 Cub Newsletter

August/September 2022

Main Office 324-2800 Attendance Line 324-2802

Office hours 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

School day hours 8:05 a.m.-2:50 p.m.

Transportation 324-2100

Welcome Back to C.R. Anderson Middle School!

From the Principal, Kathleen Prody

It does not seem possible that the summer is ending, and we are embarking on the new school year. You will see a few changes at CR Anderson this year. The new administrative team has been busy this summer making plans for the school year and developing a close working relationship. If you have not had an opportunity to meet me, Mr. Peterson, and Mr. Jones please stop in and introduce yourself during the open house. We will be available in the office and in the hallways, and we are anxious to get to know the community. You may also notice that the district has completed the lighting project here at CR. All lights have been replaced with LED lighting, and the change has brightened up the building. We have also had a change in custodians, Dan Shultz is our new lead custodian. He and his team have done a fantastic job of preparing the school for the year.

The administration is always happy to visit with you concerning your child. To help us serve everyone promptly, please note whom to contact. For schedule changes, contact the associate principals. Mr. Jones works with students whose last names end in A-K; Mr. Peterson’s students are L-Z. All schedule changes must be completed by September 16. The counselors may also assist you in discussing schedule changes. Concerns regarding behavior may also be directed to the associate principals or counselors. For all classroom concerns please contact the teacher first. Many times, problems can be alleviated through a conversation with a classroom teacher. If you are not sure whom to contact, call the main office and they will direct you to the staff best equipped to answer your questions.

I am excited to begin the year and to get to know you and your children. We strive to give them the best possible education by creating a positive learning environment, supporting their academic and social-emotional growth, and employing the best teaching practices. We want to work with you to support the success of your child. I look forward to a positive year and to supporting an already thriving learning community.

Educationally yours,

Kathleen Prody

**(N)ew Staff/Changes**

(N)   Kathleen Prody, Principal

(N) Eric Peterson, Assistant Principal

(N) Ali Suchy – 7th Grade Math - Elkhorn team

(N) Aaron Sieminski – 6th grade counselor

(N) Dan Shultz – Lead Custodian

Jilyn Chandler – 7th Grade Math – Wildside team

Kathryn Petaja – 7th Grade English – Wildside team

**Important Dates:**

**8/31 WEB Day for 6th graders**

8/31 Orientation for new 7th & 8th graders – 12:30-1:30 pm

8/31 Open House for 6th gr. @ 6:00 p.m.

**9/1 First Day of school for 7th/8th graders**

9/5 No school – Labor Day

9/8 Open House for 7th gr. @ 6:00, 8th gr. @ 7:00

9/11 Carnival Classic-Memorial Park 11:00-3:00 pm

9/13 Cross Country & 8th Grade Volleyball begin

9/15 Picture Day

10/1 Angel Fund applications available at each school or on the Angel Fund website

(<http://www.angelfundhelena.org/HowToApply>)

Transportation/BUS REGISTRATIONS

\*\* To register for bussing/transporTation, PLEASE REFER TO <https://helenaschools.org/departments/transportation/>

6th Grade - WEB DAY

The first day for 6th graders is Wednesday, August 31st. Meet in the field behind the school (north side). The WEB Leaders will bring the 6th graders in at 8:05, so please wait out in the field until they get you. Students should wear comfortable clothes because they will be doing a lot of fun activities that will involve sitting on the floor and moving around.

6th graders will get their assigned locker that day, so they should bring their backpack with supplies such as a pencil and binder or spiral notebook. Lunch will be available for $3.00, or you can bring your own. We will be finished at 2:50 that afternoon. Buses run their normal routes in the morning and afternoon.

**Student Attendance**

If your **student** is to be **absent** from school due to sickness, an appointment, or any other reason, please call the school **attendance line at 324-2802. The attendance line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

**2022/23 Breakfast and lunch prices and information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Full Price | Reduced Price |
| Breakfast | $2.00 | $.30 |
| Lunch | $3.00 | $.40 |

Procedure for putting money onto a student’s meal account is as follows:

1. You may go on-line to the meal account program and use your credit/debit card to put an amount on to your student’s account [**https://www.mymealtime.com/signin.aspx**](https://www.mymealtime.com/signin.aspx). Funds will not be available for 48 hours.
2. You may send a check or cash to school with your student, and they may bring it to the main office before school. If sending a check to school, please put the student’s first and last name along with their student ID number on the memo line.
3. **You may also register here for free/reduced meals.** [www.mymealtime.com/apps](http://www.mymealtime.com/apps).

MealTime Parent Portal Overview

This portal is for both Pay Online and Apply Online.

**Logging in:**

1. Go to <http://www.mymealtime.com>
2. If you already created an account
   1. Enter your username and password
   2. Click on Sign In
3. If you need to create an account
   1. Click on Register
   2. Enter YOUR OWN date of birth (not your student’s)
   3. Mark the box stating You have read and agree to Terms of Use
   4. Click OK
4. Please fill in the fields to create your MealTime Online Parent Profile. You are entering **YOUR** information here not your student’s information.

**Adding Your student:**

1. On the Left side, click on Manage Cafeteria Accounts
2. Under Add student, **click New**
3. Select State, Enter **Montana**
4. School Name, Enter **CRA Middle School**
5. Student ID, Enter your **Student’s ID** #
   1. If you don’t know their ID #, please call 324-2757
6. Click Add

**Free/Reduced Meal Application:**

1. On the Left side, Under MealTime Apply Online, Click **Let’s go!**
2. You will have to Sign In again
3. Click on New Application
4. Please follow the prompts to apply

**If you have any questions, please call Rachelle Lilletvedt at 324-2757.**

**2022 Fall Pictures will be**

**Thursday, September 15th.**

Order forms will be coming home with your student the first couple weeks of school.

Picture packages may be ordered online at **mylifetouch.com** – no need to return the order form.

**Picture Day ID EVTBRQPN9.**

PICTURE RETAKES WILL BE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH.

**Early Release on Mondays!**

**Students will be released from classes at 2:05 p.m.**

**each Monday**, for professional development time for teachers.

Busses will run their regular routes.

Our district is very appreciative of our community for supporting our efforts to schedule professional development time that is directly related to student achievement. Teachers and support staff will be using the early release time to work together to improve their professional practice to ensure more students learn more. Our work will include:

* **Studying and clarifying the meaning of the MT State Standards and The Career and Technology Education industry standards**
* **Developing an understanding of what the standard looks like in student work**
* **Designing units of study**
* **Writing common assessments**
* **Analyzing the results of the common assessments**
* **Planning additional time, support, and extension for students.**

Our goal is simply to have more students learning more.

# Middle School Activities

The C.R. Anderson Sports Program is to provide equal and safe opportunities for all students to participate. Our focus is to foster competition, sportsmanship, teamwork, and individual improvement.

**Cross Country Sept 13th - Oct 12th-registration closes Sept. 11th Girls & Boys - Grades 6-8**

**Volleyball Sept 13th - Oct 19th-registration closes Sept. 6th Girls - Grade 8**

**Wrestling Oct 11th - Nov 18th -registration closes Oct. 23rd Boys & Girls - Grades 6-8**

**Basketball Oct 25th - Dec 2nd-registration closes Oct. 12th Girls - Grades 6-7**

**Basketball Dec 6th - Jan 19th-registration closes Nov. 30th  Boys - Grades 6-7**

**Basketball Jan 31st - March 3rd - registration closes Jan. 22 Girls & Boys - Grade 8**

**Volleyball March 14th - April 21st - registration closes Mar 1st  Girls - Grades 6-7**

**Track April 25th – June 1st - registration closes April 23rd Girls & Boys-Grades 6-8**

**Registration forms will be available at the main office, prior to the start of that particular sport. Fees ($40 per activity) must be paid for before your student can participate; payments can be made by case, check or online using RevTrak.**

\*\*\* **Chromebook Accidental Damage or Loss Protection Plan \*\*\***

Reminder- If you have not filled out a technology use agreement and paid for the protection plan for your child, you might want to consider doing so and opting into the "Accidental Damage and Loss Protection Plan."  The plan costs $15 dollars per year and can be a BIG savings to families.

The cost to replace the screen is $100, trackpad - $60, the outer casing- $150, and the entire computer costs $286 to replace. The protection plan covers all accidental damage and loss. We issue a new computer to your child with no fee to replace any broken parts.

If you are interested in opting into the Accidental Damage or Loss Protection Plan, have your child stop by the office or library and pick up a form. Fill it out and return it with the $15 fee to the main office.

From the Health Room…

 Hi CRA families!  I am your student’s school nurse.  Please contact me with any health concerns that may affect your student while at school. Take some time to update yourselves on our health services and medication policy in the student handbook. Emergency medications may be kept with your student by providing a release to self-carry form: <https://41ucju4djrhu40k5hl1v1qbk-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Authorization-to-Carry-Inhaler-Fill-In-Form.pdf>. This form must be on file in the health room for students to carry their own emergency medications (inhaler, epi-pen).  All other medications need to be kept in the health room for all our students’ safety. Contact me to discuss any medications your student will need to take during the school day.

I look forward to taking care of your student this year.

7th Grade Parents: **All incoming 7th graders must have a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine. We need to have a record of this at the school before school starts.  Check their immunization record.  If you have not already, please bring a copy to the office or have their health care provider send it to CRA.**

**Shelly Maag, RN**

C.R. Anderson Middle School

Ph# 324-2766

Shelly Maag RN

The MET, Live at

C.R. Anderson Middle School!

The Helena School District is starting its fifteenth year partnering with the Metropolitan Opera Company (the MET) for the *Live in Schools* program. It is once again shaping up to be a fantastic year! The *Live in Schools* program provides tickets to as many as six operas each season to introduce students to this incredible art form. Each opera is streamed live to our local movie theater, and the MET provides rich and detailed educator guides that help teachers and students learn about each show.

This year’s season includes new productions of Luigi Cherubini’s *Medea*, Kevin Puts’s *The Hours*, Terence Blanchard’s *Champion*, and W.A. Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, along with classic productions of Giuseppe Verdi’s *Falstaff* and Gioachino Rossini’s *La Cenerentola*. Middle school students have attended and loved these shows for years, and we hope C.R. Anderson students will once again enjoy the world-class operas offered in this season. Visit <https://operaeducators.org/helena/> for a complete 2022-2023 calendar.

If you are interested in learning more about this nationwide program, or if you want to explore the resources available from the MET, please peruse the MET education webpage at <https://www.metopera.org/discover/education/hd-schools/>. If you are interested in getting more information about *Live in Schools* in Helena, or if you want to participate in the 2022-2023 season, please contact Mr. Cleary at [kcleary@helenaschools.org](mailto:kcleary@helenaschools.org). We hope to see you at the opera!

New York City 2024

As a new school year gets moving, Mr. Cleary and Mrs. Shockley are looking ahead to Spring Break in two years and the next music and art tour to New York! Although that seems a long way off, planning early makes it easier to save the money needed for such an exciting experience.

To get the planning process started, Mr. Cleary has been working with EF Explore America to craft a dynamic and engaging experience for students and family members alike. Anyone interested in being a part of the 2024 tour may contact Mr. Cleary at [kcleary@helenaschools.org](mailto:kcleary@helenaschools.org?subject=NYC%202024) or Mrs. Shockley at [rshockley@helenaschools.org](mailto:rshockley@helenaschools.org?subject=NYC%202024) for general information about this amazing educational opportunity.

Everyone is also invited to our very first tour recruiting meeting on *Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00 pm*. To accommodate a large group of students and families, this first meeting will be held online using Teams. If you would like a link to attend the meeting, or if you just want to get on our email list, please visit <https://short.cleary.xyz/nyc24rsvp>.

We hope you will consider being a part of this travel adventure so we can all experience the majesty of New York!



*Ironhorse Youth Music* is excited to announce the start of its 2022-2023 season! Our diverse ensembles welcome students of all ages and ability levels who want to explore challenging symphonic, choral, and even rock literature with their peers. Ensembles meet on Thursdays, but our lesson and class programs have a varied schedule.

If you are interested in learning more about our organization, or in obtaining an enrollment brochure, please visit our website (<https://ironhorsemusic.org/>). We welcome strings, brass, woodwind, and percussion players along with vocalists. Talk with your music teacher or contact Mr. Cleary ([kcleary@ironhorsemusic.org](mailto:kcleary@ironhorsemusic.org)) if you are interested in joining an Ironhorse program!