

CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT #15

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

www.custerschools.org

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am excited for this school year!! I think last year was a resounding success in student achievement both in the classroom and in extracurricular activities. We will build on that success this year. Please mark your calendars for "Meet the Teacher" on 8/13. We will provide a meal and we have also put the "Fall Sports Meeting" on that night to get as many families in as possible. "Meet the Teacher" is not just an opportunity to introduce your child to the classroom, it is an opportunity for you to see what the teacher is planning for the year and how you can be a part of improving that experience for your child. Community is a major part of Custer's mission statement and we need to work together towards these goals. Thank you for your support over the past year and your continued support over the coming years!!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The 2024-2025 school year will begin Wednesday, August 14 from 8:00 am until 3:40 pm for grades K-12. A general assembly will be held in the gym at 8:00 am for junior high and high school students to go over our school's rules and regulations. Hot lunch will be served and our buses will return our rural students home at the end of the school day.



KINDERGARTEN

Our Kindergarten will be attending school on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday of this coming school year for the first semester from 8:00 to 3:40. After our first semester all kindergarten will attend the four days.

REGISTRATION FOR GRADES 7-12

Pre-registration for all students in grades 7-12 will be August 7th and August 8th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come up to the counseling office on the third floor to sign up for classes and get locker assignments.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

All new students are encouraged to register as soon as possible prior to the start of school on Wednesday, August 14. The office will be open during the summer, Monday through Thursday from 9-3. Please bring a copy of immunizations and birth certificate when registering. Students must complete the required series of immunization shots prior to enrollment. Our school nurse will be checking to make sure all immunizations are complete.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures for the 2024-2025 school year have been scheduled for Monday, September 9 beginning at 8:00 am.

CUSTER GYM CLOSURE DATES

Both gyms will be closed Monday, July 15 until Friday, August 9th for re-conditioning. Thank you and enjoy the rest of your summer.

STUDENT SPORTS PHYSICALS - NEW PHYSICAL FORMS

All students, grades 5-12, who plan to participate in volleyball, football (starting grade 5 in FB), basketball, wrestling and track for the 24-25 school year are required to have a sports physical before they can practice and participate. The MHSA pre-participation physical form is available at the school office, summer open gym times or may be picked up Monday through Thursday from 9-3. You may call the school at 406-856-4117 and request that one be mailed to you. The MHSA pre-participation form is the only form that will be allowed for the student's exam (no other forms will be accepted). Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and their students will fill out the History portion of the form together. The student and parent/guardian, will sign the form. A medical provider will review the form with the student and parent/guardian and perform the exam. A signature from the medical provider is required to clear the student for participation. The completed MHSA Pre-participation Physical Exam form will be given to the appropriate school administrator or at the Fall Sports Night. All sports forms must be completed and turned into the school office before the players are allowed to be on the practice field/court.

NOTE: Hysham Clinic **will not** be able to provide sports physicals this coming school year. You will have to make other arrangements as soon as possible before Friday, August 16.

- All training rules forms must be turned in **before** the first day of practice.
- Activity tickets must be purchased before being allowed to play in the first game.
- Our first high school practice for football and volleyball will be Friday, August 16.

COACHES: Remember you **ARE REQUIRED** to have completed the coach's education certification, concussion training, First Aid/CPR certified, and the rules clinic PRIOR to the first game of the season. If you do not complete these, you will be fined by the MHSA.

FALL SPORTS NIGHT

There is a **required** parent and athlete meeting for all students in grades 5-12 that will participate in athletics. Training rules, concussion forms and other important items will be handed out at the meeting and discussed. The reason for this meeting is to get all paperwork finished at these meetings and turned into the person in charge. Sports night will be held in Custer Tuesday, August 13 at 6:00 pm in the new gym and Hysham's sports night will be held Thursday, August 8 at 6:30 pm in the park.

REBEL SPORTS ACTIVITY TICKETS - CHANGE IN PRICES

All elementary, junior high and high school athletes along with junior high and high school band students must purchase an activity ticket. An elementary ticket may be purchased by any student in grades **K – 8 for \$35.00**. **Students in grades 9 – 12 may purchase a ticket for \$45.00**. Our activity tickets will admit our students to all regular season home football, girls' and boys' basketball and girls' volleyball games. The passes are not good for away games, invitational tournaments, or post-season games.

Adults may purchase a season pass for \$75.00 and our Senior Citizens (Age 60) \$25. Games always seem to change so please call the school if you have any questions.

Gate ticket prices for games in Custer and Hysham will be adults at \$8.00 and students at \$6.00. Seniors will get in at \$2.00.

LUNCH AND BREAKFAST INFORMATION

Enclosed in our packet of school information, you will find hot lunch information, applications and guidelines for free and reduced price meals. Please mail the applications or drop them off at the school office. For those who **do not** qualify for free or reduced priced meals, hot lunch prices will be for students in grades **K-6 \$2.70** and students in grades **7-12 \$3.10**. Extra milk prices are .40 cents.

Breakfast in grades **K-12 is \$1.45** each and extra juice is .25 cents.

Reduced meal price will be .30 cents per meal for breakfast and our reduced lunch price will be .40 cents per meal.

We strongly recommend that parents apply for free or reduced meals if you qualify. The additional money our school receives from the Federal government helps operate our hot lunch program and helps us to keep our prices down. Besides benefiting our lunch program, our percentage of free and reduced lunch impacts the amount of government grants we receive for areas such as Internet/phone service and Title Programs. This helps reduce the burden on the local taxpayers. We are requiring that all lunches be purchased in advance. Our secretary will keep track and notify parents when your child needs to purchase lunches for another month.

If you are planning to fill out the free and reduced forms, please fill them out before Monday, August 5. (These are in your packets). Please mail them to Custer School or drop them off at the school office. If you qualify, Custer School will put your information in our system before the first day of school and you will not be charged for meals if returned on time. At this time, we do not have an August lunch menu.

Parents are encouraged to purchase lunch tickets prior to school starting this year. Please notify the school office if your child has any food allergies.

Immunization Requirements

The State of Montana requires that all students must provide documentation regarding immunizations prior to the first day of school. Below is a list of the minimum required immunizations. Please provide documentation by a physician or provider clinic.

Preschool:

DTaP – 4 doses

Polio – 3 doses

MMR – 1 dose on or after 1st birthday

Hib – 1 dose given after 12 months and before 59 months of age

Varicella – 1-dose on or after 1st birthday

Kindergarten:

DTaP – 5 doses (4 doses only if 4th dose is given on or after 4th birthday)

Polio – 4 doses (3 doses only if 3rd dose is given on or after 4th birthday)

MMR – 2 doses (1st dose on or after 1st birthday, and spacing between doses is 4 weeks)

Varicella – 2 doses (1st dose on or after 1st birthday, and spacing between doses is 12 weeks for children under 13 years, and 4 weeks for older than 13 years)

Students Entering 7th GRADE:

Tdap – all 7-12th graders must have Tdap

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their children are up-to-date on immunizations or proper forms are completed. State law requires students are current on immunizations or exempt or conditional attendance forms be on file before a student is permitted to attend school.

Medical and religious exempt forms must be notarized and turned into the office before the first day of school.

ABSENT CHILDREN

Montana has created an information program on missing children within the Department of Justice. Under this program, a parent will have to call our school office by 8:15 a.m. for morning absences or 1:00 p.m. for afternoon absences to inform us that your child/children will not be in school. If a parent does not call, the school must call the parent before the end of the school day to make sure the parent is aware of the child's absence from school. Please help us out by calling the school when your child is or will be absent from school.

If we do not hear from you, your child will be counted unexcused for the day.

CALLING THE SCHOOL

We would like to inform our parents that we will not call your child out of class to answer the telephone unless it is an emergency. Whenever you have a message for your child or children, please convey your message to the school secretary. She will make sure that your child receives the message. If you need your child to call home during their lunch hour or just before school is dismissed for the day, we will gladly notify your child to come to the office and make the call. We certainly appreciate your help in this matter.



NOTE: ELEMENTARY SWIM DAYS HAVE CHANGED

Swimming starts early this school year. The first day will be Thursday, September 5 in Hardin. The bus will leave at approximately 12:00 p.m. and return no later than 3:20 p.m. Students are required to bring swimming suits and their own towels. If they have goggles, they may bring them.

Students may bring books, hand held video games, or other small items to use during the bus trip. This year's swim day will be:

SEPT. 5 – OCTOBER 10 – OCTOBER 14 – OCTOBER 16 – FEB. 24 – FEB. 25

Should these dates change, we will notify you immediately. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

LUNCH MENU

At this time the office does not have a menu for August. Please watch the website as we get closer to school.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

All medications taken during the school day, both prescription and over-the-counter, need to have written permission on file.

Please make arrangements prior to the start of the school year if your child has a known medication need.

Students capable of self-administration may do so with a healthcare provider's written order and written authorization by parent/guardian.

Medications must be in the original container. Prescription meds must be properly labeled by the pharmacy and include student's name, prescriber, medication, dosage, and specific instruction.

A family bottle of Tylenol may be secured by the office and a designated school official can assist in self-administration with proper paperwork on file.

CUSTER SCHOOL MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS (Not the Co-Op Form)

Custer School medical release forms will need to be filled out for EVERY student in our school in case your child will need to travel for a field event or any kind of activity the school may be attending during the year. (This paper is in your student packet and is a little different from for athletic form.)

Please contact the school nurse if your child has any known allergies or medical conditions that may need to be addressed so proper paperwork can be on file in case of an emergency.

In case of an emergency, it is important that we have an accurate medical history updated in our system which includes allergies, medications (both Rx and OTC), and medical conditions.

MEET THE TEACHER – TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

Meet the Teacher is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Custer Schools invites everyone to attend. This is a great opportunity to check out the school and meet the new teachers. Especially for elementary students, it is a great time to drop off supplies. Meet the Teacher is not a confidential conference time. We encourage you to set a separate conference time if you want to talk about any concerns in depth.

NOTE: This is also Fall Sports Night in Custer at 6:00 pm in the new gym for anyone participating in sports.

INTERNET AGREEMENT FORMS which are in your packet is for all grades K-12. They will need to be filled out and turned in at the office the first day of school.

GAME SCHEDULES

Please check our website (www.custerschools.org) to check on events and game changes daily. This will be our way to communicate to you what is happening at our school.

Sports schedules always change from time to time.

SUPPLY LIST FOR 7-12 English

1 inch binder for organizing handouts
notebook

pens

pencils

multiple highlighters

SUPPLY LISTS – GRADES K-6

Kindergarten Supply List

2 decorative folders
scissors
glue sticks
1 box of crayons
1 box of # 2 pencils and pencil box
1 pair of gym shoes (no black soles) to stay at school
snacks
pillow or a blanket
water bottle

1st & 2nd Grade Supply List

3-glu sticks
washable markers (like the crayon ones)
ziplock bags (quart or sandwich size)
1-pair of scissors
1-box of #2 pencils (no click pencils please)
2-erasers
1-pocket folders
2- boxes of 24 crayons
1 pair of inside gym shoes (no black soles) to stay at school
water bottle

3rd & 4th Grade Supply List

1 pair of scissors
1 pk. of highlighters
3-glu sticks
2 boxes of Ticonderoga pencils
1 box of colored pencils
1 box of crayons
1 black sharpie
2-2 pocket folders
4-dry erase markers
2 post it sticky notes
1 composition notebook – must have
1 pack loose leaf paper
1 container of disinfectant wipes
1 Clorox wipes
1 ear buds/headphones
gym shoes inside only (no black soles) and outside PE shoes
water bottle

5 & 6th Grade Supply List

#2 pencils or mechanical pencils
choose between colored pencils, crayons or markers
4 highlighters
1 ruler with inches and centimeters
2 notebooks
composition notebook
headphones
2 large pink erasers or 1 package of pencil top erasers
1 pair of scissors
1 protractor
1 pencil box
1 pair of inside gym shoes (no black soles) to stay at school
gym shoes for inside use only/outside PE shoes
PE cloths (shorts, t shirt, socks) & water bottle

If you have changed your name or address, please contact the school and we will update our system.

Custer School Calendar 2024-2025

Jul-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1st Quarter Days	38
2nd Quarter Days	38
3rd Quarter Days	39
4th Quarter Days	40
Total	155

Aug-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	PIR Days
	Holidays
	Start Qtr
	End
	Fri. out
	No Kindergarten
	1.5 days
	Regular Board Meeting
	School Starts / Ends
	floating day (out)

Sep-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- PIR: 1st day 12-Aug
 2nd day 13-Aug
 ACE 23-Sep
 (Bozeman) MEA 17-Oct
 MEA 18-Oct
 in house 7-Feb
 Meet the Teacher: 13-Aug
 Parent Conf.: 28-Oct
 Graduation: 17-May

Oct-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Nov-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- BPA- regional 2-Dec
 state 10-Mar
 District VB: October
 Football Playoffs: October
 Divisional VB: 7-9 Nov
 District BB: 13-15 Feb
 Divisional BB: 20-22 Feb

Dec-24

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- Labor Day: 2-Sep
 Easter: 20-Apr

- 1st day of VB & FB: 8-Aug
 1st day of BB & Wrestling 18-Nov
 1st day of Track & Field: 10-Mar

Jan-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Feb-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Mar-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Apr-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Jun-25

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

PROPOSAL: