420 School Board Meeting Procedure, the Board approves the use of a Consent Agenda to expedite business at the regular monthly meeting. Agenda items dealing with perfunctory, routine matters may also be placed on the Consent Agenda by the Board Chair. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the regular agenda upon request by any trustee.
  - A. FINANCE, OPERATIONS and MAINTENANCE
    - Topic: Ratify Out of District Attendance Agreements (Sec)(Action) Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations

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      - **Background**: Pursuant to MCA §20-5-320, the Board of Trustees must approve out-of-district student attendance agreements. Attached in this packet is a list of those students requesting enrollment in accordance with out-of-district attendance agreements.
      - **Recommendation**: Administration recommends that the Trustees approve the attached out-of-district high school attendance agreements.
    - ii. **Topic: Acknowledge MCPS Student Attendance Agreements** (Elem)(Action) Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations **Page 41** 
      - **Background:** Attached in this packet is a list of students who are residents of MCPS District #1 and are requesting to attend other school districts. Those school districts require notification of the

acknowledgement by the MCPS Board of Trustees to complete their application process. MCPS District #1 is not responsible for any tuition fees incurred by these students.

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends that the Trustees acknowledge the attached list of elementary students requesting to attend other school districts.

#### 8. OLD BUSINESS – Information and Action

# A. PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS AND POLICY

Topic: Approve for Second Reading Revision of Policy 2311: Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials (Elem/Sec)(Information) – Rob Watson, Superintendent
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**Background:** The proposed revised policy was reviewed by administration and approved at the first reading by the Board February 22, 2022. The revised policy was posted for public comment. A copy of the policy is included in the agenda.

#### **Board Discussion**

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends that Trustees adopt revised Board Policy 2311, Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials

#### B. FINANCE, OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

i. Topic: Update, Expenditure of ESSER Funds (Elem/Sec)(Information) – Rob Watson, Superintendent Background: As of Spring 2020, the District has been awarded approximately \$28M in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER). The intention of these federal funds is to respond to impacts of COVID. Specifically, the funds were designated for schools to safely reopen and sustain safe operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

By the end of this school year (2021/22), it is estimated that MCPS will have approximately \$15.2M of ESSER funds remaining. All funds need to be spent by December 2024.

As required by ESSER regulations, the District conducted a stakeholder survey before making decisions regarding future expenditure of ESSER funds. There were 561 responses to the survey from staff and community members. When asked about most important priorities for the district as we work to address impacts of COVID, the following items gained universal support from both Staff and Parents:

- Student social/emotional mental well-being.
- Programs and activities to address learning loss.

Given the amount of remaining funds (\$15.2M) the targeted budget for the 2022/23 school year was \$6.1M.

Below is the spending plan for this budget.

1	MOA (Online Acad)	1000000
2	Acad Interventionists K-8	852000
3	Behavior Intervention & Social Workers K- 12	887000
4	Art Specialists, K5 (5 FTE)	355000
5	Extra Nursing and COVID Support	186000
6	Cleaning Supplies and Air Filters	135000
7	Permanent Subs	527000
	Total	3942000
8	Gen Fund Shortfall	2200000
	Grand Total	6142000

- 9. NEW BUSINESS Information and Action
  - A. FINANCE, OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

    - ii. **Topic: Elementary District Levy Election May 3, 2022** (Elem)(Action) Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations

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      Background: The board is required to adopt a resolution calling for an election for general fund levies at least 70 days prior to the election. The board approved the general fund levy resolution at the February 8th, 2022 meeting. The levy amount must be established by April 1, 2022, should the district run a levy election. The resolution and ballot attached hereto provides for an Elementary General Fund levy of \$294,790.00. This amount represents the maximum increase in the voted over base levy in order to adopt the highest elementary general fund budget under the school funding formula.

      Board Discussion

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends trustee approval of Resolution 2022-6 (E) and the attached ballot language for the Elementary General Fund levy election.

iii. **Topic: 2022-2023 Trustee Election Update** (Elem)(Information) – Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations

**Background:** At the February 8, 2022 meeting, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution calling for an Elementary Trustee Election. The election date is May 3, 2022, and the election will be held by mail ballot. At the time this agenda was finalized trustee candidate filing was still open. Administration will provide the current number of candidates for the three open elementary positions (3-year terms). The deadline to file for a trustee seat was 5:00 p.m. on March 24. If candidates withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on March 31, their name will not appear on the ballot. The deadline to file as a write-in candidate is also 5:00 p.m. on March 31. In accordance with 20-20-417 and 20-20-401 MCA, the county election administrator will update the final list of candidate names following the March 31 deadline and certify ballots no later than April 1, 2022. A current list of candidates can be found on the Missoula County Elections office website under information for candidates.

iv. **Topic: High School District Levy Election – May 3, 2022** (Sec)(Action) – Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations Page 57

**Background:** The board is required to adopt a resolution calling for an election for general fund levies at least 70 days prior to the election. The board approved the general fund levy resolution at the February 8th, 2022 meeting. The levy amount must be established by April 1, 2022, should the district run a levy election. The resolution and ballot attached hereto provides for a High School General Fund levy of \$525,962.00. This amount represents the maximum increase in the voted over base levy in order to adopt the highest secondary general fund budget under the school funding formula.

**Board Discussion** 

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends trustee approval of Resolution 2022-6 (S) and the attached ballot language for the High School General Fund levy election.

v. **Topic: 2022-2023 Trustee Election Update** (Sec)(Information) – Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations

Background: At the February 8, 2022 meeting, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution calling for a High School Trustee Election. The election date is May 3, 2022, and the election will be held by mail ballot. At the time this agenda was finalized trustee candidate filing was still open. Administration will provide the current number of candidates for the election district "A" opening (3 year term), the election district "B" opening (2 year term), and the election district "C" opening (2 year term). The deadline to file for a trustee seat was 5:00 p.m. on March 24. If candidates withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on March 31, their name will not appear on the ballot. The deadline to file as a write-in candidate is also 5:00 p.m. on March 31. In accordance with 20-20-417 and 20-20-401 MCA, the county election

administrator will update the final list of candidate names following the March 31 deadline and certify ballots no later than April 1, 2022. A current list of candidates can be found on the Missoula County Elections office website under information for candidates.

vi. **Topic: Approve Grant Application Summary** (Sec)(Action) – Pat McHugh, Executive Director of Business and Operations

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**Background:** The Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) has been operated through MCPS Adult Education Division for over 35 years. Approximately every 8-10 years, OPI puts out a new Request for Proposal (RFP) to ensure that ABLE programs are meeting the new standards and to allow other interested parties to apply for funds. The Missoula program has until March 31, 2022 to respond to the RFP. The grant summary application attached hereto provides additional details.

**Board Discussion** 

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends trustees approve the grant application summary.

#### B. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

i. **Montana's Lead Reduction in School Drinking Water** (Elem/Sec)(Information) – Rob Watson, Superintendent, Burley McWilliams, Director of Operations and Maintenance

**Background:** As enacted in the past legislative session, all schools accredited by the Montana Board of Public Education will be required to sample all drinking water fountains and kitchen fixtures that can be used for human consumption. Schools are required to sample once every three years. Any fixture or faucet with a concentration of greater than 5ppb will require mitigation, which can include a routine flushing procedure, removing the faucet from service and replacement of the fixture. These fixtures will need to be retested before they can be put back into use. In addition, as required by the new legislation, schools are required to make test results publicly available. Schools are encouraged to inform parents and staff about the school's lead sampling program. A full explanation of the legislative requirements can be found here: https://deq.mt.gov/water/Programs/dw

MCPS sampled more than 900 fixtures in 18 buildings. As of March 15, 2022, our District has received results for 8 buildings, with more results expected in the coming weeks. After receiving individual school results, our maintenance team worked quickly to disable any fixtures that exceeded the 5ppb. In addition, results were shared with staff and parents from those schools. A similar process will be used with other schools as we get more results. This time has been set aside for Administration to discuss the new sampling protocol and clarify our mitigation strategies for those schools who have fixtures with concentrations greater than 5ppb.

## C. PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS & POLICY

i. **Topic:** Approve Elementary and Middle School Year Calendars for 2022-2023 (Elem)(Action) —
David Rott, Executive Director of Human Resources

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**Background:** The calendar committee has finalized the detailed elementary and middle school calendars for 2022-2023. A copy of the calendars are included in the packet.

**Board Discussion** 

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends that Trustees approve the Elementary and Middle School 2022-2023 school year calendars.

Topic: Approve High School Year Calendar for 2022-2023 (Sec)(Action) – David Rott, Executive
 Director of Human Resources

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**Background:** The calendar committee has finalized the detailed secondary calendar for 2022-2023. A copy of the calendar is included in the packet. Seeley-Swan HS and Willard Alternative HS calendars will be submitted at a later date.

**Board Discussion** 

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends that Trustees approve the High School 2022-2023 school year calendar.

#### D. TEACHING AND LEARNING

Topic: Approve University of Montana/Writing Coaches of Montana Eighth Grade Student
Writing Study (Elem)(Action) – Russ Lodge, Assistant Superintendent and Elise Guest, Director of
Curriculum and Instruction

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**Background:** Writing Coaches of Montana, a non-profit organization, have partnered with two professors from the University of Montana to conduct an eighth grade writing research study. Both Dr. Beverly Chin and Dr. Stephanie Reid are longtime English language arts teachers and teacher educators. Per Board Policy 2132, Student and Family Privacy Rights, outside agencies, organizations, and individuals performing student studies must be approved by the Board. Results from the study will be used to further develop coaching programming with the Writing Coaches of Montana.

#### **Board Discussion**

**Recommendation:** Administration recommends trustees approve the University of Montana/Writing Coaches of Montana Eighth Grade Student Writing Study.

#### 10. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. **Topic:** Interim Superintendent's Contract and Terms (Elem/Sec)(Action) – Diane Lorenzen, Board Chair Page 65

**Background:** Trustees will take action on the interim superintendent's contract and terms.

#### 11. BOARD WORK SESSION

A. Topic: School Schedules (Elem/Sec)(Information)
 Background: Administration will provide an overview by which the school schedules are developed including those considerations that impact schedule development.

#### 12. ADJOURN

AGENDA ITEM: 4.A. DATE: 3.29.2022

# MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

# Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Administration Building A - Boardroom

**Trustees Present:** Board Chair Diane Lorenzen, Jeffrey Avgeris, Grace M. Decker, Michael Gehl, Nancy Hobbins, Vicki McDonald, Koan Mercer, Vice Chair Wilena Old Person, Jen Vogel, Vice Chair Ann Wake, Arlene Walker-Andrews

Student Trustees Present: Owen Hoag-SSHS, Daisy Kulina-SHS, Analise Migliaccio-BSHS

**Others Present:** Rob Watson, Russ Lodge, David Rott, Pat McHugh, Megan Morris, Rae Cooper, Vincent Giammona, Brooke Krininger, Ty Solberg, Judson Miller, Becky Sorenson

# **MINUTES**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order 6:01 p.m.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was said by all.
- 3. REVIEW, REVISE, AND APPROVE AGENDA: No modifications.

#### 4. APPROVE MINUTES

A. **Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting – February 22, 2022:** Trustee Wake made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Trustee Hobbins. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE

#### A. Public Comment

- Jill Taber: Commented against the proposed revisions to Board Policy 2311. Wondered why the language changed regarding textbooks but not educational materials. District needs to be transparent. Concerned parents are being cut out of the process.
- Beth Wanberg: Commented against the proposed revisions to Board Policy 2311. Shared her own negative experience as a parent in Yellowstone County regarding an inappropriate slideshow shared in a classroom.
- Tonya Foley-Neuman: Spoke out against the updates for policy 2311. Cautioned trustees to be more on the strict side.
- Clint Nunnally: Commented his student recently brought home the book Ogilvy from the school library. Expressed the book was inappropriate. Contacted the principal. Disagrees with the comprehensive list of LGBTQ resource materials available to kids. Normalizes and encourages kids to question gender roles. Cited information from the American Journal of Psychological Medicine regarding suicide rates for transgenders. Encouraged parents and educators to work together to encourage kids to be proud of their minds and to respect themselves.
- Erin Darling: Encouraged trustees to look at the Montana State Code regarding the approval of instructional materials.
- B. **Correspondence**: The written correspondence was reviewed.

#### 6. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## A. Student Trustee Reports

Analise Migliaccio (BSHS): Big Sky is hosting their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Farm to Table event at the Ag Center
which features a tour for 8<sup>th</sup> grade families, new born animals, and a free taco meal from the Nacho
Booth. Reported on the scheduled spring sports meeting for tennis, softball, and track and field

including tryouts, and practices. The Big Sky Boys Basketball took 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Western Divisional Basketball Tournament and moving onto state. The girls team had a successful season.

- B. **Announcements from Superintendent** Superintendent Rob Watson made the following announcements:
  - Next board meeting will be March 29, 2022.
  - Last school visits this week Russell Elementary and Franklin Elementary.
  - The search process for a new Franklin principal is happening this week. Finalists will be available on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. for a Meet and Greet which is open to community members.

#### 7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. FINANCE, OPERATIONS and MAINTENANCE
  - i. **Topic: Ratify Out of District Attendance Agreements:** Trustee Old Person made a motion to approve the attached out-of-district high school attendance agreements. Seconded by Trustee Gehl. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
  - ii. **Topic: Acknowledge MCPS Student Attendance Agreements:** Trustee Wake made a motion to acknowledge the students requesting to attend other school districts. Seconded by Trustee Hobbins. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.

#### 8. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. Topic: Interim Superintendent - Appointment/Hiring Process: Chair Lorenzen read the agenda item and opened the floor to the board. Trustee McDonald inquired about filling the assistant superintendent position(s). Superintendent Watson explained if the board approved the motion, he would advertise for two positions. Gehl reiterated his comments from last meeting. Further commented it felt rushed, the need to push off for at least another meeting, and to accept further public comment. Trustee Hobbins made a motion as stated in the agenda. It is recommended that the MCPS Board of Trustees extend an offer of Interim Superintendent for the 2022/23 school year to Assistant Superintendent, Russ Lodge. If the offer is accepted, the Board will need to enter into contract negotiations with Mr. Lodge, with the understanding that the final contract will also require Board approval at a future meeting. Additionally, if the offer to Mr. Lodge is not extended, not accepted or if contract negotiations fail, the Board will need to engage immediately with the Montana School Boards Association to seek help in finding an Interim Superintendent. Seconded by Trustee Decker. Trustee Decker commented the issue had already been publicly noticed and the actual hiring would not be permanent until successful contract negotiations had been completed. Further shared comments from KaCee Ballou, MEA President, who was in strong support of the recommendation. Lodge would provide stability. Trustee Hobbins explained she made the motion because she has worked closely with Lodge throughout the past couple of years. Confident with his abilities. Trustee McDonald questioned the assistant superintendent hiring process. Administrative function not board function. Chair Lorenzen shared comments regarding the positives in hiring an in-District interim superintendent, board has one job to hire a superintendent, and next year's board will have a very thorough hiring process. Trustee Avgeris cautioned on the differences between a superintendent and an assistant superintendent. Was in favor of the decision. Trustee Walker-Andrews asked Russ Lodge to give a synopsis of his qualifications. Lodge provided his complete work history including positions and locations. Trustee Vogel questioned if there were any plans for obtaining applications for the assistant superintendent positions and the hiring timeline. Superintendent Watson will open internally first. If no successful applicants, will open to the public. Process will take approximately 2-3 weeks.

#### **Public Comment:**

- Mary Lyndes, Title 1 teacher and 1<sup>st</sup> vice president of MEA, reiterated the association supported Russ Lodge. Lodge would provide consistency after going through the rough years during the pandemic. Lodge has good relationships with students, families, and community. Understood moving forward it will be an exhaustive search. Association approves of the recommendation.
- Ann Wake asked Russ Lodge to address Trustee Avgeris's concerns. Lodge explained the District
  has a strong central office team and Watson will continue to support him through his new role
  with School Administrators of Montana.

 Sonya Quackenbush asked questions in regards to funding two assistant superintendent positions. Chair Lorenzen referred Quackenbush to the previous meeting minutes.
 Superintendent Watson explained the funding source for the positions.

**Vote:** Board Chair Lorenzen, Trustees Avgeris, Decker, Hobbins, McDonald, Mercer, Old Person, Vogel, Wake, and Arlene Walker-Andrews for. Trustee Gehl against. The motion carried.

#### 9. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. TEACHING AND LEARNING

i. Topic: COVID Update: Superintendent Rob Watson explained the District was still tracking new COVID cases. Most are from home testing. Shared the COVID tracking chart which is posted on the District's website outlining the declining cases. Explained the close contact information a little misleading. Missoula County has stopped tracking close contacts. Explained his use of a formula based on the number of cases. Incident rate for the county is continuing to fall. CDC guidelines regarding masks were announced February 25, 2022. The District removed the mask mandate on Monday, February 28th. Explained that based on CDC guidelines, Missoula was in the medium range at the time but now in the low range. Incident rates and the hospitalization rates are dropping. District still has a lot of mitigation strategies in place. Experiencing less staff absences. Watson commented that moving forward would like to seek permission via policy to allow administration to ask students to wear masks in the classroom if numbers spiked. Cited some examples of clusters in classrooms, schools, etc. Move towards a model that allows administration to make those decisions. Trustee Avgeris questioned when parents would be invited back into schools. Vinny Giammona, COVID Coordinator, explained the District has opened up the options to field trips. Further explained that he and Brooke Krininger had developed guidelines. Currently not a lot of restrictions at this time. Trustee Avgeris questioned the continuation of virtual parent teacher conferences. Conferences were scheduled well in advance. Virtual conferences not forever. Giammona reiterated they have had conversations with the principals and provided a variety of parameters. Need to be mindful of space, air filtration, etc. No public comments.

#### 10. NEW BUSINESS

## A. FINANCE, OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- i. Topic: Award Bid for Internet Services: Pat McHugh explained this was a recurring item. McHugh provided some background on the E-Rate program which is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program. Helps support telecommunication services and make them more affordable for schools. Funding comes from the federal government. Goal of the program is to significantly impact Wi-fi access. E-Rate benefits to schools include discounts for Internet services, internal connections, equipment, etc. McHugh explained the District initiated an effort to install a fiber ring that would support the District's Internet. Was a significant bond investment but allowed the District to significantly increase bandwidth. Explained MCPS issued a Request for Proposal through the E-Rate consultant, Infinite Communications. Current internet service is Blackfoot and the contract ends June 30, 2022. MCPS received bids from Blackfoot Communications and Spectrum Enterprises. Blackfoot submitted the highest scoring proposal. Proposal would provide 3 Gbps of service at \$4,000 per month. Allows for service speeds to be increased during the term of the contract. Trustee Decker questioned being \$4,000 when the agenda stated \$2,216. McHugh explained there would be additional obligations for taxes and fees. Just an estimate. Walker-Andrews questioned if Seeley was included. Seeley is separate. Trustee Decker made a motion to award the 36-month contract for internet services to Blackfoot Communication. Seconded by Trustee Gehl. Chair Lorenzen commented the cost savings was phenomenal. No public comment. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
- ii. **Topic: Award Bid for Seeley-Swan Data Services:** Pat McHugh explained the same background information as the previous agenda item applied. Seeley is not part of Missoula's fiber network so looking at 500 Mbps. Trustee Vogel questioned if it was improvement. Rae Cooper, Technology Director, responded Seeley was currently at 500 and would continue to be 500. Vogel questioned if it was because they were so remote. Cooper explained it was a smaller school. 500 was quite fast.

Meets and exceeds what they need. Current provider is Blackfoot Communications and the contract expires June 30, 2022. Only received one bid which was from Blackfoot. Blackfoot would provide 500 Mbps of service for \$1,001 per month. Trustee Vogel made a motion to award the Seeley Swan High School 36 month contract for internet services to Blackfoot Communications. Seconded by Trustee Old Person. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.

- iii. **Topic: Approval of Network Electronics Purchase** Pat McHugh explained this was also similar to the previous two RFPs but this was for the purchase 610 wireless access points for schools across the district. Piece of equipment that supports the wireless network. Qualifies for category 2 E-Rate purchases at a 50% discount. Only received one bid from Structured Communication Systems, Inc. for \$286,467.82. Replacing a significant number of access points. Would be funded with the Technology Fund and approval of Category 2 E-Rate funding. Chair Lorenzen asked for a description on the funding. McHugh explained levy an annual amount. Permissive levy is available for equipment purchases. Appropriate use of those funds. Trustee Old Person made a motion to authorize the purchase of 610 wireless access points from Structured Communications Systems, Inc. Seconded by Trustee Wake. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
- iv. Topic: Consideration and Adoption of Resolution 2022-5 (E) Pat McHugh explained that MCA §20-9-116 is a statutory requirement. Passed as part of Senate Bill 307 during the 2017 Regular Legislative Session. Referred trustees to page 35 of the agenda to see the budgeted funds. Resolution outlines the funds and outlines the 2022 levy and mills. Estimating the permissive levy increase. Trying to closely look at the funds. Larger increase is in the transportation fund. Over the last 2 years have reduced the permissive levy by \$180,000. Building reserve reduced by \$107,000. District reduced the levy by re-appropriated funds in our levy for the transportation fund. Need to restore those one-time only funds. District has a contract with Beach Transportation. Know that gas prices going up to the point of \$20,000 per month. Increase the District's obligation to cover the excess costs. Tuition fund is increasing slightly also based on re-appropriation. Used for special ed costs. Also available to cover students that are considered to be our students but are assigned to other districts. Shared an example of Anaconda school district seeking reimbursement under this for the amount of \$45,000. Between the elementary and the high school MCPS is looking to increase the tuition fund to cover that obligation. The building reserve permissive levy is a reduction. Creature of statute. The statute provides for a specific calculation of the school major maintenance account that is calculated by a \$110 per A and B plus \$15,000. In the elementary, the state picks up a good portion. State would pick up \$267,000 and the District would be obligated to permissive levy about \$360,000. The total amount available to fund projects would be \$633,000. Explained it is a part of a major maintenance program that the state implemented. Projects include HVAC systems, lighting, windows, energy upgrades, roofing replacements, etc. Shared example of a CS Porter project. Trustee Walker Andrews questioned if the estimates were off by huge amounts would the District be penalized. Just a placeholder. State statute recognizes they are estimates. Do not get penalized. Trustee Decker questioned the possibility of the permissive levy to be increased, school's ability to ask, and if it was set by the state. Requests are what they need. This mechanism does not get voted on. Further questioned if there was a cap. McHugh explained there was a cap to the general fund and the building reserve permissive levy. Transportation does not have a cap. Tuition has a cap. Has to be used for excessive special ed costs. Trustee Mercer questioned if increasing the transportation dollars would do anything to rectify the driver shortages. McHugh explained looking at 94 routes. Beach transportation cannot add routes – no drivers, no buses. Trustee Old Person questioned if the projects listed were at the top of Burley McWilliams list. Trustee Mercer left the meeting. Trustee Avgeris made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-5 (E) which provides an estimate of the change in the district levies noted above, including mills and tax impact. Seconded by Trustee Old Person. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.

- v. Topic: Consideration and Adoption of Resolution 2022-5 (S) Pat McHugh explained this was the same as the elementary resolution. Must be adopted by March 31, 2022. There are larger impacts in transportation fund and tuition fund. Over last two years have seen a reduction in those permissive levies. Total reduction of \$254,000. The building reserve went down \$154,000 and the tuition fund when down \$100,000. Did not levy and were not experiencing excess special ed costs. The following year the levy was in place and re-appropriated funds for FY22. Need to levy what we did not levy in the past. Transportation fund similar to elementary. Building reserve on the high school side increased – due to not levying the full amount. Limit would be \$424,000. State portion would be \$127,000 making the levy \$296,000. The projects fit within the categories. Largest project is the welding shop ventilation project at Sentinel. Have a number of stop gaps in place at the welding shop at Hellgate but need for long term. Lighting retrofit at Seeley. Replace with LEDs. The Big Sky gymnasium bleachers are a safety issue. Trustee Decker asked McHugh to speak about adult education. McHugh explained adult ed will incur costs of operating the building that are picked up in the permissive levy. The grant funds Adult Ed receives covers a large portion of the operational costs. Trustee Wake made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-5 (S) which provides an estimate of the change in the district levies noted above, including mills and tax impact. Seconded by Trustee McDonald. Trustee Old Person questioned if the District was moving forward with a facilities committee. The facilities committee meeting is scheduled this month. Have plan to meet look at the list of properties, building reserve maintenance, and replacement costs. Will bring to the board. **Public Comment:** 
  - Nick Kujawa: Provided comments regarding an increase of \$1million in the transportation fund. Understood it was for Beach transportation for the 94 routes. Asked questions as to why the district was contracting to a third party and why district did not consider having their own buses.

**Vote**: Chair Lorenzen and Trustees Avgeris, Decker, Hobbins, McDonald, Old Person, Vogel, Wake and Walker-Andrews for. Trustee Gehl opposed. The motion carried.

## B. PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS & POLICY

- i. Topic: Approve Personnel Report: David Rott explained this was a routine Personnel report.
  - **Elementary Recommendation:** Trustee Old Person made a motion to approve the items on the provided Elementary Personnel Report. Seconded by Trustee Hobbins. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
  - **Secondary Recommendation:** Trustee Gehl made a motion to approve the items on the provided High School Personnel Report. Seconded by Trustee Old Person. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
- ii. **Topic: Approve Cost Neutral Sabbatical Leaves:** David Rott explained any teacher that has been in continuous employment for 7 years was eligible to apply for a sabbatical for studying, travel, research or any professionally advantageous activity. Applications are put before a review panel that consists of three teacher, a building administrator, and himself. The panel evaluated the requests on how the sabbatical would be related to their current assignment, how it may improve their performance in the professional assignment upon their return, and the value of the sabbatical. Explained how the sabbatical would be cost neutral. Had two applicants this year.
  - 1 elementary for a semester sabbatical leave Districtwide art teacher traveling to India to work in girls boarding school.
  - 1 high school for a full-year sabbatical leave. Going to Maine and Washington D.C. to pursue their culinary arts endorsement.

Trustee Decker questioned what would happen if a teacher did not return. If they did not return, the teacher would be responsible for repaying the funds. Trustee Vogel inquired the staff come back and report out on their experience.

• **Elementary Recommendation:** Trustee McDonald made a motion to approve the cost neutral sabbatical leave for the elementary applicant recommended by the Sabbatical Review

- Committee. Seconded by Trustee Decker. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
- **High School Recommendation:** Trustee Wake made a motion to approve the cost neutral sabbatical leave for the high school applicant recommended by the Sabbatical Review Committee. Seconded by Trustee Gehl. No Trustee comments. No public comments. The motion passed unanimously by all Trustees present.
- iii. **Topic: School Schedule and Calendar Update for 2022-2023:** Superintendent Watson introduced C.S Porter Principal Ty Solberg, Hellgate Principal Judson Miller, and Hawthorne Principal Becky Sorenson and announced Sorenson's retirement. Assistant Superintendent Russ Lodge shared and compared the 21-22 schedule and the proposed 22-23 schedule.

## 2022-23 Proposed Schedule

# **Elementary Schools**

K-3 - Start: 8:25 A.M.; Dismissal 3 P.M.
4-5 - Start 8:25 A.M.; Dismissal 3:30 P.M.

### Middle Schools

Start: 8:05 A.M.Dismissal: 3:20 P.M.

#### Missoula High Schools

Start: 7:50 A.M.Dismissal: 3 P.M.

# Seeley-Swan High School

Start: 7:50 A.M.Dismissal: 3:37 P.M.

Shared the advantages and the disadvantages of both schedules. Lodge explained that administration compared the last two years and looked at thirteen different schedule options. Explained the District runs a 3 tiered system – K-5, 6-8, 9-12. Contracted with TransFinder, school bus tracking and routing solutions company, and they came back with six different schedules. The schedules did not work with MCPS's large geographical location. To make it work would need an additional 15 buses and drivers. Lodge explained some of the unintended consequences of the 2021-22 schedule.

- K-3 level shortened their day. K-3 teachers could not meet afterschool and could not meet before school eliminating the time to meet, collaborate and plan student interventions, etc. Heard from the elementary principals and teachers.
- At the high school level, research supports high school kids having a later start. Ran into troubles at the high school with kids that wanted to do activities or work after school.

Principal Judson Miller shared the schedule affected the high school adversely in three ways.

- Activities and athletics after school. The other AA schools do not have the same schedule.
   When games are scheduled across the state beginning at 3 p.m. students miss more class.
   When hosting athletics or activities building space becomes an issue when classes are still in session.
- 2. With the previous school schedule, students had the ability to access teachers before and after school. Current school schedule limits students' access greatly impacting academics and those students that need additional help. Working within the confines of the bus schedule and the teachers' contracted time. Shared some examples
- 3. Impacted at risk students who need to support their family via a job, babysitting, etc. Principal Becky Sorenson K-5 liked the common dismissal as it eliminated a lot of issues between older siblings and younger siblings but it came with consequences. Used to have a staff meetings once a week

– now only meeting once a month. Teachers arrive at 8 a.m. and students arrive at 8:10 a.m. After school, with common dismissal, teachers do not get back into building until 3:25 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Only leaves 30 minutes for mandated federal IEP meetings. Explained Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) were very important but now can't get the time in. Haven't had the time to problem solve for those interventions and supports. The common dismissal unintended consequence revealed inequities in supporting elementary teachers who need time to plan and problem solve. Shared high schools have a few more options for time. Teachers are really disappointed. Elementary needs the same amount of time.

Principal Ty Solberg explained the middle school experienced two big issues with the new schedule.

- 1. The middle school lost 15 minutes of instructional time. Went from 7 hour 10 minute day to 6 hour and 55 minute day.
- 2. Middle schools have a large geographical area. Had an early start of 7:50 a.m. this year. The consequences to this was a greater increase in tardiness and further loss of instructional time. Parents chose to bring students to school late when dropping off younger siblings.

Solberg further shared the new proposed schedule would give the middle school instructional time back. Lodge followed up with remarks that both schedules are flawed. The schedule used for a long time solved more issues. Shared administration continually heard this year's schedule did not work for staff and they needed more time. David Rott explained he had not presented the board with a calendar for the 2022-23 school year. Currently waiting for the day scheduling to be completed. Calendar Committee is proposing to maintain early out at high school but eliminating early out for elementary. Proposed adding 6 additional PIR days for robust professional development. Trustee Decker questioned if parents had been consulted. Not convinced parent perspective was taken into account. Confirmed no parent groups consulted. Trustee Walker-Andrews inquired if high schools could get help by going using online learning. Principal Miller explained one of the biggest issues was lack of contact time with the neediest learners. Need more interventions for students and missing that now. The online opportunities do not meet those needs. The other part of it, is the highest achieving student does not have the opportunity to regain the instructional opportunities that have been missed due to activities/athletics. If a student is gone for an event they are missing more hours of instructional time. Trustee Gehl questioned why the schedules had been previously changed. Lodge explained due to COVID initially schedule moved to 5 hours a day but did not meet instructional hours. Trustee Lorenzen asked for clarification on the middle school start times. Trustee Hobbins expressed concerns over adding an additional 6 PIR Mondays on top of the holiday Mondays. Creates a burden for parents needing childcare. Trustee Avgeris expressed sympathy to the middle schools. Did not agree with the "activities" argument for high school. Needed clarification for the elementary times. Principal Sorenson explained the recommended hours for K-3 are much less than 4-5. Looking at the hours that are recommended students get out at 3. Teachers are responsible for taking students out to the buses and connecting them with their family, daycare providers, etc. Leaving very little time for afterschool meetings. Trustee Avgeris also brought up concerns of younger students being dropped off early before school starts and shared he had heard from numerous parents regarding the need for a later high school start time. Trustee Hobbins expressed her dislike for the new high school schedule. Trustee Old Person expressed her desire to hear from the teachers. Was for the common dismissal. Shared her own experience with the difficult early middle school start time. Had an issue with an outside company dictating how the District runs the school year calendar. All for exploring the District's own bussing. Trustee Vogel expanded on Trustee Avgeris's comments and applauded the additional Mondays. Shared her own experience as an elementary teacher and the need for the meetings, building community, etc. Trustee Decker expressed the need to solve for those unintended consequences but did not agree going back to the old schedule made sense. Chair Lorenzen commented that Missoula has always been a leader and questioned if other AA districts and the Montana High School Association (MHSA)were considering the later school start times. Principal Miller explained his work with the other districts and MHSA. Neither are considering moving in that direction.

#### **Public Comment:**

• Nick Kujawa: Shared his student was an athlete and in other activities. Student created his own student voice survey as students were not asked for their input into the new schedule. Survey

- had received 75 responses in a short time. Further addressed the bus issue. Encouraged by the trustees' comments. Urged them to complete a parent survey.
- Molly Stockdale: Encouraged by the Trustee discussion. Relayed the later start date made a difference for those students that find it a challenge to even go to school. Read a letter from her son sharing his opposition to the schedule.
- Reggie Spaulding: Commented the trustees had covered all the comments she had wanted to share. Appreciated the problems. Shared her family's experience with the new schedule.
   Expressed the need to come up with more creative solutions. Urged trustees to work with the current schedule. Upset the District schedules are dictated by the buses.
- Jill Taber: Admitted she did not know how vast and complex the schedule issue was. Shared her own family's schedule for next year. Shared concerns with staggered release times for elementary. Appreciated the same dismissal time.

As recording secretary for this Board meeting, I was taken at the meeting.	certify these minutes to be a true and correct copy of what
Tracy Long, Mir	nutes Recorder
Diane Lorenzen, Board Chair	Pat McHugh, District Clerk

11. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned 8:45 p.m.



DATE: 3.29.2022

## Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# High school start time

Carmen coots <cootsdvm@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 7:34 AM

Hello school board,

Add me to the very long list of parents who is extremely frustrated with the proposed earlier high school start time. There are mountains of evidence concerning adolescent brains and how high schoolers have far superior academic performance and mental health outcomes with later school start times. You cite after-school activities and jobs; what about before-school activities and sports like swim team, wrestling, jazz band, show choir, and traffic education? Do these students now have to start at 5 AM? It seems to me that switching to the earlier start time is just exchanging the inconvenience from one group of students to another while adversely affecting the sleep, mental health, and academic performance of ALL high school students. The right choice is to maintain the later start time. Please do what's best for our students.

Carmen Coots



## Public Comment comment@mcpsmt.org>

# 22-23 schedule

**J Croft** <jcroft423@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 9:27 AM

Dear Trustees-

I don't have a high school student, though I do have a children in middle school and elementary school. They both walk to school, having the later start times for the high school, that is near by, has significantly decreased the activity for kids trying to walk to and from school at the same time. Just through observations young drivers , and some adults, don't pay attention as they drive through the neighborhood at the same time young kids are walking to and from school. The earlier start times means young tired drivers are driving to school in the dark morning hours in winter, just as middle school kids are walking to school. It isn't a safe combination.

My son will be in high school soon, I think a later time is good for them- they need sleep. 8:55 might be a little much. The board could keep it to 7:35 middle school, 8:15 elementary school- all grades, and 8:30 high school. Just my thoughts. The late start high school is nice but, it needs to be fine tuned- why the 9:40 on Thursdays? Just because it's how it been done for years, doesn't necessarily mean it's the best option. We as adults have lots of opinions, sometimes way to many! Do high school students have an opinion on it? Just curious.

Thank you,

JC

Sent from my iPhone



## Public Comment cpubliccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# MCPS Policy 2311 Revision Comment

Michael Loftis <mloftis@wgops.com>

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 11:20 AM

Reading Policy 2311's referenced MCA 20-4-402(4) makes it clear that 2311 must be revised. Current language in 2311 makes it appear as if the trustees have duty or power beyond that which they are granted by said legal reference. As it currently stands, and from some other comments in the published public comments, 2311 makes it appear the trustees have power beyond the (MCA, legal) definition of textbooks. The referenced MCA does not grant a general curriculum selection power or approval to the board of trustees. It specifically grants the power, or duty, of approval of textbooks selected by the Superintendent or High School Principal. The SI or Principal is obviously required to follow policy and process in the selection of these textbooks.

Unless the board of trustees can reference other MCA that grants powers outside of textbooks, the revision aligns 2311 with the granted power referenced in MCA 20-4-402(4), the current policy makes it appear as if the trustees have more power than they do, at least according to the provided legal reference, and the interpretation by the public.

Textbooks as defined in 20-1-101(30).

"(30) "Textbook" means a book, digital resource, or manual used as a principal source of study material for a given class or group of students."

This definition of textbook seems to me to clearly limit the scope, putting additional instructional resources outside of the domain of the board, precisely as per the proposed revision. Current 2311 policy language makes it appear as if the board has additional power or duties in classroom content selection that they do not possess according to the referenced MCA.

The proposed changes (from the March 8th Agenda) do not change the actual power or duties of the board, but aligns the policy wording, and plain interpretation, with the power and duties actually in the law.



## 

# Re: School schedule for 2022-2023

**Erin Cooper** <emdcooper@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 1:49 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

The email sent to MCPS families (4/4) regarding "proposed" schedule changes had several errors, which may have already been pointed out.

- 1) The justification for the high school segment of the population was understandable. However, I feel that it would be prudent for MCPS to amend the original email. The justification for elementary school was entirely inaccurate. The text which read, "For younger students, it is expected that an earlier start time will make it easier for families to access afterschool child care options. An earlier end to the school day will make it more feasible to hold meetings after school when an entire team can be present, as well as allow teachers and staff sufficient time to communicate with families about any important events that occurred during the school day." runs contrary to the proposed times: a 10 minute later start time and a 15 min later end time for 4-5. In an amended email, perhaps an explanation of where 25 minutes per day less of school for elementary students will be made up would also be helpful.
- 2) When a proposal is made, and the justification does not match, it does in fact make the decision seem quite arbitrary. Along those lines, the email begins by stating that this change is a **proposal** but ends very much suggesting that it is a foregone conclusion: "as we make plans to shift to a different bell schedule for the next school year..."
- 3) I would very much hope that the board also consider the burden that two separate dismissal times 30 minutes apart puts on families with elementary-aged children. This is a huge portion of MCPS' enrollment. Supporting the changes outlined for high schoolers and their families should not come at a significant inconvenience for the youngest and least independent students and their families. For the board members to approve simply going back to the way things were done without considering the impact that had and has on families juggling child-care arrangements with this 30 minute gap. While high schoolers can speak up for themselves and can function unsupervised and independently, this is not the case for grade students.

If you only take away one thing from this email, please let it be to revisit the suggestion that separate dismissal times within the same school which is not fair, not appropriate, and not without huge costs to families with younger children.

Thank you, MCPS Elementary Parent Erin

On Fri, Mar 4, 2022 at 4:11 PM Missoula County Public Schools <noreply@mcpsmt.org> wrote:



### Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# **COVID** protocol decision-making

Jill MH Taber <iill.michal@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 2:16 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org, Robert Watson <rwatson@mcpsmt.org>, Diane Lorenzen <dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org>, Ann Wake <awake@mcpsmt.org>, Vicki McDonald <vmcdonald@mcpsmt.org>, Nancy Hobbins <nhobbins@mcpsmt.org>, Arlene Walker-Andrews <awalker-andrews@mcpsmt.org>, Jeffrey Avgeris <javgeris@mcpsmt.org>, Michael Gehl <mgehl@mcpsmt.org>, Grace Decker <gdecker@mcpsmt.org>, Koan Mercer <kmercer@mcpsmt.org>, Jen Vogel <jvogel@mcpsmt.org>, Wilena Old Person <woldperson@mcpsmt.org>

Dr. Watson and MCPS Trustees,

Thank you for holding an in-person board meeting last night.

You would make a huge mistake in the view of transparency and accountability by moving COVID protocols decisions from the board to the unilateral purview of the superintendent, as recommended by Dr. Watson in last night's meeting.

Dr. Watson, why would you insist on disregarding and disrespecting families' rights to make their own decisions regarding COVID? Trustees, why would you give away your authority as a governing body?

I know the last two years have not been easy. They have been made far more of a burden for kids and families due to this district's lack of care for family choice. On top of this, you have listened to parents and taxpayers consistently ask for transparency and accountability. Removing protocol management from discussion and approval by the board to a single administrator is confirmation that parents' fears are founded: once again, the administration of MCPS wishes to remove parents from the decision-making process, further eroding the relationship between the administration & board of trustees AND parents & taxpayers.

Continuing down this adversarial path with parents and taxpayers will only serve to further harm our students and teachers.

Superintendent Watson, please reverse your call for singular administrative oversight and decision-making power regarding COVID protocols.

Trustees, you have been elected by voters in Missoula County. Stop allowing your supervisory duties to be stripped away.

Thank you, Jill Taber

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# Jill MH Taber



## Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# Public Comment - '22-'23 elementary school schedules

Samantha Schmidt <samschmidt406@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 3:47 PM

I received notice of the proposed 2022-2023 bell schedule and am providing comment to request that the split elementary school dismissal times be reconsidered, and a shared dismissal time be kept, like this year. Having the K-3 grades be released at 3pm and then 4-5 graders released at 3:30pm just does not seem like a feasible plan for most involved. There was a lack of sufficient explanation on why this change would need to be made that I could find. As a parent that has a first grader and fourth grader, it would be difficult having the two kids be released 30 minutes apart from one another. I would imagine after school programs would also have to rework their programs to adjust for this extra time too. Elementary school kids should all be released at the same time for ease of care, reduced burden and cost on parents, and logistics for aftercare programs.

As proposed, parents would need to arrange for care for a half hour for the younger student until the older is dismissed or some sort of rearrangement of schedules. As a working parent, this is challenging to manage, disruptive to my ability to work, and a seemingly easily avoidable proposal for change. If there are such significant changes to the schedule like this one in the same school (elementary) then MCPS needs to identify why the decision was made AND propose solutions for the challenges these changes would put on parents, children, and aftercare programs.

Thank you for your hard work and your consideration for our children's safety and their working parents.

Sam Schmidt



## Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# Early start time high school

**Amy Trina** <amytrina@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 4:48 PM

I am not supportive of this and think it's a horrible idea to start at that time. I have 2 high schoolers and this is going to make learning much more difficult with the lack of sleep they will have. Please keep it the same as this year. Thanks,

**Amy Trina** 



## 

# Keep later start time

Mary Cole <rmtkcole@icloud.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 8:31 PM

# Greetings

Please keep the later start time. It helps the flow of traffic in the mornings when thousands of students aren't on the road at the same time thousands of Msla residents are headed to work.

I've lived up Miller Creek for 35 years and work in downtown Msla. When we are all on the road at the same time there's more chances of accidents as we are all trying to get there first.

There's only one way out of Miller Creek and the traffic gets backed up bad. With the new growth in Msla this will only be worse.

Children function and focus better with more rest.

Please consider leaving the start time where it's at.

Thank you.

Mary Cole

Sent from my iPhone



# Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# School Schedule '22-'23

Antara Quinones <antaraquinones@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 10, 2022 at 1:59 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Hi,

I am concerned about the school schedule proposal for the 2022-2023 school year. I have two children who will be in 1st and 4th grades next year. If this proposed school schedule goes through, the different dismissal times will cost me valuable time that I could otherwise spend working and will cause me to have to walk twice to the elementary school to pick up my children as they are not within bussing distance. Basically, I will arrive home with one kid and have to turn around to pick up the other-- shall I have my first grader walk twice to school and back during the winter? Shall I drive 5 minutes and sit with my car idle in the parking lot yet again to pick up my second child?

I am confused as to the purpose even behind having split dismissal times at an elementary school. I think that in the long run this will cause undue hardship for a lot of families.

Please reconsider this decision and dismiss kids at one school at the same time.

Sincerely,

Antara Quinones

--

**Antara Quinones** 



# Public Comment cpsmt.org>

# **High School Start Time**

Gmail <mcconnell.nate@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 10, 2022 at 4:01 PM

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Please do NOT move the high school start time to 7:50. This is a terrible idea and will hurt the students. The bus schedule may be difficult, but you can figure it out.

Nate McConnell



# Public Comment cpsmt.org>

# School start/dismiss times

Richard Melvin <richmelvinrph@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 11, 2022 at 9:12 AM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Cc: Nezha Haddouch <nezhah@gmail.com>

I would like the school board to keep Start and dismissal times the same as this current school year.

One time for one school only makes sense for students and families. 8:15-3:15.

I would think that teachers and staff have lots of opportunity to meet/email/call during recess, special classes( art, gym, library), breakfast and lunch periods and before and after school.

Please keep the Start and dismissal times consistent for K-5.

Rich Melvin, parent



## 

# Different time outs at L&C

Ruby Kikkert <rubykikkert@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 9:55 AM

I'm agrandmther who often helps out my daughter by picking up her 1st and 4th grade kids. Having this half hour proposed gap may seem like no biggie, but it would be a real inconvenience to me and many others. Please re think this idea.

And how would it work for kids riding the bus? Who will ueevise the younger children for that half hour?



#### 

# **Daily Schedule Changes?**

# Katrina O'Neil Weckenbrock <katrinaow@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 10:07 AM

To: elipkind@missoulaciunty.us, jbird@missoulacounty, publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

#### Greetings.

I am the parent of two elementary school students and for the life of me, I can not figure out why the Board is proposing changes to the daily schedule that would revert back to two separate dismissal times for students who attend school in the same building. Can someone please explain the rationale for this proposal? I would think it would be more costeffective and logistically sound to have all student dismissed at the same time? Also, this proposal has a later start time than this year, but an earlier dismissal for grades k-3, which leaves them with less instructional time. These grades have been particularly incredibly by COVID disruptions in learning, and it doesn't make sense for them to have less time in school next year. I would love to hear back from someone who can help me understand why this change is being considered.

Thank you for your time,

Katrina



## Public Comment comment@mcpsmt.org>

# 2022-2023 Bell Schedule

Erin Beaudette <erinbeaudette97@gmail.com>

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 3:21 PM

Dear School Board Members,

As a working parent with two children in different schools, with two very different start and finish times and two extracurricular schedules, this year was a nightmare for my husband and I. My children did not get any extra sleep, if that was the goal. My middle school daughter started school earlier than previous years so had to wake up earlier and my high school daughter's sports practices had to be delayed and finish much later into the evening. When she finally returned from practice, she had to stay up late to finish homework.

Please consider switching back to the previous bell schedule that took family obligations into consideration and prepared our high school students for life after high school!

Thank you,

Erin Beaudette



### Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# School start and end time

@student.mcpsmt.org>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 5:14 PM

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

I'm a student at sentinel high school and I believe that starting school earlier than now and ending sooner because starting school so late is odd and I do not like it I would much rather get up earlier and go to school than sleep in. I haven't met someone who likes to go to school from 8:40-3:55 we get out too late. I don't know what the convenience is for us to start at such an odd time. Please reconsider the time school starts and ends.



### Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# School start time

MIKE RACHEL <smithnord@msn.com>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 6:51 PM

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Hello, I'm sending this email because I do not agree with the decision of starting school later. High School kids getting out at 4:00 is ridiculous. By the time they get home after practices, job, homework, dinner there is no time left, which leaves them even more exhausted. Please reconsider, this does not work!!

Sent from my iPhone



### Public Comment cpubliccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# No bell schedule -

Mark <marktbradford@yahoo.com>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 8:12 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

As a MCPS parent and tax paying citizen I am strongly against the bell schedule. In addition, I am very displeased at the lack of leadership this board has displayed in making such an impactful decision without requesting input from students, teachers, and parents. Have you not forgotten these are elected positions that are funded by our tax dollars? Please be a team player and consider public input for this decision.

Respectfully, Mark Bradford



### Public Comment cpsmt.org>

# 22-23 Bell Schedule

cristy bradford <cristybradford@yahoo.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 8:13 PM

As an MCPS parent and taxpayer I strongly oppose the bell schedule that the board recently approved. It would sure be nice if the board of trustees would listen to the voices of those most impacted by their decisions-students, teachers and parents!

Thank you for reconsidering, Cristy Bradford

Sent from my iPhone

## 

# Fwd: Bell Schedule for 2022-23 school year

Michelle Winstone <mawinstone@gmail.com>

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 8:52 PM

Please put the schedule back to the normal bell schedule and start time for high school. These kids want a life (work, sports & family/social time) after school but with getting out at 4 pm- that's not many hours to enjoy time and do homework. Please consider allowing the original schedule to resume.

Thank you, Michelle Winstone



# Public Comment comment@mcpsmt.org>

# Early start time- the old normal!

**Gena Burke** <lotus2500@aol.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 6:57 AM

Please please go back to the normal early start times. For SO many working families - this late start is so difficult! Hard to make sure all things 'morning routine' are done correctly when you have students without guidance at home past the time parents leave for work.

Sent from my iPhone



# Public Comment cpubliccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# **Start time 2022-23**

Stacey Hunter <staceymodbe@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 8:19 AM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Good morning,

I would like to voice my concern on the late start time.

This puts our family in a bind.

We have elementary children that we need to have our High school student pick up after school because of our jobs..

With the late start this can't happen.

Out high school student also needs to work to make money for college and to pay for their gas and needs in high school.

With the late dismissal it makes it impossible to get in the hours needed.

We ask that you please consider changing the start time to the earlier proposed time!!

Thank you



### Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# Fwd: Bell Schedule for 2022-23 school year

# Bill Martins <snitramfam@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 8:59 AM

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Good Morning,

I was surprised to read that Missoula Public Schools is allowing the board to intervene in an area that is not under their purview?

We have had the same bell schedule, prior to covid, for years and years. While I am an advocate for change when it makes sense, I don't think this makes sense.

Sports and other groups have been negatively impacted by the late dismissal, especially those in high school. For example, my son who is a Sophomore has track after school and then weight lifting for the off-season of football. He does not get home until after 6p which disrupts our normal routine for dinner and limits time he has to complete homework and unwind.

The later dismissal time during the fall/winter months require them to be at school in the cold and dark times of the day. I am unclear why "the board" thinks this is better when this is not their decision to make.

If the Missoula Public Schools is struggling to make the decision send out a survey to students & parents asking for their thoughts.

I hope a reconsideration is given to this decision.

Thank you, Nikki Martins 406-396-2481



# Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

# **Next Year Start Time-RETURN TO PRE-COVID**

Natasha Bucklin <nbucklin3232@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 10:58 AM

Board members:

Please return to pre-COVID start times at all Missoula schools. My son will be starting high school, and needs to be out before 4pm. Starting at 8:55am is absolutely ridiculous and there is no reason for it.

I work 8am-5pm, and so does my husband. Kids that are not bussed need to be able to be dropped off before 8am, so this needs to be changed!!

Kids want their normalcy back, and so do parents!!

Natasha Bucklin 406-546-8610

Sent from my iPhone



#### Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

#### School start time

Julie TOMLANOVICH <julietomlanovich@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 12:00 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

To whom it may concern,

As parent of a incoming Hellgate High School freshman I am disappointed to hear you are planning to push the start time to the later hour after I had heard we'd be returning to the pre-Covid schedule. My family prefers the earlier start time and feel this encourages responsibility and the realities of becoming an adult. Please take parents' input seriously. Thank you.

Julie Tomlanovich

Sent from my iPhone



#### Public Comment cpubliccomment@mcpsmt.org>

#### No to late Start

Carlett Hogan <carletthogan@yahoo.com>

Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 9:59 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

My Junior at Sentinel wants to go back to normal Stop and listen to what the kids want not what the adults want ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Carlett Hogan Sent from my iPhone

AGENDA ITEM: 7.A.i.

DATE: 3.29.2022

2021-22 HIGH SCHOOL - COMPLETED STUDENT ATTENDANCE									
For the Period Ending March 9, 2022									
OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENTS ATTENDING MCPS									
STUDENT NAME	ME School Attending Grade District of Residence								
B.,D.	BIG SKY	10	FRENCHTOWN						

2021-22 HIGH SCHOOL - COMPLETED STUDENT ATTENDANCE								
For the Period Ending March 10, 2022								
OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENTS ATTENDING MCPS								
STUDENT NAME	School Attending Grade District of Residence							
C.,S.	BIG SKY	12	FLORENCE					
C.,C.	BIG SKY	9	FLORENCE					

AGENDA ITEM: 7.A.ii.

DATE: 3.29.2022

2	2021-22 ELEMENTARY - COMPLETED STUDENT ATTENDANCE							
For the Period Ending March 9, 2022								
MCPS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ATTENDING OTHER DISTRICTS								
UDENT NAI	NT NAI School Attending Grade District of Residence							
G.S.	HELENA PS	6	MCPS					

2021-22 ELEMENTARY - COMPLETED STUDENT ATTENDANCE								
For the Period Ending March 11, 2022								
MCPS ELEM	MCPS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ATTENDING OTHER DISTRICTS							
STUDENT NAME	IT NAME   School Attending   Grade   District of Residence							
M.,S.	BONNER	7	WASHINGTON					
V.,Z.	BONNER	6	WASHINGTON					
V.,Z.	BONNER	3	RATTLESNAKE					

AGENDA ITEM: 8.A.i. DATE: 3.29.2022

#### **Missoula County Public Schools**

INSTRUCTION 2311

#### Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials Instructional Materials and Textbooks

The provision of appropriate instructional materials and textbooks is essential to an effective educational program. Every effort shall be made to provide to all students basic, quality materials in order to meet the established objectives of every class and course of study. Instructional materials are any materials used in classroom instruction, library or any materials to which a teacher might refer a student as part of the course of instruction.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the selection of instructional materials textbooks.

The Board must approve and provide the necessary instructional materials textbooks used in the delivery of curriculum. Core instructional materials textbooks shall be selected by the Superintendent, or designee, and adopted by the Board prior to their use. The selection of other instructional materials is not subject to Board approval. The piloting of programs or materials textbook may be authorized by the Superintendent for a period of no more than one school year prior to Board adoption. Materials Textbooks approved for pilot programs shall be restricted to specific classes.

Adopted materials **textbooks** in each curricular area shall be reviewed at intervals not exceeding five (5) years or in a manner consistent with the state's standards revisions schedule. All adopted materials **textbooks** must support K-12 articulation and align with MCPS standards, benchmarks, and grade level expectations.

The trustees shall purchase textbooks at the expense of the district and loan them to students free of charge. Each student shall be required to exercise reasonable care in the use of such materials textbooks.

#### **Cross Reference:** Dealing with Challenged Educational Resources

Legal Reference:	§ 20-4-402(4), MCA	<b>Duties of District Superintendent</b>
		or County High School Principal
	§ 20-7-601- 603, MCA	Free Textbook Provision
	§ 20-7-602, MCA	Textbook Selection and Adoption
	§ 20-7-603, MCA	Textbooks Obtained from Licensed
	Textbook Dealer	

#### ARM 10.55.603 (4)(b) Curriculum and assessment

**Policy History:** 

Adopted on: January 14, 2003

Revision to PNP on: September 30, 2009

Adopted on: November 10, 2009

Revised at PN&P Committee on August 28, 2013 and posted for public comment.

Approved on: October 8, 2013

Revision to Board of Trustees for first reading: February 22, 2022

Approved on:



AGENDA ITEM: 9.A.i. DATE: 3.29.2022

Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

# FY23 General Fund Budget Projections March 29, 2022

## MCPS General Fund Budget Projections - 2.57% Inflationary Increase FY23

			EL	EMENTARY	HIC	SH SCHOOL
Highest Budget Without Vote			\$	41,856,229	\$	32,884,157
Over Base Levy			\$	294,790.68	\$	525,962.58
Propo	sed Adopted Budget		\$	42,151,020	\$	33,410,120
Prior Year Adopted Budg	et		\$	41,341,638	\$	31,244,575
Estima	ated Increase to General Fund		\$	809,382	\$	2,165,544
-	ed & Classified Retiree Savings		\$	260,000	\$	260,000
	Subtotal-Available to Balance		\$	1,069,382	\$	2,425,544
Estimated Salary & Bene	fit Obligations to Build into the Budget	<u>t:</u>				
Additio	onal Classroom Staff				\$	(270,000)
Certifie	ed Step Movement		\$	(367,950)	\$	(301,050)
Certific	ed Lane Movement		\$	(236,500)	\$	(193,500)
MMCE	EO Step/Longevity		\$	(53,900)	\$	(44,100)
	MMCEO	\$1.10	\$	(258,500)	\$	(211,500)
	Increasing Steps 1-4		\$	(13,200)	\$	(10,800)
	Lane Movements		\$	(12,100)	\$	(9,900)
Certific	ed	1.00%	\$	(220,550)	\$	(180,450)
Exemp	ot	1.00%	\$	(2,365)	\$	(1,935)
Profes	ssional Specialists	1.00%	\$	(495)	\$	(405)
Admini	istrative	1.00%	\$	(25,245)	\$	(20,655)
Trades	s & Crafts	1.00%	\$	(8,030)	\$	(6,570)
Noon I	•		\$	(15,600)	\$	46
Subto	tal		\$	(145,053)	\$	1,174,679

### MCPS General Fund Budget Projections - 2.57% Inflationary Increase FY23

#### **Anticipated Obligations:**

Liability insurance-Estimated 12% increase

SRO/CRO/SSO

NEA GPS teacher add 1 FTE

ESSER funds-Used as expense offset in FY22

Subs-Teachers/para, kitchen, & custodial

Activity cost increase

Fine Arts equipment repairs/uniform cleaning

HS Graduation Budget Adjust

**C&I** Adoption

Anticipated Budget Balance before Other Adds/Reductions

#### Reductions, Savings and Offsets

**Position Savings** 

**ESSER Support** 

**Anticipated Budget Balance** 

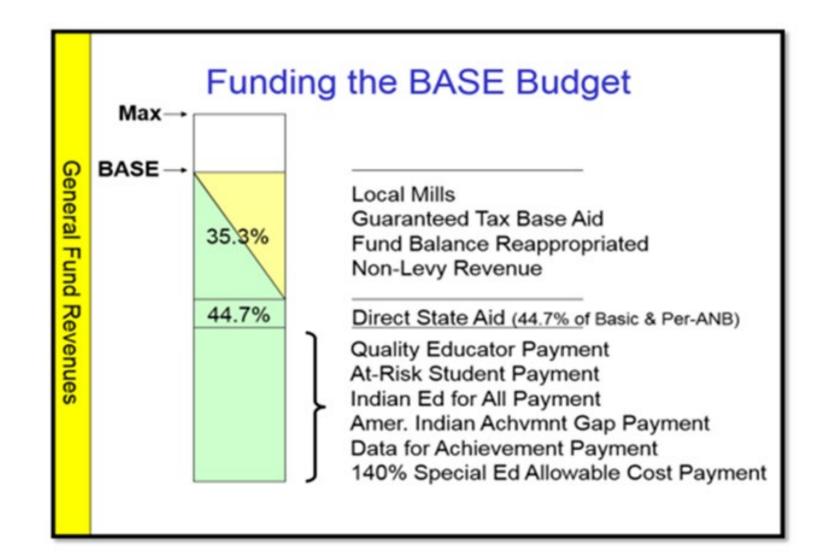
\$ (55,000)	\$ (45,000)
\$ (3,152)	\$ (4,728)
\$ (40,000)	\$ (33,000)
\$ (2,036,860)	\$ (1,431,450)
	\$ (113,000)
	\$ (24,000)
	\$ (3,000)
\$ (125,000)	
\$ (2,405,065)	\$ (479,499)
\$ (2,405,065)	\$ (479,499)

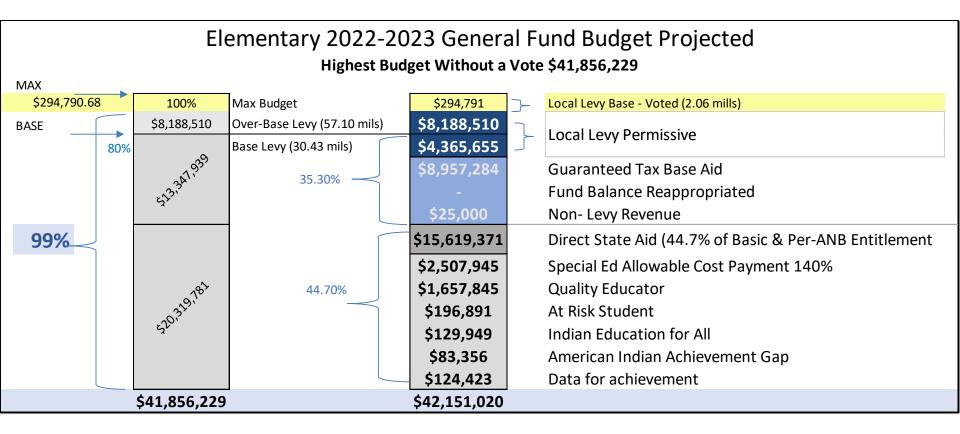
# PROJECTED FY22-FY23 REVENUE BUDGET ELEMENTARY GENERAL FUND

			PROJECTED				
REVENUE DESCRIPTION	2022 BUDGET		20	23 BUDGET	DII	FFERENCE	% CHANGE
Direct State Aid	\$	15,312,855	\$	15,619,371	\$	306,516	2.00%
Special Ed Allowable Costs		2,544,472		2,507,945		(36,527)	-1.44%
Guaranteed Tax Base		8,606,180		8,957,284		351,104	4.08%
Non-Levy Revenue		16,268		15,000		(1,268)	-7.79%
Base Levy		4,488,043		4,365,655		(122,388)	-2.73%
Over-Base Levy		8,188,510		8,483,300		294,791	3.60%
Tuition Over Base		30,000		10,000		(20,000)	-66.67%
State Block Grants		-		-		-	-
Natural Resources Development		-		-		-	-
Quality Educator		1,611,866		1,657,845		45,979	2.85%
At Risk Student		209,187		196,891		(12,296)	-5.88%
Indian Education For All		127,710		129,949		2,239	1.75%
American Indian Achievement Gap		84,294		83,356		(938)	-1.11%
Data for Achievement		122,253		124,423		2,170	1.77%
Total Revenue	\$	41,341,638	\$	42,151,020	\$	809,382	1.96%
	_						
MILLS LEVIED:		88.40		89.60		1.20	1.36%
ANB:							
K-6		4,428		4,360		(68)	-1.54%
7-8		1,198		1,222		24	2.0ॄ0%
TAXABLE VALUE	\$	143,403,999	\$	143,403,999	\$	-	0.00%

# PROJECTED FY22-FY23 REVENUE BUDGET HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND

		PROJECTED					
REVENUE DESCRIPTION	2022 BUDGET		2023 BUDGET		DIFFERENCE		% CHANGE
Direct State Aid	\$	12,355,484	\$	13,425,588	\$	1,070,104	8.66%
Special Ed Allowable Costs		1,116,125		963,112		(153,013)	-13.71%
Guaranteed Tax Base		5,864,558		6,528,842		664,285	11.33%
Non-Levy Revenue		30,668		10,000		(20,668)	-67.39%
Base Levy		4,308,463		4,448,712		140,249	3.26%
Over-Base Levy		6,043,879		6,569,842		525,963	8.70%
Flex Increase		107,367		-		(107,367)	-100.00%
Tuition Over-Base		30,000		15,000		(15,000)	-50.00%
State Block Grants		-		-		-	-
Natural Resources Development		-		-		-	-
Quality Educator		1,059,549		1,109,467		49,918	4.71%
At Risk Student		106,428		100,976		(5,453)	-5.12%
Indian Education For All		84,512		91,816		7,304	8.64%
American Indian Achievement Gap		56,642		58,853		2,211	3.90%
Data for Achievement		80,901		87,912		7,011	8.67%
Total Revenue	\$	31,244,575	\$	33,410,120	\$	2,165,544	6.93%
MILLS LEVIED:		40.68		42.83		2.15	5.28%
ANB:		3,723		3,944		221	5.94%
TAXABLE VALUE	\$	257,269,457	\$	257,269,457	\$	-	0.049%





## **ELEMENTARY GENERAL FUND TOTAL LEVIES**

2021 **ADOPTED BUDGET** \$41,983,822

2022 ADOPTED BUDGET \$41,341,638

2023 **ESTIMATED BUDGET** \$42,151,020

MAX = \$42,395,229 **Tuition** \$30,000 \$8,188,510 **Over Base Levy** \$33,765,312 **BASE** 

MAX = \$41,501,201 Tuition \$30,000 \$8,188,510 **Over Base Levy** \$33,123,129 **BASE** 

MAX = \$42,151,020 Tuition \$10,000 \$8,483,300 **Over Base Levy** \$33,657,720 **BASE Base Levies** 

\$4,365,655

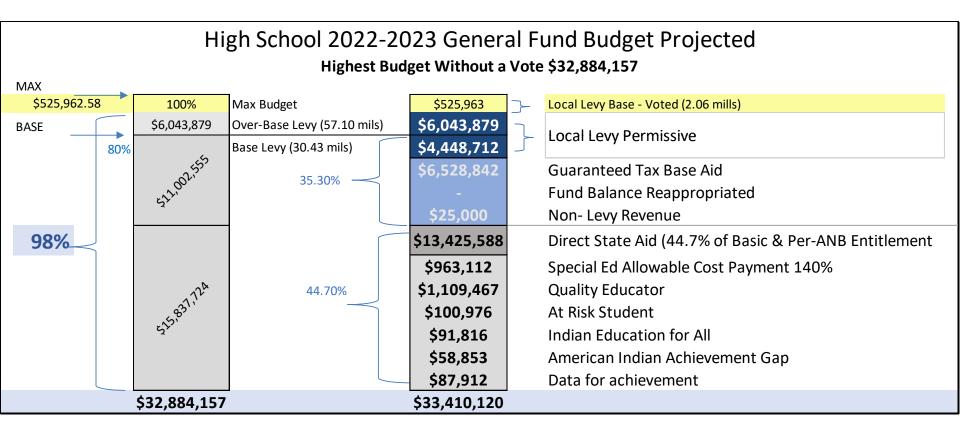
52

**Base Levies** \$4,851,911

**Base Levies** \$4,488,043

\$143,403,999

**Tax Valuation** \$130,020,256 \$143,403,999 **Total Levies** \$13,040,420 31.1% \$12,676,553 30.7% \$12,848,956 30.5% Total Tax on \$100K Home \$135.40 \$119.34 \$120.96 per year per year per year Mills 89.60 100.30 88.40



# HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL FUND TOTAL LEVIES

2022

**ADOPTED BUDGET** 

2021
ADOPTED BUDGET
\$30,751,683

MAX = \$30,566,151
Tuition \$30,000

\$31,264,582

MAX = \$31,2

Tuition \$

2023 ESTIMATED BUDGET \$33,410,120

Tuition \$30,000
Flex-Non Voted Transfer
\$152,974

\$6,043,879
Over Base Levy
\$24,524,830
BASE

Base Levies
\$4,293,931

45.39

Mills

MAX = \$31,261,185
Tuition \$30,000
Flex-Non Voted Transfer
\$107,367
\$6,043,879
Over Base Levy
\$25,063,330
BASE

Base Levies
\$4,315,125

MAX = \$33,410,120
Tuition \$15,000

\$6,569,842
Over Base Levy
\$26,825,278
BASE

Base Levies
\$4,448,712

42.83

Tax Valuation \$231,134,662 \$257,269,457 \$ 257,269,457 **Total Levies** \$10,490,784 34.1% \$10,359,003 34.1% \$11,018,554 33.0% **Total Tax on** \$100K Home \$61.27 per year \$54.92 per year \$57.82 per year

40.68

54

AGENDA ITEM: 9.A.ii. DATE: 3.29.2022

#### MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY - DISTRICT NO. 1 MISSOULA COUNTY

## RESOLUTIONS 2022-6 (E) SET ELEMENTARY DISTRICT GENERAL FUND LEVY AMOUNT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 2022-4 (E) the Board of Trustees, Missoula County Public Schools – Elementary District No. 1, Missoula County, State of Montana, called for a School Levy Election to be held on the third day of May, 2022 for monies in addition to the levies authorized by law in such number of mills as may be necessary to raise the amount needed for the purpose of instruction and general operation of the elementary schools within Missoula County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the trustees of this district shall have the authority under the provisions of MCA §15-10-425 to set the amount of a mill levy.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Elementary District No. 1 declare that the amount of the elementary general fund levy election to be held on May 3, 2022 shall be \$294,790.00, which is approximately 2.06 mills, for the purpose of instruction and operation of the elementary schools. The levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once every five years.

RESOLVED this 29 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022
Diane R. Lorenzen Chair, Board of Trustees
Pat McHugh Clerk, Board of Trustees

#### **OFFICIAL BALLOT**

# MISSOULA ELEMENTARY DISTRICT NO. 1 GENERAL FUND LEVY

#### **PROPOSITION**

Shall the Missoula County Public Schools' Elementary District be authorized to levy an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Dollars (\$294,790.00), which is approximately 2.06 mills, for the purpose of instruction and operation of the elementary schools? This levy will be an increase to the existing voter-approved levy.

Passage of this proposal will result in an annual tax of approximately \$2.78 on a home with an assessed property value of \$100,000, and \$5.56 on a home with an assessed property value of \$200,000. 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.

FOR the additional levy

AGAINST the additional levy

**AGENDA ITEM: 9.A.iv. DATE: 3.29.2022** 

#### MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS HIGH SCHOOL - DISTRICT NO. 1 MISSOULA COUNTY

## RESOLUTIONS 2022-6 (S) SET HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND LEVY AMOUNT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 2022-4 (S) the Board of Trustees, Missoula County Public Schools – High School District No. 1, Missoula County, State of Montana, called for a school levy election to be held on the third day of May, 2022 for monies in addition to the levies authorized by law in such number of mills as may be necessary to raise the amount needed for the purpose of instruction and general operation of the high schools within Missoula County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the trustees of this district shall have the authority under the provisions of MCA §15-10-425 to set the amount of a mill levy.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of High School District No. 1 declare that the amount of the high school general fund levy election to be held on May 3, 2022 shall be \$525,962.00, which is approximately 2.04 mills, for the purpose of instruction and operation of the high schools. The levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once every five years.

RESOLVED this 29 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022
Diane R. Lorenzen Chair, Board of Trustees
Pat McHugh Clerk, Board of Trustees

#### **OFFICIAL BALLOT**

#### MISSOULA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GENERAL FUND LEVY

#### **PROPOSITION**

Shall the Missoula County Public Schools' High School District be authorized to levy an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$525,962.00), which is approximately 2.04 mills, for the purpose of instruction and operation of the high schools? This levy will be an increase to the existing voter-approved levy.

Passage of this proposal will result in an annual tax of approximately \$2.76 on a home with an assessed property value of \$100,000, and \$5.52 on a home with an assessed property value of \$200,000. 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.

$\bigcirc$	FOR the additional levy
0	AGAINST the additional levy

AGENDA ITEM: 9.A.vi.

DATE: 3.29.2022

This form is required to obtain permission from the Board of Trustees to apply for the grant. Completed form requested in Business Office on or before second Wednesday of month to be placed on the Finance & Operations Committee agenda.

#### **GRANT APPLICATION SUMMARY**

#### NAME OF GRANT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE)

OPI/CTE State and Federal Funding

#### **DATE GRANT APPLICATION DUE:**

Thursday, March 31, 2022

#### **AMOUNT OF GRANT:**

\$300,000-400,000—depends on final allocations based on performance from previous grants and need in the area

#### MATCHING MCPS FUNDS REQUIRED:

\$55,000 Cash funds from Adult Education Permissive Levy

\$35,000 In-Kind match from Adult Education

#### **DESCRIPTION OF GRANT:**

() ELEMENTARY (X) SECONDARY

The Adult Basic and Literacy Education has been operated through MCPS Adult Education Division for over 35 years. Approximately every 8-10 years, OPI puts out a new Request for Proposal (RFP) to ensure that ABLE programs are meeting the new standards and to allow other interested parties to apply for funds. The Missoula program has been granted an annual extension since the last RFP in 2002.

The primary purposes of this program are to:

- Assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency;
- Assist adults who are parents to obtain the educational skills necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children; and
- Assist adults in the completion of secondary school education.

This grant is intended for Adult Education Literacy Programs and English as a Second Language, as defined in the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA). Funds obtained through this grant must be used to establish or operate one or more programs that provide services or instruction in the area of Adult Education and/or English Literacy programs.

Services or instruction below the postsecondary level for individuals who:

- 1. Have attained 16 years of age
- 2. Are not enrolled, or are not required to be enrolled in secondary school under State law

- 3. And who fall under one or more of the following categories:
  - a. Lack sufficient mastery of basic educational skills to enable them to function effectively in society
  - Do not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and have not achieved an equivalent level of education, or
  - c. Are unable to speak, read, or write the English language.

The priority populations for the Adult Education programs are as follows:

- 1. Low-income, unemployed, and underemployed;
- 2. Rurally Isolated;
- 3. Currently employed who are not targeted by, or eligible for, educational services under other federally funded programs;
- 4. Individuals with multiple barriers to educational enhancement, including individuals with limited English proficiency;
- 5. Single parents and displaced homemakers;
- 6. Displaced workers; and
- 7. Individuals with disabilities.

#### PERSON/SCHOOL APPLYING FOR GRANT:

Monique Fortmann, Director

MCPS Adult Education Division

#### DATE SUBMITTED TO BUSINESS OFFICE:

3.4.2022

## DRAFT AGENDA ITEM: 9.C.i.

DATE: 3.29.2022



Missoula County Public Schools

# 2022-2023 School Calendar **Elementary Schools**

Forward Thinking, H	igh Achieving.
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Forward Thinking, High Achieving.		near y Senio	OIS
July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M'T W TH F S	S M T W TH 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	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 3 31	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	1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u> 7 8 9 10 11 12 <u>13</u> 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 <u>27</u> 28 29 30 31
November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
1 2 <u>3</u> 4 5 6 7 8 9 <u>10</u> 11 12 13 14 15 16 <u>17</u> 18 19 20 21 22 <u>(3)</u> 24 <u>(25)</u> 26 27 28 29 30	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	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	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	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	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	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

26 27 28	29 <u>30</u> 31 23 24 25	26 <u>27</u> 28 29	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30
	30			
	alendar Dates			Symbol Codes
August 30	First Day of School	I	<u>ly Out Days</u>	
	Kindergarten ONLY	1 '	45 Minute Early Dismissal	Holiday or Unscheduled Day/
August 31	First Day of School	November 10	Exceptions Parent Teacher Conferences	No School
	Grades 1-5	November 10	11:05 a.m. Grades K-5	Conferences - No School
September 5	Labor Day	T		Staff Dev/Prep Day - No School
October 20-21	Professional Development Days	1	nester Dates	•
November 10	Conferencing Day-1/2 Day of School		End of 1st Trimester	Half Day of School
November 11	Conferencing Day-No School	March 10	End of 2nd Trimester	School Begins
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Vacation	June 9	End of 3rd Trimester	School Ends
December 22-30	Winter Vacation			<u> </u>
January 2	Winter Vacation			End of Quarter
January 16	M.L. King Holiday			End of Trimester
February 6	Professional Development Day			XX Early Dismissals (one hour)
February 20	Presidents' Holiday			• ,
March 16	Conferencing Day-1/2 Day of School			
March 17	Conferencing Day-No School			
March 20-24	Spring Break			
May 29	Memorial Holiday			
June 9	Last Day of School-1/2 Day			

## **DRAFT**



## Missoula County Public Schools

# 2022-2023 School Calendar Middle Schools

Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
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	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 3 31	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	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
1 2 <u>3</u> 4 5 6 7 8 9 <u>10</u> 11 12 13 14 15 16 <u>17</u> 18 19 20 21 22 <u>23</u> <u>24</u> <u>25</u> 26 27 28 29 30	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	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	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 2 3 4 5 <u>6</u> 7 8 9 10 11 12 <u>13</u> 14 15 16 17 18 19 <u>20</u> 21 22 23 24 25 26 <u>27</u> 28 29 30	1 2 3 <u>4</u> 5 6 7 8 9 10 <u>11</u> 12 13 14 15 16 17 <u>18</u> 19 20 21 22 23 24 <u>25</u> 26 27 28 <u>29</u> 30 31	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
<u>Calendar Dates</u>	<b>T</b> 7	les Oest Deser	Symbol Codes
August 30 First Day of Scho		ly Out Days	
Grade 6 ONLY	I	D	Holiday or Unscheduled Day/
Amount 21 Linet Here of Cole	and I	PARROUNIS	N C 1 1

	30		_		
Ca	lendar Dates				Symbol Codes
August 30	First Day of School		ly Out Days	_	
	Grade 6 ONLY	, ,	45 Minute Early Dismissal	$\bigcirc$	Holiday or Unscheduled Day/
August 31	First Day of School	March 16	Exceptions  Parent Teacher Conferences		No School
	Grades 7-8	March 16	11:00 a.m. Grades K-5		Conferences - No School
September 5	Labor Day	0		$\overline{}$	Staff Dev/Prep Day - No School
October 20-21	Professional Development Days	November 4	arter Dates	$\searrow$	* *
November 11	Conferencing Day-No School	January 20	End of 1st Quarter End of 2nd Quarter	Ų	Half Day of School
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Vacation	March 31	End of 2nd Quarter End of 3rd Quarter	$\triangleright$	School Begins
December 22-30	Winter Vacation	June 9	End of 4th Quarter		School Ends
January 2	Winter Vacation	June y	Life of 4th Quarter	7	
January 16	M.L. King Holiday				End of Quarter
February 6	Professional Development Day				End of Trimester
February 20	Presidents' Holiday			XX	Early Dismissals (one hour)
March 20-24	Spring Break				•
May 29	Memorial Holiday				
June 9	Last Day of School-1/2 Day				

DRAFT AGENDA ITEM: 9.C.ii.

Missoula County Public Schools

# 2022-2023 School Calendar Big Sky, Hellgate, Sentinel

Forward	Thinking,	High Achieving

July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M'T W TH F S	S M T W TH 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	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 3 31	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	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
1 2 <u>3</u> 4 5 6 7 8 9 <u>10</u> 11 12 13 14 15 16 <u>17</u> 18 19 20 21 22 <u>23</u> <u>24</u> <u>25</u> 26 27 28 29 30	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	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	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S	S M T W TH F S
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	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	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	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Calendar Dates			Symbol Codes

August 30 Calendar Dates First Day of School			
	Grade 9 ONLY		
August 31	First Day of School		
	Grades 10-12		
September 5	Labor Day		
October 20-21	Professional Development Days		
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Vacation		
December 22-30	Winter Vacation		
January 2	Winter Vacation		
January 16	M.L. King Holiday		
January 23	Record's Day - No School		
February 6	Professional Development Day		
February 20	Presidents' Holiday		
March 20-24	Spring Break		
April 14	Professional Development Day		
May 29	Memorial Holiday		
June 3	High School Graduation		

June 9

Last Day of School-1/2 Day

#### **Late Start Dates**

Every Thursday late start day.

#### **Semester Dates**

End of 1st Semester January 20 June 9 End of 2nd Semester

#### **Symbol Codes**

Holiday or Unscheduled Day/
No School
Conferences - No School
Staff Dev/Prep Day - No School
Half Day of School
School Begins
School Ends
End of Quarter
End of Trimester
XX Early Dismissals (one hour)

AGENDA ITEM: 9.D.i. DATE: 3.29.2022

#### **Research Overview:**

#### **Supporting Student Writers Through Writing Coaching**

Writing Coaches of Montana is a non-profit organization whose mission "is to help prepare all students in the Montana public schools to become confident, competent writers by graduation." Since 1995, Writing Coaches partnered with schools and school districts to organize one-on-one coaching sessions for student writers in grades 7-12. Coaches are recruited from Montana communities and trained by writing specialists from the University of Montana. The writing coaches work with students on assignments undertaken across the disciplines. Writing Coaches of Montana promotes a student-centered method of coaching that centers dialogue and questioning in helping students understand how to think and work like a writer. When meeting with students for a coaching session, the coaches recognize students' writing strengths and use questioning techniques to encourage students to consider areas to improve.

This academic school year, eighth-grade students will work with a writing coach from Writing Coaches of Montana to revise and improve one paper. Students may have already participated in a coaching session. The papers worked on during these sessions were part or will be part of students' English language arts curriculum.

In order to build an understanding of the effectiveness of these coaching sessions, Missoula County Public Schools and Writing Coaches of Montana have partnered with two professors from the University of Montana to conduct a research study. Both Dr. Beverly Chin and Dr. Stephanie Reid are longtime English language arts teachers and teacher educators. This research project will offer information regarding programmatic impact (if any) and help Writing Coaches of Montana develop further their coaching practices.

The research team will be seeking parental permission and student assent for each student to share one English language arts paper from the Spring 2022 semester with the research team. The paper is a part of the English language arts curriculum and will not mean extra work for teachers or students. Student names and any other identifiers will be removed from all writing samples collected. The researchers hope to compare the papers written by students who participate in a coaching session to the papers written by students who did not participate in a coaching session for this paper to see if there are any significant differences. Results from the study will be used to further develop coaching programming with the Writing Coaches of Montana and strengthen the partnership between MCPS and Writing Coaches of Montana.

Please feel free to email Dr. Elise Guest (<a href="mailto:eguest@mcpsmt.org">eguest@mcpsmt.org</a>) or the research team (stephanie.reid@mso.umt.edu) with any questions or comments. Your input and feedback are welcome at any point.

AGENDA ITEM: 10.A. DATE: 3.29.2022

#### Missoula County Public Schools District Superintendent INTERIM EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT 2022-2023

This Employment Contract, made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2022, by and between the Governing Board of the Missoula County Public Schools of Missoula, Montana, hereinafter referred to as DISTRICT, and **Russ Lodge**, hereinafter referred to as SUPERINTENDENT.

WHEREAS, DISTRICT desires to provide SUPERINTENDENT with a written employment contract in order to enhance administrative stability and continuity within the schools which DISTRICT believes generally improves the quality of its overall educational program; and

WHEREAS, DISTRICT and SUPERINTENDENT believe that a written employment contract is necessary to describe specifically their relationship and to serve as the basis of effective communication between them as they fulfill their governance and administrative functions in the operation of the educational programs of the school.

NOW, THEREFORE, DISTRICT and SUPERINTENDENT, for the consideration herein specified, agree as follows:

1. **TERM:** DISTRICT, in consideration of the promises of SUPERINTENDENT herein contained, hereby employs and SUPERINTENDENT hereby accepts employment as Interim Superintendent of Schools for a term commencing on July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023. The parties agree this is a one year contract only, and that SUPERINTENDENT will not apply for or continue as the District Superintendent past this contract year.

#### 2. PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERINTENDENT:

- A. Certification: SUPERINTENDENT shall provide the necessary certification and experience records and other records required for personnel files or for payroll purposes. Failure to provide necessary certification shall render this Agreement void. Any misrepresentation may be grounds for dismissal.
- B. Duties: SUPERINTENDENT shall have charge of the administration of the schools under the direction of the Board. He shall be the Chief executive officer of the Board; shall direct and assign teachers and other employees of the schools under his supervision; shall organize, reorganize, and arrange the administrative and supervisory staff, including instruction and business affairs, as best serves the DISTRICT subject to approval of the Board; shall from time to time suggest regulations, rules and procedures deemed necessary for the well ordering of the school district, and in general, perform all duties incident to the Office of the Superintendent and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board from time to time.
- 3. **PROFESSIONAL GROWTH OF SUPERINTENDENT**: DISTRICT encourages the continuing professional growth of SUPERINTENDENT through his participation in the operations, programs, and other activities conducted or sponsored by local, state, and national school administrators, public or private educational institutions or other persons whose particular skills or background would serve to improve the capacity of SUPERINTENDENT.

- 4. **COMPENSATION:** DISTRICT shall pay SUPERINTENDENT at an annual salary of **One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000)** for the 2022-2023 school year. The salary referenced in this section shall be paid on the basis of a two hundred and sixty (260) day contract.
- 5. **VACATION, SICK LEAVE AND OTHER BENEFITS:** SUPERINTENDENT shall accrue vacation as prescribed in Section 2-18-612, MCA, exclusive of legal holidays. SUPERINTENDENT may receive cash compensation for any unused vacation leave in lieu of accumulation of that leave. Additionally, ten (10) days of non-accumulative personal leave shall be granted. SUPERINTENDENT shall be entitled to annual sick leave of one day per month as prescribed in Section 2-18-618, MCA.

DISTRICT shall provide a single health and dental insurance premium coverage for SUPERINTENDENT.

DISTRICT shall purchase and maintain a life insurance policy on the life of SUPERINTENDENT in which SUPERINTENDENT is the owner and may designate beneficiaries under a District sponsored plan of insurance in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000).

DISTRICT shall reimburse SUPERINTENDENT for all reasonable expenses associated with the performance of his duties and for the use of his automobile in conducting business on behalf of the District in accordance with Section 2-18-503, MCA. SUPERINTENDENT shall submit receipts as required by District policy and practice.

- 6. **PROFESSIONAL DUES**. DISTRICT shall pay the Association dues of SUPERINTENDENT for the American Association of School Administrators, the School Administrators of Montana, and the SAM region in which the School District is located, as well as other appropriate affiliations, and civic and social memberships approved by the Board.
- 7. **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY**. DISTRICT shall provide for the indemnification, defense and immunization of SUPERINTENDENT as provided in Section 2-9-305, MCA.
- 8. **TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**: This employment contract may be terminated by:
  - a. Mutual agreement of the Board of Trustees and SUPERINTENDENT: When the contract has been terminated by mutual agreement, DISTRICT shall be obligated to pay that portion of the salary that has been earned up to and including the last day of service. At least a thirty (30) day advance notice of termination date will be given after reaching a mutual agreement.
  - b. <u>Disability of the Superintendent</u>: In the event of disability by illness or incapacity, after SUPERINTENDENT'S sick leave has been exhausted, the compensation shall be reinstated after he has returned to employment and undertaken full charge of his duties. DISTRICT may terminate this contract by written notice to SUPERINTENDENT at any time after SUPERINTENDENT has exhausted any accumulated sick leave and he remains unable to return to his duties. If a question exists concerning the capacity of SUPERINTENDENT to return to his duties, DISTRICT may require him to submit to a medical examination, to be performed by a doctor licensed to practice medicine in the State of Montana. DISTRICT and SUPERINTENDENT shall mutually agree upon the physician who shall conduct the examination. The report shall be limited to the issue of whether the SUPERINTENDENT has a continuing disability which prohibits him from performing his duties.
  - c. Discharge for Cause: DISTRICT may dismiss SUPERINTENDENT during the term of this Contract

for good cause as provided by the Wrongful Discharge Act.

- 11. **SAVINGS CLAUSE**: If, during the term of this contract, it is found that a specific clause of the contract is illegal in federal or state law, the remainder of the contract not affected by such a ruling shall remain in force.
- 12. **CONTROLLLING LAW**. This Contract will be governed by the laws of the State of Montana. Venue shall be in the 4<sup>h</sup> Judicial District, Missoula County, Montana.
- 13. **COMPLETE AGREEMENT**. This Contract embodies the complete agreement of the parties hereto, superseding all oral and written previous and contemporary agreements between the parties. No alteration or modification of this Contract shall be valid unless evidenced by a writing signed by the parties to this Contract.

DATED thisth day of Marc	h, 2022.		
Superintendent	Date	Chairman, Board of Trustees Missoula County Public Schools	Date
ATTEST:			
Business Manager/District Clerk	Date		