



A Leader in Education Excellence

Annual Report 2017

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Message from the Superintendent

Hamilton School District is making significant progress and is becoming one of the more recognized school districts in the region. This is a result of a committed board, strategic leadership, a dedicated staff, and an amazing community. The Hamilton School District is focused on continuous improvement and over-delivering on the valued support of the community!

Hamilton students are raising the bar of excellence as they prepare to be the next generation of American Citizens. Our regionally leading graduation rate of nearly 99%, competitive academic achievement, and vocational opportunities prepare students for college, advanced technical training, or direct entry into the workforce.

The Hamilton community's support through a passing bond is a direct investment in Hamilton's future. As we reduce the number of campuses from four to three, we can improve the fiscal efficiency, annual maintenance, and student experience. Our upgraded campuses will improve the community's ability to attract new families and businesses to the area.

The Hamilton community's support through passing levy will allow the district to continue offering meaningful opportunities to students, recruit and retain high quality staff, and keep class sizes at optimal levels. Hamilton boasts some of the best opportunities in the region with a great early childhood and elementary program, multiple dual enrollment and advanced placement courses, certificate-granting vocational programs, a state recognized gifted and talented program, incredible support for students in need, and highly competitive extra-curricular opportunities.

Bronc Nation is on the rise and will continue to make progress with the outstanding support of the community and the District's commitment to a culture of excellence.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Korst



Academic Excellence



**Best
Graduation
Rate in the
Valley**

**Leading the Valley in
Small Classes**



Lifetime Achievement and Distinguished Service Award Winner Jan Witt! 46 years of amazing service for students with disabilities!



**Award
Winning Staff**



High School Principal of the Year Dan Kimzey!

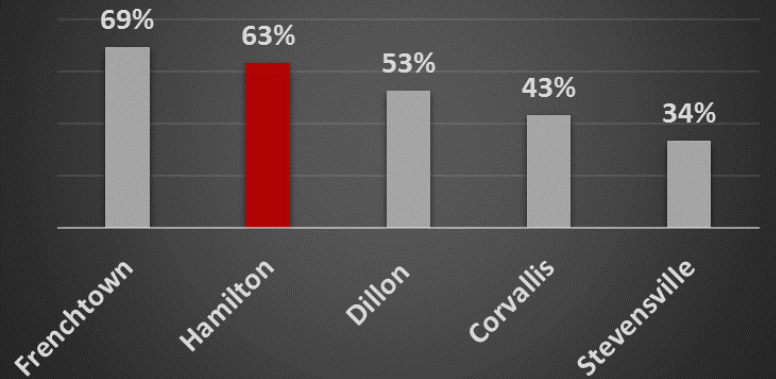
Academic Excellence



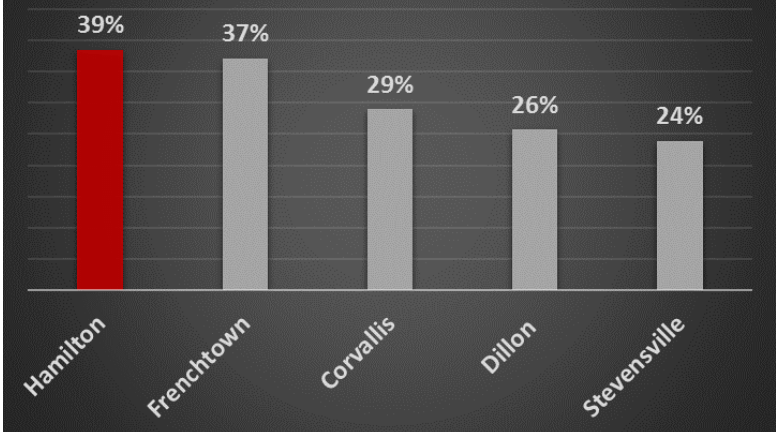
The **national ACT exam** is given to all juniors in Montana High Schools to determine educational proficiency as well as to facilitate college entry and career planning. The charts provide an analysis of how Hamilton performs in comparison to regional like-sized Districts. Data retrieved from OPI Gems April 2018.



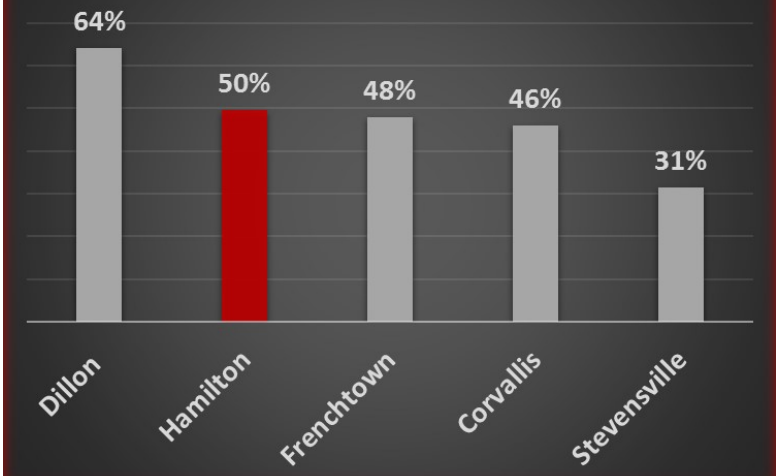
2017 ACT English Language Arts Proficiency



2017 ACT Math Proficiency



2017 CRT Science Proficiency

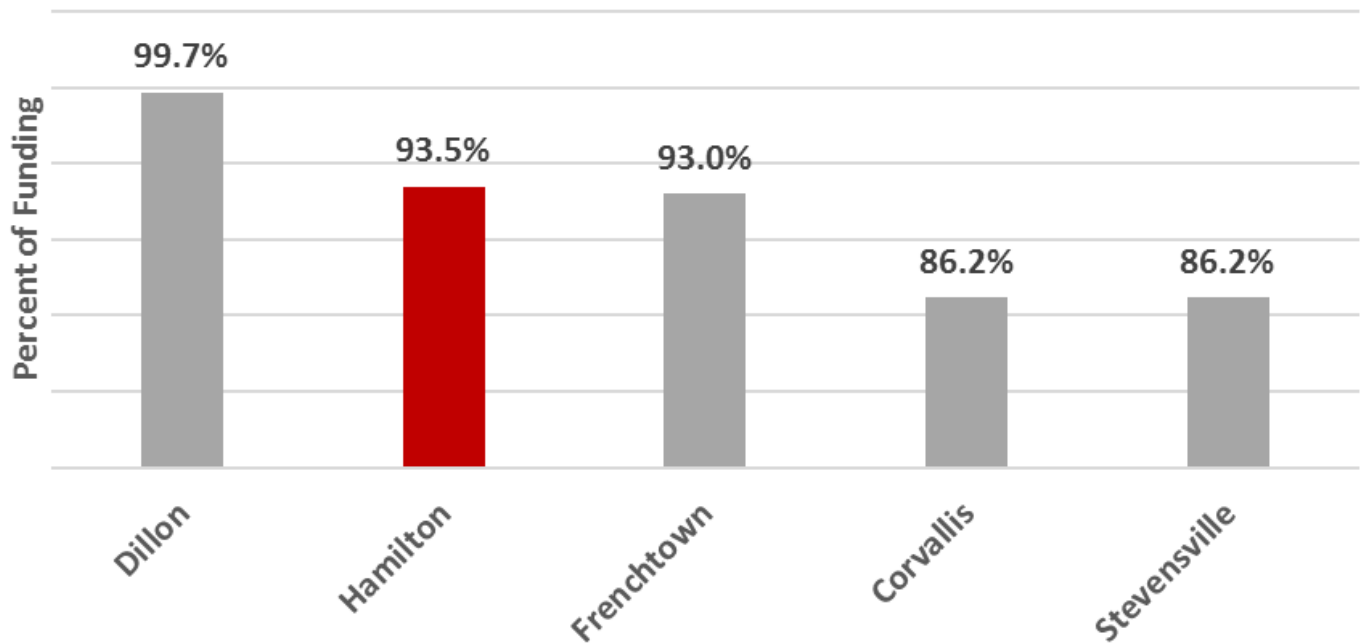


Community Support



In 2017, voters approved a \$400,000 General Fund Levy which improved Hamilton's overall budget to 93.5% of state calculated adequate funding.

Anticipated 2018-2019 Southwestern Class "A" Funding Levels



Career & College Readiness

Career and College Credit Courses Offered at Hamilton

- Pre Calculus
- Writing 101
- Auto CAD
- Solid Works 3D Modeling
- Advanced Master Cam
- Advanced Culinary Arts
- AP English Composition
- AP English Literature
- AP US History
- AP Government
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Chemistry
- AP German
- AP Spanish
- AP Studio Art
- AP Statistics
- AP Microeconomics

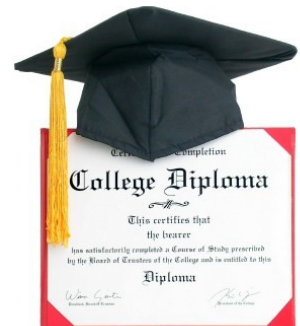
Significant College Savings



1,300 college credits earned by Hamilton students in 2017 which saved families thousands of dollars.

\$1.6 Million in potential out-of state tuition savings. *Out-of-State Tuition is calculated at \$1,250 per credit*

\$500,000 in potential in-state savings. *In-State Tuition is calculated at \$325 per credit*

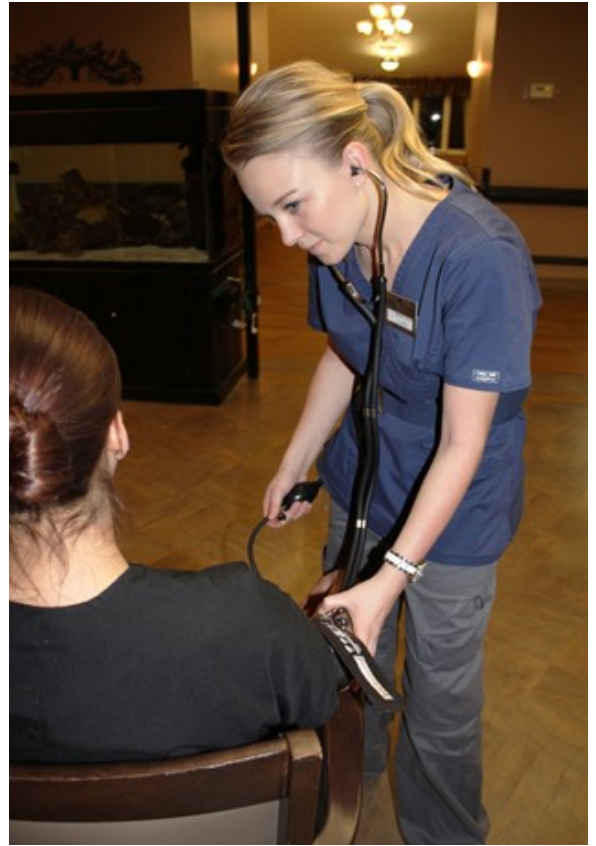


Career & College Readiness

2016 Hamilton High School Graduate Rachel Grimes working as a Certified Nurse's Assistant at Discovery Care Center in Hamilton

"I'm planning on going to college and having a job while in college. I figured that to be able to afford everything and live the life I want to live, I need to have more education than others and I need to have my CNA," Grimes said. "I wanted to be in the medical field since I was in eighth grade. When this came up, I was so excited."

"I feel very honored that I was allowed to do this and I feel very respected now as a high school student," Grimes said. "This was the first time they let high school students take CNA at the Bitterroot College. Having a scholarship from The Greater Ravalli Foundation was another plus."



64 Hamilton High School Graduates have enrolled in an associates degree, career pathway, or an industry recognized certification program through the Bitterroot College over the past two years.

College Program	2016-17	2017-18	Two-Year Total
Associate of Arts	20	22	42
Information Technology	3	NA	3
Pre-Nursing	2	3	5
Welding	1	1	2
Undeclared	1	1	2
Total Per Year	27	27	54

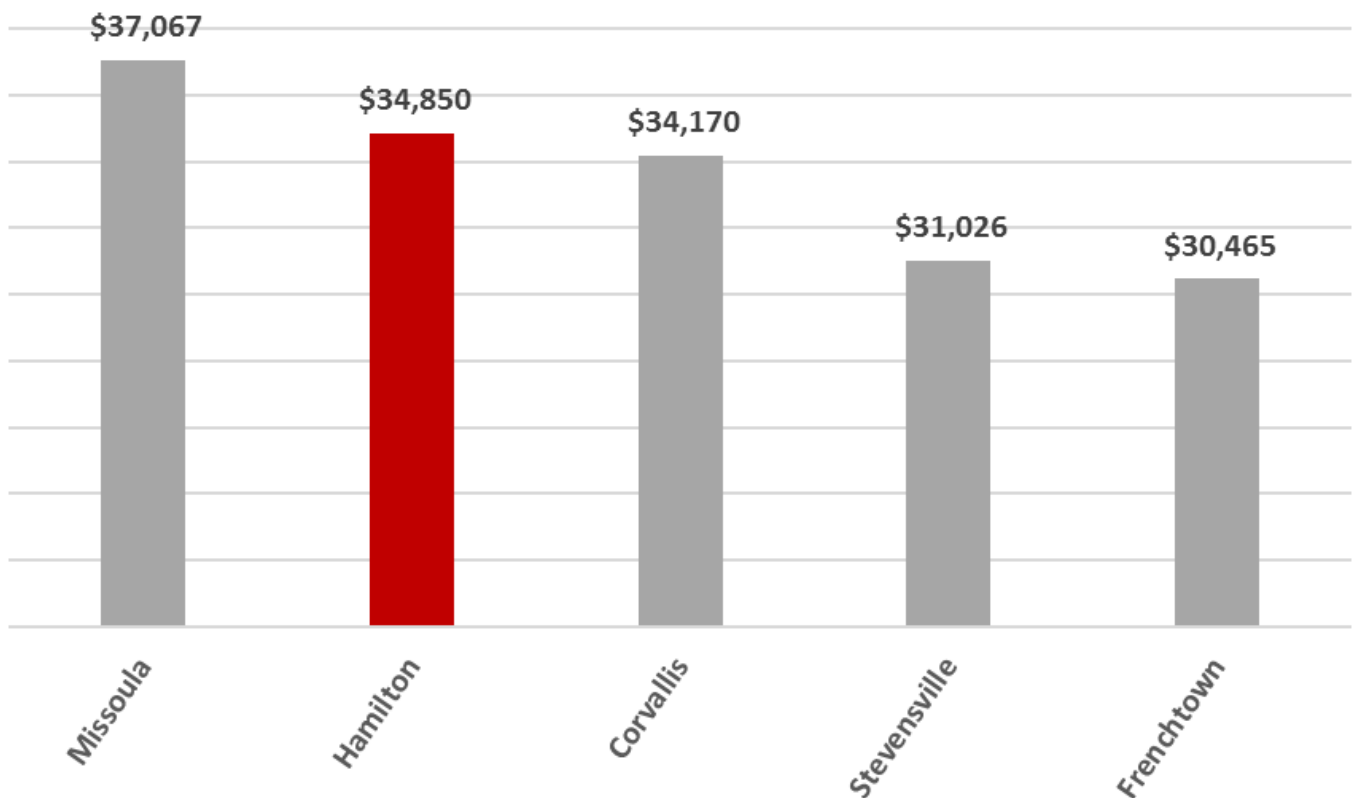
Workforce Program	2016-17	2017-18	Two-Year Total
Certified Medical Assistant (CCMA)	NA	3	3
Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)	2	2	4
Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT)	3	NA	3
Total Per Year	5	5	10

Teacher Compensation



Six years ago, Hamilton had the lowest starting teacher salary in the area compared to like-sized regional school Districts. Due to several years of reducing costs and two successful levies the district is now a regional leader in starting teacher compensation.

Analysis of Regional Like-Sized District
Starting Teacher Salaries for 2018-19



School Security



Enhanced Entrances: Five years ago, the Hamilton School District improved entryways so that staff would have improved knowledge of who was entering our schools; office windows were remodeled; surveillance cameras were installed; and entries are controlled by electronic doors. This was an important first step toward improving the security of our schools.

Training is key. Hamilton has partnered with local law enforcement and *Safariland* to improve tactical responses to a variety of threats. Hamilton has several certified trainers on staff who provide support locally and throughout the region.



Full-Scale Emergency

Drills are held in one of the schools annually. These are large-scale events that involve multiple community responders. Below is a timeline and procedure that was practiced in each school.

- ⇒ **(2018) Middle School:** “gas leak”
- ⇒ **(2017) Daly:** “bomb threat”
- ⇒ **(2016) High School:** “active shooter”
- ⇒ **(2015) Washington:** “broken power line”



Modernized Facilities

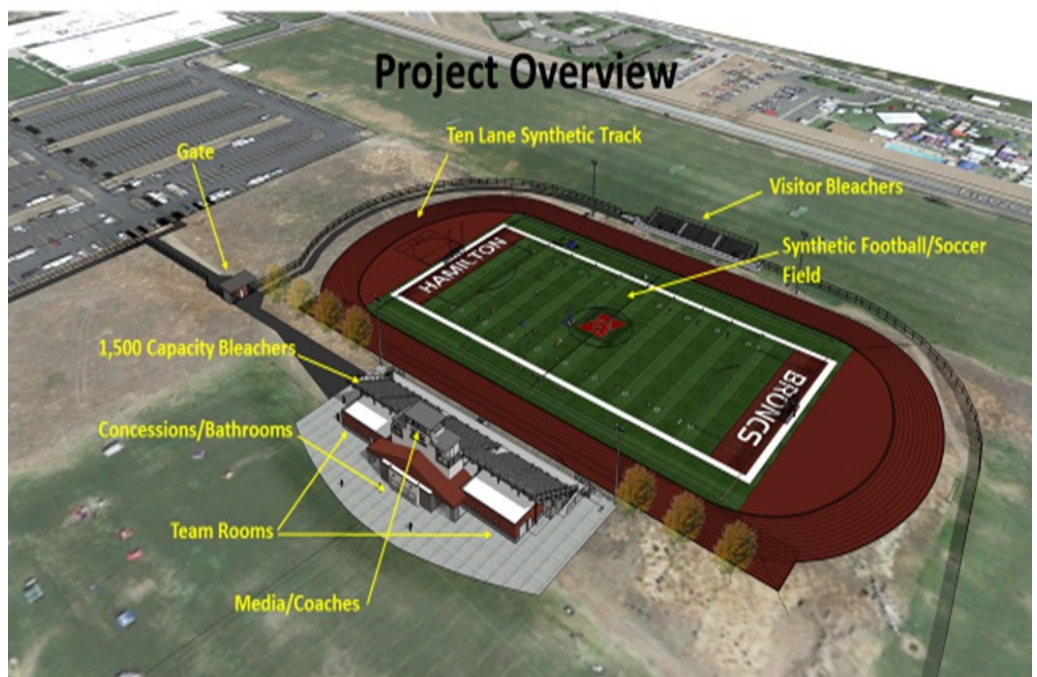
The recently successful bond will allow the District to consolidate and significantly improve campuses while generating efficiencies. The two projects to be completed are the Daly expansion and remodel and the relocation of the athletic complex to the high school.

Daly expansion will include new classrooms and a gymnasium.

Daly remodel will include a remodeling of the current 2nd & 3rd grade wing, a library in the current 4th and 5th grade wing, and improved kitchen serving and storage.

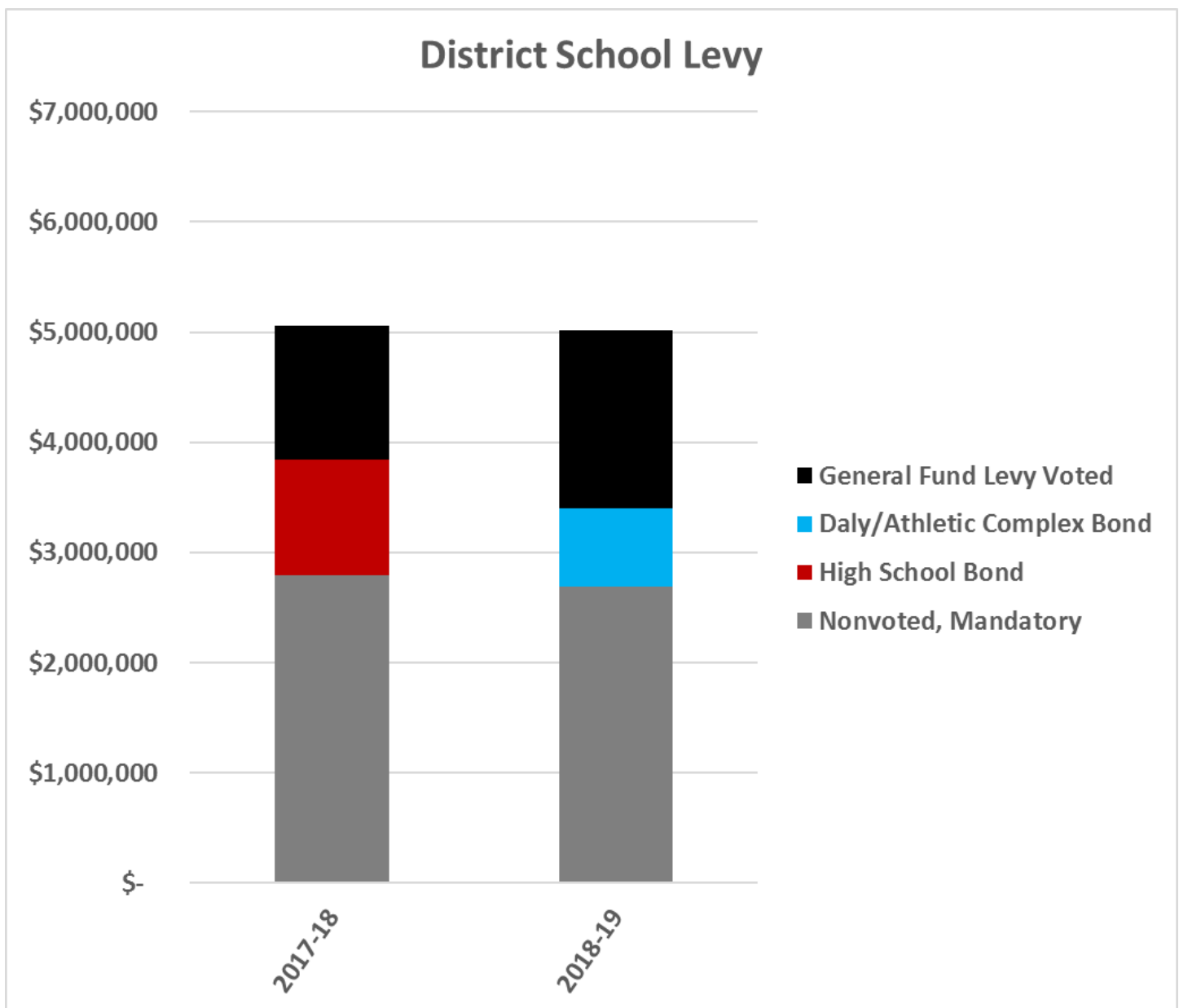


The athletic complex will be one of the better Class A venues in the state boasting a 2,000 spectator capacity, a synthetic ten-lane track and a football/soccer field, plumbed bathrooms, a covered concessions, team rooms, media and coaches boxes, and a ticket booth. Construction began in April and will be completed in the Fall of 2018.



Fiscally Responsible

The preliminary calculations provided by the Montana Office of Public Instruction project a small decrease in taxes between the 2017-18 and 2018-19 as the retiring high school bond is replaced with the voter approved \$9.75 million dollar Daly/Athletic Complex Bond and \$400,000 General Fund Levy.



Instructional Leaders



Superintendent Tom Korst is in his sixth year as superintendent of Hamilton Public Schools and 19th year in education. He was born and raised in Great Falls, MT, attended Western Montana College, Earned a Masters in Education at the Univer-

sity of Montana and is pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of Montana. When not working Tom enjoys spending time with his wife and two kids in the outdoors as much as possible.



Director of Student Services Eric has been a professional educator, coach, and educational leader for the past 19 years. Eric graduated from the University of Montana (GO GRIZ) with a BS in Health and Human Performance with a K-12

Teaching emphasis. After several successful years of teaching and coaching, he re-enrolled at the U of M to pursue his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. Eric has been with HSD #3 for the past 10 years, seven of those years he served as the Daly Elementary School Principal and for the last three years he has served as the Director of Student Services for Hamilton School District #3. Outside of the Hamilton School District, you will find Eric committed to spending time with his beautiful wife of 23 years (also a teacher and coach) and three wonderful children enjoying the amazing outdoor activities of western Montana.



High School Principal Dan Kimzey is a graduate of Dillon High School and did his undergraduate work at University of Montana-Western and the University of North Dakota. He earned a Masters in Educational Leadership from University of North

Dakota. He was a high school social studies classroom teacher at Grand Forks Central High School, ND from 1997-2002 prior to working as the assistant principal at Polson High School for six years. Dan has been in the Hamilton District a total of 10 years with five of those years as the middle school principal from 2008 to 2013 and as the high school principal since 2013. Dan was recently awarded the Montana Secondary Principal of the year in 2016, served as a president for the Montana Association of High School Principals, participated in numerous state-level committees, and has been appointed as a Legislative Network Member for the School Administrators of Montana. Dan retired as a Sergeant Major from the US Army Reserve in 2013 and is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and other operations from his 23 years of active and reserve-component Army career. Dan's wife, Brooke, is a speech pathologist for Corvallis schools, his daughter is an upperclassman at HHS and his son attends HMS.



High School Assistant Principal Joel Stuber. She earned her teaching degree at Eastern Montana College taught in Pryor MT, Brockton MT, was the principal of Poplar, MT middle school for five years, the Ronan High School Assistant Princi-

pal and Activities Director for two years. Currently, Joel has been the high school assistant principal at Hamilton since 2006. She has been a former Jr. and Sr. high school track coach, cross country coach, and volleyball coach. In 2009 Joel was named Montana's "Assistant Principal of the Year". She has also served as a member of the MHSA Athletic Committee for the last 25 years as well. She is blessed with four great kids and her family continues to grow as she will be welcoming her fifth granddaughter this June. She is proud and honored to have served education for the last forty years. We will miss her dearly as she will be retiring in June of 2018.

Instructional Leaders



Middle School Principal Marlin Lewis' is in his 24th year in education. He is a Hamilton High School graduate and received his B.S., M.S., and Administrative Certification from Montana State University – Bozeman. Mr. Lewis spent 17 years as a middle and high school mathematics teacher in Polson, Montana and had the opportunity to teach in Kaktovik, Alaska for one year. He began his administrative career at Sunnyside Intermediate School in Havre, Montana. In the fall of 2013 he became the Principal at Hamilton Middle School. Mr. Lewis is passionate in providing a safe learning environment with high expectations for all students, providing teachers with high quality professional development and continuing the tradition of excellence at Hamilton Middle School. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Megan, and 2 daughters in the great Montana outdoors.



Assistant Middle School Principal Vickie Dickerson is a graduate from Billings Central High School. She knew at a young age that education would be her calling and earned a bachelors in elementary education and a special education endorsement from Eastern Montana College in Billings. Thereafter, she taught for 22 years before returning to school and earning a Masters in school counseling as well as a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. Vickie has been the Hamilton Middle School Assistant Principal for the last four years and has been in education for a total of 40 years and she still enjoys her vocation. She has been married for 35 years to her husband Mark who is retired and spends his time teaching guitar and banjo and working in his wood shop. They are blessed with one son, Drew, who is currently an attorney living in Boise, Idaho with his wife, Paris.



Daly Elementary Principal Nate Lant is a graduate of Stevensville High School and earned a bachelors degree from Western Montana College in elementary education and later earned a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. Nate taught third grade in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, kindergarten in Dillon, MT, and was a K-8 Principal in Whitehall, MT for three years. He has also coached football at the high school and collegiate level. Nate enjoys seeing students grow and change daily, interacting with students in extra-curricular settings, and knowing that each day is going to be different than the one before. Nate is married to Rori (kindergarten teacher at HSD3), and has three boys and two dogs. Nate was inspired into an education career due to the influence of other outstanding teachers and administrators. As a result of their influence, Nate serves as the Daly elementary principal where he hopes to inspire future educators as well.



Washington Elementary Principal Scott Holland graduated from Hamilton High School in 1999 and pursued a Bachelors in Elementary Education from the University of Montana. Scott has served at Washington Elementary as a first grade teacher for 11 years, was awarded the Gold Star Recipient for Recognition for Excellence in Education in 2014-15 school year. Scott returned to school and earned a Masters in Educational Leadership from Montana State University and now is in his third year as the Washington Elementary Principal. Scott has been married for ten years to a fellow educator/counselor Lexie, and has two children. Scott likes many outdoor activities, has been a collegiate level basketball referee, and hopes to travel the world.

Trustees



Chairman: Dave Bedey is a 4th generation Bitterrooter—born and raised in Hamilton. After graduating from high school, he studied civil engineering and economics at MSU, and then embarked on what turned out to be a 30-year career as an officer in the U.S. Army. While on

active duty, Dave served in combat units—including deployment during the Persian Gulf War—and also as a physics professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He has a master's degree in national security studies from the U.S. Naval War College as well as a Ph.D. in space physics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. After retiring from the Army as a colonel, Dave returned home in 2008 with his wife of 35 years, Deborah, and his daughter, Karis, who graduated from HHS in 2013. He presently works as the chief financial officer of a start-up engineering firm. Mr. Bedey's first year on the Hamilton School Board was 2008. He will be leaving the board May 2018.



Vice-Chair: Ms. Moore has a BA in Psychology from Bowling Green State University and a MA in Counseling and Human Development from Walsh University. Ms. Moore spent 10 years with an Intensive Therapy program serving families whose children were hospitalized for suicidal

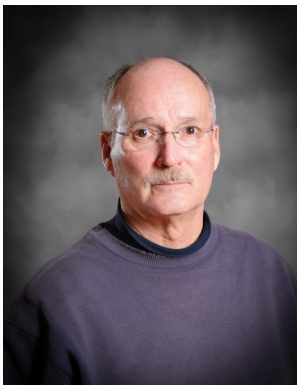
or behavioral issues. After having her children, she began volunteering in the Hamilton School district through PTA, FFE, and as a classroom volunteer to assist teachers. This led to her desire to serve the

district as a board member. Ms Moore stated it has been an honor to serve the families and employees of the Hamilton Schools. I could not be more proud of this district, the community support for our schools, our administration and the educators who serve our children. Ms Moore started on the board in 2009 and her current term expires in 2019.



Trustee: Mr. Shea graduated from Hamilton High School in 1965 and then went 4 years to Western Montana College. All four of Mr. Sheas sons and two of his sisters graduated from Hamilton High School. Mr. Shea spent 40 years on volunteer boards and 30 years

volunteer coaching. Mr. Shea was appointed to the board in 2007 and was elected to the board in 2008 his current term expires in 2020. He is currently enjoying retirement.



Trustee: Mr. Yoakam has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Dickenson State University with a English Degree in Education and a Master's Degree from Montana State University at Billings in School Counseling. Mr. Yoakam taught English at Glasgow Middle School,

Glasgow, MT, and was a Guidance Counselor at Sidney and Corvallis High Schools. Currently Mr. Yoakam is a Track and Cross Country Coach for Corvallis High School. Mr. Yoakam was appointed to the board in 2010 and elected to the board in 2013, Mr. Yoakam's Current term expires in 2019.

Trustees



Trustee: Tim Campbell was elected to the school board in 2015. His family moved to Hamilton in 1970, and he graduated from Hamilton High school in 1981. Tim is the Dad to 4 girls and 1 boy, all who have graduated or are currently attending Ham-

ilton schools. Tim and his wife Suzette are the owners of Ironhaus/ Portland Willamette Montana Manufacturing, Hamilton Storage, and formerly Ridgemont Building and Development. When he is not working, he loves to travel with his family, snowboard, and boat. When he is at home, their house is full of kids. Tim also finds time to volunteer with the Daly and HMS FFE. You can find him volunteering at most of their events.



Trustee: Patrick Hanley grew up in an Army family and was raised on both coasts, in Texas, Colorado and Europe. After graduating from high school in Colorado, he completed a Bachelor of Science at Texas A&M University, followed by a Doctor of Veteri-

nary Medicine at Colorado State University. He then completed a veterinary residency at the University of Washington. As a veterinarian, Patrick first worked for MD Anderson Cancer Center in TX. He relocated to Hamilton in 2014 with his wife Kelly and their two children, Colin and Ciara. He is currently a clinical

veterinarian for Rocky Mountain Laboratories. Patrick is very active in the Hamilton school district and the community. He has coached for Kiwanis soccer, All-Valley Basketball and Daly FFE Flag Football. He is involved with the RML Biomedical Research After School Scholars (BRASS) program and the UM Spectrum Role Models program. He frequently gives classroom presentations on a variety of science topics, judges at the HMS science fair and volunteers annually for the 5th grade ski program. He's an active volunteer within the FFE at both Daly and HMS. Lastly, he is a member of Circle 13 Skate Park board. Dr. Hanley's first year on the Hamilton School Board was 2015, and his current term expires in May 2018.



Jeni Seifert grew up in Whitefish and attended college at the University of Montana where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education. She taught on the Navajo reservation for a few years before moving to Hamilton in 2000.

Jeni has been married to Pete Seifert for 20 Years and they have three daughters, Anna who is 15 and attends Hamilton High School, Julia who is 12 and attends Hamilton Middle School and Clair who is 7 and attends Washington Primary. Jeni and Pete have owned Bitterroot Drug since 2006 and Main Street Toys since 2015. Jeni also serves on the B.E.A.R board and is active with Hamilton FFE. Jeni was excited to be elected to the Hamilton School Board at this exciting time for the District.

District Mission/Vision

Mission: *Develop productive, well-rounded American citizens who are motivated, self-confident and ready to pursue mastery of their chosen vocations.*

Vision: *Promote a culture of educational excellence through an unwavering dedication to the individual development of each child every day, without exception.*

Educational Goals:

1. Basic Literacy
2. Strategic Thinking and Reasoning
3. Readiness for American Citizenship
4. Readiness for Future Opportunities

Operating Principles

1. Hire the best and make them better
2. Enhance and customize learning environments
3. Actively engage the community as an educational partner
4. Promote community ownership
5. Consistently ensure safe, civil, and productive learning environments
6. Confront challenges together