



**NEWS RELEASE**

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Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

**MCPS Smart Schools 2020 Bond Projects moving full steam ahead, Franklin demolition starts Monday**

All summer long, Missoula County Public Schools and local construction companies have been working hard on *Smart Schools 2020* projects across the community. The construction and capital improvement projects are funded by an \$88 million elementary district bond and a \$70 million high school district bond approved by voters on November 3, 2015. Projects are currently in progress and will continue into the year 2020.

Current projects include:

Elementary

- Franklin – Internal Asbestos Abatement completed, **demolition starts Monday 8/1 9:00 a.m.**
- Lowell – Internal Asbestos Abatement continues, demolition and renovation coming soon
- Rattlesnake – Site and building construction is visible from the road
- Paxson – Site and building construction is visible from the road
- Lewis and Clark – Roofing starting mid to late July
- Chief Charlo – Office and some site construction visible from the road
- Jefferson – Front Office remodel
- Meadow Hill – Roofing starting mid to late July
- Washington – Roofing starting mid to late July

High School

- Stadium – Site work is visible from the road
- Hellgate – Roofing project is visible from the road
- Hellgate – Design work in progress with school based Education Innovation Team
- Big Sky – Roofing project is visible from the road
- Seeley Lake – Construction and site work is visible from the road
- Vo-Ag Welding Shop – Mechanical work starting in mid to late July
- Vo-Ag Processing Kitchen – Going through DEQ permitting

While there are currently 14 projects under construction, the two major construction projects at Franklin and Lowell Elementary schools are slated to be complete in August of 2017 in time for school

to open. Students who attend Franklin Elementary will be moved to Jefferson Elementary at 1700 South Avenue for the 2016-17 school year. Students who attend Lowell Elementary will be moved to Mt. Jumbo Elementary at 735 Michigan Avenue in East Missoula for the 2016-17 school year.

The Jefferson Center and Mt. Jumbo Elementary will act as a *Swing Space* for Franklin and Lowell Elementary students while their new buildings finish construction. Families who live outside of the walking boundaries for the schools will be able to transport their students from bus stops within their neighborhood. The District's busing partner Beach Transportation will be adding routes to provide this service and parents will be able to identify bus stop locations and pickup times by visiting the *Transfinder* program on [www.mcpsmt.org](http://www.mcpsmt.org) this summer.

**News outlets interested in capturing footage of the Franklin Elementary demolition should arrive at the corner of Grant and 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 1, 2016.** Jackson Contractor Group, Inc., the general contractor on the project, has identified a safe viewing spot from this location. Jackson Contractor Group project staff have been knocking on doors in the Franklin Elementary School neighborhood and mailing letters to residents around the school who will be affected by construction. It is the shared goal of MCPS and Jackson Contractor Group to ensure neighbors are aware of the construction timeline and any impacts on their home, travel in and out of the neighborhood.

Plans and drawings for the new Franklin Elementary school can be viewed at <http://www.mcpsmt.org/Page/8588>.

All architects, designers and contractors are selected via a public bidding and evaluation a process governed by state statute. Information related to project timelines, project teams, design information and bidding requests for project partners can be found on the District website at [www.mcpsmt.org](http://www.mcpsmt.org).

For additional information, contact Hatton Littman at 406-239-9066 or via email at [hlittman@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:hlittman@mcps.k12.mt.us).

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