NEWSLETTER

Arlee Schools

March 2026

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Hello Arlee Parents and Guardians,

As we wrap up the winter sports season, I would like to send a shoutout to all of our Warriors and Scarlets for their hard work and dedication all season long. Congratulations to our wrestlers who have already made it to state and our basketball teams who played strong in the post season tournaments.

A few upcoming important dates for families to keep in mind include the following: Arlee little guy wrestling is currently happening, with matches underway over the next few weeks. High school spring sports will kick off on March 16th. Junior high track will start on March 30th. Good luck this spring season.

We are continuing the work started with the K/6 building project and the demolition/repurposing of the old elementary. The partial demolition and abatement bid process has started with the hopes that the school will be able to move forward over the summer with the final stages of this project. More updates will be provided in the future after the bid process.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for your continued partnership and support of Arlee Schools. Over the last couple of months, several surveys were completed by you and the community providing meaningful insights for the district.

Thanks for all you do! Go Warriors and Go Scarlets!

Mr. Beckham

K-8 NEWS

Anne Tanner, K-8 Principal & K-12 Special Education Director

Let's Celebrate! "We DID It!": Arlee students in grades K-4 had a reading celebration assembly. ALL students in grades K-4 displayed an improvement in their reading foundational skills. We are SO proud of them. After the celebration students were introduced to their new "UFLI" team and coach (teacher).

State Champs: Yet, again our Arlee Elementary Archers took on the other schools in the state at the State Championship Archery Shoot. The Arlee Team dominated! Arlee Elementary won the State Championship in both the "Bullseye" and "3D" divisions. Congratulations to Coach Carney, her parent volunteers and the Arlee Archers! It was a CLEAN SWEEP!

Here's Why: Do you ever wonder why we make certain rules or changes? Here is the reason.

Hats: Students in Arlee grades K–6 are no longer allowed to wear hats inside the school building, including in classrooms. Hats have become a distraction to learning. Some hats being worn are questionable or not appropriate for school, and students have also been taking hats from each other and throwing them around or putting them in the trash. Wearing hats in class is a privilege, and unfortunately, due to student behavior, we can no longer allow it.

Energy Drinks: Students in Arlee grades K–8 are not allowed to have energy drinks at school. Energy drinks contain high amounts of caffeine and sugar, which can affect students' health, focus, and behavior. They can cause anxiety, rapid heart rate, headaches, stomach problems, and trouble concentrating. Too much caffeine can also affect healthy growth and learning in children and teens. Please help us keep your children healthy.

Morning Schedule

Bus Arrives @ 7:35

K-2 Students: Play on the playground until 7:50.

3-6 Students: Go Directly to breakfast

7:50 AM

K-2 Students: Go to breakfast. The teacher joins the students in the cafeteria and once everyone is finished they walk to class together (around 8:15).

3-6 Students: Go to class

Office Hours:

7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

K-6 Phone Extension: **2201**

Junior High Phone Extension: **2404**

What's New?

- Grades K-6 will no longer allow hats to be worn inside.
- We love baseball too! But, what we don't love is hardballs. Please encourage your child to leave the hardballs at home. Tennis balls or something similar is okay.
- Energy Drinks will not be allowed in the elementary or Junior High School

HIGH SCHOOL & ATHLETIC NEWS

Our high school teachers have been working to provide our students with valuable opportunities. This past month, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Koetter, Mrs. Reynolds, and Mr. Cordier organized a Career Exploration Day. This group works together as our CTE (Career in Technical Education) Committee. They invited several individuals from various trades, professions, and areas of expertise to share their experiences in the workforce with our students. We had business owners, game wardens, a wildland firefighter, health care professionals, and National Guardsmen who came to share insights into their area of expertise. They provided direction for our students interested in those fields and shared their many valuable experiences. Our students enjoyed the experience and the information provided.

Our high school wrestling team wrapped up its season this past month at the MHSA All-Class Wrestling Tournament in Billings. We qualified two wrestlers for the state meet. Dominick Haynes placed 3rd at the 138-pound B/C weight class, earning his last win over an opponent that had previously defeated him in the tournament. Anola Naugle became our first female state placer in Arlee history, earning a 5th-place finish in the 130-pound Girls All-Class weight class. She also picked up her final win of the tournament against an opponent that had previously defeated her in the tournament. They both secured all-state accolades for our school, becoming our first state placers since 2017.

Our girls' basketball team concluded its season at the district tournament in Anaconda, losing out in two very hard-fought games. We made great strides throughout the year and will be a very competitive group next year. Our boys' basketball team earned a 3rd-place finish at the district tournament. We defeated Powell County in our 3rd-place game after falling to them in the first round. In doing so, the boys secured a spot at the divisional tournament March 5-7th in Pablo where their season ended after some well-played games.

Our high school students are consistently making improvements both academically and socially. Our staff is continuously working to create a positive school climate that provides and promotes opportunities for growth, inclusivity, and successful outcomes for all our students.

Go Warriors and Scarlets!

Thanks,

Jacob Bosley
Principal/Athletic Director
Arlee High School

JUNIORS TAKING THE ACT

Juniors will be taking the ACT digitally on **Wednesday, March 25th, 2026**. Once they finish testing, they will be released for the remainder of the school day.

Because the ACT will be taken on the computer, please make sure your child brings their school-issued Chromebook and that it is fully charged and ready for test day. The test will take place in the Arlee High School gymnasium and will take about four hours to complete. Juniors need to be at school by 7:40 a.m. so we can begin promptly.

Here are a few ways you can help:

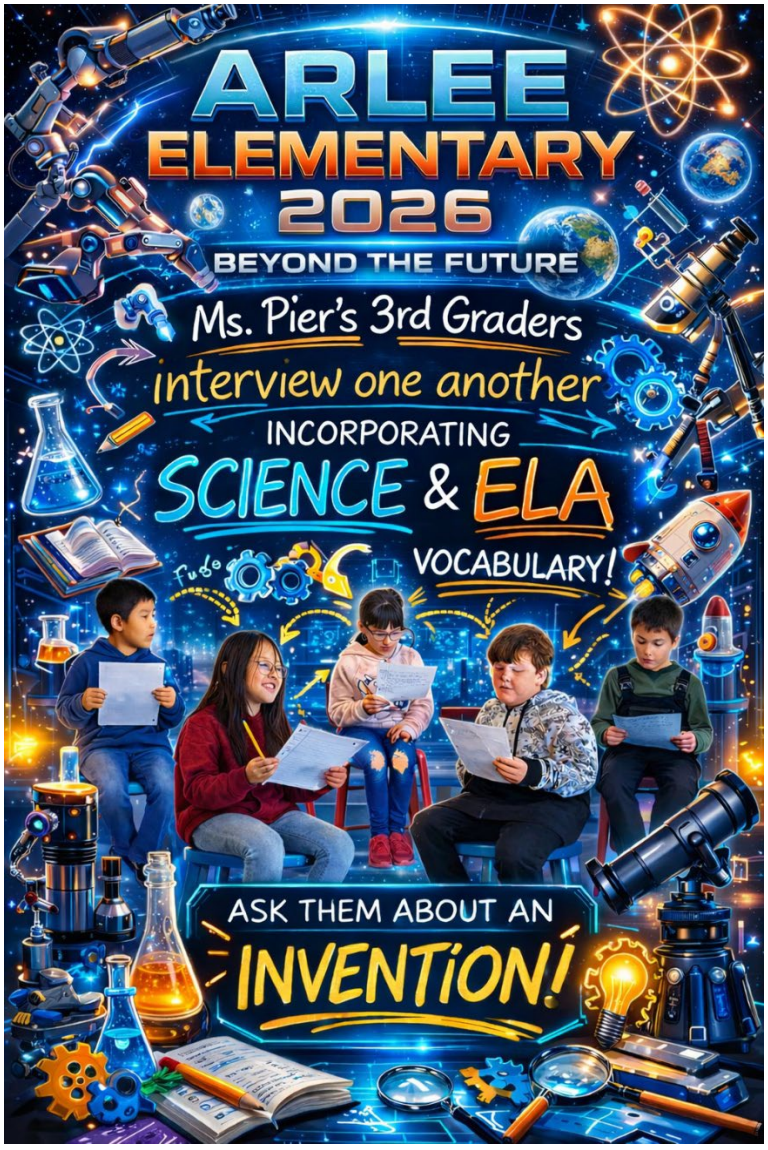
- Encourage your child to do their best, just as they would with any important school assignment.
- Talk with your child about the purpose of the ACT and why it matters.

Helpful resources for preparation:

• How Parents Can Help Get Ready for the ACT
• Review "Preparing for the ACT Test" with your child.
• All Arlee High School juniors have access to practice tests through the TestNav app on their school Chromebook. After opening TestNav, select ACT and then click on Practice Tests under the login screen.
• Students may also use their Pre-ACT test booklet and their Mastery Prep ACT materials once the Mastery Prep program has concluded.

If you have any questions about ACT testing this year, please feel free to reach out to Damon A. Cordier at (406) 726-3216 ext. 2302.

THIRD GRADE



FRIENDS OF ARLEE SCHOOLS

Arlee Schools would like to extend a sincere thank you to Friends of Arlee School, Inc. (FAS) for their continued dedication to our students through the recent award of the 2025-2026 classroom mini-grants. These grants provide vital funding for materials and supplies, allowing our teachers to enhance the educational experience in their classrooms. This year the total award amount was $7,500.

Individual teachers were eligible for up to $300 in funding, with the opportunity to collaborate for up to $600 to bring new resources to their students. Since its founding in 1992, this non-profit organization, composed of dedicated community members from the Jocko Valley, has provided over $175,000 in total scholarships and mini-grants to our schools.

These generous awards are made possible through community support and the proceeds from the annual **Buttercup Run**. We encourage everyone to support this mission by participating in the upcoming race on **Saturday, April 4, 2026**, which directly funds these teacher mini-grants. Please see the flyer below for details of the race.

Thank you, Friends of Arlee Schools, for your unwavering commitment to excellence in education for Arlee's children!



MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATER AUDITIONS & PRODUCTION





ARLEE HIGH SCHOOL'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Thank you so much to everyone who donated blood at the Arlee NHS Blood Drive this year. Together we donated 21 pints from 23 donors, and helped NHS senior president Aiden Swab meet his donation goal this year. Please reach out to congratulate Aiden and his NHS team members on running a wonderful donation drive.

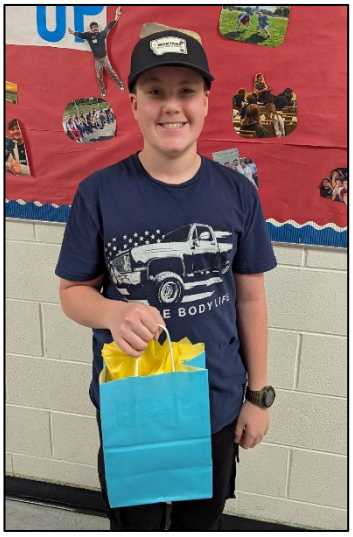


NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Arlee National Honor Society is pleased to welcome five new members this year! These new members have demonstrated top academic, leadership, character, and service values that gained them entrance into the oldest nationally recognized cocurricular student organization in America. Please congratulate Walker Jones, Anola Naugle, Naomi Fisher, Sharon Manyhides-Felsman, and Kathleen Tanner for their amazing work on showing how wonderful Arlee HS students support their community and demonstrate excellence. These five will join current members: President Aiden Swab, Vice President Chase Courville, Secretary Karma Tibbits, Treasurer Trevor VanMaanen, and Representative Eli O'Neil, and member DejaNay Little Mary.







ARLEE CDC

The Arlee CDC is hosting "Food Smarts," a series of six weekly cooking classes on Tuesdays from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM starting April 7. Students will learn quick, simple ways to make healthy, family-friendly and budget-friendly meals. Attend all six classes and take home a free multi-cooker. Space is limited, so reserve your spot by calling 406-883-2865 or email havilah.burton@montana.edu.

The Arlee CDC is also sponsoring a kids' trip to the Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana on May 1st. More details to follow soon at arleecdc.org and on Facebook/ArleeCDC.

Arlee Community Development Corporation
92555 US Hwy 93 • PO Box 452 • Arlee, MT 59821
406-726-5550 • Cell: 406-270-0615



Arlee Joint School District No. 8

72220 Fyant St. – Arlee, Montana 59821 (406)726-3216 Fax (406)726-3940

Accessible **R**esponsive **L**earning **E**nvironment for **E**xcellence

School Board Meetings

School board meetings are usually held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the high school library.

Confirm meeting dates and time on the school website. Agendas and minutes are also posted the website.

www.arleeschools.org