Gallatin Gateway School Building Committee Recommendation

The Gallatin Gateway School Building Committee recommends that the Gallatin Gateway School adopt the "New Replacement Concept," and corresponding Bond Issue amount of \$7,050,289. We recommend that the Gallatin Gateway School Board direct the Gallatin Gateway School Building Committee and the design/build firm of Martel/Cushing Terrell to move forward with the "New Replacement Concept" at the center of its 2021 \$7,050,289 Bond Issue. This Concept will replace the 1914 building with, among other features, a new addition to provide for better accessibility, modern systems, a secure entry with adjacent administrative offices, an upgraded kitchen, gym, library and cafeteria as well as additional teaching spaces. An option to provide a second story shell provides for a quick future build-out and secures room for future growth.

Community Input Correspondence for Board Consideration

As of 5pm September 29, 2020



Gateway School Building Committee Recommendation to be Considered by Board

TroutChasers Lodge jason@montanatroutchasers.com>
To: Carrie Fisher fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 10:43 AM

Excellent job by the building committee weighing the options, and looking strongly at what is best for the communities needs today, as well as in the future, and the financial consequences of each choice. It was great to see a unanimous decision, giving confidence to a vote that had some heart strings attached to it.

Great job,

Jason Fleury

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

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To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/a/gallatingatewayschool.com/d/msgid/news/CAJeo%3DfgNObkKaZOB38n-HKqiJF6HRruO 19hCfrb3q7kVU0YA%40mail.gmail.com.



Gateway School Building Committee Recommendation

Dick Shockley <ddshockley@aol.com>

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 4:06 PM

Reply-To: Dick Shockley <ddshockley@aol.com>

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Gallatin Gateway School Board and Building Committee

Presently there are fourteen hundred forty-five (1,445) registered voters in GGS District 35. GGS Facility Project community input efforts to date have included two very poorly attended public meetings and two surveys, one soliciting 60 responses, the other 45 responses.(Of which most, if not all, likely also responded to the first survey.) My analysis of the survey results concludes that there was no clear consensus on selection of options presented.

Communications soliciting input have been exclusively within the school communications "bubble" thus excluding the preponderance of registered voters in the school district.

Community outreach efforts to date are woefully inadequate to support any position on any issue, option, or question. Outreach and feedback reflect a disappointing lack of due diligence in soliciting community support of this project, let alone support for a precedent setting bond issue.

Do not be so hasty to form conclusions based on almost negligible community input. Meeting and survey numbers reflect way less than ten percent and are almost exclusively confined to school community members, exclusive of the broader voter base population. (Many of whom likely constitute NO votes and thus require good information and persuasion to be invested and supportive.)

I recommend greatly expanded outreach and information dissemination through mailings, through the Gateway Fire Board, the Gateway Water Sewer Board, Willing Workers, Gateway church communities, and by enhanced advertisement of public meetings. Please proceed with professionalism, inclusivity, and positivity. Bring constituents together to successfully complete this critically needed facilities project with one strongly supported bond issue.

Dick Shockley 627 Gateway South Rd, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730 406 763-4605

Note: During development of the Gallatin Gateway Community Growth Plan, mailings, surveys, flyers, public meetings, phone discussions, personal conversations, and other communications solicited literally thousands of comments, opinions, and valuable input. Albeit the process required a few years to complete. The point is that the community will become engaged as a result of proactively seeking input, but it must be extensive and inclusive.



Historic 1914 Gallatin Gateway School

Susan Rabatin <azul1@ix.netcom.com> To: Carrie Fisher <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com> Sun, Sep 27, 2020 at 11:28 AM

Dear Ms Fisher,

I am opposed to any plan to tear down the 1914 school building without at least a full review of an alternative plan that would keep all or part of it intact.

The red brick building is a historic pioneer style, an evocative and proud monument to Montana's tradition of rural public education. To destroy a 106-year-old Gallatin Valley architectural landmark without measured and fair consideration of how to save it is not a way forward that I can support.

Sincerely, Susan C Rabatin 650 Bear Crossing Road Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730 406/599-4271

Sent from my iPad



Re: 1914 Gallatin Gateway Schoolhouse - please preserve

Kristine Ellingsen < kristine.e2424@gmail.com> To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Sun, Sep 27, 2020 at 2:36 PM

Dear Carrie Fisher.

I am a resident of Gallatin Gateway and live just a few buildings to the west of the Gateway school. I'm writing to voice my strong opposition to the destruction of the 1914 portion of the school.

Surely there are other options available, options that would preserve this stately piece of historical architecture and be less of a financial burden on those of us who live here.

Sincerely, Kris Ellingsen 216 Mill Street



Demolition of 1914 Gallatin Gateway School?!

Jarrett, Margaret <jarrett@montana.edu>

Sun, Sep 27, 2020 at 1:00 PM

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com> Cc: Donna Shockley <riverislecottage@gmail.com>

Dear Ms. Fisher,

I am writing to say that I am **not** in favor of destroying the 1914 Gallatin Gateway School, so would definitely vote against such an extreme measure. Surely, there is some option to integrate the old with the new? Once an historic icon is ripped from our community, it is but a fading memory . . . we can do better than this!

Sincerely,

Margaret Jarrett

(41-year resident of Gallatin Gateway)

P.O. Box 231

Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

406.763.4305



Removal of building.

Brandon Ostermiller

Fostermiller74@gmail.com>
To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 9:18 AM

To whom it may concern,

The removal of the 1914 building needs to happen in order for the future growth of the school. Dont need to live in the past need to move onto the future. Removal of the building will do just that allowing growth and everything brought up to code. Keeping the old building will just be throwing money down the drain.

Thank you for your time,

Brandon



Fwd: Gateway school

Theresa Keel <keel@gallatingatewayschool.com>
To: Carrie Fisher <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 9:51 AM

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sherryual@aol.com <sherryual@aol.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 8:51 AM

Subject: Gateway school

To: <keel@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Hi there!

I have been a resident in Gateway for 14 years and have not been asked about my thoughts about the school. Myself, as well as many other people do not go to Facebook.

I did send in a note 12 years ago about how I saw Gateway changing.

As I saw the beginning of growth, and heard about the little school, I suggested they needed to purchase property and build a new school at that time.

The building they now use for the school and gym could be changed into a community recreation center. The classrooms could be art rooms, pottery class room, workout room, yoga rooms, karate room, baby sit room, exercise classes, the gym could be used for snowy, and rainy drop in games or play. You would already have lockers and the gym.

You could easily set up for pickle ball in the gym.

People could buy memberships to use the space with each class costing something. There would have to be a manager and brochures with classes, etc.

A new school could be built on property on corner of Cottontail and axtel south.

You could save the little old school house. Raise funds as non profit to refurbish little old school house.

You will outgrow remodeled school very quickly.

BUILD NEW SCHOOL

Be smart about it...it does not have to be a billion dollar school...

Montana's weather is not condusive to outdoor play, except for a few months out of year. The community would love a recreation center to use on bad weather days (a lot) and seniors would love something to do or place to gather. It be good for all ages. That is my suggestion for what it is worth.

The rest of my suggestion long ago, was to put gas lights lining street of Gateway and make little stores out of junky barns and buildings. Make it a destination, come for dinner and shop, crafty, old western stores. After Thanksgiving, Santa comes to old school house and horse and wagon rides. Whoever I sent my suggestions at the time, Loved my ideas....but oh well Good luck..

Sherry Dickerson.

Sent from my iPhone

Theresa Keel

Superintendent

Gallatin Gateway School

PO Box 265

Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

406.763.4415-phone

406-.763-4886-fax

www.gallatingatewayschool.com



Renovation or Demolish School

Janine G. Roberts <janinegaile@aol.com>
Reply-To: "Janine G. Roberts" <janinegaile@aol.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 3:12 PM

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Good Afternoon:)

I would like the School Board to slow this process down. I did not have a chance to go to the last meeting but will be attending the Oct 1st meeting to give me input.

Janine

Janine G. Roberts Roberts Bookkeeping Service, Inc. 406-763-4343

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Superintendent Discuss & Cuss-TONIGHT!

waycher thiem <wedofence@hotmail.com>

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 12:53 PM

Hello Carrie,

On behalf of the Thiem Family we are against tearing the building down. We would like to see it restored. It is a part of History and should be Historical Site.

We will try to make the meeting on Thursday.

Thank you,

Have a great day!

From: Carrie Fisher <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 1:38 PM **To:** News <news@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Subject: [GGS News] Superintendent Discuss & Cuss-TONIGHT!

[Quoted text hidden]

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1914 Gallatin Gateway School House

roarkgg@gmail.com <roarkgg@gmail.com> To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 3:36 PM

To the Building Committee and School Board:

I am an environmental professional who has lived in and had a home office in Gallatin Gateway for 20 years. My business includes working with architects and developers to find solutions that avoid, minimize and/or mitigate environmental impact. I routinely analyze impacts of potential alternatives and document compliance of federally funded projects with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and have a professional background in regulatory compliance for school projects funded with federal grants and tax monies.

A through-going concept in NEPA is to provide decision makers with information so that they can choose solutions that are the "least environmentally damaging practicable alternative." The environment includes physical/natural factors and human/social/built factors. Even community acceptance is an environmental factor that is to be considered, since no project stands isolated from the community in which it is implemented.

If there is a practicable alternative that protects the environment – natural or built – it should be given greater consideration than any alternative that does not protect the environment. In an evaluation of alternatives, an alternative that does not protect the environment should be chosen only if there is no other alternative,

Cultural and historical resources are an important part of our social environment, providing continuity and holding a community together. The historic portion of the school building is a keystone structure in the Gateway community, and well worth preservation or restoration. Demolishing the historic centerpiece of Gallatin Gateway would teach our students that history and tradition can be obliterated and discarded in a disposable, on-demand world.

Please give additional consideration to preserving the community-owned architectural landmark of our town. I will not vote in support of a bond that destroys the 1914 building.

Thank you,

Carol Lee-Roark

Senior Environmental Scientist / Partner



carol@hyaliteenvironmental.com

http://www.hyaliteenvironmental.com

406-600-9450

PO Box 90

Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730



1914 building demolition

Ty Spring <tspring@springcorp.net> Reply-To: Ty Spring <tspring@springcorp.net> Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 10:11 AM

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

I want to express my disappointment of hearing that the building committee has decided to tear down the historic 1914 section of the school. That building is a central part of the character of downtown Gallatin Gateway. That building holds a lot of memories for me as well as countless others in this community. My great grandmother was part of the first graduating class when it was a high school. My grandfather and my dad attended this school as well as myself and both of my sons. I had Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade in those classrooms. I remember watching the progress of the gym being built from the second floor classroom. I remember lining up for school outside those steps and my first kiss was on those same front steps. My point is, many others from this community have alot of similar memories of this building and would have a hard time voting for a bond that included tearing it down.

I know that structural improvements and maintenance are probably the main contributing factors to the decision to tear it down. Keeping this historic structure is worth the additional costs and I believe many in this community would agree and vote accordingly.

Thank you,

Ty Spring



Building Demolition Input

1 message

Morgan Klaas <mklaas@profitableideas.com>

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 9:15 PM

Ms. Fisher,

I'm writing to lend my support to the pause considerations around the demolition of the historic Gateway School.

This building means so much to me and to the history of Gallatin Gateway (or should I say – Salesville). The fact that this structure is not in the historic register baffles my mind – I cannot even believe that the idea of tearing it down is even being considered. I will always be a person who believes in preserving historic places. Personally, I spent both my 4th and 5th grade years in this portion of the building – I remember lining up under the front white arch and I cannot imagine Gateway school without it.

Money is money. It can be reprinted and earned. History is too easily erased in a second – is the loss of it ever really worth saving a few couple hundred dollars?

I personally stand on the side of restoration and preservation. That building is still in great shape. It can be updated to welcome students of future generations. I feel this building is one of the few structures in the area that ADDS to the aesthetic and celebrates the weirdness that was Salesville. We would be remiss as a community to support it's demolition.

pie

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School building

Pamm Davis <prd3@earthlink.net> To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 7:38 PM

I have lived in the Gateway area on Axtell-Anceny Rd for 32 years. I would like to see the old school house remain. It is a beautiful building and apparently can be brought up to code. Please slow down and get more feedback from the community who live here.

Pamm Davis

Sent from my iPhone



Demolishing the 1914 schoolhouse

Cheryl Deats <deatsc@yahoo.com>

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 4:30 PM

Dear Gallatin Gateway School Board,

I am one of the residence of Gallatin Gateway and have not entered into the discussion about "updating" the Gateway school until now.

However, now that you all are so intent on "demolishing" this historic building, I am compelled to speak out against such a decission.

I have visited Gallatin Gateway since the '50's and summered here since 1989. My husband and I permanently moved here in 1999. Upon moving here, I did a great deal of substitute teaching at this school as well as being a member of the school board for 3yrs.

This original building, though old and somewhat outdated, has a history for this community that, when gone, will be gone forever. There are still families living in the area who actually attended classes in that old building. And parts of that building are still in use today.

Yes, a brand new building would get you lots of "bells and whistles" but it can never be what the original building was and is. Yes, the old building has problems and won't get you as many classrooms or square footage as a newer building, but it will certainly cost less to renovate rather than demolish in order to construct something new! Even the new addition has problems that need correcting. Are you going to "demolish" that addition also in a few years?

The Gateway student population is small by comparision to other districts. Currently there are aproximately 150 students in K-8. Over the years, the number of students has fluctuated somewhere between 120 and 180 total students in K-8. Yes, with more people moving to rural areas, these numbers may change, but aren't we putting the cart before the horse here?

People in this district are practical and are not going to vote for a 7 million bond when the reasoning for approving it a flawed. Look back over the history of voting in this district concerning bond approvals. Not too many have passed and this one would hit many road blocks!

To me maintaining one of our district's historic buildings is far more important than erecting a "newer, more modern" building at this time.

My husband and I vote to keep the original building and renovate it when necessary.

Sincerely, Cheryl Deats



Fwd: The surveys do not appropriately reflect the community

Theresa Keel <keel@gallatingatewayschool.com>
To: Carrie Fisher <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 9:17 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jared & Jessica Black <theblacksmail@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 6:48 PM

Subject: The surveys do not appropriately reflect the community

To: Theresa Keel <keel@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Theresa,

I took the surveys and what I consistently saw was no option to say NO!

The surveys were written very specifically, to get a positive response on some kind of building project.

I don't want a new school until all the out of district kids are shipped back to their own school and we include middle school into Bozeman.

I disagree with you saying that the surveys accurately reflect peoples opinion.

And again you said in the meeting ... "which one of these."

How about those of us who appose all these options. The surveys were written very specifically to give us no voice.

I am very disappointed in your surveys and how you have portrayed folks wanting to build, when many of us do not.

Jared Black

Theresa Keel

Superintendent

Gallatin Gateway School

PO Box 265

Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

406.763.4415-phone

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School bond

BRAD JOSETTE PARSCH
 bradjosette@msn.com>

To: "fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com" <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 9:21 AM

Ms Fisher.

I have been a resident in Gallatin Gateway for 15 years. I would like the school board to slow down and wait for a year before they ask for the approval of another bond. I think tax payers will be much more willing to fund the bond once Covid is in the rear view mirror. This year has been very difficult economically for most families, and a lower tax bill would be a welcomed reprieve. Please reconsider this burden you will be placing on the families of this community.

Josette Parsch

Sent from my iPhone



(no subject)

Donna Fleury <dsfleury4@icloud.com>
To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 9:08 AM

Sent from my

We understand the sentimental value of the original Gallatin Gateway School, however we believe that tearing it down and building a new school is the best option for our current, future students, and taxpayers. As registered voters in Gallatin County we would be opposed to a bond to renovate the old building, but 100% for a new building.

Dan and Donna Fleury



1914 school building

travis sturgis <travissturgis5@gmail.com> To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 1:32 PM

I wanted to say that as a life long tax paying resident of gateway im not ok with the old school house being tore down its old buildings like this and the history that happened here that make gateway what it is and gives it its charm.

Also I heard from someone they want to build a new building that would cost around 7 million. That is insanely too much money for a

grade school In a small town. What in the world would they plan on doing there that would make it so expensive



Preservation of the 1914 Gallatin Gateway School in Gallatin County, Montana

Rachel Phillips <rachelp184@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 3:25 PM

To: schwieterman@gallatingatewayschool.com, fleury@gallatingatewayschool.com, paulson@gallatingatewayschool.com, ringo@gallatingatewayschool.com, martin@gallatingatewayschool.com, fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

Cc: commission@gallatin.mt.gov, chere@preservemontana.org, pebrown@mt.gov, khampton@mt.gov, rlvanslyke@hotmail.com, pitamakan@mac.com, wolfsongmt55@gmail.com, brad.ogrosky@yahoo.com, jouzelcopeland@gmail.com, mefitz1209@gmail.com, Gallatin History Museum <research@gallatinhistorymuseum.org>, eskinnerhale@gmail.com

Greetings,

Please find attached a letter to the Gallatin Gateway School Board of Trustees from the Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County. The HPBGC is advocating preservation of the historic 1914 Salesville/Gallatin Gateway School building in Gallatin County.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Rachel Phillips (on behalf of all members of the Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County)

Gallatin Gateway School 9-29-20.pdf 927K

Chair, Board of Trustees Gallatin Gateway School District 100 Mill Street PO Box 265 Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

September 29, 2020

Dear Gallatin Gateway School Board of Trustees:

The Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County, HPBGC, is charged with the responsibility of protecting and preserving historic sites and structures in Gallatin County. The 1914 Gallatin Gateway School building is one of these important historic structures.

Gallatin Gateway, previously called Salesville after the Zachariah Sales family, is a wonderful historic community in Gallatin County. Formal education in Salesville dates back to the early 1880s. Teachers instructed students in one-room schoolhouses for the first couple decades. The Gallatin Valley Electric Railway brought passenger and freight service to the area in 1909, and by the early 1910s, a wide variety of businesses were well established in town, including a bank, hotel, general stores, saloons, and a blacksmith shop. In 1914, the citizens of Salesville proudly constructed the largest brick building in town – the Salesville School. For over 100 years, this structure has anchored the Gateway community, serving thousands of local children throughout its long history. The Salesville School, or Gallatin Gateway School, was a popular destination on the 2nd Gallatin County tour event organized and hosted by the Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County in 2013. As part of this "Historic Gateway Tour" event, retired teacher and former HPBGC Board Member Lillian Theisen delivered a crowd-pleasing history of the school to tour attendees. Today, the school building stands as a reminder of Gallatin Gateway's rich history and as a symbol of what a determined, dedicated community can accomplish.

As one of the oldest surviving brick schoolhouses in Gallatin County, the historic 1914 Gallatin Gateway School should be documented and evaluated for possible inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The current structure is sound and stable, and with National Register eligibility, funding could be acquired to preserve the structure for future generations. Listing this historic school on the National Register of Historic Places will not preclude alterations to the modern additions or upgrades to the interior as long as the features of the historic structure such as basic roof line, doors, windows, and brick exterior materials are retained. The building has the full potential to be used long into the future and celebrated by the historic community.

The Gallatin Gateway School is a vital part of Salesville and Gallatin Gateway identity and because of the school's historic importance and continued usefulness, the structure is well-deserving of preservation. Thank you for this opportunity to share HPBGC's concerns regarding this important Gallatin County school.

Respectfully,

Bob Van Slyke

HPBGC Chairman

Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County

Bob Van Slyke – Chairman Brad O'Grosky – Secretary Mark Hufstetler – Treasurer Jeff Copeland Mary Ellen Fitzgerald Debbie Lovely-Jones Rachel Phillips

Elaine Skinner Hale