

Tony Kloker, Superintendent - Montana City School District

Per email response ~

1. Please briefly describe the scope and cost of the project(s) Daniel McGee was a part of with your District.

He was initially brought on board for a performance contract to upgrade our HVAC/boiler system three years prior to our 5.7 million dollar building expansion project. We were able to upgrade everything and pay for the expense of this project through energy savings. We then utilized his strengths as a project manager and hired him as part of the design build team to complete our 5.7 million dollar school expansion project using the design build method. His experience in other school construction projects was a huge benefit to our district, and his oversight and ideas during this phase saved us well over 6 figures during the construction phase. Dan was not afraid to fight for the district if necessary to ensure the contractors, engineers and architects were doing what was best for the district.

2. What are Dan's strengths?

Knowledge, Energy, Professionalism -- he was committed from the beginning through the end of the project and also assisted in areas outside his scope of work, his ability to save money and keep projects under budget.

3. What are Dan's weaknesses?

I can't think of a single weakness. He was a great resource and very responsive to our needs.

4. If applicable, how did Dan perform in regards to 1) garnering input, consensus, and community support for the passage of necessary bonds.

Outstanding and very personable. His interactions with staff were positive and productive. He made sure to understand the interests of others before moving forward with solutions/options.

2) overseeing and managing the construction process and ensuring a quality product within budget.

Our building exceeded our expectations and was under budget. We were hoping to get 6 classrooms and we ended up constructing 8 classrooms because Dan also helped us secure a \$800,000 grant to pay for the fire sprinkler system- this savings was then used to build additional classrooms.

3) regularly communicating and informing Administration and School Board regarding the status of project(s)/costs.

Dan is an excellent communicator, but his greatest strength was providing several options with pros and cons so the administration, construction team and board could make the best decisions based on our specific desires.

5. Would you hire Dan again?

Absolutely- I would go out of my way to have him work for the district again on our next project.

Kim McKearan, Exec. Director - Camp Mak-a-Dream

Per email response ~

I have known Dan for years and currently interact with him in his role as Board President of the non-profit organization for which I am the Executive Director.

Here is what I can say regarding the questions you asked:

- Please briefly describe the scope and cost of the project(s) Daniel McGee was a part of with your District or the nature of the work that you are involved in with Dan.
  - Dan is currently serving as the Board President of the non-profit, Children's Oncology Camp Foundation (d.b.a. Camp Mak-A-Dream). He has been on the board for 6 years and served as the Vice President prior to his current role. Dan facilitated an audit of our current structures at Camp and provided recommendations for needed renovations/upgrades to improve our efficiency and decrease maintenance. He also has provided professional expertise to inform several renovation and building projects at Camp.
- What are Dan's strengths?
  - Dan is easy to work with and a good communicator. He builds consensus among stakeholders, considers all applicable information and is committed to ensuring that things are done well/right. He has been generous in his time with our facilities director to tackle projects or resolve issues on our 87 acre campus.
- What are Dan's weaknesses?
  - I'm finding it hard to note any weaknesses. Honestly, all of my interactions have been positive and productive.
- If applicable, how did Dan perform in regards to 1) garnering input, consensus, and community support for the passage of necessary bonds 2) overseeing and managing the construction process and ensuring a quality product within budget 3) regularly communicating and informing Administration and School Board regarding the status of project(s)/costs.

- This is not the nature of my interactions with Dan, for the most part, so I can't comment in a useful way. But, again, I would note that Dan is approachable, communicative, hardworking and knowledgeable.
- Would you hire Dan again?
  - I've never "hired" Dan (technically, he is my boss... along with the rest of the board), but I would given the right circumstance!

I hope this helps... feel free to give me a call if you need anything else!

Tom Stack, Superintendent - Clinton Elementary School

Per phone conversation ~

I've worked with Dan on a variety of projects including planning and project grants.

We have an older school (1940's) with multiple additions (1970's); we were to the point of using modular classrooms and also needed space for a computer lab, special ed, etc.

We hired Dan for the pre-bonding process, and we paid for it with flex funds. We secured a \$4 million bond. We had been talking about renovations/construction for 4-5 years, so we had momentum built up. We passed it 61% to 39% with the largest election turn-out. We were super transparent - we had a link and property-tax calculator on our website.

In addition, I think we had good timing too - Missoula's schools were just finishing up some big projects, so contractors were ready for the next project; there was good competition, which drove down the price.

Design Build is the way to go! There is no pointing-fingers and no change orders (though we did have a contingency set aside).

We bought a lot of things ourselves to keep costs down (rather than going through a middle-man) - ex: gym floor, bleachers... pay attention to mark-up!

Strengths: He's good and on it! I would absolutely hire again. He has great architecture and building experience and little overhead. He works well with admin, and presents to the Board. He won't B.S. you if he doesn't know the answer.

Weaknesses: Sometimes you have to pick up the phone and tell him that you need him here. Based on who he's working with, there can be scheduling conflicts with Board meetings. On the upside, he's not a big company, and he's easy to get ahold of.

## Todd Rouse, Southwestern MT Family YMCA

Per phone conversation ~

The YMCA is doing a \$3.2 million addition with Diamond Construction as our general contractor and Dan as our owner's rep.

History: We hired a consulting firm out of Bozeman, and they were not getting things done. They were holding us back (we're a year behind), and we ended up firing them. I was on the school board, so I called up Glen Johnson to get his thoughts on Dan as a replacement, because Dan had been working on the local middle school project. Based on the feedback we got, we hired Dan and will break ground in March/April.

We did a quiet-phase of our capital campaign before Dan was on-board and will start our community-wide campaign in April when we break ground.

Dan has done news interviews and radio spots and has done a good job. Diamond Construction is helping hold events/fundraise as well.

Dan is personable and knowledgeable.

Weakness: Being out of town (in Missoula - rather than being closer). Sometimes it can be difficult to explain issues when the other person is off-site.

Dan has been great at working with our architect, 45 Architecture (Bozeman). He noticed some issues on the plans and came up with solutions and worked with the architects to address drainage, etc.

The Board wanted me to be the owner's rep, but I didn't have the time and depth of knowledge that I knew was needed. I wanted it done right - I didn't want to have to be replacing things in the short-term because corners were cut (i.e. having a residential pool heater installed rather than a commercial one).

When we were drawing up plans, Dan noticed issues regarding hallway traffic flow that I never would have thought about.

Would I hire again? Yes - he's Johnny-on-the-Spot.

Glen Jones, Superintendent (retired) - Dillon Elem. School

Per phone conversation ~

I've known Dan for 8 years - I became the elementary superintendent in 2008. I first met Dan when he was working for McKinstry doing energy work, and we worked together on a Quality School Grant. We wrote a \$75,000 grant together.

Dan led groups re: construction, and the Board hired another firm to do the construction. After the project completed, Dan started his own company.

I know the YMCA Board previously had an owner's rep from Bozeman that they fired, and Dan stepped in. He put his shoulder to the plow and got things done. Their gym project was dead in the water (the general contractor pulled-out), and with Dan, things are now back on track.

I'm familiar with projects in Clinton, St. Ignatius, and Superior that Dan has worked on, and I haven't heard anyone speak poorly of him. I would put him in charge in a heartbeat. He has great ideas, and gets community buy-in. He's committed and has lots of contacts.

Weakness: (not necessarily a weakness) - he will try to mediate, but if he has to turn into a bulldog, he will take a firm stand.

I couldn't recommend Dan enough.

Gary Love, Board Chair - Beaverhead County High School

Per phone conversation ~

We have two districts - high school and elementary. We ran a \$8.9 million bond three years ago. Our project is in three phases, and over the course of Phase 1 & 2, we've had turn over of general contractor, principal architect, and owner's rep. Dan came on board last June/July for Phase 3 and has been a godsend. (We're just about to bid Phase 3.) He's gotten the GC and architect on the same page and is keeping the Board informed. He can negotiate and call people out without offending. He follows-through on tasks.

Supplemental: We used a local architect for pre-bond work. We wouldn't use an out-of-state contractor again due to lack of contacts with local subcontractors.

We wouldn't hesitate to hire Dan again.

Bud Scully, Superintendent - Florence-Carlton School District

Per email response ~

1. Dan did two projects with us. A boiler replacement that was about \$250,000 project and our \$15.9M bond project that we are currently involved in.
2. Knowledge of the construction industry, relationships with architects and contractors. Great personality, makes connections with people on a personal level.
3. I don't know of any weaknesses.
4. We worked hand in hand to build consensus for the project and get it passed. It was the first bond in 30 years and no one thought it would pass. We are currently in the design phase and he keeps everyone on task and focused project as we laid it out to the voters. He reports monthly to the Board and public at our board meetings. Check out our facebook page it has some video of his reports.
5. I would most definitely hire him again!