

# Bengal Happenings

[Bell Schedules](#)

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Attendance – [hhsattendance@helenaschools.org](mailto:hhsattendance@helenaschools.org) - (406) 324-2211

**No School – October 17 and 18 – Teacher Convention Days**

Versión en español ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#)) Swahili Version ([Neno](#)) ([PDF](#))

## What is being covered this month?

As we work our way into the month of October, it is evident that classes, clubs, and activities are in full swing at HHS. As we pop in and out of classes, it is great to listen to the conversations happening about the recent books that were read, drafts of papers being written and revised with the help of instructors, and excitement in the air as we make our way to the post season in fall sports. This week, we will hear more from our English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE Departments on what is on the agenda for the next four weeks! Go Bengals!

[English](#)

[Math](#)

[Science](#)

[Social Studies](#)

[Physical Education and Health](#)

## Bengal Buddies – Mentoring

For the past couple of years, Mrs. Preshinger's Gothic Lit classes have partnered with Bryant Elementary to visit their classroom roughly once a month to build relationships and provide support in building needed skills for those students. The students who participate in this event are able to build a strong foundation of empathy, perseverance, and help establish a quality legacy for years to come. Below are a few pictures from their visit this past week.





(Caption – HHS students work alongside Bryant students, reading, writing, and working on skills. Photos courtesy of Mrs. Preshinger)

### **Earthquake Awareness**

Each October, the State of Montana works to bring awareness to the lingering potential of earthquakes in our area. In schools, one of the drills we complete each year is an earthquake drill, helping remind students and staff of the actions they should take in case an earthquake was to happen. To do this, we traditionally participate in the Great Montana Shakeout, a statewide approach to earthquake awareness and preparedness. While the shakeout this year is scheduled for 10/17, a day we do not have school, we will do our drill on October 16 in the morning.

Below are some great resources and helpful reminders when it comes to earthquake preparedness. All of these were found courtesy of the [Great Montana Shakeout](#) website.

[Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety](#)  
[Drop, Cover, and Hold](#)

They have also added two new videos on the history of Earthquakes in Montana that are fairly interesting if you have time.

[Video 1](#)  
[Video 2](#)

### **Students Traveling to Japan!**

Over the past few years, a concerted effort has been made to establish a strong connection between Helena High School and the Senshu University Kumamoto – Tamana High School. Tamana High, located in the Kumamoto Prefecture has had a yearly graduation speech from Mr. Thennis, who also visited the school last year, establishing a commitment to build a strong relationship there. While our future goals are to build a relationship where members of our student body are able to visit, and vice versa, we continue to make progress each year to allow this to happen.

The next step in this journey is an exciting one! Due to the growing relationship, the Japanese government has invited our students to participate in the World Tsunami Awareness Day Conference held October 20-24 in Kumamoto, Japan. While there, students will participate in learning sessions on disaster response and be part of discussions on how we can work collectively as a world to help with disaster mitigation and awareness. As one of only two states to be represented at this conference, it will be an exciting opportunity for our students to engage with others around the world. While there, each group is also tasked with presenting information on a natural disaster from their area and discussing what changed due to that. Our group of Evelyn Callery, Kenzie Criswell, and Eva Skibicki will be highlighting the devastating Mann Gulch Fire and how that event changed wildfire, and disaster, response for the entire nation. Good luck everyone, we look forward to hearing about your experience!

**Upcoming Dates – [Complete Year at a Glance](#) (This document will be updated as dates are changed)**

October 2024

15 – RBHI Screening Make-up date  
16 – Countywide Earthquake Drill  
17-18 – No School, MEA Conferences

November 2024

1 – Picture Retakes, End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
13 – FAFSA Night – 5:15-7 pm, Black Lab in the Library  
15 – Rock Your Mocks Day  
21 – First Day Basketball, Cheer, Dance, Swimming, Wrestling  
22 – Shakespeare in the School – AM Performance  
27-29 – No School, Thanksgiving Break

***From Last Week***

**Taking a Breath**

As we round the corner to the second half of the first quarter, our hope is that there is time to take a collective breath after the hustle and bustle that comes along with the first month or so of the school year. We are not including much in this week's Happenings in hopes that we can all find some time to catch up on previous information shared, think through what the next few weeks look like, and gear up for the push to get us through the rest of the semester.

We did have some great things happening this week, though:

- Thanks to those who participated in the College Application Week festivities. Whether it was dressing for success, utilizing the access to free in-state collegiate

applications, or having deeper discussions on what your next steps are. Thank you to Ms. Navarrete and our counseling department for their work this week!

- The College Board released our designation as an AP Honor Roll School! We met the criteria this year to earn a bronze designation. A few facts for the 2023-2024 testing year:
  - 241 students took 397 AP exams last school year
  - Of the 397 tests, students earned a 3 or better on 246 tests
  - This equates to 62% of our students who took the tests earning the passing grade

We look forward to the next few weeks! A reminder that there is no school on October 17 and 18.

Go Bengals!

### **Subs, Custodians, Paraeducators Needed**

**APPLY NOW!** <https://helenaschools.org/departments/human-resources/join-our-team/>



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**PARAEDUCATORS**

**OPEN POSITIONS**

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Questions? (406) 324-2012



### **All State Music Participants**

Each year, we are fortunate enough to have amazingly talented students work hard to grow their abilities musically. It takes an incredible amount of time, effort, and practice to work on the techniques outlined by our teaching staff to be able to earn an opportunity to participate in and perform at the All State Musical Festival. This year, the following students have achieved that goal and will participate in the All State Musical Festival in Billings over the MEA Convention Days:

For Choir:

- Nadja Bolotsky
- Brady Lay
- Ella Nasset
- Lily Pierson
- Leila Zentz

For Band:

- Carson Payne

For Orchestra:

- Elliot Cleary
- Isabel Ward
- Nailah Freeman
- Freya Elias
- Emeline Jefferies

### **Bengal Boosters Update**

We continue to appreciate the support our Booster Club gives our students. Please see the information below on a few upcoming events:

- Dueling Pianos event on October 12 – help us beat Capital off the field/courts as well in this fundraising battle (you do not have to attend to support, donations are welcome!)
- If you have questions or comments, or are interested in helping – contact the Booster Club at [hhsbengalboosterclub@gamil.com](mailto:hhsbengalboosterclub@gamil.com)

### **Counseling Center Info from Last Week**