

HELENA HIGH SCHOOL



October 2023

<http://hhs.helenaschools.org/>

2023-2024 School Year



Happy Tuesday to our Bengal Community!

I hope this October edition of the newsletter finds you and your family well. Fall in Montana is undoubtedly my favorite Montana season. Having taken a short trip to Glacier this past weekend, I know that winter is most definitely on its way! Enjoy the beauty of Montana before the snow flies!

I would like to invite you to attend our Open House this Thursday evening, 10/5, at 6:00 p.m. We will begin the evening in the gym for a brief introduction and then you can be on your way to visit the day-to-day schedule of your child and put names to face of the teachers that are working with your student each day. Even though this is an incredibly short visit to the classroom, we hope it fosters further and deeper communication throughout the year. We have a dedicated, talented, and student-centered group of educators at HHS and we look forward to partnering with you in the educational journey of your child.

In addition to the class schedule you will follow, there will also be some opportunities to visit with some of our community partners, visit our counseling center, or take a visit to our library for some refreshments.

Hope to see you Thursday night!

Go Bengals!

Steve Thennis
Principal
Helena High School



Oct 4
National Walk to School Day

Oct 5
HHS Open House 6:00 PM

Oct 19-20
NO SCHOOL
MFPE Educators Conference

Oct 23—
Picture Retake Day

Oct 21
State Cross Country –
Kalispell

Oct 24—Choir/Orchestra
Concert HMS 7:00 PM

Oct 28th
State Soccer Championship

Nov 6th
2nd Quarter begins

Nov 5th
**Daylight Savings
Time Ends**



Parents-Guardians:

Please give the attendance office at least **an hour's notice** when picking up your student. It is very difficult to get some students out of particular classes (i.e. PE and the shop building). Also, as a reminder, you can leave your student's name on our voicemail when they are out all day, no need to continue to call until you get a live person.

In the mornings we are usually busy with taking messages on voicemail and emails, as well as waiting on late students and parents coming in and can't always answer the phone. Please feel free to leave us a message, those are checked frequently throughout the day and if you're giving us an hour's notice, we'll get the message in time.

Thanks for your help!! The Attendance Office

You may reach them at 324-2211 or HHSAttendance@helenaschools.org.



Welding Classes

We will be offering a required OSHA 10 class again this year for all Welding II, III, and IV students. There is no cost for this class. This is not a certification but when finished with the class students will have an OSHA 10 card. This means that our students will have a head start in employment opportunities. The students that currently hold cards will not have to take the class. They will attend their normal class schedule. For the students who do not have their cards they will be required to attend two full days of OSHA 10 class. They will be excused from their other classes to attend this class. This will be a school-related absence. We want you to be aware of the schedule and the requirements for this class.



Our class is scheduled for *November 14th and 15th from 8:20-2:20*. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Galbavy at 324-2180 or cgalbavy@helenaschools.org



Green Group is in its 17th year of existence! We continue to take students to Sage Mountain Center in the mountains between Butte and Whitehall. This is a beautifully designed center built of local materials and completely off-the-grid. Students learn about photovoltaic solar energy, hot water solar, passive solar, wind energy, and other green technologies, including composting toilets. The center features a year-round, high-altitude solar garden. Owner Chris Borton gives great educational tours, and we are pleased to continue offering this experience for Helena High students.

On Oct. 12 and 13, there will be another major event in Montana. Youth from Livingston are hosting a statewide youth climate summit. Featured speakers are Dr. Cathy Whitlock and Dr. Steven Running, climate scientists.

If you know students interested in the environment and in climate, please have them contact Ms. Van Alstyne or Ms. Pichette, Green Group advisors. Green Group also is continuing its association with the Museum of the Rockies and the U.S. Smithsonian Institution (we are one of only ten student groups selected for this honor nationwide).

ANGEL FUND

Attention Helena High Families



Angel Fund applications are **NOW AVAILABLE** in the Counseling Office from October 3rd through November 30th.

If your student has satisfactory attendance and qualifies for Free/Reduced lunch, he/she will be eligible to receive \$200.00 to spend on clothing, shoes, at one of our local partner stores.

Please come to the Counseling Office at Helena High School to request an application. Once the application is completed and signed, you will be notified that you can begin shopping at one of our local partner stores. At Helena High, the student is asked to do a thank you note to the Angel Fund board for the gift of clothes.

<http://angelfundhelena.org>

SENIOR PICTURES

VIGILANTE YEARBOOK – HELENA HIGH

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 20, 2023

Please keep this date in mind and make your appointments early. Photographers also need time to process your photos before they can be submitted. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Walsh at 324-2310 or at mwalsh@helenaschools.org.

PHOTO GUIDELINES:

1. The digital image must be a portrait frame (vertical), not a landscape frame (horizontal). Landscape images will be cropped by us.
2. Images should be no smaller than 4x6 inches and 300 dpi. **Preferred size is 5x7 at 300 dpi.** When in doubt, send us the original file. Photos taken on a cell phone are NOT high enough resolution and may be denied for print.
3. **All photos MUST be in color.** No black and white or sepia photos will be accepted.
4. **No props** may be visible, i.e. cars, animal, flags or instruments. We would rather highlight you on the other pages in this manner.
5. Dress should be appropriate attire; standard school dress is suggested.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

1. Photos must be **submitted in a digital format by email (mwalsh@helenaschools.org)**. Emailing images from your phone may compress the image, so please use a computer.
2. **Saved the image as LastnameFirstname.** For example, Anna Smith would be SmithAnna.

NOTICE:

Photos that do not adhere to these standards may be cut from the yearbook. The student's school photo will be substituted if the requirements are not met or if we do not receive a photo by the deadline.

If we do not receive a senior photo and the student did not have a school picture taken, they will not be included in the portrait section of the yearbook.

SENIOR "GOOD LUCK" ADVERTISEMENTS

VIGILANTE YEARBOOK – HELENA HIGH

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: January 1st, 2024

Please keep this date in mind and begin making your “good luck” advertisement well in advance — you never know when technological difficulties will slow you down!

CREATING YOUR ADVERTISEMENT

Go to the Yearbook Order Center website, select Helena High, MT . Or, visit <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/>. Our school order code is 7088. Select the size of advertisement you would like to create and begin the process of creating your advertisement! The deadline for senior congratulations messages is January 1st. If you run into problems, please contact me (Ms. Walsh at mwalsh@helenaschools.org) and I will reach out to our representatives.

SENIOR ADS – SIZES AND PRICES

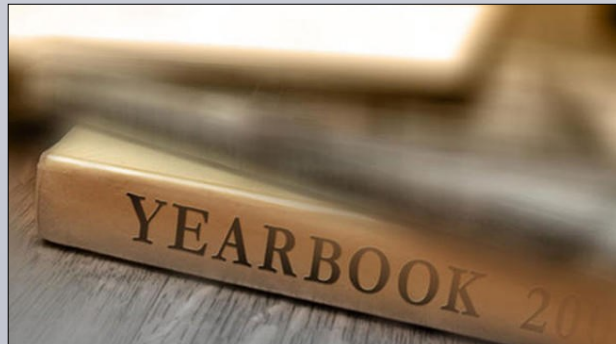
Full page	8.333 x 11.333	\$325
Half page	8.333 x 7.556	\$165
1/4 page	8.333 x 3.778	\$100
1/8 page	2.778 x 3.778	\$55

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

For answers to frequently asked questions—send an email to: yearbookordercenter@herffjones.com

DON'T FORGET TO PURCHASE A YEARBOOK EARLY!

Yearbooks now cost \$75 until February 1st. After that date, the cost will be \$85 for the rest of the year. You can order a yearbook at <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/>. Our school order code is 7088.



Accidental Damage or Loss Protection Details



Helena Public Schools recommends the purchase of accidental damage protection prior to the deployment of the Chromebook to your student. Helena Public Schools will be the sole provider of this protection.

Under this accidental damage protection plan, the Chromebook is protected against accidental damage or loss due to an act of nature. The Helena Public Schools will require that a police report be submitted in cases of theft. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution. A student making a false report will also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined by board policy.

This protection plan does not cover loss of the Chromebook and/or its accessories, cosmetic damage, or damage caused by intentional misuse and abuse. The Helena Public Schools will assess the Chromebook damage and repair or replace the device if the damage is determined to be accidental and within the protection guidelines.

The device should not be disassembled, nor should there be any attempt to repair it by anyone other than a school authorized vendor. The Helena Public Schools has the right to decide when a Chromebook should be repaired in house versus filing a claim with the manufacturer.

Students and parents will be charged for Chromebook damage that is a result of misuse or abusive handling. Parents will be billed for parts and labor. ***Parents/Students will be charged for full replacement cost of a device that has been damaged beyond repair due to intentional misuse or abuse.***

Loaner Chromebooks may be issued to students when their Chromebooks are sent out for repair by the Technology Department. If repair is needed due to malicious damage, the school may refuse to provide a loaner Chromebook.

Estimated Cost Replacement Table:

Part	Replacement Cost*	Accidental Damage	Intentional Damage
Display	\$100	Covered	Full Price
Keyboard Replacement	\$110	Covered	Full Price
Bottom Assembly	\$150	Covered	Full Price
Battery	\$60	Covered	Full Price
Bezel	\$80	Covered	Full Price
Trackpad	\$60	Covered	Full Price
AC Adaptor	\$25	Covered	Full Price

Repair costs are estimates and can change.

Payment for the accident protection plan is due by **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15th.**

Coverage is Effective from the date of payment to August 31, 2024. Payment can be made online at: <https://helenaschools.revtrak.net/>



RETAKES

Picture Retakes will take place on **October 23rd** in the TLC lab in the Library. If you missed the first picture day, please get your picture taken at this time. This is the picture that will be on your student ID and in the yearbook. If you purchased a packet of pictures and want to retake your pictures, be sure to bring the first packet of pictures to return when you have the retakes done.

You can still order on mylifetouch.com with your Picture Day ID:
EVTDM9BJN



Attention Seniors—Send Mrs. Walsh your senior portraits by Halloween!
Go [here](#) for portrait guidelines.



HHS American Welding Society Club is collecting cell phones for Cell Phones for Soldiers Inc. We will be collecting phones from November 1, 2022 to January 31st, 2023. You can drop all cell phones off at the Helena High School Main Office or the Welding Shop at 1300 Billings Ave. during school hours.



HHS will be selling our annual Christmas ornaments during October 26th-Dec 5th or until supplies last. Please check out our Facebook page for the design and price. We will post the new design on Oct 26th.

<https://www.facebook.com/Helena-High-School-AWS-Club-433212223404570/>



Emily Rodway BSN, RN, NCSN

406-324-2216

erodway@helenaschools.org



ISOLATION GUIDANCE REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS

If you test positive for COVID-19 YOU MUST:

- 1** Stay home for **5 days** and contact your medical provider for treatment options.



Do not visit public spaces except to get tested or if you are seeking healthcare. Avoiding crowded areas and maintaining distance from others are strategies that people may want to consider in order to reduce their risk. Wear a well-fitting, multi-layered mask around others in your home.

- 2** **On day 6**, if you either **HAD NO SYMPTOMS** or you test negative for COVID-19, you can end your isolation.

- 3** **On day 6**, if you **HAD SYMPTOMS** of COVID-19, you can end your isolation if:

- ⓘ You are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- ⓘ Your symptoms are improving.

- 4** If you have moderate or severe illness, or are immunocompromised, isolate through day 10.



After you have ended isolation, if your COVID-19 symptoms recur or worsen, restart your isolation at day 0. Talk to a healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or when to end isolation.



What about masking?

After you have ended isolation, when you are feeling better (no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms improving): **Wear your mask through day 10.**

Card updated 8/16/2022



COUNSELING NEWS

HELPING YOU HELP YOUR CHILD FIND SUCCESS

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

AP Test Registration: Sep. 11 - Nov. 14

College Application Week: October 2 - 13

Scholarships:

Most Valuable Student-Elks National Foundation

Deadline-Nov 13th

<https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm>

COLLEGE & MILITARY REP VISITS:

Please visit our website with updated dates of college visits

Register at: bit.ly/militaryvisitslhhs or bit.ly/collegevisitslhhs

College Preview Days

MSU Fridays: Friday, October 20, 2023 & Friday, November 3, 2023

Montana State Northern- TekNoExpo

Thursday, October 12th, 2023

MT Tech Days: Friday, November 17, 2023



AP Exam Registration is open!

If you are enrolled in an AP course, registering for an AP Exam is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

You have until November 1, 2023 to register for your exams.

STEP 1:

Use your teacher provided JOIN CODE to access your AP class on Collegeboard at myap.collegeboard.org

STEP 2:

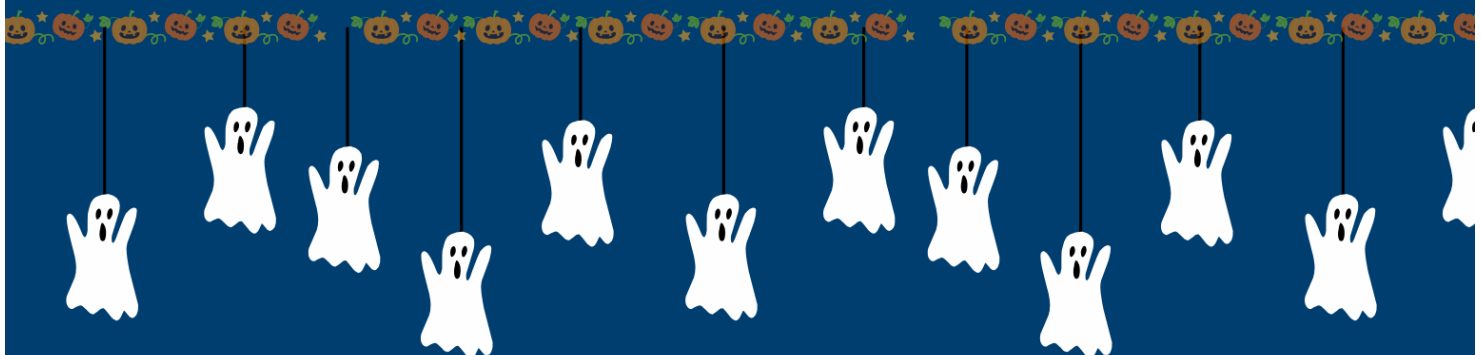
Pay your exam fees online at helenaschools.revtrak.net. The Deadline to register and pay without a late fee is November 1st, 2023!

Cost per exam is \$100

STEP 3:

Log back into your CollegeBoard account at: myap.collegeboard.org

There you can confirm your intentions to take the AP exam for your course(s)





IMPORTANT ACT/SAT DATES & DEADLINES:

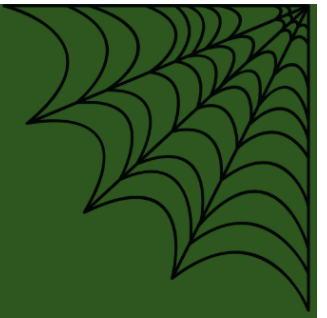
National Dates

Register Dates		Test Dates	
A C T	November 3, 2023	→	December 9, 2023
	January 5, 2024	→	February 10, 2024
	March 8, 2024	→	April 13, 2024
	May 3, 2024	→	June 8, 2024

You can find more information on the ACT at www.act.org and you can find more information on the SAT at www.collegeboard.org.

Register Dates		Test Dates	
October 5, 2023	→	November 4, 2023	S A T
November 2, 2023	→	December 2, 2023	
February 23, 2024	→	March 9, 2024	
April 19, 2024	→	 May 4, 2024 	
May 16, 2024	→	June 1, 2024	

FAFSA

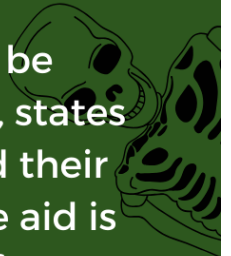


Be sure to go through the FAFSA Checklist ahead of time to make sure you have all the materials you'll need to complete the FAFSA!



WHAT IS FAFSA?

Completing the FAFSA form allows you to be considered for federal student aid. In addition, states and colleges use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans. But, since aid is limited, you have to meet the deadlines! It is free to fill out the FAFSA.



If you plan to attend college in the U.S., you should definitely fill out the FAFSA! Take a moment to sit down with your guardian and or parent to complete this Process.

WHO SHOULD FILL OUT THE FAFSA?

WHAT TYPE OF AID IS OFFERED?

The FAFSA form includes different types of financial aid, including:

- Federal student loans
- Federal grants
- Federal work-study programs
- Scholarships



Let's Talk about Food in Schools



**Wednesday
October 11
2023**

**12:00-1:00 pm
or 5:30-6:30 pm**
(choose one)

**Lincoln
Center
1325 Poplar St**

**School food plays a critical role
in the health and success of Helena's children.**

**You are invited to a forum to hear about
what's happening around food and nutrition in
the Helena School District.**

The focus will be on elementary schools, but everyone is welcome. We want to hear your feedback, questions, and suggestions too. Join us to hear about what's currently happening, plans underway, and the future of school food in our community. The conversation will be facilitated to get the most out of our time together.

**Attend
in-person
or on MS Teams**
bit.ly/HFS-Schools

**Light
refreshments
by Sodexo**

RSVP & Learn More



SCAN ME



St. Peter's Health



**Helena
Public Schools**
A great place to learn



**Kids
Nutrition
Coalition**
LEAD YOUR COUNTY



School Leadership Team – School-wide Goals and Data

At Helena High, we use data to guide our efforts in ensuring the success of every student. Each month, we'll share a snapshot of the data we work with to keep you informed about our focus.

Our School Leadership Team, consisting of teachers, administrators, counselors, our school psychologist, and instructional coach, plays a pivotal role in shaping our school's instructional direction. They collect in-person classroom data and analyze academic and assessment data to set yearly instructional goals.

In September, we administered iReady diagnostics to all 9th through 11th grade students, establishing a baseline to determine appropriate class placements. Currently, 60% of our students are approaching or above proficiency in reading and 46% in math. While we've made significant progress post-COVID, there's room for improvement.

Following the iReady assessments, our SLT convened to establish goals for the 2023-2024 school year. Our primary focuses will be fostering active engagement among all students (including daily writing across all subjects) and promoting instructional collaboration among staff. This means we want all students to participate in all learning, and we want our teachers to work together to plan and reflect on student learning. These two focuses will enable us to provide targeted professional development throughout the year.

Should you have questions about HHS data or goals for the year, please reach out to Mr. Thennis or Mrs. Meghan Schulte. For inquiries regarding district data and assessments, you can contact Mrs. Kaitlyn Hess.



Thank you for joining us in supporting your student's journey to become the best Bengal they can be!

Congratulations to our Homecoming Royalty

Lady Dakota Leiberg & Lord Titus Wetzel



**Duchess
Ella McCarthy
Duke
Drew
Esponda**





HELENA HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY

October 5, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to invite and welcome you to Helena High School Open House. The students and staff of HHS are proud of the work that takes place in the classroom each day and we are excited to share that with you. Below please find a time schedule for the evening and a space for your child to write in their class schedule. Your child can also obtain their schedule from Power School.

6:00 – 6:15 Informational meeting with HHS Administration in the gymnasium.

Period	Passing Times	Start Time	End Time
1	6:15 – 6:20	6:20	6:30
2	6:30 – 6:35	6:35	6:45
3	6:45 – 6:50	6:50	7:00
4	7:00 – 7:05	7:05	7:15
5	7:15 – 7:20	7:20	7:30
6	7:30 – 7:35	7:35	7:45
0 and 7	7:45 – 7:50	7:50	8:00

Period	Class	Room	Teacher
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
0 or 7			

If your child has a study hall – you are invited to meet the counselors in the counseling office and learn what kind of services they can provide for your child and family. Refreshments will be available in the library. Get a cookie and see what the library has to offer as well. Administrators will be in the main office and in the halls, should you have any questions.

Welcome to Helena High! Go Bengals!

College Application Week - October 2-6

College Application Week, CAW, provides high school seniors the opportunity to learn about Montana colleges and universities and complete a college application during the school day.

The counseling department will be assisting Seniors with the college admissions process periods 6 and 7 in the library daily.

