



# Board of Public Education

## BOARD MEMBERS

### APPOINTED MEMBERS:

Tim Tharp, Chair  
Savage

Susie Hedalen, Vice-Chair  
Townsend

Ron Slinger  
Miles City

Renee Rasmussen  
Clancy

Anne Keith  
Bozeman

Jane Lee Hamman  
Clancy

Madalyn Quinlan  
Helena

Gavin Mow, Student Rep.  
Helena

### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Clayton Christian,  
Commissioner of  
Higher Education

Elsie Arntzen,  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

Greg Gianforte,  
Governor

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

McCall Flynn

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature authorized the establishment of public charter schools via HB 549 (2023) under the general supervision of the Montana Board of Public Education (Board); and

WHEREAS, the Board is responsible for evaluating charter proposals, and approving and denying proposals that meet identified educational needs and promote a diversity of educational choices; and

WHEREAS, the Board reviewed, interviewed, allowed public comment on each authorized public charter application; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Montana Board of Public Education denies the following public charter schools for the following reasons:

**Kalispell Rocky Mountain Academy:** The Board denied this proposal, based on the lack of evidence that the proposed public charter school met the statutory requirements to be high performing, showed convincing proof of a likelihood of success, and that they would operate a successful public charter school.

**Corvallis Gifted Learning Center:** The Board denied this proposal, based on the lack of evidence that the proposed public charter school met the statutory requirements to be innovative.

**Kalispell Community Partnerships Charter K-3:** The Board denied this proposal, based on the lack of evidence that the proposed public charter school met the statutory requirements to be innovative, high performing, showed convincing proof of a likelihood of success, and that they would operate a successful public charter school.

**Kalispell Community Partnerships Charter 3-5:** The Board denied this proposal, based on the lack of evidence that the proposed public charter school met the statutory requirements to be innovative, high performing, showed convincing proof of a likelihood of success, and that they would operate a successful public charter school.

**Liberty Elementary Charter:** The Board denied this proposal, based on the lack of evidence that the proposed public charter school met the statutory requirements to be high performing, showed convincing proof of a likelihood of success, and that they would operate a successful public charter school.

Additionally, it is unclear that the law would allow a located school district to establish charter schools outside its own boundaries and inside the boundaries of other school districts.

RESOLVED BY THE MONTANA BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ON  
JANUARY 19, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Timothy W. Tharp", is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. Tim Tharp  
Chairperson  
Board of Public Education