



Wednesday, October 14

A Special WEDNESDAY FLYER

[CONTACT US](#)

[FOLLOW US](#)

[VISIT US](#)

Dear families and the
Helena community,



Happy Wednesday! Reminder: there is no school the next two days! I want to share a quick update as we head into the long weekend for students and our educators head to annual educator conferences.

Professional development days such as the annual educator conferences are pertinent to the continued growth of our educators and the district. Professional development allows our educators to stay at the forefront of best practices, gathering with peers from across the state to explore updated curriculum strategies, innovative classroom technologies, and effective teaching methodologies. These workshops also focus heavily on enhancing student support, covering vital topics such as academic achievement, student mental health, classroom management, and inclusive learning environments. When educators sharpen their skills, our entire district benefits from the collaboration and refreshed energy that directly impact student success. Investments in our teachers' growth translate directly into more supportive learning environments for our students.

We also have a busy week for student activities. Some of our high school choir students are in Bozeman for the All-State Choir festival, and our sports teams are competing in crosstown soccer matches as well as away games for football and volleyball. Best of luck to all of our participating students, coaches, and advisors!

Enjoy the long weekend! We'll see you Monday!

Respectfully,
Rex M. Wertz, Superintendent
Helena Public Schools

INDIAN EDUCATION TITLE VI OPEN HOUSE FAMILY NIGHT

DATE: October 21, 2026

TIME: 6:00PM to 8:00 PM

LOCATION: Helena Middle School **CAFETERIA**

WE WILL HAVE:

- Food: taco bar
- Bingo
- Bring costume to wear

ALL ARE WELCOME!



For more information contact:

Amanda WalkingChild
awalkingchild@helenaschools.org
406-461-4584



HOT TOPICS

Important Update to Families from Food Services



Adults who wish to eat a school meal will need to pay by cash or check at the front office.

This is an important change from past school years. Adults will no longer be able to charge their meals to a student's account.

Please keep this in mind for future events. If adults chose to eat breakfast with their child, they will need to pay \$3.50 in the front office that morning.

We appreciate your understanding of this process change!

It's Crunch Time!

Montana Crunch Time is a statewide event to celebrate National Farm to School Month, local producers, and nutritious foods by crunching into local foods throughout the month of October. Helena Public Schools is excited to participate in this program to help encourage the Farm to School movement and Eat Local!

Stay tuned for some fun pictures from out participating schools!



Food Service has purchased 4,000 grown in Montana, McIntosh Apples for all students and staff to participate in this years Montana Crunch Off!

Celebrate National Farm to School Month and local food by crunching into any Montana-grown or raised food throughout October! Montana Crunch Off is a state-wide event for students, teachers, farmers, community members, and local food enthusiasts to collectively bite into any locally grown or raised food. All Montanans are invited to join the 12th year of crunching! Montana is participating in the Mountain Plains Crunch Off along with Colorado, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming!

Why crunch? This collective crunch encourages healthy eating while supporting "Farm to School" and "buy local" initiatives throughout the state. Crunch Off is a great way to introduce kids to fresh, local produce and foods in a fun way!

Share your story by tagging a photo or video with **#MTCrunchOff** on Facebook and Instagram.



Year-to-Date Attendance (YTD) Update | as of 10.1.26

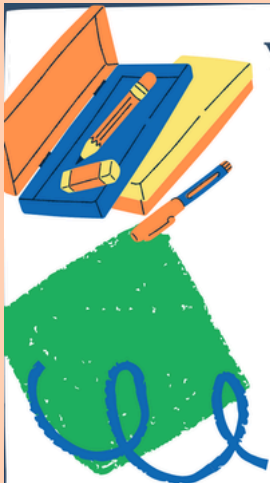
Analyzing **DISTRICT** YTD attendance trends in comparison to this time last year.

2026
94.85%

2025
95.17%

Attendance is down 0.32% from last year at this time.

Every day in the classroom is an opportunity to learn, grow, and build connection. Consistent attendance helps our students stay on track academically, develop strong habits, and build meaningful relationships with their peers and teachers. Thank you to our families, staff, and community partners for working together to support our students and ensure they show up ready to thrive.



You're Invited!
CENTRAL SCHOOL
150TH
BIRTHDAY
Celebration

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



When:
Thursday,
October 22nd

Where:
Central
Gymnasium

Time:
2:00 - 3:00

Join us in celebrating 150 years
of Central School!

**HALLOWEEN AT
HELENA HIGH**

OCT 24TH FROM 6-7:30 PM
AT HELENA HIGH

COME ENJOY A NIGHT OF SPOOKY-FUN GAMES, CANDY, AND
THRILLS WITH YOUR FAMILY!

**SPOOKY CARNIVAL &
FUN HAUNTED HOUSE**



The Angel Fund clothing application is **OPEN!** Monetary donations so students can purchase their own clothes can be given online at <https://www.angelfundhelena.org/> today. Thank you for 37 years of support in the Helena School District!

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](#)

**Angel Fund
Clothing Application
Open October 1st**



 **Angel Fund**

-  Free & Reduced Lunch eligible students can shop for their own back-to-school clothes at one of our four merchant partners: TJ Maxx, Target, Old Navy or Walmart.
-  Visit & complete the application with your Helena school district counselor today.
-  Interested in donating to our fall campaign? Visit [angelfundhelena.org](https://www.angelfundhelena.org)

Bonds Projects Updates

10/18 - 10/24

We'll be back next week with construction project updates – make sure to check Facebook or Instagram on Monday or our bonds projects website anytime for the latest information!

**PLEASE VIEW ALL
PROJECT UPDATES HERE!**



WHAT'S COMING UP FOR THE DISTRICT?

October 15, 2026 - October 31, 2026

Thursday, October 15: NO SCHOOL – Educator Conferences

- All State Music Festival – MSU

Friday, October 16: NO SCHOOL – Educator Conferences

- All State Music Festival – MSU

Saturday, October 17:

Sunday, October 18:

Monday, October 19:

**Tipi at JD, 10.19 – 24

**Warren Book Fair Week, 10.19–22

Tuesday, October 20:

- Smith Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day
- Warren Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Bryant Fall Parent Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Smith PSS Meeting

Wednesday, October 21:

- Kessler Fall Parent Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Indian Education Title VI Open House, 6:00PM – HMS Cafeteria
- HMS PTO Meeting, 7:00 pm – HMS Library

Thursday, October 22:

- Central's 150th Birthday Celebration, 2:00 p.m. – Central Gym
- Warren Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Bryant Fall Parent Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Kessler Fall Parent Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Bryant PTO Meeting, 5:30 p.m. – Bryant

Friday, October 23:

- Jefferson Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day

Saturday, October 24:

- Halloween @ HHS Event, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 25:

Monday, October 26:

**Smith Healthy Choices Week 10.26 – 30

- Jim Darcy Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day

Tuesday, October 27:

- 4Gs Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day
- CRA Picture Retakes

Wednesday, October 28:

- Warren Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day

Thursday, October 29:

- HMS Picture Retakes
- Kessler Picture Retakes
- Central Picture Retakes
- 4Gs Bootastic Bingo
- Kessler Trunk or Treat, 5:30 p.m. – Kessler

Friday, October 30:

**End of First Quarter (Grades 6–12)

- Warren Halloween Parade, 2:45 p.m.
- Rossiter Halloween Parade, TBD p.m.
- Helena College Neighborhood Trunk or Treat
- CRA Halloween Dance, 3:00 p.m. – CRA Upper Gym

Saturday, October 24:

- Jim Darcy Trunk or Treat
- Jefferson Trunk or Treat, 1:00 p.m. – Jefferson Playground/Parking Lot

If we missed something,
please let us know –

[EMAIL US](#)



HELENA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
PRESENTS



CARNIVAL
CLASSIC

THANK YOU EVENT SPONSORS



Marsh McLennan
Agency



Blue Cross
Blue Shield
of Montana



BaseCamp
Gear for the Great Outdoors



HARRINGTON
BOTTLING COMPANY
Since 1937

The Helena Education Foundation wants to thank everyone who joined us for this year's Carnival Classic and helped make it such a fun day for Helena Public Schools and our community! We're grateful to all of the volunteers, sponsors, performers, school groups, and supporters who shared their time, energy, and talents to make the event happen.



[CONTACT US](#)

[FOLLOW US](#)

[VISIT US](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR OR MAKE NOTE OF:

SHADOW DAYS at Helena College

Juniors & Seniors: Want to see what it's like to
be a college student in a trades program?

Join us for Shadow Days on October 28!

SIGN UP HERE:



Questions? Contact HC Admissions:
ADMISSIONS@HELENACOLLEGE.EDU



helenacollege.edu

406.447.6900

admissions@helenacollege.edu



On October 28, Helena College will be hosting Shadow Days. This is an event for high school juniors and seniors who are interested in pursuing a career in the trades. At this event, students will spend the day shadowing current trades students as they go about their day to get a sense of what going to trades school is actually like.

Are you a high school junior or senior interested in this opportunity? Talk to your instructors or counseling office!

[CONTACT US](#)

[FOLLOW US](#)

[VISIT US](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR OR MAKE NOTE OF:



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>

This public health youth art campaign aims to elevate the voices of students and give them a platform to share their stories and experiences through art.

Every community is unique, and we want to hear what your students are passionate about, what challenges your community faces, and what successes you would like to celebrate. Any Montana student is eligible to enter. There will be two submission categories:

- Art Showcase (non-judged, participation guarantees entry to showcase)
- Art Exhibition (judged, participation does not guarantee entry to exhibition)

The Art Exhibition submissions will be divided into two categories: submissions from those under the age of 14 and submissions from those over the age of 14.

More information is available [HERE](#).



[CONTACT US](#)

[FOLLOW US](#)

[VISIT US](#)



HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Great Place to Learn

BECOME A PARAEDUCATOR!



Build Connections

Create relationships that inspire and make a difference.



Flexible & Rewarding

Enjoy school-year schedules and meaningful work.



Support Students

Help Students learn, grow and succeed every day.

Current entry level salary range is \$16.10-\$19.63 per hour depending on experience and includes a comprehensive benefit package.

APPLY ON [HPSJOB.COM](https://hpsjob.com)



Contact Us
406-324-2012



Visit Our Website
[Hpsjob.com](https://hpsjob.com)



Our Location
1325 Poplar St