

COLUMBIA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
Parent-Student Handbook

2025-2026



CHARACTER

FOCUS

HONOR

STRENGTH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION

To Parents and Students	4
Board of Trustees	4
Public Notice of Non-Discrimination	4
Message from the Administration Team	5
CFHS Core Values and Mission Statement	5
Administration and Staff	6
Safer MT Reporting	8
Student Leaders	9
Activities and Clubs Sponsors	10
School Calendar	11
Daily Time Schedule	11
Finals Week Schedules	12
Progress Reports	13
Report Cards	13

ACADEMICS

Academic Integrity	14
Activity Academic Eligibility Rule	15
College-Bound Student Athlete Information	15
Commencement	15
Course Changes –Drop/Add	16
Course Load Requirements	16
Early Graduation	16
Eligibility for Graduation (Fifth Year)	17
Grading Guidelines	17
Weighted Grades	17
Graduation and College Preparatory Requirements	18
Foreign Exchange Experience	19
Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal	19
Outside Credits	19
Recognition of Academic Achievements	19
National Honor Society	21
Running Start Program	21

GENERAL INFORMATION

Activity Tickets	22
Assembly of Students	22
Assemblies (School-Sponsored) and Advisement Periods	23
Attendance/Tardy Policies	23
Closed Campus	28

Code of Conduct	28
Complaints by Students and Parents	29
Computer Resources	31
Corporal Punishment	32
Course/Shop/Band Fees	32
Dances	32
Decorations	33
Discipline and Due Process	33
Driving and Parking	34
Extracurricular Activities, Clubs and Organizations	35
Food and Drink	35
Fundraising	35
Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation/Hazing	35
Law Enforcement	36
Meetings (School-Sponsored)	37
Non-Student Loitering and Trespass	37
Personal Appearance	37
Publications, Displays and Productions	38
Safety	38
Search and Seizures	39
Sexual Harassment/Sexual Discrimination	40
Student Announcements	41
Student Records	41
Student Rights	44
Technology Devices	45
Textbooks	46
Title IX	46
Travel and Transportation	46
Videotaping of Students	47
Visitors	47
Withdrawal from School	47

STUDENT SERVICES

Computer Labs	48
Guidance Offices/Career Center	48
Health Services	49
Food Service	50
Identification Cards	51
Individual Learning Support	51
Library	51
Lockers	52
Lost and Found	52
Special Education	52

Student Assistance Program	52
Student and Family Advocate	52
Telephone/Messages/Deliveries	53
Tutoring/Academic Support	53

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A: FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)	53
APPENDIX B: Behavioral Violations and Discipline	55
APPENDIX C: Acceptable Use of Electronic Services and Network, Chromebook Guidelines and Standards for Participation in CFHS Activities	60
APPENDIX D: Maps	64

Updated 8-21-25

PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION

TO PARENTS & STUDENTS:

The Columbia Falls High School Parent-Student Handbook contains information that students and parents are likely to need during the school year. Throughout the handbook, the term “the student’s parent” is used to refer to the parent, legal guardian, or other person who has agreed to assume school-related responsibility for a student.

The Parent-Student Handbook and rules governing our school are designed to be in harmony with Board policy and are a result of the combined efforts of the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, students, and community. A copy of the District’s Policy Manual is available in the school office or District administration office.

Columbia Falls School District collaborates with parents and guardians to promote the mutual goal of student achievement. To ensure parents are aware of their rights and opportunity to engage with the School District, specific policies and procedures are available on the School District’s website at www.cfmtschoools.net and are available to be printed upon request. Please consult with the following policies to learn more about methods to be an active part of your student’s education:

- Uniform Grievance Procedure – Policy 1700
- Student and Family Privacy Rights – Policy 2132
- Student Human Sexuality Instruction – 2135
- Student Entrance, Placement and Transfer – Policy 3110
- Student Health/Physical Screenings/Examinations – Policy 3410
- Student Records and Confidentiality – Policy 3600

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2025-26 – subject to change

The Board of Trustees would like to extend an invitation to students, parents, and community members to come to board meetings throughout the school year and summer. We would also like to encourage you to share with us your concerns, ideas, and general comments. We will provide guidance on how to get your concerns addressed through the proper channels.

Jill Rocksund, Chairperson	Barbara Riley, Vice-Chairperson
Amanda Pacheco	Megan Upton
Justin Cheff	Heather Mumby
Casey Heupel	Keri Hill

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Columbia Falls School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Michelle Swank
 P.O. Box 1259
 Columbia Falls, MT 59912
 406 892-6562

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2025-26 school year. We are looking forward to a great year and we wish to extend our gratitude to you as students and parents. Students, we want you to be involved and take advantage of the opportunities presented in the classrooms at Columbia Falls High School. We encourage students to get involved in the many extra-curricular clubs, teams, and groups on our campus. Involvement in these programs helps foster a positive experience and engagement in the educational process. We also encourage students to take rigorous courses as they move along their path to high school graduation. Parents, we encourage you to stay involved in your child's academic plan and help them along their path. We encourage open and honest communication to help foster a cooperative partnership that helps each child succeed at their highest level. Again, thank you for being part of CFHS and let's have a great year.

Sincerely,
Administrative Team
Columbia Falls High School

CORE VALUES OF COLUMBIA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF

CHARACTER is compassion – Students and staff at CFHS seek the courage to step outside their comfort zones socially, academically, and personally to gain and show compassion for others.

FOCUS on your future – Students and staff at CFHS strive to collaborate on setting goals that enrich their personal and professional aspirations.

HONOR yourself and others - Students and staff at CFHS respect diverse ideas and beliefs, practice a lifestyle of wellness and celebrate our accomplishments.

STRENGTH to persevere - Students and staff at CFHS demonstrate resilience and perseverance when striving to achieve their goals.

Columbia Falls High School students and staff are expected to strive to model these core values. By personally embracing the CFHS values, you not only continue the tradition of excellence at Columbia Falls High School, you will also be part of defining the stand of excellence for future generations of Columbia Falls High School students.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Working together with students, parents and the community, Columbia Falls High School will create a learning environment that nurtures and challenges students to develop the personal integrity, intellectual curiosity and respect for others that will enable them to become responsible citizens in an ever-changing world.

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Parents and students are encouraged to contact the people listed below with specific questions or concerns. All four-digit extensions may be accessed by dialing 892-6500, the main office at the high school, and then the extension number indicated.

Administrators	Extension No./ Phone No.
Josh Gibbs, Principal	5001
Shaun Forrest, Assistant Principal	5002
Troy Bowman, Activities Director	5003
Cory Dziowgo, Superintendent	892-6550 ext. 1422
Administrative Office Staff	
Christy Houle, Attendance Secretary	892-6503 or 5004
Kristine Bowman, Secretary	5005
Tamara Laycock, Secretary/Registrar	5006
Counselors / Title IX Coordinators	
Rory Christiaens	5147
Cherie Mack	5146
Special Education	
Michelle Swank, SPED Director	892-6550 ext. 1436
Nancy Underdahl	892-6550ext. 1433
School Psychologist	
Ashley Jollymore	5155
Student and Family Advocate	
Tamara Sundberg	5201
School Speech Pathologist	
Jasna Stafford	5155
School Health Aide	
Kristine Zika	5273
Hot Lunch / Kitchen	892-6513
Transportation	892-6550 ext. 1431

Faculty

Bates, Rebecca - Business	5217
Bell, Jaime' - English	5212
Browne, Peter - Social Studies	5121
Caudill, Amy – SPED	5105
Chiarito, Bridget - Math	5222
Christiaens, Rory - Counseling	5147
Coleman, Bill - Social Studies	5220
Copeland, Casey - Sped	5159
Daniels, Kate - Art	5312
Danley, Anna -Health/PE	5115
Dewell, Beverly - Title I Reading	5313
SPED - TBD	5008
Fernandez, Zulma - Spanish	5119
Finberg, Chris - Health/PE	5209
Finberg, Ciera - English	5214
Finberg-Roberts, Cydney – Health/PE	5203
Forke, Josh - Band	5162
Forke, Shelby/Abi Holderbaum - Art	5301
Gress, Shelly - Math	5230
Hackethorn, Emily - Choir	5143
Hanson, Alia - Librarian	5261
Heinz, Jamie – Science	5120
Hendricks, Andrea – Math	5228
Holderbaum, Hannah – English	5206
Houle, Kelly - Science	5110
Lovering, Jennifer - Social Studies	5218
Mack, Cherie - Counseling	5146
Friesen, Micah– School Resource Officer	(406) 892-3234
Moran, Willow - English	5205
Moultray, Jessica – Business	5213
Osborne, Josiah - Social Studies	5221
Peacock, Jim - Science	5104
Price, Jeanette - English/French	5216
Quintia, Erin - Science	5114
Racioppi, Lindsey - FCS	5007
Schaeffer, Ben - Industrial Technology	5174
Schaeffer, Jessie - Health/PE	5210
Schweikert, Jaxon - Health/PE	5269
Vestal, Nia - English	5202
Victor, Jessica – Math	5229
Victor, Manolo – Industrial Technology	5173
Webb, Mary – Science	5116
Weber, Carly – English	5204
Werdel, Connor – Social Studies	5219

Wheeler, Dawn – Math	5225
Wheeler, Madison – Business	5010/5011
Whitman, Julia - SPED	5102
Ypma, Hilary – Spanish	5117

Instructional Aides

Erekson, Kori – SPED	
Freiheit, Shannon – SPED	
Houston, Emily - SPED	
McGrath, Brian – Study Hall	5156
McCaffree, Emily – SPED	
Parsons, Valerie – SPED	
Piilola, Amanda– Learning Strategies Aide	
Wolf, Heidi – Librarian Aide	

College and Career Coordinator

Brooks, Jolandie	5148
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SAFER MT REPORTING

Student and Staff safety has always been and continues to be our top priority at School District Six.

If you feel unsafe or know someone who feels unsafe, please report it at www.safermt.com. Your identity will remain anonymous. Safer MT sends an email to a school administrator with all the details from your report. This can also be located on our website at www.cfhighschool.org under Tipline.

To report information of an immediate threat to school safety, call the District Office directly at 892-6550.

2025-26 STUDENT LEADERS – To be determined

Student Body Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer

Freshmen Class Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer

Sophomore Class Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer

Junior Class Officers

President
Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer

Senior Class Officers

President
Vice President

ACTIVITIES/CLUB SPONSORS AND COACHES

Academic Quiz Bowl	Jeanette Price
Art Club	Shelby Forke
Band	Josh Forke
Baseball	Chad Green
Basketball – Boys	Chris Finberg
Basketball – Girls	Jeremy Grilley
Choir	Emily Hackethorn
Cheerleaders	Kendra Courtney
Drama	TBA
Freshman Advisor	Jessica Victor
Sophomore Advisor	Julia Whitman
Junior Class Advisor	Hilary Ypma
Senior Class Advisor	Willow Moran
Columbians	Josh Forke
Cross Country – Boys/Girls	Jim Peacock
FCCLA	Lindsey Racioppi
Football	Kelly Houle
World Language Club	Zulma Fernandez, Hilary Ypma & Jeanette Price
Golf – Boys/Girls	Josiah Osborne
GSA	Jeanette Price
National Honor Society	Tamara Sundberg
HOSA	Mary Webb/Brittney Hulett
Key Club	Jessica Moultray
Soccer – Boys	O'Brien Byrd
Soccer – Girls	Thomas Clark
Softball – Girls	Rick Lawrence
Special Olympics	Kate Daniels
Speech	Dawn Wheeler
Student Council	Shelly Gress
Swimming	TBD
Tennis – Boys/Girls	Michelle Colliander
Track – Boys/Girls	Jamie Heinz
Volleyball	Jolandie Brooks
Wrestling Boys/Girls	Jessie Schaeffer/Ben Schaeffer
Yearbook	Ciera Finberg

FINALS WEEK SCHEDULES

- The cafeteria will be open during lunch, also serving Free and Reduced Lunch Program.
- Students remain in class through the entire period of a final exam. There will be no calls into classrooms for checkout of students.
- Buses will be provided at the end of each shortened day.
- WE ARE A CLOSED CAMPUS DURING THE BREAKS!

FIRST SEMESTER (Final exam periods are in **bold** type)

Tuesday, January 20:	Period 1:	8:15 – 8:55
	Period 2:	9:05 – 9:48
	Period 3:	9:53 – 10:36
	Period 4:	10:41 – 11:24
	Period 5:	11:29 – 12:12
	Lunch:	12:12 – 12:42
	Period 6:	12:47 – 1:30
	Period 0 & 7:	1:35 – 3:10
Wednesday, January 21:	Period 1:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 2:	10:00 – 11:30
Thursday, January 22:	Period 3:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 4:	10:00 – 11:30
Friday, January 23:	Period 5:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 6:	10:00 – 11:30

Regular schedule resumes Monday, January 26, 2026

SECOND SEMESTER (Final exam periods are in **bold** type)

Tuesday, June 9:	Period 1:	8:15 – 8:55
	Period 2:	9:05 – 9:48
	Period 3:	9:53 – 10:36
	Period 4:	10:41 – 11:24
	Period 5:	11:29 – 12:12
	Lunch:	12:12 – 12:42
	Period 6:	12:47 – 1:30
	Period 0 & 7:	1:35 – 3:10
Wednesday, June 10:	Period 1:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 2:	10:00 – 11:30
Thursday, June 11:	Period 3:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 4:	10:00 – 11:30
Friday, June 12: (Last day of school)	Period 5:	8:15 – 9:45
	Break:	9:45 – 9:55
	Period 6:	10:00 – 11:30

2025 – 2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August	28	Freshman/New Student Orientation
August	28-29	Staff Development Days
September	2	First Day of School
September	29	Teacher PIR Day – No School
October	16-17	Teacher PIR Days – No School
November	5	End of 1 st Quarter
November	11 & 13	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
November	26-28	Thanksgiving Break
December	22 Dec. - Jan. 2	Christmas Break
January	5	School Resumes
January	20-23	Final Exams 1 st Semester
January	23	End of 2 nd Quarter/1 st Semester
February	16	Presidents’ Day – No School
March	23-27	Spring Break – No School
April	7 (undetermined)	Statewide ACT Test
April	8	End of 3 rd Quarter
April	24	No School
April	22	Evening Parent/Teacher Conference
May	25	Memorial Day – No School
June	6	Graduation
June	9-12	Final Exams 2 nd Semester
June	12	Last Day of School
		End of 4 th Quarter/2 nd Semester

DAILY TIME SCHEDULES

M-T-Th-F Schedule	
Period 0	7:20 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.
Period 1	8:15 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.
Period 2	9:15 a.m. – 10:04 a.m.
Period 3	10:09 a.m. – 10:58 a.m.
Period 4	11:03 a.m. – 11:51 a.m.
LUNCH	11:51 a.m. – 12:28 p.m.
Period 5	12:33 p.m. – 1:22 p.m.
Period 6	1:27 p.m. – 2:16 p.m.
Period 7	2:21 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

W Early Release Schedule	
Period 0	7:30 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.
Period 1	8:15 a.m. – 8:57 a.m.
Period 2	9:07 a.m. – 9:48 a.m.
Period 3	9:53 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.
Period 4	10:40 a.m. – 11:21 a.m.
Period 5	11:26 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.
LUNCH	12:08 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.
Period 6	12:45 p.m. – 1:26 p.m.
Period 7	1:31 p.m. – 2:12 p.m.

**** Every 1st Wednesday of the month we will begin school at 8:15am and end at 1:12pm.**

**** Every Wednesday is a scheduled early release dedicated to teacher in-service and district program development.**

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports are distributed at mid-term and indicate proficiencies, as well as deficiencies, in the student’s classroom performance. Parents may view their students’ progress report on the Parent Portal. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your student’s teachers via email.

Progress reports will be available on the parent/student portal for the 2025-2026 school year.

1 st Quarter Midterm	October 7, 2025
2 nd Quarter Midterm	December 9, 2025
3 rd Quarter Midterm	February 24, 2026
4 th Quarter Midterm	May 12, 2026

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued quarterly to all students. This report reflects grades, general comments, GPA (grade point average), and absences. If there is a question about the student report, the student, parent, or guardian may make reach out to that teacher via email to discuss it or make an appointment.

All student report cards for the 2025-2026 school year will be available online via the Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal. Quarterly reports cards will also be available:

1 st Quarter.....	November 11 & 13 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30pm – 7:30pm
2 nd Quarter	January 29, 2026 – Available online via Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal
3 rd Quarter	April 13, 2026 – Available online via Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal April 21, 2026 - Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30pm – 7:30 pm
4 th Quarter.....	June 17, 2026 – Available online via Infinite Campus Parent/Student Portal

ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Integrity means being honest and principled. In school, it means being honest in the face of academic pressures, cultivating trust with classmates and staff members, and taking responsibility for your actions.

Academic integrity means that you behave in an ethical manner: all assignments should be original work, and under no circumstance should they bear frank resemblance to anything turned in to receive credit for an academic grade for a past, present, or future assignment in another class at CFHS or another institution. Sharing your work with another student is considered academic dishonesty, and will be treated as such.

Academic integrity means not plagiarizing: copying and using in an assignment any word(s), phrase(s), and/or original ideas(s) and/or thought(s) of someone else without citing the source and documenting properly (i.e., taking material from any source without proper acknowledgment and documentation). It does not need to be a word-for-word copy to be considered plagiarism.

Academic integrity means not practicing deception: giving a teacher false information about the status of an academic assignment, such as providing a fabricated reason for a missed deadline or being dishonest about work logged.

Academic integrity also means that you do not facilitate dishonesty: intentionally or knowingly attempting to help another student violate any provision of this policy.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty:

- copying someone else's work, such as an assignment, lab assignment, quiz, or test, and submitting it as your work, or allowing another student to copy your work
- looking on someone's paper, consulting a mobile device for answers, or using a 'cheat sheet' while taking a test
- turning in a writing assignment purchased or received from some other source, or having someone else write your work
- making up data on a lab assignment or making up a source to use as a citation in a paper
- giving test information/answers to students in other sections of the same course
- quoting a source (copying information word for word) but failing to give the proper citation, putting a source's text into one's own words (paraphrasing), and not citing the source
- submitting "blank" documents or previously submitted documents to Google Classroom with the intention of deception
- using a study technology group, such as Snapchat, to either give or receive answers
- providing the means for other students to access your digital files, assignments & information
- using generative artificial intelligence to complete any or all of your work without explicit permission from your instructor.

The consequences of Academic Dishonesty include but are not limited to the following:

- The student receives an automatic 0% (F) for the assignment.
- An office behavior referral is made.
- The student's parent/guardian is notified, and if necessary, a conference is held with the student and school administration.
- The student is not allowed to make up the grade with any other method including extra credit.

(credit W. Moran & N. Vestal)

****My signature for the student handbook indicates that I have read the policy and I understand that academic dishonesty is a serious offense that may result in disciplinary action and a non-recoverable failure to receive credit for my work.*

ACTIVITY ACADEMIC ELGIBILITY RULE

School District #6 mandates that a student must pass four (4) credit-bearing subjects per semester to be eligible for participation in extracurricular events. The record at the end of the semester is final and may not be made up in any way. Eligibility status is governed by the following procedures:

1. Eligibility will be determined on the first day of each semester as mandated by the MHS. Office grade reports are available the week following the end of the semester when grades are due. A student is still eligible or ineligible even though these grade reports are not printed and distributed by the office. Students passing four (4) credit bearing subjects in the preceding semester are eligible for participation in all extra-curricular activities at CFHS.
2. The specific dates of the eligibility schedule will be established by June of the preceding year. These dates will be printed each school year in the Student Handbook and registration materials.

Eligibility Calendar: If a student has passed four (4) credit-bearing subjects during the preceding grading period, that student is eligible according to the following:

GRADING PERIOD

2nd Semester – 2024/2025
 1st Semester – 2025/2026
 2nd Semester – 2025/2026

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

1st Semester – 2025-2026 (9/2/2025 – 1/23/2026)
 2nd Semester – 2025-2026 (1/26/2026 – 6/12/2026)
 1st Semester – 2026-2027

COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT ATHLETE INFORMATION

Student-athletes who aspire to participate in collegiate athletic programs are encouraged to seek eligibility information regarding educational requirements at the following websites.

For information related to athletic participation at any level of NCAA competition students and parents can find eligibility information at www.ncaa.org.

For information related to athletic participation at any level of NAIA competition students and parents can find eligibility information at www.naia.org.

The above websites provide current and valuable information for college-bound student-athletes. Student-athletes with aspirations of participation at the collegiate level should also seek help in planning their educational career at CFHS by seeking help from our high school counselors. This process should begin early in a student's high school career to ensure all eligibility requirements are met.

COMMENCEMENT

Participation in graduation activities is reserved for those members of the senior class who have completed state and district requirements for graduation before the ceremony. A student with disabilities eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may satisfy those competency requirements incorporated into the individualized education program (IEP). Satisfactory completion of the objectives incorporated in the IEP may serve as the basis for determining completion of a course.

Graduation requirements will not generally be waived; however, in rare and unique circumstances, a principal may recommend that the Superintendent approve a minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

The ceremony is a dignified, formal occasion held to honor the graduates. Students may wear traditional American Indian tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony. Any alteration to the cap and

gown must be approved by the administration and a graduate may be prevented from participating in the ceremony if their attire is inappropriate per administration's discretion.

COURSE CHANGES AND WITHDRAWALS

Students can decide their classes in consultation with parents, counselors and/or teachers. Once a student is enrolled in a class, he/she is expected to remain there for at least a semester. If a change is necessary, the change must be made during the first five (5) days of the semester only. Course changes are to be made through individual counselors with parent approval. Class schedules must be continued until changes have been finalized through the high school office.

Courses from which the student withdraws within the first 10 days will not be entered on the permanent record. Schedule changes after the first 10 days of a semester are dependent upon alternative class availability and administrative approval. The student may receive an authorized withdrawal and a grade of "W" indicated on the permanent record during the first 10 weeks of the semester. Courses from which the student withdraws after the tenth week will be recorded as "F" on the permanent record. A counselor and administrator may consider exceptions to this policy. Each year during registration, students are expected to choose classes wisely. After the initial registration process, Additional Changes to a student's schedule may occur due to computer errors, overloaded courses, cancelled classes, teacher recommendation or other extenuating circumstances.

COURSE LOAD REQUIREMENTS

The standard expectation is that students are enrolled in 7 class periods. If a student ceases to pursue the required course of instruction the administration may recommend, to the Board of Trustees, the student's expulsion. Student's classes will be in consecutive order and include no more than one study hall. Students in grades 9 and 10 must be enrolled in 7 class periods, 6 of which must be credit bearing. Students in grades 11 and 12 who are in good credit standing may be scheduled for a late start or early release. Juniors and seniors are required to be enrolled in at least 6 classes, with a minimum of 5 credit-bearing courses. The building administrator may grant an exception to the number of classes required based on extraordinary circumstances. **Students must exit the building after their last class.**

EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be permitted to graduate early if they have completed necessary requirements for graduation. Students are responsible for completing all required coursework and remaining informed of graduation ceremony activities. Students must complete all outside coursework prior to the end of the last semester of his/her attendance. Otherwise, the student must remain enrolled and attend CFHS classes until their outside courses are completed. Students must complete the following procedures:

- Student contacts counselor to pick up an early graduation application. Application deadline is the tenth school day of the student's senior year.
- Counselor checks student's transcript for credits and ability to fulfill all required courses by the end of the seventh semester.
- Student gathers other signatures as outlined in the application.
- Courses used to substitute (FVCC or correspondence) for second semester classes must be completed by the first Friday following January 1.
- Students who graduate after the 1st semester are not eligible to participate in 2nd semester activities.
- Early graduates are not eligible to receive honors awards.

ELIGIBILITY FOR GRADUATION (FIFTH YEAR)

Students eligible for fifth year graduation are those who have not reached the age of 19 prior to September 1 of the current school year and are eligible for graduation in the spring of that school year. The student will be required to petition the administration for continuance in the school district. The approved petition will establish a graduation completion plan and contract.

GRADING GUIDELINES

Grades are the means for reporting how a student is progressing after assessing the work done throughout a nine-week period or semester period. The grading scale for each class is determined by the classroom teacher and will be communicated to students through the "Full Disclosure" document at the beginning of the school year. A copy of the class "Full Disclosure" is on file with the individual teacher and is available upon request.

Letter grades are generally interpreted to mean:

A	Superior work	D	Below average work
B	Good work	F	Unacceptable
C	Average Work		
P	Pass		
W	Withdrawal (Class dropped within the first 10 weeks of the semester)		
X	No credit due to lack of attendance.		

ALL INCOMPLETE semester grades must be made up within 10 school days following each semester grading period or the student receives an "F" for the course in question. For computing grade point averages the following numerical values are assigned to the letter grades:

A = 4; B = 3; C = 2; D = 1; F = 0; X = 0; W = Not included in GPA, P = Not included in GPA

WEIGHTED GRADES

School District 6 Board of trustees approved weighted grades for all Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The system of awarding additional grade points is referred to as "weighted grading" in designated high school courses. This system of grading will be incorporated in computing students' quarterly, semester and cumulative grade point averages. The following grading system will be used: A = 5 grade points; B = 4 grade points; C = 2.5 grade points; D = 1 grade point; F = 0

GRADUATION AND COLLEGE PREPARATORY REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL NOTES:

1. Not all courses within the booklet may be offered each semester. Student interest, staffing, facility availability and enrollment are determining factors.
2. A minimum of 23 credits are required for graduation.
3. Colleges encourage college-bound students to take math and science their senior year.
4. Under unique circumstances, alternative graduation plans, with contract, may be developed with the consent of the student, parent, HS counselor and Administrator.

COURSE	CFHS GRADUATION	MUS ADMISSION ¹	GENERAL COLLEGE ADMISSION
ENGLISH	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits
MATHEMATICS	3 credits ²	3+ credits ³	3+ credits ³
SCIENCE (must include Biology and Earth science)	2 credits	3+ credits	3+ credits ³
HEALTH ENHANCEMENT	2 credits	2 credits	2 credits
NON-SPECIFIC SOCIAL STUDIES OR WORLD LANGUAGES	1 credit	---	---
WORLD LANGUAGES	---	---	2+ credits ⁴
WESTERN CIVILIZATION	---	1 credit	1 credit
U.S. HISTORY (junior year)	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
AMER. GOVERNMENT (senior year)	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
FINE ARTS (art, music)	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
VOCATIONAL ARTS/TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Business, Industrial Tech, Family and Consumer Science, Health Occupations)	1.5 credits	1 credit	1 credit
COMPUTER ESSENTIALS	.5 credit	---	---
ELECTIVES	6 credits	see 5 below	see 5 below
TOTAL	23 credits+ #7	diploma+⁶	diploma+⁶

- 1 MUS = Montana University System; six publicly funded, four-year colleges and universities.
- 2 Must include the completion of Algebra 1.
- 3 Must include math sequence of at least Algebra 2/Trig level.
- 4 Out-of-State college and university requirements vary. Consult specific schools for minimum world language requirement.
- 5 Colleges and universities do not require general electives, though they can specify certain coursework in admissions consideration.
- 6 Four-year colleges and universities will require additional "academic" classes beyond our high school graduation. Consult college requirements, which may, for example, include additional math and science.
- 7 **NEW FOR 2025-26 - Financial Literacy Course requirement prior to graduation beginning with Class of 2026. (Personal Finance A or B, Accounting 1, Intro to Business, Entrepreneurship, Exploring FCS or Practical Math)**