



September 11, 2026
26-27 Issue 5



At the Peak

A newsletter for Ophir Middle School and Lone Peak High School



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Important Announcements

From the Office

Thank you for completing the Beginning of the Year form!

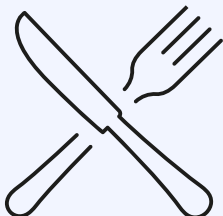
26-27 Ski Days School Permission Form:
Must be completed for **every student** by
September 18, 2026. ✓

Device Protection Plan Payment of \$30
is due by September 15th to opt in.

Weekly Tuesday Grade Reports will begin next
Tuesday, September 15th via Toddle.

Picture Retake Day:
October 14th

MENU



HOCO Week: Sept. 21-26

Details on Page 5

LPHS Clubs & Local Businesses can participate in the
Window Decorating Contest! and/or the **HOCO Parade**



U.S. News & World Report Ranks Lone Peak High School Among the 2026-2027 Best High Schools

Washington, D.C. – August 18, 2026 – U.S. News & World Report ranked Lone Peak High School No. 2 in Montana among the 2026-2027 Best High Schools. The rankings evaluate nearly 24,000 schools at the national, state, and local level, with nearly 18,000 ranked. Lone Peak High School was also ranked **No. 1 in College Curriculum Breadth Index Rank and No. 1 for College Readiness.**

"I have always been a big fan of outcomes and accountability for all schools. This recognition, following a rigorous process conducted by a highly respected institution, once again shows that the Big Sky School District and Lone Peak High School are accountable to our students and our outcomes demonstrate how our diligent, dedicated staff work to execute on the board's vision for learning and collaborate to support our students so they thrive and succeed in school and in life" according to Dr. Dustin Shipman, BSSD Superintendent.

"We continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of our school programming, and it is wonderful to be recognized for the hard work our faculty and students put forth every day," added Dr. Marlo Mitchem, Lone Peak High School Principal.

The methodology focuses on six factors: college readiness; reading, math and science proficiency; reading, math and science performance; underserved student performance; college curriculum breadth; and graduation rates.

Parents and students can see how Lone Peak High School compares to other institutions and how the rankings are calculated on USNews.com.

At Big Sky School District, our mission is to cultivate each student's potential; engage in globally minded education and experiential learning in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem; and empower students to lead lives of impact, resilience, and authenticity.



To all our families who attended Back to School Night - it was wonderful to see you. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the office or any of the staff members if anything comes up OR if you want to share some awesomeness!

Thank you

MAP testing begins Tuesday, September 15th, for students in Grades 6-10 to measure growth in reading, math, science, and language usage. Results will serve as a baseline for the year and help tailor student support through the MTSS program.

Here are some suggestions you can do to help everyday and especially during testing week:

- Ensure your child arrives at school on time.
- Have your child eat a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
- Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep.
- Gently encourage them to do their best.

To learn more about the MAP:

<https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/family-toolkit/>

Learn more about OMS MTSS!

Learn more about LPHS MTSS!

Thank you for your support.



Mrs. Martinez Senior Newsletter

Please sign-up for your individual meeting with Mrs. Martinez!! Sign up is in an email from her.



Senior Corner



TO DO:

- Work on Common App
- Ask for Letters of Recommendation
- Draft your 1-page Resume
- Keep Crushing!!



All LPHS students that participated in Expedition have a fee of \$60 due by the end of the month. Thank you to all of the families that have already taken care of this.

Free Film Fest Tickets for Lone Peak High Students, Parents & Staff

Email Daniel Glick at director@lonepeakfilmfestival.com

Program: www.lonepeakfilmfestival.com.

Two offers anyone can take advantage of!

- 1) Two tickets for a student and parent pair for any film. Email names, email addresses and what film you'd like to see. This also applies for LPHS teachers and staff.
- 2) Unlimited free tickets (until sold out) to the Saturday 1 PM shorts film block - it's called Everyday Heroes and it's sweet, artistic and inspiring. Email names and email addresses of where to send the tickets.

CLEVAN THOMAS (CT) IS AVAILABLE THE FOLLOWING DAYS / TIMES TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR STRENGTH / CONDITIONING / FITNESS GOALS. PLEASE EMAIL HIM AT CTHOMAS@BSSD72.ORG TO BEGIN COMMUNICATION WITH HIM. HE WILL BE BASED IN THE LPHS GYM / WEIGHT ROOM.



MONDAY / WEDNESDAY 2 P.M. - 4 P.M.

TUESDAY / THURSDAY 4 P.M. - 6 P.M.

FRIDAY 10:45 A.M. - 6 P.M. (DEPENDING ON GAME TRAVEL)



Fees will be:



Chromebooks:
Screen w/ INS \$30
Screen NO INS \$150
LOST \$300
Charger \$30
Bag \$30



Neos:
Screen w/ INS \$30
Screen NO INS \$220
LOST \$500
Charger \$30
Bag \$30

With all our LPHS students using brand new Neo's we highly suggest taking advantage of our Device Protection Plan. Device Protection Plan Payment of \$30 is due by September 15th to opt in. If not participating by September 15th, families will not be allowed to retroactively join after there is an issue.



Picture Day: Families all received an email from Origin Imagery to choose their yearbook photo and have the opportunity to purchase pictures. Email info@originimagery.com with questions.



9th Grade

More Expedition Photos!!

10th Grade

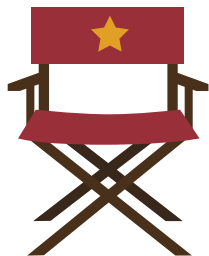


11th Grade



12th Grade





Homecoming

Sept. 21-26

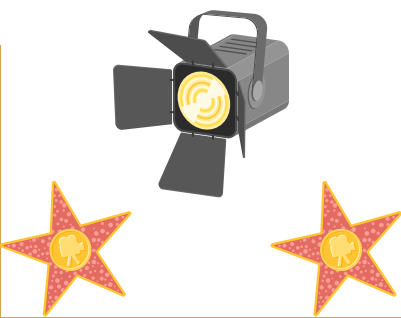


Theme: Old Hollywood



SCHEDULE	
21 MONDAY	KICKBALL TOURNEY PT. 1 11 TH & 12 TH FLEX BLOCK
22 TUESDAY	KICKBALL TOURNEY PT. 2 9 TH & 10 TH FLEX BLOCK
23 WEDNESDAY	BIG HORN BLOCK TEACHERS VS. STUDENTS HOCO PARADE @ TOWN CENTER
24 THURSDAY	KICKBALL FINAL TOURNEY FLEX BLOCK
25 FRIDAY	POWDERPUFF 2:00 - 2:30
26 SATURDAY	HOMECOMING DANCE - THE WAYPOINT 7:00 - 9:00

HOMECOMING 2026



Homecoming Spirit Week	
SEPTEMBER 21 TO SEPTEMBER 26	
Monday	
Wear Your Class Colors Seniors: Pink Juniors: White Sophmores: Orange Freshman: Blue Middle School: Green Elementary School: Red	
Tuesday	Wednesday
Pajama Day	Hollywood Day
Thursday	Friday
Country Club Day	Spirit Day - BLUE AND WHITE!

Homecoming Week Events	
HOLLYWOOD	
SEPTEMBER 21ST-26TH	
TUESDAY THE 22ND	
VOLLEYBALL VS ENNIS	4:00+ PM
WEDNESDAY THE 23RD	
PARADE AT TOWN CENTER	6:00 PM
PEP RALLY AT LEN HILL PARK	6:30 PM
THURSDAY THE 24TH	
BOY'S SOCCER VS LAUREL	4:00 PM
THURSDAY THE 24TH	
GIRL'S SOCCER VS LAUREL	6:00 PM
FRIDAY THE 25TH	
FOOTBALL VS PARK CITY	7:00 PM

All Fall Sports
Athletic Fees need to be paid ASAP if not already taken care of. Thank you!
LPHS = \$175, OMS = \$125



UPCOMING HOME EVENTS:

See Website for full Schedules

BSSD Activities Outlook



LPHS SOCCER:
Sat., Sept. 12 vs Lockwood - Boys @ 12/ Girls @ 2

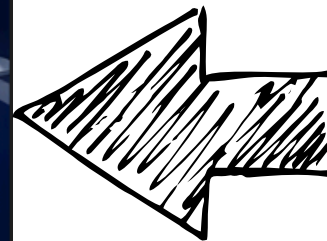
OMS VOLLEYBALL:
Thurs., Sept. 17 vs. Home School - 5/6 @4 & 7/8 @ 5

Booster Club Website:
LPHSsports.org
Become a member today!



Wednesday, September 23

Parade at Town Center @ 6 p.m.



6:15 p.m.

Pep Rally at Len Park @ 6:30 p.m.

Community Opportunities: Window Decorating Contest



HOCO Parade



Entry Forms Linked Here

Staff Spotlight

Mr. Coppola

High School Social Studies

Mr. Coppola has called Big Sky, MT home for over 25 years. He moved from Ohio in the fall of 2001, and like most of us, moved here to ski bum and recreate in the wilds of Montana for a time. But that path shifted when he decided to stay here and become a teacher. He has worked with the district for 16 years (14 years as a teacher, 2 year as a curriculum consultant) and truly believes cultivating positive relationships with his students is and always will be his priority. He is happily married to his beautiful wife Meghan and they have had 3 wonderful fur children over the years; Freido, Vito and Obi. Mr. Coppola has a healthy obsession with StarWars and the band Phish. He also loves to cook and eat well and has enormous passion for the beautiful game of futbol. His mantra in history class is not the memorization of facts, but the ability to have his students become critical thinkers and life long learners. Do or do not, there is no try!



Mrs. Riley is an art educator and artist with 14 years of teaching experience. She holds a BFA in Painting, Art History, and Photography and a Master's in Art Education. Her experience includes an artist residency in La Napoule, France, and working in the Art Ed. department at the Institute of Contemporary Art. Her research on contemporary Indigenous art was recently published in the National Journal of Art Education, and she has presented her work at the National Art Education Conference. Outside the classroom, she enjoys trail running, fly-fishing, skiing, rock climbing, mountain biking, playing music, and, of course, reading a good book!

Mrs. Riley

Middle & High School Art