

# LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1996-97

## *ANNUAL REPORT*



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

In following Board Policy, staff members will again be required to compile a brief report on their area of responsibility for an annual school report. Reports will include an overall summary along with concerns and areas to be improved. This information will provide the Board with relevant data about the status of major programs in the district. Hopefully, this will again prove to be useful and lend to an enhanced report in the future.

### **REPORT/ASSIGNMENT**

Garfield School	John Moffatt
Highland Park School	Tim Gillen
Lewis & Clark School	Dave Sharstrom
Lewistown Junior High School	Pat Hould
Fergus High School	Scott Dubbs
Activities	Jerry Feller
Music	Rich Garcia
Staff Development	Sid Wilson
Title I	Pat Hould
Special Education	Charlie Brown
Adult Ed./ABE/EOCM/Traffic Ed.	Diane Oldenburg
Curriculum	John Moffatt
Drug/Alcohol	Tim Gillen
Food Service	Donna Larson
Transportation	Steve Klippenes
Maintenance	Paul Stengel
Business Office	Stacey Vestal

**GARFIELD  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**John Moffatt**

To: Superintendent Robertson; Board of Trustees  
From: John Moffatt  
Re: Garfield School Annual Report

School Goals: Our school goals remain the cornerstones of what we do in the classroom. They include: 1. Teaching from an interdisciplinary approach, 2) Emphasis on "hands on" experiences, 3) Use of research-based strategies (Talents Unlimited, cooperative learning, etc.), 4) Maximizing use of technology. I am impressed with the progress we have made in each of these areas. Innovative units such as the "rain forest", "whales", "dinosaurs", "Egyptians" are examples at several grade levels of interdisciplinary, activities-based curriculum projects. Our use of computers continues to mushroom as each of our students participates in a lab activity each week.

Truly, 1996-97 was a banner year at Garfield. I will try to recap some of the highlights of this special year.

The School earned a prestigious honor early in the year when our "Read--for a Capitol Gain" program was selected by the Montana State Reading Council as their featured program. This meant that schools from around the State used our project to raise money for the repair of the Capitol Building. At Garfield, our students raised \$1,000 for this worthy cause. Secretary of State Mike Cooney again visited Garfield as we closed "I Love to Read" month with an assembly and a well-attended Family Reading Night. The year was truly capped off when we were informed by the Montana State Office of Public Instruction that the International Reading Association has asked that our program be presented at the IRA World-Wide Conference this summer in Reston, Virginia. We're excited to think that teachers and students from around the world will have the opportunity to see what our students have accomplished. "Read--for a Capitol Gain" is a perfect example of two things that we really attempt to stress at Garfield--service learning and volunteerism. Hats off to Mrs. Stillman for her efforts on behalf of this program.

We were also honored and thrilled to be the only elementary school in the State to receive the U.S. West Technology Grant. This award, which includes \$8,000 in cash, four lap-top computers, and training for a team of staff members, will allow us to integrate technology into our scientific studies on Spring Creek. Mrs. Flentie, Mrs. Miller, Ms. Simpson, and Mr. Moffatt will be the guests of U.S. West June 21-24 in Denver, Colorado. Credit for the grant goes to Mrs. Flentie and Ms. Simpson.

Thanks to grants from the Fergus County Conservation District, the Montana Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts, we were able to bring storyteller Carol Soth to Garfield for a week-long residency. Ms. Soth delighted teachers and students alike as she used the arts to express scientific concepts and knowledge. Her workshop truly demonstrated how the arts "breathe life into learning".



Under Mrs. Robinson's leadership, Garfield became a Team Nutrition School this year. We received a small grant to purchase supplies for nutrition activities and came up with some excellent projects. In addition, our breakfast program completed its fourth successful year of meeting the nutritional needs of our students.

Garfield jumped right into the MBI (Montana Behavioral Initiative) process this year. We had a very active MBI team which surveyed students, staff, and parents to determine areas of school-wide behavior we could improve. The team completed a new hallway behavior plan and is in the process of revising our playground behavior rules. Included on the committee are teachers, students, parents, and the principal. The staff is updated regularly on team activities. Our school-wide project this year was the teaching of selected social skills. This seemed to be a very positive program, and we will continue it next year. Each month a new skill is taught, and the entire staff receives the lesson plan. Hopefully, our classified staff will now have a more complete and consistent picture of our school-wide behavior plan.

Ms. Dobesh and Mr. Moffatt continue to serve on the regional CSPD team and Mrs. Miller is in her final year as a representative on the State Special Education Advisory Panel. For the second straight year Lewistown was able to secure a \$500 grant from CSPD for para-professional training.

Garfield received very high marks from the Special Education monitoring team which visited the District this year. This is especially gratifying given the number of special education programs which are centered here. Congratulations to Mrs. Brown, Ms. Dobesh, and Mrs. Barber on an excellent job.

Garfield now has its own web site thanks to Mrs. Flentie. Other teachers have begun to contribute to our home page, and we're beginning to have a nice display. Thanks to the donation of a digital camera and scanner by the Fish and Wildlife program (Mr. Robert Jess), we are now able to update our web site information regularly.

Our 4th, 5th, and 6th graders completed another year of volunteering at the Central Montana Nursing Home. As always, we had a great turnout of kids who wanted to help.

In yet another noteworthy example of service to the community, our Service Council students began the "Adopt-a-Block" program this year. The kids shovel snow on the other side of Boulevard which is home to several elderly folks as well as two families which have experienced recent medical difficulties.

The Accelerated Reader was a huge hit this year. Mrs. Fradley and Mrs. Crane very ably implemented this exciting program. There is no question that we will have to add to our existing collection of books to keep up with student demand.

Our PTSG officers, Terry Klippenes, Vinita Shea, and Sandy Armstad, along with raffle

chairman, Robin Moline, oversaw our most successful Carnival yet. Over \$6,000 was netted in the fundraiser. Proceeds will be directed to library and classroom needs. The PTSG also organized a very successful book fair and did many nice things throughout the year for our staff.

Our DARE program completed its second successful year under the direction of Bob Clark. A graduation ceremony for all three elementaries was the highlight. In October, Garfield participated in district-wide Red Ribbon Week activities and our Service Council led several events here at school.

Parent-Teacher Conferences saw a 100 % turnout!!!

Thanks to our TIE grant we were able to install a beautiful Mission Statement sign in the school entryway. Students from each class were selected by drawing for the right to have their handprint personalize this eye-catching display.

**HIGHLAND PARK  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Tim Gillen**





Your public schools . . .  
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## Lewistown Public Schools

Highland Park Elementary  
1312 7th Avenue North  
Lewistown, Montana 59457  
(406) 538-2555

Conrad Robertson  
Superintendent

Tim Gillen  
Principal

Cindy Giese  
Secretary

TO: Conrad Robertson

FROM: Tim Gillen

RE: Annual Report 1996-97

DATE: June 17, 1997

1996-97 has been another exciting and successful school year!

### OUR MISSION IS:

To work together to promote and celebrate education by creating a safe, effective environment which encourages a lifelong pursuit of learning.

### GENERAL GOALS:

To provide diverse instructional experiences for the whole child through teaching a logical, sequential, and appropriate curriculum.

To enhance and promote self esteem.

To insure that all staff follows a code of ethics.

To encourage professional development and decision-making among staff.

To prepare students to responsibly participate in the world-wide community.

To promote parental involvement and community support.



### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL:

To continue to develop an all school discipline plan following the MBI philosophy.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Our enrollment stayed about the same this year with a current enrollment of 320 students.
- Title I served about 40 students. Mrs. Leslie Hadden and Mr. Dan Melick have been a great team.
- We had two full-time special education assistants working with two special needs students.
- The library adopted the Accelerated Reader Program and implemented it successfully. A few changes will be made for 97-98 to facilitate increased student usage.
- Our PTSG Executive Board met monthly to address its business. A successful fundraiser was held in October and profits of \$5000 were raised through the sale of wrapping paper and gifts. The profits were used to purchase two Mac computers and four computer carts.
- Parent Teacher Conferences were well attended with 97% of our students being represented.
- Our Service Council was made up of two representatives from each classroom in grades four through six. They met as needed throughout the year. Through fundraisers of lollipop, popcorn, and candy bar sales money was raised to purchase two National School assemblies for our student body.
- Red Ribbon Week was a success with students participating in many class and group activities.
- The D.A.R.E. Program with Officer Bob Clark was a successful curriculum venture with our fifth graders. All of them graduated from the program on December 20.
- The Intervention Assistance Team at Highland Park was a success and will continue with rotating members. The discontinuation of the PAL program and an increased number of students with special needs has made this team an invaluable resource.

- Our computer lab (18 week session) was again a successful curriculum. Students in grades 4 - 6 were served. We were able to complete our 12 computer Mac lab this spring with the use of the U.S. West grant computers and computers purchased by the PTSG and end of year monies.
- Our after school activities programs were well-attended this year. Fifth and sixth grade students participated in basketball, volleyball and track. The coaches at Highland Park did a great job.
- The MBI Committee completed parent, student, and staff survey. Target lessons involving accepting "no" and hall passing were implemented. Convex mirrors were installed in our intermediate hallway to facilitate safe passing. A team of four will be attending the MBI training this August in Helena. We will utilize the training to continue to develop appropriate building discipline plans for our students.
- The medication protocol is again being administered as per Board policy. Medications are administered by Cindy Giese, Linda Brown or me, usually around the noon period. Many medications are no longer being sent to school to be administered.
- DeeAnn Buehler was recognized by the Montana Office of Public Instruction for her outstanding efforts in AIDS education. Money received by Highland Park for her efforts was used to purchase one of the mirrors for our hallways. DeeAnn also received money and chose to donate it to Highland Park for the purchase of a concrete bench for our playground.
- Ten of our staff members were certified in CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) training. This training helps staff members deal with students who exhibit violent behaviors.
- Seven sixth graders received the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. Nine sixth graders were awarded the Presidential Award for Academic Improvement.
- The U.S. West grant award winners (Linda Edwards, Barb Fradley, Colleen Sauer, Michelle Trafton) completed the objectives of their grant proposal with the help of the three Mac computers purchased with their \$8000 award. This project was an exciting and educational adventure for all involved.
- A number of our staff members were involved in the revisions and adoption of the art, music, library and health enhancement life performance skills (HELPS) curriculums.

**LEWIS & CLARK  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Dave Sharstrom**

**TO:** Conrad Robertson  
**FROM:** Dave Sharstrom  
**SUBJECT:** 1996 - 97 Lewis & Clark Annual Report  
**DATE:** June 10, 1997

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**THE FUNDAMENTAL MISSION OF LEWIS AND CLARK IS TO PROVIDE AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE EVERY PERSON WILL DISPLAY RESPECT FOR SELF, OTHERS, AND PROPERTY. HIGH EXPECTATIONS WILL BE REFLECTED THROUGH HARD WORK AND COOPERATIVE INVOLVEMENT. OUR AIM IS FOR ALL TO BECOME RESPONSIBLE, PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.**

**GENERAL GOALS:**

- \* To help teachers understand why quality classroom assessment is critical to student academic success.**
- \* To encourage staff to use the supplemental social studies materials in their classrooms.**
- \* To increase the emphasis on developing handwriting skills in grades 1 - 6.**
- \* To help teachers gain competence and confidence in the use of the six-trait model for writing assessment.**
- \* To promote parental involvement and community support.**
- \* Enhance a positive school climate with cooperation amongst staff and students having clear disciplinary procedures and improved attendance.**



Everyone at Lewis and Clark realizes the impact of attitude on life. It is the most important ingredient to build an enthusiastic atmosphere within a school. Therefore, every teacher has posted the following teacher guarantee to constantly remind them that a positive attitude motivates students.

### **Teacher Guarantee**

**I will teach with pride. (I'm proud to walk in front of my classroom every day, I will teach with dignity and respect. I will expect the same from you.)**

**I will not use sarcasm because I know that sarcasm is just another way to put someone down in front of their peers.**

**I will be knowledgeable about the materials I present . . I will stay current and up to date.**

**I will present information in a variety of ways, so the way that you learn best, I will try to accommodate.**

**I will help you understand why the information I'm teaching is relevant to you.**

**I will be enthusiastic and energetic in class. (See this desk, burn it. I'm going to stand at my door when you come into this class. You're going to see, feel, and hear in my voice and in my face how excited I am about teaching you.)**

**At any given moment you will know where you stand in this class. (You will also know where and how to get extra help so you can keep up.)**

**I will do my part to work as a team with every other teacher, support staff and administrator in this school. (Because I know that the entire personality and feeling in this school is important to you in order to be a part.)**

**I will listen to you, I will encourage your feedback, your questions, and your observations. I expect to learn as much from you as I hope you learn from me.**

**I won't give up on you. (I don't want you to fail, I want you to succeed and you can count on me.)**

State, local and national agencies/organizations that helped our school by providing activities or educational programs for our students are as follows:

- \* Brittney Montgomery, a FHS student, participated in an OJT internship placement at Lewis and Clark sponsored by Deb Slagel's Career Awareness class
- \* John Gervais, Roy EMT and Kiwanis member, provided a "Kids' Safety Program: for K-3 students
- \* Staff participated in the Montana Behavioral Initiative provided by the district
- \* Lewistown Fire Department conducted tours at their facility and provided a puppet show for K-4 students during Fire Prevention Week
- \* Bridgett Johnson, Public Library employee, told the following stories during "I Love to Read" month: "Hank and the Tooth Fairy" and "Rattlesnake, Mouse and Coyote"
- \* Artwork for Lewistown Art Center
- \* Fish and Wildlife Service hosted a Wildlife Fair at the fairgrounds
- \* Small Wonder Day Care students visited Lewis & Clark
- \* Head Start students visited Lewis & Clark
- \* Lewistown Jaycees sponsored "Project Kids' Coats, Gloves and Boots"
- \* Masons sponsored "Shoes for Kids"
- \* Extension Service sponsored "AG Day" for third graders
- \* Involved in computer lab activities facilitated by Mrs. Shields
- \* Janet Luciano's Dance Syndicate provided our students with an assembly called "The Wizard of Oz"
- \* Sandy Armstad's FHS drama class provided our K-3 students with a Christmas play
- \* Linda Brodock, Montana Power Company employee, provided presentations to all students

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- \* Planned a "Hawaiian Day" and a "Board Game Afternoon" to help alleviate the long winter
- \* Involved in the New Accelerated Reading Program
- \* Participated in the public library "Chapter by Chapter" reading program
- \* Participated in bike safety education which included a neighborhood bicycle ride
- \* Involved in Red Ribbon Week activities
- \* Wrote articles for News Argus
- \* Organized student groups for "Odyssey of the Mind" competition (Lewis & Clark students made it to state.)
- \* Planned activities for Homecoming Week and Spirit Week
- \* Conducted monthly bake sales
- \* Participated in building and county spelling bee



- \* Included in activities such as field trips, Book-It program, and extra-curriculars
- \* Involved in Awards Assemblies (Academic and Athletic)
- \* Participated in Product Fairs (L&C students in the Extended Studies program)
- \* Wrote articles for essay contest (6th graders wrote on "Our Special Mother")
- \* Involved in elementary track meets
- \* Participated in an Easter Egg Hunt (sponsored by 5th grade for kindergarten)
- \* Continued with a Student Council Program
- \* Intermediate 6th grade students made their own newspaper
- \* Intermediate students in grades 4-6 made decorations for local businesses during Red Ribbon Week
- \* Participated in bike and walk-a-thons
- \* Involved in "Ride for the Trees" activity
- \* Participated in the Central Montana Wildlife Fair
- \* Participate in an assembly with Leon Vanek on trapping
- \* 4th grade students participated in an assembly called "The Adventures and Travels of Lewis and Clark"
- \* Involved in Zoo Montana's traveling zoo
- \* Participated in Team Nutrition Days

#### PTSG ACTIVITIES

- \* Assisted in the administration of a school-wide parent survey addressing student responsibility and behavior
- \* Assisted with monthly cookie sales
- \* Supplied the teachers' lounge with monthly treats for the staff
- \* Held membership drive at the Lewis & Clark Open House
- \* Conducted a Book Fair during Parent/Teacher Conferences
- \* Organized the Saturday Movie Matinee Project
- \* Provided volunteers for Speech and Hearing Screening
- \* Volunteered helpers for Preschool Screening
- \* Planned a Teachers' Luncheon for Teachers' Appreciation Week
- \* Provided funds for two student assemblies: "Elvis and Roy, Legends of Rock and Roll" and "Cinderella" presented by marionettes
- \* Provided funds for library materials
- \* Provided funds for the purchase of a new computer.

In summary, I feel that the students and teachers at Lewis and Clark had a successful year. I consider myself fortunate to have the privilege of serving as principal at Lewis and Clark. Lewistown School District is truly a quality education system.

**LEWISTOWN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

**Pat Hould**

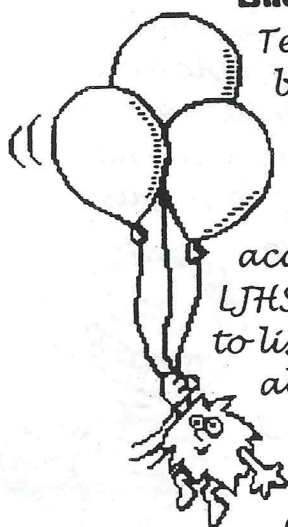


# THE LEWISTOWN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## 1996 - '97 "The Year in Review"



The 1996 - '97 school year at LJHS was an incredible year filled with excitement, academic achievement, and thrills at every turn. The following is a summary of the outstanding adventures that our students and staff encountered together. So please read on, and find out more about Lewistown Junior High School pride..... where excellence and enthusiasm collide!



**LJHS 75th Birthday Bash** ~ Co-sponsored by our fabulous Parent Teacher Support Group (PTSG), our staff conducted a birthday party to pay tribute to our historic facility.

>> This incredible celebration brought together the glorious traditions of the past with the enthusiasm of the present, in order that we might paint a picture of academic excellence for those who are yet to discover LJHS. A large crowd gathered on a blistering cold evening to listen to tales by veteran staff members, to reminisce about significant memories and to relive the "Beaver Fight Song"! A time capsule was also buried by our Builders Club, in order that future generations might appreciate those that have come before them.

**BREWERY FLATS** ~ In the fall of 1996 the 7th grade staff agreed to tackle an ambitious project, that of experimenting with block scheduling while allowing for student research along the Spring Creek at Brewery Flats. This interdisciplinary unit was a tremendous success and paved the way for similar endeavors in the future.

**PTSG** ~ Our Parent Teacher Support Group was extraordinary. The PTSG initiated "warm fuzzies", served food and assisted within classrooms. Led by a group of dedicated officers, our PTSG was exemplary in their support of the staff and students of LJHS.

**LJHS RECEIVES EXEMPLARY STATUS** After a review of our fall report, a committee from the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges declared the Lewistown Junior High School an exemplary school! This announcement only serves notice that LJHS is indeed at the forefront of "best practice" in regard to middle level schools.

**EXPLORATORY '97** ~ Our spring exploratory program returned with much enthusiasm in the spring of 1997.

Assisted by numerous community volunteers, parents and staff members, this years program was deemed extremely successful.



**THE BOULDER ADVENTURE of '96** ~ The 7th annual Nuts & Bolts Symposium of Middle Level Education saw eleven of our staff attending in beautiful Boulder, Colorado. Appropriately billed as one of the best middle school workshops in the country, our enthusiastic crew was not disappointed. This most excellent adventure was so fabulous, and so exhilarating that **11** of the faithful are set to make the trek in July of 1997!

**CHOCOLATE** ~ Our 7th grade staff came together a second time during the '96 - '97 school year to once again experiment with block scheduling. In February the tasty theme was chocolate! With unequaled parent and community support, the students made a chocolate heart, built and decorated a cardboard container for their creation, wrote a poem and discovered some important information regarding their personal health.



**New Staff Member** ~ The addition of Katherine Spraggins to our staff for the '96-'97 school year was extremely positive. Mrs. Spraggins taught one section of our C.A.R. program, Title I math and she also coached girls volleyball.





**6th Graders Visitation** ~ The future 7th grade students of LJHS got a first hand look at their new home with a two class period visitation. With the assistance of the elementary school teachers and their administrators, we orchestrated this inaugural visit which was tremendously successful.

**Montana Behavior Initiative** ~ After the initial training in August of 1996, MBI found a new home at LJHS. Four staff members began the voyage that led to the creation of newly revised expectations for our students in the hallways, at lunch time, at the bus stop and during assemblies. Students were genuinely "taught" how to behave and the impact was immediately felt throughout the school.

#### **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS.....at a glance**

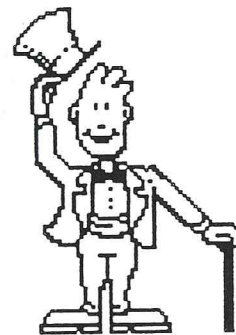
>>> Jim Hamling was nominated for a MCTM teacher of the year award. One of three nominated within the state of Montana

>>> Our "two" Jazz Bands proved top notch at the Powell Jazz festival in March of '97 as ten of our students were selected to receive scholarships to attend a summer jazz camp.

>>> Our 7th grade orientation and 6th grade parent programs were once again well attended and greatly appreciated.

>>> The split lunch schedule proved to be just the ticket to improve student behaviors during the noon time.

>>> The Life Skills and Project Discovery classes continued to provide a positive alternative for our students. A positive first during the second semester of this year was the addition of non-special education identified students to the project discovery classroom.



>>> We were fortunate to have the services of Mr. Chris Schwaderer as a student teacher in our 8th grade English classroom. During his three month stay Mr. Schwaderer made a positive impression upon our students and staff.

>>> We were visited in February by a group of staff members from the Poplar Middle School. Specifically seeking information about block scheduling and effective middle school practice, these educators were impressed with our awesome school!

>>> The cheerleaders organized the first ever awards type ceremonies for our athletes, honoring their accomplishments from their respective seasons. These celebrations of extra-curricular achievement were well received by staff & students.



>>> It is worthy to note the retirement of four veteran LJHS staff members in 1997. These outstanding examples of quality instructors have combined to provide service to young people for over 116 years! Those departing our company are Judy Byrne, Cynthia Thomas Baumann, Gail McIntyre, and Gordon Russell. They will be missed and remembered for their many contributions.

As you can see, the 1996 - '97 school year at the Lewistown Junior High School was very exciting and rewarding. The many accomplishments were only realized through the efforts of the collective. In 1997 we, together as one, explored the true meaning of teamwork. It is our hope that what we have begun will simply lay the foundation for the exemplary work that is yet to be completed in the future. To this end the staff eagerly awaits the arrival of a new year.





**FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL**

**Scott Dubbs**



# FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL

Scott A. Dubbs, Principal  
Jerry L. Feller, Asst. Principal/Activities

201 Casino Creek Drive  
Lewistown, MT 59457

Phone: (406) 538-2321  
Fax: (406) 538-3835

## 1996-97 FERGUS HIGH ANNUAL REPORT

The 1996-97 school year was another very successful year at Fergus High School. As a school, we strive towards meeting the needs of our students as we continue to aim for outstanding individual and group achievement through high academic, behavioral, and social expectations. Providing for and improving on a quality educational experience for the students of Lewistown is a goal we always look to achieve here at Fergus High School. Much of the information provided in this annual report is a brief synopsis of many highlights, happenings, and statistics compiled during the course of the year.

### HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE 1996-97 SCHOOL YEAR:

- ✈ **FERGUS HIGH SCIENCE BOWL TEAM IS FIFTH IN THE NATION** - Our Science Bowl Team, under the direction of Frank Halleff, blew away the competition to win the Montana Region of the U. S. Department of Energy's Science Bowl Competition and then shocked the National Competition in Washington, D.C. to capture 5<sup>th</sup> earlier this spring. Team members Brian Blood, Kevin Brown, Kristin Miller, Vitaly Kuzko, and captain Brad McCoy represented Montana well as they became the first Montana team ever to make the finals in D.C. Their 5<sup>th</sup> place finish is truly remarkable considering they were the only public school to compete against the magnet or private schools that made up the remainder of the eighteen teams in the finals.
- ✈ **MHSA ACADEMIC SUCCESS** - Before the school year started we also learned that our student participants earned the second highest Class "A" grade point average (GPA) for the Montana High School Association's Academic Excellence Award. This is obviously not news for FHS as it was the sixth such honor in the last seven years; however, the 3.408 GPA was our highest total on record, including the '90-'91 school year which saw us win the title outright. We are hoping this year's average of 3.391 will enable us to maintain this position of excellence.
- ✈ **PICCO SELECTED AS THE TOP TECHNOLOGY TEACHER IN THE STATE** - The state's affiliate of the International Technology Education Association (ITEA) awarded Fred Picco its highest honor by providing him with their 1996-97 Teacher Excellence Award. The award confirmed what we knew all along - that Fred is an outstanding technology teacher. He attended the ITEA National Conference in Orlando where he was presented his award.
- ✈ **NEW STAFF** - We were fortunate to have three excellent new teachers join the staff at FHS for the 96-97 school year. Brenda Heller filled in for Melanie Smith in English; Gordan Klasna replaced Kirsten Stephens in Choir; and Kelly Elder replaced Brain Orr in the Social



Studies Department. Other new staff members included Steve Olson, a Resource Assistant; and Walt Scotson, a new custodian.

✍ **EAGLE RENAISSANCE** - The theme for the '96-97 Eagle Renaissance program was "Together, We Achieve More," and we can honestly say it was a very useful and positive message. In addition to the excellent work of Renaissance Advisor Sharon Wilkey and the usual outstanding support and incentive the program gives our students, it has become a top notch model within the state and the northwest region. Several times Sharon shared the successes we see in our students as a result of the program. Additionally, schools continue to send individuals here or ask for our assistance in helping develop similar programs elsewhere. Additionally, the management team recommended several minor changes to enhance or promote the program -- a small result of which was the "Graduation Did You Know" pamphlet that was handed out at graduation. Our on-going goals for the program include:

- ✍ Setting an expectation for achievement while stressing good attitudes.
- ✍ Providing incentives and rewards that build self esteem and satisfaction with self and school.
- ✍ Spotlighting scholastic merit and improvement while emphasizing appropriate student behavior and responsibility.
- ✍ Recognizing and rewarding students, teachers and community members for positive performance.
- ✍ Incorporating Renaissance in the development of a high quality, positive student handbook, designed to promote students and staff while developing school pride.

✍ **ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES** - The past few years Fergus High has developed a much improved Advanced Placement program. Under the direction of our Staff Development Director (along with quality staff members) we can boast of the development of many new courses. They now include:

- ✍ A.P. English 12 - The first advanced placement course offered at FHS is filled annually from a priority list of students developed as they progress through our English courses.
- ✍ A.P. Physics (B & C) and A. P. Chemistry - Offered on an alternating year basis these courses meet the needs of our math and science oriented students. A. P. Physics - B is taught as a regular trigonometry based class while A. P. Physics - C is calculus based. When needed, all three courses are offered on an independent basis.
- ✍ A.P. Biology - Another science A. P. class offered on an alternating year basis unless student enrollment dictates one each year (which may be the case shortly).
- ✍ H.S. Calculus - A logical addition initiated a year after the A. P. Sciences started when our first group of eighth grade Algebra I students became seniors. With the high numbers in this class next year we will be looking to provide a non A. P. class of calculus in the future.
- ✍ Studio Art - An advanced placement class initiated for the first time this year based on the needs of students intending to submit work for college credit.



- ✈ **UPDATING OF FACILITIES** - Thanks to continued support from the Community Tennis and Track Facilities Committee, the Board of Trustees, and our maintenance our campus changed tremendously over the past two years. With the raising of approximately \$450,000 worth of funds and in-kind services, the school is benefiting from the addition of new tennis courts, a new track oval and football field. This addition has made our school campus one of the top in the state and will provide many exciting future opportunities for our students and the community.
- ✈ **BLUE - GOLD LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST** - This spring's Ninth Annual Blue - Gold Leadership Breakfast was again a showcase event with Don Judge, the Executive Director for the AFL/CIO giving an outstanding speech on the value of leadership to the audience. Student Counsel Advisor Mr. McMillan, Student Body President Jason Deffinbaugh, Senior Class President Jackie Rogan, and the rest of the Student Council did an excellent job continuing this tremendous tradition.
- ✈ **FHS SELECTED TO HOST A HORATIO ALGER SEMINAR FOR 1997-98** - On its first opportunity since earning this privilege 5 years ago, FHS was selected as one of two schools in the state to host a Horatio Alger Seminar next school year. The goal of the seminar is to instill students with confidence in their abilities and future while promoting the value of the personal and economic benefits of America's free enterprise system. Additionally, a senior student who has displayed perseverance in overcoming adversity and who has demonstrated academic promise will earn a \$5,000 scholarship, as well as earning an all expense paid trip to their leadership workshop in Washington, D.C.
- ✈ **GRADUATION '97** - This year our senior successes were once again celebrated with an excellent Graduation Ceremony. Mr. Brian Orr provided an excellent Commencement Address to compliment our ceremony with the class again successfully using a new format which included a "showcasing" of graduates by the faculty members and the wearing of gowns by the graduates, teachers, administration and school board. Co-Valedictorians for the Class of 1997 were Kristen Miller, Shannon O'Hare, and Anna Stogsdill.
- ✈ **MATH & SCIENCE COMPETITIONS** - Fergus High finished a very respectable seventh in the State Science Olympiad team competition in November, while Brad McCoy and Kevin Brown led the way winning the Physics Lab competition. Our physics students won the regional part of the National Physics Exam and were recognized as placing first or second for the third time in four years (out of our 9 state region). FHS students Vitaly Kuzko, Brad McCoy, and Brian Blood also had the top three scores in the state for the National Chemistry Exam. In Math, our students again competed very well winning the regional Montana Council of Teachers of Math (MCTM) Math competition and scoring very well on the NCTM and Trig-Star (sponsored by the Society of Professional Surveyors) exams won locally by LeRoy Tronnes and Brad McCoy, respectively. Brad also won the Trig-Star competition for the state.
- ✈ **COMMITMENT TO TECH PREP** - For the past several years, Fergus High has participated in the Central Montana Tech Prep Consortium through MSU-College of Technology, Great Falls. Much of our efforts have led to articulation agreements with the College of Technology for many of our vocational courses and with initial meetings with the business community to initiate public support. Additionally, there has been much work with teachers and counselors in promoting and supporting Tech Prep and its goals. Additionally, we learned the University System has worked on an agreement among each of our post-secondary schools to finally enable horizontal articulation of our Tech Prep



courses with all of it's units.

- ✈ SCHOOL-TO-WORK - Fergus High continues working toward involving several aspects of the School-to-Work initiatives in our educational process. Coordination with local agencies and businesses downtown is essential to the success of our School-to-Work projects. Mrs. Debra Slagel, our Director, worked very hard with the local Job Service's JASAP committee to successfully launch our first Career Night which was held in February. Next year it is anticipated that the Career Fair will be held during the school day in conjunction with our Horatio Alger Seminar. Other successes in the School-to-Work area include our Internship programs as participating employers and our students thoroughly enjoyed the educational opportunities it provides.
- ✈ ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS - We were very fortunate to have had many outstanding seasons during this school year with the STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CROSS COUNTRY TEAM and the STATE RUNNERUP VOLLEYBALL TEAM leading the way. Coach Eadie Schultz guided the Cross Country team to its eighth state championship ('71, '72, '83, '84, '85, '86, and '88 are the seven previous championship teams). Coach Sterling Sundheim's Volleyball team equaled their best year matching the '93-94 team accomplishment. Both teams were very dominant during the regular season and earned Divisional Championships on the way to their successful finish.
- ✈ POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT - Fergus High continues to remain committed to the development and maintenance of a positive school climate. With emphasis on shared discipline, high academic and attendance expectations, time-on-task, as well as a strong community bond, FHS works hard to improve in this area.
- ✈ TECHNOLOGY - Fergus High has worked hard to improve the available technology for our students and our staff. At the end of the year we had updated our computer inventory to include more than 46 Pentium and 54 486 computers available for use. Additionally, next fall FHS will have use of 14 networked CD-ROM's available from our networked computers. Overall, networking news was slower than we had hoped for. However, we did provide for the addition of a second telephone line for Internet use, initiate use of our SchoolMaster Classroom site license, develop our GroupWise email system, as well as adding six more teacher computers and the two machines in our teacher workroom to the local area network. Additionally, we will be purchasing a router with a dedicated phone line to enable access to the Internet through our network. With the help of Eagle's On-Line and the District's Technology Committee we hope all computer workstations in the building will connected to the school's local area network.
- ✈ THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN - As many are aware, not everything ends up rosy. On the downside, this winter provided a hard case of reality for many of our students and staff as close friends or relatives were lost. Particularly difficult was the loss of a staff member's spouse to a tragic car accident.

#### OTHER VALUABLE FERGUS HIGH STATS:

- ✈ STRONG EDUCATIONAL COMMITMENT - 21 of 38 Certified Staff have attained an advanced educational degree (a Master's Degree or higher), with several other staff members working toward attaining their Master's Degrees in the near future. The average tenure of the FHS teaching staff was 16.7 years with 10.8 years commitment to the



Lewistown Schools.

- ✈ **ATTENDANCE & ENROLLMENT** - Student attendance is excellent with figures showing an overall attendance rate of 93.93%. Our October 7 enrollment was 548 while the February 3 enrollment was 544. Last year those numbers were 536 and 526 respectively. October 7, 1996, enrollment by class included 146 freshmen, 149 sophomores, 128 juniors, and 125 seniors. Next year's currently enrolled population is 548, with the classes expected to include 148 freshmen, 142 sophomores, 140 juniors, and 118 seniors. As is usually the case an additional 10-20 students will enter in the fall.
- ✈ **AVERAGE '96-97 GPA FOR FHS STUDENTS** - The average GPA earned for an FHS student this past year was 2.878 for the first semester and 2.847 for the second. Last year those numbers were 2.814 first semester and 2.906 for the second. By class, the '96-97 average GPA's were: 2.869 and 2.902 for the seniors, 2.824 and 2.928 for the juniors, 2.888 and 2.760 for the sophomores, along with 2.924 and 2.816 for the freshman.
- ✈ **CUMULATIVE GPA FOR FHS STUDENTS** - The average cumulative GPA at the end of the year for a ranked FHS student was 2.912, with the average last year being 2.874. By class, those average cumulative GPA's were: 2.796 for the seniors, 2.994 for the juniors, 2.950 for the sophomores, 2.908 for the freshmen. The Class of 1996 (last year's seniors) had the highest final cumulative GPA (3.008) since we have started recording grades on the computer.
- ✈ **ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION** - Overall numbers of participants increased during the year, however, on a percentage basis they decreased slightly as 50% of the students participated in athletics, 46% participated in music, while 51% participated in clubs and other activities. Last years percentages were 49%, 43% and 57% respectively. Of concern is the creation of a larger gap in participation of males and females as only 42.2% of the opportunities for participation were used by our females (who account for 45% of the population). Another concern comes with the 21% of the students who do not participate in any school activities.
- ✈ **ACT SCORES** - ACT scores again appear to be significantly above state and national averages. Final figures will come later this summer; however, the Class of 1996 averages were 22.9, compared to the state and national averages of 21.7 and 20.9.
- ✈ **CLASS SIZE** - Class size this school year ended up being respectable. During this year average class sizes were: English - 21.2; Math - 19.9; Science - 19.7; Social Studies - 24.0; Foreign Language/Art/Drama - 16.6; Music - 66.0; Vocational - 14.7; and Title/Resource - 7.2. Some numbers are a bit deceiving as some classes have very small class limits along with several fluctuations due to population variations in each grade.
- ✈ **TRANSFER AND DROPOUT INFORMATION** - Fergus High School had 65 students transfer in or re-enroll during the school year. Of those 65 new students; 10 transferred out later while 5 dropped out of school and 3 enrolled in home schools. We also had 39 FHS students transfer to another school during the year. In terms of dropout totals; we had 1 freshman, 8 sophomores, 8 juniors, and 5 seniors who chose to leave school without enrolling in another school (including the 5 listed above that transferred in during the year).



## PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 1997:

The Class of 1997 and its original 160 members entered Fergus High in August, 1993, with many high expectations and goals. By the time their tenure was completed, class size was smaller with 120 members eligible for graduation.

Of the original 160 class members:

- ✧ 102 members graduated this spring. 97 of the 102 spent all four years at Fergus and the other 5 were original class members who spent part of their high school years at another school before transferring back to FHS.
- ✧ Of the 18 other graduates, 16 started and transferred in from other schools, 1 started with another class and was a fifth-year student, and the remaining student was a foreign exchange student.
- ✧ 58 members of the original 160 did not graduate locally. 23 dropped out of school locally and 31 transferred elsewhere. Of the 31 that transferred, 3 left to attend home schools, 12 were known to have graduated at other schools, and 16 transfer members are have lost contact with the school. 4 others will be returning as fifth year students.
- ✧ 54 members of the Class of 1997 graduated as honor roll students.
- ✧ 30 members of the Class of 1997 graduated as National Honor Society members.
- ✧ The mean GPA for the Class of 1997 is 2.775 and the overall average GPA is 2.797.
- ✧ In order to be considered a student in the "Top 30," a member of the Class of 1997 needed to have earned an overall GPA of 3.551, while a "Top 10" student required a 3.851 GPA.
- ✧ 55 graduates are currently planning on attending a four-year school next fall, 38 will attend in-state institutions, with 13 going to Montana State University in Bozeman, 7 attending Montana State University - Billings and 5 plan on attending the University of Montana in Missoula. The other 17 seniors plan on attending out-of-state universities.
- ✧ While 55 members of the Class of 1997 plan on attending a four-year college or university next fall, 13 members plan on attending a two-year college, with 7 planning on attending a trade or technical school. Nine (9) students plan on joining the military, 18 plan on working, and 20 are undecided about their immediate future.
- ✧ 43 of our 123 members of the Class of 1997 will receive scholarships (35% of our graduating seniors).
- ✧ As of May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Class of 1997 (as a whole) received over \$160,300 in scholarships for their first year of college.
- ✧ Additionally, the Class of 1997 has already earned the opportunity to receive an additional \$348,700, before they even have started thinking about scholarship applications for the sophomore, junior, and senior years in college. That brings the grand total over \$545,050 in current and future scholarship moneys.

Finally, as we look back on the '96-97 school year, and forward to the '97-98 school year, it is important to re-examine and re-evaluate the FHS Philosophy and Goals as they will help create a better understanding of our past successes and our future needs for improvement.

#### FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY:

Fergus High School is committed to providing each student a safe environment conducive to optimal intellectual, psychological, and moral development. Fergus High is also committed to providing essential opportunities which will allow each student mastery of the academic, vocational, and social skills necessary to lead a happy, productive life while becoming lifelong learners. Fergus High believes that it is our responsibility to ensure that each student, regardless of ability, background, or any other factor which might affect the educational process, receive the opportunities to reach their maximum potential in all areas of his/her academic, vocational, and social development. Therefore, academic courses, as well as extracurricular and co-curricular activities, will enable students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to take their place as productive and responsible citizens in a democracy.

#### FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL GOALS

- ✧ To promote and improve academic opportunities and excellence among our students.
- ✧ To promote student activity opportunities and involvement and excellence therein.
- ✧ To inspire students by heightening motivation, encouraging positive behavior and good citizenship.
- ✧ To promote effective study skills, systematic methods of critical thinking, and meaningful communication skills.
- ✧ To foster a sense of personal growth, self-esteem and personal responsibility.
- ✧ To expand and promote student utilization of technological advances.
- ✧ To provide the skills necessary to adapt to rapidly changing social and vocational expectations.
- ✧ To promote an interest in and a capacity for continued learning in all aspects of life and culture.
- ✧ To provide the opportunity for parent, community, staff and student input, open communications and involvement.

## **ACTIVITIES**

**Jerry Feller**



**FERGUS HIGH SCHOOL  
ACTIVITIES  
201 CASINO CREEK DRIVE  
LEWISTOWN, MT 59457  
(406) - 538-2321**

**1996-97**

**YEAR END REPORT**

This past year of **"GOLDEN EAGLE ACTIVITIES"** was again a very successful and exciting one with many exceptional individual and team performances and accomplishments. As we have mentioned before, we feel our activities are providing the educational experiences needed to develop strong individual citizens through this the "other half of education." Again, as in the past few years, the many outstanding efforts within the activity program brought our student body together and generally enhanced the overall attitude and educational atmosphere of the school and its' community.

A special thanks go out to everybody involved, especially Harvey Feller and Ila Pyrah. From pre-season to post season, we had the support, the guidance and the organization from our Athletic Director and his office secretary. From our schedules, travel time, home events, divisional and state trips on through our awards night. Thank you for your time in supporting the students of Fergus High.

Some of the many HIGHLIGHTS for the 96-97 school year include:

Fergus High continued to have tremendous academic success from our activities participants. In August we received information that we (for the fifth straight year) earned second place in the Montana High School Association's (MHSA) Class "A" Academic Excellence Award. As with each previous time, we were just "inched out" by Colstrip. These academic accomplishments over the years (along with our 90-91 first place award) is a tremendous feather in our cap. The Academic Excellence Award is the top academic award given by the MHSA and its' member schools. It is a reflection of the grade point averages of all letter-winning student participants in athletics, speech, drama and music. From our perspective, the award has become a yearly indicator of our success as we support the philosophy that academics must come before activities.

A very comparable indicator is reflected in the total number of Academic All-State selections our Golden Eagles earned for the 1996-97 school year. The awards are sponsored by the Montana Coaches Association (MCA) and again reinforce the importance of academics to our student-athletes. To qualify for an award, an individual must earn a varsity letter in athletics and maintain a 3.5 grade point average during the respective quarter of participation. For the 1996-97 school year we had a grand total of 70 student-athletes earn 94 individual Academic All-State Awards. Listing the awards by each individual sport are as follows: Girls Basketball - 10; Football - 15; Cross Country - 12; Wrestling - 5; Volleyball - 10; Boys Basketball - 5; Cheerleading - 5; Track and Field - 14; Tennis - 10; and Golf - 8.

For the ninth year we have been blessed with our own **SCREAMING EAGLE BAND** which is under the guidance of director Rich Garcia. His program continues to maintain a strong tradition of excellence and excitement here at Fergus High. The Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band and Pep Band were all excellent once again of which 23 students will be lost to graduation. A total of 15 members were sent to the state solo and ensemble festival. Chris Pryor (Trumpet) and Mike Schelle (Tuba) were members of the All-State Band. Kerrie McPherson was the winner of the band's most coveted award, the John Phillip Sousa Award and Ryan Smart was the band's Louis Armstrong Jazz award winner.



Under first year guidance, Fergus High's **CHOIR** department was headed by Gordon Klasna. Under his guidance the Concert Choir and Symphonic Choir had an excellent year, were very entertaining and were well received during their concerts. The Choralaires took a new direction by heading into the area of Vocal Jazz and did an outstanding job. They earned a superior rating in the Vocal Jazz category at the State Music Festival, representing 25% of the Choir Department. Denae Mahlen earned the National Choral Award for her role as not only a good musician but also a leader for the Choir. The Choir department took a positive step under the direction of Gordon Klasna, and we certainly look for good things to come.

Coaches Julie Allen and Kelly Elder led the **SPEECH AND DRAMA** team which enjoyed several successes during the season (bringing home a trophy for each meet they attended). Highlights included a Northern Division Championship for Drama for the third year in a row. Nathan Timpano and Heather Sawyer walked away with first place finishes in the Northern Division and Heather took second place at the State Meet. Eight participants qualified for the state meet this year, the largest amount of qualifiers in five plus years. Looking ahead to 1997-98, a strong contingent of returning team members should anchor a growing Fergus High team for an even stronger season.

Under the leadership of head advisor Susan Spurgeon and assistant advisor Leslie Colver the **CHEERLEADERS AND EAGLETES** had an outstanding year.

The Eaglettes saw the numbers in tryouts grow to 25 girls, trying out for 16 positions with one alternate. This year, the Eaglettes performed with the FHS Pep Band and added a flag routine. The "Macarena" was a hit allowing the student body and fans to participate. The Eaglettes also presented our Country's colors at all varsity Football, Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball home games. Fund raising activities were well received and supported by the community - allowing new uniforms and poms to be purchased. Additional uniforms will be purchased for the 1997-98 season.

An "end of June" start with the FHS Cheerleaders presented a hectic summer. With the new advisors hired in late June and coming into a program, with the squad already selected and eager to begin, presented some early on difficulties. The squad grew in strength throughout the school year and had many successes throughout the school year. The Varsity Squad of 7 attended Cheer Camp on MSU Bozeman's Campus in July. Also in July, the Cheerleaders were hired by the Fergus County Fair Board to help during Fair Week adding funds to the Cheer account. The Eagle Booster Club allowed the proceeds of their Fall Dance to be split between the Cheerleaders and Eaglettes. This really helped in the ordering of new uniforms for the Varsity Squad. Tryouts were held in May, 1997, for the 1997-98 year with 32 girls trying out for 17 positions. This, I believe, showed a renewed attitude towards the Fergus High Cheerleading program.

The Eaglettes and Cheerleaders worked together and did a half-time routine for both the Girls and Boys Basketball games. There seemed to be more cooperation between the two programs this past school year. Both programs are growing and getting better each month, thanks to the dedication of Susan Spurgeon, Leslie Colver and all students involved.

We had a very successful year at Fergus High School with **STUDENT COUNCIL** and Student Council Activities under the direction of Advisor Lynn McMillan. Leading the Student Government this year was Senior Jason Deffinbaugh. Using his soft sell management style, he was very successful involving many Student Council Officers in worthwhile activities. Some of the highlights of the year were as follows. A very successful organization of Homecoming Festivities which include, selection and coronation of the King and Queen, Prince and Princess, planning and organizing the homecoming half time show, and planning and organizing the homecoming dance. Another big event was the Blue Gold Breakfast featuring AFL-CIO Executive Director Don Judge whose address on leadership was unique coming from a former teacher. Under the direction of Jackie Rogan, the Blue Gold Breakfast was well



received with a record number attending with just under 200 people. Our student Council funded by the proceeds of several soft drink machines were able to assume the cost of the breakfast as well as fund many activities throughout the year for the students and teachers at Fergus High School. The ongoing student awards, gift certificates and recognition through AAA (Athletics, Academics, Arts) and Student of the Month was again well received by the student body. Other special projects include the Teacher of the Year, Good Apples Awards, the Eagle Clock Program, updating the Marquee, Class Olympics, and a commitment to the Fergus High School Track and Tennis Facility. Next year ends our three year pledge to the Track and Tennis program and Student Council will be looking for other places to instill pride in our school system.

The Fergus **FOOTBALL** Team was presented many challenges in 1996, under the direction of Head Coach Gary Gebert and first assistant Vic Feller. The varsity team had a lot of rebuilding in replacing all skill players on offense and all but three starters on defense. As one of the most hard luck teams in the division the varsity team earned a 2-6 record winning two of their last three games. With the emphasis on weights for next year, Coach Gebert feels we will be more physically stronger, quicker, tougher, and more aggressive. The challenge is still there to stick together, to believe in each other, to stay loyal and most importantly there is that great challenge of committing yourself to excellence - to be the best person you can possibly be in all areas of your existence. Fergus High looks forward for good things to come as the JV team under the direction of Rick Wright and Troy Hudson finished with a impressive record of 7-2, and the Freshmen finished the season not far behind with a record of 5-4 under direction of Ron Hrubes and Steve Oison.

The **GIRLS BASKETBALL** program had another outstanding year under Head Coach Ron Miller. The girls finished 15-7 despite competing in the always tough Central "A" Division. This year was especially tough. The Central A had six teams ranked in the top 7 in Class A at different times during the year. The State "A" Champion and State "A" Runner-up came from our division (Browning and Dillon). This marked the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year in which this has happened showing the power of our division. Our girls competed very well against the very best teams in the state with wins over Browning, Dillon, Havre, Class B power Malta, and State AA Runner-up Billings Skyview. This year marked the first year ever that our Varsity, JV, and Freshmen won every road game. The Divisional tournament found us seeded fourth, tied with Dillon who we opened with. The divisional this year was held at Dillon, but our girls continued their great road tradition by beating Dillon in the opening round. This brought a semi-final game against Browning in which the girls lost a tough emotional 2 point game. The girls bounced back to defeat Butte Central Saturday morning putting us in the consolation game against Dillon who came back through the loser's bracket. Playing Dillon at their place proved too much as Dillon prevailed this time. The girls have every reason to be proud of their effort as both Browning and Dillon went on to get 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at State. Four girls ended up All Conference - Jada Simonson, Erin Dunn, Wendy Hill and Kristen Miller. The JV, under Coach Susan Habbe, had another banner year with a 17-1 record. The freshmen, under Coach Jim Daniels also had another great year with a 17-1 record. The freshmen squad has lost just one game over the past two seasons. The "B" team under the direction of Coach Habbe and Coach Daniels finished the year with a 10-7 record.

The **CROSS COUNTRY** team not only had another very successful season, it was an extremely enjoyable season under the direction of Head Coach Eadie Schultz. Coach Schultz found the talent to be deep, so holding a varsity position was a challenge at each and every meet. The Varsity team finished undefeated, were Divisional Champs and captured the Class "A" State Title. Our 3 milers worked extremely hard to take this title and were lead by our Junior Captain Chrissy Pratt. Twenty one Class A girls teams were on the starting line with a total of 135 athletes competing. Our first five Eagles finished in the top 20 and brought home 3 state medals and set a new Fergus High 3 mile record with each of our



runners setting personal bests for the season. Chrissy Pratt's new record in 19:11 was good enough to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall. Heather Wise, outstanding freshman, in 19:27 brought home the 6<sup>th</sup> place medal and Tara Gates in 19:42 has the 12<sup>th</sup> place state medal. Mindy Harchenko finished 16<sup>th</sup> overall just one place out of medalist and Nicole Moen was 18<sup>th</sup> and completed our scoring for our team followed by Denae Mahlen 24<sup>th</sup> and Jenny Wilson. Sixteen Golden Eagles Cross Country runners finished the season and received participation and letter awards.

The 1996-97 **BOYS BASKETBALL** team under the direction of first year Head Coach Ron Miller proved to be an exciting season. With four returning players who saw a lot of action the previous year, there was reason to hope for good things. However, the team started very slowly compiling a 1-6 record early in the year. The team then started to understand their roles better as the season progressed and the result was a 9-5 record during the rest of the season. The boys had some outstanding wins against quality opponents including Havre, Billings Central, and Billings Skyview (3<sup>rd</sup> at the State AA tournament). The team won three road games compared to one road win the previous four years. The team's 10 wins more than doubled the previous year's win total of four. The fans started to come back to the gym to watch as Jason Scheffelmaer delighted them with many dunks, and as the team displayed a unity and a passion for playing the game. At the divisional tournament held in Belgrade, the boys opened with a win over Butte Central avenging an early season loss. This put us in the Friday night semi-final game against the host Belgrade team. It was the first Friday night game in four years for the boys and the nerves were evident as we struggled and lost. Browning ended our exciting year Saturday morning in a very emotional game. Four boys ended up All-Conference (Jason Scheffelmaer, Kory Phillips, Carson Robertson, and Brian Lutz) and Jason Scheffelmaer ended up being selected All State. The JV under the leadership of Dick Brosseau were 8-10. Coach Susan Habbe headed the sophomores with a record of 6-10. Coach Jim Daniels completed the season leading the freshmen team to a 15-4 record.

The **VOLLEYBALL** program under Head Coach Sterling Sundheim had another successful year. Our freshmen team finished with the second best record ever and our JV team was very competitive. Our Varsity won divisional for the third time in four years and finished second at state for the second time in four years. We feel that we have developed a strong program and will work to maintain it's high level of success. Assistant coaches Tara Taylor and Brenda Heller have done an outstanding job. Some of the season highlights were placing second in the consolation tournament at the Electric City Invitational. Winning of the Central A Extravaganza Tournament. Finishing the season with a varsity record of 25-7, JV record of 14-6 and a Freshmen record of 15-3. Additional highlights include the play of senior all-state players Erin Dunn and Kristin Miller. All-conference players Jada Simonson, Dana Duffy and Kami Hill. Placing 12 of the 13 letter winners on the All-State Academic Team and having 29 of the 30 athletes (freshmen through seniors) make the honor roll this year. Our 1996 varsity team was recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association for their academic achievement. The team received the AVCA Academic Excellence Award. This award went to about 40 high schools nation-wide. Of the high school teams receiving awards, Fergus High School had the fourth highest team GPA at 3.82. The award is not made until late summer, but this year's team will also receive the award. This will be the third year in a row that we will receive the award.

The 1996-97 Golden Eagle **WRESTLING** team under the direction of Victor Feller gained valuable experience through out the season. Only having two seniors on the divisional team, Chris Baumann who finished third and Rob Hartford who finished fourth. Looking forwards are seven Juniors for leadership. Scott Wilber, finished second, Luke Fry fourth, Darrell Woolsey third, Clay Taylor third, Cameron Wright fifth, Cory Rath third and Jason Higgs fifth. Our two sophomores had a great divisional tournament with both John Sanford and Willy Hay both finishing second. The only freshman Shaun Ruckman finished fifth. As a team we finished fourth at the divisional tournament. The State



tournament was a learning experience for everyone. Even though we did not place anyone, we had six wrestlers that were one match away from placing. If we improve over the summer are next year should be a good one for us. The wrestlers have continued to work in the off-season with many underclassmen participating in the freestyle season. Assistant Coaches were Gary Gebert and Rich Nearhoof.

The 1996-97 **TENNIS** team under the direction of Diane Lewis was a very young team with only one senior on the Divisional team. Fifty-seven players finished the tennis season this year. Highlighting the year was the play of Kami Hill (girls single), and Dusty Lobdell-Tim Monroe (boys doubles). They qualified for the State Tournament with Kami Hill placing fourth and Dusty Lobdell and Tim Monroe placing sixth at the Divisional Tournament. At the State Tournament all three played their best tennis of the season. This year we also hosted the Eastern A Divisional Tennis Tournament, thanks to the use of the new tennis facility. A strong group of junior and sophomores returning appear poised to provide excellent leadership next season. Head Coach Diane Lewis and Assistant Coach Linda Rinaldi look forward to next year with our new facilities and large number of participants for the 1998 tennis season.

The **GOLF** program under second year Head Coach Lynn McMillan and 15 year veteran Assistant Bob Oldenburg had another solid year. The Golf program was represented quite well on the boys side with 19 finishing the season. The girls program could use some growth in numbers with only 8 girl golfers. The highlight of the season for the boys was a second place finish in the Central Division Tournament held in Livingston. All five boys then qualified for the State Golf Tournament held in Hamilton. The Fergus High Boys Golf team finished in 11<sup>th</sup> place at the State Meet. (Senior Jay Ferrell and Eric Crimmins, Sophomores Tyler Solberg, Andy Oldenburg and John Sanford) Tyler Solberg finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place at the State Meet. The girls team faced tough competition this year in the Central Division. They however managed to qualify three girls individually to the State Meet. (Seniors Nikki Stuehm and Kacey Phillips and Junior Alica Lipke) With Thirteen returning letterman next year both the girls and boys teams should again challenge for team honors in the Central Division Golf Tournament and move on to a respectable showing at state.

The **TRACK AND FIELD** program again struggled with the cold, wet spring weather. We lost a few "early bird" track meets finding out that our new "all weather track" could be snowed out, but bounced back with the help of our outstanding track complex. We were able to hold more "home meets" and completed our invitational meet with pride. Under Head Coach Eadie Schultz and Assistant Coaches Dick Brosseau, Brenda Heller and Steve Olson both our boys and girls teams finished fifth overall at Divisional. Ten Golden Eagle girls and nine Golden Eagle boys advanced to the state meet in Great Falls. Jamie Slagel, our freshman leader, captured medals in all five of her events taking a Gold medal in the hurdles. A gold medalist in the 800m was awarded to our senior captain Kristin Miller. Nineteen divisional medalist brought home thirty-five divisional medals in eighteen events. Two of them Gold! At the state meet we had three of our seniors wind up their track careers bringing home state medals and setting one new Fergus High record. Kristin Miller set the record in the 800m taking fourth at state. Carson Robertson 6<sup>th</sup> place medal in the 800m and Jay Martin 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal in the 100m. Our state competitors bringing home nine state medals for us were Jay Martin, Carson Robertson, Kristin Miller, Jamie Slagel, Heather Wise, Julie Hawn, Sarah Wilber and Kristen Hagen.

The backbone of the **LEWISTOWN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** athletic program continues to be our outstanding coaching staff. It is because of their dedication, their excellent "teaching" skills and their commitment to our students that we continue to enjoy an incredibly high level of participation. Our dedicated staff consisted of the following personnel for the 1996-97 school year.



**FOOTBALL**

Steve Paulson  
Roger Woltermann  
Jim Wier  
Monty Harrison

**GIRLS BASKEBALL**

Justin Guyer  
Stephanie Simpson  
Annie Davis

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Suzie Flentie

**WRESTLING**

Rich Nearhoof

**TRACK AND FIELD**

Suzie Flentie  
Roger Woltermann  
Stephanie Simpson  
Steve Paulson

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

Justin Guyer  
Lynn McMillan  
Troy Hudson

**VOLLEYBALL**

Craig Beuhler  
Katherine Spraggins  
Dave Byerly  
Kayleen Patton

We look forward to continued success and positive student participation in all of our programs in the future as a direct result of the outstanding contributions made by this entire crew.

The athletic programs were once again guided utilizing a "tag team" approach, as Greg Lucotch, Lauri Tognetti and Pat Hould kept track of schedules, supplies, coaches, referees, and of course our student athletes. This trio proved that cooperation and communication are the keys to success and that three heads are always better than one! For your information, Mary Beth Kohl did an excellent job during Lauri's absence.

The method by which we recognized our students was also a significant happening for the overall athletic program this year. Guided by our cheerleaders and their sponsor Val Snapp, our athletes were given a hero's welcome during two awards type ceremonies. These assemblies were conducted before our student body and were held at the conclusion of our fall and winter seasons. Parents and community members were abundantly in attendance and a special motivational talk was given to encourage our students onto further participation. These two ceremonies brought a tremendous response from parents, students and staff. It is our hope that a new tradition has begun!

At the **ELEMENTARY** level, in grades five and six, Jim Daniels coordinated good programs in volleyball, basketball, wrestling and track. There were very few changes in what appears to be a strong after-school program. Again varsity coaches continued to provide good clinics and other inservice activities for elementary programs and we hope they can spend even more time working with young athletes of the future. Current elementary season lengths were: volleyball and basketball - 8 weeks; wrestling and track - 6 weeks. Elementary participant numbers were: volleyball - 110, girls basketball - 82, boys basketball - 75, wrestling - 25, girls track - 72 and boys track - 60.

I feel the activities programs at Fergus have a lot to offer all the young students attending School District #1. Activity programs that provide valuable lessons on many practical situations such as, teamwork, sportsmanship, winning and losing, and hard work. Through participation in activities programs we provide the opportunity for students to learn self-discipline, build self-confidence and develop skills to handle competitive situations. We provide activities that support the academic mission of our school.

Programs that are not a diversion but rather an extension of a good educational program. The confidence in almost all Fergus activities programs seem to be strong in not improving. The staff is highly professional, motivated and very enjoyable to work with. We in School District #1 and Fergus High look forward to good things to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Feller, FHS Assistant Principal/Activities



**MUSIC**

**Rich Garcia**

# **Lewistown Public Schools**

## **Music Department**

Richard Garcia  
Music Coordinator

Date: June 16, 1997  
To: Conrad Robertson  
School District #1 School Board Members  
Fr: Richard Garcia, Music Coordinator  
Re: Year End Report 1996-97

Below is a summary of the activities, accomplishments and recommendations of the Music Department for the past year.

### **Highlights**

- Lewistown Public Schools sent Chris Pryor and Mike Schelle to the 1996-97 All-State Music Festival.
- Fergus High School sent 15 Choir students and 31 Band students to the District 8 Honor Band & Choir Festival.
- The Fergus High School Symphonic Band performed "Shindlers List" in combination with computer imaging shown onto a screen. The combination displayed the latest in computer technology available at Fergus High School.
- The Junior High School Jazz Band receives a standing ovation for there spring performance.
- Fergus High School Choir sent the largest number of groups to the State Music Festival in Billing since anyone can remember.
- The Junior High sent 2 Jazz Bands to Powel Wyoming to participate in the Northwest Jazz Festival.
- Lewistown Music Staff provided a new music curriculum for the students in the Lewistown Public School System. Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Activities**

#### **1. Major Concerts**

- 10 Major concerts by the Music Department Bands and Choirs.
- 2 Eastern "A" Festivals
- 2 district Festivals
- 2 State Festivals
- 1 Out of State Festival

#### **2. Programs**

- Many elementary school programs were held at both the Fergus Center and at the perspective elementary schools. All elementary schools were involved.

#### **3. Community Performances**



- There were an innumerable amount of shows, productions, presentations, displays, programs, ceremonies, plays and concerts held in the Fergus Center For The Performing Arts.
- 4. Summer Parades
- Fourth of July and County Fair
- 5. Pep Band
- The Fergus High School Screaming Eagle Band continues to support the Fergus athletic teams. Performing at 18 equally divided boys and girls athletic events and 2 basketball tournaments.

#### **Improvements**

- Junior High School Jazz Bands
- Junior High School Concert Bands
- Fergus High School Choir ratings at state
- Elementary music programs
- Computer for the music department
- Vivace for student use at the High School level

#### **Recommendations**

- Maintain the quality of music offerings in the school district.
- Emphasize recruitment and enrollment needs for the school district choirs
- Finish the Fergus Center for The Performing Arts
- Provide a maintenance and replacement program for the Fergus Center's electronic equipment.
- Furnish Internet access to all students

#### **Special Thanks**

- To Lewistown News Argus and KXLO-KLCM for their support and publicity for our school music performances.
- Conrad Robertson, who's leadership and guidance makes a difference in the Lewistown Music Department.
- District #1 School Board Members, your long hours of managing and your support is both treasured and appreciated.

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

**Sid Wilson**



# STAFF DEVELOPMENT

## Lewistown Public Schools

Lewistown, MT 49457

201 Casino Creek

(406) 538-2321

June 9, 1997

TO: Conrad Robertson  
Superintendent of Schools

REF: 1996-1997 Accomplishments  
Staff Development

The following outline is a breakdown of major activities and projects that were undertaken by both the Title II and Title VI Staff Development Programs during the 1996-1997 school term. They represent the services and opportunities for training that have been offered to district personnel.

### I. In-service training workshops presented within the district:

A total of nine individual workshops were offered during the school term. The topics arranged from providing science/math teachers new skills in content and technology to training new staff and student teachers in utilization of the six trait writing model. Thirty-two teachers were each provided with approximately 3 hours of training.

### II. General in-service training for all staff members:

In October and February all teachers were provided in-service training related to the Montana Behavioral Initiative. During the two periods, 106 staff members each received approximately 9 hours of training.

### III. Out of state travel of in-service activities:

Staff members were provided opportunities to travel to national and regional conferences in science, math, and middle school structure. A total of 16 teachers each received an average of 21 hours of training.

### IV. In state travel for in-service activities:

Staff members were provided opportunities to travel in Montana to attend conferences on Leadership, Reading, and Discipline. Twelve teachers each received approximately 7 hours of training.

page 2

The Staff Development Program provided 106 staff members with a total of 1472 contact hours of in-service training. All teachers, K-12, were affected by the program. Consequently, district staff averaged approximately 13.8 hours of in-service training.

Sid Wilson  
Staff Development Coordinator



**TITLE I**

**Pat Hould**

**The Lewistown Public Schools**

**Title I Program**

**1996 - '97**

**The Year in Review**

I must begin by echoing the comments made at the beginning of this report one year ago - the students who receive Title I services in the Lewistown Public Schools are in very good hands. The fact remains that the entire staff is positively committed to serving the students of this great district in a caring, nurturing and productive fashion. It is their dedication, their willingness to serve and their attitude that make this such a beneficial and rewarding program.

These outstanding staff members graced our schools during the 1996 - '97 school year.

**Lewis and Clark elementary**

Jackie Rickl

**Highland Park elementary**

Leslie Hadden

Dan Melick

**Garfield elementary**

Nancy Barber

Darcy Zanto

**Junior High**

Harry Fradley

Katherine Spraggins

Val Snapp

**High School**

Mary Jo Hamling

LaRae Acker

Vic Feller

Troy Hudson

**BPU Manager/District administrator - Pat Hould**

**Authorized Representative - Stacey Vestal**

**>>1996 - '97 program highlights<<**

The following is a mere sampling of the Title I highlights from the 1996 - '97 school year.

- \* the addition of a third in-class model at the junior high for language arts - cooperatively taught by Val Snapp and Roger Woltermann
- \* Darcy Zanto has been a welcome addition to the Garfield staff
- \* Katherine Spraggins has been a welcome addition to the UHS staff
- \* the addition of a cooperatively taught section of 8th grade Title I Math, combining the talents of Cynthia Thomas Baumann and Katherine Spraggins
- \* the 2nd annual pizza and ice cream social for parents was a huge success with over 100 people in attendance - Pat Hould gave a thought provoking presentation
- \* reading in the content area class at FHS - cooperatively taught by LaRae Acker & Mike Rae
- \* the parent-student compact continued to be utilized in the fall of 1997

>>1996 - '97 program highlights, continued<<

- \* the fall conference was a three day in-service opportunity that enhanced our vision of assessment and how we can better serve our student population
- \* high participation in parent-teacher conferences at the elementary schools

The major focus for our program this school year has been assessment. With the district deciding to administer the Stanford Achievement Test at grades 4, 8 & 11, beginning in the spring of 1997, the Title I staff faced the challenge of redesigning how we qualify students for service. While this was indeed a complex and often times intense challenge, it was ultimately a very rewarding process for the entire staff. Many hours of discussion, research and brainstorming brought about the assessment strategies that have been created and are now in place. Capped by two extremely successful half day in-service workshops, the attached sheets summarize the incredible work that was done by our dedicated and collaboratively minded Title I staff members. Their efforts should be applauded.

While the documents that accompany this report are impressive and noteworthy, our work has indeed just begun. For it is the never ending assessment of our students that should always drive instruction. We should constantly be reviewing how our methods of instruction are better preparing students for their future academic challenges. Thus, we will always be involved in a process of review for the purpose of improving ourselves, our students and our overall programs. This is a challenge that the Title I teachers grasp with an open mind and a positive spirit.



## Title I Assessment strategies for Spring '97 ~ READING

2 - 6	7 - 8	9 - 11
fluency	CLOZE(all students)	CLOZE(all students)
teacher referral	teacher referral	teacher referral
	current grades or current Title I placement	
	current SAT scores	

### **Description of the assessment process at the K - 1 level**

- \* the present check list will continue to be utilized for placement at the Kindergarten and the first grade levels

### **Description of the assessment process at the 2 - 6 level**

1. Screen students ~ establish a baseline utilizing passages for fluency from Houghton-Mifflin series. Would be one minute timings(words per minute), and skip miscue's. (up to 50 points)
2. Teacher referral would include the following; (up to 50 points)
  - a. test results
  - b. writing assessments
  - c. class performance
  - d. individual instruction

### **Description of the assessment process at the 7 - 8 level**

1. CLOZE ~ would be teacher generated from appropriate grade level reading with points being distributed as follows;
  - a. instructional level = 15 points
  - b. frustrational level = 25 points
2. All teachers would identify the top 15 students in greatest need of service ~ non-resource = 25 points
3. Current grade or current Title I placement with points distributed as follows;
  - a. current Title I placement = 25 points OR
  - b. a current grade of an "F" = 25 points
  - c. a current grade of a "D" = 15 points
  - d. a current grade of a "A -C" = 0 points

**Description of the assessment process at the 7 - 8 grade levels, cont.,**

- 4. Most current SAT score, points distributed as follows;**
  - a. above 40% = 0**
  - b. 40 - 32 % = 5**
  - c. 31 - 23% = 10**
  - d. 22 - 11% = 15**
  - e. 10 - 5 % = 20**
  - f. 4 or lower = 25**

**Description of the assessment process at the 9 -11 level**

- 1. CLOZE ~ administer to all students via English classrooms**  
**\* Create a list of students who are at the instructional and frustrational levels for teacher referral purposes**
- 2. Teacher referral would include an evaluation of students writing and their current grade.**
- 3. The Slosson diagnostic test would be administered to students after placement decisions had been made in order to drive instruction.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Title I assessment strategies for Spring '97 ~ MATH**

<b>2 - 6</b>	<b>7 - 8</b>	<b>9 - 11</b>
<b>textbook assessment</b>	<b>curriculum test</b>	<b>curriculum test</b>
<b>teacher referral</b>	<b>teacher referral</b>	<b>teacher referral</b>
	<b>current grades or current Title I placement</b>	<b>current grades or current Title I placement</b>
	<b>most current SAT scores</b>	

**Description of the assessment process at the K - 1 level**

- \* The present checklist would continue to be utilized for placement at the Kindergarten and the 1st grade levels.**

### **Description of the assessment process at the 2 - 6 level**

- 1. Utilize a screening tool based upon an end of the year textbook assessment.**
- 2. Teacher referral would include the following information; (up to 50 points)**
  - a. test scores**
  - b. academic performance**
  - c. attendance**
  - d. homework**
  - e. amount of individual instruction student requires**
- 3. In addition, the following are possible diagnostic assessments which could be utilized;**
  - a. Woodcock**
  - b. Keymath**
  - c. Wiat**
  - d. Kaufman**
  - e. informal**

### **Description of the assessment process at the 7 - 8 level**

- 1. A teacher generated Math curriculum test would be administered to all students = 25 points.**
- 2. Teacher referral would include the following information = 25 points**
  - a. test & quiz scores**
  - b. academic performance**
  - c. attendance**
  - d. homework**
  - e. rate of work, study skills, organization**
- 3. Third quarter grades or current Title I placement = 25 points. Points will be distributed as follows;**
  - a. current Title I placement = 25 points**
  - b. a current grade of an "F" = 25 points**
  - c. a current grade of a "D" = 15 points**
  - d. a current grade of an "A - C" = 0 points**
- 4. Utilize most current SAT scores. Points will be distributed as follows;**
  - a. above 40% = 0**
  - b. 40 - 32% = 5**
  - c. 31 - 23% = 10**
  - d. 22 - 11% = 15**
  - e. 10 - 5% = 20**
  - f. 4 or lower = 25**



## **Description of the assessment process at the 9 - 11 level**

- 1. A teacher generated Math curriculum test would be administered to all 9th and 10th grade students. Excluding the freshmen Geometry and sophomore Algebra II students.**
- 2. Third quarter grades or current Title I placement.**
- 3. Teacher referral would include the following information**
  - a. test scores**
  - b. academic performance**
  - c. attendance**
  - d. homework**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Charlie Brown**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
**JUNE, 1997**

We just finished another outstanding and very challenging year in Special Education. I am excited about the continuing support that I have received from the administrators and the Board as the Special Education Director. Special education remains a team effort and in all of the Lewistown schools, the primary focus in the Special Education Program of both teachers and administrators is meeting the individual needs of the children.

This past year we served approximately 176 students in all our programs. This number is down by 26 over last year. There are 117 students identified with disabilities in the elementary, 42 in the high school, and 17 served as preschoolers. We are working to meet the needs of children with disabilities falling in 11 of the 13 disability categories.

The following is a list disabilities and the numbers of children served in each of those categories:

<u>Disability Category</u>	<u>Number Served</u>
Cognitive Delay	7
Hearing Impaired	5
Speech/Language Impaired	41
Visually Impaired	1
Emotionally Disturbed	11
Other Health Impaired	4
Learning Disabled	87
Multiple Disabilities	1
Child with Disabilities (age 0-6)	17
Autism	1
Traumatic Brain Injury	1

Our most challenging children continue to be those with emotional disturbance that are placed in the regular classroom. These children push our resources to the limit but also force us to look at and fine tune our teaching methods, discipline structures, etc.. This year the administrative team worked on a district wide continuum of services for these children and criteria for moving from one level to the next. As part of that plan we worked with 6 different children for varying amounts of time at Lincoln School. These placements were very successful in that they relieved the pressure in the neighborhood school and protected both students and teachers. One student was placed at Lincoln long-term until a residential placement could be made.



We will continue to work on the following projects:

**MONTANA BEHAVIORAL INITIATIVE:** With support from CMLRCC, teams of District #1 teachers will be able to participate in a summer institute in Helena that is designed to encourage a community approach to the behaviorally challenging child. This institute will focus on interagency collaboration and a systems approach to discipline in the schools. Teachers will be taught a proactive curricular approach to teaching appropriate behaviors as opposed to reacting to inappropriate behavior. This is an exciting opportunity and will possibly open doors for future training.

Each school now has an MBI team that is working on a school-wide approach to teaching responsibility and managing behavior. Each school is looking at individual needs and developing a plan to address those needs. This year teachers, parents and students were surveyed to gather data to help in making systems level changes.

**PRESCHOOL PROGRAM:** This year we moved the Preschool Program back to Garfield School and used Head Start for socialization and placement of our 4 and 5 year olds. We were able to keep many of the positive components of Head Start and provided more individualized attention to the children by splitting the program. It is still less than perfect and we are trying to work out the challenges. With a half time teacher and children with such diverse needs it is difficult to come up with an optimal plan.

**MAINSTREAM COORDINATOR:** After taking a hard look at the direction we were going with the Mainstream Coordinator position, we realized that the numbers of children we were trying to serve, the type of support we were trying to provide, and the effectiveness of our efforts were in need of a mid-course correction. This year our plan was to use the position to provide direct support and training to elementary teachers with the most difficult students. Our intent was to prioritize the students and use the Mainstream Coordinator's time to help teachers plan specific lessons and strategies, to model certain techniques, co-teach in the classroom and train building resource teachers to do the same. This model was very successful in providing support to the paraprofessionals working with those students with disabilities. A large amount of time was spent consulting with teachers on management issues for children with behavioral challenges in the classroom

This year we were monitored by the Office of Public Instruction (OPI). Overall, our programs faired well. The greatest concerns were regarding transition services at the high school and our service delivery model at the middle school. To address these issues, teams from both schools met with OPI and developed plans to deal with their concerns. The biggest changes will occur in the middle school. Due to such a large caseload, it has been extremely difficult to address the individual needs of the students. To solve that problem the district

will be purchasing teacher services from the Coop and thereby creating a situation where class size will be reduced significantly, opportunities for co-teaching will increase, supported inclusion will be possible and programs for the students can be individualized.

This coming year we will have a new Special Needs teacher. This will present challenges and opportunity for all those involved. Lynn Halter has not taught in a setting like this before and will need all our support. She is enthusiastic and outstanding as a teacher and as an individual. She will bring new energy to that classroom. We need to give thanks for Nancy Barber and a job extremely well done over the years. We will have Nancy there to help train and support Lynn in her new role.

Meeting the needs of a diverse population will always keep us exploring new and different options for service delivery. Success in the future lies in our ability to blend "special" and "regular" education and to approach these populations from a collaborative position. The children identified as having disabilities impact every facet of education. We are constantly challenged to meet the individual needs at all levels with limited resources, limited training, and limited time. Board support for our endeavors has been outstanding and I give thanks for their compassion for children that need additional care.

Submitted by:

Charles R. Brown, Director

Central Montana Learning Resource Center Cooperative

**ADULT EDUCATION  
ABE/EOCM/TRAFFIC EDUCATION**

**Diane Oldenburg**



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION, 1996-97

Diane Oldenburg, Director

The office of Community Education continues to serve an ever-increasing number of Central Montanans with varied and diverse offerings from each of four departments. Please note the attached report for specific enrollment figures.

### ADULT EDUCATION

A comprehensive program of 109 educational, social, recreational and cultural opportunities for adults was offered during the 1996-97 term. Advertising efforts included distributing 8,000 adult education flyers to area households three times per year, as well as advertising to all area businesses through a combined effort with the Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce.

Classes were held in conjunction with the Tri-County American Red Cross, Family Planning, Edward D. Jones & Company, Montana Department of State Lands, District 6 H.R.D.C., MSU-Fergus County Extension Service, MSU-College of Technology in Great Falls, and Pine Meadows Golf Course.

We also provided prearranged group classes where our instructor went into a place or business and taught a workshop for specific employees or residents. This was done for CPR/First Aid certification and exercise classes.

I continue to serve on the state board of the Montana Association of Adult and Community Educators. During this school year, I attended the Regional Mountain Plains Adult Education Conference, the state MAAE Conference, the state Adult Education Directors' meeting and several MAAE board meetings. I was honored by my peers at the eight-state regional conference in Wyoming where I received the state of Montana's "Award for Excellence" recognizing my work in adult education.

I assisted Laurel and Polson Public Schools with redesigning their Adult Education programs through consultation and examples.

### DRIVER EDUCATION

Our Driver Education program provides high quality instruction and excellent hands-on training while teaching important lifetime skills to our students.

We continued to utilize the Montana Advanced Driver Education Facility; the cost to us was extremely low compared to the benefits our students received. All students were given a vision screening prior to any behind-the-wheel experience. The trip to Great Falls was provided as a valuable learning experience in highway and city driving. We also offered private tutoring in manual shift operation upon payment of an additional fee. A new testing program allowed our instructors to waive the state driver's license test for students who qualified in the classroom and on the road.

Class sessions were held once in the fall, winter, and spring, as well as twice during the summer months. Classes were filled each session despite the higher fee. We did offer installment plans to parents who were unable to pay the \$150 fee in one payment.



## ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/GED PROGRAM

Free classes were offered three days and two evenings per week, year round, at the Lewistown Public Library. Recruitment of the general population, as well as a strong referral system between area human service agencies, provided a steady stream of clients.

My office administered literacy instruction, adult basic education and GED preparation in Fergus, Judith Basin, Golden Valley and Musselshell Counties. The classes in the three outlying counties were provided as needed. This program continues to be available through the renewal of three different grant funding sources.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CENTRAL MONTANA

A wide variety of live college courses at Fergus High School were expanded upon this year by the addition of the new interactive-TV classroom located at the Central Montana Medical Center. Course work to complete general education core requirements, an associates or bachelors degree in business, the associates degree in nursing, as well as Masters level courses for educators were provided locally by MSU-Northern and other units of the Montana university system. Financial aid has also been made available to assist qualified students.

To compliment the college course offerings, a library of catalogs from most post-secondary institutions in Montana are provided for students to check out and peruse. In addition, a professional adult-student guidance counselor from Great Falls accepts appointments through the Community Education office. The counselor visits as needed with area adults interested in returning to, or beginning, a post-secondary education. Financial aid, student support services, career counseling, and information about Montana schools are among the services provided.

In addition to our post-secondary offerings, EOCM provided a nine-class series EMT/First Responder continuing education unit which allowed many area people to re-certify locally. This program was held in cooperation with the Central Montana Medical Center and Deaconess Hospital in Billings.

In my role as EOCM director, I also worked with local financial institutions to establish time payment plans for our college students, maintained our revolving loan fund of \$7,500, worked on a fund-raising benefit, and met with various representatives of the Montana university system throughout the year.

## OTHER

Representing the Community Education office, I served on the Human Services Coalition, the WoRC Task Force, the Central Montana Job Network, the PIR Committee, the Adult Basic Education Advisory Board, and the Montana Association of Adult and Community Educators State Board. I recently began a five year term as a member of the Montana State University Presidential Advisory Council.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION  
1996-97

ADULT EDUCATION

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Classes offered <u>35</u>	Classes offered <u>43</u>	Classes offered <u>31</u>
Classes held <u>33</u>	Classes held <u>31</u>	Classes held <u>26</u>
Enrollment <u>360</u>	Enrollment <u>366</u>	Enrollment <u>303</u>

TOTAL ADULT EDUCATION PARTICIPANTS: 1029

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

School Year	Summer '97	Adult Learner
<u>3</u> sessions <u>69</u>	<u>2</u> sessions <u>54</u>	<u>0</u>

TOTAL DRIVER EDUCATION PARTICIPANTS: 123

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/GED

ABE/GED Class Enrollment <u>105</u>	Total GED exams given <u>38</u>
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TOTAL ABE/GED PARTICIPANTS: 143

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CENTRAL MONTANA

FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
College classes <u>12</u>	College classes <u>15</u>
Enrollment <u>80</u>	Enrollment <u>151</u>

Number of classes offered: 27	Total enrollment, college: <u>231</u>
Types/number of classes held: 27	EOCM Loans given: 5 for \$350.00

Computer.....3	Speech.....1
Education.....6	Chemistry/Biology.....3
Medical.....1	Humanities.....1
History.....2	Psychology.....1
Business.....8	Music.....1

Workshops/Seminars	
Held	<u>1</u>
Enrollment	<u>50</u>

Adult Student Counseling 35

EMT Continuing Education 236

TOTAL EOCM PARTICIPANTS: 552

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS SERVED BY COMMUNITY EDUCATION, TO DATE: 1,847



# **CURRICULUM**

**John Moffatt**

To: Superintendent Robertson, Board of Trustees

From: John Moffatt

Re: Annual Curriculum Report

The 1996-97 School year saw perhaps our most ambitious curriculum work ever. Four separate areas were reviewed and revised. These included library, art, music, and health enhancement. I know that keeping abreast (or trying to) of all four curriculum teams and their progress kept me hopping. I have to say also, though, that all of these teams were fun to work with, and I believe our end products in each area will serve the district well for the next several years.

The music team worked very hard to create a document which was "teacher friendly", and I believe they succeeded. Their emphasis is on an activity-based approach to music, rather than reliance on paper and pencil activities. This is especially true at the elementary levels. We were able to complete purchase of texts at each elementary level. The high school is excited about the purchase of a Vivace machine which will greatly enhance their ability to accompany students who are preparing solos or ensembles for festivals. We were fortunate enough to receive a "no shipping charge" break on our major textbook purchase which will save the district several hundred dollars.

Art team members provided in-service training to their grade-level colleagues in an effort to make art concepts more understandable. The team is building up a resource collection of samples which will be available to staff district-wide. The team plans to continue this process next year. The curriculum guide was streamlined after detailed discussions of basic concepts of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. A new feature of the guide is a checklist for teachers which will help them keep track of concepts they are responsible for teaching. It will also be helpful for administrators who will be able to see which concepts have been taught during any given period of time. The elementary staff has been given some great resources through our materials order. The committee wisely opted for items which will last for years, such as books, instructional manuals, videos, etc., rather than consumable supplies which could not be replaced the following year.

The library team picked up where they left off last year in their revision. With assistance from the Helena model, our crew completed a curriculum guide which is much more usable than was previously the case. The major addition was adopting the Big 6 Information Skills Research model. This should help standardize research procedures throughout our district. This spring several teachers were provided in-service training in the Big 6 model. Our plan is to train the rest of the staff in October. Thanks to the BPU process it looks like we will be able to enhance the hugely-successful Accelerated Reader program in each of the three elementary schools. New projection machines were also major parts of the materials purchase.

Our Health Enhancement Life Performance Skills (HELPS) team had perhaps the busiest year, as revision of this curriculum was long overdue. We used several

models as resources in our revision, most notably the Havre program as well as the National Standards. I believe we now have a consistent, usable document which will benefit our HELPS teachers as well as our elementary classroom teachers. New materials include The Great Body Shop materials for the elementary staff and texts for both junior high and high school teachers and students. This team has proposed some innovative seminar possibilities for junior and senior students, and we are in the process of working with the high school administration and teachers to determine how best to make the seminar concept a reality. A public hearing was held prior to adoption of our proposed curriculum, after which the Board voted unanimously to accept it. The Board also has agreed to study the feasibility of using the Youth Risk Behavior Survey to serve as part of our district needs assessment.

Next year the district will focus on technology, and we will follow-up on the areas we developed this year. We will also need to work on direction for assessment district-wide. Several curriculum areas are in need of minor adjustments, and this might be a good time to meet those needs.



**DRUG/ALCOHOL**

**Tim Gillen**



Your public schools . . .  
There's no better place to learn.®

## Lewistown Public Schools

Highland Park Elementary  
1312 7th Avenue North  
Lewistown, Montana 59457  
(406) 538-2555

Conrad Robertson  
Superintendent

Tim Gillen  
Principal

Cindy Giese  
Secretary

TO: Conrad Robertson

FROM: Tim Gillen

RE: Drug/Alcohol Report

DATE: June 17, 1997

My first year as principal and drug/alcohol coordinator was informative and interesting.

The drug/alcohol committee, which is made up of staff from each school, began the year with a focus on Red Ribbon Week. The committee worked hard to plan and develop activities for each school. A real important part of Red Ribbon Week activities is the interaction between high school students and junior high and elementary students. It is hoped that we can continue to expand and develop the "no use" theme in the future.

The drug/alcohol program again received a grant for the 1996-97 school year. As in the past, the majority of the grant money was used to provide a home school coordinator. Maggie Moffatt continued to provide this service. Maggie is a professional counselor who is a resource for students and parents in the Lewistown school system. The home school coordinator focuses on at risk students in grades 6-9.

The D.A.R.E. program which stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education was provided to all fifth grade students in our district. This program is sponsored by the Fergus County Sheriff's Office and private donations. D.A.R.E. Officer Bob Clark did an excellent job of developing and instructing the D.A.R.E. classes for 17 weeks during the first semester.

The year ended with the Health Enhancement Life Performance Skills curriculum committee making a special effort to include in the curriculum additional substance abuse instruction.

TG/cg

**FOOD SERVICE**

**Donna Larson**



LEWISTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 17, 1997

School Food Services served 124,732 school lunches during the 1996-97 school year, a 6% decrease over last years lunches. We averaged 693 lunches daily this year. I felt that part of the decrease was due to a decrease in enrollment and also because we are serving more a la carte sandwiches, juices and a la carte items in the secondary schools this year in place of the school lunches. If we could count all of our ala carte sandwiches, salads and catered noon lunches, we would have served over 900 lunches daily.

\*Our ALA CARTE PROGRAM continues to be very successful and definitely helps our lunch program financially to remain within our "tight" budget. Students in the Junior and Senior High Schools enjoy being able to make their own selection on the types of foods they choose to eat. Our "Pizza Hut" complete lunch or a la carte entre has been extremely successful. In fact, I have been considering increasing the present pizza choice of twice a week to three times a week as it is so well received. Pizza is very nutritious and becomes a very good lunch selection as we serve fresh fruit, vegetables and milk to complete the lunch. The hot lunch and Salad and Sandwich Combos are offered daily as a choice in these schools and Hamburgers, Hot Ham & Cheese, Hot Dogs and Polish Sausage Combos are also served on the days that pizza is not offered. Several other A La Carte items are sold in these schools. As a teaching tool, a chart has been posted near the a la carte items noting the nutritional value and indicating some of the hidden sugars, fats and salt found in some of the foods. At the present time, we are not selling a la carte items in the elementary schools. All costs and profits for the a la carte program are reviewed semi-annually and prices are adjusted when necessary.

\*The CATERING PROGRAM served 66 events this past year. This was down 6 events mainly due to less tournaments which we cater at the high school and also because the choir festivals were not held at our schools this past year. This program also assists us financially and all costs and profits are reviewed continually.

\*ACCU-SCAN continues to be our main meal ticket and a la carte accounting system within the district and is running very smoothly. We continue to review new prices for meals, tickets and ala carte items with the secretaries and cashier-servers and assist them with the implementation of new and existing accounting policies required by state and federal authorities.

\*The BREAKFAST PROGRAM at Garfield Elementary School continues to work out very well with very little assistance from our central kitchen staff and is handled entirely by our Garfield servers. They prepare, serve the meal, watch the children for any possible disciplinary problems (which are very few) and clean up the area when finished. They also keep all participant records and food account records required by USDA for the program. The breakfast menus continue to be planned, printed and analyzed by the Director. It is a very easy program to administer and I continue to encourage all of our other schools to begin a breakfast program. We all know that a hungry child can't learn - there still is a definite need for a breakfast



program in Lewistown. Yes, we have financially needy children here in Lewistown who are not being offered a breakfast; but we also have many children who hurry off to school without breakfast for various reasons. We, as adults, sometimes have to hurry off to work because we just did not have enough time that morning for breakfast. But, if our brain tells us that it is at a standstill and if we get hungry enough, we usually can find some kind of food, even if we are at work. This is not true for our children. They must continue on with their classes until lunch time. Let's think of them and provide them with that needed nutrition!

\*Our ELEMENTARY LUNCH PROGRAMS used two "promotional themes" each month and followed several choices of main entre and vegetables each week. One promotional theme emphasized good nutrition through a free promotional item each month. A "Tour Around the World" emphasizing a different country each month was our other promotion. A menu was planned using foods from that country and information about foods, recipes and facts from that country were explained on the backs of menus. Our daily menus were again planned following the dietary guidelines with some usage of the "New Menus" concept from USDA. Next year we hope to have everything "on line" in our computer and will be following the "New Menus" pattern. I will explain this new meal pattern to parents and students on "menu backs" and show them the valuable nutritional information available to us by using our new "Nutrikids" computer program..

\*Our FOOD SERVICE BUDGET will not be as healthy as it was last year mainly because I purchased some items which I felt were necessary for our program. Some of those items were a computer program entitled "Nutrikids", transport tray carriers for all schools, new flatware for all schools, new trays and plates for the secondary schools, a calculator for the high school and a much needed vegetable dicer for the central kitchen. We still need new hot carriers for our lunches which are very expensive. We may have to begin buying one carrier at a time when looking to replace these. We may also have to consider raising lunch prices in the future to be able to accomplish this. I am happy to report that my O.P.I. fall bid will be about the same as last year's and hopefully I can keep the spring bid at the same level. This should help our budget and I do plan on increasing prices for rolls and cookies baked in our school kitchen for a la carte items.

\*Our FOOD SERVICE STAFF continues to improve and update their professional growth through classes and seminars. Several employees are certified with the American School Food Service Assn. and our local chapter of this organization continues to provide educational opportunities for our staff locally and provides funds which enables more of our employees to attend the MSFSA/OPI summer conference.

\*The MEAL PRICES for the 1997-98 school year will remain the same. Our staff is very dedicated and they continually strive to provide students and staff with a reasonably priced meal that is nutritious and delicious. I look forward to new changes and challenges next year as your Food Service Director.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Steve Klippenes**



ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT  
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT 1996-97

JUNE 17, 1997

During the 1996-97 school year, our yellow buses traveled 151,020 miles with out any injuries. The MCI activity buses traveled a total of 53,804 miles.

The Transportation Department is responsible for the maintenance on 13 yellow buses, 4 MCI activity buses, 5 Drivers Education Vehicles, 3 Maintenance Department vehicles, 1 Hot Lunch van, and the Transportation Department pickup.

This year we purchased two new MC-9's they are a 1982 model we have done quite a bit of work to them but overall I think we received two good buses there was some things we had to do to them. They came with rebuilt engines and were painted and lettered to our specifications.

This year we replaced the engine in Bus # 9 as it had either a cracked bock or head this bus was scheduled to be replace this year but now we will keep it around for a spare bus and we will trade in a bus that in the last two years we have only put on 3 miles. We have ordered a new special ed bus for route #9 and we have a proposal closing on June 30, 1997 for a new route bus that will go on route # 5. This next year we will replace our route #8 bus.

For major work this summer we plan to so a complete brake job on bus #10 and on one of the new MC-9's

Mark and Teresa Prins Have accepted a position in Wisconsin and we will miss both of them. We trained several new drivers this year and had one old driver return .

We had one minor accident this year with no injuries as the bus was there stopped for a stop sign and a little pickup ran into the back of the bus.

All and all we had a good year and am looking forward to next year.

Steve





BUS #	YEAR	MODEL	START MILEAGE	FINISH MILEAGE	MILES FOR YEAR
1	1995	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	22488	44440	21952
2	1997	CHEV--BLUE BIRD	1300	10174	8874
3	1992	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	78123	97310	19187
4	1990	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	118572	131201	12629
5	1988	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	130342	132006	1664
6	1990	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	55782	61866	6084
7	1995	CHEV--BLUEBIRD	25333	40651	15318
8	1997	AMTRAN GENESIS	1300	9754	8454
9	1986	CHEV--BLUEBIRD	140092	145304	5212
10	1992	BLUEBIRD ALL AMERICAN		97322	18143
11	1990	BLUEBIRD TC-2000	117793	137699	19906
12	1989	BLUEBIRD ALL AMERICAN	63315	76909	13594
13	1982	CHEV--BLUEBIRD	113010	113013	3
E-1	1974	MCI MC-8	169051	190818	21767
E-2	1981	MCI MC-9	0	6677	6677
E-3	1977	MCI MC-8	37946	47299	9353
E-4	1981	MCI MC-9	0	4450	4450
E-2	ON OLD SPEEDOMETER		301210	295637	5573
E-4	ON OLD SPEEDOMETER		108848	114832	5984

TOTAL MILES	204824
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## **MAINTENANCE**

**Paul Stengel**



# Maintenance Program Summary

1996-1997

The School District No. 1 Maintenance Department has had another productive year. We have continued our preventive maintenance program. Several minor improvement projects were completed by the maintenance staff. These included sidewalk replacements, window reduction and time out room remodel @ Lincoln, handicapped access renovations @ the High School, installation of a new fire alarm system @ Garfield, and a small installation of category 5 computer wiring @ Highland Park. We also continue to be involved with the Track & Tennis project.

Custodial operations have continued without any changes in scope or procedures. We lost two experienced staff this year; one of which was replaced, the other to be hired this summer.

Contracted services continue to be used for numerous repair and maintenance activities, and for major improvement projects. Highlights this year have included:

◇ Boiler replacement @ Garfield.	- \$100,906
◇ Flooring installation @ Fergus & Highland Park.-	\$2,800
◇ Install additional cabinetry @ Fergus.	- \$2,640
◇ Replace phone system @ Fergus.	- \$14,445
◇ Window reduction @ Lincoln.	- \$5,000
◇ Replaced Warming House roof.	- \$1,600
◇ Underground sprinkler system @ FB Field.	- \$5,000
◇ Parking improvements @ Fergus.	- \$14,900

Goals for the remainder of the year include:

◇ Facility Review.	- \$22,720
◇ Roofing @ Lincoln.	- \$30,375
◇ Window reduction @ Lincoln.	- \$8,000
◇ Painting @ elementary buildings.	- \$3,230
◇ Seal coat asphalt @ Fergus & L&C.	- \$5,400
◇ Sidewalk installation @ Fergus.	- \$5,985
◇ Flooring @ Fergus, JHS & Highland Park.	- \$7,918
◇ New electrical service @ Highland Park.	- \$7,800
◇ New fire alarm system @ JHS.	- \$8,175

Future goals include:

- ◇ Maintain budget for maintenance and operations.
- ◇ Continue planning process for District.
- ◇ Complete building and grounds improvements at Fergus.
- ◇ Continue yearly improvements at all elementary sites.
- ◇ Complete installation of playground equipment.

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

**Stacey Vestal**

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT  
Business Office 1996-97

June 19, 1997

The Lewistown Public Schools Business Office had another busy and productive year.

Areas of achievement and/or improvement include:

- Networked with the Central Montana Learning Resource Center Cooperative.
- Worked with the Transportation Department to improve student services including revamping activity trips, driver selection, vehicle maintenance responsibilities, and using cameras in buses to improve discipline.
- Lincoln Building window reduction.
- Established a plan for record retention and maintaining order in the Record Room.
- Increased automation:
  - 1) District copier
  - 2) Upgrading computer system
  - 3) Computer replacement
  - 4) Upgrade phone system
- Staff:
  - 1) Weekly staff meetings
  - 2) Stress reduction meetings
  - 3) Participation in pertinent workshops in the area
  - 4) Cross training
  - 5) All staff recently attended various MASBO workshops
  - 6) Upgrading job descriptions and assignments

The District again received a "Clean" audit due much in part to the efforts of the Central Office staff with the cooperation of administrators and staff.

The Central Office serves as the fiscal agent for the Central Montana Learning Resource Center Cooperative.

- Payroll
- Budgetary
- Personnel records
- Financial reports
- Permanent records maintenance



The staff is also involved in correspondence and maintenance of information for:

- Collective Gaining
- Insurance Committee
- Transportation Committee
- EOCM
- Classified Council
- County Superintendent meetings
- All federal projects
- PIR days and workshops
- Developing Board policies
- All school elections
- Sale of surplus property
- All fixed assets and locations

Stacey Vestal, Business Manager, is currently serving as President of the Montana Association of School Business Officials.

Sherry Martin, Purchasing Agent, and Joni Stokken, Receiving and Fixed Asset Clerk, are both members of the Big Sky Purchasing Association.

Sharon McNees and Stacey Vestal are both members of the Montana Association of School Business Officials and the National Association of School Business Officials. Both participated in state workshops.

The Central Office has established and catalogued a library of audio cassettes and books covering the following areas:

- Dealing with difficult people
- Working together
- Self-esteem
- Career and family
- Managing priorities
- Self-help and self-talk
- Many more on job areas

These are available to any interested staff member and can be checked out.