# NEWSLETTER

Arlee Schools

**February 2026**

## SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Hello Arlee Parents and Guardians,

We are already more than halfway through another school year. As we move through the remainder of the year, we encourage parents and guardians to continue monitoring their students' progress both in and out of the classroom. The Arlee Schools App is a great tool for quick communication, and if that is not an option, please feel free to reach out to the appropriate building administrator, teacher(s), or school secretary to schedule a meeting if needed.

I also want to take a moment to reiterate a message we share each sports season with our community, families, students, and staff. We encourage everyone to come out and support our Arlee Warriors and Scarlets and to do so in a positive and respectful way. We are proud of our strong community and school pride, and we want to continue cheering on our student-athletes with encouragement and sportsmanship. Supporting the effort and success of all students, on and off the court, is always encouraged, while celebrating mistakes made by opposing teams is not reflective of the values we promote.

At the elementary school, we are finishing up the final graphics package and will be sharing details about a grand opening once that work is complete. Please keep an eye out for more information in the coming months.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of Arlee Schools. We appreciate our families and community and look forward to finishing the year strong.

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

**Assessment Updates:** We are currently in the process of completing Benchmark 2 Assessments, which help teachers measure student growth and guide instruction for the remainder of the school year.

**MAST (Montana State Assessment)** is scheduled to begin mid-February. This is a state-required assessment that measures student learning in key academic areas and helps schools evaluate how well students are meeting state standards.

**MAPS:** Students in grades K–8 have completed the MAPS assessment, a district-level assessment used to track academic progress over time. MAPS data also supports reporting requirements for several of our educational grants and helps ensure continued funding for student programs.

**Literacy "Mini" Assessments:** Students in grades K–8 also participate in brief literacy assessments (approximately 10 minutes each). These short assessments are used for progress monitoring and to help teachers tailor instruction to meet individual student needs.

**Core Phonics Survey**, which focuses on early literacy and foundational reading skills

**Acadience**, which measures a range of literacy skills across grade levels

**NAEP Assessment:** On **February 17, Arlee 8th graders** will take part in the NAEP assessment (National Assessment of Educational Progress), often referred to as "The Nation's Report Card." NAEP is a nationwide assessment used to compare student achievement across states. Results are reported at the state and national level and are not used for individual student grades.

**Student Health Reminder: Energy Drinks**

Arlee Elementary and Arlee Junior High **do not allow energy drinks**, such **as Rockstar, Monster, or similar beverages**, to be brought to school or consumed during the school day. Energy drinks contain **very high levels of caffeine and sugar**, which can negatively impact students' health, focus, and behavior. Potential risks include increased anxiety, rapid heart rate, headaches, stomach issues, difficulty concentrating, and sleep disruption. For growing children and adolescents, excessive caffeine intake can interfere with healthy development and learning. Families are encouraged to support student wellness by sending water or other school-appropriate beverages.

**After-School Plans**

For the safety of all students, ***all after-school plans must be phoned into the office by 2:00 p.m***. Please do not rely on notes sent with students or last-minute changes. Thank you for helping us keep dismissal running smoothly.

| **Morning Schedule** | |
|---|---|
| **Bus Arrives @ 7:35**<br>**K-2 Students:** Play on the playground until 7:50.<br>**3-6 Students:** Go Directly to breakfast<br><br>**7:50 AM**<br>**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).<br>**3-6 Students:** Go to class | **Office Hours:**<br>7:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br>K-6 Phone Extension: **2201**<br>Junior High Phone Extension: **2404** |

## HIGH SCHOOL & ATHLETIC NEWS

Our district has been doing some really exciting things, creating opportunities for our students through new elective courses. Mr. Guest is teaching a STEAM Lab course this semester. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. In this course, our students are introduced to a variety of hands-on activities and are given opportunities to develop skills and knowledge in those fields. Mr. Guest is doing an amazing job creating exciting experiments with outstanding course content.

Ms. Schnarr secured a grant through our Center for Community Development for new technology. She has been able to procure several new computers with updated technological capabilities that will enable us to further expand our Digital Music course. This new technology will enable our students to create and edit music with various programs. It's an exciting opportunity for our students to develop talents and further expand our musical opportunities.

Our athletic teams are wrapping up their regular seasons. Heading into our district and divisional tournaments, the boys basketball team has 30 students participating, and the varsity team has an overall record of 10-4 and is 3-3 in conference play. The girls' basketball team has 10 players participating and is 4-10 overall with a 2-4 record in conference play. Basketball districts will be in Anaconda February 26th-28th. The high school wrestling team has 10 students participating, and Arlee is hosting the Western BC Divisional Tournament on February 13th and 14th at the Civic Center in Butte.

Our high school students are consistently making positive improvements each month. It's attributable to our incredible staff members who go above and beyond to provide our students with curriculum-based instruction and opportunities for success. We continue to strive to improve learning opportunities for our students and look forward to further supporting their academic goals in the coming months!

Go Warriors and Scarlets!

Thanks,

Jacob Bosley
Principal/Athletic Director
Arlee High School

## ARLEE HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOKS

Hello Arlee Community!

We'd like to extend a big thank you to our current Yearbook Sponsors: **Stuart's Hometown Auto, Blackbear Espresso, Valley Banks, Wilson Foods, Your Cousins Coffee, Paul's Pancake Parlor, Northwest Display Fireworks, CRS Hardware Corporation/Montana Ace, Stockman Bank, Timeless Treasures Gift Shop.** Your support is helping to make this year's book possible! **We're still seeking sponsorships at Gold ($100+), Silver ($75), and Bronze ($50) levels. Each business will be featured with their chosen advertisement or logo in our yearbook!**

🏀 Our yearbook staff is also looking for **basketball photos** for the yearbook. Parents who have pictures to share can email them to jreynolds@arleeschools.org or send them directly to a yearbook staff member. Thank you for helping us capture the season.

Finally, our yearbooks are on sale for $35 until February 17! After that, they go up to $45. Order your copy here!

Thank you for your support,

The AHS Yearbook Staff

## A GAMERS

🎮 It's the A Gamer Way at Arlee Elementary! 🎮

At Arlee Elementary, we're all about helping students be SAFE, RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE—and we do it in a fun, high-energy way with A Gamer Tickets! Each month, we spotlight a positive behavior like hallway manners, kindness, or showing respect. When students are caught being awesome, they earn A Gamer tickets that get proudly displayed on our A Gamer Wall for everyone to see. The grade with the most tickets at the end of the month scores a fun reward! And individual kids can trade the tickets for prizes too.

January's wall was packed, making it a super close race… 😈 drum roll please… **5th grade takes the win!** 🎉 **Way to go, 5th graders**—thanks for setting such a great example for how to be responsible! They chose an extra recess and snack as a reward for their hard work!

Now it's time to level up in February! Our focus is Quality Academics. Students can earn A Gamer tickets by getting to school on time, coming prepared, staying focused, and giving their best effort every day. Bring that brain power—because great learning is how you win, and that's the A Gamer way! 🚀

## CELEBRATE DR. SEUSS WEEK!



**Monday March 2nd- Thursday March 5th**

Monday 3/2: "Oh The Places You'll Go"

*Wear your favorite school, college or team shirt.

Tuesday 3/3: "The Sleep Book"

*Wear Pajamas.

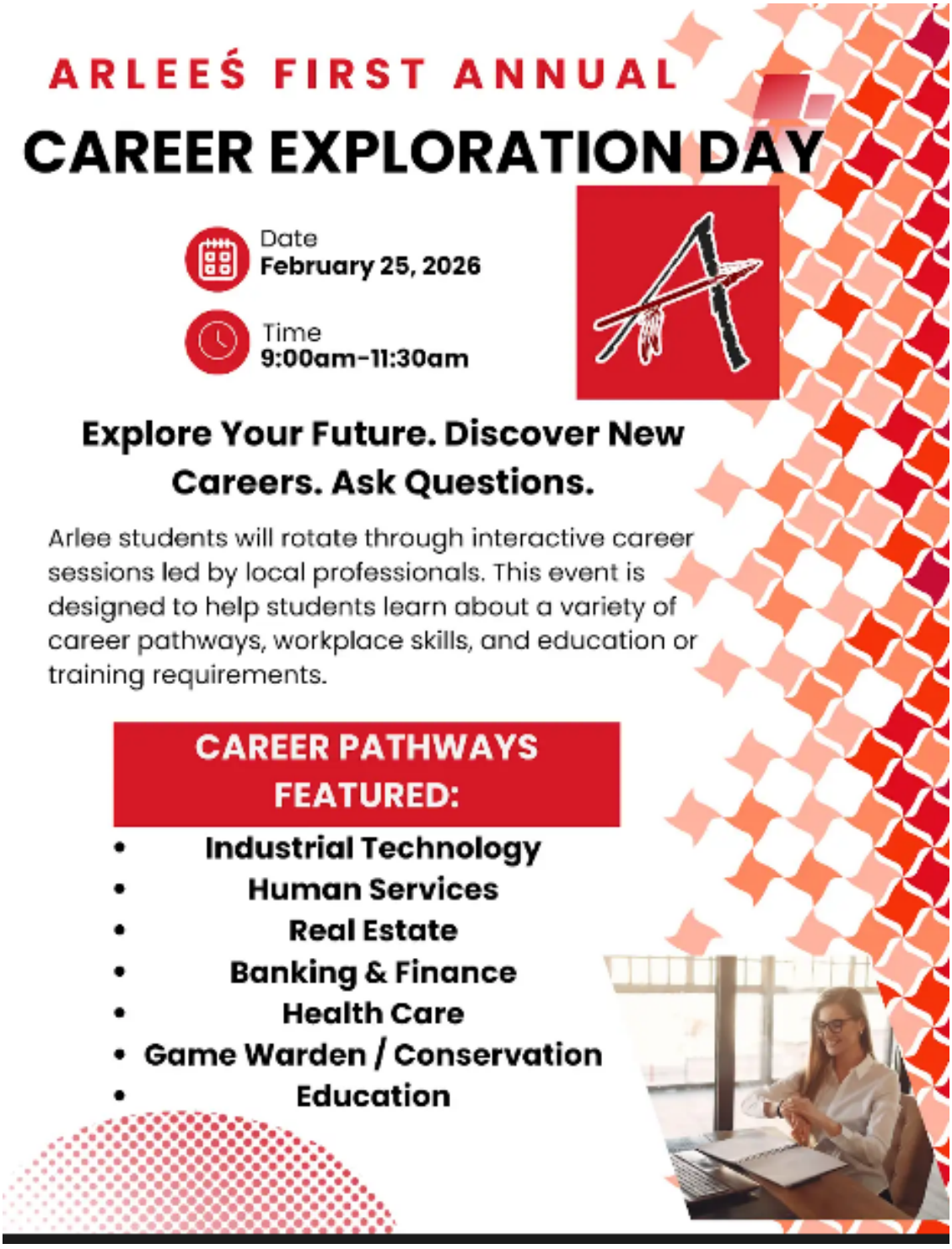
Wednesday 3/4: "Green Eggs and Ham"

*Wear the color GREEN.

Thursday 3/5: "Cat In The Hat"

*Wear your favorite hat and wear the color RED.

## CAREER EXPLORATION DAY



## CLASSROOM HEROS




In Ms. Pier's 3rd grade classroom, we are lucky to have 6th grade students Dariana Jerrels, Cooper St. Godard, Solana Mesteth (pictured), Bianca O'Neill, Brook Finley, Josie Clinkenbeard, Emma Felsman, and Golden Higley. These students complete their own work with care and precision.

Our helpers read with friends, explain math problems, and practice new vocabulary words. They are patient, kind, and encouraging.

Because of these classroom heroes, our room is a place where everyone feels supported. We are proud of the students who show responsibility, teamwork, and a love for learning. They remind us that when we help each other, we all succeed!



## BLOOD DRIVE

Not all heroes wear capes, some just donate blood. Join us on March 4th and make a difference.




**Blood Drive**
**Arlee School**

Gymnasium
72220 Fyant Street
Arlee, MT 59821

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**
**10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: ARLEE to schedule an appointment.

Scan to be directed to RapidPass ®

**Come to give blood in March and get a $15 Amazon Gift Card by email! See rcblood.org/March**

Scan to schedule an appointment.

RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

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## UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA GRANT COLLABORATION

Check out this article about a University of Montana grant that is helping our high school students develop their journalism skills and explore future career opportunities.

*New UM Grant Expands Journalism and Career Readiness Program for Montana Teens*

## MONTANA REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS TESTING WINDOWS

**Montana Office of Public Instruction**
**Published Test Windows for All Required Statewide Assessments**
**2025–2026 School Year**

| | Anticipated SY2025-26 Test Windows | Required Subjects | Student Group | Grades Tested | Window Period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Montana Aligned to Standards Through-Year (MAST) | Window 1<br>October 13-December 5 | Math and ELA | General | Grades 3–8 | 3 windows:<br>8 weeks each |
| | Window 2<br>January 12-March 6 | | | | |
| | Window 3<br>March 30-May 22 | | | | |
| Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate ELA and Math | Fall Window<br>September 8- December 19 | Math and ELA | SwSCDs | Grades 3-8, 11 | 2 windows:<br>15 weeks each |
| | Spring Window<br>February 2- May 15 | | | | |
| WIDA ACCESS<br>Alt ACCESS | January 5-March 6 | English Language Proficiency | English Learners | Grades K–12 | 9 weeks |
| Montana Science Assessment (MSA) | March 2-May 22 | Science | General | Grades 5, 8 | 8 weeks |
| Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Science | February 2-<br>May 15 | Science | SwSCDs | Grades 5, 8, 11 | 15 weeks |
| ACT with Writing | Window 1<br>March 24-April 3 | Math, ELA, and Science | General | Grade 11 | 3 windows:<br>2 weeks each |
| | Window 2<br>April 7-17 | | | | |
| | Window 3<br>April 21-May 1 | | | | |

Updated by the Office of Public Instruction on August 28, 2025.

**Note**: Dates and information listed in this schedule are subject to change at any time or without notice.

## 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



**Arlee Joint School District No. 8**

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