



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

# Governor's 2019 Biennium Executive Budget Volume 8

## QUALITY SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM 2019 Biennium Project Funding Recommendations

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# 2019 Biennium Quality Schools Projects Recommended for Grant Funding

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) administers the Quality Schools Grant Program, codified at Sections 90-6-801, *et seq.*, MCA. The Quality Schools Grant Program provides a competitive grant program for (1) school facility and technology grants; (2) matching planning grants; and (3) emergency grants for public school districts in Montana (elementary districts and high school districts as defined in 20-6-101, MCA, or a K-12 school district as defined in 20-6-701, MCA).

Funding for the Quality Schools grants comes from the school facility and technology special revenue account, which includes a combination of revenue from the timber harvest on common school trust lands and rental income received from power site leases as provided in Section 77-4-208, MCA. No funding was authorized for the 2017 Biennium for Quality Schools project, planning, or emergency grants.

Quality Schools project grants are available on a competitive basis for major repairs or deferred maintenance to an existing school; major improvements or enhancements to an existing school to meet accreditation standards or enhance educational opportunities; or information technology infrastructure, including installations, upgrades, or improvements, to an existing school.

Commerce received 50 grant applications for 2019 Biennium Quality Schools project grants. Staff reviewed and ranked the applications based on the priorities and criteria set forth in Section 90-6-811, MCA. Commerce then adjusted the rankings based on the educationally relevant factors established in Section 20-9-309, MCA. The total possible points any proposed project could receive in the 2019 Biennium ranking was 500.

Commerce Director Meg O'Leary submitted her final list of recommended projects, and, the form and amount of financial assistance for each project to Governor Bullock. The Governor reviewed the projects recommended by Commerce and will submit to the Legislature a list of recommendations as to the project, and, the form and amount of financial assistance for each project. The Governor recommends these nine (9) projects be funded in the amounts shown below, for a total project grant appropriation of \$5,413,013.98. The Quality Schools Program statute provides that the Legislature will make the final decisions on funding awards and make the necessary appropriations for these grants.

**Quality Schools Grant Program**  
**Project Grant Award Recommendations for the 2019 Biennium**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Cumulative Award Amount</b>
1	St. Ignatius K-12	Lake	Elementary school deteriorated envelope repair	\$ 680,511	\$ 680,511
2	Grass Range ELE	Fergus	Abate asbestos tile/mastic and mudded pipe joints from the building and replace with non-asbestos materials	\$ 55,631	\$ 736,142
3	Miles City ELE	Custer	Fire alarm and security upgrades	\$ 352,834	\$ 1,088,976
4	Libby K-12	Lincoln	Heating and ventilation and air conditioning system	\$ 1,075,000	\$ 2,163,976
5	Custer County HS304	Custer	Replacement of combined sanitary sewer and storm water piping and associated gym roof drains and sidewalk replacement	\$ 953,576	\$ 3,117,552
6	Grass Range HS	Fergus	Upgrade all doors to meet fire safety codes	\$ 77,183	\$ 3,194,735
7	Wolf Point HS	Roosevelt	Update the existing roof water drainage system, parking lot drainage, and parking lot surface	\$ 918,600	\$ 4,113,335
8	Polson ELE	Lake	Elementary school boiler replacement	\$ 1,224,679	\$ 5,338,014
9	Geraldine K-12	Chouteau	Bleacher replacement project	\$ 75,000	\$ 5,413,014
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 5,413,014</b>	<b>\$ 5,413,014</b>

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## **2019 Biennium Quality Schools Grant Awards Recommended for Funding**

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**St Ignatius K-12 School District Project No. 1  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health and Safety)**

This application received 428 points and ranked 1 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Type of Funds</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Quality Schools	Grant	\$680,511
St Ignatius Public Schools	Impact Aid	\$10,000
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$690,511</b>

**Project History** – The walls of the school are primarily structural insulated panel and in the areas of water penetration, the foam is compromised. The integrity of the building envelope will not withstand local wind load or earthquake loads and the result will likely be students or staff that are either severely injured or even killed. The shear wall paneling is in no condition to provide structural support. There is a section of the roof from the 1939 building that is built with thick foam; this portion of the roof is most likely waterlogged and flagged as a high risk by the structural engineer in the August 2012 Facilities Condition Inventory (FCI) Report. The foam roof was scheduled to be replaced in 2014, but the building envelope was worse than expected and funding ran out before attention could be given to the roof. It was stated in the FCI Report that this roofing material is overloading the structure. In addition to the structural concerns, the infiltration of moisture has caused an environment for mold to accumulate. The rest of the roof is also in need of repair to eliminate the existing problem of moisture penetration to the structure.

The district’s enrollment for FY 2015 is 467 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- The existing Elementary School building envelope was rated as 100% deficient in the FCI Report;
- The existing failed school building envelope has experienced water penetration and provided an environment for mold growth;
- The roof is considered high risk for failure; and
- The building will not withstand local wind and earthquake loads.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Install new roof system;
- Repair exterior walls – framing and install insulation, weather membrane, metal panels, repair SIPS panels, install new flashings, caps, and trim;
- Replace the exterior windows, doors and frames; and
- Repair exterior routes – sidewalk replacement, ramp installation, and breezeway reconstruction to support building envelope repairs.

**Grass Range Elementary School Project No. 2  
Statutory Priority 2 (Deferred Maintenance)**

This application received 428 points and ranked 2 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$55,631.00
Grass Range Elementary School District	Flex Fund	\$9,365.91
Grass Range Elementary Parent Teacher Organization	Donation	\$250.00
Grass Range Foundation	Donation	\$250.00
United Methodist Church	Donation	\$75.00
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$65,571.91</b>

**Project History** – The Grass Range School building was built in 1961 and is now 28,470 square feet after a breezeway connecting the shop and main building was added in 2012 and an air-lock door system on the west end was added in 2014. The now connected shop was built in 1980 at 4,090 square feet. The school board started asbestos abatement projects in the summer of 2010 with the kitchen tile and exposed mudded joints in the bathroom pipe chases, locker rooms, and kitchen. Abatement was conducted in the summer of 2013 with the tiles of the main hallway, multi-purpose room, music room, and one set of bathrooms. The district has strived to maintain the safety and integrity of our facilities by systematically removing hazardous materials starting with the areas with the highest risk of damage to the asbestos materials, such as the exposed mudded pipe joints and high traffic areas of tile first. The school district continues efforts to mitigate health and safety hazards due to asbestos exposure.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 36 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- Floor tiles and mudded pipe joints contain asbestos material are exposed.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Remove all asbestos that is accessible including tile, mastic, and mudded pipe joints;
- Install new tile and carpet will be installed with new tile sealed and waxed; and
- Perform a transmission electron micrography air clearance test as required by law.

**Miles City Elementary School District Project No. 3  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health & Safety Problems)**

This application received 416 points and ranked 3 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$352,834
Miles City Unified School District	General Fund	\$20,000
Miles City Unified School District	Deferred Maintenance	\$20,000
Miles City Unified School District	Flex Fund	\$10,000
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$402,834</b>

**Project History** – The project includes five schools: Jefferson Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Washington Middle School. The five facilities included in the overall *Fire Alarm and Security Upgrade Project* were built in years ranging from 1912 to 1979. A 2014 Comprehensive School Conditions Assessment Plan was completed that identified several facility deficiencies and needed project repairs. These projects were prioritized by the Miles City Unified School District, Public Planning Committee and at two public school board meetings.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 1,027 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- Fire Alarm Systems:
  - The existing fire alarm system, at Highland Park Elementary school, is in violation of the 2009 IBC and 2009 IFC building codes;
    - The school fire alarm system does not contain manual pull stations at points of egress, smoke detectors, audible alarm devices, and visual strobe alarms in classrooms and meeting rooms.
- Security Systems:
  - The public address system at Jefferson Elementary School lacks safety measures required by the district crisis plan.
  - Jefferson Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Washington Middle School provides limited line of sight reducing visual recognition of persons entering and leaving the buildings;
  - Jefferson Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Washington Middle School has poor illumination at entrances; and

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Install new fire alarm system at Highland Park Elementary School;
- Install a Public Address system at Jefferson Elementary School;
- Install security systems to control visitor access at Jefferson Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Washington Middle School; and
- Increase entrance lighting for security surveillance purposes at Jefferson Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Washington Middle School.

**Libby Elementary School District Project No. 4  
Statutory Priority 2 (Deferred Maintenance)**

This application received 396 points and ranked 4 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$1,075,000
Glacier Bank	Energy Savings Performance Contract Loan	\$597,203
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$1,672,203</b>

**Project History** – The facility originally served as the Libby Middle School until 2011. The district consolidated its facilities into two campuses because of decreased funding and enrollment. Libby Elementary School now accommodates grades K-6 for approximately 400 students and comprises a single story 78,985 square foot core classroom educational facility and an adjacent 26,350 square foot gym and music facility. Libby Elementary School’s buildings were built in 1968 and are heated by a decentralized electric resistance system comprising air handling units (4), floor mounted unit ventilators (53), horizontal unit ventilators (11), cabinet heaters/convectors (44), and roof mounted exhaust fans. The units are original to the 1968 building construction and are well beyond their expected useful life.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 1,137 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- Existing HVAC system does not meet ICC 2009 mechanical code and ASHRAE Standard 62-1 Ventilator for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality. Many HVAC units have completely failed, requiring component replacement with increased frequency and costs or are significantly inefficient and are in need of replacement; and
- The outside air intake louvers have been permanently blocked off and the outside air damper actuator has been disconnected.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Upgrade the air source heat pump and ventilation restoration; and
- Replace the air-handling unit.

**Custer County High School District Project No. 5  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health and Safety)**

This application received 392 points and ranked 5 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Type of Funds</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Quality Schools	Grant	\$953,576
Custer County High School District	General Fund	\$60,000
Custer County High School District	Deferred Maintenance Fund	\$30,000
Custer County High School District	Flex Fund	\$10,000
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$1,053,576</b>

**Project History** – Custer County High School was originally built in 1921 with a gymnasium and classrooms added in 1963. Another addition in 1983 added more classroom spaces by infilling portions between the 1921 and 1963 buildings. The roof drains and storm drains for the school connect into the sanitary waste piping from the school building. The existing combined sanitary waste/storm drain piping is not sized adequately to handle the high rainfall events, and the excess pressure is relieved through several drains in the lower level of the building. Sewage backup has occurred within the school multiple times. There were four events in the 2013-2014 school years and two of these events occurred during school hours.

In a related problem, the underground storm drain piping below the gymnasium is undersized to handle the rainfall events specified by code, and therefore during heavy rainstorms, storm water percolates up through the gymnasium floor which is detrimental to the wood court surface. Piping joints in the underground storm water system are suspected of failing due to the excess pressure from storm water backing up. Sewage and water has backed up approximately 29 inches above the basement floor level through a wash basin in the shop.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 532 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- The school has experienced repeated back-up and flooding of raw sewage and storm water through the plumbing fixtures in the high school basement causing serious health concerns for students and staff; and
- The gymnasium building roof membrane has exceeded the useful design life and requires replacement.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Separate sanitary sewage system from storm drainage system;
- Replace a portion of and re-route the existing gymnasium building storm drain piping;
- Replace roof membrane and roof flashings for the 1963 gymnasium building addition, and ;
- Connect the storm drain piping to the existing City main;
- Re-route the main sewage line to the existing City sewer main;
- Replace and install additional new roof drains; and
- Replace concrete sidewalk, complete asbestos abatement for floor tile, and remove and replace basement carpet.

**Grass Range High School District Project No. 6  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health and Safety)**

This application received 388 points and ranked 6 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$77,183.00
Grass Range Foundation	Cash Donation	\$250.00
Grass Range Parent Teacher Organization	Cash Donation	\$250.00
Grass Range High School District	Building Reserve Transfer	\$3,585.98
Grass Range High School District	High School Flex Fund	\$9,416.32
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$90,685.30</b>

**Project History** – Grass Range School was built in 1961. A breezeway connecting the shop and the main building was added in 2012. The shop was built in 1980. Keyless entries have been added at all three entrances of the building, making all visitors check in at the main office prior to entering the classrooms.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 16 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- Current doors are made of wood with single pane windows and large metal vents at the bottom that would allow someone to enter, even if the door is locked; and
- Doors do not meet the twenty-minute corridor fire code because of the vents and manual closure mechanisms, according to the Deputy State Fire Marshal.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Replace all interior doors and two exterior doors.

**Wolf Point Elem and HS District Project No. 7  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health and Safety)**

This application received 376 points and ranked 7 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$918,600
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$918,600</b>

**Project History** – The original Wolf Point Junior/Senior High School building and parking lot was completed in 1996. An addition was added to the original building in 2002 which changed the entrance to the original building. There have been many slips, trips, and falls by staff, students, and community members in the parking lot, particularly during the winter months due to the slope of the parking lot. Ice builds up by the entrance door and handicap parking area because of the poor drainage system. Water runoff from the roof has damaged the asphalt and caused potholes to develop. This situation has created uneven footing for walking in the parking lot and caused vehicles to unsafely swerve to avoid the potholes.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 810 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- Slips, trips, and falls have been reported in the parking lot, near the entrance door and the handicapped parking area, because of poor drainage;
- ADA issues exist with an unusable handicapped parking area during inclement weather; and
- The parking lot is in poor condition with alligator cracking, potholes, and ponding.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Remove existing pavement;
- Install an underground storm drain system;
- Repave the parking lot; and
- Re-grade existing, adjacent gravel parking lot.

**Polson Elementary School District Project No. 8  
Statutory Priority 2 (Deferred Maintenance)**

This application received 372 points and ranked 8 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount
Quality Schools	Grant	\$1,224,679
Polson Elementary School District	Impact Aid	\$150,000
Polson Elementary School District	Building Reserve Fund	\$50,000
	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$1,424,679</b>

**Project History** – The Cherry Valley Elementary school was constructed in 1963 and expanded in both 1982 and 1989. The facility serves pre-Kindergarten through Grade 1 in the Polson School System. Cherry Valley Elementary is the only building with steam heat among the four school facilities in the Elementary District. Steam is generated by a 1955 Weil McLean cast iron oil-fired boiler, purchased in used condition, and installed in the newly constructed school in 1963.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 1,155 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- The boiler has exceeded its useful service life of 40 years by 21 years and is inefficient;
- Replacement parts are no longer manufactured or available; and
- Distribution lines, condensate mains, and unit ventilators are likewise deteriorated and in need of replacement.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Remove existing 1955 Weil McLean oil-fired cast iron boiler;
- Replace with two new smaller and more efficient boilers;
- Install new domestic water heater;
- Replace steam and condensate mains; and
- Update associated piping and ventilation system.

**Geraldine K-12 School District Project No. 9  
Statutory Priority 1 (Public Health & Safety Problems)**

This application received 368 points and ranked 9 out of 50 applications for funding in the 2019 Biennium.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Type of Funds</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Quality Schools	Grant	\$75,000
Geraldine K-12 School District	Flex Fund	\$10,000
Geraldine K-12 School District	Building Fund	\$10,000
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$95,000</b>

**Project History** – The current bleachers were built with the gymnasium 1954 addition. The bleachers are comprised of wood framed seats with 2”x 6” wood plank seating on the main floor. The upper level is wood plank seating on concrete risers. The structural integrity of the existing wooden bleachers is deteriorating, and there are no hand rails, walkways, or code-compliant guard rails on the bleachers, creating a significant safety hazard. In addition, it would be problematic to update or ensure the safety and structural integrity of the current bleacher system as it is.

The district’s enrollment for FY2015 is 88 students.

**Identified Problem** – The district has the following deficiencies:

- The structural integrity of the bleachers is deteriorating; and
- There are significant safety hazards and code deficiencies because there are no handrails or code-compliant walkways or guardrails.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- Install retractable aluminum bleachers on the main floor and low profile plastic sculptured seat modules in the upper level;
- Repair the main level flooring; and
- Widen concrete walkways, install handrails, and replace carpeting for upper level.