

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | AUGUST 28, 2026

Gallatin R-V Celebrates Ribbon Cutting for New Elementary Playground

New playground is part of the voter-approved April 2026 facilities project



Photo: Gallatin R-V School District leaders celebrate the new elementary playground on August 19, 2026.

GALLATIN, Mo. — August 19, 2026 — The Gallatin R-V School District celebrated the opening of a new elementary playground with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Covell D. Searcy Elementary School on August 19, 2026. District leaders, members of the Board of Education and project partners gathered to mark the completion of an improvement designed to give students an inviting place to play, move and connect during the school day.

The completed playground includes new play structures, slides, swings, climbing features and cushioned play surfacing. The new equipment expands the range of age-appropriate activities available to students and creates a bright, welcoming outdoor setting next to the elementary school.

"This new playground represents more than new equipment. It reflects our community's investment in our students and in the everyday experiences that help children learn, grow and build relationships. We are grateful to Gallatin voters for supporting the April 2026 bond issue and to everyone who helped bring this project to completion."

– Derek Brady, Gallatin R-V Superintendent

The playground is one component of a larger district facilities improvement project approved by Gallatin voters in April 2026. The broader project represents the district's continued investment in student spaces and school facilities and is being developed and delivered in partnership with Veregy.

RIBBON-CUTTING PARTICIPANTS

Board of Education members in attendance included Pam Critten, president; Courtney Story, vice president; Dillon Bird; Amy Heldenbrand; Debra Sweatman; Kenneth Youtsey II; and Wesley Gay. District administrators included Superintendent Derek Brady; Covell D. Searcy Elementary Principal Susan Allen; Gallatin Middle School Principal Tracy Burke; and Gallatin High School Principal Brent Burke. Veregy representatives Sage Acorn, Ron Ash and Ken Eaton also attended but are not pictured.

The district thanks the Gallatin community for its continued support and looks forward to seeing students enjoy the new playground for years to come.

ABOUT GALLATIN R-V SCHOOL DISTRICT

Gallatin R-V School District serves students and families in Gallatin, Missouri, with a mission of "Leading the Way to Success." The district is committed to providing safe, welcoming and effective learning environments for every student.

ABOUT VEREGY

Veregy is an award-winning NAESCO-accredited decarbonization company focusing on accelerating and simplifying the Energy Transition. We provide turnkey engineering and construction services designed to reduce our clients' energy and operating costs by implementing energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrades, smart building technology, fleet EV infrastructure, clean energy generation, and sustainability.

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