

# THE BROWN BEAR NECESSITIES

The Official Newsletter of  
Hannah Marie Brown Elementary School (est. 2021)



## Principal Ponderings by Megan Sensibaugh, a "beary" proud Principal

Welcome Back to Bear Country! The 2025–2026 school year is off to a fantastic start! Our students are excited to be on campus—learning, growing, working hard, and, most importantly, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. We are so proud to see students embracing the Bears Code and welcoming new community members with love and kindness. Our theme for the year is Adventure Awaits: Climb Toward Success.

This year, we are continuing our attendance incentives! Classes can earn rewards when all students (and the teacher!) are present for the day. In addition, all extracurricular activities and events will be tied to attendance (Raider's Day, Field Day, Field Trips, Clubs, etc.). We want our Bears to understand the importance of being on time and present each day—because a student's most important job is to be ready to learn!

In August, only 70% of our students were present, on time, and in school for the entire day at least 95% of the time. Our goal is to raise this percentage each month because daily, on-time attendance is essential for student success and learning.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events planned! Join us for the Foothill High School OneHill Parade, Family Sports Night, and the Book Fair. We can't wait to see you there!



**GIVE YOUR BROWN BEAR STUDENT A BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT!**  
**DIGITAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGES**

## MRS. SUMSION'S CORNER!

We are already a month into the 2025-2026 school year and we have started off running! It is so wonderful to see all of our returning students' faces and welcome new students. August flew by, establishing routines and procedures. Please be sure to read the [parent/student handbook](#) as it really outlines all of our routines and procedures, including some new important information regarding delivery of lunches and attendance! CCSD offers information on attendance as well. Please visit <https://everyday.ccsd.net/attendance-tips> for more information and tips on what happens if your child misses school, attendance letters, absent notes and more. Please also refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for more information regarding absences. I look forward to seeing all of your children at school every day and I am excited for what this school year will bring.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

9/1/25

No School: Labor Day

9/5/25

Free Dress Day  
OneHill Parade  
Attendance Incentive

9/8/25

Kindness Shirt Day

9/10/25

Student of the Month Lunch  
SOT Nominations End

9/11/25

SOT Voting Starts

9/12/25

Family Sports Night

9/15/25

No School: Staff  
Development Day

9/16/25

PTA General Meeting at 9am  
in the MPR

9/17/25

SOT Meeting

9/19/25

Free Dress Day

9/22/25-9/30/25

Book Fair

9/22/25

Kindness Shirt Day

9/25/25

Fall Pictures (SSA Required)

9/29/25

Kindness Shirt Day



**702-799-2250**

**10 Chapata Drive  
HD, NV 89012**

**Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

## Contact Info

[Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com](http://Hannahmariebrownelementaryschool.com)

[Hannah Marie Brown Facebook Page](#)



## SOT NOMINATIONS AND VOTING INFORMATION

Nominations for the HMB ES 2025-26 School Organization Team (SOT) are now open. If you would like to serve as a Parent Representative or know of a parent who would make a great representative, please use this form to submit the name. September 10 will be the last day to submit nominations.

Only parents/legal guardians of current HMB ES students may serve on the SOT.

### What is the role of the School Organizational Team?

- Provide input on the school performance plan and budget.
- Provide continued advice to the principal in carrying out the school plan.
- Assist with the selection of the next principal when there is a vacancy.

### What are the requirements of Team members?

- Begin attending meetings in October 2025.
- Serve on the team through September 30, 2026, unless your child no longer attends the school.
- Attend meetings at least once per month, outside of school hours.
- Make decisions with the whole school population in mind.
- Work collaboratively and attempt to reach consensus with the team.
- If you would like more information regarding SOT, please visit CCSD.net.

**Nominations close on 9/10/25, voting will occur starting on September 11th via a Google Form and will end on September 16th. The voting form will be emailed on September 11th, 2025.**

Click [HERE](#) for the Nomination form!

# THE SPECIALIST SPOT

LIBRARY TID BITS  
FROM MRS. GEHLKEN



\*Welcome back to year five in the Hannah Marie Brown Library! It has been so fun getting reacquainted with students from last year and getting to know new students, as well. We had a busy August covering library expectations and responsibilities, book and Chromebook care, the layout of the library and checking out library books for the first time. We are off to an amazing start!

\* Students come to library class once every six school days on an A-F day rotation. [Click this link to see the September Library Class schedule.](#) Any books your child checks out are always due back on their next scheduled library day. Ask your child a strategy for remembering their books (we talked about two in class!).

\*Our first Scholastic book fair of the year will be held September 22-30, 2025. Important details will be shared in the coming weeks via ClassDojo, Parentlink, and Facebook.

\*In early September, second through fifth grade students will get their personal Accelerated Reader (AR) colors from their classroom teachers. They will focus on selecting at least one library book that is within their reading range (AR colors) when they come to library class. After reading the book, they will be able to take an AR quiz, earn points, meet personal goals, and work as a team with other students to achieve the grade level's goal for the year! (First grade AR colors coming soon!)



**GATE UPDATES  
FROM MRS. ROSAS**

GATE students will begin an engineering unit that puts their growth mindsets to the test. Students will engage in challenging tasks including: Writing block and text code, coding Sphero EDU Mini robots, solving STEM kits, solving GIZMO STEM cases, LEGO Master Builds, creating Rubik's Cube mosaics, designing solar powered builds, and making their own inventions.

As they work through this unit, students will identify problems, design solutions, build and test their designs, and optimize their design if needed. Engineering is fun and engaging. It helps students learn from mistakes and understand failure is a part of success.



**HIGHLIGHTS IN ART  
FROM MRS. PIERCE**



Hello everyone! It's great to be back in the art room at Hannah Marie Brown! This past month has been fantastic seeing familiar faces and getting to know new ones. I just love seeing their amazing creativity shine! In Art, we have gone over expectations and started learning the 7 Elements of Art. Our first activities focussed on lines and optical illusions in artwork. Later this month, we will be learning about color theory.

This year, we will not be working on the 40th annual Silver State Schools Credit Union: Happy Times calendar contest during class time. However, I will be introducing the activity and providing the 12inx18in paper that is required for the contest, if students want to participate on their own time. Students can bring back their masterpiece by September 22nd, and I will label and submit them.

As a reminder, we use mostly "washable" materials in class, but even "washable" can be tricky to get out of clothes. It might be a good idea to have a designated art day shirt.

**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) IN STYLE  
WITH MRS. TREADAWAY**



Hello Families! Our world needs more kindness! That's why kindness is how we are started the school year using our new program called PurposeFull People. Our definition of kindness is acting with understanding, generosity, and care. You'll hear a lot about kindness this year because it is also one of our three outcomes:

1. Be Kind: Teaching social skills like listening, friendship, solving conflicts, and leadership. These skills are taught alongside empathy, respect, and cooperation
2. Be Strong: Skills that help students focus, stay organized, and set goals. These skills are taught alongside responsibility, courage, and perseverance
3. Be Well: Skills that help students handle their emotions and deal with stress. These skills are taught alongside gratitude, honesty, and creativity. We look forward to seeing kindness grow throughout our school and community as we work on these skills this year!

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for our Character Strong Monthly Newsletter!

## WHAT IN THE WORLD IS UP WITH HANSON: CONNECTIONS AND BEHAVIOR UPDATES!



Greetings Brown Bear Families!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! J.A.W.S. has returned! Jog and Walk Stars is a running program that students have the option to participate in before school starts on the grass field every Monday, Wednesday & Friday. If your child is interested in participating in JAWS, please have them find Mr. Hanson on the grass field sometime this week and he will make them a card. Also, if you are a parent interested in volunteering, I could always use extra hands marking cards. Please email me at [hansokr@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:hansokr@nv.ccsd.net) if you are interested.

The Zen Den has upgraded! The Zen Den was such a big hit last year that our amazing principal and assistant principal have upgraded the Zen Den to a full classroom which means more support for students' mental health! Thank you again to Intermountain Healthcare for their amazing donation to support our students and staff with this amazing room! Thank you Brown Bear's and see you around the school!



## P.E. POINTS WITH COACH SISNEROS



Hello and welcome back Parents/Guardians and Students!

The students refer to me as Coach "S" and I have the pleasure of being their P.E. Teacher at Hannah Marie Brown again this year!

As with all of education, P.E. has also changed and moved forward over the years. The focus is on lifelong health and wellness as well as sport skills. Introducing a wide variety of activities allows students to find their own individual passion. Stations allow for students who enjoy competition to compete in activities and those who do not enjoy competition can participate recreationally in a non competitive environment. The end goal is allowing all students to experience success while discovering their talents and physical activities they enjoy. Social Emotional Learning is a big point of emphasis as students work together in P.E.

We have begun the year reviewing safety and procedures along with rule updates on common playground games such as 4-square and tetherball. These will be continually revisited throughout the year. In the coming weeks, more playground games will be explored along with introducing flexibility, strength, and cardio exercise. We look forward to a great year!



## MRS. BENNETT'S MEGABYTES



Hello Brown Bear families! I am so excited to introduce myself as the new Computer Science teacher this year! While this is a new role for me, I am no stranger to the classroom—I previously taught third grade here at HMB and truly loved it. Although I will miss the day-to-day moments of my own classroom, I am incredibly excited for this new chapter and the opportunity to teach all the students in our school.

One of the things I'm most excited about in this new role is the opportunity to work with every student in the school. From our youngest learners to our oldest, I look forward to getting to know each child and helping them grow their confidence, creativity, and curiosity when it comes to technology.

As our world continues to change and evolve through technology, it's more important than ever that students develop the skills they need to be thoughtful, capable, and responsible digital citizens. In our computer science classes, we will explore everything from basic coding and digital problem-solving to understanding how to stay safe and respectful online. My goal is to create an engaging environment where all students feel empowered to explore, make mistakes, and grow.

I am so excited for all that this school year holds and can't wait to see the incredible things our students will accomplish. Here's to a year full of learning, connection, and innovation at Hannah Marie Brown Elementary!