



MONTANA
SCHOOL *for the*
Deaf & Blind

giving kids the building blocks to independence

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September 15, 2021

Chair Bedey and members of the Education Interim Budget Committee,

The Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind would once again like to extend our appreciation to you for approving the upgrade to our phone system last session. This is to provide you with an update on the installation of the VoIP phone system. We are excited to see progress with the project and look forward to using the new technology in the near future.

Spring 2021

- Worked with Telecommunications Specialist with the State of Montana to start planning the VoIP project.
- Provided Campus Maps with Locations Needing Phones
- Provide Current Network Layout to support the new switches in all buildings to support project
- Campus is wired with Cat 3 cable and will need to be replaced by Cat 5e cable

July 21, 2021

- Specialist and MSDB Staff completed initial walkthrough
- Collected information to help create bids

September 2, 2021

- Follow-up walkthrough with specialist and various contractors
- Verified current network structure
- Created initial plan on how to connect all buildings and install new switches
- Contractors given September 15, 2021 to submit bids to specialist

Near Future

- Award contract based on bids received
- Develop wiring plan that will take into consideration the least disruption to our learning process
- Hoping to have work completed during standard hours to reduce any extra costs
- After wiring complete, States Network Team will install new switches and configurations
- Expecting possible delays with ordering equipment due to COVID shortages
- State VoIP team will come install and configure all phones

If any member of the committee has questions, please contact me at any time. Thank you for your support of MSDB.

In Mustang Spirit,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Furthmyre".

Paul Furthmyre, Interim Superintendent