

LAKE COUNTY

Election Administrator

Notice of Annual School and Special Purpose District Election Public Test of Voting Systems, Counting of Mail-Ballots, Counting of Provisional Ballots, and County Canvass

Notice is hereby given by the Lake County Election Administrator, State of Montana that the Annual School District and Special Purpose District Election will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, by mail ballot. Ballots must be returned by mail or in person at the Election Office (106 4th Ave E, Polson, MT 59860) between the hours of 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM from April 21st – May 5th and 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Election Day, May 6th.

Electors will consider the following trustee races and propositions at said election:

Arlee School District 8J- two- 3-year positions, Charlo School District #7J- two – 3-year positions, Ronan School District #30/2- two-3-year positions and one unexpired (2-year term) position; Big Fork Fire District-two- 3-year positions; Polson Rural Fire District one- 3-year position; and North Lake County Library District- three-4-year positions.

Shall the district be authorized to levy in the **Arlee High School District** the sum of THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000) per year for TEN (10) years and being approximately 8.32 mills for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platform, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$11.23, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$22.46, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$67.39. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

Shall the district be authorized to levy in the **Arlee Elementary School District** the sum of THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000) per year for TEN (10) years and being approximately 8.32 mills for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platform, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$11.23, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 by approximately \$22.46, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$67.39. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

Upper West Shore School District #33

Shall the board of trustees be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of Fifty-four Thousand, Three Hundred, seventy-seven DOLLARS (\$54,377.62) per year which is approximately 4.23 mills, for the purpose of: Increasing staff wages?

Passage of this proposal will increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$5.71, on a home with a market value of \$300,000 approximately \$17.12, and on a home with a market value of \$600,000 by approximately \$34.24. An increase in property taxes may lead to an increase in rental costs.

The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years.

Ballots will be automatically mailed to all qualified electors on April 18, 2025. A qualified registered elector who will be absent from the district during the time the election is being conducted may: a) vote in person in the election administrator's office as soon as the ballots are available and until noon the day before the ballots are scheduled to be mailed; b) make a written request, signed by the applicant and addressed to the election administrator, that the ballot is mailed to an address other than the address that appears on the registration application. If you miss this regular registration deadline on April 7th, you may still register for the election by appearing in person at the Lake County Election Office until 8:00 pm on election day.

The following events are open to the public and will take place at the Lake County Courthouse in the Large Conference Room on the third floor. Public testing of the ExpressVote Voting System and DS-450 tabulator will be held at 10:00 am on April 30, 2025. Preparation and counting of ballots cast for the May 6, 2025, School\Special District Election will begin Tuesday, May 6th at noon. Results will not be released until after 8:00 pm on Election Day. Observers must check in with the election office (Rm 121) to be escorted to the counting location.

Montana law requires that any person participating or observing the procedures of the count is required to take an oath that they will not discuss the results of the early counting of votes at any time before the closing of the polls on Election Day. A person who knowingly violates this law shall be imprisoned for a term not to exceed two years and/or be fined an amount not less than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000. The counting of provisional ballots will begin at 3:00 pm on May 12th in the large conference room. The county canvass will be held in the Commissioner Chambers at 3:00 pm on May 15th.

DATED this 1st day of April 2025.

/s/Toni Kramer
Election Administrator
Lake County, Montana

Publish in the **April 10th, April 17th & April 24th** issues.