

## **Conrad Public Schools Seeks Levy for School Infrastructure**

Voters in Conrad Public School District #10 will be asked, on May 5, 2015, to approve a high school building reserve levy to ensure that the outstanding facilities at Conrad High School are maintained, updated and renovated as needed.

At a recent Board meeting, the Trustees determined that a General Levy for the high school would not be needed, but that a building reserve levy would be necessary in order to maintain the quality of the high school facilities and to make many needed improvements at the high school.

The proposed building reserve levy would run for five years, at \$100,000 per year. The additional cost to the taxpayer's yearly property tax would be \$9.23 per year, on a house with a value of \$50,000; \$18.46 would be added per year on a \$100,000 house; and, \$36.92 would be added, each year for five years, on a house valued at \$200,000.

The facilities at the high school are in excellent overall condition, due to the diligent care and upkeep conducted by the maintenance staff at Conrad Public Schools. In order to sustain the high quality of the facilities—that is the reputation of Conrad Public Schools—preventative maintenance, upgrades, and renovation will be required.

Among the preventative maintenance activities, upgrades, and renovations that the levy would provide funds for—over the next five years—include:

- preventative maintenance on the old part of the high school roof;
- replace or update technology wiring in the high school to keep up with the technological demands of a 21st century high school;
- review and update technology infrastructure, hardware, and software as needed;
- install electronic locks and surveillance cameras to better enhance building security and ensure the safety of our students and staff;

- install, replace, or repair sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots;
- completely renovate the “home” side of the football field to replace unsafe bleachers, add restrooms and concession area at the football field, and provide for the safety and convenience of our fans and guests; and,
- renovate and repair restrooms and storage at the track.

Conrad High School and the other school facilities in the Conrad Public Schools are well-known as being some of the best maintained grounds and buildings in the state of Montana. But, this doesn’t happen by accident. Only through the hard work and meticulous efforts of an exceptional maintenance staff is district’s reputation for great facilities earned. And it also takes funding to support these efforts.

Conrad High School is 62 years old and—for many good reasons—the pride of the community. Conrad Public Schools has facilities that other school districts can only wish that they could have. There is no reason why, with careful attention to do what needs to be done—and a willingness to do it—that the high school can’t continue to be the envy of other districts throughout the state for another 62 years.

The Board of Trustees and Superintendent ask that the community support this vitally important high school building reserve levy to ensure that the children in Conrad Public Schools are able to continue to attend the finest school facilities in the State, for many years to come.

If district stakeholders have any questions, or would like to visit the high school to see why the levy is needed, they are invited to come by the Russell Building, or call the District Office at 278-5521. If, the Superintendent is not available to talk with you, to take your call, or take you on a tour, the District Office will make someone available to assist you.