

NOTICE OF ANNUAL SPECIAL PURPOSE AND SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS, VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION, DIAGRAM OF BALLOT, VOTING INSTRUCTIONS, BALLOT PREPARATION, PUBLIC TESTING, BALLOT COUNTING, and COUNTY CANVASS

Notice is hereby given that on **May 5th, 2026**, an **all-mail** election will be held in Flathead County for the Special Purpose and School District Elections. Ballots must be returned to the Flathead County Election Office, 290B N Main, Kalispell, MT 59901, either in person or by mail. Ballots must be received by 8:00pm on Election Day. The Flathead County Election Office is open from 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday – Friday, and from 7:00am to 8:00pm, on Election Day, May 5th, 2026. You may also drop your ballot off at the following school district locations: **Columbia Falls District Administration Office, 501 6th Ave W, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 (9am-4pm M-F); Cayuse Prairie School District, 897 Lake Blaine Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 (7:30am-4pm M-TH); Fair-Mont-Egan School District, 797 Fairmont Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 (7:30am-4pm M-TH); Whitefish School District Office, 127 Spokane Ave, Whitefish, MT 59937 (8am-4:30pm M-F); Flathead High School, 644 4th Ave W., Kalispell, MT 59901 (8am-4pm M-F); Glacier High School, 375 Wolfpack Way, Kalispell, MT 59901 (8am-4pm M-F). All drop boxes will be open until 8pm on Election Day, May 5th, 2026.**

Electors will consider the following trustee races and propositions at said election:

Bigfork Fire District Trustee (2) 3-year terms; **Badrock Fire District Trustee Unexpired** (1) 2-year term; **Hungry Horse Water & Sewer District Trustee** (2) 4-year terms; **Lakeside Water & Sewer District Trustee** (2) 4-year terms; **Whitefish Fire District Trustee** (2) 3-year terms; **Bigfork Elementary School District Trustee** (2) 3-year terms; **Bigfork Elementary School District Trustee Unexpired** (1) 2-year term; **Cayuse Prairie School District Trustee** (2) 3-year terms; **Columbia Falls Elementary School District Trustee** (3) 3-year terms; **Flathead High School District 1 Trustee** (1) 3-year term; **Somers School District Trustee Unexpired** (1) 1-year term; **Whitefish Elementary School District Trustee** (3) 3-year terms.

Cayuse Prairie School District General Fund Levy: Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of three hundred thousand DOLLARS (\$300,000.00) per year which is approximately 27.44 mills, for the purpose of: continued operations and maintenance of the school district? Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$20.86, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$62.56, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$133.65. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. 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. **Deer Park School District General Fund Levy:** Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of one hundred and ten thousand DOLLARS (\$110,000) per year which is approximately 23.5 mills, for the purpose of: staff salaries. Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$17.86, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$53.57, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$123.12. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. 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. **Fair-Mont-Egan School District General Fund Levy:** Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of One Hundred Forty Thousand, Three Hundred Eighty Dollars and Forty Five Cents.(\$140,380.45) per year which is approximately 22.91 mills, for the purpose of: maintaining quality instructional programming; sustaining essential staffing levels; meeting increased operational costs; and utilizing the High Cost Housing adjustment for improving employee access to affordable housing? Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$17.41, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$52.22, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$111.57. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. 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. **Fair-Mont-Egan School District Technology Fund Levy:** Shall the district be authorized to levy an additional Forty- Four Thousand DOLLARS (\$44,000) per year for 5 years and being approximately 7.18 mills for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platform, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment, curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel? Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$5.46, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$16.37 and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$34.97. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. This request is in addition to \$ 6,000 DOLLARS previously authorized as a perpetual levy and, if this proposition is approved, will hereby be limited to 5 years. **Helena Flats School District Land Acquisition Proposition:** Shall the Helena Flats District No.15 be authorized to acquire approximately 10 acres located across the street from the current school building (1000 Helena Flats Rd, Kalispell, MT), commonly known as the 880 Rose Crossing (5.3 acres) and adjacent (4.7 acres) of land located on Rose Crossing in Kalispell, further described as C.O.S. 22862-2, Tract 3CCGA, in Section 27, Township 29 North, Range 21 West located at the corner of Helena Flats Rd and Rose Crossing, as a future school building site. **Helena Flats School District Building Reserve Levy:** Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose a building reserve levy in the amount of SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS (\$67,216.00) per year for 10 years and being approximately 10.91 mills, for a total amount of SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$672,157.00) for the purpose of: PURCHASING LAND (10 ACRES) FOR FUTURE SCHOOL EXPANSION. Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$8.29, on a home

with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$24.88, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$72.04. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. **Kalispell Elementary School District General Fund Levy:** Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of one million, one hundred two thousand, two hundred ninety-five DOLLARS (\$1,102,295) per year which is approximately 12.33 mills, for the purpose of: instructional operations? Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$9.37, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$28.12, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$60.06. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs. 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.

Ballots will be automatically mailed to all qualified electors on April 17th, 2026. A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person at the Flathead County Election Office as soon as the ballots are available; b) make a written request, signed by the applicant and addressed to the Flathead County Election Office, that the ballot is mailed to an address other than the address that appears on the registration application. If you miss the regular registration deadline on April 6th, 2026, you may still register for the election by appearing in person at the Flathead County Election Office until 12 noon Monday, May 4th, 2026, and from 7:00am until 8:00pm on Election Day. If you do not receive your ballot, and you are an active elector, contact the Flathead County at 406-758-5535.

VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION

A DS950 Digital Central Scan Paper Tabulator and an ExpressVote are on display in the Flathead County Election Office, 290B N Main, Kalispell, MT 59901.



The ES&S ExpressVote is a ballot-marking device that is available at the Flathead County Election Office to assist voters with disabilities in marking their ballot privately and independently. Other arrangements for reasonable accommodation can be made by contacting the Flathead County Election Office at 406-758-5535.

A sample diagram of the ballot layout and instructions on voting the ballot is provided below.

Sample County	State of Montana	Election Date
	FEDERAL AND STATE (Continued)	NONPARTISAN - STATE (Continued)
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS	FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE (VOTE FOR ONE)	FOR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DISTRICT 1, DEPT. 4 (VOTE FOR ONE)
1. TO VOTE, BLACKEN (●) THE OVAL COMPLETELY. An oval blackened completely to the left of the candidate or ballot issue choice indicates a vote for that candidate or a vote on the ballot issue.	<input type="radio"/> GEORGE WASHINGTON	<input type="radio"/> JAMES BUCHANAN
2. To write in a name, blacken the oval to the left of the line provided, and write in the name (or affix a pre-printed label) in the blank space(s) for the write-in candidate(s) for whom you wish to vote.	<input type="radio"/> JOHN ADAMS	<input type="radio"/> ABRAHAM LINCOLN
3. DO NOT CROSS OUT. If you make a mistake or change your mind, exchange your ballot for a new one.	<input type="radio"/> _____	<input type="radio"/> _____
VOTE IN ALL COLUMNS [VOTE BOTH SIDES]	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR TWO)	
	<input type="radio"/> ANDREW JACKSON	
	<input type="radio"/> MARTIN VAN BUREN	
	<input type="radio"/> WILLIAM H. HARRISON	
	<input type="radio"/> JOHN TYLER	
	<input type="radio"/> _____	
	<input type="radio"/> _____	

PREPARATION, RECONCILIATION, PUBLIC TESTING, COUNTING OF BALLOTS, AND CANVASS OF ELECTION

Early preparation and reconciliation of ballots will begin on April 30th, 2026, at 9:00 AM, in the Flathead County Election Office, 290B N Main, Kalispell, MT 59901. Public testing of the tabulator will begin at 9:00am on May 4th, 2026. Counting of ballots will begin immediately following the public test and will conclude at 5:00pm on May 4th, 2026. Counting will resume at approximately 12 noon on Election Day, May 5th, 2026, at the Flathead County Election Office, Sperry Conference Room, Floor 2, 290 N Main, Kalispell, MT 59901. No results will be released until after 8:00pm on Election Day. Observers must check in with the Flathead County Election Office to be escorted to the counting location. The public is welcome to observe.

Montana law requires that any person participating or observing the procedures of the count is required to take an oath that they will not discuss the results of the early counting of votes at any time prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day. A person who knowingly violates this law shall be imprisoned for a term not to exceed two years and/or be fined an amount not less than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000.

The County Canvass will be held in the Commissioners’ Chambers, located at 800 S. Main, Kalispell, MT, 59901, on May 19th, 2026, at 9:00am.

Dated this 7th day of April 2026.
Paula Buff, Flathead County Election Administrator
April 10th, 17th, 25th, 2026 MNAXLP