

**CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT #15**  
**JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER**  
[www.custerschools.org](http://www.custerschools.org)

**SCHOOL WILL RESUME MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH**  
**FOR OUR STUDENTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT NEWS**

The roof repair on the New Gym is now complete. This year, we have already completed several major projects on the building. The old gym had several major leaks which were repaired in September. The boiler was retubed this summer and we are now able to run it at much higher pressure, more efficiently, and the building has been well within our desired temperature range. We are adding a generator to run the water system in case of a power outage like we had last year. Darryl has done a great job fixing and maintaining the building. Dallas and Normita are working well together to keep the building clean. Thank you to all of them for their continued efforts at an endless job.

The school still needs a lot of work. Our next major project will be to fix the windows on the 2nd and 3rd floor. They have been leaking around the seals for many years now and we are concerned that the frame is going to need to be replaced as well. This will increase the cost substantially. We also plan to cover the painted plywood with siding which should eliminate the leaks, reduce maintenance, and improve the appearance of school.

The final major repair that needs to be done is to raise the front of the elementary wing and reinforce the foundation. The foundation has been settling over the years creating large cracks in the floor. Our engineer assured us this summer that the building is still structurally sound and that the repairs were not an immediate concern, but it must eventually be corrected.

We take a lot of pride in this building for the history that it represents.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR BUS PROCEDURES**

In order for a parent to get his/her child off the extracurricular bus, the parent must, in writing, tell the coach/advisor that he/she is taking the child off the bus and assuming responsibility for the child. School personnel do not have the authority to allow a child to go home with another adult, even with a written note from the child's parent. If you are not going to be attending the extracurricular activity and plan to have your child ride home with another adult, please make arrangements with Mr. Olson prior to the departure time from the school for the activity. If the activity is on a Friday or Saturday, arrangements should be made by the end of the day Thursday so information can be passed along to the coaches. We have this procedure in place as the District is liable for every student from the time our buses leave Custer School until the time they return to the school.

**SCHOOL BUSES**

If the temperature gets to -20 below zero, our school buses will not go out at all. This is a decision that has been made as of January of 2024 by our school board.

## **WINTER WEATHER**

With winter weather here, it's important that children dress appropriately. Your elementary students need to be well prepared to fight the cold with warm clothing because their small bodies lose heat quickly. When your children are leaving home, make sure they are aware of what should be taken to counter the cold weather. If snow is on the ground, elementary students should be wearing snow boots, gloves and hats. If it is just cold out, the boots are optional. Also, please remind your students riding the bus, whether extracurricular or route, that they should be prepared for cold winter conditions. If they choose not to wear the proper clothing, they should at least have it with them in case of an emergency.

## **SPELLING BEE**

Our local spelling bee in Custer will be Monday, January 26.

February 21<sup>st</sup> - Date of Yellowstone County Spelling Bee at Petro Theater on the MSU-B campus at 9:00 a.m. Please plan on arriving no earlier than 8:30 a.m.

March 21<sup>st</sup> – Date of the Treasure State Spelling Bee at Montana State University in Bozeman.

## **STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

Students of the month for November are Rilyn Burnside, Kason Ruff, and Keatyn Strecker! Congratulations!

## **LITTLE DRIBBLERS K-4 GRADES**

Little Dribblers will play at all of our home games in Hysham and Custer after the New Year. Chad Fink and Wade Keller will be putting this together. There will be no practices over the weekend. Just be there on game day two hours before the games begin. If you have any questions, you may reach out to Chad at 406-351-1551 or Wade at 406-861-7159.

## **POP SHOTS**

The Class of 2029 will be running a pop shot during halftime of the home basketball games this winter. BIG thanks to Pepsi Cola of Hardin for donating the pop for our fundraiser!

## **REBEL HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE**

The school will update you on our website as we move forward with our high school sports for any changes in our schedule. Game times are continually changing every week. We encourage everyone to check out our website at [www.custerschools.org](http://www.custerschools.org)

## **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

The Custer School Music Department will present its Christmas Program on Thursday, December 18, at 6:30 pm. All music students in grades K-12 will be performing some of your favorite holiday tunes. The evening will end with a visit from our favorite man dressed in red. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and enjoy the wonderful Christmas music.

## **COUNSELOR CORNER**

### **MAST Window 2 Testing**

Students in grades 3–8 will begin **Window 2** of the Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST) assessment between **January 12 and March 6**. During this window, students will complete short Math and ELA testlets aligned to what they are currently learning. Each testlet takes about 15–30 minutes, and results will be shared with families as they are released.

MAST provides timely information that supports classroom instruction and helps track student progress throughout the year. All student data remains confidential, and accommodations are provided for those with IEPs, 504 plans, or English Learner plans. Families can support students by encouraging their best effort, ensuring good rest, and helping them arrive ready for the day.

### **Theater Club**

The Theater Club is gearing up for an exciting spring production! Our final two regular meetings of the season will be held on January 13 and January 27 from 4:20–5:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend as we wrap up workshop activities and prepare for auditions.

Auditions for the spring show will take place on **Monday, February 4th**. Students should bring their calendars so rehearsal schedules can be set. The performance is scheduled for April 23rd and 24th, and we are looking forward to a fantastic production.

### **Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser for the Junior Class**

It's pizza time! The Custer School Junior Class of 2027 is raising funds by selling Little Caesars Pizza Kits and Meal Deal Codes throughout January. Prices range from \$23–\$26, and all orders are due by **January 19th**. Pizzas will be delivered the week before the Super Bowl, just in time for game day!

Ordering is easy! Juniors will take orders using a brochure, or you can order online using this link: <https://fundraising.littlecaesars.com/login/join-fundraiser/a2c8ed4d-7583-4db7-87b1-08c4e0060815>

**Fundraiser ID:** 51286 | **Group ID:** 43097

Meal Deal Codes will be emailed directly to buyers. When ready, codes can be redeemed on the Little Caesars app or website for in-store pickup.

Help the Junior Class reach their goal—and enjoy some delicious pizza at the same time!

### **BPA News**

Our BPA students competed at their regional conferences in Baker on Monday, December 8, 2025. They all did a great job.

### **THANK YOU**

We want to thank those special people who will be helping with our annual Christmas program. Also, a big thank you to our 4-H Peg-A-Way Club for decorating the town for the Christmas Holidays and for the wonderful cookies! We appreciate everything you do!

CUSTER SCHOOL

# PEP BAND SCHEDULE

2025/2026

**DEC 20**

CUSTER VS PARK CITY

**JAN 15**

CUSTER VS MELSTONE

**JAN 2**

HYSHAM VS PLENTY

**JAN 22**

HYSHAM VS RPR

**JAN 9**

HYSHAM VS WIBAUX

**FEB 13**

HYSHAM VS NC

**JAN 10**

CUSTER VS BRIDGER

Districts Feb 19-21  
Divisionals Feb 25-28  
State March 11-14

All Times TBD

Go Rebels!