



CJI Newsletter

December 2025



How was your day?

Ways to find out what happened at school:

- Did you help someone, or did someone help you?
- What was something you did that made you proud today?
- What class made you feel the most confident?
- Did anything surprise you today?
- What was a win today?
- Finish this sentence, "Today I noticed..."

CJI SportsYou

CJI Now has a SportsYou page to help keep everyone up-to-date on school happenings.



CODE: LWUT-ANXF

Christmas Concert

The CJI Christmas Concert will take place on December 19th at 1:00 p.m. Grades 4K-5th will perform the play, "The Greatest Snowman," and grades 6-12 will sing and/or play their instruments.

Students will be released to their parents/guardians once the entire concert has concluded, in their classrooms. If someone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child, please communicate with your child's teacher.

We will not be releasing students during the concert, unless you have previously spoken with your child's teacher.

We look forward to seeing friends, family, and community members at the concert!



After School Activities

Beyond the Bell 4:00pm-5:00pm.
[Beyond the Bell Paperwork](#)

Upcoming December Events

1st - 6th Missoula Children's Theater
4th Big Hawk/Little Hawk
11th-13th Tip-Off Tournament
19th Christmas Concert @ 1 pm
22-6 Christmas Break

December Reading Goal Ideas

- Choose a holiday or winter themed book.
- Learn something new: a craft, recipe, or skill from a book.
- Listen to an audio book while doing holiday tasks.
- Read a book you've been wanting to read over the break.



www.cji.k12.mt.us

Visit our School Website



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Staff Spotlight

Louise Opperman

Mrs. Opperman has joined us at CJI as a para. Mrs. Opperman is originally from South Africa; her first language is Afrikaans. Mrs.

Opperman and her husband have two sons who also live here. She enjoys watching movies with her family when she is at home. Fun fact about Mrs. Opperman: she never thought she would be working in a school, but she loves it! Mrs. Opperman's favorite childhood game was Mario Bros. Welcome to CJI, Mrs. Opperman!

Staff Spotlight

Dianne Clark

Mrs. Clark is the MTDA supervisor at CJI this year. Mrs. Clark grew up in Vinton, Iowa, and has also lived in Nebraska and Montana. One of her favorite things is being in her kitchen, baking cookies, which she shares with her MTDA classes! Mrs. Clark enjoys listening to country music and has attended a Cody Johnson concert. Mrs. Clark's favorite recess game as a child was kickball. We are happy to have Mrs. Clark at CJI!

Winter Sports Schedule Links

[High School Basketball](#)

[High School Wrestling](#)

[Speech and Drama](#)

Board Action



- The CJI School Board approved a Call for Election for two school board positions, as well as to maintain the current technology levy.
- People interested in running for the school board should contact Lacey Lalum at the school.



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Holiday Spirit Week

Monday 15 Christmas Vacation

(Hawaiian Day)

Tuesday 16 Flannel Day

Wednesday 17 Red and Green Day

Thursday 18 Pajama Day

Friday 19 Christmas Best

Family Activity Ideas

- Watch your favorite holiday show/movie with your children
- Bake
- Snowman building contest (if we have snow).
- Make homemade ornaments
- Build a marshmallow tower
- Cut snowflakes
- Write a holiday letter to family, friends, or someone in the community
- Make goals for 2026



Education Innovative Tax Credit

The Innovative Educational Tax Credit is an opportunity for Montana taxpayers to receive a dollar-for-dollar credit on their state income taxes, up to \$200,000 per year, for donations to public schools in Montana.

Last year, we received over \$60,000 in donations from local community members. This program is a great way to ensure that your state taxes are spent locally.

Donations need to be made by January 20th, 2026.

Please reach out to Luke Haggerty @ 406-759-6302 or lhaggerty@cjk12.mt.us if you have any questions or are interested in this program!





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High School Updates

- The first Calendar Committee meeting will be on December 8th at 4:25 in Mr. Haggerty's office. Public participation is encouraged and appreciated!
- The new door lock system installation is now complete!
- We re-graveled the student parking lot and the football field parking lot.
- The educational innovative tax credit deadline is coming up in January. Please call Mr. Haggerty with any questions!
- Completed ASVAB testing with sophomore students.
- We will be hosting the Hi-Line Tip-Off tournament from December 11th to 13th.
- Looking for substitute teachers. If you are interested in substituting, contact Luke Haggerty at 406-759-6302.

Counselor's Update

- Seniors- be on the lookout for scholarships in early January!
- Students across all grade levels are learning strategies to manage emotions, build positive friendships, and stay focused during this busy time of year.

Elementary Updates

- We held our first Hawk Card assembly. Mrs. Daily is spearheading this new program to fulfill her master's degree requirements. To earn a Hawk Card, students must have a 3.25 GPA for the quarter, have no more than one tardy, have no referrals, and have no unexcused absences. Hawk Cards are given to grades 4-12.
- We are having Big Hawk/Little Hawk on December 4th at 3:15 pm. Bigs will go to the Littles' rooms to make ornaments. We will then hang them on the tree we are putting in the lunchroom for everyone to enjoy. Students may take their ornaments home after the Christmas Concert.
- Christmas Concert Schedules
 - Hi-Line will hold its Christmas Concert on December 18th at 1:00 pm.
 - Sage Creek will hold its Christmas Concert on December 19th at 10:30 am.
 - CJI will hold its Christmas Concert on December 19th at 1:00 pm.
- Christmas break will start on December 22nd. Teachers have a PLC day on January 5th, and students will return for instruction on January 6th. We will have school on Friday, January 9th, with a 3:00 pm release.