

BENJAMIN R. GRAYBILL  
609 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Great Falls, MT 59401

RECEIVED

2014 APR 25 A 9:18

COMMISSIONER OF  
POLITICAL PRACTICES  
POSTMARKED

April 21, 2014

APR 24 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL  
John Motl  
Commissioner of Political Practices  
1205 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
PO Box 202401  
Helena, MT 59620-2401

Dear Mr. Motl:

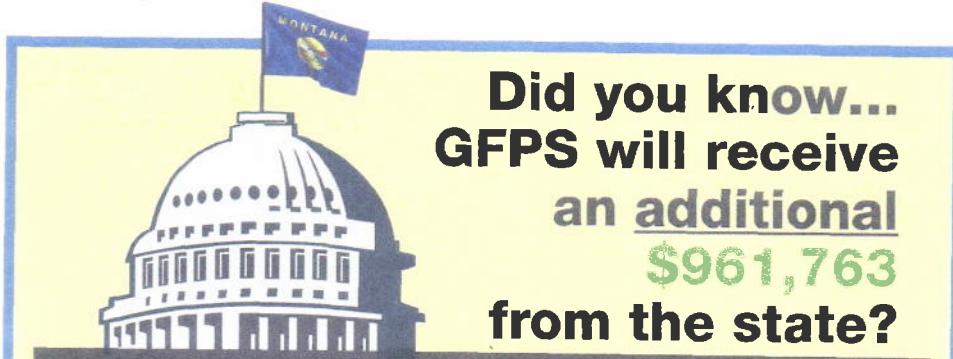
This is a complaint against Parent Coalition for Accountability in Schools (PCAS). It is my understanding PCAS's address is PO Box 6126 Great Falls, Montana, 59406.

PCAS paid for a flyer distributed via the Great Falls Tribune on April 21, 2014. Ex. A, "Tribune Flyer". The Tribune Flyer does not sponsor the defeat of the Great Falls School District Levy, which is a ballot issue voters will decide on May 6, 2014. As such, in distributing that flyer, PCAS seemed not to be acting as a political committee as defined at § 13-1-101(22)(b), MCA.

However, a strikingly similar flyer was left at residences in Great Falls before the Tribune Flyer was distributed. Ex. B, "Door Flyer". Ex. C, Affidavits.

The Flyers are identical in several ways:

Tribune Flyer:



Door Flyer:

Did you know... Great Falls Public Schools will receive an additional \$961,763 from the state?

Tribune Flyer:

**Last year GFPS received an additional \$971,131 from the state. Over the two year period they have received almost 2 million in additional revenue from the state. This was paid by your property taxes. District also receives over 34 million in Federal Funds for a total budget of 100 million.**

Door Flyer:

Last year GFPS received an additional \$971,131 from the state. Over the two year period they have received almost \$2 million in additional revenue from the state. This was paid by your property taxes. The District also receives over \$34 million in Federal Funds for a total budget of \$100 million.

Tribune Flyer:

Due to Obamacare employer mandates starting October 2015, the District is expecting increases of approximately TWO MILLION DOLLARS per year. Superintendent Lacey said that this keeps her up at night worrying how they will pay for the increases. Obviously, this does NOT seem like the time to add 15 new positions with this unfunded mandate looming. Where is the common sense and long-range planning for future expenses?

Door Flyer:

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In addition, both flyers contain a list of 2013-2014 Great Falls School District administrative salaries, followed by a statement of the average per capita income in Cascade County. Both flyers state that a school levy “never expires. It stays on your taxes forever”. Both flyers underscore and capitalize the same words and phrases.

The flyers’ corresponding text and emphasis suggest PCAS created both. Moreover, the later Tribune Flyer was clearly intended to complement the Door Flyer and cause recipients to recall the Door Flyer’s overt anti-levy message. Both flyers, therefore, convert PCAS into a political committee, and subject it to Montana campaign practices law. § 13-1-101(22)(b), MCA.

It has undoubtedly been more than five days since PCAS expended money to create and distribute these flyers. Accordingly, PCAS has violated Montana campaign practices law by failing to file a certification, with your office, identifying its full name and address, the name and address of its officers, including its treasurer, the name and address of its depository, and the ballot issue it opposes. §§ 13-37-201 and 205, MCA, ARM 44.10.405.

Moreover, in violation of § 13-35-225(1)(b), the Door Flyer contains no attribution statement identifying PCAS, its treasurer, and the address of either.

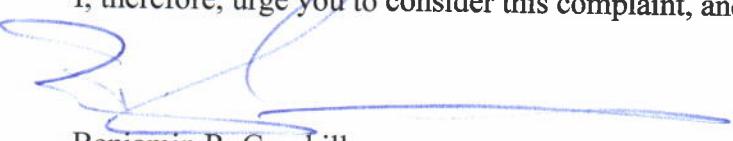
It’s implausible that a single person appropriated the Tribune Flyer and used it to create the Door Flyer. The Door Flyer was distributed at doors before or at the same time the Tribune Flyer was distributed. Ex. C.

This morning’s Great Falls Tribune contained an insert for Great Falls School Board candidate Cyndi Baker. Ex. D. The attribution reveals PCAS paid for the insert. So, for the Baker insert as well, PCAS appears to be in violation of §§ 13-37-201 and 205, MCA, ARM 44.10.405.

Because of PCAS has chosen not to file the required certification, it’s impossible to know when PCAS formed. Therefore, in addition to the above violations, PCAS may have violated periodic reporting requirements for contributions and expenditures. §§ 13-37-225 and 226, MCA. PCAS should be investigated for these compliance issues, and its treasurer’s reports, required by §§ 13-37-207(2) and 208, MCA, should be obtained and inspected.

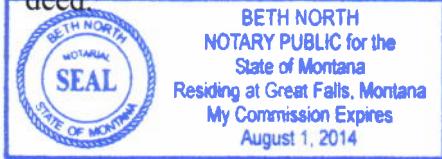
The disclosure requirements still present in Montana’s campaign practices law promote “transparency [and] enables the electorate to make informed decisions and give proper weight to different speakers and messages.” *Citizens United v. Fed. Election Comm’n*, 558 U.S. 310, 371, 130 S.Ct. 876, 916, 175 L.Ed.2d 753 (2010).

I, therefore, urge you to consider this complaint, and thank you for your attention to it.

  
Benjamin R. Graybill  
attachments

STATE OF MONTANA      )  
                            )  
                            ) ss.  
County of Cascade      )

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, before me, a notary public of the State of Montana, personally appeared Benjamin R. Graybill, known to me to be the person named above, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his free act and deed



(NOTARIAL SEAL)

  
Printed Name: Beth North  
Notary Public for the State of Montana  
Residing at Great Falls, Montana  
My Commission Expires: 8-1-2014



"We believe we have the appropriate amount of administrators." Admin. Structure and Compensation Subcommittee of GFPS Board of Trustees – report released 2/24/2014

## 2013-14 Administrative Salaries

|                                    |            |         |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| Principal MS                       | Anderson   | 110,206 |
| Assoc. Principal HS                | Barringer  | 90,112  |
| Psychologist                       | Barringer  | 67,153  |
| Assist. Field Sup., Food Service   | Bautista   | 31,934  |
| Principal Elem                     | Boyd       | 85,608  |
| Principal Elem                     | Carlson    | 85,608  |
| Coor. Student Services             | Cline      | 67,812  |
| Principal Elem                     | Corey      | 91,237  |
| Community Connection Manager       | Crum       | 87,785  |
| Assoc. Principal MS                | Culbertson | 91,519  |
| Assist. Superivors of Bldng/Grnds. | Cutler     | 56,644  |
| Principal Elem                     | Cutler     | 84,200  |
| Coor. HPE/Athletics/DE             | DeGooyer   | 96,569  |
| Supervisor,Steno/Repr/Exec. Sec.   | Fadhrone   | 53,498  |
| Assoc. Principal HS                | Gerhart    | 86,196  |
| Coor. Early Childhood              | Getten     | 67,812  |
| Principal Elem                     | Gilbert    | 83,955  |
| Principal HS                       | Gregoire   | 108,248 |
| Supervisor of Bldng/Grnds          | Hammatt    | 68,388  |
| Principal Elem                     | Hart       | 81,141  |
| Assoc. Principal MS                | Held       | 78,608  |
| Supervisor of Support Services     | Houtz      | 55,603  |
| Assoc. Principal HS                | Hoyer      | 81,423  |
| Principal Elem                     | Ingalls    | 89,830  |
| Dir. Human Resources               | Kiser      | 93,169  |
| Principal HS                       | Kloppel    | 112,470 |
| Principal Elem                     | Konen      | 81,692  |
| Superintendent                     | Lacey      | 134,000 |
| Dir. Student Services              | Lambert    | 101,840 |
| Principal Elem                     | Maki       | 91,237  |
| Supervisor, Data Processing        | McGregor   | 79,241  |
| Principal Elem                     | McKittrick | 91,237  |
| Principal Elem                     | Meredith   | 88,423  |
| Coor. Music w/Art                  | Molyneaux  | 77,754  |
| Asst. Supt. Sec                    | Moore, T.  | 111,062 |
| Speech & Language Pathologist      | Nowak      | 68,532  |
| Dir. Curriculum/Instruction        | Oslzewski  | 90,313  |
| Principal MS                       | Parsons    | 97,610  |
| Dir. Bus Ops                       | Patrick    | 103,542 |
| Dir. Technology                    | Patterson  | 101,840 |
| Assoc. Principal HS                | Quinn      | 87,297  |
| Psychologist                       | Remsen     | 68,401  |
| Assoc. Principal MS                | Rosipal    | 80,595  |
| Principal Elem                     | Salonen    | 92,644  |
| Coor. Indian Ed.                   | Smith      | 76,229  |
| Principal Elem                     | Smith      | 87,015  |
| Supervisor, Food Services          | Spellman   | 67,966  |
| Principal Elem                     | Sprague    | 87,015  |
| Assoc. Principal HS                | Tramelli   | 87,297  |
| Principal Alt HS /Adult Ed         | Uecker     | 100,425 |
| Asst. Supt. Elem                   | Uecker, R. | 113,283 |
| Coor. Student Services             | Von Bergan | 67,812  |
| Principal Elem                     | Zobrak     | 87,015  |

CASCADE County average per capita income \$23,554

## MONEY DIVERTED

Money specifically earmarked for the benefit of STUDENTS...was diverted by the School Board to pay for **LEGAL FEES!**

1/27/14 GFPS Minutes of the Regular Meeting:

"Approve Pepsi and Coke Agreements to provide beverages for the schools... This money will be deposited in the Revenue Enhancement Account. The funds in this account have been designated for use for turf to be used on the football field."

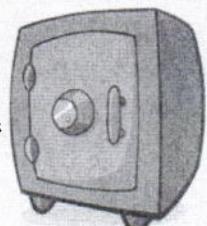
Letter dated 11/15/13 from Supt. Lacey to a concerned citizen:

"As per your verbal request at the Board meeting on Monday, November 11, 2013, the legal fees associated with the merger of the Great Falls Scholarship Foundation and the Great Falls Public Schools Foundations will be paid from the following:  
Revenue Enhancement Account

### IS GFPS USING YOUR TAX DOLLARS WISELY?

The Human Resources position was advertised last year at \$80,000 and the new employee hired at \$93,169, a difference of \$13,169 which would have paid for 1,666 hours of aide time for students, the district insists it needs more aide time. Instead this money went to administration. When Superintendent Lacey was questioned about this by a board member she replied, "I have the authority to offer her more money" and in a letter to a concerned citizen who questioned the salary Lacey wrote "It was determined that...\$80,000 was not appropriate in honoring her experience." **WHAT ABOUT HONORING THE STUDENTS?**

GFPS has \$39,509,091 in reserve accounts according to the the County Superintendent's Annual Statement of School Districts



These administrators received a 1.75% raise last year and will receive a 1.5% raise this year.

# VOTE NO

## on the school levy

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**DID YOU KNOW THAT A SCHOOL LEVY NEVER EXPIRES? IT STAYS ON YOUR PROPERTY TAXES FOREVER!**

| 2013-14 ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES            |           |                                       |           |
|--|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Principal MS Anderson                      | \$110,206 | Superintendent Lacey                  | \$134,000 |
| Assoc. Principal HS Barringer              | \$90,112  | Dir. Student Services Lambert         | \$101,840 |
| Psychologist Barringer                     | \$67,153  | Principal Elem Maki                   | \$91,237  |
| Assist. Field Sup., Food Service Bautista  | \$31,934  | Supervisor, Data Processing McGregor  | \$79,241  |
| Principal Elem Boyd                        | \$85,608  | Principal Elem McKittrick             | \$91,237  |
| Principal Elem Carlson                     | \$85,608  | Principal Elem Meredith               | \$88,423  |
| Coor. Student Services Cline               | \$67,812  | Coor. Music w/Art Molyneaux           | \$77,754  |
| Principal Elem Corey                       | \$91,237  | Asst. Supt. Sec Moore, T.             | \$111,062 |
| Community Connection Manager Crum          | \$87,785  | Speech & Language Pathologist Nowak   | \$68,532  |
| Assoc. Principal MS Culbertson             | \$91,519  | Dir. Curriculum/Instruction Oslzewski | \$90,313  |
| Assist. Supervisors of Bldng/Grnds. Cutler | \$56,644  | Principal MS Parsons                  | \$97,610  |
| Principal Elem Cutler                      | \$84,200  | Dir. Bus Ops Patrick                  | \$103,542 |
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| Principal Elem Konen                       | \$81,692  |                                       |           |

\*\*\*CASCADE County average per capita income \$23,554 raise this year.

**EXHIBIT**

tables

B

STATE OF MONTANA )  
County of Cascade ) : ss.

I, Jolene Bach, of Great Falls, Montana, being first duly sworn, upon her oath, depose and say:

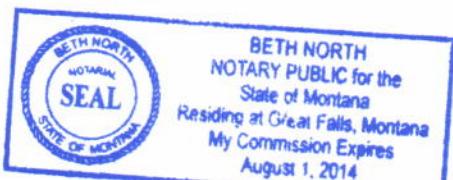
1. I am of legal age.
2. I reside at 124 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Great Falls, Montana.
3. On or before Monday, April 21, 2014, I found the attached flyer taped to the front door of my residence.
4. The flyer is anonymous; I received no information regarding who created or distributed it.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.



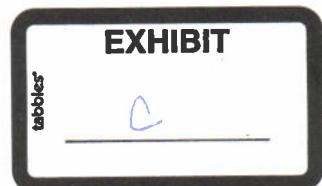
Jolene Bach

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, before me, a notary public of the State of Montana, personally appeared Jolene Bach, known to me to be the person named above, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same as her free act and deed.



(NOTARIAL SEAL)

Beth North  
Printed Name: Beth North  
Notary Public for the State of Montana  
Residing at: Great Falls  
My Commission Expires: 8-1-2014



# VOTE NO

## on the school levy

**Did you know... Great Falls Public Schools will receive an additional \$961,763 from the state?**

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: ss.  
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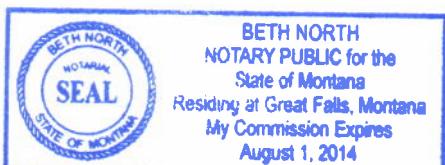
I, Carol Gamell, of Great Falls, Montana, being first duly sworn, upon her oath, depose and say:

1. I am of legal age.
2. I reside at 1200 32<sup>nd</sup> Street South #10, Great Falls, Montana.
3. On Tuesday, April 22, 2014, I found the attached flyer had been inserted in the  
envelope at the front door of my residence.
4. I received no information regarding who created or distributed it.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

Carol Gamell

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, before me, a notary public of the State of Montana, personally appeared Carol Gamell, known to me to be the person named above, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same as her free act and deed.



(NOTARIAL SEAL)

Printed Name: Beth North  
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Residing at Great Falls, Montana  
My Commission Expires: 8-1-2014

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# BAKER FOR SCHOOL BOARD

## Educated

- Graduate Great Falls High School
- Graduate University of Great Falls
- B.S. Elementary Education

## Informed

- Attended all school board meetings for past 3-1/2 years.
- Attended all school budget meetings for past 4 budget cycles

## Involved

- Appointed by Tammy Lacey to Superintendent's Advisory Board
- Vice-Chair Neighborhood Council #3 (Riverview/Valleyview area)
- Three children who have graduated from Great Falls Public Schools
- 22 year small business owner in Great Falls

## My Priorities

**Accountability** - for financial performance, parent satisfaction, teacher satisfaction and student safety

**Community Engagement** - holding Town Hall meetings, coffee meetings, focus groups, satisfaction surveys, and a school board facebook page to communicate with and hear from you - the public - about school issues and your ideas. Start a citizens academy.

**Funding** - start a 1:1 program that links neighborhood schools with neighborhood businesses in a mutually beneficial partnership

**Advocacy** - for the students in the classroom AND the taxpayers who fund their education.

**Proactive on Issues** - GFPS has an estimated 2 million dollar unfunded employer mandate that will kick in Oct '15 due to new ACA (ObamaCare) regulations. We can't wait to make decisions. Long range planning must begin NOW for this massive financial impact - also finding a balance that the community will support for aging school buildings and infrastructure improvements.



**EXHIBIT**

tabbles®

D

"I have researched and exposed information that the school district and teacher's union would rather remain hidden from the voters, such as the amount of reserves, the outrageous administration salaries, funds that were earmarked for students needs being used to pay district legal fees, a school board member who voted to tax you more but is delinquent on her own property taxes, and more. Please be aware that a campaign to discredit me will be waged against me because I refuse to be silenced. You need a voice on the school board that will not be just another rubber stamp. I will be YOUR voice."

# BAKER FOR SCHOOL BOARD

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17



**Determined to improve  
Great Falls Public Schools  
while keeping our tax  
burden low.**



**Committed to making  
sure our children have  
the best chance of  
success.**



**Willing to approach each  
decision with an open  
mind.**

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