

CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT #15

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.custerschools.org

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The 2023-2024 school year will begin Wednesday, August 16 from 8:00 am until 3:40 pm for grades K-12. A general assembly will be held in the gym at 8:00 am for junior high and high school students to go over our school's rules and regulations. Hot lunch will be served and our buses will return our rural students home at the end of the school day. Our school calendar and etc. will be on our web page at: www.custerschools.org



REGISTRATION:

Pre-registration for all students in grades 7-12 will be August 7th and August 8th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come up to the counseling office on the third floor to see Mr. Smith to sign up for classes and get locker assignments. All students need to have all necessary immunizations prior to the first day of school.

SENIORS: This is your last year in high school and the year to start thinking about your future after high school. I am here to discuss college options and other options of what you want to do with your future. Keeping good grades and a good standing in school will help you get into the college of your choice. Also pushing yourself this last year can help you stay ahead. I am here to answer your questions or if you just need to talk.

KINDERGARTEN & NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Our Kindergarten will be attending school on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday of this coming school year for the first semester from 8:00 to 3:40. After our first semester all kindergarten will attend the four days. All new students are encouraged to register as soon as possible prior to the start of school on Wednesday, August 16. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 8:00-2:00. Please bring a copy of immunizations, social security and birth certificate when registering.

Students must complete the required series of immunization shots prior to enrollment. A child may be exempted from the immunization requirement upon certification from a licensed physician stating that the physical condition of the child is such that the immunization would seriously endanger his or her life or health.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures for the 2023-2024 school year have been scheduled for Monday, September 18 beginning at 8:00 am.

CUSTER GYM CLOSURE DATES

Both gyms will be closed Monday, July 24 until Friday, August 11th for re-conditioning. Thank you and enjoy the rest of your summer.

INTERNET AGREEMENT FORMS which are in your packet is for all grades K-12. They will need to be filled out and turned in at the office the first day of school.

ATHLETIC NEWS

All participants **MUST** have their physical forms turned into the CHS office **BEFORE** being allowed to practice.

- All training rules forms must be turned in **before** the first day of practice.
- Activity tickets must be purchased before being allowed to play in the first game.
- Our first high school practice for football and volleyball will be Friday, August 11.

COACHES Remember you **ARE REQUIRED** to have completed the coach's education certification, concussion training, First Aid/CPR certified, and the rules clinic PRIOR to the first game of the season. If you do not complete these, you will be fined by the MHSA.

TRAINING RULE FORMS – CONCUSSION FORMS - PHYSICAL FORMS

If your child, in grades 5-12, is planning to participate in any sporting activities during the school year, the parent and student **MUST** have signed the training rules agreement, concussion and physical forms prior to the first day of practice. The training rule and concussion forms will be given to you at your **fall sports night** which will need to be signed by the student athlete and parent or guardian. Physical forms will need to be completed and turned in at that time and the back page will need to be signed on the bottom. Schedules will be passed out at the fall sports night for upcoming games.

Hysham Clinic will provide free sports physicals for this school year starting now. The clinic would like you to make an appointment as soon as you can as they are only doing a few at a time this year.

To schedule an appointment, please call Belva Arvik at 342-5501. The clinic number is 342-5886 on Wednesdays.

FALL SPORTS NIGHT

There is a **required** parent and athlete meeting for all students in grades 5-12 that will participate in athletics. Training rules and other important items will be discussed. The Sports Night will be held at 6:30 pm Tuesday, August 8, in Hysham at the park and Custer will be held at 6:30 pm Monday, August 7 in the lobby of the new gym lobby. All paperwork must be turned in at this time before your first practice.

REBEL SPORTS ACTIVITY TICKETS

All elementary, junior high and high school athletes along with junior high and high school band students must purchase an activity ticket. An elementary ticket may be purchased by any student in grades 1 – 8 for \$25. Students in grades 9 – 12 may purchase a ticket for \$35. Our activity tickets will admit our students to all regular season home football, girls' and boys' basketball and girls' volleyball games. The passes are not good for away games, invitational tournaments, or post-season games. Adults may purchase a season pass for \$60 and our Senior Citizens (Age 60) \$30.

Attached will be your sports information for games. Games always seem to change so please call the school if you have any questions.

GAME SCHEDULES

Please check our website (www.custerschools.org) to check on events and game changes daily. This will be our way to communicate to you what is happening at our school. Sports schedules always change from time to time. At this time the office has no schedules thus far.

LUNCH AND BREAKFAST INFORMATION

Enclosed in our packet of school information, you will find hot lunch information, applications and guidelines for free and reduced price meals. Please mail the applications or drop them off at the school office. For those who **do not** qualify for free or reduced priced meals, hot lunch prices will be for students in grades **K-6 \$2.70** and students in grades **7-12 \$3.10**. Extra milk prices are .40 cents.

Breakfast in grades **K-12 is \$1.45** each and extra juice is .25 cents.

Reduced meal price will be .30 cents per meal for breakfast and our reduced lunch price will be .40 cents per meal.

We strongly recommend that parents apply for free or reduced meals if you qualify. The additional money our school receives from the Federal government helps operate our hot lunch program and helps us to keep our prices down. Besides benefiting our lunch program, our percentage of free and reduced lunch impacts the amount of government grants we receive for areas such as Internet/phone service and Title Programs. This helps reduce the burden on the local taxpayers. We are requiring that all lunches be purchased in advance. Our secretary will keep track and notify parents when your child needs to purchase lunches for another month. Parents are encouraged to purchase lunch tickets prior to school starting this year from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please notify the school office if your child has any food allergies.

If you are planning to fill out the free and reduced forms, please fill them out before Tuesday, August 8. (These are in your packets). Please mail them to Custer School or drop them off at the school office. If you qualify, Custer School will put your information in our system before the first day of school and you will not be charged for meals if returned on time. At this time, we do not have an August lunch menu.

A Message from Your School Nurse - Immunization Requirements

Kindergarten – 12th Grade

DTaP – 4 doses (one must be given after the 4th birthday) **AND a booster prior to entering 7th grade**

Polio – 3 doses (one must be given after the 4th birthday)

MMR – 2 doses (first dose must be on or after the 1st birthday and spacing between doses is 4 weeks)

Varicella – 2 doses (first dose must be on or after the 1st birthday; spacing between doses is 12 weeks for children under 13 years and 4 weeks for those older than 13 years.)

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their children are up-to-date on immunizations or proper forms are completed. State law requires students are current on immunizations or exempt or conditional attendance forms be on file before a student is permitted to attend school.

Medical and religious exempt forms must be notarized and turned into the office before the first day of school.

More information and forms can be found at the Montana DPHHS website or obtained at the school.

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/immunization>

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

All medications taken during the school day, both prescription and over-the-counter, need to have written permission on file.

Please make arrangements prior to the start of the school year if your child has a known medication need.

Students capable of self-administration may do so with a healthcare provider's written order and written authorization by parent/guardian.

Medications must be in the original container. Prescription meds must be properly labeled by the pharmacy and include student's name, prescriber, medication, dosage, and specific instruction.

A family bottle of Tylenol may be secured by the office and a designated school official can assist in self-administration with proper paperwork on file.

CUSTER SCHOOL MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS (Not the Co-Op Form)

Medical release forms will need to be filled out for EVERY student in our school in case your child will need to travel for a field event or any kind of activity the school may be attending during the year. (This paper is in your student packet and is a little different from for athletic form.)

Please contact the school nurse if your child has any known allergies or medical conditions that may need to be addressed so proper paperwork can be on file in case of an emergency.

In case of an emergency, it is important that we have an accurate medical history updated in our system which includes allergies, medications (both Rx and OTC), and medical conditions.

ABSENT CHILDREN

Montana has created an information program on missing children within the Department of Justice. Under this program, a parent will have to call our school office by 8:15 a.m. for morning absences or 1:00 p.m. for afternoon absences to inform us that your child/children will not be in school. If a parent does not call, the school must call the parent before the end of the school day to make sure the parent is aware of the child's absence from school. Please help us out by calling the school when your child is or will be absent from school.

If we do not hear from you, your child will be counted unexcused for the day.

CALLING THE SCHOOL

We would like to inform our parents that we will not call your child out of class to answer the telephone unless it is an emergency. Whenever you have a message for your child or children, please convey your message to the school secretary. She will make sure that your child receives the message. If you need your child to call home during their lunch hour or just before school is dismissed for the day, we will gladly notify your child to come to the office and make the call. We certainly appreciate your help in this matter.

If you have changed your name or address, please contact the school and we will update our system.