This entire annual performance report serves as an accountability summary to you, our patrons, taxpayers and community members. It is intended to give our community a brief glimpse at our schools and departments as well as show our student achievement data through a variety of measures.

Accountability for school districts has become, in recent years, a much higher priority at the local, state and national level. Kalispell Public Schools support and embrace these efforts.

With local community support provided through recent levy and bond passage, as well as tax dollars at the state level going to support schools, it is important that we report to you our work, challenges, and accomplishments for the past school year.

As a school district we are committed to providing a quality education for all students and ensuring the highest possible level of support to our schools and teachers.

Our work cannot be accomplished without the ongoing support of you, our community. As our motto states, “Our Kids. Our Future.” It truly is a partnership in creating the future generations that will lead our communities, state, and nation.

This school year we welcomed over 6,000 students and approximately 750 staff. We have eleven school facilities where students are instructed each day along with our district office, transportation office, and facility/maintenance shop.

Our student enrollment has seen steady growth the past several years and we are grateful for the addition of Rankin Elementary opening this school year. With nearly 60 new elementary students this year its opening was needed. Besides this new school, located on Airport Road south of town, our existing five elementary schools are being renovated along with significant work completed at Flathead High School, our Agricultural Center, and Linderman Education Center. We are extremely grateful for the tremendous support of our community in making this possible.

For complete bond construction updates, please go to our website at www.sd5.k12.mt.us for all the details and photos.

Please feel free to contact me or another administrator regarding any portion of this report. We are also happy to provide more information and detail to anyone or answer further questions for any community group who desires a presentation on any aspect of our school district.

THANK YOU again!
Callie Langohr  
Assistant Superintendent  
(406) 751-3441  
langohrc@sd5.k12.mt.us

Our KPS academic community continues to set lofty program expectations for all students and has indeed made remarkable strides in key areas. We are excited about the new school year and look forward to pursuing relevant curriculum, practicing high-leverage instructional strategies and developing informative assessments that accurately measure student progress. Our commitment to become one of the best school systems for students and families is a top priority. Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have questions.
ASSESSMENT: NORM-REFERENCED ACT WITH WRITING
Subjects: English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing
Grade Levels: 11  Time of Year: April

Scoring: 0-36  (composite score to enter Montana University System is 22, current national average is 21)

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<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Flathead</th>
<th>Glacier</th>
<th>Montana</th>
<th>United States</th>
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FLATHEAD HIGH SCHOOL

2017-18 was a year of change and transition for Flathead High School, where we began the year embracing our “Old School and Proud” heritage before the commencement of our $19 million bond renovation project midyear. Tradition and pride run deep in our school, where over a hundred years of graduates have graced our halls. Many of our current students have parents, grandparents, and even great grandparents who are FHS alumni.

Over the years, our school developed a foundation of excellence. Always near the top of academic achievement in the state of Montana, Flathead High School develops leadership and builds academic competency that carries graduates into a wide range of career and college pathways.

The International Baccalaureate program is at the heart of Flathead High School. We know that “the single most important factor in determining college success is the academic challenge of the courses students take in high school” (National Center for Educational Statistics, 2002). Our students perform well above the international pass rate of 79% for IB exams. The rigor and quality of International Baccalaureate stands alone among advanced high school coursework and programs.

At Flathead we are never content to rest on our laurels. New for Flathead High School’s International Baccalaureate journey is our acceptance in the Excellence and Equity Initiative. We are excited about the richness of professional development that comes with our participation in the Excellence and Equity Initiative, and we also have greater opportunity to analyze our past IB exams and data. Our goal is to help more students experience the excellence that comes with an IB education.

Our forward thinking around academic excellence extends beyond IB, however, and branches out into the Biomedical science area. The Flathead Valley offers many career opportunities in the medical field, and as a comprehensive high school we are obligated to help students explore and understand these career areas.

Our Project Lead the Way courses complement traditional science courses and provide a rich foundation for postsecondary education in biological sciences, medicine, and related careers.

2017-18 included putting the final touches on the design and vision for our new gym and classroom spaces as part of the $19 million dollar bond project.

Although many teachers are now sharing classrooms and will continue to do so until our project is complete in August of 2019, the thoughtful touches on our new facility will allow Flathead High School to evolve for decades into the future. We are excited for the next generations of Flathead graduates.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
• Three National Merit Finalists
• Two thirds of juniors and seniors take one or more International Baccalaureate course
• 25 Full International Baccalaureate Diploma candidates
• 91% pass rate on IB exams
• 29 Merit Distinction graduates

ACTIVITIES HONORS:
• State championship in wrestling, with 3 individual state champions & 15 state placers
• Nationally ranked wrestling program, 37th in the nation
• Third place speech and debate team, with the highest ranking Montana competitor at Nationals
• Third place boys swimming, with a state record breaker in the 50 Meter Free Style
• Second place boys track, with two individual state champions
• Poetry Out Loud state champion

STAFF HONORS:
• Montana Assistant Coach of the Year in wrestling
• National Assistant Coach of the Year, Boys Track

ADMINISTRATION
Principal: Michele Paine
Assistant Principals: Mike Lincoln, Bryce Wilson and Mark Fischer
GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2018
- 293 Students graduated
- 114 Seniors took AP Courses
- 73 Seniors sat for 167 AP Exams
- 15 Seniors earned MUS Scholarships
- 3 Seniors are National Merit Finalists
- 2 Seniors with Presidential Scholarships
- 18 Seniors graduated w/ perfect 4.0 GPA
- 30 Seniors earned AP Merit Distinction
- 80 Seniors awarded $1,479,126 in Scholarships

ADMINISTRATION
Principal:
Micah Hill
Assistant Principals:
Lance Labrum, Mark Dennehy and Andy Fors

WOLFPACK VISION
One of the top high schools in the nation.

WOLFPACK GOAL
Every student earns a high school diploma in four years or less.

ENROLLMENT
1,231 Students grades 9-12.

2017-2018 GLACIER GRIT
- 20+ Seniors qualify for Wall of Fame
- 11 Productions by Wolfpack Theatre Company
- 1,859 Volunteer hours by National Honor Society
- 4 Speech & Debate State Champions
- 10 Track & Field State Champions
- 1 Individual Swimming State Champion
- 11 Speech & Debate National Qualifiers
- 29 First Team All-State Accolades

2017-2018 ACTIVITY HONORS
- 1st Place Boys Track
- 2nd Place Speech & Debate
- 2nd Place Boys Cross Country
- 2nd Place Boys Soccer
- 2018 National Coach of the Year: Grady Bennett
- 2018 National DECA Champion: Harrison Rennie
- 2018 Gatorade Montana Girls Soccer Player of the Year: Cadie Williams
LINDERMAN EDUCATION CENTER

Built in 1939
Last year, Linderman graduated 103 students. Many of these students would not have received a high school diploma without Linderman’s flexible scheduling and different program options.

Youth who graduate with a high school diploma receive an average of $10,000 per year more in wages than those without a degree. They have a lower unemployment rate—the unemployment rate for young adults without a diploma is 8%, for those with a diploma, the unemployment rate is 5.4%. In these important ways, Linderman serves our youth and our community.

Principal:
Jodie Barber

2017-18 Motto:
“You’re braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.” – A. A. Milne

Linderman Education Center is an educational opportunity for students who are seeking an educational experience in a setting that differs from the structure of a tradition high school. Our primary objective is to provide students a safe and caring environment that encourages academic achievement, personal growth, and a sense of civic responsibility. At the Linderman Education Center, students pursue a high school diploma in a truly alternative setting.

“We meet students where they are at and bring them forward. Help students find new passions or improve their life circumstances. Each year we continue to have at least one person who is the first in their family to graduate high school,” Barber observed.

Principal Jodie Barber is aware of the misperceptions and misconceptions about her school. She likes to call Linderman an innovative school rather than an alternative school. A school that changes lives and brings opportunity. There are 3 programs housed in the Linderman Education Center. The ASPIRE Program, the Academic Transition Center (ATC), and the LEC.

ASPIRE
Achievement – Self-Awareness
Pride – Integrity
Regulation – Empathy

The ASPIRE Program supports students whose Individual Education Plans (IEPs) outline the need for a small, self-contained classroom setting. The focus in ASPIRE is to provide a safe, small group learning environment, where students can learn and practice social, emotional, and behavioral strategies and increase their coping and regulation skills. We believe that when students’ emotional needs are met, they can access their education, learn, and thrive academically. Ultimately, the goal for each student in ASPIRE is to gain the skills and strategies necessary to successfully reintegrate back into their least restrictive environment.

ATC
The Academic Transition Center is a self-contained program developed to serve high school students who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out and struggling to be successful in their current high school. Referrals to the ATC come from the student’s high school counselor and administrator who look at the student’s attendance, academic standing, and behavior. All work is completed independently with assistant from the classroom teacher, while the transition counselor works on all social/emotional/behavioral issues. The goal of the program is to help students connect back to school and make positive choices towards their educational goals. The ATC served 73 students in the 17-18 school year (17 of those students had previously dropped from school), attendance increased and 77 credits were earned!

LEC
The LEC is the alternative high school program open to any student who is seeking a student centered approach for academic, social, or emotional reasons. The LEC has 160 students enrolled with a waiting list. The program is not for all students and is considered a privilege to attend. The LEC has rolling admissions, as space is available. Upon a student's registration, an education plan is created with the student, parent and principal. This plan takes into consideration the student’s academic ability, credit requirements, personal and career goals. Progress toward each educational plan proceeds individually and independently. Performance is assessed weekly, and course credit is granted upon satisfactory completion of all course objectives. Every month we take the time to celebrate student accomplishments.

Often, Linderman Education Center is a safe haven for young people at a crossroads in their lives. It’s a tight-knit community of students and staff who work closely together—through struggles academically and otherwise.

Every year, despite the challenges and tough schedules that many students face, they are able to find connection with the program and staff at Linderman Education Center and graduate. Last year 103 students graduated, and that means 103 success stories, each remarkable in their own way. Some students need an educational environment that accommodates a full-time job, a family, or homelessness, LEC meets the students where they are at socially, emotionally, and academically.

“If people looked closely they would see we have some pretty incredible kids and a great sense of community. It’s important that our students feel at home.”
The Agricultural Education Center is home to the Agricultural Education Department which is the only high school department with its own off-campus facility. Here, a complete working farm provides the basis for student learning in agriculture, an industry which encompasses more than 300 different career titles. Nationally, agriculture continues to face a shortage of qualified candidates for the professional jobs which require post-secondary credentials.

340 students were enrolled during the 2017-18 school year; 49% male/51% female AND 40% GHS/60% FHS.

There are 13 different people either full or part time, plus several bus drivers who make up the staff at the Ag Center.

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is Ag Education’s version of experiential learning. SAE takes place beyond the school day and allows students to learn entrepreneurship, financial management, productive work habits, and the application of skills to the real world. Kalispell students earned more than $313,000 and documented more than 23,000 hours of work experience in 2017.

Montana is an “Affiliated State” which means that all Ag students are members of the FFA which allows further opportunities for leadership, personal, and career development.

We are looking forward to another great year of serving students from Flathead and Glacier High School as well as the improvements that are coming with phase 1 of building construction. Follow the Ag Education program in Facebook by liking “Kalispell FFA Chapter.”

FFA members at John Deere Ag Expo - Bozeman, Nov., 2017.

Parliamentary Procedure State Champions!!

Veterinary Science State Champions!!

Horse Judging State Champions !!

The annual bedding plant sale is a big hit with the community and we are thankful for the tremendous support. We look forward to showcasing our new and expanded greenhouse for the 2019 sale!

FFA members at John Deere Ag Expo - Bozeman, Nov., 2017.

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Horse Judging State Champions !!

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KALISPELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal:
Tryg Johnson
Assistant Principals:
Jeff Hornby, Dallas Stuker

KalisPELL Middle School is a three-year middle school offering a comprehensive program for students Grades 6, 7, 8. At KMS, we strive to develop contributing members of America’s diverse society. We stimulate intellectual curiosity within a school environment where students feel a sense of safety, community and ownership. We promote pride in individual achievement and help students meet their potential by instilling the value of accomplishment based on positive behavior, work and effort.

KMS has approximately 1050 students. Each grade level is divided into three teams to create smaller, more relational learning communities. Each team provides teaching in the core subject areas of English / Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Health Enhancement and Science.

Students have the opportunity to choose from a broad spectrum of Encore offerings. Our Encore (electives) selection is one of the best in the state and students are encouraged to explore as many categories as possible during their middle school experience.

- Performance music: Orchestra, Choir, Band
- Art: Exploring Sculpture, Dare to Draw, STEAM, Modern Art
- Family and Consumer Science: Hospitality, Sew Fun, Culinary Arts, Sew Colorful
- Technology Education: Woodworking, Creative Construction, Automation and Robotics (STEM), Design and Modeling (STEM)
- Foreign Languages / Social Science: Spanish and Expanding Spanish, French and Expanding French, Modern History Homer, Cleopatra and the Caesars, Swords, Castles and Shields, World Geography, Montana Legacy, Medical Detectives (STEM)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:
Congratulations to our students and staff on last spring’s (2018) SBAC and CRT Science assessments! For the third year in a row, KMS is one of the top AA middle schools in the state with our test scores.

Our outstanding scores encourage us to constantly strive for even higher levels of achievement with our students. Our dedication to academic excellence and increased rigor provide for achievement growth in all subjects. We constantly look to improve student learning and achievement and are working hard to identify areas of individual academic student needs. Teachers assess student learning utilizing classroom based assessments, formative assessments as well as state assessments. These data points allow teachers to focus on interventions and strategies that guide their everyday instruction.

KalisPELL Middle School strives for excellence in both academics and positive school culture. Through our multiple programs students learn clear expectations for success within our school, and to respect each other’s learning, safety, and well-being. We have a very student-orientated and dedicated staff. Their pride in helping our students learn and thrive shows every day!

We are impressed with the seriousness our students show developing their academic skills. They set a clear focus on learning. Our staff looks forward to continuing our quest for excellence throughout the 2018-2019 school year and beyond. We sincerely appreciate your commitment to our schools and on-going support.

A LOOK BACK AT THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR:
Once again, students showed a strong desire to service over this past year:
- The KMS food drive assisted families in our community with supplies during the Christmas break
- Color wars generated funds for our special needs students attending Special Olympics

MISSION STATEMENT
Create a joyful, safe, and challenging learning environment that prepares students for transition from pre-adolescence to adulthood.

We are all committed to making Kalispell Middle School:
- a safe and supportive learning environment in which we set and achieve high standards,
- a place where learning is dynamic & engaging & students are well prepared to lead successful lives.

SBAC TESTING RESULTS 2017-18
KMS GRADE 6
Math - 53% Advanced & Proficient
English Language Arts (ELA) 77% Advanced & Proficient

KMS GRADE 7
Math - 59% Advanced & Proficient
English Language Arts (ELA) 79% Advanced & Proficient

KMS GRADE 8
Math - 51% Advanced & Proficient
English Language Arts (ELA) 72% Advanced & Proficient

KMS OVERALL
KMS Math 55%
KMS ELA 76%

SCIENCE CRT
Year 8th Grade State MT
2017 77% 66%
2018 79% 67%
% - Advanced and Proficient *Only 8th Grade is assessed
Principal:
Jen Stein

What an adventure 2017-2018 has been! We have welcomed 620 students into our school this year, Pre-School through 5th graders. The 70+ Edgerton staff members have been dedicated to the learning and well being of our students.

Our guidelines at Edgerton: To be Respectful, to be Responsible, and to be Safe. We have focused a lot on being safe at Edgerton this last year. Not only do we want students to be safe from harm, but to feel safe when they are at school; physically, socially, and emotionally.

We pride ourselves on being a school where everyone belongs and where we accept each other for who we are. We have an incredible group of people who make up the Edgerton Community and our common goal is to create an environment for students and families to thrive.

Thank you to all the dedicated teachers, families and community members that make Edgerton a great place to be!

17-18 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
- Leadership Club for 5th grade
- Musical Performances at Canvas Church
- Assemblies
- Math Club
- Science Fair
- Girls on the Run
- Glacier High School Life Skills students have recycled for Edgerton
- We have community sponsors, with banners hanging in the gym
- We said farewell to our School Resource Officer, Officer Fetveit

Mrs. Murray served 11 years as an administrator at Edgerton and will be the principal at Rankin Elementary School.

OUR GOALS FOR THE 18-19 YEAR INCLUDE:
- Math intervention supports
- Welcoming Officer Fusaro as our new School Resource Officer
- Going one to one chromebook devices in grades 3-5
- Increasing Technology in K-2 with iPads and chromebooks
- Opening a new Creation Station with STEAM activities
- Construction for our new secure entrance, office and commons area
- We will welcome 10 new staff members!
Elrod Elementary School provides high quality education to students with shared values that guide our beliefs about teaching and learning. Our focus is to help children learn and grow academically and socially.

We begin our school day with each grade level conducting a “Responsive Classroom Morning Meeting.” We meet in a full circle at the beginning of our day to address these four components: Welcome greeting, sharing about themselves and their lives, group activity, and reading a morning message written by the teacher to inform them about their day.

Relationships are at the core of so much of our school, we strive to earn the trust of our students and community because we want every student to feel cared for and loved. We want students to realize their full potential so we differentiate instruction on an ongoing basis.

Staff meets weekly to review academic and behavioral data during Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to insure instruction is making a difference. This data is our benchmark for developing our SMART Goals for the grade level and building.

Elrod has traditional family and community events such as:

- Donuts with Dads
- Veteran’s Day Assembly
- Christmas Crafts
- Kindergarten Mitten Project
- Muffins with Moms

We foster unity with our families into our learning environment. Elrod Character Traits (Responsibility, Gratefulness, Flexibility, Determination, Honesty, Respect, Enthusiasm, and Self Control) are taught monthly with an assembly to recognize students Being Responsible, Being Respectful and Being Safe. These traits grow us to be contributing citizens in our school and community.

MISSION STATEMENT:
Elrod School is committed to providing a safe and productive learning environment in which all students will succeed academically and socially. We believe this can best be accomplished in a partnership with our parents and community.

ABOUT ELROD:
High expectations are the heart of our commitment to academic excellence. We realize that every moment we have with kids is a teachable moment, and that goes beyond reading, writing and math.

We strive to be life-long learners and believe in the growth mindset to achieve that. It is important to model respect and foster a caring school culture where students feel valued and appreciated.

We teach all students to Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe.
Principal:  
Brent Benkelman

Cornelius Hedges Elementary is a wonderful school and historical building full of many great traditions. Being a collaborative team is the foundation at Hedges School. Hedges was built in 1929 right in the heart of the community on the east side of Kalispell and is a true neighborhood school. Through positive relationship building with students and parents, we have developed a strong school culture. Our goal is to partner with families and the community and always work toward positive solutions.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT:
Hedges is a great school that receives lots of support and involvement from families, community members and high school volunteers. We will partner with families to create the best experience we can for all 325 students this year. Hedges has an amazing PTO that meets monthly to plan school activities and brainstorm ways to improve the school while also supporting the staff and students.

Through fundraising, they were able to help with the purchase of new musical instruments, gym equipment, student scholarships and much more. Here is a list of a few family activities our PTO helped with last year at Hedges school:

- Fall Festival  
- Family Math Night  
- Ice Skating Party at Woodland  
- Family Art Night  
- Ice Cream Social  

Hedges is excited for another year with the SOARS grant and our student family advocate. They work with our guidance counselor, school psychologist and staff to provide support in our classrooms and PIC Room (Positive Intervention Center). This room gives students a place to practice and learn various skills like friendship building, recess play and many other social skills while ultimately learning to regulate themselves. Here is a list of a few programs we use with students:

- Zones of Regulation  
- Why Try  
- Coping Cats  
- Caring Keeping of You  
- Mind Up  

LEARNING & LEADERSHIP:
Hedges staff and teachers work hard to provide a safe and fun learning environment for students. Our teachers are dedicated to our students and community. We meet weekly in PLC’s as grade levels to discuss academic data and our curriculum to plan the most meaningful and engaging lessons for all kids.

The Student Leadership Team at our school is remarkable. With the help of different teacher leaders, our students spend extra time working to improve the school and community. This year we had multiple leadership opportunities and they rotated responsibilities throughout the year. Here are a few items our leadership teams took on this year:

- Fundraisers  
- School Improvement  
- Weekly News Videos  
- Character Trait Assemblies  
- Morning Announcements & Pledge  

There are also extra learning opportunities after school with the “Afternoon Scholars.” Hedges works with Flathead High School to acquire some of their National Honor Society students to help tutor kids after school. For one hour a day and four days a week, there are students working after school to complete homework or receive extra help with reading and math. Last year many students benefited from the extra help and “Afternoon Scholars” program.

TECHNOLOGY:
Our school is also committed to creating lifelong learners and technology now plays an important role in that. One goal Hedges has worked toward is becoming a 1-to-1 school. With each student having their own device (1-to-1), the opportunities are endless. Last year, we were 1-to-1 in our 1st-5th grades and K had 2 students per device. We also have amazing opportunities with robotics, virtual reality, STEAM lab, and Makerspace.

There are many great opportunities for kids and parents at Hedges Elementary School. Whether you want to volunteer in a classroom, become a reading buddy, lunch buddy, or help with the PTO and community events, there are various opportunities to stay involved with our school.

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/CorneliusHedgesElementary
PETERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Tracy Ketchum

Peterson Elementary strives to meet the unique needs of each learner that attends our school. This means delivering quality instruction in academics while providing for the varied social, emotional and behavioral needs of our students. Our staff is committed to creating an environment in which every student is valued and provided with multiple opportunities to succeed. Our desire is to help our students become responsible, compassionate, active members of their school and community; to form connections and build relationships that extend beyond the school; and experience the value and impact of giving to others.

This year, our students engaged in several projects and activities that exemplify these values. A few highlights include; fourth grade wrote letters to our local ‘heroes’: firefighters, police officers, doctors, nurses, paramedics etc. thanking them for their service, as well as, letters of encouragement to a five year old victim of a Texas shooting who was confined to bed through Christmas. They also raised money for a local missionary to take to Africa, earning enough to purchase a new wheelchair for a little boy to get to school. Fifth grade served their community by donating money to the Humane Society, Angel Tree, the Samaritan House and collecting food for the food bank. Unfortunately, space prohibits listing all service activities across the grades levels. however, we believe this exemplifies the character and culture of Peterson and we are proud of our students’ efforts to make a difference in the world.

Next year will bring new changes to the building through remodeling and construction of the school. The addition of Rankin Elementary and the subsequent rezoning resulted in a large percentage of Peterson students transferring to a new school and a new population of students transferring in. We are looking forward to meeting our new students and families and working together! Our parent group POPS (Parents of Peterson Students) will be actively involved within the school, working side by side to support and enhance opportunities for our students. We encourage our families to be involved and will be offering a variety of ways for participating and volunteering. Peterson is excited for the 2018 - 2019 school year and the opportunity to help each student reach their full potential and develop a life-long love of learning.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

• Kindergarten Home Visits
• Winter Celebration with cocoa, sledding and sing along
• STEM Day
• Science Olympiad
• 5th Grade Wax Museum
• SWAT Team (Students Working to Advance Technology)
• Character Ed Assemblies
• 5th Grade PRIDE
• Girls on the Run

Fourth graders in Mrs. Lister’s class earned enough to purchase a wheelchair for a little boy in Africa so he could go to school.

5th Graders collect and purchase 907 lbs of food for the food bank.
Principal: 
Merisa Murray

SCHOOL
Jeannette Rankin is striving to create a school which is safe, caring and a positive community of learners, where everyone respects one another, and students and staff grow each day. We will be using the guiding principles through our universal language to teach all students to be ROARING Students (Respectful, Ongoing Learners, Always Safe, Responsible). We will continue to grow as a school community during the 2018-2019 school year to continue to develop our beliefs and goals together.

INTRODUCTION
Welcome to Jeannette Rankin Elementary School, Kalispell School Districts’ newest elementary school which is serving approximately 400 students! It is our staff’s desire to create an exceptional learning community for your children. In our first year as a new school we ALL will be growing, learning and gaining new experiences. Our teaching staff will strive to develop strong character in all our students while providing a rigorous academic program.

Our staff is working towards a clear sense of our goals and commitment to our school and the educational opportunity we will provide. We are striving for ALL kids to learn and grow. In our first year as a new school we are committed and focused on climate, curriculum, safety, students, personnel, and family and community partnerships.

It is important to me, your principal, that everyone who steps through our doors is excited to be here and be a part of something new! Working together enables us all to meet the challenges and needs in a positive, fun and nurturing environment. Please call our school anytime you have questions or concerns. We wish your child a most happy and successful school year and look forward to this exciting journey with you all.

GOALS
• Provide Safe and Innovative Learning Environments
• Value the Role of Each and EVERY Member of our Learning Community
• Ensure Academic Success for ALL Students
• Engage our Families and Community

CONCLUSION
Please visit and “Like” our Facebook page for updates throughout the school year. Parents can access the school web page through our school district website and choose Rankin in the pulldown menu to access current information. Please feel free to email Principal Merisa Murray for further questions about the opening of Jeannette Rankin. murraym@sd5.k12.mt.us
Principal: Bill Sullivan

With decades of rich history in Kalispell dating back to 1939, Russell Elementary, in cooperation with the Kalispell School District, is proud to provide a relevant and rigorous curriculum in a positive learning environment. Our expectations for academic achievement and positive behavior are high. In cooperation with our parents and community Russell School works hard to meet the needs of every student.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:
Academically we continue to strive to have great performance by both our staff and students. With a strong instructional focus and believing that every student can rise to any challenge and persevere through moments that appear to be difficult, we know ALL students can learn and are capable of contributing to a positive environment so everyone has an opportunity to prosper and be prepared for life beyond Russell School. Our school wide supports that promote these goals include:

- Common curricular materials in Science, Reading and Math district wide.
- Grade level PLC meetings which focus on student data that informs our staff on instructional decisions.
- Common assessments for all grade levels across the district.
- Fall, Winter and Spring benchmarking assessments to monitor growth of all students.

STAR READING MATH
K  Not assessed
1st Grade 80%
2nd Grade 80%
3rd Grade 78%
4th Grade 78%
5th Grade 76%

RUSSELL ELEMENTARY STAR ASSESSMENT PRODUCTION 2017-2018:

STAR READING SPRING
K  Not assessed
1st Grade Not assessed
2nd Grade 80%
3rd Grade 74%
4th Grade 73%
5th Grade 64%

RUSSELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Built in 1939

MISSION STATEMENT:
To provide a nurturing environment where we teach children to become life-long learners and responsible, caring citizens.

ABOUT RUSSELL:
The school is one of only a few Art Moderne style buildings in Kalispell. It opened in the fall 1939 as the Northside School because it was outside of then city limits. In January of 1940, it was named after Charles M. Russell, Montana’s cowboy artist.

A LOOK BACK AT THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR:
District Moto: Our children ~ our future. At Russell School we know the importance of preparing our students for the future of our community, nation and world. We continue to support every student at Russell School focusing on individual needs. From supporting with extra help or supplying enrichment, this staff is committed to assuring the success of each of our students. We are very proud that we continue to grow in the area of creating a positive environment for everyone at Russell School. This past year our efforts in making this school a great place for all has been recognized by the state of Montana as a Platinum award winning MBI school.

In cooperation with our school district and the community of Kalispell, we have also focused on the mental health needs of students in our community. We have made great strides to have a positive impact of the students that need this support. Resources are in place at Russell School to foster this care. We have a great support staff which includes two trained CSCT employees, a guidance counselor, a family support advocate, and school psychologist. In addition to these employees, all staff members have been a part of professional development that helps them be more aware of our needs as a community.

CONCLUSION:
We work hard to be an uplifting and encouraging environment where everyone can learn. The dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism of the staff is a quality we foster and one that we are often praised on. We work hard to help guide our students and build their capacity to become successful patrons in any community.

A LOOK AHEAD TO THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR:
We are eager to welcome many new faces to Russell School as well as those that will continue be a part of the Russell community for the upcoming school year. With the many changes going on in the district, we will continue to push forward for our students to prepare them for their future. Although construction will be going on for most of the upcoming academic year, we look forward to the addition of a new gym and the facelift that will take place on the interior of the building.
BUSINESS & FINANCE REPORT

Gwyn Andersen, Business Manager  
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anderseng@sd5.k12.mt.us

Kalispell Public Schools consists of two entities, an elementary school district and a high school district. The General Fund is the district’s general operating fund. The majority of the revenue and expenditures to provide educational services to our students is recorded in the General Fund. Support for educational services is received from the locally approved Operation and Maintenance Levy proceeds, from State government, and from investment earnings and tuition.

After the 17/18 School Year Budgets were set, reductions were made at the state level that reduced revenues to Kalispell Public Schools in the amount of $160,000. These reductions were made for both years of the biennium. Thus KPS had set budgets that were not fully funded and will not be fully funded in the 18/19 School Year.

This past year the district was successful in the passage of an Elementary General Fund Mill Levy in the amount $1 million dollars. The levy will go into effect for the 18/19 school year.

Each year, as we prepare the budget, we maintain maximum reserve funds as allowed by law. This is important for many reasons but primarily for the operation of the district until the tax revenue is collected in November and again in May. Reserves can also be used for relief in an emergency, such as a failed boiler, in any given year. The district’s fiscal year begins on July 1 of each year and ends on June 30. The annual budget is approved by the Board of Trustees in August. The adopted budget estimates expected revenue and sets the maximum allowable expenditure level for the upcoming school year.

Other funds include Transportation, Bus Depreciation, Food Service, Tuition, Retirement, Federal Programs, Adult Education, Traffic Education, Rental, Technology, Debt Service, Building and Building Reserve, Student Activities and an Endowment Fund that manages Student Scholarships.

We work diligently to manage all funds appropriately and openly. Our yearly audit reports confirm this and are available for review along with any further budget detail. Any and all budget information is available for public review.

The following charts provide a summary of the General Fund revenue and expenditures for the 2017-18 school year.

### GENERAL FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>FY 13/14</th>
<th>FY 14/15</th>
<th>FY 15/16</th>
<th>FY 16/17</th>
<th>FY 17/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified Staff</td>
<td>22,212,340.16</td>
<td>60.95%</td>
<td>23,423,276.41</td>
<td>62.36%</td>
<td>24,658,065.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classified Staff</td>
<td>5,976,992.07</td>
<td>16.40%</td>
<td>6,253,137.60</td>
<td>16.65%</td>
<td>6,435,643.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>3,393,382.99</td>
<td>9.31%</td>
<td>3,566,454.00</td>
<td>9.49%</td>
<td>3,855,536.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof/Tech</td>
<td>1,129,930.01</td>
<td>3.10%</td>
<td>740,372.79</td>
<td>1.97%</td>
<td>696,857.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>910,714.26</td>
<td>2.50%</td>
<td>931,458.10</td>
<td>2.48%</td>
<td>910,227.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purch Svc</td>
<td>926,455.24</td>
<td>2.54%</td>
<td>852,550.59</td>
<td>2.27%</td>
<td>1,021,780.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>1,542,293.29</td>
<td>4.23%</td>
<td>1,515,679.47</td>
<td>4.04%</td>
<td>1,498,989.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>96,237.49</td>
<td>0.26%</td>
<td>150,138.25</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
<td>93,248.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>257,328.52</td>
<td>0.71%</td>
<td>129,493.81</td>
<td>0.34%</td>
<td>455,230.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>36,445,674.03</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>37,562,561.02</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>38,501,770.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>FY 13/14</th>
<th>FY 14/15</th>
<th>FY 15/16</th>
<th>FY 16/17</th>
<th>FY 17/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Taxes</td>
<td>10,314,143.62</td>
<td>28.12%</td>
<td>10,876,024.16</td>
<td>28.80%</td>
<td>10,023,568.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Non-Tax</td>
<td>76,080.55</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
<td>78,728.82</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
<td>75,685.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Government</td>
<td>26,291,406.30</td>
<td>71.67%</td>
<td>26,803,335.25</td>
<td>70.99%</td>
<td>28,155,573.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>36,681,630.47</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>37,758,088.23</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>38,254,827.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have had a wonderful first year serving KPS as the Director of Special Education, alongside Alice Ben- netts, Office Manager. Our department oversees special education programs, providing services and support for over 700 students with unique and diverse abilities. In collaboration with the Assistant Superintendent’s Office, we also coordinate multiple federal and state projects, including Section 504 and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, as well as Nursing Services. Within our department, we have passionate and dedicated staff in each of our schools, including:

- Special Education Teachers
- Special Education ParaEducators
- Related Service Providers (Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapist, Therapy Assistants)
- School Psychologists
- Behavior Specialist
- Homeless Education Liaison
- SOARS Grant Coordinator & Social Workers/Family Advocates
- School Nurses

**A LOOK BACK TO THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR...**

In light of challenges we faced, particularly legislative funding cuts that drastically impacted services to children in our Valley, we have rallied and accomplished so much! By ‘we,’ I mean students, staff, families and community members. Some highlights include:

- Collaborative teams met consistently throughout the year to discuss needs and problem solve solutions. We built relationships and made connections.
- Our Districtwide Systems of Support (SOS) team met several goals revolving around data entry and accessibility in PowerSchool and the creation of a team problem solving structure.
- Staff engaged in several professional learning opportunities (e.g. Crisis Prevention Intervention, MonTech, Zones of Regulation, Special Education legal update/best practices)
- We implemented procedures to ensure compliance with federal and state mandates.

**A LOOK AHEAD TO THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR...**

We are excited to continue our work this Fall! Focus areas for the upcoming school year include:

- As always, our priority is to build and maintain genuine and safe relationships with students and families.
- Analyze achievement data (academically & behaviorally) - adjust instruction/interventions to ensure students’ progress.
- Professional Learning, specifically in the areas of assessment and social/emotional strategies.
- Grow our behavior services, Districtwide.

Thank you for allowing us to share in your children’s lives. We are inspired daily by their resilience and gift. Should you have any questions, or would like to share feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me. Warmest regards, Sara Cole.
Every day we strive to foster an environment that inspires excellence, teamwork, passion, and KPS pride. Whether you’re an employee needing information on your benefits or an applicant looking for information about career opportunities, we are here to provide the highest quality of customer service and a welcoming environment that is second to none!

Interesting Facts:
- # of Certified Staff is 440
- # of Classified Staff is 169
- # of Total Staff within the District is 750
- # of Unions within the District is 6
- # of hires/transfers/promotions in 2017/18 is 270

This was a busy year for the District. We want to share some of the highlights with you. Our Assistant Superintendent retired after three years with the District and twenty seven years in Education. What a rewarding career! With the announcement of that retirement, we moved forward with appointing the current Principal of Glacier High School as the new Assistant Superintendent. That then opened up the Principal position for Glacier High School. We conducted a regional search for this position and after an extensive interview process, we hired Micah Hill, our former Assistant Principal for Glacier High School.

Michele Paine who was our current Interim Principal for Flathead High School was offered the permanent position of Principal mid-year and gladly accepted the position. Mark Fischer, interim Assistant Principal for FHS, was hired as the permanent AP following the job search for that position.

We always want to cast a wide net for these very important leadership positions within the District to ensure we hire the most qualified candidate. It is with great pride when we are able to extend that offer to one of our own—not because they are entitled to it—but because they have proven their ability!

Human Resources had some personnel changes as well. Our Recruitment Manager decided to focus her efforts on her new baby and become a stay-at-home mom. We couldn’t blame her, he is adorable. However, this left a huge hole within our HR Team. After conducting a regional search for a new recruitment manager, we hired Eden Roberts from Flathead Valley Community College. She brings a wealth of skills, experience and knowledge to our team. We are extremely lucky to have her as part of the HR Team.

Insurance continues to be a priority within our District. Trying to balance good benefits with the ever-rising cost of healthcare is a constant challenge. We continue to spend significant time reviewing and analyzing our plan to ensure that we are offering the best possible benefits to our employees while still keeping it affordable. It is a complex puzzle for sure.

We continue to face challenges with recruiting substitutes in the following areas: teachers, PARA’s, food service, custodial and bus drivers. Part of this is due to a misunderstanding that you have to have a teacher license to sub. Actually you don’t, just a high school diploma or a GED equivalent. We have an excellent training program that helps prepare subs for life in the classroom. For those folks that do sub, they enjoy the flexibility and the variety that comes with this position. Most of our subs are parents that want to be involved in their child’s school, folks that want to supplement their current income or folks that work seasonally. The positions pay well and are an excellent way to get your foot in the door if you are looking at a career with KPS. In a random selection of new hires, 7 of 10 had been subs for KPS in the past. If you would like to learn more about subbing for our district, please visit our website and click on Substitute Opportunities or call 406-751-3415.
TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Annie Doolan, Transportation Director
406-751-3439
doolana@sd5.k12.mt.us

In the 2017/2018 school year 53% of Kalispell’s Public School students used the school bus as their form of transportation to get to and from school. Home to school mileage this year totaled 454,104 miles covering 1,212 square miles.

Kalispell currently operates 12 district owned buses that provide transportation to students attending special programs throughout the elementary and high school districts. The remainder of Kalispell’s transportation needs were met by the following bus companies: Harlow’s (18 buses), Treasure State (12 buses), Steven’s Bussing (2 buses) and Z bussing (1 bus).

In addition to our daily routes, we also transport students on field trips and activity trips. In the 2017/2018 school year our students took 1059 field trips/activity trips. The local popular destinations were Glacier National Park and Whitefish Mountain. The furthest destination this year was to Newport, OR.

There are many changes to elementary transportation in the 2018/2019 school year due to the boundary changes. Our focus was to create routes that service students that would otherwise need to cross major streets.

Our drivers know the importance they can make in students’ lives. They are often the first and last adult interaction a student has during their school day. Our transportation team would like to remind you to be kind while sharing the road with buses. Please see the reminders of when to stop when a bus is stopped. While sharing the road, please always remember the precious cargo the school buses are carrying.
With the addition of Jeannette Rankin Elementary School, we now have 16 school district buildings. All five of our older elementary schools plus Flathead High School and Linderman are currently undergoing construction that will add much-needed gymnasiums and learning space.

The facilities department has completed projects over the last year dealing with infrastructure maintenance including the roofing of five schools, parking lot improvements at FHS, GHS, Linderman and Kalispell Middle School. Upgrades to the heating and ventilation systems at the elementary schools, along with several other deferred maintenance projects throughout the district. In conjunction with our service plans, scheduled inspections, routine service, and preventative maintenance programs all designed to extend the life of our school buildings.

In the upcoming months the lighting in all district buildings we be upgraded to LED. Greatly reducing energy consumption, saving the district money. It is our goal as a department to continue to look for ways to cost-effectively maintain and upgrade our facilities. We will strive, as we always have to be good stewards of the taxpayer money.

Each member of the facilities department knows how important a well maintained, clean building is to the learning environment. When you visit one of our schools I hope you find it just that, a great place to learn.

**TECHNOLOGY RECAP**

Rich Lawrence, IT Director
406-751-3407
lawrencer@sd5.k12.mt.us

**SD5 Performance Report: Information Technology Department**

**SD5 Information Technology Team:**
- Richard Lawrence (IT Director): District wide management of all Technology.
- Jason Heacock (IT Infrastructure Admin): IT Infrastructure
- Mike Block (IT Facilitator): Email, Phone, Destiny
- Eric Miletich (IT Data Admin): PowerSchool Support, Application Support
- Kyra Ocker (IT Analyst): PowerSchool Support, State Reporting, District Data Support
- Wes Hines (IT Webmaster): District wide management of all websites
- Chris Abney (IT Specialist): Elrod, FHS
- AJ Bielz (IT Specialist): Edgerton, Rankin, LEC
- Steve Gray (IT Specialist): KMS, Mac support
- Nick Haegle (IT Specialist): Hedges, Voag,
- Matt Peterson (IT Specialist): Russell, Peterson
- Jamey Whipkey (IT Specialist): GHS

**Information Technology Team Goals**
- To support our students by supporting our staff.
- To provide a safe and secure infrastructure and instructional technology environment.
- To provide excellent customer service to our students and staff.

**2017-18 Information Technology Projects**

- **Districtwide Construction Projects:** The IT Department was extremely busy with all of the construction this last year, we successfully implemented all technology related to our new Elementary School (Rankin) and are continuing to work on projects at FHS, Russell, Peterson, Elrod, Hedges, Edgerton. Also, Linderman and Voag as those projects move forward.
- **Migration to Gigabit Fiber District wide:** We completed our project to bring all campuses up to gigabit speeds, that replaces the 100Mbps that we were working with.
- **Added 660 Chromebooks to our Network:** Cloud based applications are driving the use of Chromebooks throughout the District. This is a reliable low-cost way of providing technology devices to our Students.
- **Network Security Review:** We have conducted a districtwide data access security review. We have made some changes that will help to keep our student data confidential as well as keep SD5 in compliance with the current HIPPA and FERPA laws and regulations.
- **Finished Wireless projects at KMS, GHS, Peterson, FHS Vocation Building:** Added many Wireless access points to our infrastructure to cover any uncovered areas at these sites.

- **District Longitudinal Data Assessment:** An education longitudinal data system is a data system that collects and maintains detailed, high quality, student and staff level data that are linked across entities and over time, providing a complete academic and performance history for each student; and makes these data accessible through reporting and analysis tools. We are working with administration to increase the availability and usage of district longitudinal data. It is very important tool used to determine how effective our programs are in educating students.
- **New Main Distribution Room move:** We moved our bridge head distribution room (MDR) from the FHS Library to the second floor IT Office. This room provides all district connectivity to the outside world; this move needed to happen for security reasons. This was a big project but went very well.
- **ADA Website compliance project:** We went through all of our Web Pages District wide to make sure we were ADA compliant. This was a big project but very important.

**2018-2019 Information Technology Looking Forward**

- **Instructional Technology:** We pledge to continue to work closely with staff and administration to seek out new paths to provide the best instructional educational technology experience we can provide for our students and staff.
- **District Construction Projects:** We will continue to work on our SD5 construction projects to make sure that we provide reliable and secure technology to our students and staff. We will also be vigilant to keep these projects on time and on budget.
- **Campus Security:** We will continue to work with campus administrators to assess and expand security camera and kiosk systems as needed.
- **Customer Service:** As an IT Team, we will continue to seek out new techniques and skills to provide the highest quality customer service to our students and staff.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The mission of this Board of Trustees is to champion the cause of students in public education by establishing the framework through which all educational resources are maximized.

BETTE ALBRIGHT
ANNA MARIE BAILEY
JON ENDRESEN
JACK FALLON

LANCE ISAAK
MARK KORNICK
MIKE MERCHANT
FRANK MILLER

DIANE MORTON STOUT
MARK TWICHEL
AMY WALLER