



Friday, October 9

FRIDAY FLYER

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Dear families and the Helena community,



This coming Monday marks Indigenous Peoples' Day, another opportunity for us to recognize and honor the history, cultures, and contributions of Indigenous peoples. At HPS, we are very lucky to have a great IEFA team that creates these connections in our education year-round.

The team provides cultural awareness and enrichment across all grade levels, deepening our students' understanding of Montana's Tribal Nations. As part of the program, a Blackfeet tipi and a Sioux tipi are currently circulating through our district. Each week, these tipis visit a new school, giving students and staff a unique opportunity to engage directly with traditional teachings and living history.

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate the Kessler Groundbreaking this last Wednesday, as well as every community member who has supported the bond work that have made these projects possible. We look forward to continuing to providing regular construction updates as progress continues across our district sites.

We want to ensure every student stays warm and comfortable as the temperatures drop this weekend. If your family needs assistance with winter clothing or other supportive resources, please reach out directly to your school's main office. Our staff is here to help connect you with what you need.

We'll see you next week!

Respectfully,
Rex M. Weltz, Superintendent
Helena Public Schools

FROM THE GROUND UP WITH HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



S2 Ep. 6: School Aged Child Care!

Superintendent Weltz visits with Kaitlyn Hess, Director of state and federal programs, and Kirstan Roush, SACC director about the School Aged Child Care Program, extreme running and hiking, and more!

**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.

[VIEW WEBPAGE](#)

HOT TOPICS

It's More Than a Meal

Free & Reduced Meal Application

APPLY BY 10/11

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

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...

ONE FORM, COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES. APPLY BEFORE OCTOBER 11:

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

Icons: Fee Assistance, School Fees, Health and Wellness Services, Classroom Supplies, Clothing Items.

Important Update to Families from Food Services

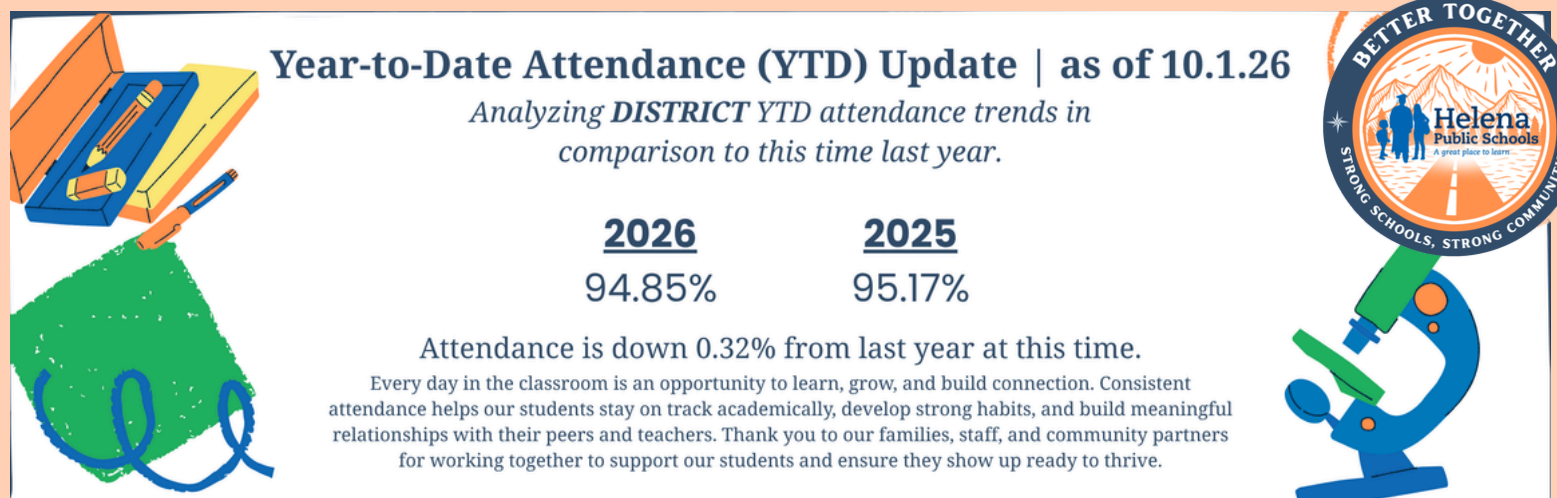


Adults who wish to eat a school meal will need to pay by cash or check at the front office.

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!



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

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

2026	2025
94.85%	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.



HELENA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
PRESENTS



CARNIVAL CLASSIC

THANK YOU EVENT SPONSORS



MarshMcLennan
Agency



BlueCross
BlueShield
of Montana

BaseCamp
Gear for the Great Outdoors



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.



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**

Bonds Projects Updates

10/11 -
10/17

CHS PROJECT



WEEK 49:

- **Slate Architecture + RTA Updates:**
 - OAC Meeting on Site
 - School Board Update
 - Construction Administration
 - Contractor RFI Response
 - Architect Supplemental Instructions
 - Submittal Review
 - Construction Documents Package 4
- **Langlas & Associates Construction Updates:**
 - OAC Meeting
 - Board Meeting
 - Precast & Steel Coordination Meetings
 - Package 2 Structural Steel Install Continued
 - Basement Framing Continued
 - Mechanical Well Concrete Continued
 - CD Documents Budgeting

10/11 -
10/17

HHS + PROJECT FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING (PAL) PROJECT



WEEK 51:

- **A&E + SMA Design Updates:**
 - Phase 3 bidding
 - Construction, OAC Meetings every Tuesday
- **Dick Anderson & Team Construction Updates:**
 - QC footing/wall forming
 - Set Anchor Bolts
 - Helena Sand and Gravel
 - Foundation Excavation
 - Backfill Foundation
 - Foundation Drain
 - Central Electric
 - Underground Rough-In
 - Steed Concrete
 - Finish damp proofing
 - Form footings/grade beams/walls
 - Pour footings/grade beams/walls
 - Tie Rebar
 - Central Plumbing and Heating
 - Underground Rough-In

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!](#)



KESSLER PROJECT

10/11 -
10/17

WEEK 47:

- **Mosaic Architecture + Cushing Terrell Updates:**
 - Week 11 of Construction Documents
 - Design Team Coordination Meetings
 - Masonry Bidding
- **Golden Eagle/Swank Construction Updates:**
 - Masonry Bidding
 - On-site earthwork

KESSLER GROUND BREAKING



Thank you, Helena!

Thank you, Kessler staff, students, and families!

Thank you to our all our project teams and teammates!

Thank you, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce!

Thank you to our Board!



HPS DISTRICT KITCHEN

10/11 -
10/17

WEEK 51:

- **A&E + SMA Design Updates:**
 - Construction, OAC Meetings every Tuesday
- **Dick Anderson & Team Construction Updates:**
 - Verify block outs, wall lines, grid lines and rough-in
 - Analyze scan data for slab penetrations
 - Slate
 - Install loading dock conduits once loading docks are formed
 - Big Sky
 - Install block outs for all drains
 - Mockel
 - Complete fine grade gravel Monday if necessary
 - Matrix
 - Install vapor barrier, rebar, embed angle and block outs for slab prep
 - Pour warehouse slab Thursday 10/15
 - Saw cut slab
 - Tetra Tech
 - Pre pour rebar inspection
 - Concrete testing and sampling
 - Flatness testing after slab pour
 - City of Helena
 - Pre pour rebar and vapor barrier inspection

WHAT'S COMING UP FOR THE DISTRICT?

October 10, 2026 - October 24, 2026

Saturday, October 10:

Sunday, October 11:

Monday, October 12:

**Tipi at Warren, 10.12 – 16

** College Application Weeks, 10.5 – 10.16

****National Indigenous Peoples Day**

- BOT Facilities and Technology Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m. – LC
- Smith Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Rossiter Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 4G's Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Broadwater Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Central Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Central Costume Swaps, 3:30 p.m. – Central Hub
- Jim Darcy PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Jim Darcy Library
- HHS Parent Council/Booster Clun Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – HHS Cafeteria

Tuesday, October 13:

- Warren Adopt-a-species Assembly
- Smith Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Rossiter Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 4G's Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Broadwater Parent/Teacher Conferences + Book Fair
- Central Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Central Costume Swaps, 3:30 p.m. – Central Hub
- Jefferson Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Board of Trustees Meeting, 5:30 p.m. – Lincoln Center
- CRA Choir Concerts – HMS Auditorium
 - 6th Grade, 6:00 p.m. | 7 Grade, 7:00 p.m. | 8th Grade, 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 14:

- All State Music Festival – MSU
- BOT Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m. – LC
- CHS Picture Retake Day
- Jefferson Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 15: NO SCHOOL – Educator Conference

- 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 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:

Saturday, October 24:

- Halloween @ HHS Event

**If we missed
something, please
let us know –**

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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!

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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](#).



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