

A Celebration *of* EXCELLENCE 2010

THE HELENA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
PROUDLY SALUTES THE
DISTINGUISHED STUDENTS OF 2010
AND THE EDUCATORS WHO INSPIRED THEM



THE HELENA EDUCATION FOUNDATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

A Celebration *of* EXCELLENCE 2010

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS
AND ACHIEVERS OF THE CLASS OF 2010

and their

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS



MAY SEVENTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND AND TEN

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The Helena Education Foundation thanks Dr. Timothy Ballweber for extraordinary service to the Foundation as a donor, an advocate and an ambassador.



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THE HELENA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Helena Education Foundation is in its eighth year of enhancing the experiences of public education students and teachers in Montana's capital city. HEF sponsors a wide array of events annually: Issues Institutes for students, teachers and community, a scholar-in-residence program, Great Ideas grants, the Celebration of Excellence for graduating seniors, Trading Places opportunities for administrators and business leaders, Great Conversations, Fabulous Firsts district-wide reading celebration for 1st graders, and the community celebration Carnival Classic.

Key to HEF's innovation and to its immediate success was its message that excellent public schools forge healthy communities and that creating this vehicle allowed the entire community to invest time, assets and enthusiasm in the cause—*Great schools are everyone's business!*

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Helena Education Foundation is to enrich education in the Helena Public Schools through consistent community investment of time, talent, funding and other resources, providing students, staff and the community with unparalleled educational opportunities and experiences.

The Foundation achieves its mission by directing resources toward the following goals:

- Promoting and celebrating student educational success;
- Recognizing staff for creative and innovative teaching;
- Increasing the visibility and value of public education;
- Promoting understanding that the entire community is responsible for creating, maintaining and participating in quality public education;
- Recruiting and supporting a dynamic, volunteer Board of Directors that represents Helena;
- Encouraging lifelong learning by providing unique educational opportunities for students, staff and the community; and
- Building awareness of the Helena Education Foundation.

THE HELENA EDUCATION FOUNDATION:

Is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt philanthropic organization of local citizens, independent of the Helena Public School District but complementing and collaborating with it;

Works to increase private support for public education beyond that which is constitutionally mandated; and

Benefits Helena Public School students and staff by serving as a catalyst and fund source for new ideas, programs and education methods



HELENA
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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 and Sarah Etchart, and
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 Judith Stewart, from
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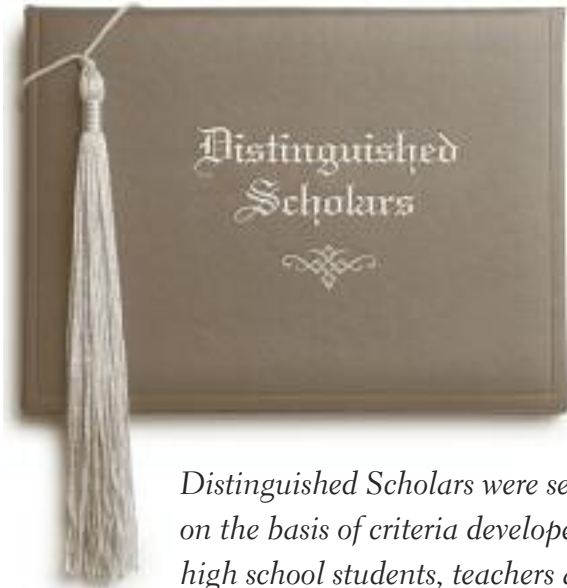
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 April Grady
 Judith Meadows
 Brenda Nordlund
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The greatest care was taken to ensure the accuracy of this donor roll, if an error has occurred, please contact us at 443-2545 so we may correct it.

TO MAKE A DONATION

The Foundation is a legally incorporated, non-profit charitable and educational corporation in the State of Montana. Its status as a 501(c)(3) foundation allows it to receive and distribute funds, property and gifts of any kind for the benefit of public schools located in Helena. It also maintains a qualified endowment. Planned gifts are eligible for the Montana State Tax Credit. For more information about making a donation, contact Lisa Cordingley, Executive Director, at (406) 443-2545 or at hef@mt.net or donations can be made online at www.hefmt.org.





Distinguished Scholars were selected on the basis of criteria developed by high school students, teachers and administrators, including grade point average; number of honors, advanced placement and other higher level courses; total credit hours; activities and community service.

Distinguished Scholar

Honored Educator

Sydney Barry <i>Capital High School</i>	Debra Dorrance <i>Capital High School</i>
Mary Noel Beall <i>Capital High School</i>	Joslyn Davidson <i>Capital High School</i>
Becca Boslough <i>Capital High School</i>	Ray Pancich <i>Capital High School</i>
Chelsea Carlson <i>Capital High School</i>	Jason Neiffer <i>Capital High School</i>
Kaitlyn Fae Cummings <i>Capital High School</i>	Paul Phillips <i>Capital High School</i>
Tara Donohoe <i>Helena High School</i>	Joy Lustgraaf <i>Helena High School</i>
Shea Fanning <i>Capital High School</i>	Bob Tipton <i>C.R. Anderson Middle School</i>
Audrey Harper <i>Capital High School</i>	Tom Pedersen <i>Capital High School</i>
Elizabeth Hartley <i>Helena High School</i>	John Hartman <i>Helena High School, retired</i>
Anna Hill <i>Helena High School</i>	Gretchen Edelen <i>Helena High School</i>
Benjamin Hills <i>Helena High School</i>	Jesse Franzen <i>Helena Middle School</i>
Kristen Ingman <i>Helena High School</i>	Don Pogreba <i>Helena High School</i>
Kyle Kallin <i>Capital High School</i>	John Chart <i>Capital High School</i>
Mara Menahan <i>Helena High School</i>	Gigi Moy <i>Helena High School, retired</i>
Brittani Nickol <i>Capital High School</i>	Dennis Peterson <i>Capital High School</i>
Selina Northey <i>Helena High School</i>	Jim Schulz <i>Helena High School</i>
Allison Ray <i>Helena High School</i>	Mary Anderson <i>Helena High School</i>
Katherine Runkel <i>Helena High School</i>	Cheryl Plettner <i>Helena Middle School</i>
Ann Seeley <i>Helena High School</i>	Deb Johnson <i>Central Elementary School</i>
Nick Smith <i>Helena High School</i>	Danna Sinnott <i>Helena High School</i>
Jessica Stanisich <i>Helena High School</i>	Sandy Wardell <i>Helena High School</i>



High school teachers nominated Distinguished Achievers based on excellence in a specific curricular area, leadership, overcoming obstacles to achievement, or service.

2010 Leadership award presented to:

Michele Bayuk
Capital High School
 and her Distinguished Educator
 Tirzah Bruski
Capital High School

Distinguished Achiever	Honored Educator
Rainey Anson <i>Helena High School</i>	Rich Wirak <i>Jefferson Elementary</i>
Levi Boughn <i>Helena High School</i>	Marty Scanlon <i>Helena High School</i>
Katie Dykgreve <i>Helena High School</i>	Ron Greenwood <i>Helena High School, retired</i>
Texel Feder <i>Capital High School</i>	Beth Mazanac <i>Capital High School, retired</i>
Cameron French <i>Capital High School</i>	Duane Zehr <i>Capital High School</i>
Megan Graff <i>Capital High School</i>	Ryan Hanson <i>Capital High School</i>
Heather Hanser <i>Project for Alternative Learning</i>	Tim Garrett <i>Project for Alternative Learning</i>
Gabrielle Harmon <i>Helena High School</i>	Steve Michelson <i>Helena High School</i>
Colton Hash <i>Helena High School</i>	Gerald McCarthy <i>Helena High School</i>
Courtney Hauck <i>Capital High School</i>	Tana Cooper <i>C. R. Anderson Middle School</i>
Adam Johnson <i>Helena High School</i>	Christina Murgel <i>Helena High School</i>
Kara Krantz <i>Helena High School</i>	Julie Ladd <i>Helena High School</i>
Kristeana Macefield-Brawn <i>Project for Alternative Learning</i>	Kathy Collins <i>Project for Alternative Learning</i>
Ariel Marlowe <i>Helena High School</i>	Diane More <i>Helena High School</i>
Maria Nelson <i>Helena High School</i>	Julietta Pederson <i>Helena High School</i>
Lindsay Nix <i>Helena High School</i>	Debbra Klein <i>Helena High School</i>
Mitchell Peery <i>Capital High School</i>	Darcy Schulz <i>Capital High School</i>
Clayleen Pipinich <i>Capital High School</i>	Jeanne Tweeten <i>Capital High School</i>
Camille Seed <i>Helena High School</i>	Leslie Hagengruber <i>C. R. Anderson Middle School</i>
Shawna Stacks <i>Helena High School</i>	Todd Samson <i>East Valley Middle School</i>
J.T. Street <i>Helena High School</i>	Cindy Galbavy <i>Helena High School</i>
Kelli Marie TwoTeeth <i>Helena High School</i>	Trisha Klock <i>Helena High School</i>
Sarah Yeakel <i>Helena High School</i>	Gretchen Heller <i>Four Georgians Elementary, retired</i>

WELCOME TO A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

A Celebration of Excellence provides public recognition of extraordinary public school students and outstanding educators. By honoring achievements of these individuals, the Foundation:

- Demonstrates community appreciation for the efforts of public school students, educators and parents;
- Acknowledges the critical partnership among schools, home, business and the community;
- Provides a positive reinforcement for younger students and a goal for which they can strive;
- Involves the community and business in building awareness and confidence in our public schools.

STUDENTS

A Celebration of Excellence recognizes exceptional students who have demonstrated their efforts in the classroom, school and in the community day after day, year after year. Distinguished Scholars were selected on the basis of criteria developed by high school students, teachers and administrators, including grade point average; number of honors, advanced placement and other higher level courses; total credit hours; activities; and community service. High school teachers nominated Distinguished Achievers based on excellence in a specific curricular area, leadership, overcoming obstacles to achievement, or service.

EDUCATORS

A Celebration of Excellence honors the Distinguished Educators. Each student identified an educator to recognize who has had a significant, positive impact on his or her life and wrote a short message about why that educator was selected. The Helena Education Foundation salutes these fine educators and thanks them for sharing their talents, knowledge, creativity and love of learning with our youth. They make a difference in our schools and community, one student and one class at a time.

PARENT

David E. Anson

COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES

Bengalettes Dance Team,
Track and Field shot put
and discus, Volunteer for
the Humane Society and
Good Samaritan Thrift Store,
Science Circus volunteer,
Tutor, Choir talent shows
and choir concerts outside
of school, Green Iguana
restaurant manager

PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Carroll College
to study mathematics
and music



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

RICH WIRAK



Jefferson Elementary School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

RAINEY ANSON



Helena High School

“At an early age, Mr. Wirak taught me the importance of trying in school and the fun that you can have with it. He encouraged me to put just a little more effort into what I was doing and, sure enough, I improved immensely. Putting that little bit of extra effort into anything really can help you succeed in the most positive way in school and in life. This experience has shown me great improvement throughout the years, so I am pleased to say “Thank you, Mr. Wirak.”



SYDNEY BARRY

PARENTS

Mark and Beth Barry

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Swimming, Volleyball,
Model United Nations,
Orchestra, Ballet, Triathlons,
National Honor Society,
Outdoors Club President,
Food Share (Kids Feed 'N'
Fun) and Special Olympics
volunteer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Pacific Lutheran
University in Tacoma, WA



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

SYDNEY BARRY



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DEBRA DORRANCE



Capital High School

“At a time when I was lacking confidence and inspiration, Mrs. Debra Dorrance showed me the amazing power of words. By giving me the freedom to go where I wanted with my writing, she forced me to be completely honest with myself and share the things that were on my mind. While radiating positivity and enthusiasm in the classroom, she emphasized that every person has something important to say in this world. Thank you, Mrs. Dorrance, for believing in me, inspiring me, and evoking the words within me.



PARENTS

Diane and Michael Bayuk

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Senior Class President,
Helena Education
Foundation Student
Representative, Tennis Team
Captain, Varsity Tennis, Link
Crew, Model United Nations,
Photography Editor for CHS
Newspaper, Spanish Club,
Feminist Club, National
Honor Society, Exploration
Works Museum Volunteer

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Arizona State
University to double major
in political science and
economics with plans to
attend law school

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TIRZAH BRUSKI



Capital High School

LEADERSHIP AWARD

MICHELE BAYUK



Capital High School

“Mrs. Bruski is the rarest kind of teacher. Her genuine love of math and sincere merriment in the classroom spark a positive transformation in the minds and hearts of her students. She transcends the teacher to class relationship and instead values each individual student, granting them her understanding and friendship. My respect and admiration for Mrs. Bruski stems from her unfailing devotion to see each student succeed. But above all else, I’m grateful to Mrs. Bruski for giving me the greatest gifts of a renewed passion for learning and unexpected laughter.



MARY NOEL BEALL

PARENTS

Sally and Ed Beall

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Varsity Speech and Debate, Debate Captain, Young Americans Club President, National Honor Society Vice President, Senior Class Student Council Treasurer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Hillsdale College in Michigan or Carroll College to study either political economy or political science and possibly attend law school and run for office in Montana.



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

MARY NOEL BEALL



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JOSLYN DAVIDSON



Capital High School

“The impossible teacher, the one whose rigorous grading system befuddles students and baffles over-achievers—but this, to say the least, demanding teacher challenged my minute knowledge of writing (which I thought was superb) and bolstered my understanding and application of the English language beyond what was simply ‘enough.’ Ms. Davidson not only expanded my comprehension of English, she became the first teacher who bantered with me, who politically challenged, not indoctrinated, me and who became a companion in a school system that commonly panics underclassmen. A friend.



PARENTS

Elaine Samuel
James Boslough

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Student Body President,
National Honor Society
President, Capital Dome
Yearbook Editor, Vigilante
Soccer Coach, Soccer, Track,
Cross Country, Speech and
Debate Captain, Link Crew,
Helena School Board Stu-
dent Representative, Youth
Leader at Our Redeemers
Lutheran Church, Sunday
School Teacher, Model
United Nations, Ecology
Club, Young Americans Club
Vice President, *Pen and Ink*

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend University of
Montana on a Presidential
Scholarship to major in
environmental studies



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

RAY PANCICH



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

BECCA BOSLOUGH



Capital High School

“When I think of Mr. Pancich, I think of someone who has always been there for me and who is more than willing to help. His advice has been priceless and he has always been someone whose opinion I can trust. He has encouraged me to challenge myself, while at the same time ensuring that I focus on things that make me happy. There is something comfortable about him; he’s always looking out for the best interest of whichever student he’s helping. Because of Mr. Pancich, I’ve come to realize the importance of good communication. He’s what a guidance counselor should be.



LEVI BOUGHN

PARENTS

Jay and Jennifer Boughn

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Track and Field, Youth
Electrum third place award,
Designed the Fall and Winter
Sports programs and the
Helena High Newsletter,
BPA regional competition
second place graphic
design award, State BPA
competition third place
graphic design award,
Helena High Art IV,
MSU Art Department
scholarship recipient

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State
University, Bozeman,
with the goal to become
a graphic designer and
keep a steady interest
in studio arts



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

LEVI BOUGHN



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

MARTY SCANLON



Helena High School

“Art is one of the most difficult things for one person to teach another. Art is not defined specifically in a book; there are no exact steps to achieve a work of art. Art is what you make it and it is defined by you. A great art teacher is a person who must be able to aid a student’s creativity and push that student to new, unthinkable limits. This person must provide the student with all the necessary tools to become great. Thank you, Mr. Scanlon, for being that person in my life.”



PARENTS

Amy and Dave Carlson

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Helena School Board Student Representative;
Pen and Ink Magazine: Co-Editor, Art Editor, Layout Editor; *The Paw Print* (CHS Newspaper) Editor in Chief; Sunday School teacher and youth group leader at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church; Speech and Debate, qualified for national tournament in public forum debate; horseback riding; National Honor Society; Young Americans Club; Model United Nations; World Quest

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Scripps College (Claremont Consortium) in Claremont, CA to study some combination of design, philosophy, art, journalism or history



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JASON NEIFFER



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

CHELSEA CARLSON



Capital High School

“You know you’ve met your match in a teacher when after only three days in class you are perfectly willing to sign up for the school newspaper he was starting up with basically no staff, funding, or journalism experience. With a little encouragement, a lot of determination, and a dash of courage, we succeeded at rebuilding the newspaper, crafting an award winning print and web presence. Being around someone who is so passionate about everything he does may have intimidated me at first, but having such an inspirational role model and friend in the classroom has done me immeasurable good. Thanks, Neiff!



PARENTS

Cory and Georgia Cummings

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

National Honor Society,
Key Club, Grandstreet
Theatre School and Summer
Theater School, Gonzaga
Summer Writing Institute,
Global Youth Service Day

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend a college in the
Great Lakes or New England
area to study movie
directing or fiction
book editing



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

PAUL PHILLIPS



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

KAITLYN FAYE CUMMINGS



Capital High School

“Mr. Phillips is one of the wackiest teachers I’ve ever had, and I love it. Sitting through one of Mr. Phil’s classes is like going to the carnival: you go in curious and come out dazed and amazed. While his zany style keeps students interested, his straightforward teaching makes his lectures easy to understand. He not only teaches well, but he honestly cares for his students. Every day in class Mr. Phil asks how each student is doing with the material and is always willing to help.



PARENTS

Mary and James Twardos

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Link Leader, National
Honor Society, Key Club,
Flautist in
Church Ensemble

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attain a degree in civil
engineering, then go on
to develop sustainable
building techniques
and renewable
energy sources



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JOY LUSTGRAAF



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

TARA DONOHOE



Helena High School

“Smack in the middle of my sophomore year I moved from Arizona to Montana. As if the combined culture and climate shock weren't enough, somewhere in the confusion I totally missed learning trigonometry. Upon entering Calculus the next year I was terrified: how on earth could I succeed in such a challenging class if I had missed such a critical aspect of math?! I was so fortunate that Mrs. Lustgraaf was my calculus teacher. She volunteered to teach me trig when no one else would, often giving up her lunch break to do it. With her help I was able to feel more confident in my math skills and even passed with a good grade! Mrs. Lustgraaf, with your heartfelt and patient attitude, you exemplify exactly what a distinguished educator should be.



KATIE DYKGREVE

PARENTS

Shannon and Ron Dykgreve

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

ExplorationWorks
Community Garden
volunteer, Youth Forest
Monitoring Program, Forest
Service internship for two
summers, Earthwatch
Student Challenge Awards
Program, spent two weeks
collecting plants for Smith-
sonian National Herbarium,
Internship with DEQ
evaluating water quality,
Green Group member,
Helena High Band, National
Honor Society Recording
Secretary, International Club,
Envirothon, Science Club
Secretary, Montana State
Champion for Science
Olympiad, National Science
Olympiad participant

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college to become
a botanist and to work
in land rehabilitation.
I am passionate about
plants and protecting
the environment and
I hope to acquire a job
that will allow me to do
the things I love: hiking,
data collecting, and
meeting new people.



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

RON GREENWOOD



Helena High School, retired

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

KATIE DYKGREVE



Helena High School

“With a smile and a laugh that could brighten an entire room, Mr. Greenwood captured my attention not only with his seemingly infinite knowledge, but also with his deep appreciation of each student who crossed his path. He pushed me to aspire, to achieve and to succeed by coaxing me out of my freshman shell. After guiding me on an adventure around the world through a textbook, Mr. Greenwood became an educator I will remember and cherish forever. Mr. Greenwood is not just a remarkable teacher; he is an amazing person.



PARENTS

Mike Fanning
Tammy Plubell

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

National Honor Society,
volunteer soccer coach,
gymnastics coach,
Vaction Bible School Leader,
Track and Field,
Chemistry tutor

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend University of
Montana to major in
chemistry and attend
the School of Pharmacy
in Missoula



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

SHEA FANNING



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

BOB TIPTON



C.R. Anderson Middle School

“Prior to taking Mr. Tipton’s class, I had little faith in my math abilities. Because I struggled with math, I truly disliked the subject. Mr. Tipton ensured that I understood all that he taught. He encouraged me to ask questions and showed me that I did not have to be ashamed when I needed help. He not only pulled me out of my shell, but he enlightened me to my own abilities. Thanks to Mr. Tipton, I am never shy about asking questions and believe in my strengths.



PARENTS

Kathryn Merrick
Happy Feder

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Girl Scout Troop President and Council Planning Board member, Orchestra (cello), Model United Nations, Student Government, Speech and Debate, National Honor Society, HEF Harrison Writing Award, Soroptimist's Violet Richardson Award for Community Service, Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, ArtSmart volunteer at the Holter Museum, Archie Bray volunteer, Relay For Life team captain and volunteer, Montana Supports Soldiers member, volunteer at Foodshare and S.A.V.E.

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college to earn a BA in fine arts, concentrating on ceramics, with credentials in education, art history, and museum studies. I am interested in Waldorf Education, the field of art therapy and working for a non-profit arts organization



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

TEXEL FEDER



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

BETH MAZANEC



Capital High School, retired

“As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said, “Music is the universal language of mankind.” Beth Mazanec, my orchestra teacher at Capital High, has given me the ability to communicate through music. Playing music with others is a pleasure not everyone is able to partake in. Mrs. Mazanec provided me with that joy every day for two years, while constantly encouraging me to work harder and become a better musician, both individually and as a part of the entire orchestra. Thank you, Mrs. Mazanec, for sharing your love of and dedication to music with me.



PARENTS

Cathy and Bill Ireland

COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES

Band Council, Symphonic Winds, Most Improved Sophomore in Band, Capital City Band, Jazz I, All-State Band (first chair tuba), Continental Divide Tuba Society, Pep Band, Night to Shine, Dessert Show, Football, Track and Field, Team Trainer at Taco Bell

PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Helena College of Technology for two years to acquire an associate of fine arts degree, then transfer to the University of Montana to pursue a degree in music education



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

CAMERON FRENCH



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DUANE ZEHR



Capital High School

“Mr. Duane Zehr came to Capital High School under difficult and bizarre circumstances. It was over a month into the school year when Mr. Zehr arrived and quickly, through his experienced and outstanding teaching methods, transformed our band faster than ever thought possible. He has always made time to help me and to answer any questions I had. He has had a profound influence on my musical capabilities and has inspired me to further my education. Mr. Zehr is a true wizard of music and found the key to turning me into a future music educator. Thank you, Mr. Zehr!



PARENTS

Mary and Tim Graff

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Big Brothers Big Sisters
participant, Link Crew
Leader, Softball

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Montana Tech
in Butte to major in
business technology



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

RYAN HANSON



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

MEGAN GRAFF



Capital High School

“Mr. Ryan Hanson was my sophomore and senior English teacher at CHS. His positive, caring, energetic and inspiring presence in the classroom helped spark an interest in both English and reading for me. He never gave up on me and found books I would enjoy that also challenged my reading abilities. I admire his dedication and passion for teaching and how he took the time to listen and relate to his students. Thank you, Mr. Hanson, for the great years and the positive learning experience.



PARENTS

Deanna Moore
Thomas Hanser

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Best Foot Forward Award recipient, JMG-PAL Vice President, graduated early with honors and received the PAL Award, accomplishment recognition from Governor Schweitzer, currently a stay-at-home mom and nanny

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend the Helena College of Technology to take business and accounting classes. I would like to pursue a career in real estate.



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

HEATHER HANSER



Project for Alternative Learning

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TIM GARRETT



Project for Alternative Learning

“Tim Garrett taught me ways to learn so that I could understand school work better, and he showed me how to be organized. Tim and all the teachers at PAL made me see life from a different angle which helped me decide on the changes I needed to make in my life to be successful. Tim has inspired me to work hard and appreciate the people who have supported me and to respect others no matter what type of life they’ve had. He never once judged me for my past and always has great hope for every student’s future.



GABRIELLE HARMON

PARENTS

Leonella Johnson
Anthony Harmon
Peter Johnson

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Helena High School
Women's Ensemble Choir,
Secretary; Ambiance Choir,
Vice President; Starlighters
Choir, Section Leader;
District and State Music
Festival, received
Exceptional scores;
All State Choir member;
Philharmonic Choir Student
of the Year; awarded the
Janice Mereink Frizzell
Memorial Scholarship;
performed solos in talent
shows and sang the
"Star Spangled Banner"
at an assembly for the
student body

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Audition for *American Idol*
and attend college for
culinary arts or music,
possibly attend
beauty school



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

STEVE MICHELSON



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

GABRIELLE HARMON



Helena High School

“Dr. Steve Michelson will tell you, "I make mistakes everyday," but he is real, human, and doesn't try to hide it. That's one of Dr. Mike's best qualities. Music is only ink and paper until it is touched by someone like Dr. Mike who has a true appreciation for the tie between human emotion and music. Dr. Michelson is an artist, a friend, and a lover of adventure, excitement and beauty. Thank you Dr. Mike for everything you have done and all the lives you have touched through song.



PARENTS

Colleen Purcell
William Harper

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Cross Country Captain,
National Honor Society,
Outdoors Club President,
community volunteer,
traveled to Tanzania to
work in a medical clinic
for two weeks

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Western
Washington University

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TOM PEDERSEN



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

AUDREY HARPER



Capital High School

“My first encounter with Mr. Pedersen resulted in sore calves and a lack of oxygen. He was my first cross country coach and gave me a passion for running. He sparked my fascination with the science of life in his Bio 2 class. This year in his Science Seminar class, I’ve learned more about myself and what drives me than I have in any of my school years. Mr. Pedersen’s commitment to each student as an individual and his love for what he does every day have taught me to appreciate life.



PARENTS

Parish and
Jeanne Ann Hartley

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Key Club, National Honor
Society President, 3-7-77's
Secretary, Basketball,
Tennis, Mentoring Teens
against Drugs (MTAD)

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend the University of
Alabama at Birmingham
to major in biomedical
engineering



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JOHN HARTMAN



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

ELIZABETH HARTLEY



Helena High School

“The best part about going to Mr. Hartman’s class, beyond his marvelous stories about his fascinating life, was listening to his lectures. I would sit in my desk absolutely amazed by all the obscure dates and isolated names he would readily rattle off while still holding my interest. His vast knowledge of seemingly every event that had transpired in the world astounded me day after day. Though I had enjoyed history before his class, I left his class absolutely enraptured by it.



PARENTS

Daniel and Julie Hash

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Science Club President, National Science Olympiad, Science Bowl, Envirothon, RMC Computer Science Competition, Speech and Debate, Skills USA, Track and Field, Cross Country, Rotary Student of the Month, Art Club, Montana Conservation Corps, Lewis and Clark Library Teen Advisory Group

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Pursue an education in computer science integrated with fine arts at a west coast university

**DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR****GERALD MCCARTHY***Helena High School***DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER****COLTON HASH***Helena High School*

“Gerald McCarthy is not only enthusiastic and knowledgeable professionally, but he also blends his curriculum with an interactive and personal teaching style that makes his class interesting and enjoyable. In addition to serving as an excellent educator, Mr. McCarthy devotes many hours of his time coordinating various extracurricular student competitions. From participating in the opportunities Mr. McCarthy has made possible, I have gained confidence through success, while deepening my experiences and interests in science. Because of his deepening dedication and commitment, Mr. McCarthy’s influence extends far beyond the classroom.



COURTNEY HAUCK

PARENTS

Phil and Karry Hauck

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Link Crew Leader, Studied abroad in San Lucar Spain, Student Council, Health Occupational Students of America, National Honor Society, Soccer Captain, Shodair Soccer Classic, Basketball, Tennis, Youth soccer coach, Lewis and Clark Humane Society volunteer, Soroptimist honor student of the month, Second grade classroom assistant, United States Achievement Academy nominee, Vocational and Technical Education Award

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho to enter the pre-nursing program. I hope to become a traveling nurse following the completion of the nursing program at LCSC



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TANA COOPER



C.R. Anderson Middle School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

COURTNEY HAUCK



Capital High School

“Stickers, smiles and a true friend are what I found in English class my 7th grade year. Everyday I was greeted with an enthusiastic grin by Mrs. Cooper and I could only imagine what she had up her sleeve for class that day. Mrs. Cooper was able to turn difficult material into an exciting and engaging lesson. Not just a teacher, but a caring mentor, Mrs. Cooper made every student feel important and truly loved. Her contagious optimism, passion for life and ability to giggle over the smallest things have inspired me. Mrs. Cooper, thank you for the incredible memories and life long friendship that I will treasure forever. You have a heart of gold and have been such a wonderful role model, not only for me, but for every student whose life you have blessed.



PARENTS

Jan and Russell Hill

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Student Body Vice President, Student Council, Key Club, Co-founder and Co-president of the Helena High chapter of Invisible Children, 3-7-77s, Tennis, Tiernan Irish Dance instructor and competitor (World Qualifier), Montana Girls State Delegate, Volunteer for Obama Presidential Campaign, National Merit Finalist

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college either at the University of Chicago, Vassar College, or New York University. I would like to pursue a profession involving Spanish and writing



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

ANNA HILL



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

GRETCHEN EDELEN



Helena High School

“Mrs. Edelen, my lively, word-loving English and Word Clues teacher, unfailingly provided her students with a unique and rewarding learning atmosphere. Whether we were eating bugs, inventing our own names, or sitting in the wilderness, she always acknowledged each student’s ability and has instilled in me a deep appreciation for poetry and literature. I’m not sure if I respect more her passion, her dedication to the success of each student, or her strawberry costume, but I can say Mrs. Edelen is one of the best educators I have had the privilege to know.



BENJAMIN HILLS

PARENTS

Linda and Mark Hills

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Varsity Soccer,
Arsenal Soccer,
National Honor Society

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State
University in Bozeman



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JESSE FRANZEN



Helena Middle School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

BENJAMIN HILLS



Helena High School

“Jesse Franzen was a key teacher and role model in my education and my life as a student in the Helena school system. He introduced me to a new way of thinking and inspired me to take on the rigorous course load that I have. Not only has he had a positive influence on me as a teacher, but he also has made a difference in my life by what he does outside of the classroom through simply saying hello or asking how my day has been even years after I have been in his class.



PARENTS

Gary and Denise Ingman

COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES

Varsity Tennis Co-Captain;
Grandstreet Theatre Student
Advisory Board Secretary;
Invisible Children,
Co-Founder of HHS chapter;
Helena School Board
Student Representative;
Student Body President;
Ambiance Choir, Section
Leader; *Pen & Ink*, HHS
Editor; Key Club Volunteer;
Link Crew Leader;
Harrison Writing Award

PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State
University Honors Program



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DON POGREBA



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

KRISTEN INGMAN



Helena High School

“A silent sophomore among students discussing religion and politics at his weekly discussion group, I had yet to learn from Don Pogreba that right and wrong answers do not exist. Two years later I sit on a couch in Mr. Pogreba’s classroom where I can comfortably converse every day. I am eternally grateful for Mr. Pogreba’s honesty and wit toward subjects others would avoid, his treatment of students like people, and his passion for literature and education—traits that make him an educator and person whom I feel honored to know.



ADAM JOHNSON

PARENTS

Mac and Michelle Johnson

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Football, Basketball, Track,
National Honor Society,
Youth basketball coach,
NAMI Walk and Festival
of Trees volunteer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend the University
of Montana to study
political science then
pursue a law degree



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

CHRISTINA MURGEL



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

ADAM JOHNSON



Helena High School

“Mrs. Murgel is a loving and caring educator. The amount of hard work and time she puts into teaching is unparalleled. Students who have been lucky enough to have Mrs. Murgel know that she is not only inspiring, but also always there for her students when they need help. While she prepares every senior for his or her future, she also makes a connection with each individually. She has an honest love of teaching and makes every student feel important. For everything, thank you, Mrs. Murgel.



PARENTS

Karen and Karl Kallin

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

BPA, National Honor
Society, Varsity Swim
Team Captain, Joey McKeon
Legacy Award winner,
Tennis Team

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend the University
of Washington to
study engineering



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

KYLE KALLIN



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JOHN CHART



Capital High School

“Mr. Chart has taught me a lot about math in the last two years. His upbeat teaching style and attitude make class very fun. He has taught me not to settle for doing okay, but to try and push to discover how far my knowledge will take me. He doesn't hesitate to answer any question and encourages thinking outside the box. Thanks for being such a great teacher, Mr. Chart.



PARENTS

Candee and Terry Krantz

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Helena Figure Skating Club coach and skater, National Honor Society, Wednesday Night Discussion Group, Speech and Debate member, Helena High Wind Symphony, Varsity Soccer Player

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State University in Bozeman, and major in pre-medicine or human biology. After college I hope to attend medical school and become an anesthesiologist



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JULIE LADD



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

KARA KRANTZ



Helena High School

“I met Mrs. Ladd in my junior year Biology II class, and have never been luckier in my life. She opened up a world I never thought possible. Even though ours was a small class, containing only girls, Mrs. Ladd managed to challenge all of us to excel. Mrs. Ladd teaches with enthusiasm and love for both her students and her subject. Her eclectic nature matches perfectly with her smile and wonderful cat drawings. I can only hope that every student is as fortunate as I was to learn from her.





PARENT

Kathy Macefield

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Mentors for Foster Teens program-creating matches between community adults to foster teens to help them build healthy responsible relationships and learn how to be a successful community member and to give the teens a stable foundation in spite of the turmoil of their lives and to help them see there are people who care for them.

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend college and continue to help the foster children in Montana, maybe someday going further and reaching out to other states. I want to do all that I can for kids going through the same things I did.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

**KRISTEANA
MACEFIELD-BRAWN**



Project for Alternative Learning

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

KATHY COLLINS



Project for Alternative Learning

“Kathy Collins has always pushed me toward success. No matter what I did, she always strived to see me succeed. She saw the potential and perseverance in me and allowed me to work through many things, from math problems to issues in my life. She has been a key factor in my success. I couldn’t have grown to the woman I am without her support and confidence in the person I can be.



ARIEL MARLOWE

PARENTS

Royce and
Stephanie Marlowe

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

METH Prevention Walk

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Join the Air Force
and then attend
college to study
law or to become
an elementary
school teacher.



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

ARIEL MARLOWE



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DIANE MORE



Helena High School

“Diane More is more than a teacher. She’s an advisor and trusted friend who has always been there, guiding me. With her, I can be myself. I don’t have to pretend. She knows who I really am. We connect on a special level because we like the same kind of reading—from Shakespeare to Sherman Alexie. As I get ready to graduate, I am more confident than I have ever been. Ms. More has taken me under her wing and now I feel like the sky is the limit.



PARENTS

Stacy Tureck
Mike Menahan

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Violin, All-State and member of the Helena Symphony; Grandstreet Theatre; Track; Cross Country, All-State Athlete and Captain; Girls State Delegate; Kindergarten to College Workgroup; Student Representative; Link Crew leader; Helena Dynamos Cycling Team; Last Chance Nordic Ski Club



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

GIGI MOY



Helena High School, retired

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

MARA MENAHAN



Helena High School

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend a four year college to study environmental science, French or philosophy

“The lessons I learned from Gigi Moy aren’t found in a textbook or taught in a classroom. The lessons were learned over hundreds of miles, pounded out over trails and pavement. From the first steps of a long run to the last fulfilling bounds of a cross-country race, Gigi has supported me and helped me discover my inner strength when facing pain and the possibility of failure. As a cross-country coach, she has encouraged me to step willingly into the unknown and strive for the unattainable.



MARIA NELSON

PARENTS

Ilda Martinez
Stuart Nelson

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Orchestra and Violin,
Rotary-Interact Club in
Bozeman, Tutoring, Writing
published in high school
literary publications
including Aerie
International, Harrison
Writing Award, Photography,
Gay-Straight Alliance,
National Honor Society,
National Merit Finalist

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Princeton
University to study
comparative politics,
international relations
and writing



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

MARIA NELSON



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JULIETTA PEDERSON



Helena High School

“During the year I was in her Spanish class, Mrs. Julianna Pederson influenced me in ways that went far beyond her job description. Never afraid to cover Latin American history and the past perfect subjunctive tense in the same moment, she not only affected the ease with which I form my phrases, but, speaking rapidly, ignited a spark of interest for the world around me. Drawing me to deeper comprehension, she ensured that my education would extend and would continue long after I exited the classroom. *Doy las gracias a ella.*”



PARENTS

David and Patti Nickol

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Key Club President, National Honor Society, Catholic Youth Coalition Board, All State Choir, Superior Solo at State Music Festival, Rotary Youth Leadership Award Camper and Counselor, Religious Education Teacher, Vacation Bible School Music Leader, Rotary Student of the Month, Math Club President, Selected Choir and Section Leader, Choir Teacher's Assistant, Tennis, Volleyball, Kid's Feed and Fun in the Park volunteer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State University Bozeman to pursue a degree in industrial engineering



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

BRITTANI NICKOL



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DENNIS PETERSON



Capital High School

“Since my sophomore year, Mr. Peterson has been the “constant” of the frustrating, mind-boggling but most rewarding hour of my day. When I walk into class, I am greeted with a bright smile and an infectious enthusiasm for solving difficult calculus problems. Mr. Peterson taught me that asking questions is an essential part of learning. He demands the best of his students and has given me the tools I need to succeed. Thanks Mr. P, for believing in me, instilling a love of math, and encouraging me to “*carpe diem!*”



LINDSY NIX

PARENT

Karla Nix

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Honor Roll; Spartan Imaging, Jobs for Montana Graduates President; Choir, Relay for Life Volunteer; 4-H; Dog Show Grand Champion, Blue Heeler division; Swim Team member and volunteer; Fresh Steps Equine Assistant Psychotherapy, Volunteer Stable Hand; Saturday Night Youth Center board member and activity director; Box-T Bible & Saddle Camp, teacher's assistant; Student Assistant Foundation Step Ahead Computer College Prep Camp; Women in Gear, Helena College of Technology; Parenting Class Participant, Florence Crittenton; Parent of beautiful 2 1/2 year old son; Survivor of Foster Care Placement for the past three years

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Equine Massage Therapy College in Boulder or Wellington, Colorado



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

LINDSY NIX



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DEBBRA KLEIN



Helena High School

“Debbra Klein and I have had an interesting relationship since I just came to Helena High this year and did not know if I was going to like my AP Psychology class. I still went on with it and have become attached to the class and can proudly say that I have learned more in the psychology class than I ever have in all of the science classes that I have taken throughout the years. Mrs. Klein and I have come to know each other very well and also both share a love of horses which has brought us close as well.



PARENTS

Violet Northey
Dennis McCranie
Robert Northey

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

National Honor Society,
Science Olympiad,
Tutoring

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Montana State
University to study
psychology



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

SELINA NORTHEY



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JIM SCHULZ



Helena High School

“There are several reasons that Mr. Schulz should be recognized as an educator. He is caring, passionate about his work and his students, and he is enthusiastic. All of these are good characteristics, especially for a teacher, but what makes Mr. Schulz extra special to me? He goes the extra mile and does not complain. He has always inspired me to do my very best in everything I do, no matter what it is. Thank you, Mr. Schulz, for being an amazing person as well as an outstanding teacher.



MITCHELL PEERY

PARENTS

Michael Peery
Callie Diehl

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Varsity Tennis, Lettering
in Music, seven years
of choir, National Honor
Society, Math Club

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Concordia
College in Moorhead,
Minnesota to double major
in vocal performance and
either music education or
composition with a minor in
Spanish. I intend to travel
abroad, and my career
goal is to become a choral
director of advanced high
school, and collegiate
choirs. I am planning on
getting a Master's Degree
in music, and possibly
going for a Doctorate.



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

MITCHELL PEERY



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DARCY SCHULZ



Capital High School

“As my choral director and music mentor, Darcy Schulz continually encourages me, as well as all of her students, to strive to reach our full potential, in and out of the choir room. She is dedicated and hardworking, and never hesitates to give me helpful hints and support in all of my vocal endeavors. She has a great sense of humor and is incredibly sincere, giving attention and time to every student. Above all, she never fails to greet everyone with a grin you could see a mile away!



PARENTS

Clay and Colleen Pipinich

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Art Club, photography,
computer graphics,
writing, Helena Exchange
Club Student of the Month

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend University of
Montana College of
Technology and earn an
Associate of Arts degree



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

JEANNE TWEETEN



Capital High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

CLAYLEEN PIPINICH



Capital High School

“In the years to come, I may forget about parallel sentence structure, subject/verb agreement, and even split infinitives, but I know I will never forget the teacher who tried so hard to make those concepts clear. In our short semester together, Mrs. Tweeten helped me to realize my true potential and everything I am capable of, simply by treating me as an equal. While she may have taught me how to write a killer essay, I know her lessons of self-confidence will follow me throughout my entire life. Thank you, Mrs. Tweeten!



ALLISON RAY

PARENTS

Diane Ray
Willis Yarberry

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Planned Parenthood
Teen Board, National
Honor Society, Helena
Chamber Singers,
Theatre, vocal performance

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Harvard University
to study foreign languages
and opera performance
during college and graduate
school, then hope to
become an opera singer or
a college professor.



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

ALLISON RAY



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

MARY ANDERSON



Helena High School

“During my three years at Helena High School, Mary Anderson has consistently striven to ensure that I receive the best education possible. Whether she was organizing my schedule so that I could take classes at Helena High, Capital High, and Carroll at the same time or running across town to pick up official transcripts for me, Mrs. Anderson has facilitated and supported all of my academic endeavors. Without her guidance, I would not have been able to follow that path that I have; she lies at the foundation of my academic success.



PARENTS

Robert and Mary Runkel

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Speech and Debate, Debate Captain, National Honor Society, Health Occupation Students of America, extracurricular visual art class, equestrian activities, Key Club President, Irish Dance, Irish Dance volunteer instructor assistant, ExplorationWorks volunteer

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Whitman College to major in biology with the intention of continuing on to medical school

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

KATHERINE RUNKEL



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

CHERYL PLETTNER



Helena Middle School

“Mrs. Plettner inspired my enthusiasm for biology every day in my seventh grade science class. From the time she brought live chickens in for observation, to the time she cooked oysters for her students to eat, each day in her class was an adventure. We learned through hands-on experiments, like making three layered eco-columns and designing a box that could hold our weight. Mrs. Plettner always let our curiosity lead us to new conclusions. Thank you for inspiring my love for science, Mrs. Plettner.



PARENTS

Dan and Cheri Seed

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Track and Field,
Cross Country,
Montana Conservation
Corps AmeriCorps
volunteer, Jobs for
Montana Graduates
member, Women's Choir

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Montana State
University Billings
College of Allied Health
Professions. I plan to
study outdoor adventure
leadership and attain
a bachelor's degree. I also
plan to participate in college
level cross country/track
and field athletics



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

LESLIE HAGENGRUBER



C.R. Anderson Middle School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

CAMILLE SEED



Helena High School

“Mrs. Hagengruber was my middle school teacher in grades 6–8. Every day there was something new to look forward to learning in her class. When I didn't understand something, she would come and sit next to me and explain it in a way that I could comprehend. She has made a big impact on my life, not by just being a great teacher, but also a good friend who stood by me and helped me through some of the hardest times of my life. She means so much to me. Thanks, Mrs. Hagengruber!



PARENTS

Rex and Kathy Seeley

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Key Club Vice President, 3-7-77 member, Health Occupation Students of America, National Honor Society, Church youth group (ACTS), Member of Premiere Dance Company at the Creative Arts Center

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend Montana State University in Bozeman to study biology or biomedical engineering along with pre-medicine in undergraduate school in order to attend medical school



DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

ANN SEELEY



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DEB JOHNSON



Central Elementary School

“From discussing joys and concerns to learning how to do long division, Mrs. Johnson set the foundation for my education and my development as a person. Her individual attention and joyful and caring personality made me so extremely excited for school, that if I was unable to go, I would get so upset I would cry. I will always remember her encouragement for writing, reading and performing the imaginative stories and plays that were my first creations. She instilled in me the confidence and dedication I have today.



PARENTS

Patrick and Marieta Smith

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Tennis, Principal Alto
Saxophone in Jazz band,
Volunteer at the
Good Samaritan

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend college to
study engineering



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

DANNA SINNOTT



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

NICK SMITH



Helena High School

“Mrs. Sinnott exemplifies the difference between a good teacher and a fantastic one. A good teacher teaches you everything they know but a fantastic one gets involved and makes learning fun. The most important thing I learned in Mrs. Sinnott’s class is that you have to be able to laugh at yourself. There was never a day that I left her class feeling worse than when I went in. Her ability to make a person smile no matter what is what makes her one of my favorite teachers.



PARENT

JoLena Williams

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Helena High Wind Symphony, French horn section leader; National Honor Society; Volunteer at Festival of Trees, Upward Bound, annual YMCA Children's Halloween Party, and working with the special needs students at Helena High

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college at UM Helena College of Technology in the RN program with the goal of working at the V.A. Hospital in Helena. I would then like to go back to college for extended education in the obstetrics field.



DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

SHAWNA STACKS



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TODD SAMSON



East Valley Middle School

“Mr. Samson, my sixth grade science teacher at EVMS, was always able to make learning fun by creating unique projects and homework. He made every student feel welcomed, appreciated and intelligent in his class. Mr. Samson had a huge influence on my education as he was the first teacher to tell me that I could achieve anything that I put my mind to, “the sky is the limit“. As my teacher and my volleyball coach, he helped me become more confident on the court and in the classroom and because of Mr. Samson I started to love learning and I became even more determined in school. Thank you, Mr. Samson.



JESSICA STANISICH

PARENTS

Michael and
Theresa Stanisich

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Bengal Volleyball Varsity
Co-Captain, Academic
all-state; Club Volleyball
and tournament team;
Bengal Track and Field,
Academic all-state and
all-conference selection;

HHS Biology Club President
and founding member;
SMART Team founding
member; Green Group
Vice-President and founding
member; United States
Biology Olympiad National
semi-finalist; Mentoring
Teens Against Drugs (MTAD);
National Honor Society;
Science Circus; Festival
of Trees volunteer;

YMCA Youth Fair and
Halloween Fair volunteer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college at a four-year
institution, pursuing a
degree in biology, with
an emphasis on genetics
and cytotechnology



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

SANDY WARDELL



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

JESSICA STANISICH



Helena High School

“My honors Biology I and Biology II teacher, Mrs. Sandy Wardell, is one of those teachers whose personal passion for a subject inspires curiosity in her students. She recognizes within her students the abilities and talents they themselves may not notice. Most importantly, however, Mrs. Wardell has taught me that it is not just the knowledge she gives us, but the person we become that is of the greatest importance. Teaching by example is what Mrs. Wardell does best and I hope to someday inspire others like she has inspired me for the past three years.



PARENT

Denice Street

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Football, Track, Wrestling, Skills USA, volunteer wrestling coach and referee, Montana Meth Project volunteer, NIDA teen advisory group, Team Captain for the Helena High Bengals

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Montana Tech to study welding engineering



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

CINDY GALBAVY



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

J. T. STREET



Helena High School

“I choose Cindy Galbavy as my distinguished educator because of the positive influence she has had on my life and education. Mrs. Galbavy has taught me to do what I love—to weld. Thanks to her I plan on attending college for a welding engineering degree. Since I first met Mrs. Galbavy, she has helped me with everything I have asked of her and has kept me on the path to success. I feel that Mrs. Galbavy is not only a great teacher, but also a great friend.



PARENTS

Val and Iner TwoTeeth

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Mentoring at Smith Elementary and Bryant Elementary schools, Link Crew, first to graduate from high school in my family, possible internship at ACS Montana Medicaid this summer

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Attend college at either University of Montana in Missoula or Salish Kootenai College in Pablo to get a degree in Native American studies and education, and get involved in the Indian Education for All programs



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

TRISHA KLOCK



Helena High School

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

KELLI MARIE TWO TEETH



Helena High School

“Mrs. Klock was the first teacher who I felt actually cared about me. From school problems to boy trouble, she was the first person I would go to for advice. Without Mrs. Klock being there to keep me on track I would never graduate. She is more than a teacher, but a mentor and friend. One day when I become a teacher I will be lucky if I am half the teacher that Mrs. Klock was for me. I would like to thank Mrs. Klock for her encouragement.



PARENTS

Steve and Beth Yeakel

**COMMUNITY SERVICE
AND ACTIVITIES**

Grandstreet Theatre,
Zumba, Helena Education
Foundation Student
Representative, National
Honor Society, Yearbook
Editor, President of
Grandstreet Theatre
Student Advisory Board,
Night to Shine,
Helena High
Choir - Ambiance

**PLANS AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Attend Ithaca College in
New York to study theatre



DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

GRETCHEN HELLER



Four Georgians Elementary School, retired

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVER

SARAH YEAKEL



Helena High School

“It has been 12 years since I sat excited and wide-eyed in Mrs. Gretchen Heller’s Kindergarten class while learning the alphabet with Letter People (my favorite part of the day). Mrs. Heller provided a great beginning to my school career. Kindergarten was lots of fun and yet she had considerable expectations of each of her students. Not only were we to work hard at school, Mrs. Heller modeled courtesy to all and respect for others. Her support for me did not end on that last day of kindergarten so long ago. Her occasional notes throughout the years were reminders that she was keeping an eye on me, offering support and encouragement. Thank you, Mrs. Heller for always being my number one fan!





Great schools are everyone's business.

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