



**Methow Valley School
District**

Press Release

Methow Valley School District Announces Community Facilities Task Force Members to Guide Long-Range Planning

The Methow Valley School District has officially launched a **Community Facilities Task Force (CFTF)** to help guide the development of a comprehensive long-range facilities plan for the district.

The task force will serve in an advisory role during a **15-month planning process** focused on identifying facility needs, prioritizing capital investments, and ensuring future improvements align with student safety, educational priorities, and community values. The process will culminate in recommendations to district leadership and the School Board in **May 2027**.

The district received more than **30 applications from community members** interested in serving on the task force. Working in collaboration with the administrative team and School Board, the district selected **22 community members**, along with **six district representatives**, to participate.

District representatives include Superintendent Grant Storey, Directors Dana Stromberger and Jennifer Zybyszewski, Facilities Lead Mike Pilkinton, Certified Staff Representative Tiffany Surface, and Classified Staff Representative Stacey Cooley.

Community members selected for the task force represent a broad cross-section of the Methow Valley, including parents, business owners, construction and facilities professionals, financial experts, and community partners. Their perspectives will help inform the district's long-term facilities planning.

"The strong response from community members reflects how deeply people in the Methow Valley care about our schools and the spaces where students learn," said Superintendent Grant Storey. "This task force will help us thoughtfully plan for the future while ensuring that community voices are part of the process."

The district is partnering with **Wade Smith and Gene Sementi from Consertus**, both veteran school district superintendents with extensive experience facilitating school facilities planning processes.

Task force members will begin their work with informal facility “walk-and-talk” tours later this month to review existing buildings, recent improvements, and potential areas of need. The first official task force meeting will take place in April, where members will review the committee’s charge, elect leadership, and outline the planning process.

Throughout the planning effort, the district will also gather feedback from staff, students, families, and community members through surveys, focus groups, and community conversations.

Additional information about the Community Facilities Task Force and opportunities for community input will be shared as the planning process progresses.



METHOW VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community-centered Approach to Facilities Planning

Name	Role	About
At-Large Members		
Christian Moore	Parent/Guardian, Community Member/Community Partner	Board member of PSFA and a physical security consultant and have been advising the district on safety enhancements for the schools.
Erika Spellman	Business Owner Operator, Parent/Guardian, Community Member/Community Partner	Former District Counselor for 10 years, parent, community business owner and LBHS Booster Club Executive Team Member
Maud Daudon	Financial Representative, Community Member/Community Partner	Extensive leadership experience in public, private, non-profit sectors which included over 15 years in public finance. Most recently lead a statewide initiative to create a career connected learning system integrated into K-12, Community College and University systems. Member of TwispWorks Board
Robert Grim	Parent/Guardian, Community Member/Community Partner	MVE/LBHS Alum and current parent. Current Mayor of Winthrop and former Okanogan County Judge. Member of District's Family and Community Engagement Committee.
Curtis Edwards	Community Member/Community Partner	Career in the Forest Service from field work to public affairs and former president of the OCEC Board.
Kyley Port	Financial Representative, Parent/Guardian, Business Owner Operator	Parent and local financial professional
Pat Norwil	Business Owner Operator, Facility/Construction Expertise	Electrician by trade. Has worked on and off on electrical and mechanical issues for the schools since 1990's.
Carolyn Schmekel	Community Member/Community Partner	Parent and Grandparent. Interior Designer for commercial and non commercial spaces for 31 years.
Barry Stromberger	Business Owner Operator, Community Member/Community Partner	Business owner/operator for over 50 years in the valley, former Head of Maintenance and Career and Tech Teacher, and member of past facilities planning committees.
Jim McMillan	District Representative, Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise, Community Member/Community Partner, Business Owner Operator	Parent. Coach and Co Chair of Coaches Association. Background in construction and design.
Samantha Kollmeyer	Business Owner Operator,	Parent, owner of local architecture business

	Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise	an understanding of successful public spaces. Current Co Chair of Emergency Preparedness committee.
Margo Peterson-Aspholm	Facility/Construction Expertise, Community Member/Community Partner, Parent/Guardian	Parent of MVSD Alum. Architect and planner having worked on community-based projects for 35 years. Member of past facility task forces
Eric Lentz	Facility/Construction Expertise, Parent/Guardian	Parent. Structural Engineer for 18 years involved in school construction and renovation projects form various school districts across the state.
Kristi Skanderup	Community Member/Community Partner	40 Years of experience working in a variety of roles in a range of public school learning environments. Member of district's Electric Vehicle and Alternative Energy Feasibility and Needs Assessment Planning grant.
Bryan Jaffe	Parent/Guardian, Financial Representative	Parent. Deep business and Finance experience gained through the building of a financial services institution and advising clients on financing transactions.
Michiel Zuidweg	Parent/Guardian, Financial Representative, Facility/Construction Expertise, Business Owner Operator, Community Member/Community Partner	Parent, ILC Mentor, and member of the MVSD Electric Vehicle and Alternative Energy Needs Assessment Grant. Renewable energy and microgrid developer and engineer with experience in large capital projects.
Hendrik Van Hemert	Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise	Parent. 14 years of work experience in commercial building and capital planning. Has supported several large school districts in crafting long-term facility and energy plans.
Daren Belsby	Business Owner Operator, Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise	Parent. 30 + years of facility management and planning work with the US Forest Service.
Steve Robinson	Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise, Community Member/Community Partner	20+ year valley resident, parent, formerly licensed Architect, current residential designer'
Cara Godwin	Parent/Guardian, Facility/Construction Expertise	Parent. Licensed Architect managing quality control, sustainability, accessibility and code compliance for 150 person firm.
Larry Surface	Facility/Construction Expertise, Community Member/Community Partner	Town of Twisp Building Inspector. 56 years in the building industries, Building, Commercial and Residential and the last 14 years in the Plan review and Building inspection field.
George Schoenfeld	Facility/Construction Expertise, Community Member/Community Partner	A member of the Methow Valley Community Center Foundation Board and community center building retrofit project committee.
District Members		
Grant Storey	District Representative, Parent/Guardian	Superintendent
Dana Stromberger	Board Representative	MVSD School Board Chair
Jennifer Zbyszewski	Board Representative	MVSD School Board Vice-Chair

Mike Pilkinton	District Representative	MVSD Custodial Maintenance and Grounds Lead
Tiffany Surface	Certificated Representative, Parent/Guardian	4th Grade Methow Valley Elementary Teacher
Stacey Cooley	Classified representative	Methow Valley Elementary Secretary and Facilities Use Coordinator