

EAST HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

UTILIZATION STUDY

East Helena, Montana

East Helena Public Schools Master Plan
AUGUST 2023



architecture + design



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East Helena Public Schools

Success for All Students

EAST HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“East Helena Public Schools in partnership with the parents and community will offer a secure place where students gain knowledge, grow in wisdom, develop confidence and value learning for life.”

- East Helena School District Mission

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

PROCESS

UTILIZATION OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan, SMA Architecture and Design has completed this Facility Utilization Assessment. Per the request of East Helena Public Schools, this report documents the current utilization of each District educational facility that is student occupied on a “by-building” basis. The intent of the study is to evaluate the current use of the building to determine what areas are at or above their recommended utilization and identify spaces that are currently underutilized that may allow for better distribution of students. As part of the Comprehensive Facility Master Plan, this information will inform decision making regarding future planning and space needs to accommodate projected increases in enrollment and educational delivery.

PROCESS

The information presented in this report is the summary of data gathered by our team from East Helena Public Schools administration and reflects the Spring 2023 enrollment and use of the buildings. Information includes the number of students assigned to a space for each period of the day and how many periods during the day a space is used. The data is then synthesized in a spreadsheet to draw comparisons to industry standards regarding use of space during the day and number of students per the area of the space. This then allows a determination of which spaces are over or underutilized.

UTILIZATION SUMMARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Eastgate Elementary (EK-K)

Eastgate Elementary is the District’s second oldest elementary school. The facility is below recommended utilization for its general classrooms, however each classroom is not meeting recommendations for square foot per student (45-55 sf/student), Eastgate’s special classrooms, Music, Library and Gym can accommodate more class sections, but may require an additional instructor due to the instructor splitting time between Eastgate and Prickly Pear Elementary. Additional general classrooms would be needed in the event of enrollment increase.

Prickly Pear Elementary (1st-2nd)

Prickly Pear Elementary (PPE) is the District’s newest elementary school. The facility is meeting recommended utilization for its general classrooms, overall averaging 92% utilization per day (90-95% is recommended). General classrooms are also meeting recommendations for square foot per student, due to the building being designed to 21st educational standards. PPE’s special classrooms, Music, Library and Gym can accommodate more class sections, but may require an additional instructor due to the instructor splitting time between Eastgate and Prickly Pear Elementary. Additional general classrooms would be needed in the event of enrollment increase.

Radley Elementary (3rd-5th)

Radley Elementary is the District’s oldest elementary school. The facility is meeting recommended utilization for its general classrooms, overall averaging 9% utilization per day (90-95% is recommended). Overall square foot per student throughout the building is lower than recommended due to the age and design of the building. Adding students to class sections in the event of enrollment increase is not recommended. Special classrooms can accommodate more class section, but additional general classrooms would be needed if the enrollment were to increase. It was noted that some additional spaces could be repurposed for classrooms, however, further evaluation would be needed to determine if these rooms were suitable for a classroom setting purpose.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

East Valley Middle School (6th-7th)

The majority of the East Valley Middle School (EVMS) facility is slightly above recommended utilization at an average of 86%, while recommended should fall within the 70-85% range. In the event this utilization were to increase, the school administrators would be likely to experience scheduling challenges throughout the day. A few of EVMS's classrooms that currently house elective courses have lower than recommended utilization and can accommodate adding class section or other class types. Several of these are normal classroom setups, while some are more specialized for music or chorale scenarios. Throughout the building, square foot per student varies between meeting

the recommendation (45-55 sf/student) and being below recommendation. This facility has the ability to accommodate student enrollment growth better than the elementary schools in the District due to the middle school teaching model.

HIGH SCHOOL

East Helena High School (9th-12th)

East Helena High School is the District's newest facility, and is composed of the main High School and currently houses the Alternative High School in the addition. The majority of general classrooms are at high utilization in the high school. Three of four Science classrooms are at high utilization. Thirteen classrooms are currently at low utilization and can offer additional elective class type sections, depending on the setup and type of space. Some low utilization classrooms, including 3D Art, Band, Choir, Welding and Gym, may not be well suited for general classes, which is likely to be a need if enrollment is to increase. ■



EAST HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FACILITIES & PROPERTIES

- Utilization Study
- District-Owned Property
- District-Owned Property with Existing Structures

OWNER

East Helena Public Schools

226 E Clinton St

East Helena, Montana 59635

406 227 7700

<https://www.ehps.k12.mt.us/>

Superintendent: Dan Rispens

ARCHITECT

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SMA Architecture and the Design Team would like to thank Superintendent Dan Rispens and the East Helena Public Schools administrators and staff for their patience and assistance during the preparation of this document. ■

B

EASTGATE
UTILIZATION

EASTGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UTILIZATION

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EASTGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - EAST HELENA, MONTANA

Facility Utilization Summary - Based on a Monday Elective Schedule

Recommended Utilization: 90-95% / Rec. SF/Student: 45-55 sf

	8:20 START	8:25-8:55	8:55-9:25	9:25-9:55	10:00-10:15 (RECESS)	10:15-10:35	10:35-11:05	11:05-11:30	11:30-12:15 (LUNCH/RECESS)	12:35-1:05	1:05-1:35	1:40-1:55 (RECESS)	2:00-2:30	2:30-3:00	TOTAL	AVERAGE	Time Blocks /Day	Time Blocks Used / Day (out of 14)	% Utilization per Room	Average % Utilization for Entire Area	Room Net Area (SF)	Average Area / Student (SF)	Comments
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS																							
	ROOM #																						
MUSIC	MUS									17	18	17	52	17.3	11	3	27%		30%	614	35.4		
LIBRARY	LIB								34	17	18	17	86	21.5	11	4	36%		30%	1281	59.6	**Does not account for FF&E needs	
GYM	GYM								34		17	17	68	22.7	11	3	27%		30%	3290	145.1		
HAAS	128	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	815	47.9		
OPHUS	127	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	822	48.4		
BECK	120	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	684	40.2		
STIPICH	126	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	814	47.9		
SALERNO	125	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	803	47.2		
MIKESELL	101	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18		18	180	18.0	11	9	82%		82%	796	46.8		
JOHNSON	102	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18		18	180	18.0	11	9	82%		82%	792	46.6		
HANSEN	122	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17		17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	726	42.7		
SIMONSON	123	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	884	52.0		
BRISKI	121	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	180	18.0	11	9	82%		82%	704	41.4		
WARNER	124	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	170	17.0	11	9	82%		82%	886	52.1		

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EASTGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Eastgate Elementary School is located on the northeast side of East Helena proper. The school consists of the original building completed in 1986, and an addition completed 1998. This building is currently occupied by East Helena's Early-K through Kindergarten population.

High Utilization Areas

High utilization for the elementary level is defined by having 95% utilization or more throughout the school day and less than 45-55 square feet per student. All Eastgate classrooms are currently below recommended utilization. However, the small classroom size does cause many classrooms to have less than the recommended square foot per student, even with class sizes remaining below the state maximum for the elementary level (maximum 20 students for EK-K). Though the music room is underutilized, the room is considered too small for square foot per student recommendations in addition to equipment, instrument, and furniture needs based on the average 17-18 student class size.

Recommended Utilization Areas

The general classroom spaces at Eastgate Elementary School are below the recommended utilization percentage for these grade levels. This is due to students being out of classrooms for specialty courses, the square foot per student numbers are at or below recommended (recommendation is 45-55 sf/student) and cannot accommodate additional students. Additional classrooms will be needed to accommodate increase in enrollment at the EK-K grade level.

Low Utilization Areas

Elective classrooms at the elementary level are below recommended utilization, averaging 30% for Music, Library, and Gym. These classrooms can still accommodate additional growth in enrollment with additional class periods per day. However, as noted above, available classrooms are already above recommended square foot per student. Square foot per student is considered lower than recommended for these classes, especially in the Gym and Library. This does not factor in the specialized nature of these classes and furniture or equipment needs. Currently, elective classes are taught by teachers that teach at both Eastgate and Prickly Pear. If class sections were to be added, additional teachers would likely be necessary. ■

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PRICKLY PEAR ELEMENTARY

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PRICKLY PEAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - EAST HELENA, MONTANA

Facility Utilization Summary - Based on a Monday Elective Schedule

Recommended Utilization: 90-95% / Rec. SF/Student: 45-55 sf

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS	ROOM #	# STUDENTS / CLASS														AVERAGE # STUDENTS/DAY IN ROOM	UTILIZATION				AREA / STUDENT		COMMENTS
		8:15 START - 8:25	8:25-8:55	8:55-9:25	9:25-9:55	9:55-10:10 (RECESS)	10:10-10:40	10:40-11:10	11:10-11:40	LUNCH	12:35-1:05	1:05-1:35	1:35-1:55	1:55-2:10	2:10-2:40		2:40-3:00	Time Blocks/Day	Time Blocks Used / Day (out of 15)	% Utilization per day	Average % Utilization for Entire Area	Room Net Area (SF)	
MUSIC	MUS		18	19	19		18	18	18							18.3	12	6	50%	38%	726	39.6	*does not account for FF&E needs
LIBRARY	LIB		STEAM	STEAM	20		18	18							18.7	12	5	42%	1367		73.2	*does not account for FF&E needs	
GYM	GYM		19	19	19		18	18	18						18.5	12	6	50%	7883		426.1	*does not account for FF&E needs	
CAFETERIA	CAF									525					525	12	1	8%		3079	5.9		
ODEGARD	101	19	19	19			19	19	19		19	19	19	19	19.0	12	11	92%	92%	866	45.6		
HAGER	107	19		19	19		19	19	19		19	19	19	19	19.0	12	11	92%		856	45.1		
KRAUSE	109	18		18	18		18	18	18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%	871		48.4			
ARNSTON	103	20	20	20			20	20	20		20	20	20	20	20.0	12	11	92%		865	43.3		
HEIDINGER	209	18	18	18	18		18		18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%	92%	869	48.3			
ADAMSON	207	18	18	18	18		18		18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%		866	48.1			
SHAUL	211	18	18	18	18			18	18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%		860	47.8			
POLLINGTON	203	18	18	18	18		18		18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%		865	48.1			
WARREN	104	19	19		19		19	19	19		19	19	19	19.0	12	11	92%	92%	865	45.5			
PETERSEN	106	19	19	19			19	19	19		19	19	19	19.0	12	11	92%		871	45.8			
GRAHAM	102	19	19		19		19	19	19		19	19	19	19.0	12	11	92%		864	45.5			
GRIFFITHS	206	18	18	18	18			18	18		18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%	92%	868	48.2			
VETSCH	202	18	18	18	18		18	18			18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%		871	48.4			
PHELPS	204	18	18	18	18		18	18			18	18	18	18.0	12	11	92%		867	48.2			

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PRICKLY PEAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Prickly Pear Elementary School is on Valley Drive and sits south of East Helena High School. Prickly Pear Elementary (PPE) is East Helena School District's newest elementary school which finished construction in 2019. The school currently houses the District's 1st and 2nd grade population.

High Utilization Area

High utilization for the elementary school level is defined by having 95% utilization or more throughout the school day and less than 45-55 square feet per student. The Prickly Pear Cafeteria is occupied by 525 total students during a single lunch hour. While the space is not in use outside of that timeframe, setup and cleaning for the lunch periods occupies other times throughout the day. Additional classes could be held in the cafeteria, however, would pose additional challenges to the serving schedule. The 100% utilization and average of 5.9 sf/student poses safety and health challenges, and does not factor in FF&E needs for serving and dining areas. The overall sf/student could be reduced by offering two or more lunch hours per day, but can create challenges in the preparation, setup and cleanup and overall elective schedule. Furniture and equipment needs for this space are not calculated into the SF/Student number.

Recommended Utilization Areas

All general classrooms at Prickly Pear fall within the recommended guidelines for utilization between 90-95% per day. Additionally, the square foot per student also fall within guidelines. Due to the age of the design of this school, classrooms were designed according to 21st century space recommendations for elementary schools. Most classrooms are at or under state mandated class sizes. A few additional students can be accommodated, but the general classrooms cannot accommodate big increases in enrollment.

Low Utilization Areas

Elective classrooms at the elementary level are below recommended utilization, averaging 38% for Music, Library, and Gym. These classrooms can still accommodate additional growth in enrollment with additional class periods per day, however, as noted above, available classrooms are already meeting recommended square foot per student. Square foot per student is considered lower than recommended for these classes in the current Music room. This does not factor in the specialized nature of these classes and furniture or musical instrument needs. Currently, elective classes are taught by teachers that teach at both Eastgate and Prickly Pear. If class sections were to be added, additional teachers would likely be necessary. ■

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RADLEY ELEMENTARY

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RADLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - EAST HELENA, MONTANA

Facility Utilization Summary - Based on Monday Class Schedule

Recommended Utilization: 90-95% / Rec. SF/Student: 45-55 sf

CLASSROOMS	TEACHER-ROOM	8:10 - 8:15	8:15 - 9:00	9:00 - 10:00	10:00 - 10:15 (RECESS 3rd & 4th)	10:20 - 11:05	11:05 - 11:45	11:55 - 12:20 (LUNCH A, LUNCH RECESS B)	12:20 - 12:40 (LUNCH RECESS A, LUNCH B)	12:45 - 1:15	1:15 - 1:45	1:45 - 2:00	2:00 - 2:15 (5th RECESS)	2:15 - 2:30 (3rd RECESS)	2:30 - 3:05	3:05 - 3:15	AVERAGE # STUDENTS/DAY	Time Blocks/Day	Time Blocks Used / Day (out of 10)	% Utilization per Room	Average % Utilization for Entire Area	Room Net Area (SF)	Average Area / Student (SF)	Comments
3RD GRADE	PENNER - 17	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%	90%	840	33.6	24-25 STUDENTS, USED HIGH NUMBER
3RD GRADE	SCOLES- 10	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%		833	33.3	
3RD GRADE	CLEMENT - 6	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%		835	33.4	
3RD GRADE	SNARR - 4	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%		818	32.7	
3RD GRADE	TEDERS -9	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%		837	33.5	
3RD GRADE	NORLING - 7	25	25	25		25	25			25	25	25	25		25		25	10	9	90%		831	33.2	
4TH GRADE	FERRO - 108	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%	91%	858	33.0	25-26 STUDENTS, USED HIGH NUMBER
4TH GRADE	FINSTAD - 104	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%		833	32.0	
4TH GRADE	REIFF - 107	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%		841	32.3	
4TH GRADE	COUNTRYMAN - 103	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%		872	33.5	
4TH GRADE	LAYSON - 106	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%		818	31.5	
4TH GRADE	SPEICHER -105	26	26	26		26				26	26	26	26	26	26		26	11	10	91%		852	32.8	
5TH GRADE	HAINES - 14	27		27	27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%	91%	1052	39.0	26-27 STUDENTS, USED HIGH NUMBER
5TH GRADE	OLSON - 002	27		27	27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%		854	31.6	
5TH GRADE	FOX - 007	27	27		27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%		847	31.4	
5TH GRADE	RUBIO-PRATT - 006	27		27	27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%		852	31.6	
5TH GRADE	McDONOUGH - 003	27	27		27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%		844	31.3	
5TH GRADE	DUSENBERRY - 008	27	27		27	27	27			27	27	27		27	27		27	11	10	91%		881	32.6	
MUSIC	MUS - 020/021		54	54		26	26			25	25						35	11	6	55%	48%	1136	32.5	**is there an early release after 1:45?
LIBRARY	LIB - 5					26	26			25	25						26	11	4	36%		1174	46.0	
GYM	GYM		27	27		26	26			25	25						26	11	6	55%		5460	210.0	
CAFETERIA	CAF							228	240								234	11	2	18%		1144	4.9	

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RADLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Radley Elementary School is on Clinton Street located next to the current Central Office building. Radley was constructed in 1963 and is the oldest building in the District. The school currently houses the District’s 3rd through 5th grade population.

High Utilization Area

High utilization for the elementary school level is defined by having 95% utilization or more throughout the school day and less than 45-55 square feet per student. The Radley Cafeteria is occupied by 228 to 240 total students during a single lunch hour. While the space is not in use outside of the lunch timeframe, setup and cleaning for the lunch periods occupies other times throughout the day. Additional classes could be held in the cafeteria, however, would pose additional challenges to the serving schedule. The 100% utilization and average of 4.9 sf/student poses safety and health challenges, and does not factor in FF&E needs for serving and dining areas. The overall sf/student could be reduced by offering three or more lunch hours per day, but can create challenges in the preparation, setup and cleanup and overall elective schedule. Furniture and equipment needs for this space are not calculated into the SF/Student number.

All general classrooms including Music and Library spaces at Radley are under the recommended square foot per student, averaging 32 sf/student. The industry recommendation for general classrooms is 45-55 sf/student. This is due in large part to the age of the building not being designed to current standards and class sizes.

Recommended Utilization Areas

All general classrooms in 3rd through 5th grades at Radley fall within the recommended guidelines for utilization between 90-95% per day. As noted above, the classrooms do not meet recommendations for square foot per student. However, most classes are at or under state mandated class sizes. A few additional students can be accommodated, but the general classrooms cannot accommodate big increases in enrollment, and larger class sizes would further strain the square foot per student.

Low Utilization Areas

Elective classrooms at the elementary level are below recommended utilization, averaging 48% for Music, Library, and Gym spaces. These classrooms can still accommodate additional growth in enrollment with additional class periods per day, however, square foot per student is considered lower than recommended for these classes, especially Music. This does not factor in the specialized nature of these classes and furniture or musical instrument needs. ■

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EAST VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL UTILIZATION

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EAST VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL - EAST HELENA, MONTANA

Facility Utilization Summary

Recommended Utilization: 70-85% / Rec. SF/Student: 45-55 SF

TEACHER	CLASSES	Room #	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	TOTAL	UTILIZATION				Room Net Area (SF)	Average Area / Student (SF)	Comments	
											Average # of Students/Day	Periods Used / Week (out of 7)	% Utilization per Room	Average % Utilization for Entire Area				
Senecal, Jaicee	Science 8	107		15	29	23	10	16	29	122	20	6	86%	86%	854	42		
Arntson, Troy	Computer Teacher 6-8	110	25	19		21	23	28	31	147	25	6	86%		876	36		
Gates, Carolyn	Science 7	111		22	21	16	13	21	20	113	19	6	86%		842	45		
Lance, Sophia	Science 6-8	112		17	15	16	12	17	19	96	16	6	86%		859	54		
Bender, Marne	Librarian	LIB			29				19	48	24	2	29%	29%	3452	144	**does not reflect FF&E needs	
Ewals, W. Lianne	SpEd full time	202	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	86%	93%	769	39	*does not account for student mobility needs and FF&E	
Small, Amanda	CSCT MHS (Mental Health Support)	214	1-6	1-6	1-6	1-6	1-6	1-6	1-6		3	7	100%		550	183		
Wigen, Jodi	Comm Arts 7	201	19	21	21	17		22	17	117	20	6	100%	90%	165	83		
Gergen, Casey	Social Studies 7	203	22	23	18	18	16		17	114	19	6	86%		758	40		
Lloyd, Alicia	Social Studies 6-8	205	17	18	16	17	30		21	119	20	6	86%		997	50		
McMahon, Diana	Foods 6-8	207	19	20	21		21	25	23	129	22	6	86%		1,553	72		
Walsh, Beth	Math 7	208	22	17	16	16	23	27		121	20	6	86%	88%	794	39		
Brown, Bryanna	Math/Title 6-8	209	14	14	17	16	15	16		92	15	6	86%		775	51		
Pritchard, Erik	Spanish 6-8	210	9	12		13	14	10	18	76	13	6	86%		716	57		
Berg, Christina	Comm Arts 6-8	211	20	13	14	18		27	18	110	18	6	86%		765	42		
Hash, Nicole	Math 8	212	18	15	27	27	18	15		120	20	6	86%		776	39		
VanderZanden, Katie	Comm Arts 8	213	18	10	19	21		23	28	119	20	6	86%		780	39		
Cobb, Jason	Social Studies 8	215	21	17	20	13	13	prep	23	107	18	7	100%		762	43		
Somerfeld, Holly	Social Studies 6	302	18	14	13	14	31		30	120	20	6	86%		68%	816	41	
Lampman, Evan	Science 6	303		19	11	17	32	30	30	139	23	6	86%			824	36	
Caltabiano, Kaitlyn	Intro Ag PM	304					7	8		15	8	2	29%			772	103	
Valvoda, Teri	Math and Read 180 Inst. Tutor	305	11	13	9	7	7	7	6	60	9	7	100%	772		90		
Schoppe, Tamika	Chorus	306			42	27				69	35	2	29%	749		22		
Menage, Emmanuelle	French 1/2 time 6-8 PM	307					22	13	14	49	16	3	43%	752		46		
McLaughlin, Whitney	Comm Arts 6	308	23	23	18	14		30	20	128	21	6	86%	812		38		
Murphree, Kaitlyn	Math 6	309	20	22	20	28	29	19		138	23	6	86%	819		36		
Schoppe, Tamika	Music 6-8 1/2 time	405	21	23						44	22	2	29%	57%		769	35	
Cantrell, Jon	Band	407/405	40	31		28	41	16	11	167	28	6	86%			1651	59	**does not reflect FF&E needs
Elliott, Andrew	Health/ PE 1/2 time 6-8	409	19	20	19	27				85	21	4	57%	57%	763	36		
Horne, Cory	Tech Ed 6-8	414	19	17		22	19	17	19	113	19	6	86%	86%	1,699	90		
Warner, Vanessa	Art 6-8	416	16	21	25		18	19	23	122	20	6	86%	86%	1,319	65		
Dawes, Staci	Health/PE 6-8	Gym	27		26	21	22	24	26	146	24	6	86%	86%	7,590	312		

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EAST VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

East Valley Middle School is located on Kalispell Street, centrally located between the District's other schools. East Valley was constructed in 1998 and has a recently completed addition in 2019. The school currently houses the District's 6th through 8th grade population.

High Utilization Area

High utilization for the middle school level is defined by having more than 70-85% utilization throughout the school day and less than 45-55 square feet per student. High utilization is usually experienced in schools that have challenges with scheduling all of the necessary class sections. Most areas in the school are slightly above recommended utilization, using a room 6 out of 7 periods per day and providing for one planning period. A few number of classrooms meet recommendations for square foot per student, but many do not, including Music, Chorus, Science Room 303, and Computer Room 110.

Recommended Utilization Areas

Currently no classrooms at East Valley Middle School are at the recommended utilization rate, though most are very close at 86%. About half of the classrooms do meet the recommended square foot per student, largely due to the specialization of the class and relative small class size.

Low Utilization Areas

Five classrooms in the 300 and 400-room areas are currently below utilization recommendations and will provide needed space for additional class sections if enrollment is to increase. ■

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EAST HELENA HIGH SCHOOL UTILIZATION

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EAST HELENA HIGH SCHOOL - EAST HELENA, MONTANA

Facility Utilization Summary

	Subject	TEACHER	Room #	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Advisor	TOTAL	UTILIZATION (70-85% Recommended)			AREA / STUDENT (45 - 55 SF / student in Gen. Ed. classrooms recommended)			Comments	
														Periods Used / Week (out of 9)	% Utilization per Room	Average # of Students/Day	AVERAGE IN AREA	Room Net Area (SF)	Average Area/Student (SF/Student)		
SPED	Life Skills	Ridgeway/Cainwright/Lasher/Elliott	116	24	28		10		18	3	5	14	102	7	78%	15	63%	801	55		
	Resource	Callabiano	220	12	6	9					5	17	49	5	56%	10		500	51		
	Resource	Countryman/Elliott	118	2			5		4	13	6		30	5	56%	6		499	83		
OTH	Shared Teacher Office	Reid/Howard	117		1		2	3	7				13	4	44%	3	44%	703	216	*Tammi Daum Para	
SCIENCE	Science	Schoenfield	124	18	8		24	22	12	18	20	15	137	8	89%	17	81%	1,343	78		
	Science	Torgerson/Tofflemire	126	12	11	14					15	16	68	5	56%	14		1302	96	*Andrew Elliot PE(.5)	
	Science	Jeno	226	19	25	15	23	18		13	20	15	148	8	89%	19		1331.66	72	*Andrew Elliot PE(.5)	
	Science	Holmes	228	12	30	26	21	13	14	5		20	141	8	89%	18		1,292	73		
GEN ED	English	Elwood	119	18	18	22	30	27	29		19	15	178	8	89%	22	85%	920	41		
	Math	Denny/Johnson	121	10	29	21		9	12	8		14	103	7	78%	15		865	59		
	Social Studies	Boedecker/Ridgeway	122	25		30	30	30	27		30	25	197	7	78%	28		881	31	*Ty Ridgeway PE	
	English/Spanish	Smail	128		26	24	6	28	10	25	20	17	156	8	89%	20		917	47		
	Social Studies	Sampson	130	6	12		20	24	21	13	17	18	131	8	89%	16		884	54		
	English	Abarr, Lynes	221	25	29	28	18	28	23	21		23	195	8	89%	24		917	38		
	Math	Cobb	223	10	12	10		24	28	19	15	15	133	8	89%	17		884	53		
	English/Math	Charlton/Menage/Bailey	224	30	21	15	18					23	22	129	6	67%		22	882	41	
	Social Studies	Bender	232	28		28	21	24	24	22	14	15	176	8	89%	22		889	40		
	Math	Ferris	233	10	19	25	19	16	15	19	22	22	167	9	100%	19		889	48		
Social Studies	Menage/Clarkson/Reid	131	18	12	25	20			15	20	23	133	7	78%	19	880	46				
CTE	3D art	Curtiss/Bergmann	133	24	8	16		25	24			13	110	6	67%	18	83%	1,198	65		
	2D art	Curtiss/Bergmann	134	25	25	27	9	5	23	25	24	24	187	9	100%	21		999	48		
	COMP LAB (CAD, GD, PHOTO, YEARBOOK)	Paskey/Curtiss/Bergman/Charlton	139	11	7		26	13	18	21	9	19	124	8	89%	16		882	57		
	Welding/Metal	Harris	141	11	10		11						32	3	33%	11		1,158	109		
	Wood Shop	Paskey	144		13	18	10	6	17	16	10	13	103	8	89%	13		1,781	138		
	Culinary/Drivers Ed	Hamilton	146	19	23	21	19		37	20	9	17	165	8	89%	21		1,503	73		
MUS	Band	Bass	150			21	26		6	18	19	21	111	6	67%	19	56%	1,518	82		
	Choir	Schoppe	152				13		15	14	15	57	4	44%	14	1,483		104			
ALT	Alt Program	Charlton/Bailey/Schoenfield	192 A/B	20	16		17	27	10	14			104	6	67%	17	78%	1,776	102		
		Moor	230	10	10	24	21	12	14	22		16	129	8	89%	16		904	56		
	CTE/Business	Spoja	290	7	14	7	19	21	11		17	14	110	8	89%	14		863.67	63		
		Huschka	291	19	19		20	17	11	55	17	158	7	78%	23	876		39			
	JROTC	Smith	292	10	5		6	14		6	21	62	6	67%	10	881	85				
GYM/WT		Ridgeway/Elliott	179 - GYM 1	20	16		17	27	10	14			104	6	67%	17	59%	8,091	467		
		Canright/Lasher	180 - GYM 2					17	23				40	2	22%	20		5,602	280		
	WEIGHTS	Murray	173 - WT RM	22	25	25	24	21	20	25	21		183	8	89%	23		1,180	52	*does not consider FF&E needs	
LIB	Library	Mitchell/Bender	202/203 - LIB	13	32	27		19	23	27	22	16	179	8	89%	22	89%	2,468	110	*does not consider FF&E needs	

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EAST HELENA HIGH SCHOOL

East Helena High School is located on Valley Drive, north of the other East Helena Public Schools' facilities. East Helena High was constructed in 2020 and has a recently completed addition that currently houses the Alternative High School program. The school currently houses the District's 9th through 12th grade population.

High Utilization Area

High utilization for the high school level is defined by having more than 70-85% utilization throughout the school day and less than 45-55 square feet per student. High utilization is usually experienced in schools that have challenges with scheduling all of the necessary class sections. Currently the utilization is mixed. A total of 18 classrooms are at high utilization, while only five are meeting recommendations, and 13 are at low utilization. Three of four Science classrooms are at high utilization. The Science classrooms have the potential to become a challenge in the future if room 126 is not well suited to accommodating additional science classes from an equipment and setup standpoint. The majority of general education classrooms are at high utilization, with a few at recommended utilization. General education classrooms may be needed in the future if enrollment was to increase.

Recommended Utilization Areas

Five classrooms at East Helena High School are meeting recommendations for utilization, falling within the 70-85% range. These rooms include 121, 122, 131 and 291. Three of those are general education rooms, and one is a classroom in the Alternative High School addition.

Low Utilization Areas

Thirteen classrooms are considered low utilization, seeing less than 70% use per day. This provides good opportunity for additional classes per day should enrollment increase. Several of the low utilization areas are specialized room types, including both Resource Rooms and the Shared Teacher Office. Classrooms that are currently at low utilization include room 133, 141, 150, 152, 224, both Gyms and two classrooms in the Alternative High School addition. With the exception of room 224, these are elective type classrooms and can accommodate additional class sections if enrollment was to increase and if the class section is well-suited to the classroom type. ■

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East Helena Public Schools

Success for All Students



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