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A celebration of life will be held
Saturday, February 8 at the Frontier Event
Center at 1:00 pm. Memorial donations
may be made to Engine 18 Foundation at
www.engine18.org.



Gerald Lester Jones, 83

A funeral service will be held at The Church
of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Viewing on February 9, from 6 - 8 pm with
a service on February 10, at 11:00 am.

A memorial has been established at
Stockman Bank to provide a scholarship to a
student-athlete graduating from BCHS.



Conservation leases gaining steam in Montana FWP program gives landowners more options for habitat conservation

When the Habitat Conservation Lease Program started
two years ago, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks set a goal of
conserving 500,000 acres within five years. With the recent
completion of 13 leases and the potential for 33 proposed
leases now under consideration, FWP is nearly halfway to
reaching that goal.

"We are really pleased with how it's going," said FWP
Wildlife Division Administrator Ken McDonald. "Since it's a
new program, it was a little slow to start. But after two rounds
of the proposal process, there seems to be a growing interest
among landowners."

A habitat conservation lease is a voluntary agreement
between a landowner and FWP. In exchange for following
specific land management practices, a landowner receives a
one-time payment based on the number of acres enrolled in
the program. The landowner must also allow a certain number
of wildlife-related recreation days, including hunting, fishing
and wildlife viewing. The access part of the agreement is
developed in concert with the landowner and based on the size
of the property.

A habitat conservation lease differs from a conservation
easement in that the lease agreement is a 30- to 40-year contract
opposed to the permanent commitment of an easement.

"It provides an option for landowners who are reluctant
to commit to a permanent easement, which often are easier
to get support for with landowners and result in more habitat
conservation and public access," said FWP Director Christy
Clark.

The current conservation focus of the program is on prairie
habitats such as sagebrush grasslands, mixed-grass prairie and
intact wetland habitats. FWP considers these areas as having
significant wildlife and conservation value, McDonald said.

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FWP issues calls for habitat conservation lease proposals twice a year – in the spring and in the fall. A proposal must meet several criteria, including the amount of intact habitat. Local FWP staff work with landowners on the specifics of proposals, including habitat requirements, conservation objectives, and access agreements.

If the proposal passes the initial criteria, FWP will put it out for public comment. The final approval for a conservation lease will be made by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, or the Montana Land Board, if applicable. The entire process takes between six and nine months.

"Our focus is on giving landowners more tools to conserve habitat," Clark said. "With so much important wildlife habitat in Montana located on private land, conservation takes a joint effort between FWP and private landowners. Conservation leases are a great tool we can focus on to meet this common goal."

For more information on FWP's Conservation Lease Program, go to fwp.mt.gov/conservation/habitat/habitat-conservation/lease-program.

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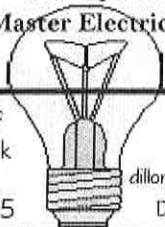
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

February 11, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

District Conference Room – 22 N. Cotton Drive

Letter to the Editor:

To all my friends in Beaverhead County and Dillon, MT.

I thank you all who have reached out to me.

As a Veteran, I am often thanked for my service. This was a privilege and honor for me to do for our country.

My heroes were those who were here at home supplying us with clothing, food, ammo, equipment and arms. We are only great when team America puts it shoulder to the wheel and join together in times of war and disasters.

A special salute to the nurses, doctors, police, fire fighters and our first responders here at home.

We the People have to stand together or we will fall.

Thank you all.

This message brought to you "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue."

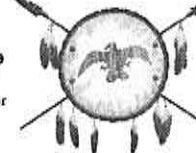
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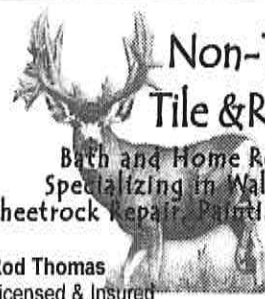
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Montana Department of Commerce Launches the Opportunities in Rural Economies Program

A total of \$8 million available for loans to spur business growth and grants for job creation in rural Montana

Today, the Montana Department of Commerce launched the Opportunities in Rural Economies Program, a new initiative aimed at fostering economic growth, supporting business expansion and creating high-paying jobs in rural communities across the state.

The ORE Program consists of both loan and grant components:

- The ORE Loan Participation Program offers low-interest participation loans in partnership with participating lenders, and forgivable loans to accelerate business growth, encourage job creation and diversify Montana's economy.
- The ORE Grant Program offers matching grant funds to support planning projects that deliver significant economic benefits to rural communities.

"By leveraging public-private partnerships, the ORE Program will strengthen Montana's rural economy and enhance opportunities for future generations," said Paul Green, director of the Montana Department of Commerce. "Businesses, lenders and economic development groups seeking to invest in Montana's rural economy can benefit from this program."

Commerce anticipates the ORE Program will start accepting applications mid-May. A total of \$8 million will be available; \$7.5 million for loans and \$500,000 for grants. Loans and grants under the ORE Program may not be used for projects that relocate jobs within the state. Detailed program information, eligibility requirements and application materials are available on Commerce's website.

This program operates under the Montana Growth Fund which seeks to develop local economies through creating partnerships between the state, local governments, tribal governments and organizations that are interested in pursuing similar goals.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to review program details online and call 406-841-2737 or email businessmt@mt.gov for further guidance.



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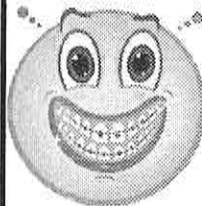
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INDOOR FIRING RANGE

Attorney General Austin Knudsen testified in the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning in support of a capital investment project that, if approved by the Montana Legislature, will provide funding for an indoor firing range at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) in Helena.

An indoor firing range will equip MLEA with the tools necessary to provide Montana's next generation of law enforcement officers with improved firearms training and properly prepare them for their work in the field. Currently, MLEA is forced to rent space at an outdoor shooting range in Helena to conduct firearms training which has led to increased rental fees, scheduling issues, but more importantly challenges for students and staff training in the winter during subzero temperatures.

MLEA provides the Law Enforcement Officer Basic Course (LEOB) to all local, state, and tribal law enforcement officers in the state. LEOB is an intensive 12-week course offered three times a year and includes at least a week of firearms training. However, due to some of the challenges of renting an outdoor facility, in some cases staff have been forced to cut firearms training short.

The \$10 million dollar investment is included in House Bill 5. Click here to watch the Attorney General's testimony.

UMW Football Signing Day Event

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Time: 6:30 PM

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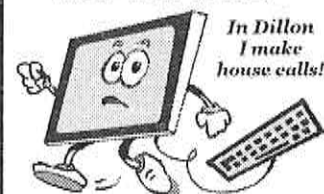
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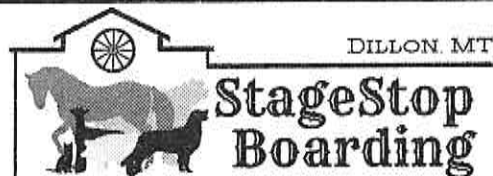
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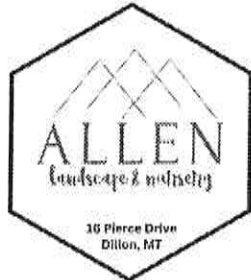
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UMW's Emmett Jeschke Selected as George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship Recipient

The Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement (MCNCE) is proud to announce the 2024-25 George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship recipients, including Montana Western student Emmett Jeschke. This scholarship recognizes outstanding college students across Montana who demonstrate exemplary civic leadership and a commitment to fostering positive change in their communities.

2024-25 Scholarship Recipients:

Emmett Jeschke – University of Montana Western, volunteer with the food pantry and Red Cross blood drives.

Piper Hadley – Flathead Valley Community College, Grief Camp volunteer, first generation student mentor.

Ashlin Ivester – Montana State University, Founder and volunteer with Holiday Helper, providing home cooked meals for the holidays.

Sara McCabe – MSU Billings, volunteer with the National Honor Society and served with NavajoYES, the United Way's Refresh the Rims project.

Amanda Hagerty – MSU Northern, Gardiner Chamber of Commerce Board member and school-community engagement volunteer.

Raeann Emerson – Salish Kootenai College, environmental and social justice volunteer and advocate for improving conditions for incarcerated people.

Stacy Tiensvold-Matton – Salish Kootenai College, volunteer with Women 4 Wellness, food pantry, and SKC basketball teams.

Cierra Coon – Salish Kootenai College, volunteer leader with a recovery group, peer lead at the Women's Sober Living House, and Voices for Awareness bringing awareness to the dangers of Fentanyl.

Lauren Schulte – University of Montana, co-coordinator of UM Advocates and a new student mentor.

Jaxon Caufield – University of Montana, Honors Student Association President and Alpha Lambda Delta's volunteer coordinator.

These inspiring students have provided hundreds of volunteer hours to causes close to them, and in doing so have significantly and positively impacted their campuses and communities. By leading projects that address issues from food insecurity to homelessness and substance abuse, they have mobilized their peers and brought attention to important issues.

Their dedication reflects the values of George M. Dennison, the late president of the University of Montana, and one of the

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founding presidents of the Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement (then Montana Campus Compact) over thirty years ago. Dennison championed the importance of higher education as a force for civic and community engagement.

"Reading these scholarship applications is simultaneously one of the most inspiring and difficult things we do all year" said Josh Vanek with the Campus Network for Civic Engagement. "It gives me enormous hope that we have truly amazing problem solvers in every community in our state."

Jeschke's Leadership Extends Beyond Volunteerism

In addition to his service in Dillon and the Montana Western community, Emmett Jeschke was recently selected to serve as the Montana Associated Students (MAS) Student Lobbyist during the upcoming legislative session. In this role, Jeschke will track legislation relevant to higher education, working closely with state representatives in both the House and Senate, coordinating with the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE), and connecting with student governments across Montana.

The University of Montana Western is proud to recognize Jeschke for his volunteerism and commitment to improving higher education for Montana students.

About the George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship

The George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship was established to honor President Dennison's legacy and commitment to student leadership. Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship, awarded annually to students across Montana who exhibit outstanding civic and community contributions while maintaining their studies. The scholarship is supported by contributions from the Dennison family, Reach Higher Montana, and private donors.

MCNCE invites the public to congratulate these remarkable individuals as they continue to inspire and lead efforts to create stronger, more inclusive communities. Their achievements demonstrate the transformative power of civic engagement.

Support Future Civic Leaders

The George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship relies on donor generosity to continue fostering civic leadership among Montana's students. Contributions help ensure that future leaders have the resources to pursue meaningful change in their communities. To donate, please contact Josh Vanek at vanek@mtengage.org



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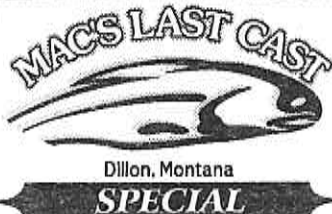
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BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025 COMMISSIONERS ROOM - COURTHOUSE DILLON, MT AGENDA

9:00 A.M.	Pledge of Allegiance Update on County Projects <i>Public Comment</i> Commissioners Report <i>Public Comment</i>
9:30 A.M.	Discussion and Action- Resolution 25-04 Opposing Legislation that Limits or Prohibits Lobbying by MACo <i>Public Comment</i>
10:00 A.M.	Discussion and Action- Carroll Family Transfer <i>Public Comment</i>
12:00 P.M.	RECESS for lunch
1:30 P.M.	Safety Team Meeting <i>Public Comment</i>
2:30 P.M.	Legislative Update <i>Public Comment</i>
3:00 P.M.	Solid Waste Board Meeting <i>Public Comment</i>
4:00 P.M.	Unfinished Business / Other Topics of Discussion <i>Public Comment</i> Public Comments Under County Jurisdiction Not on Agenda <i>Public Comment</i> Payment of Invoices <i>Public Comment</i> Action on Previous Meeting Minutes <i>Public Comment</i>
4:30 P.M.	Discussion- County Wildfire Protection Plan <i>Public Comment</i>
5:00 P.M.	ADJOURN

SOLID WASTE BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, February 10, 2025 3:00 PM
COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM

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7/12- WC BILL

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12/5- WC TH/F

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Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM

Sunday Evening Worship
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Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 PM

11/10- WC F



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2/1 WC BILL

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1/29, 31, 2/5, 7 10-14 BILL



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Matthew 5- "Blessed are
the merciful, for they
shall receive mercy."

10/5- WC BILL F

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The Beaverhead Chapter 862 raise funds that continue to restore and improve local public wildlife habitat, introduce youth to the sport, and promoting hunter safety and sound land management.

Your support to our annual banquet goes towards our efforts here in Beaverhead County.

Tickets call: Karl (406) 865-0063 or Fred (406) 660-2247

Youth: \$30 includes membership

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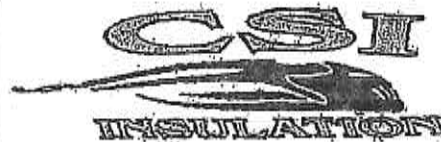
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8/16- W/C BILL

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\$79 trailer safety inspections + 10%
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(Rates do not include necessary
parts, material or supplies)
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Brand New. Cost \$119.99
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Call 406-834-3161

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F/T dedicated and experienced RN
Supervisor to join our team. Candidate
must be an RN who is willing to oversee
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Responsible, reputable person in
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on bonus after 960 hours **Starting at**
\$18 - 25 Hour. (Experienced could
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flexible hours Call 406-834-3533

HELP WANTED 2/28 PD

Seasonal Labor
Elevation Agronomy, LLC is looking
to hire seasonal labor. Loading and
unloading of trucks, fuel delivery, general
maintenance, and yard duties are some
responsibilities. Overtime and weekend
hours are possible. \$16-\$18 per hour
with overtime wage starting after 40
hours/ week. Call 406-596-1572 for
application information.

STORAGE UNIT FOR RENT

2/5 - WC BILL

9x6 Storage unit for rent available
immediately Call 406-660-0852

HELP WANTED 9/19 - WC BILL

Come join a wonderful team at the
Super 8! We are seeking full time and
part time team members! Even if you
have never worked in the hospitality
industry, come give us a try- we feel
you will love the flexibility and the
fun of this job! We have front desk
positions as well as room attendant
positions available. We work with the
hectic schedules of highschool and
college and the skills you develop
with us can be taken with you
anywhere and look great on resumes!
We are also looking to fill long term,
permanent positions. This is also a
great place to work for a semi-retired
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Second floor.
Newly remodeled. All utilities
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Call 406 925 5024.
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FIREWOOD 2/14 PD

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Local company looking for the right
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of our parts department: Job
Requirements:
• Basic computer knowledge
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2/7-28 BILL

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Please stop by

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1/30-2/28 BILL

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS

2025 SPECIAL DISTRICT ELECTIONS

Candidate filing for the May 2025 Special District Elections opened on Thursday, December 12, 2024 and closes on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:00 PM. Those who wish to file will need to complete a "Declaration of Nomination" and file it with the Election Office no later than 5:00 PM on February 10, 2025. The following special districts have openings:

Beaverhead County Public Hospital District

East Bench Irrigation

Fire District #1 - Lima

Fire District #2 - Dillon

Fire District #3 - Big Hole Valley/Wisdom

Fire District #4 - Grasshopper Valley

Fire District #5 - Wise River

Candidate filing for the May 2025 School District Elections opened on Thursday, December 12th and closes on Thursday, March 27, 2025. School Board Trustee Candidates MUST file with the School District Clerk. Please contact your school districts for more detailed information.

Stacey Reynolds

Beaverhead County Election Administrator

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY SPECIALS

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**25% off all seasoning shakers
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Learn about Transitional Care at Barrett Hospital & HealthCare and see if it's right for you or a loved one by visiting www.barrethospital.org/transitional-care or calling **406-683-3140**.



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CLASSIFIED CONTINUED

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Organization: Beaverhead County Attorney's Office

Pay Rate: \$90,000 + per year, Dependent on qualifications

Position Type/Status: Permanent, Full-time, Exempt

Beaverhead County Attorney's Office is hiring for a Deputy County Attorney position. We are looking for an individual who has a passion working for government and wants to make a positive impact in the community.

Position is open until filled and applications will be reviewed weekly.

Benefits

- Excellent Health Care Coverage
- Retirement plans through the State
- Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, and Holidays
- Wellness Screening Incentive
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) – Employment with the County may qualify you to receive student loan forgiveness under the PSLF. Look here to learn more and see if you may qualify! <https://fed-pro.org/public-service/>

Qualifications and Application Requirements

- Degree from an accredited law school and licensed by the State of Montana to practice law
- Resume
- Cover Letter

For questions on this position or on the application process, please call (406) 683-3730 or e-mail paralegal@beaverheadcountymt.gov.

Disclaimer: Equal Opportunity Employer

HELP WANTED 2/27-20 BILL

JOB POSTING FOR BEAVERHEAD COUNTY

Position Title: Part-Time Victim/Witness Assistant
Organization: Beaverhead County Attorney's Office

Pay Rate: TBD, Dependent on qualifications

Position Type/Status: Permanent, Part-time, Non-Exempt

Beaverhead County Attorney's Office is hiring for a part-time Victim/Witness Assistant position. We are looking for an individual who has a passion for helping others and serving the community.

Position is open until filled and applications will be reviewed weekly.

Benefits

- Retirement plans through the State
- Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, and Holidays
- Wellness Screening Incentive
- Qualifications and Application Requirements
- High School Diploma or GED
- Driver's License to operate passenger vehicle
- Resume
- Cover Letter

For questions on this position or on the application process, please call (406) 683-3730 or e-mail paralegal@beaverheadcountymt.gov.

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700 East Front Street, Butte, MT 59701

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1/29-2/7



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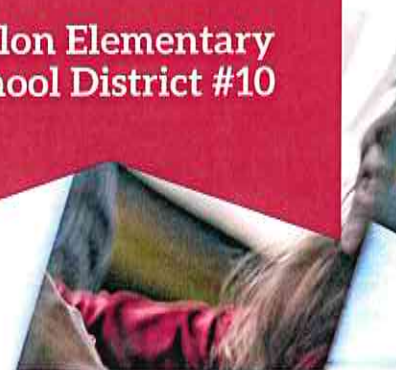
Gary Caprara at: 406-580-1574

Dillon Elementary School District #10

2025 Technology Levy



Dillon Elementary
School District #10



Why is Dillon Elementary asking for a technology levy increase?

Dillon Elementary School District #10 is asking for voter approval of a \$150,000 technology levy increase in the May 2025 election to help maintain and update critical educational technology. This additional funding will support the following:

- Protecting Student and Staff Data
- Purchasing Student Learning Software
- Improving Parent Communication Tools
- Maintaining and Replacing Instructional Devices

How much would this cost me?

Tax Increase Estimate	
\$8.01 per year	<i>Estimate for a home with a market value of \$100,000</i>
\$24.02 per year	<i>Estimate for a home with a market value of \$300,000</i>
\$48.03 per year	<i>Estimate for a home with a market value of \$600,000</i>

Please visit the website below for additional tax estimates and information.

The Dillon Elementary School District technology levy will provide sustainable funding to maintain a safe learning environment, ensure reliable access to educational resources, purchase parent communication tools and digital learning platforms as well as maintain and replace instructional devices.

Protecting Student and Staff Data and Privacy:

Annual threat response and cybersecurity subscriptions are vital in protecting student and staff data and maintaining a safe learning environment. In 2023, 22% of all data breaches involved the education sector, highlighting the significant risk and need for effective data protection measures.

Purchasing Student Learning Software:

Annual software fees for student assessment and learning tools are essential to the success of our students. The variety of educational resources provides personalized learning experiences, allowing students to progress, addressing their individual needs in an effective and enjoyable way. Additionally, it offers valuable data and insights to help us track progress, identify areas for improvement and tailor instruction to better support student achievement. Technology directly impacts our students' success.

Improving Parent Communication Tools:

Effective parent communication technology is crucial for fostering a supportive school community focused on student success. These funds will enable timely updates and the purchase of tools that enhance collaboration between parents and educators, improving student outcomes. Additionally, communication technology supports both administrative functions and the diverse needs of students.

Maintaining and Replacing Instructional Devices:

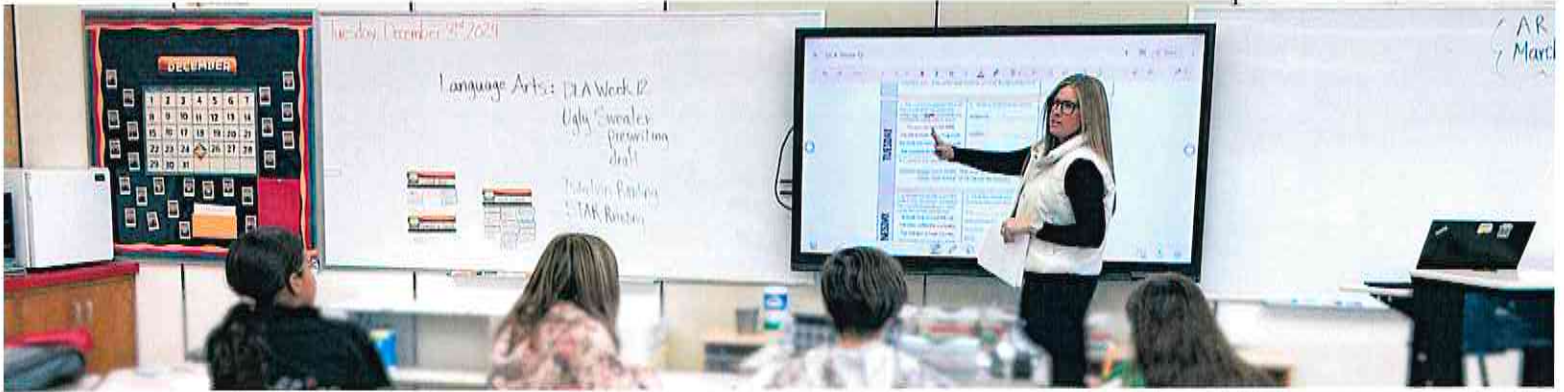
Maintaining and replacing instructional devices is crucial for keeping technology up to date and supporting effective teaching. Annual IT support contracts help our small school manage technical issues, maintain a productive learning environment, and allow educators to focus on student success. We also need repairs for devices used in state-mandated assessments.

Learn more at <https://www.dillonschools.org/page/2025-technology-levy> or scan the QR Code.



Dillon Elementary School District #10

2025 Technology Levy



By the Numbers



\$150,000

Technology Fund increase to protect student and staff data, purchase student learning software, improve parent communication tools and maintain and replace instructional devices.



10 year term for levy

If approved, the technology levy would remain in place until 2035.



14.7% less per-pupil

Dillon Elementary School District spends 14.7% less per-pupil than Montana's per-pupil average. SD #10 spent \$11,388 per pupil, in contrast to Montana's state average of \$13,346, as reported in the 2022-2023 school year.



\$50,000 - \$1 million

Monetary losses to school districts following a cyber incident ranged from \$50,000 to \$1 million according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office.



23 years

Number of years since Dillon Elementary School District has requested technology funds, despite growing demand. Currently, the district has a \$50,000 annual technology levy.



141%

Increase in technology-related costs over the last 7 years ensuring students and the district can keep pace with technological advancements essential for modern education.



\$275,000 current shortfall

Current technology costs exceed the existing \$50,000 technology levy by \$275,000. A new technology levy would increase funding and allow general funds to be reallocated to support our students, teachers, staff, and community.

You're Invited to Elementary Technology Levy Information Meetings

Join us for one of three community meetings to provide information and answer questions about the upcoming levy. Each session will be simultaneously available both via in-person and virtually at the following dates and times, taking place in the Parkview Elementary Cafeteria. We encourage you to join us at one of the sessions to learn more about the 2025 elementary technology levy that will appear on the ballot this May!

Tuesday, February 18th at 5:30pm

Tuesday, March 18th at 6:00pm

Thursday, April 10th at 7:00pm

Dillonite Advertiser

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24 S Idaho, Dillon, MT 59725

Or Email:
Ted.Ori.B62L@statefarm.com

1/24-31 - 2/7 BILL



A night to remember. BRCC...hosting its 2nd Annual Sweetheart Supper Serenata—a Valentine's Dinner. Starts at 6pm and includes steak & shrimp entre' with sides and dessert. Door Prizes, Music, Games, and Photo Booth. Tickets are \$15/couple (\$7.50/singles), but supply is limited. Get your tickets at Womack's. Dinner is at Beaverhead River Cowboy Church—1100 East Bannack Street. Looking forward to seeing you!

