



YELLOWSTONE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Order to Cancel May 5, 2020 School Elections

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 20-20-108 of the Montana Code Annotated, a county superintendent of schools can cancel a school election if the governor has declared a state of emergency. After the governor terminates the state of emergency, the trustees of the school district shall reschedule the election.

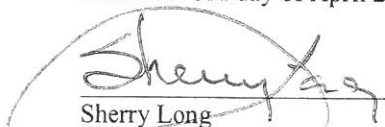
WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Steven Bullock, the Governor of the State of Montana declared a state of emergency for the entire State of Montana because of the Coronavirus pandemic. On March 16, 2020, the Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners declared a state of emergency for all of Yellowstone County because of the pandemic. On March 16, 2020, the Health Officer for the Yellowstone County Health Board issued an order that closed many facilities to the public and prohibited most public gatherings because of the pandemic. State and local government have implemented broad measures to limit the impact of the pandemic.

WHEREAS, the school elections are set for May 5, 2020. The Yellowstone County Election Administrator conducts the elections for the school districts throughout Yellowstone County. Even though the Election Administrator holds the elections through mail ballot, it would be difficult for the Election Administrator to supervise the elections with the current measures to limit the impact of the pandemic. Many of the people who work the elections are elderly, who are more vulnerable to the virus. Many of them may decline to work the elections and those who do work the elections would place their health at risk. The ballots have to be stored and tabulated in a secure area. The secure areas available to store and tabulate the ballots do not comply with the recommended social distancing requirements. An older work force confined to a small space does not comply with the recommendations to limit the impact of the pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Because of the potential health risk with the administration of the election, the Yellowstone County Superintendent of Schools cancels the school elections set for May 5, 2020. After the Governor terminates the state of emergency, the trustees of the school districts shall reschedule the elections. I shall provide a copy of the order to the Yellowstone County Election Administrator, chairperson of the board of trustees for each school district in the County, the Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners and the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

Dated this 3rd day of April 2020.




Sherry Long
Yellowstone County Superintendent of Schools

State of Montana }
 ss.
County of Yellowstone }

On April 3, 2020, before me personally appeared Sherry Long, the Yellowstone County Superintendent of Schools and acknowledged to me that she executed this Order to Cancel May 5, 2020 School Elections in her official capacity as Yellowstone County Superintendent of Schools.

Notary Public For the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana.
My commission expires _____

 **BRET R. RUTHERFORD**
NOTARY PUBLIC for the
State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires
July 30, 2020

Yellowstone County Election Office
Yellowstone County Election Office
Attn: Bret Rutherford
P.O. Box 35002
Billings, Montana 59107-5002

School Districts

Billings
415 North 30th Street
Billings, MT 59101

Blue Creek
3652 Blue Creek Road
Billings, MT 59101

Canyon Creek
3139 Duck Creek Road
Billings, MT 59101

Laurel
410 Colorado Ave
Laurel, MT 59044

Elder Grove
1532 South 64th Street W
Billings, MT 59101

Custer
PO Box 69
Custer, MT 59024

Morin
8824 Pryor Road
Billings, MT 59101

Broadview (and Molt)
PO Box 147
Broadview, MT 59015

Elysian
6416 Elysian Road
Billings, MT 59101

Huntley Project
1477 Ash Street
Worden, MT 59088

Lockwood
1932 US Highway 87 E.
Lockwood, MT 59101

Shepherd
Box 8
Shepherd, MT 59079

Pioneer
1937 Dover Road
Billings, MT 59101

Independent
2907 Roundup Road
Billings, MT 59105

Yellowstone Academy
1750 Ray of Hope Lane
Billings, MT 59106

Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners
Yellowstone County Board of County Commissioners
Attn: Jeff Martin
P.O. Box 35000
Billings, Montana 59007-5002

Montana Office of Public Instruction
Montana Office of Public Instruction
Attn: Julia Swingley
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, Montana 59620-2501