NEWSLETTER

Arlee Schools

October 2025

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER





Hello Arlee Parents and Guardians,

I want to start with a glance back to last October. At that time, the elementary project was just beginning—the foundation was being poured and the walls were going up. Fast forward to today, and we're down to the final touches. It's been quite a journey, and I find myself both excited that it's nearing completion and a bit saddened as this chapter comes to a close. Soon, we'll begin preparing for the potential demolition of the old 3–6 building.

The new K–6 drop-off lane has been a wonderful addition and has helped streamline morning arrivals. As a reminder, please use the drop-off lane only for dropping off students. If you need to leave your vehicle, we ask that you park in the designated parking lot instead.

For families with children who ride the bus, please remind them to make eye contact with the bus driver before crossing any lane of traffic. With darker mornings now upon us, it's also a good time to remind students to look both ways and stay alert for vehicles.

Across the district, staff have been engaging in training and professional learning focused on literacy and instructional strategies designed to help our students become stronger readers. A few parents have asked what they can do at home to support reading growth, so here are some quick tips:

- Reading together daily — even 10–15 minutes can make a big difference.
- Talk about new words — help your child connect new vocabulary to things they already know.
- Encourage writing — journals, short stories, or even grocery lists all build literacy skills.

Have you downloaded the Arlee Schools App? If not, please do. It allows you to connect quickly with your child's teacher and also see daily announcements. Something not working, let us know. The overall goal is to have information at your fingertips. Please be patient as we continue to work out problem areas identified by you and others.

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

Mr. Beckham

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



As the new High School Principal at Arlee, I'd like to introduce myself. I grew up between Ronan and St. Ignatius, attending both school districts during my childhood. I graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 2006 and received my Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Montana. I spent seven years teaching at St. Ignatius, where I also served for five years as the district's Athletic Director. I've been involved in coaching wrestling, football, and baseball for the past 19 years. This is my third year working in the Arlee School District, and I'm very excited to step into a new role. I'm highly motivated and committed to bringing new opportunities to the students in the Arlee School District.

Some of the exciting events that have occurred in the high school this past month include Homecoming 2025, which was a great success. Students enjoyed hall decorating, dress-up days, and our always exciting car bash. We had a great turnout with lots of community support. Valley Bank hosted our tailgate party at the football game, which everyone enjoyed.

On September 30th, we hosted our annual Hatchery Challenge and Guppy Run. We had several teams in attendance. We appreciate all the support from our volunteers and the fantastic staff at the Hatchery, who always ensure the course is mowed and ready to go for our student athletes.

On Thursday, October 2nd, high school and junior high students attended an assembly called "I Choose My Future." It was a drug prevention-based program provided by former DEA Agent Rocky Herron and Les Lefthand, who works for the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leadership Council. Students gained insightful information about the dangers of substance abuse and some of the common misconceptions surrounding it.

This coming month, on Indigenous Peoples' Day, our students will have the opportunity to learn how to process a deer in a hands-on setting. We will skin, butcher, and dry the harvested meat from the animal at our school. It's an excellent opportunity for students to learn traditional processing techniques and gain valuable insight.

I'd like to thank our outstanding faculty here for making our first month of school a great success. Strong organizations are made up of committed individuals, and we have some of the best right here in our own district. They will continue to provide solid support to the students of our community throughout the coming year.

Thanks,

Jacob Bosley

Principal/Athletic Director

Arlee High School

K-8 NEWS

Anne Tanner, K-8 Principal

Tuesday Take Home Folders: Every Tuesday K-6 students are sent home with "Tuesday Take Home Folders". The folders generally have important information about your child's class, paperwork to sign and weekly announcements. Please take the time to look through your child's folder.

Student Attendance: Student success is strongly connected to good attendance. When students come to school regularly, they learn more, understand lessons better, and stay on track with their work. Being in class helps them ask questions, get help from teachers, and join in activities that build learning. On the other hand, missing school often can cause students to fall behind, get lower grades, and feel less motivated. Simply put, showing up to school regularly is a key part of doing well in school.

Changing Weather: It is that time of year, again. We never know what the weather is going to bring from hour to hour. Please make sure your child is well dressed/packed for all sorts of weather conditions.

Morning Schedule	Important Dates to Remember
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	**Oct 8:** Dental Screening **Oct. 15:** Grade 5 Field Trip **Oct. 28/29:** Parent Teacher Conf. **Nov. 5:** Child Find 12:30-3:00 PM **Nov 6:** Junior High Quarter Ends **Nov 25:** Trimester Ends (K-6) **Nov 26/27:** No School **Office Hours:** 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM K-6 Phone Extension: **2201** Junior High Phone Extension: **2404**

ARLEE ELEMENTARY BOOK FAIR

When: Wednesday 10/22-Thursday 10/30

Time: 7:30-7:50 am

3:35-4:15 pm

During students scheduled Library classes

Parent Teacher Conferences Monday & Tuesday 10/28-29th, 3:35-7:15

Where: The New Library!

All proceeds go to the Elementary Library!

SCHOLASTIC Book Clubs

TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE PLANNING MEETING

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Our school is eligible for the Title I Schoolwide Program. You are invited to a meeting to discuss the development or review and revision of our Title I Schoolwide plan. Title I eligibility is based on the number of students in our school from low-income families. In a Title I Schoolwide School, school staff members work with input from parents and the community to develop a Schoolwide plan. The purpose of this plan is to improve our entire educational program.

Title I Schoolwide plans are based on a comprehensive needs assessment and must include a description of the strategies that the school will be using to address school needs. This includes a description of how these strategies will:

- provide opportunities for all children to meet the challenging State academic standards;
- use methods and instructional strategies that 1) strengthen the academic program in the school, 2) increase the amount and quality of learning time, and 3) help provide an expanded and more advanced curriculum; and
- address the needs of all children in the school with a focus on the needs of children at risk of failing.

Please join us to provide your comments and ideas to help our district develop a strong and effective plan for improvement.

Meeting Date: **October 22, 2025**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**
Meeting Location: **District Administration Building**

We look forward to working with you so that all students can succeed in school.

Sincerely,

Deanne Smith, Federal Programs Coordinator
dsmith@arleeschools.org 406-726-3216x2305

ARLEE CDC

Learn to preserve fresh fruit to enjoy all year round in the Arlee Community Development Corporation's jam canning class on Wednesday, October 15th from 10 AM to noon. Participants will take home a freshly made jar of triple berry jam. Space is limited, so sign up today. Call 406-726-5550, or email info@arleecdc.org.

The Arlee CDC will also be hosting a series of six multi-cooker cooking classes from 1:30 to 3:30 pm Nov. 4 – Dec. 16 (with no class Nov. 11.) Participants will learn how to make family-friendly and budget-friendly meals using multi-cooker settings and techniques. 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.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Always check the Arlee Schools website for the most up-to-date information.

Group	Date	Home/Away	Opponent/Event	Time
Astronomy Class	October 7-8	Away	Gear Up MSU Bozeman	TBA
JH Football	October 7	Away	Valley Christian	4:00 PM
HS Volleyball	**October 7**	**Home**	**Loyola**	**4:30/6:00**
HS Volleyball	October 9	Away	Florence	4:30/6:00
3rd Grade	October 9	Away	Flathead Biological Station	8:00-2:30
HS Football	October 10	Away	St. Regis	7:00 PM
Cross Country	October 11	Away	Mission Shadow Duels (Pablo)	11:00 AM
5th Grade	October 15	Away	Bison Range	8:40-2:15
Cross Country	October 16	Away	Western BC Invite (TFalls)	1:30 PM
HS Volleyball	**October 16**	**Home**	**Darby (Senior Night)**	**4:30/6:00**
HS Football	**October 17**	**Home**	**Superior (Senior Night)**	**7:00 PM**

HOMECOMING

Thank you to Valley Banks of Ronan for sponsoring the Homecoming Tailgate. We'd also like to extend a big thank you to Steve Matt for presenting the flag at the football game. Congratulations to Moses Curtiss, our 2025 Homecoming King, and Feather Standing Rock, our Homecoming Queen! The Homecoming King and Queen candidates were:

Senior Class – Stetson Ellison & Jaydessa Haynes

Junior Class – Aiden Swab & Feather Standing Rock

Sophomore Class – Moses Curtiss & Bailey Smith

Freshmen Class – Joshua Horn & Nizho'ni' Haynes







MAST NOTICE

Dear Parent/Guardian:
Arlee Schools are 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 3 administration windows as indicated in below chart:

	Window 1	Window 2	Window 3	
	October 13 – December 5 (8 weeks)	January 12 – March 6 (8 weeks)	March 30 – May 22 (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 up into smaller testlets over the course of the academic year. The "Through-Year Assessment" design benefits students, teachers, parents, and administrators by more 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 and will be made available to parents/guardians as soon as possible.

Here are some things 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 these data remain 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.

Here are some things you can do to help:
Encourage your child to do their very best on everything they do in school, including the MAST assessment. Make sure he or she 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.

Learn More:
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 us fulfill the state and federal requirements for statewide assessments and supporting your child to do his/her best.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about MAST. Questions can be directed to the building principal.

FCCLA SPOTLIGHT

The Arlee FCCLA chapter started the year strong by attending the Fall Leadership Rally in Billings, Montana. Students participated in hands-on leadership workshops, enjoyed an inspiring keynote from motivational speaker Eddie Slowikowski, and connected with FCCLA members from across the state. They also brainstormed creative ideas to grow membership, plan service projects, and organize new fundraising events. Our chapter is excited to bring these ideas back to Arlee and put them into action throughout the year!





It's also pie season! FCCLA members will be making their way around to sell delicious homemade pies. If you would like to place an order, please call Ms. Jackson at the High School (x2311). The deadline for pie orders is October 30th. Don't miss out!

FAFSA NIGHT

Arlee High School will host a FAFSA Night on **October 15th from 4:15 pm to 6:00 pm** in the High School Library. All seniors and their guardians are welcome to attend. Please drop in anytime for help with the FAFSA process! Remember that both guardians and students need to obtain their FSA IDs to complete the FAFSA form. Directions can be found in the Counselor's Corner Google Classroom. It may be helpful for parents/guardians to bring a personal computer to the event.

NHS SPOOKY GRAMS

Arlee High School's National Honor Society is raising money for families in need this Holiday Season by spreading positive words of affirmation through spooky Halloween Grams. Please buy one today at any Arlee Schools' building offices. Fill the air with sweet words and sweet treats.



FLATHEAD LAKE HONORING

The Arlee High School Sophomores learn about the biological health of the Flathead Lake ecosystem at the 2025 CSKT Flathead Lake Honoring.





