

Lincoln-McKinley Primary School

November 2024 Newsletter

Erika Brekhuis, Principal
email: brekhuse@bluepony12.com

School starts at 8:00 am.
School ends at 3:00 pm Mon.-Thurs.
and at 12:00 pm on Support Fridays..

Mission Statement: Lincoln-McKinley will respectfully prepare every student academically, socially, and emotionally to be the citizens of tomorrow.

THANK
YOU!

We appreciate seeing families at the fall Parent-Teacher conferences. If you were not able to attend, or if you have further questions, please call the school at any time: 406-395-8554. Thanks again!

**THANK
YOU**



**for supporting
our Book Fair!**



#ScholasticBookFairs

Thank you for making our Lincoln-McKinley Book Fair amazing and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Thank you for your support!

Mrs. Bekker,
Librarian & Book Fair Chairperson

Daylight savings time ends!
Sunday, Nov. 3rd

Remember to set your
clocks back 1 hour on
Saturday night!



MAST Parent Portal

Students in grades 3-8 have begun MAST Through-Year assessments for state testing. Lincoln-McKinley students use the KITE assessment program. Through this program, a Parent Portal is available. You can access it by following this link:

[Kite Parent Portal](#)

Attendance Matters!

Lincoln-McKinley students and families have maintained excellent attendance this year at 98%! While this is a great percentage, it does not account for tardies. A tardy is assigned to any student that arrives at school after 8:05 am in the morning. Most students that do arrive late take the opportunity to eat breakfast which further delays their attendance in class. We want your child fed and ready to learn, but missing class is missing learning opportunities.

Please have your child to school on time. School starts each day at 8:00 am. Second grade students have a reading block right away in the morning, followed by math block, then writing block after lunch. Third grade students start their day with a math block, followed by a reading block, then writing. Instruction happens at the beginning of each of these blocks, followed by small group and individual support. If your child is not in the classroom because they are late or absent, they are missing this valuable opportunity. Our curriculum builds each day. When students do not understand previous concepts taught because they were not in the classroom, they may become frustrated and shut down. As the content grows, so does their frustration. We want your child to be successful, and being to school on time will promote their success.

Thank you for your help in ensuring your child is at school before 8:00 am each day!

Safety First!

Your child's safety is our #1 priority each school day. As a school, we have policies and procedures to make this a smooth process. There are a few ways you can help us in this process:

*If your child has different afterschool plans from what they normally do, please call the office no later than 2:00 pm of that day to inform us. This gives us time to alert their teachers. We must hear from you directly to make these changes, we will not take your child's word for it. If we do not hear from you, your child will be sent home as they normally would be.

*Please try not to check your child out after 2:45 pm. While we will not stop you from doing so, please be mindful of the classroom's end of day routine.

*We ask that you please wait outside for your child if you are picking them up afterschool.

*Be prompt when picking up your child afterschool. School is out at 3:00 pm, please have your child picked up by 3:10 pm!

*Your child may be registered for only one bus. They cannot ride a different bus before or after school, only the one they are registered for.

With over 250 students here each day, we appreciate your continued understanding and help in ensuring the safety of each one of them!

End of Trimester

Trimester 1 will end November 20th, 2024. Report cards will be available electronically by November 26th, 2024.

Parents can view report cards on their Infinite Campus Parent Portal account.

If you don't already have a Parent Portal account, you can register for one on the Havre Public Schools website:

www.blueponyk12.com.

Click on the "Parents" tab and then the Infinite Campus Parent Portal link. At that login screen, you can sign up as a New Parent Portal User by clicking the link, completing the form, then submitting it. Please call if you need any assistance. We are here to help.



Last month we were focused on being PAX Leaders, using PAX Voices at appropriate levels, and PAX Hands & Feet keeping in mind safety and respect.

This month we will focus on the PAX GBG (Good Behavior Game). The PAX Good Behavior Game is a school-based universal preventive intervention used to teach self-regulation, self-management, and self-control in children. PAX GBG provides educators with strategies to teach social-emotional and behavioral skills along with academics creating a trauma informed nurturing environment. In fact, PAX GBG has been proven to change student brain chemistry with life-long effects that dramatically impact mental health, substance abuse, graduation rates and suicide in our children and communities. Please ask them about the Grannie's Wacky Prizes!

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The fall session of Community Education classes has started. To view the classes offered and to register, please visit the Community Education tab on the Havre Public Schools website:

[HPS Community Education](#)

Registration for the Fall Session begins Monday, October 14, 2024.

Classes begin October 21st so be sure to register and learn something new!

Please contact Tiffany Olsen at 406-395-8550 with any questions regarding Community Education.



HEPTO NEWS

◆ Thank you for supporting the HEPTO fall fundraisers. The funds we raise are used to support our schools with field trips, AR incentives, Red Ribbon Week activities, indoor recess bins and more. Your participation at any level is valuable.

◆ The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 5th at 4:30 PM in Room 5 at Highland Park school.

◆ New members are always welcome! If you would like to know more about P.T.O. follow our Facebook page, Havre Elementary Parent Teacher Organization, or please call any of the officers listed below:

Christina Marsh, President (406-845-2749)

Kassie Johnson, Vice President (406-395-8553)

Travis Marsh, Treasurer (406-450-0528)

Secretary, Hayley Criner (406-395-8555)

NOVEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1 Support Friday	2 Turn clocks back 1 hour before going to bed.
3 	4 School Psychologist Week: 4th-8th 	5 HEPTO Meeting 4:30 PM, Room 5 at Highland Park 	6	7	8 No School	9
10	11 	12	13	14	15 Support Friday	16
17	18 AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK 	19	20 Trimester 1 ends	21  Support MT Teams day!	22 No School	23
24	25	26	27 No School	28 No School 	29 No School	30

Upcoming Events

- Support Fridays: Nov. 1st & 15th and Dec. 13th
- HEPTO Meeting: Nov. 5, 4:30 PM in Room 5 at Highland Park.
- Last Day of Trimester 1: Nov. 20.
- Bobcat vs. Griz Day: Nov. 21.
- No School: Nov. 8 and 22.
- Thanksgiving Break: Nov 27-30.
- Awards Assemblies: Dec 5th.
- Christmas Break: Dec. 20 through Jan. 1





VS.



Lincoln-McKinley Food Drive

Students are welcome to bring in canned food or toiletries and place them in either the Griz or Bobcat box.

This will be a friendly competition just in time for the annual Bobcat vs. Griz football game.

Students are welcome to **wear team gear on Thursday, November 21st.**

We thank you for your generosity toward the Havre community and hope you have a wonderful holiday season.



TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Winter Weather Warning

The falling leaves bring unpleasant reminders that bad weather and dangerous driving conditions are ahead. Unless otherwise announced, school will be in session and transportation will follow normal schedules and routes. Because Havre Public Schools transports the majority of students to and from school, families are reminded to be alert for weather or other emergency conditions that might alter the transportation schedules and routes.

In cases of ice, snow, or other conditions, the district's transportation director and superintendent decide early in the morning if students can safely reach school. When a decision is reached, a message will be sent through Infinite Campus and is relayed to the local radio stations (KOJM, KPQX and KXEI).

Since our district uses rural buses to transport in-city students, bad weather conditions may alter in-city route schedules a few minutes. Students should go to the bus stop just 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.

The Bus Drivers' Number One Concern is YOUR CHILD!

Each day the Havre Public School buses log nearly 1,300 miles and deliver an average of 1,000 students to our schools and return them home safely. Our goal is your child's safe ride! School will be in session and routes will run as normally scheduled unless otherwise announced.

Emergency Plans are Important.

Each family should have a plan covering what to do when their children leave late (or not at all) or arrive home early because of an emergency transportation situation. Where can the child go if help is needed? Who would care for your child until you arrive? Is there someone your youngster can call in an emergency situation? Is your child locked out of the house if he/she misses the bus?

KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATED AND LISTEN TO YOUR RADIO FOR INFORMATION.

Announcements concerning school closures or late schedules will be sent through Infinite Campus and reported by the radio stations. Announcements will begin by 6:00 AM and will be repeated as often as possible. Some possible announcements are as follows:

- **School Closed:** School closure announcements will be on a day-to-day basis. All meetings, field trips, after-school activities, etc. will be cancelled for the day unless specific exceptions are mentioned.
- **School Open, Limited Bus Transportation:** Some days only in-city buses may run.
- **School Open, One [or more] Hours Late:** Buses are delayed, and school will begin late, but students will be dismissed at the regular time unless otherwise announced.

We look forward to working with you to make this winter weather season as safe as possible for everyone!





Havre Public Schools

PO Box 7791 – 425 6th Street
Havre, MT 59501

October 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Havre Public Schools is preparing for the *Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST) assessment* through the Montana Office of Public Instruction. Students in Grades 3-8 will take Math and English Language Arts (ELA) assessments in 4 administration windows as indicated in below chart:

Administration	Start Date	End Date	ELA	Math*
Admin 1	October 14, 2024	November 22, 2024	2 Testlets	3-5 Testlets
Admin 2	January 13, 2025	February 21, 2025	2 Testlets 1 Performance Task	3-5 Testlets
Admin 3	March 24, 2025	May 2, 2025	2 Testlets	3-5 Testlets
Admin 4	May 5, 2025	May 23, 2025	1 Testlet	

**The actual number of testlets your child(ren) takes each testing window will be contingent on your district's local curriculum sequence.*

What is the purpose of the MAST assessment?

The Montana OPI in partnership with New Meridian has developed an improved assessment system that will accurately reflect the needs of our students, teachers, and administrators while providing useful flexibility in terms of test administration. The MAST Assessment implements “through year” assessments across the state that satisfy federal testing requirements and better aligns assessment with instruction.

The ultimate goal with the “through year” model is to support the formative instructional process that is closer to the local decisions required to support teaching and learning needs. Rather than a single end-of-year assessment, the MAST assessment is broken up into smaller testlets over the course of the academic year. The “Through-Year Assessment” design benefits students, teachers, parents, and administrators by more closely aligning assessment with instruction while providing actionable data throughout the school year.

It is important to remember that statewide assessments provide only one measure of student learning, but when combined with grades, classroom activities, unit quizzes and tests, and district-level assessments, statewide assessments can complete the picture of a child's abilities and help him/her down a path toward academic success in reaching Montana's Content Standards.

Details about the 2024-2025 administration:

- **Participants:** 3-8 Grades Math and ELA
- **Administrations:** 4 administration windows throughout the year
- **Total Estimated Testing Time:** 15-30 minutes per testlet
- **Technology:** Computer-based test delivery via secure site
- **Reports:** Student reports will be available for teachers and districts after administration. Individual student reports will provide results from each testlet will be made available to parents/guardians on the Kite Parent Portal. Please contact your building principal to request access. The full report will be available during the summer of 2025, then uploaded to Infinite Campus.

Here are some things to note about the MAST test:

- Your child's privacy will be protected. State and federal laws, such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), ensure these data remain confidential.
- Students with Individual Educational Plans (IEPs), Section 504 plans, or English Learner plans will be assessed based on individual student needs, consistent with all state and federal laws and regulations.

Here are some things you can do to help:

- Encourage your child to do their very best on everything they do in school, including the MAST assessment.
- Make sure he or she gets plenty of sleep the night before each test and has a healthy breakfast.
- Support your child by explaining the purpose of the tests and helping with homework and test reviews.

Learn More:

To learn more about this initiative follow this [link](#) to the Montana OPI MAST webpage. New Meridian is a non-profit organization that creates high-quality, innovative assessment solutions that focus on the skills that matter most for success in school and in life. You can learn more about New Meridian [here](#). Parent MAST resources can be found on the [MAST Portal](#) under *Resources for Parents*.

We appreciate your partnership in helping Havre Public Schools fulfill the state and federal requirements for statewide assessments and supporting your child to do his/her best.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about MAST. Questions can be directed to Lincoln-McKinley School at 406-395-8554.

Sincerely,



Erika Brekhus