

Lincoln-McKinley October newsletter

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



Erika Brekhuse, Principal
email: brekhuse@blueponyk12.com



School starts at 8:00 AM
School ends at 3:10 PM M-Th and 12:00 PM
on Support Fridays



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled Thursday, October 8th, from 4:15-7:15 PM and Friday, October 9th from 8:00 AM-12:15 PM. Notes from your child's teacher with individual conference times will be sent home. Please check your child's backpack and folder! This is an opportunity for you and your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress. Your attendance at conferences is greatly appreciated. You can prepare for conferences by doing the following things:

- Talk with your child: Find out his or her favorite subjects and activities. Ask if there are any concerns he or she would like you to discuss with the teacher.
- Review assignments: Are there some areas where your child really shines and others that might need a little extra work? Discuss both strengths and weaknesses with the teacher.
- Be on time: The conference schedule is tight. Teachers need all parents to be on time. If something comes up, notify the teacher as soon as possible. Try to reschedule, even if it is a telephone conference.
- Remember that conferences are brief: A typical parent-teacher conference lasts about 15 minutes. If you need additional time, ask for a follow-up session.
- Keep an open mind: Some parents get upset when teachers discuss trouble spots. Remember that these conferences are meant to help you understand your child's school performance. Working together with the teacher will help your child succeed.
- Make plans: Find out what you can do to follow through at home. Decide together what you, your child, and the teacher need to do to help your child succeed.

We look forward to seeing you at the fall Parent-Teacher conferences!

We appreciate partnering with you in your child's educational journey!

School Picture Day!

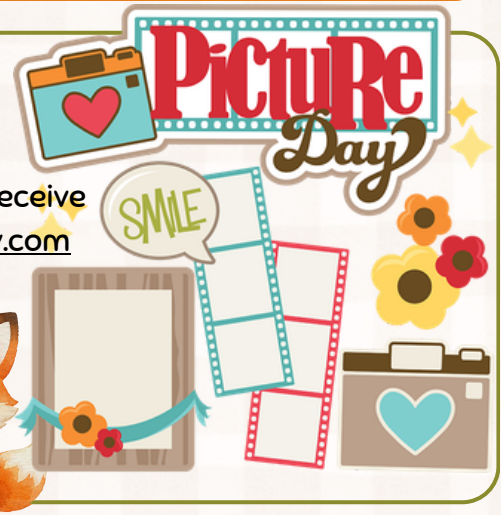
School pictures are scheduled for WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH.

Holly Pattison will be taking our photos again this year.

Through the email we have on file in Infinite Campus, each parent will receive an access code to preview and order pictures by visiting my.photoday.com

If you do not have an updated email on file with us, please contact our office at (406) 395-8554.

Picture retakes and class photos are scheduled to be taken on Wednesday, October 21st in the morning.





Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

At Lincoln-McKinley school, we believe regular attendance is an important part of your child's success. Each school day brings new learning, opportunities to build friendships, and experiences that help children grow academically and socially. When students attend school consistently, they are better able to keep up with instruction, develop strong routines, and feel connected to their classroom community.

To promote positive attendance, we will hold monthly classroom competitions and recognize individuals each week with perfect weekly attendance!

Every day matters, and every day is an opportunity to learn, grow, and belong!

ATTENDANCE WARS

ATTENDANCE WARS BETWEEN ALL 13 CLASSROOMS HAVE BEGUN AT LINCOLN-MCKINLEY! THE CLASSROOM WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE FOR THE MONTH WILL KEEP OUR TRAVELING CLASSROOM

Golden Pony SAFE.

For the month of September, Mrs. Danielson's & Miss Thomas' 2nd grade class won! They had an overall attendance rate of 96.99%! Not only do they get to celebrate with a little treat, they get to name our Golden Pony! In addition to the classroom attendance wars, each student that was present every school day in September received recognition!

WE APPRECIATE THE EFFORT THAT IS PUT INTO ENSURING YOUR CHILD IS PRESENT AT SCHOOL AND READY TO LEARN EVERY DAY!

Student of the Month

Each month, Lincoln-McKinley recognizes students who are working hard or going above and beyond to succeed in their classrooms. The following students have been recognized for the month of September:

Bellamy Wombold
Landon Minnis
Kredence Redboy
Silas Baltrusch
Curran Thornton
Noah Hoff
Colt Konesky
Piper Ingram
Allie Olmstead
Caitlin Essert
Lane Heninger
Greyson Scheiman
RyLynn RedBoy
Kingston Vaughn



Way to go Mrs. Danielson & Miss Thomas' class!

Pax Leaders

Each month, Lincoln-McKinley recognizes students who are demonstrating what it means to be a PAX Leader. The following students have been recognized for the month of September:

Hazel Seccomb
Kingston Vaughn
Camden Johnsen
Burke Childs
Kennedy Delozier
Landon Minnis
Isaac Stoll
Aly Mathews

Mary Huston
Winter Lodge
Delaney Patrick
Roze Longknife
Stevie Tilleman
Laila Mazurkiewicz
Hayden Lohman
Ava Giannini
Whitlee Murphy
Ellie Schmitt
Arlee Kuhr
Isaac Stoll
Jaxson Richardson
Alivia Walton

Book Fair

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Lincoln McKinley!

Dates: October 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9

Monday and Tuesday: After school 3:10–4:15 p.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. *parent conference night

Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. *parent conference day

Location: Lincoln McKinley Library



School book fair homepage: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/lincolnmckinleyprimarysch>

This is a great opportunity to build your child's home library with new books that will get them excited about reading, while also helping the school raise funds to buy new books for the Lincoln McKinley school library. The easiest way to let your child shop the Fair independently is by creating a Book Fair eWallet through our school book fair homepage. It's easy to set up and easy for family and friends to add funds. With eWallet, you'll also have the chance to contribute to Share the Fair™—the giving program that supports students at our school who need help buying books. Consider participating so that no child leaves the Fair empty-handed!

Preview the books coming to the Fair by taking a 360° virtual tour via our school's Book Fair homepage and explore the titles, watch video book trailers, and more.

We can't wait to see you at the Fair and help every student discover a book they'll love!

Happy reading,

Ms. Chenee Bekken,

Teacher Librarian

Lincoln McKinley Primary School



Community Education

The fall session of Community Education classes will be starting October 12, 2026. 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.

Custodial Staff Appreciation

While we appreciate Ryan and CJ Sorenson every day, they also deserve a day of recognition in their honor. October 2nd is National Custodial and Maintenance Staff Appreciation Day. They are often working behind the scenes, but that doesn't mean all of their hard-work and effort goes unnoticed.

Lincoln-McKinley wants to recognize them for all they do! If you see them, please take a moment to tell them how much they are appreciated.

Message from the Librarian

Reading is one of the most important skills your child will learn in school. To help develop this skill, the Lincoln McKinley Primary School Library provides a wide variety of books for students to borrow. Your child will visit the school library weekly to select a book. To ensure this process is successful, we ask for your help with the following:

🌻 **Due Dates** – Library books can be kept for one week, then need to be returned. If your child is still reading the book, they must still bring it when it is due, but they may check it out again!

🌻 **Overdue Books** – If your child has not yet returned a book they checked out, they will not be able to check another one out. If a book becomes lost, destroyed, or is not returned by the end of the school year, a replacement fee will be charged.

🌻 **Book Care** – Your child is responsible for caring for their books when they are checked out in their name. Please encourage your child to keep them away from pets, food, and all liquids. If a book becomes slightly damaged, please let the librarian know so it can be fixed appropriately.

Thank you for your time and attention to this process.
I hope your child will enjoy many books while attending our school.

Ms. Bekken

Sweater Weather

The weather is getting cooler.
Please remember to dress warmer.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 NO SCHOOL October 2 National Custodian Day	3
4	5 WE'RE HAVING A BOOK FAIR!	6	7 Picture Day	8 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE	9 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE	10
11	12 National School Lunch Week	13	14 BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE PLAINS CLOSED	15 NO SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE PLAINS CLOSED	16 NO SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE PLAINS CLOSED	17
18	19 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK	20	21 CLASS PICTURES & PICTURE RETAKES	22	23 SUPPORT FRIDAY	24
25	26 RED RIBBON WEEK: WEAR RED	27 RED RIBBON WEEK: WEAR SWEATS	28 RED RIBBON WEEK: WEAR HATS	29 RED RIBBON WEEK: WEAR BLUE PONY	30 NO SCHOOL	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN

FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

The Boys & Girls Club is closed October 14th, 15th & 16th.

If your student rides the bus to the Club after school, you will need to make arrangements to pick your child up Wednesday, October 14th.

Students are allowed only one bus stop after school and the bus garage will not make temporary changes for Club closures.

Please call the school office or notify your teacher of your child's afterschool plans !

Upcoming Events

- Nov 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 18 Trimester I Ends
- Nov 25 Early Out at 1:30 PM
- Nov 26-29 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 3 Awards Assembly
- Dec 23-Jan 3 Christmas Break



October 19-23, 2026

National School Bus Safety Week

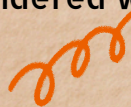




Dress-up Days Expectations

With Red Ribbon Week and Halloween approaching, we would like to revisit the dress code guidelines outlined in the Student-Parent Handbook: *Students and their parents have the right to determine the students' patterns of dress and grooming, provided that such dress and grooming do not interfere with the health and safety of themselves or others and does not detract from the educational process.* 

For dress-up days and Halloween the following should be considered when choosing a costume:

- Full facial masks are not allowed
 - Full facial painting is not allowed. Small ornamental face painting is allowed. If it becomes messy and interrupts the learning environment it will need to be removed.
 - Health and PE classes provide rigorous learning. Costumes may not prohibit full movement and may need to be removed for Health and PE classes.
 - Weapons and weapon-like items are not allowed at school. No toy guns, knives, etc.
 - Proper footwear is required, no unsafe footwear, bare feet, wheelies, roller skates, etc.
 - As with all dress code concerns, the building Principal has the authority to determine violations.
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PAX GBG Behavior Expectations

Lincoln-McKinley participates in PAX Good Behavior Game as a school-wide behavior expectation system. PAX GBG is a preventative intervention implemented by school staff to teach students self-regulation. This system is a set of strategies that staff use throughout the day to build students behavioral skills and stamina for focused attention and on-task behavior.

Learn more [here!](#)

Red Ribbon Week

October 26-30

Monday (Oct 26)– “Be ready for a drug free life!” Wear RED 

Tuesday (Oct 27) – “Being drug free is no sweat!” Wear your sweats 

Wednesday (Oct 28) – “Hats off to being drug free” Wear your favorite hat 

Thursday (Oct 29) – “Team up against drugs” Wear your Blue Pony Gear 

Friday (Oct 30) - NO SCHOOL



**Be Happy!
Be Brave!
Be Drug Free!**

News from HPS Nurse Courtney Finneman

REASONS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL

Havre Public Schools Guidelines

If you have questions, please contact Courtney Finneman RN at finnemanc@blueponyk12.com

What are their symptoms?	When to stay home and seek medical care?	When can they return to school ?
FEVER	Keep them home if they have a fever of 100.4 or higher. Seek medical attention for any of the following: ear pain, sore throat, rash, stomachache, headache or tooth pain.	Return to school when they have not had a fever overnight without the use of fever reducing medication and are feeling better.
Vomiting and/or diarrhea	Keep them home if they have vomited in the past 24 hours or if their stools are watery and urgent. Seek medical care if they have stomach cramping and fever, bloody or black stool or are showing signs of dehydration.	Return to school when they have not vomited overnight, are able to drink liquids without throwing up, and diarrhea has resolved.
Persistent cough and/or trouble breathing	Keep them home and seek medical care if they have a persistent cough, difficulty breathing or develop a fever.	Return when they are feeling better, are fever free without fever reducing medication and if taking antibiotics, no sooner than 12 hours after first dose.
Rash	Keep them home and seek medical care if the rash has blisters, is draining, is painful, looks like bruises, covers a large portion of their body or they develop a fever.	Return once rash has healed or they have been cleared for return by a healthcare provider.
Eye Irritation	Keep them home and seek medical care if they have eye swelling, eye pain, trouble seeing or their eye is draining yellow discharge.	Return when they are feeling better and/or 24 hours after first dose of antibiotic drops.
Sore Throat	Keep them home and seek medical care if they are drooling, have trouble swallowing, have a fever and/or a rash.	Return when they are feeling better and are fever free, if prescribed antibiotics 12-24 hours after the first dose.



Havre Public Schools

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

October 2026

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 three administration windows as indicated below.

	Window 1	Window 2	Window 3	
	October 19 – December 11 (8 weeks)	January 11 – March 5 (8 weeks)	March 29 – May 21 (8 weeks)	
Math	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	3-5 Testlets	1 Math OR ELA Anchor Test
ELA	2 BOY Testlets	2 MOY Testlet 1 Performance Task Testlet	2 EOY Testlets	

**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 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 into smaller testlets over the course of the academic year. The “Through-Year Assessment” design benefits students, teachers, parents, and administrators by 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 MAST Administration:

- **Participants:** 3-8 Grades Math and ELA
- **Administrations:** 3 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 weekly after completion of each testlet. Individual student reports will provide results from each testlet.

Areas 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 this data remains 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.

Ways You Can Help:

- Encourage your child to do their best on everything they do in school, including the MAST assessment.
- Make sure your child 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.

To learn more about MAST development 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 this state and federal requirement for statewide assessments and supporting your child to do their best.

Sincerely,



Lisa Passon
MTSS Director/District Testing Coordinator
Robins Administration Building