



Friday, September 25

FRIDAY FLYER

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**Dear families and the
Helena community,**



Today, fourth and fifth graders and PAL students had the opportunity to watch and participate in Last Chance Community Pow Wow's Demonstration Day at the fairgrounds.

Every year, this event provides our students with a meaningful opportunity to engage directly with cultural traditions that extend beyond the walls of the classroom.

A big thank you to our HPS Indian Education team and the organizers of the Last Chance Community Pow Wow for their dedication and work in making this invaluable experience possible for our students year after year.

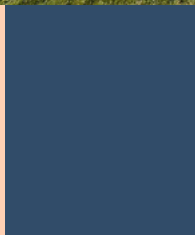
Looking to next week - it's the start of October and cooler weather. Please remember to send students with warmer layers!

Next week also marks Helena High's Homecoming Week, as well as the start of College Application Week for both high schools. There will be quite a few opportunities for our seniors to explore post-secondary pathways, get application guidance, and receive resources that may help them in making decisions on what's in store after high school. Reach out to your school's counseling department with any questions.

Have a great weekend! We'll see you next week!

Respectfully,

Rex M. Weltz, Superintendent
Helena Public Schools



HOT TOPICS

FROM THE GROUND UP WITH HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



S2 Ep. 5: High School Business

On this episode, high school principals Brian Kessler (Helena High) and Cal Boyle (Capital High) joined Superintendent Weltz to talk about the construction challenges and excitement happening at the high schools.

**LISTEN OR WATCH WHEREVER YOU'RE AT
IN YOUR DAY:**

[LISTEN ON RSS](#)[LISTEN ON APPLE PODCASTS](#)[WATCH ON YOUTUBE](#)

SACC October Days are right around the corner! Full day child care for K-5 is available on October 15 and 16, 2026 (no school days) at Bryant Elementary School from 7:30 am - 5:30 pm.

SACC OCTOBER DAYS

SACC FULL DAY PROGRAM OCTOBER 15 AND 16, 2026
BRYANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(SACC ENTRANCE DIRECTLY UNDER THE SKY BRIDGE)
7:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
\$65 PER CHILD PER DAY

Join us for two days of fun and activities!
Thursday - Halloween food creations in the kitchen.
Friday - exploring Halloween STEAM.
Come have some fun!

Scan the QR code for more SACC information and to register!

HPS Community Support Resources Community Corner

- HPS THREE WAYS TO DONATE
- RUNNING RESOURCE LIST ON OUR WEBPAGE
- HPS SCHOOLS' FOOD DRIVES AND OTHER RELATED EVENT LISTINGS
- CONTACT CENTER FOR QUESTIONS AND TO GET CONNECTED (WEBPAGE)

[VIEW WEBPAGE](#)

It's More Than a Meal

Free & Reduced Meal Application

Even if your child attends a school where meals are already free, please take a few minutes to complete the application - it can make a big difference for our schools and students! It's quick, confidential, and can have a lasting impact on our schools!

NOTE: If you applied last year, you must apply again for this year!

[APPLY BEFORE 10/11](#)

IT'S MORE THAN A MEAL...

ONE FORM, COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES. APPLY BEFORE OCTOBER 11:

NOTE: If you applied last year, you must apply again for this year!

Bonds Projects Updates

09/27 -
10/03

CHS PROJECT



WEEK 47:

- **Slate Architecture + RTA Updates:**
 - OAC Meeting on Site
 - Reviewing DD Pricing
 - Finish Meeting with the School
 - Construction Documents Package 4
- **Langlas & Associates Construction Updates:**
 - OAC Meeting
 - CTE & Aux Gym Mobilization
 - Underground Rough-in Continued
 - Above Ceiling Rough-in Continued
 - Foundation Waterproofing
 - Interior Concrete Pour-Backs
 - Exterior Mechanical Well Concrete Pour's
 - Basement Classroom Window Sawcutting
 - Basement Framing Continued

09/27 -
10/03

HHS + PROJECT FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (PAL) PROJECT



WEEK 49:

- **A&E + SMA Design Updates:**
 - HHS/PAL Construction Documents complete, Phase 3 bidding begins!
- **Dick Anderson & Team Construction Updates:**

▪ QC footing/wall forming ▪ Set Anchor Bolts ◦ Helena Sand and Gravel ▪ Foundation Excavation ▪ Backfill Foundation ◦ Central Electric ▪ Install Light Poles	◦ Steed Concrete ▪ Forming walls ▪ Pour walls ▪ Tie Rebar ◦ Central Plumbing and Heating ▪ Install Sleeves
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PARKING, STREET CLOSURE, SCHOOL ENTRANCES, AND WALKWAY GUIDANCE

We want our students, staff, and community as safe and informed as possible as our schools get farther along in their construction phases.

[PLEASE VIEW ALL PROJECT UPDATES HERE!](#)

Upcoming Community Events

SAVE THE DATE
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL

Brews
& Blueprints

**KESSLER ELEMENTARY CAMPUS
GROUNDBREAKING EVENT**

OCTOBER 7, 2026 | 5:30 P.M.



KESSLER CAMPUS-
STAY TUNED FOR
MORE DETAILS



mosaic
architecture | planning | design



HELENA
AREA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

**GOLDEN EAGLE +
SWANK ENTERPRISES**
CONSTRUCTION



KESSLER PROJECT

09/27 -
10/03

WEEK 45:

- **Mosaic Architecture + Cushing Terrell Updates:**
 - Week 9 of Construction Documents
 - Design Team Coordination Meetings
 - Masonry Bid Package preparation
- **Golden Eagle/Swank Construction Updates:**
 - Site & Foundations Bid Week
 - Masonry Bid Package preparation
 - Design Team Coordination Meetings



HPS DISTRICT KITCHEN

09/27 -
10/03

WEEK 49:

- **A&E + SMA Design Updates:**
 - Construction, OAC Meetings every Tuesday
- **Dick Anderson & Team Construction Updates:**
 - Boelter
 - Field verify cooler/freezer measurements
 - Big Sky
 - Underground rough-in
 - Slate
 - Underground rough-in

WHAT'S COMING UP FOR THE DISTRICT?

September 26, 2026 - October 10, 2026

Saturday, September 26:

Sunday, September 27:

Monday, September 28:

- ** HHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 1
 - College Fair, 11:00 a.m. – Carroll College
 - Bryant Fabulous First, 2:00 p.m. – Bryant

Tuesday, September 29:

- ** HHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 1
 - HEF Great Ideas and Spark Grant Fall Applications Due
 - JD g5 Water Watchers Field Trip

Wednesday, September 30:

- ** HHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 1
 - Orange Shirt Day – Orange Shirt Society
 - CHS Parent Council Meeting, 3:30 p.m. – CHS Library

Thursday, October 1:

- ** HHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 1
 - HMS Coffee with the Principal, 8:00 a.m. – HMS

Friday, October 2:

- ** HHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 1
 - HEF Let's Talk About Great Teacher's Nominations Due!

Saturday, October 3:

- Helena Sun Run for Smith Solar Panels- Smith
- HHS Homecoming Dance, 7:00 p.m. – HHS Gym



**DATES TO
REMEMBER...**



Spark Grants & Great Ideas Grants deadline:

Tuesday, September 29th

Let's Talk About Great Teachers nominations due:

Friday, October 2nd – [Form](#)

Sunday, October 4:

Monday, October 5:

- ** CHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 2
 - HHS Fall Orchestra Concert, 6:00 p.m. – Little Theater

Tuesday, October 6:

- ** CHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 2
 - CRA Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Broadwater Adopt-a-species Assembly
 - Kessler Parent Partnership Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Kessler Library
 - HHS Fall Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m. – HMS Auditorium

Wednesday, October 7:

- ** CHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 2
 - Jefferson Walk to School Day, 7:30 a.m.
 - 4Gs Walk to School Day, 7:30 a.m.
 - Smith Walk to School Day
 - Broadwater Walk to School Day
 - HHS FAFSA Night, 5:30 p.m. – HHS Library
 - Helena Chamber Special Brews and Blueprints Kessler Elementary Groundbreaking Event, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 8:

- ** CHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 2
 - CRA Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - 4Gs PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – 4Gs

Friday, October 9:

- ** CHS Homecoming Week
- ** College Application Week 2
 - EV Fire Dept. Visit – Warren
 - CHS Homecoming Dance, 9:00 p.m. – CHS Gym

Saturday, October 10:

If we missed something, please let us know – helenamtschools@helenaschools.org

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR OR MAKE NOTE OF:

MONTANA PERFORMING *Arts* consortium 2026 ARTIST SHOWCASE

Free Admission | Open to the Public

3 SHOWS – 17 ARTISTS

Saturday, October 17 — 9 AM / 1:15 PM / 3:45 PM
HELENA CIVIC CENTER

PLUS! ARTIST JAM SESSION LEWIS & CLARK TAPROOM, 8PM

MPAC is bringing the world to Montana communities through the performing arts—and on Saturday, October 17, we're bringing the world right here to Helena!

For one day only, the Montana Performing Arts Consortium is opening its doors to the public for a FREE 17-artist showcase marathon at the Helena Civic Center. Experience world-class touring talent from across the globe representing Celtic rock, dance, stand-up comedy, classical, jazz, magic, musical theatre, and more!

Saturday, October 17 | Helena Civic Center (9 AM, 1:15 PM & 3:45 PM) + Lewis & Clark Taproom (8 PM). Full schedule & artist details:

<https://www.mtperformingarts.org/showcase-artists>

IRONHORSE ENROLLMENT—PAGE 2 OF 2

Preferred Shirt Size: _____
Emergency Contact: _____
Allergies: _____
Other Medical or Special Needs: _____

STUDENT AND PARENT AGREEMENTS

To fulfill its mission and provide quality, educational experiences for students, student musicians need to make a commitment to the Ironhorse Consortium for Young Musicians. Please read Ironhorse Membership Policies (by ensemble) at <https://ironhorsenmusic.org/policies/> and pay close attention to all expectations. Sign the member agreements at the bottom of this page before submitting your enrollment form.

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STUDENT AGREEMENT

☐ I have read the Ironhorse Youth Music Membership Policies specific to my chosen ensemble(s) or other programs, and I agree to comply with said policies in full.

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

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PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

☐ I have read the Ironhorse Youth Music Membership Policies specific to my child's chosen ensemble(s) or other programs, and I agree to comply with said policies in full.

☐ I hereby grant permission for the Ironhorse Youth Music to use my child's photograph for printed and online promotional materials and publications. I waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto, and I acknowledge that Ironhorse Youth Music may choose not to use my child's photograph at this time, but may do so at its own discretion at a later date.

Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____



IRONHORSE YOUTH MUSIC 2025-2027

The Ironhorse Consortium for Young Musicians exists to inspire, educate, and connect people through music. All ensembles (along with our other exciting programs) introduce classical and contemporary music. Members to student musicians of all ages and provides a strong foundation of financial and performance techniques. Through repertoire and other educational opportunities, Ironhorse brings students and audiences a community connection to other cultures and social issues facing our society.

Staff are excited to return to ensemble rehearsal, lessons, and other academic opportunities this season; we hope everyone will join us for these exciting learning opportunities!

Ensembles
Instructors are preparing for a variety of ensemble rehearsals this year! Please visit <https://ironhorsenmusic.org/> for updated information, detailed schedules and rehearsal locations, and complete ensemble descriptions.

Ensemble Performances
Winter Concert - Saturday, December 12 at 4:00 pm, St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Spring Concert - Saturday, May 15 at 4:00 pm, St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Other Programs
Private Lessons - open to individual students, but lesson availability depends on enrollment and teacher schedules.
A supplemental lesson form is required and available by request or at <https://ironhorsenmusic.org/lesson/>.

Classes - open to all students, but availability depends on enrollment and class prerequisites.

The MET Live in Schools - free and open to all students.

Tuition
Most Ironhorse programs are made possible through enrollment fees that are calculated based on monthly costs to the organization. If you have any concerns regarding enrollment fees, please inquire about our fee waiver program. Ironhorse is committed to serving all student musicians in the community!

Ensemble Fees
Each student's first semester enrollment is \$60 per month. Additional ensemble enrollments are \$25 per month for each student.
All students enrolled in ensembles receive a 10% discount. Any student participant in Ironhorse summer camps or Ironhorse lesson programs receive a 5% discount per program.
Contact Mr. Casey if you are interested in paying discounted semester or annual fees up front!

Class Fees
Class enrollment fees vary depending on the class structure, but Ironhorse aims to keep class fees in line with the \$60 per month ensemble fees.

Private Lesson Fees
Private lessons are offered on a sliding scale based on family income and student need. Weekly lesson times are scheduled with each instructor.

Please visit the Ironhorse website (<https://ironhorsenmusic.org/>) for additional information about our organization and the many opportunities it provides to young musicians.

IRONHORSE CONTACT INFORMATION

Kevin Casey, Executive Director
(406) 430-0009
kcasey@ironhorsenmusic.org

IRONHORSE ENROLLMENT—PAGE 1 OF 2

Ironhorse enrollment forms are available at <https://ironhorsenmusic.org/gibbon>

Name: _____ Gender/Preferred Pronouns: _____
Grade Level: _____ Birthdate: _____ School: _____
Parent/Guardian Names: _____
Address: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Student Instrument(s): _____ Years of Experience: _____

Ensemble Enrollment (Select all in which you would like to perform)

FULL ORCHESTRA ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester
ORCHESTRAL WINDS AND PERCUSSION ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester
CAMERATA ORCHESTRA ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester
YOUTH CHORUS ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester

ACADEMY ENSEMBLES
BAND ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester
ORCHESTRA ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Year ☐ Fall Semester ☐ Spring Semester

Other Programs:

CLASSES
EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC ☐ Movers and Shakers ☐ Walkers and Bouncers
PRIVATE LESSONS ☐ I will also submit the required lesson supplement form
MET LIVE IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM ☐ Please keep me informed about this free opportunity!

Enrollment Fees:

PRIMARY ENSEMBLE ☐ \$60 PER MONTH
ADDITIONAL ENSEMBLES ☐ \$25 PER MONTH X _____
CLASSES ☐ \$60 PER SESSION X _____
DISCOUNTS ☐ SIBLING (10%) ☐ SUMMER CAMP PARTICIPATION (5%) ☐ LESSON PROGRAM PARTICIPATION (5%)
OPTIONAL ONE TIME DONATION \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

Ironhorse will email invoices to families once a month (September through December for the fall semester, and January through May for the spring semester). If you request a full semester or full year payment, an invoice will be emailed that includes an upfront payment discount.

Enrollment paperwork or check payments may be delivered to an instructor or mailed to:
Ironhorse Youth Music • PO Box 817 • Helena • 59624

IronHorse Music

IronHorse Music is looking forward to another fantastic year! Enrollment is NOW OPEN – [CLICK HERE!](https://ironhorsenmusic.org/)

"As with our summer programs, Ironhorse is committed to making school year ensembles and classes accessible to every student. The MET Live in Schools program is and always will remain free to every participant. We also provide scholarships for other programs to every student who meets income guidelines. Many Helena Public School students take advantage of our fee waiver program each year."
<https://ironhorsenmusic.org/>

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