

**School, County High, Authority of Trustees to Expend
More Than \$10,000 for Purchase of School Site.**

School trustees cannot expend a sum in excess of \$10,000.00 for the purchase of a building site without submitting the question to a vote of the electors.

June 21, 1912.

Hon. Edw. C. Mulroney,
County Attorney,
Missoula, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of June 20th submitting the question

as to the right of the county free high school trustees to expend \$14,750.00 of money now on hand in the purchase of a site for a high school without first submitting the question to a vote of the county.

A similar question was considered by this office in a letter addressed to Hon. W. E. Moore, County Attorney, Philipsburg, Montana, under date of April 7, 1910, in which the conclusion was reached that such expenditure could not legally be made. (Opinions Atty. Gen'l 1908-10, p 355.) A very similar question to that here involved and based on a similar state of facts was also considered by this office in an opinion addressed to Hon. Theodore Lentz, County Attorney, Glendive, Mont., under date of Oct. 22, 1907, in which the same conclusion was reached (Opinions Atty. Gen'l 1906-08, page 173.)

This latter opinion contains certain suggestions as to methods of procedure which may be followed by the board in accomplishing the purposes desired. These two opinions I believe will furnish full discussion of the questions here presented.

Very truly yours,

ALBERT J. GALEN,

Attorney General.