

# December-January

## From the Superintendent.....



Dear Residents of Roberts,

In this month's newsletter, I will be looking at some information on the 4-day school week and the recent history of Roberts in terms of attendance, state testing, and facilities.

First of all, let's take a look at attendance using the high school as an example. Attendance and absences are down each year from the previous year over the last four school years. In fact we have gone from student's missing approximately one in nine days to one in fifteen days over the last four years. This is a huge increase. It is also interesting to look at actually having more hours in the classroom with nineteen less school days than 2 of the 3 previous school years.

Average per High School Students

	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Days Absent Personal Reasons	10.9	10.4	6.4	5.3
Days Absent School Related	8.5	8.2	5.6	4.6
Total Days Absent	19.4	18.6	12	9.9
School Days	171	171	171	152
% of Full Days Missed	11.3 %	10.9 %	7.0 %	6.5 %
Hours of in class instruction	976	981	1023	1016

Next, I would like to talk about our academics in terms of state testing over the last ten years. In 2007 Roberts was tied in terms of testing scores as the 2<sup>nd</sup> strongest school in Carbon County. And traditionally from 2007-2010 Roberts test scores were always above the state and county averages. Then in 2011 our data dipped and we were below the state and county averages. We actually only scored better than one school in the county and this continued in the school years 2012 and 2013. 2014 was a key transitional year in the state of Montana as new testing programs went into place and the state adopted the Montana Common Core Standards. Across the board this lowered state scores as these standards were more rigorous than the previous standards. In 2014 the state also released no testing data. So we had to move on to 2015 and 2016. In 2015 the academics of Roberts were finally returning to the traditional places. In both years we were above state averages and above county averages. In 2016 we were actually the third highest scoring district in the county and when compared to seventy plus schools around the state with our size and resources, we were in the top third. Also, in 2016 we were the only district in the county that scores went up in both English Language Arts and Mathematics at the elementary grades. Hopefully in the next couple years as we continue to focus on best practices, we will become even stronger academically than we were in the late 2000's. Please look at the following table for more information.

State Testing Scores % of Students Proficient and Advanced										
	CRT- District Scores								SBAC-District Scores	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Roberts Scores	91	86	89	90	82	84	84	NA	41	47
State Average	81	82	83	85	85	87	84	NA	41	46
County Average	85	83	83	86	87	88	86	NA	40	44
Place in the County	Tied 2nd	6 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tied 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	Tied 6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	NA	4 <sup>th</sup>	Tied 3rd

Going forward, I would like to talk about the facilities and the plan we are working on to make sure we take care of the great facilities this school has. In the early 2000's the school built the new gymnasium, library and entryway and that was the largest capital investment the school has made over the last 15 years. We have updated technology, updated lockers, done work to the boiler, and numerous other upkeep jobs, but we have not devoted as much as is needed to keep the facility in great shape. We are working on a 10 years facility plan to start renovating the school. Working on little things like carpet, desks, etc to make sure this school can support the community of Roberts for many years to come. We hope to have this in place by the end of February.

Finally, I would like to talk about some of the data from the 4-day school week surveys that have been out for about a month. Currently we have over one hundred responses from students, parents, staff and community members. Here is some information from the surveys so far:

82% feel that the school morale has been positively affected.

49% feel the school is in better academic standing,

39% were unsure of the academic standing. Hopefully the information above will help with that.

68% feel teachers are more readily available to meet on the new schedule

59% say that their student or that they themselves are more prepared for school on Monday

29% say that they are in the same position on Monday as they were before

88% of people surveyed would like to see us continue the model.

With this information in hand, my recommendation in January to the school board will be to extend the alternative calendar for another two or three years. This will allow us to continually evaluate our schedule and make a decision we feel is best for the students of our community.

Also for your information the following items can be found on the Roberts School Webpage [www.roberts.k12.mt.us](http://www.roberts.k12.mt.us): School Strategic Plan; 4-Day Week Survey; Next Year's School Calendar Drafts; Friday Program Information.

I discussed numerous topics in the newsletter this month and if you would like more information please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you for your time,

Alexander Ator  
Superintendent Roberts Schools 445 2421 or [ator@roberts.k12.mt.us](mailto:ator@roberts.k12.mt.us)

## Montana Youth in Transition Conference

On November 14, three students from Roberts School traveled to Helena for the Montana Youth in Transition Conference. The students enjoyed several keynote speakers as well as break out sessions throughout the three day conference. Schools from all over Montana attended and many new friendships were made. The conference

gave students insight into their future and opportunities within the state to help them succeed. The students also toured the Capitol building where they were able to meet and visit with Representatives and Senators. They asked many questions and thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience.



## Art Happenings

Here's a bit about what we have been doing and what is to come after Christmas break.

Each Period of Art History has a project that they create and will be displayed on the wall. They have created art projects using techniques from Cave Art, the Egyptian Hieroglyphic Alphabet,

and Roman Mosaics. With Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa during the Renaissance period they are learning to use a single color of chalk to create shading and contouring.

I am keeping a project from each grade from each time period to display at the end of the year. Make sure to ask what they

have been learning in art. I would like to know if this is making an impression on them.

A look ahead in January will start with the Rembrandt and his self portraits during the Baroque period. Thanks and have a wonderful day. Mrs. Pitts

## FFA News

The Roberts FFA Chapter had one of their very first trips on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Seven members of the chapter went to Bozeman, MT and competed at John Deere Ag days with over 900 other FFA and 4H members from around the state. They competed in Meat Evaluation, Quiz Bowl, and Job Interview. The Meat Evaluation Team placed seventh out of forty one teams. The Meat Evaluation team consisted of Avery

Walker, Kylee Everett, Bryce Dines, and Jess Mysse. The Quiz Bowl team did well, and made it through seven rounds. On Quiz Bowl was Maddie Allen, Garrett Pitts, Bryce Dines and Gus Dines. In Job Interview, Maddie Allen got 29<sup>th</sup> out of 120 other competitors. The FFA Officers also had an Officer night out! The officers went to Get Air, and went to Bullman's Pizza for dinner. Future events coming up include

the South District Contest on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, and a holiday dinner on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Student Council

Student Council started off a brand new year. The new student council includes Kylee Everett as president, Jess Mysse as vice president, Avery Walker as secretary, and Alexis Hess, Maddie Allen, Gus Dines, and Shawn Perkins as class representatives. We decided to add a junior high student council representative and that representative is Rylan Niemi. Student Council hosted pink night for breast cancer awareness during

volleyball and raised enough money to donate a hundred dollars, and also represented the boys that play football in Red Lodge by participating in a dance off at Red Lodge School. The student Council also planned out homecoming and had a homecoming parade with a video game theme. Upcoming events include planning to sponsor a visit from Santa, watch for our class picture and Valentine's Day fundraisers coming in the spring.



Congratulations to Dragen O., Aiden F., and Grayson K., these boys remembered to return their homework every-day in October!

## Library News: Book Fair a Success!

THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Pirate Island Book Fair. Between the bake sale earnings and the book fair sales, we were able to offer many gift certificates and/or free books to students, fill ALL the wish lists our teachers had, and get many great new books for our library. We AAARGH very thankful!

The library is happy to announce that it will be receiving a \$5,000 grant from the Patterson Partnership. Bestselling author James Patterson is in his second year of partnering with Scholastic to help struggling libraries. Patterson is donating 1.75 million dollars to libraries all over the country, and

Roberts School is thrilled to be a recipient. In addition to the grant money, we will receive 5,000 bonus points from Scholastic to be used toward books and other mate-



## Box Tops for Education

Parents: With the extra cooking & baking many of you will be doing over the next month, please take special care to watch for BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION. Cut these out and have your student bring them to the library. EACH box top earns our library 10 cents, so they do add up. Just a reminder that we also collect USED PRINT-

ER CARTRIDGES to earn money for library needs. THANK YOU for your help in this!





## 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> Grade Happenings

Our class is in the middle of an eight week unit about Indians of North America. Kids have been listening to legends and creation stories. There are many different regions in North America and many different tribes in each area. Students have been reading about these different regions and tribes, learning basic facts such as tribe names, clothes, food and what type of housing each tribe built. Kids really like the art that correlates with each tribe introduced to them. For example, the Sioux Tribe lived in tipi's so the kids made a tipi. The Pueblo are known for their pottery and we enjoyed making our own pinch pots. The best part of this whole unit would have to be the "traveling trunk" from the Wild Bill Cody museum! It was full of Crow Indian artifacts! The kids loved that they hold all the items such as a girls dress adorned with elk teeth, beaded moccasins, very detailed quill work and even a warrior's



## Holiday Greetings from the Roberts Music Department!

It's hard to believe, but it's that time of year again! We are anxiously looking forward to our annual Christmas Concert which will be held on Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 P.M. All music students, Kindergarten through High School will be performing and we hope that you will be able to come and enjoy the evening's festivities. The "Rock Creek Ranchers" 4H club will once again raffle off their Christmas Stocking at the Concert. The cost of your raffle ticket is a non-perishable food item and proceeds will go to the Joliet and Red Lodge Food Banks. Thank you! Also the Senior Class of 2017 will be serving refreshments in the lunchroom after the concert. Thank you Seniors and thank you everybody for your wonderful support for our students.

May you have a Blessed Holiday Season. Mrs. Jones

## 2017 Ski Days

We have reserved 3 dates for Skiing this year, all 3 dates are **FRIDAYS**. The Red Lodge Mountain School Group Program is designed to be an educational snow sports experience for students. They have built this program with the goal of making skiing and snowboarding accessible to more kids in the hopes that they will find a life-long, healthy hobby. **Pricing varies** depending on ski dates booked. Full packages include equipment rentals, a full day lift ticket, and a 60 minute lesson. **"Lesson Only" applies if the student has their own equipment AND lift ticket.** All students attending with the school **ARE** required to take the lesson.

### **Student Pricing Low Season**

#### **January 27**

**Full Ski Package:** Rental, Lift ticket, Lesson **\$29**

**Lesson Only:** Student has equipment AND lift ticket **\$14**

### **Student Pricing High Season**

#### **February 3 and February 24**

**\$32**

**\$16**

### **Chaperone Pricing:**

**Lift Ticket**

**\$44**

**Ski Rental**

**\$28**

**Snowboard Rental**

**\$38**

# 2016-2017 1st Quarter Perfect Attendance

## Kindergarten

Colson Crane  
Robert DeVries  
Arianna Medina  
Tabitha Swansborough

## 1st Grade

Rachel DeVries  
Kelby Langager  
Luella Wallila

## 2nd Grade

Peyton Roascio  
Park Harvison

## 3rd Grade

Adrienna Bertolino  
Taylor Crane  
Madylin Roascio  
Abigail Swansborough  
Marie White

## 4th Grade

Elizabeth DeVries  
Baylor Harvison  
Bobby Neil  
Owen Wallila

## 5th Grade

Laynee Holdbrook

TJ Miller

Jozelyn Payovich  
Wyatt Roascio  
Jared White

## 6th Grade

Bentley Bertolino  
Korbin Harvison

## Junior High

Ben Kosel  
Lukas Kosel  
Lucius Payovich  
Claire White

Skyler Hess

Rylan Niemi  
McKenzie Pitts

## High School

Alexis Hess  
Garret Pitts  
Boone Schmaltz  
Allex Kosel  
Samantha Rosebrock  
Max Romero  
Molly Solano

# First Quarter Honor Roll

## High Honor Roll 3.75-4.0

Jess Mysse	12
Shawn Perkins	12
Max Romero	12
Allex Kosel	11
Maddisyn Allen	10
Ryan DeVries	10
Boone Schmaltz	10
Presten Ehrlich	9
Nathan White	9
Emma DeVries	8
Rylan Niemi	8
Bailey Binando	7
Brooke Binando	7
Abigail Dines	7
Lukas Kosel	7
Lucias Payovich	7
Claire White	7

## Basic Honor Roll 3.25-3.74

Kylee Everett	12
Travis Sheesley	12
Andy VanOrnum	11
Avery Walker	11
Elijah Foss	10
Garret Pitts	9
Nanette Sederberg	9
Skyler Hess	9
McKenzie Pitts	8
Angelina Sederberg	7
Cassie Blair	7
Titus Hinkle	7
Ben Kosel	7
Jermaine Kuntz	7
Grayce Payovich	7






## October Character Counts Winners!

Tassyn Wright, Wyatt Lahr, Robert DeVries, Aiden Foss, Rachel DeVries, Kelby Langager, Maddie Roascio, Taylor Crane, Elizabeth DeVries, Cyrus Downam, Jared White, and Bentley Bertolino.

These elementary students were 'caught' showing great character and were able to join the senior class for a few rounds of prison ball at the end of the month.













Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Lunch Days = 13</b>  HS/JH      \$33.80 Elem        \$30.55 Reduced    \$ 5.20				1  <i>JHGBB Plenty Coups            @ Home 4:30/5:30</i>	2  <i>JHGBB Bridger @            Home 4:00/5:00</i>	3 <i>JHGBB @ Park            City 10:00/11:00</i>  <b>HSBB Opening            Tournament            Lone Peak            Big Sky</b>
4 	5  <b>Blood Drive            3:00-6:00 pm</b>	6	7 <i>ASVAB—Juniors</i>	8	9 	10 <i>ACT Test</i>  <b>HSBB Opening            Tournament            Sheridan            @ Absarokee</b>
11	12	13 School Board Meeting @ 6:00pm	14	15 <i>2nd Quarter Midterm</i> <b>Christmas Concert            @ 7:00 PM</b>	16 <i>HSBB Fromberg @            Home BJV/GV/BV            4:30/6:00/7:30</i>	17 <i>HSBB @ Park City            BJV/GV/BV            4:30/6:00/7:30</i>
18	19	20	21 <i>HSBB @ PlentyCoups            BJV/GV/BV            4:30/6:00/7:30</i>	22 <i>HSBB Shields Valley            @ Home BJV/GV/BV            4:30/6:00/7:30</i>	23	24
25 	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>Christmas Break—No School</b>						



# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2 <b>Vacation Day</b> No SCHOOL 	3	4	5 <b>Slide Safe Dress</b> <b>Smart Presentation @ 3:00 PM</b>	6 <i>HSBB RPR @ Home</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30	7 <i>HSBB @ Harlowton</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30
8	9	10 <b>BPA District Leadership Conference</b> School Board Mtg @ 6:00 PM	11	12 <i>HSBB Broadview/Lavina @ home</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30	13 <i>HSBB @ Absarokee</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30	14
15	16 	17	18 <b>JH/HS Semester Tests</b>	19 <b>JH/HS Semester Tests</b> <i>HSBB Bridger @ home 4:30/6:00/7:30</i>	20	21 <i>HSBB Park City @ Home 4:30/6:00/7:30</i>
22	23	24	25 	26 <i>HSBB @ Fromberg</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30	27  <b>SKI DAY</b>	28 <i>HSBB Shields Valley @ Clyde Park</i> 4:30/6:00/7:30
29	30 <b>United Blood Services</b>  <b>Blood Drive</b> 3:00—6:00 PM	31				<b>Lunch Days = 17</b>  <b>HS/JH \$44.20</b> <b>Elem \$39.95</b> <b>Reduced \$ 6.80</b>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Lunch Days: 17</b> <b>HS/JH \$44.20</b> <b>Elem \$39.95</b> <b>Reduced \$ 6.80</b>	2 	3 Spaghetti French bread Salad dessert Milk fruit	4 Chicken fry stead Mashed potatoes 2 hot veggies WW rolls Fruit, milk	5 Barbara poles Mac and cheese Salad bar Fruit Dessert, milk	6 no lunch	7
8	9 Nacho Rice Salad Fruit milk	10 2 soups Hoagies Cheese stick Fruit, veggies Dessert, milk	11 Pulled pork sand Pasta salad par Baked beans Fruit Milk	12 Gumbo Rice, corn bread Salad bar Dessert, Fruit, milk	13 no lunch	14
15	16 Pork chops, 7-12 Baked chicken k-6 Mashed Potatoes, 2 hot veggies WW roll fruit, milk	17 Chicken nuggets Hot buttered noodles Salad, fruit Rice crisp treats Milk Chicken nuggets	18 Tater tot casserole Biscuit Salad Fruit Milk	19 Pizza Salad bar Fruit Dessert Milk	20 no lunch	21
22	23 Taco Refried beans Rice Salad Fruit, milk	24 Ravioli Garlic bread Caesar salad, Fruit, dessert Milk	25 Pancaked Scrambled eggs Bacon or sausage Tater tots, fruit Milk	26 Italian dunkers Mozz bread Salad bar Fruit, milk dessert	27 no lunch	28 
29	30 Beef strips Roasted red potatoes Salad, ww rolls Fruit Milk	31 Baked chicken Mashed potatoes 2 hot veggies Corn bread, fruit Dessert, milk				



# Seniors and Senior Parents

Looking for free money for school?  
Check out the scholarship opportunities  
found on my webpage [MrsHalvorsen.weebly.com](http://MrsHalvorsen.weebly.com)

## Friday Program Schedule

12/2/2016	No Friday Program-Teacher PIR				
12/9/2016	Ator	Sigl	McCoy		Winter Song and Dance
12/16/2016	Ronning	Wright	Halvorsen		Christmas Crafts
12/23/2016	No Friday Program-Winter Break				
12/30/2016	No Friday Program-Winter Break				
1/6/2017	Frank	Sigl	Cole		
1/13/2017	Ronning	Nelson	Reinhardt		
1/20/2017	McCoy	Milligan	Wright		
1/27/2017	Halvorsen	Nelson	Reinhardt		Ski Day
2/3/2017	Halvorsen	Nelson	Reinhardt		Ski Day

## BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Thursday, Decem-</b>	<b>Plenty Coups/Joilet</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Elem (g)/JH (g)</b>	<b>4:30/6:00</b>
<b>Friday, December</b>	<b>Bridger</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Elem (g)/JH (g)</b>	<b>4:00/5:00</b>
Saturday, Decem-	Lone Peak	Big Sky	<a href="#">Click Here for Complete Schedule</a>	
Saturday, Decem-	Park City	Park City	Elem (g)/JH (g)	10:00/11:00
Saturday, Decem-	Sheridan	Absarokee	<a href="#">Click Here for Complete Schedule</a>	
<b>Friday, December</b>	<b>Fromberg</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
Saturday, Decem-	Park City	Park City	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
Wednesday, De-	Plenty Coups	Plenty Coups	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
<b>Thursday, Decem-</b>	<b>Shields Valley</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
<b>Friday, January 6,</b>	<b>Reed Point/Rapelje</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
Saturday, January	Harlowtown	Harlowtown	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
Friday, January 13,	Absarokee	Absarokee	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
<b>Thursday, January</b>	<b>Broadview/Lavina</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
<b>Thursday, January</b>	<b>Bridger</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
<b>Saturday, January</b>	<b>Park City</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>
Thursday, January	Fromberg	Fromberg	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
Saturday, January	Shields Valley	Clyde Park	BJV/GV/BV	4:30/6:00/7:30
Friday, February 3,	Reed Point/Rapelje	TBD	<b>BJV/GV/BV</b>	<b>4:30/6:00/7:30</b>

**ROBERTS SCHOOL**

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Find the hero in you.

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH**

**3:00-6:00 PM**

**SIGN UP ON-LINE OR CALL THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE**

## **Ski Days**

**FRIDAYS**

**January 27**

**February 3**

**February 24**



[www.roberts.k12.mt.us](http://www.roberts.k12.mt.us)

### **4 Day School Week Survey**

We have had over 100 responses to the survey on the website regarding the 4 day school week. If you haven't done so already, please make sure you fill it out!

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

The School Board has spent the last few months working on a Strategic Plan for Roberts School. The plan is available to view on the school website. You can find it under the **MISSION CONTROL** tab. If you have any questions or comments please contact Mr. Ator.

## **WINTER CONCERT**

*Thursday, December 15, 2016*

*7:00 PM*