Facility Strategic Plan Survey Results 2014



Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

Survey Results

All Respondents Comparison

(754 Total Respondents)

Respondents with Students

1% No Response Yes No 74% Schools



Respondent's Age



Respondent Awareness/Time



Respondent's Gender



Places Respondent Found Information



Survey participants were asked to provide of the school their student(s) were currently enrolled.

(Please review the responses.)

School Name	# of Responses
Big Sky High School	60
Bonner Elementary	4
C.S. Porter Middle School	34
Chief Charlo Elementary	28
Clinton Elementary	1
Cold Springs Elementary	29
Desmet Elementary	1
Florence High School	1
Franklin Elementary	10
Hawthorne Elementary	23
Hellgate Elementary	10
Hellgate High School	106
Home School	1
Jefferson Center	2
Lewis and Clark Elementary	38
Lifelong Learning Center	1
Lowell Elementary	15
Loyola High School	3
Meadow Hill Middle School	52
Missoula International	5
Paxson Elementary	30
Rattlesnake Elementary	54
Russell Elementary	28
Seeley-Swan High School	8
Sentinel High School	73
St. Joseph Elementary	8
Sunflower Preschool	2
Sussex Elementary	2
Target Range Elementary	2
Valley Christian	2
Washington Middle School	52
Willard Alternative	7

Respondents Learned about the Process



- Conversation with Neighbor
- Conversation with Teacher
- Conversation with Principal
- Missoulian
- News Story (KPAX, KGVO, etc.)
- MCPS Website
- Email from School/Principal
- Missoula Events Calendar
- Chamber of Commerce Calendar



Respondent Viewed Support Documents

Places Respondent to Provide Input





Technology Access and Usage Ranking



Student Safety and Security Ranking



Missoula County Public Schools' Condition Ranking



Survey Results Men vs. Women Comparison



Respondent's Age

Respondent Awareness/Time



Places Respondent Found Information



Men Women



Respondent Viewed Support Documents





Men Women





Women's Priority Ranking





Technology Access and Usage Ranking

Student Safety and Security



120 104 100 80 64 54 60 5051 42₃₉ 40 19 15 20 101110 n 0 Rate 1 Rate 2 Rate 3 Rate 4 Rate 5 Elementary ■ Middle School ■ High School

Women's MCPS Facilities Ranking



Men's MCPS Facilities Ranking

Survey Results Respondent Age 13-40 vs. 41 and over Comparison



Respondent Awareness/Time

Places Respondent Found Information



■ 13-40 ■ 41 and over



Respondent Viewed Support Documents



Places Respondent to Provide Input















13-40 MCPS Facilities Ranking



Participants were asked to provide additional priorities. (Below are the unedited responses.)

#'s 8-10 should have a NO option or Other. These questions are not worded well to fit answer choices. This event unfolded at work. I work in radio. A DJ received an email from Franklin School. I immediately checked mine.... NOTHING from Sentinel. Since it is a news station, I relied on work. Even though the time said 11:00 something, I was out of the loop when it came to Sentinel.

Integrated learning (foreign language, science, athletics, music) integrated into the curriculum. Outdoor learning.

Any health safety issues involved with ensuring that all materials students are exposed to in schools do not pose risks (e.g., any unresolved issues with asbestos or other potentially harmful materials or substances)??Also, with regard to technology infrastructure - what about technology resources. Not sure these fall in with facilities, but issues of up to date computers, access for appropriate numbers of students, Smart Boards, document cameras in classrooms, and the like.

Bringing God back into the public school system so that this country won't become godless and go under.

the strategy in response to changing the age of compulsory secondary education from 16 to 18

Rework the residential boundaries to reflect the shifts in population. Reopen Mount Jumbo to accommodate expanding enrollment.

How about hiring administrative personnel who actually CARE about the students??????

the question above was confusing i rated the top proiorty as beign #1 and up to 5.We need to up the security on our buildings even so much as a door code that only parents and faculty have. other people should be buzzed in the building and there needs to be a security guard for each school.

Curriculum--continue to expand college prep courses opportunities; explore ideas to use facilities during summer months to provide opportunities to students for recreation, exploration of topics/interests not to them during their individual school term schedule, etc.

Neighborhood Schools that allow walking/biking (5)Safe Routes to School that provide safe/ comfortable walking/biking (4)

Lowell's facility is old, out-dated, and dismal.

Rattlesnake drop off/pick up issues. 5This is a safety concern.

Enforcing the teaching standards equally to all faculty members as well as enforcing the student code of conduct to all students that attend School District One, all schools really. Just doing this would save countless dollars, time, democracy and the community schools would not turn into, look like, or feel like prisons.(i.e cameras, gun carrying teachers, police forces locking doors, bullet proof glass...) To feel safe, is to shine with humanity, not guns or forces. Common respect is for both the student and teachers to show freely, not to be demanded by either. Just remember ALL humans learn in three ways and this school system has tried to cut it down to one size fits all. This kind of teaching rarely works for the masses. Visual, Audio, and Hands On was the staple of teaching...what happened?

1. Improve special education and services to students who are at risk instead of constantly throwing money at upper middle class students and advanced learners.

I want to hear what the teachers want.

I teach at Big Sky. I would like to look outside. I have no windows.

1. Children are already in inadequate classroom settings!2. There is great disparity that has been created between the schools & amp; it is not appropriate lump all the needs into one rating.3. This should have been the priority for funds instead of academies! It is hard to vote to give more money to something that has been so poorly managed.

Chief Charlo is an ice skating rink in the winter. I know there has been discussing but nothing ever gets done. We need to focus on deferred maintenance and not continue to add programs when we don't have money to pay for our everyday expenses. The heating system in Sentienel high school can be hot in one room and freezing in another....21st Century, I don't think so. But I know they are looking at adding a STEM academy......What does that cost? Would you buy a new car if your roof was leaking or your furnance was broken. The school board needs to wake up and tell Alex Apostle to stop adding and start fixing the current problems.

More elective/AP opportunities for Seeley Swan. More ways for our small school to benefit from some of the programs in existence in Missoula.

better Disability access for wheelchair students

Continue to support athletic teams and their budgets so Missoula continues to develop active student athletes. Rank 4 Consider looking at artificial turf at different locations for the various sports that use the mcps grounds. For instance the MCPS Stadium should have a multipurpose turf installed along with Stegnar Field behind Sentinel. Footbal, Soccer and all the other sports would benefit from the installation of a turf long term. Rank 3

1. expanding IB and the Health programs2. changing the curriculum to be more challenging and better prepare students3. looking at best practices from more successful countries who have surpassed our country.4. partner with outside entities to maximize utilization of MCPS owned property5. sell MCPS Fort Missoula parcel and Duncan Drive Peas Farm/Soccer parcel and use funds to supplement renovation/construction efforts

Safety first always - and not just teacher training; building safety features must be implemented.

Funding for children with IEPs...

I believe there are a lot of foolish things done at the schools that waste money, so if you are going to ask for more you need to cut the waste. Schools shouldn't treat tax payer money like it's an endless pot of funds. Do like the rest of us do, and if you are going to add something, take away from someplace else. Better yet, why not do a small renovation and spend some of the \$\$\$ helping the gifted kids, a population that you have ignored for "politically correct" reasons.

Schools like Lowell need an obvious upgrade. It is important that neighborhood schools stay where they are though. My family would not support moving school, but renovating or building on current sites.

Maintaining standards without increasing the demand to the local tax base. NOT increasing the burden due on Missoula home owners.

School supplies.

No

Accessibility for all students and public to access all buildings

Do away with the "temporary" buildings that have now been in place for over 30 years!!!

It only makes sense to upgrade technology infrastructure if you actaully plan to upgrade the technology in the classrooms. The computers in the classrooms are archaic.

The Hellgate High School bathrooms are horrible.

I feel like we have been taxed to death in Target Range, please consider living within our current tax structure before asking for tax raises. I will have a hard time voting for more mill levies. I applaud your forward thinking, but have watched schools sit empty in Missoula County, and that was disheartening to me in the past.

The school district needs a fine arts performance venue. The Hellgate High School auditorium is the only decent performance venue in the district for musical performance. I am a fan of athletics as well as the arts - and we have in my opinion given athletics fairly high quality facilities in this school district. But we have consistently shorted the performing arts. I would suggest that much like we have the MCPS stadium, there should be an MCPS theater that all of the district schools could use for their performances. It is a shame to watch concerts sitting on folding chairs in the Big Sky "cafetorium" and to watch everyone cram into the Sentinel "little theater". The Meadow Hill band concerts overflow their gymnasium space regularly. We need to better support our young performers.

Security Cameras, Elevators

Eliminate one of the High Schools consolidate into 2.

Staff Trained To DisArm A Potential Assailant At The school.

restructure of schools. My child goes to school all the way across town. It makes it difficult to attend functions and run the forgotten stuff to school.

4 Day school week, less time off during school year. Early end to school year, priority 5.Classes in high school that are more trade oriented such as welding, carpentry, engineering, drafting, medical tech, vet tech, office work priority 5. More emphasis on English & amp; math in grades 3-8, so in high school they aren't mandatory classes thru junior year. This will allow students to take the more hands on classes which will prepare them better for life after high school and they will be prepared better for jobs that don't require 4 yr degrees that most parents cannot afford and most students won't complete 4 year degrees because they need immediate employment to pay the bills, as roughly 46% of Montanans live in poverty, priority 5.

I ranked 1 as most important 5 as least important

Sped programming at the High School level. Especially for kids on the spectrum!

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Hiring additional speech pathologist for the school who can meet with students who have IEPs on a one on one basis at least once a week. This would make the success and happiness of students greater. Currently students meet sometimes once a week in a group setting. This is not enough for Kindergarteners!

Cut down on our transportation budget by reopening our neighborhood school to a k-8. Such as Mount Jumbo. 2nd newest school in Missoula and the Walla Walla School of Social work is in there, seems crazy to me.

Self defense classes and info for all faculty for emergency situations. Maybe give a few veterans the job of providing security?

More playground supervision, especially after school hours at elementry and middle schools

Better communication with parents.

Environmental safety - e.g., mold, asbestos, water quality, etc.

I would like to see more money going to the education of our children in order to meet national guidlines. More money for the kids education who are special needs and struggling. I would also like to see the teachers salaries to be increased giving more incentive for the teachers as well as the kids they teach. I would also like to see some money go to a program that would closely monitor ALL staff in order to make sure our kids are being treated well and protected.

Making sure that there are the same classes offered at all the schools so that busing kids from school to school doesn't have to happen.

Prepare the kids for the future, break the mold, spend whatever is needed to get rid of the old teachers and bring in the new...get relevant with today, you have to move at the pace of life or these kids will always be beind. There are still hippee teachers spewing their opinions about pot and gay people...while the world is considering common place drone technology and google is developing high tech glasses....How about spending some money on "catching up" to the world "now" - which means you might need to lead your target by a few years to get that done...

Getting rid of annex buildings.

Sports - Improve conditions of outdoor practice fields

Safety -- designated crossings for Hellgate HS -- children are left off in the middle of the traffic and/or walk across the road, assuming cars will yield. Many students drive and have to find on street parking, which leads to confusion at beginning and end of school.

5. software updates. My son can not work both at home and at school on the same research paper. Once he opens it at home he can no longer open to document as the schools software is too old a version. Very frustrating and ridiculous.

Can you put some money into finding quality teachers and perhaps paying them more?

It would be great that Hellgate High School renovates all the exposed wiring in their building.

We need more teachers. Everyone who has an education knows this, but many are unwilling to pay for it. But, like I said, we need more teachers.

1. Asbestos clean up.

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need more high tech vo-tech facilities for career paths other than college prep.

Reducing student/teacher ratios for a higher education. but, that's not a facilities answer, is it. Addtional priorites include:-Revised high school graduation requirements (Taking into account IB and sports programs) namely increasing flexibility rank 5-Revised credit policy (PE credit for extra-curricular sports) rank 4-Provide more notice for school board meetings, addtionally, explain in further depth the importance of community involvement. rank 3

Expanding facilities in order to provide a larger range of subjects for students to study.

new pc and ipad's in the classroom. Technology in the elementary schools is lacking.

More online access for all students to do their work, at the schools. They seem to have to share a lot in the classrooms (2 computers for 29 students, as an example).

I think a lot can be done for students with special needs. We are functioning on an old model of students with more significant needs attending a more restrictive educational placement when with proper supports they could be served in their neighborhood schools. This could be done by distributing special education staff more evenly to allow support in the neighborhood school. Cost neutral and less restrictive. I would put this at priority 4 or 5.

teaching curriculum/ teachers/ kids being important

21st Century Education

I would like to see the food system decentralized. Each school should have a functioning kitchen and in house staff. On site production would enable the schools to serve a higher quality, fresher product. There are endless possibilities of integrating food, nutrition, and life skills into other curriculum especially science.. math etc.. And the kitchen's could be used to host other nutrition programs as well. I was shocked to see the dollar amount attached to the deferred maintanance in all the buildings in the district. Unless I see a plan for addressing maintanance of anything new or upgraded in the proposal, I will NOT vote for a bond or reserve. If I were a potential granting party, I would NOT grant any money toward anything new without a better maintenance plan. Not making any of these project eye boggling, keep it simple and humbling but comfortable for our children and teachers

no

The Russell school annex buildings are not adequate learning environments! It is NOT okay that children and teachers work in such conditions!

Updating older buildings first-equity

Consolidate the 3 high schools into 2 to more equitably match the size of other AA schools in MT. Consolidate smaller programs scattered throughout the district into a central location and dump several of the endless repair money-pit buildings that the district currently owns. Focus on converting Sentinel and Big Sky to 21st century schools.

classes with fewer students

smaller class sizes

Testing facilities. The amount of testing for which students require extended time on computers is not addressed. These labs are for teachers and students and classes and mandatory online testing should be met with facilities to support those efforts.

upgrades to existing buildings

5: improving the curriculum as many school do not meet state standards year after year

Non gender specific restrooms

First School schedules. A new approach to facilities will result in a new looking "old" facility which will be useful only in the "old" way. Let's take the time to look to modernizing our schedule to include working students, digital learning, academies, career paths. This would give us better guidance for change in facilities.

Renovate the Margaret Johnson Theater at Sentinel High School. I would rate this a 2.

Lowell and Franklin need the money spent on their schools

Energy conservation projects, deferred maintenance, and facility renovation and design seem to be subsets of the same category, especially if we are meeting the 21st century initiative goal of designing green and sustainable buildings.Given the high monthly utility bills of our facilities and the rising cost of energy, high energy efficiency buildings should be very high on the priority list. This is not only economically wise, but sustainable design can become part of the curriculum at each building also.

no

Big Sky High School deserves some windows and an auditorium.

1. Additional teachers (i.e., lower the student:teacher ratio).

This process is flawed! For example the above question asks to rank...but only has 5 numbers. ALL are important...difficult to say one is more important than others. 21st century schools...MCPS isn't even close!

Gym Facilities including fitness rooms and locker rooms.

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Keeping existing historical architecture.

The district might want to take better care of infrastructure it already owns: desks that fit student bodies, painting rooms, repairing damaged walls, keeping playgrounds more clean.

The annexes at some of the schools are a safety issue and they are not conducive for whole classrooms to learn! What happens when a school is locked in(or down) and the students cannot access lunch and other opportunities? Also the last 2 questions are not fair to answer because they group all schools together, which does not give an accurate assessment!

Will the money asked for in the Bond be used for the projects listed in the bond. As in the past most of the bond money was used of other projects and the projects the bond money was requested for were not addressed.

Rank: 5. I would like to see a different approach to how the money for school budgets are handled and divided. I know certain funds cannot be barrowed from other areas where money is allocated, but I find it ridiculous that our Superintendent, Alex Apostle, gets paid what he does out of a fund allocated for salaries, while our buildings are falling apart. FYI: It is the work of our awesome teachers that make our schools great. I find this system of money allocations out of date with the times. Find a better way of allocating money and budgeting, stop shutting down schools, then buying modular buildings to house overflowing classrooms. Now, you need money to support building expansions and renovations when there was a time we had school buildings to do so. Seriously!?!

The basics need to come first before any other improvements. It's tough to have a positive learning environment when students are shivering or sweating.

Handicapped accessibility - 5

consider teacher hiring focus as retirements occur, and attract qualified people who connect well with young adults

reconsidering where we send Lowell students for middle school. Somewhere closer in proximity would be nice, and not concentrating all of the low income schools into one middle school.

Closing the district lines 5

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more classrooms needed but better to reduce the student/teacher ratio

Making the buildings up to code on ADA regulations, adding a sensory room for ER classrooms, and adding a pre-K. These are all equally important to me.

complete reconstruction

need to replace worn out equipment and funding to continue preventitve maintenance.

We live in an age of technology, everywhere but the school system. Daily exposure to the tech world should not just be happening in a haphazard way thru parents i devises. If the current children in missoula elementary schools are to compete in their futures in our global environment then they need to be exposed to more technology than antiquated computer labs. Budgets and resources should be allocated for more than just enhancing the current technological infrastructure.

support for radical renovation. Classroom architecture that supports schools-within-schools, flipped curriculum, project-based and individualized learning, mixed-age groupings. Reopen smaller neighborhood schools (Mt Jumbo and the current Head Start bldg. being priorities. Overhaul of outdoors spaces for more creative play and natural spaces rather than large grassfields.

I would like to see security officers at all mcps!!!

Staffing maintenance crews within the schools so that the personnel is present to address issues as they arise; change the way business is done...give some maintenance control back to the individual schools rather than running things through the district (use the skills of those you have hired on site); hold principals accountable for the condition of their building along with the condition of their students and staff.

I participated in the 21st Century Planning Group as a public member and attended five meetings. I can't answer these questions briefly or numerically. For example, what does it cost to update technology? Is that far less than updating the boilers? (Seems like it would be less but you have to know what you're rolling into that pkg.) Of course you'd like to defer maintenance if possible, but IF there are schools where that simply can't be put off any longer, then it's certainly prudent to consider energy savings in that situation. But is energy more important than safety in general? Not in my opinion. Comments No. 7 above: Also received a great deal of information from the newspaper about the process. 14 below: Officers definitely help, and I've attended presentations at both Sentinel and HHS were the officers addressed parents. BUT both CSP (small, dark) and Hellgate (offices/admin far away) have very poor entry areas in regards to safety.Question 15: Grading CSP and HHS, which I have more info about, they are old and need updating (CSP, new safer entry), but from listening to the meetings, Meadow Hill had actual immediate structural problems. On 13 below, you can't get access (technology) in the gym at CSP, and in talking to the health/PE teacher, that's an issue, but I don't know how to rate that compared to other schools.

I think that the music department and Library should be in this consideration.

Within the category of facility renovation, I would like to see designated art rooms in each school, as well as designated FT art teachers. It is impractical for students to be doing art projects at their school desks, it is a waste of money, time and resources for art teachers to travel to classrooms carrying disposable supplies with them and it is unfathomable that a community so rich in the arts and creativity

as Missoula does not support art in the public school system for all children.

The current building Missoula International School occupies, old Prescott School building, needs renovations ASAP. The boiler issue in that building is a serious problem!!

Building a new school for Lowell, and Franklin.

Giving kids an education.

Teachers that do not embrace technology in the classroom and are unwilling to move forward with this technology need to reconsider their place in a 21st century classroom. I feel many of these go hand in hand, such as facility renovation and meeting expanding enrollment. Safety/security, facility renovation and technology infrastructure certainly can and should be done together for a more efficient use of funds.

Cut down on waste

Maintain or build neighborhood schools and reverse the trend toward attendance centers with heavy busing.Performing arts facilities.Retain and renovate historic buildings.

No

Accessability

We are taxed at very ridiculous rates in Target Range! Please make due with what you have as it certainly is very nice and functional! Raising taxes and excessive bonds are a joke and if you do not have the funding look to cut back as we all must do!

none that I can think of

I would like to see Rattlesnake become a K-8 school.

k-8 schools

consolidating services.

consolidating services.

make classrooms more condusive to learning/inviting. hands on environment/color.

If this is the only place to add comments, as a parent of an MCPS student, I would just like to say this is the worst written survey I have ever read. The questions, mostly closed (yes/no), do not correspond with the provided responses. In addition, the responses do not give enough answers. For example, when did I find out about the plan? When I read the survey. Am I aware of where to offer input? No.

How did I find out about this process? This email. Have I viewed any support documents? No. And is it "grand" funding, or "grant" funding? Oh, and I would reword 14 and 15. How much are we paying the person who wrote this survey?

Integrated schools that blend together kids of different backgrounds and abilities, instead of current plan to ensure high needs students remain in the same building and tracked together (example: children from North side being tracked into the 3 highest reduced lunch schools between Lowell, Porter, and Big Sky, especially as Big Sky is the furthest High School from there home) While others move between Paxson, Washington, and Hellgate or alternatively Cold Springs, Meadow Hill, and Sentinel.

stop wasting money on sports programs, grooming feilds, Bus travel, school is to LEARN, class room time management is horrible, teachers come to school each day and certainly on test days sub's giving test and not having a clue to answer a question, sub's that understand the class when teachers our ill most sub's that show up dont have a clue about the class

A swimming pool for the kids

Although it isn't listed, I think teacher support and salaries come before everything except safety modifications and preparing for 900 new students. Also, I had no way to respond to #15 because I couldn't decide if I should use #13's scale (higher being excellent) or #14's scale (higher being poor). Please fix this survey to get accurate information by making 13 and 14 consistent and announcing the scale for #15. Thanks. Appreciate all the work that's being done.

Even though my son will soon graduate. I am fully in support of all kids having the best education possible now and in the future.

mitigation of mold and removal of hazardous materials in walls and ceilings of the schools not slated for renovation or demolition

Clearly laid out educational goals

na

Improving Hellgate High School soccer fields to allow for Lacrosse team practice

ADA Access to substantially all parts of all the buildings 5

Take a long view of facilities need. What will school facilities need to accomplish and how will students learn.

Physical and electronic information technology accessibility. This survey is not completely accessible to blind and low vision individuals.

For successful "21st century education" along with facilities, **TeacherTraining (5+), especially in the areas of *1. technology (for example, you could have the best tech set up ever and then a teacher teaching " keyboarding") and also across the board consistent training in the area of how to be *flexible with a students individual plan and empower them to be flexible (for example, avoid having one math teacher moving some kids ahead while another teacher at the same school explains that kids can't move ahead because they will run out of classes to take in high school).

being realistic about what money we have and bringing current problems up to date before adding new construction

Paxson Elementary is clearly needing more classroom space! Over crowding will create problems for our kids. The playground is terribly small too! Some schools have nicer buildings and others are in need of many repairs.

Yes making it a priority to quit spending money on administrators.

Supporting initiatives and creative educational endeavors by 21st century educators.

Financial responsibility? Money does not grow on trees and this district needs to get its spending back in control. Too much money is being wasted on pet projects and dreams of grandeur.

Close campus during lunch times and expand in-house cafeteria areas in high schools.

Spaces for therapists and small group work in each school.

reopen closed schools i.e. Mount Jumbo

Schools need to be updated.Performance facilities need to be renovated at all the High Schools especially Big Sky and Sentinel.Classroom space needs to be addressed so that teacher student ratio can be address and new inovative programs can be added to the current course offerings. More teachers need to be hired as well.

As a parent, I would like the school's notification system to be improved. It should have the capability of contacting parents via multiple phone numbers and email addresses, not just one primary number. I found the responsiveness to the BSHS bomb threat to be unsatisfactory. It seems to me that improvements are needed not only in the notification system, but also the public school's responsiveness and expertise in dealing with this threat and notifying parents. The University's and Hellgate's system is much better, as it has been tested through certain events. I'd like to see the public schools consult with UM to improve its emergency responsiveness plan.

communication with the people involved

What about using some of the buildings that are leased out to other organizations? Mount Jumbo, Prescott, etc.

Cooling for the Technology infrastructure is a big need rank of 4.

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Bleachers for Big Sky(350k), Lockers for BSHS, Cafeteria folding walls (18k), roof covering for storage area off of boiler room, Key card system.

Dumping tenured teachers that are worthless and abolishing the teachers union

Increased alternative activities for all students to choose from after school, even if not "athletic". Speech and debate has been very beneficial for bonnie and next will be traffic education, but what about opportunities that are not alway available for families that are unable to be home by 330 and pay costs of extracurricular music, dance, exercise programs. I find a lot of children "milling" about the halls with no urgency to head home and appearing to love being at the school around their peers in a safe environment. What about coming up with surveys of "adult education-type" offerings for those falling through the cracks without lots to do immediately after school, i.e.: spanish immersion, some type of spinning or aerobic step class, jazz dance, hip-hop, beginning piano, keyboarding, typing, web design, community outreach, creative writing, life skills.... The possibilities are endless. Once the choices are determined the process of finding volunteers or inexpensive donators of time may be easy to advertise for. Just thinking.....

research and examine common core.

I just need to say that this ranking system below is difficult because the schools vary SO much. The condition of Lowell elementary for example compared with Paxon....

Outdoor Green Space/ Garden and Playground

Improved performance facilities.

I have two daughters in school, one at Hellgate High and the other at Washington Middle School. Both places need wifi and improved technology access and hardware, as I'm not sure you have already heard.

In addition, Hellgate is such a great school but its infrastructure is just so poor. The Gerald Street entrance is in major need of improvement – it is so uninviting. And the unused space in that front ticket building or whatever it is, really should be redone and put so some other use. The concession stand needs overhauled and many of the offices are cobbled together. But even more disturbing, is my daughter has told me there are doors up on the 4th floor around the foreign language that lead out onto the roof tops, or some lead out into thin air!! Nothing out there! I'm sure they are not supposed to be opening those doors, but there is a serious safety hazard. She has also told me most class rooms have hallways near the doors or little separate rooms, near class doors that are not being used or being used as a haphazard storage areas. This also doesn't sound safe. I love old buildings and don't want to see it compromised, but it seems a relook at the space there could benefit everyone and be safer. Whatever changes are undertaken, I hope it keeps within the great character that the old building provides and doesn't do away with the historic nature of it. It's a Missoula landmark!

For expanding there, you could fill in the walkway on the 3^{rd} floor with class rooms on each side as well as on the 2^{nd} floor (on the south side). It would be handy for students to get to classes that way, also, rather than have to go down a flight of stairs and over. Many options for improvement.

Washington Middle School has much less character or qualities that could be compromised. Just a little uplifting.

Also, just sell Prescott School to Missoula International School. It is too small for a public school, and their use is a good use to continue the school tradition there. It made no sense to keep grades 4 and 5 there and the rest at Mt. Jumbo – just no sense to have 2 principals, staff, etc. Sell it and Mt. Jumbo, if no growth is anticipated in East Missoula.

I think more parking could be provided at Hellgate, also. Maybe that means buying up local property, I don't know. But something really needs to be provided. The traffic and safety situation out in front on Gerald is really not good. Someone is going to get hurt. Maybe buy property to the north, if possible? The grass along the area of the lower gym is useless. Might be better to put in a tree and some bark or rock work. Anything to spruce that area would help! Or maybe put more angle parking there with trees in between? Something is needed.