

BHA Board Report
Tuesday, September 9

Kicking the new year off in style!!!

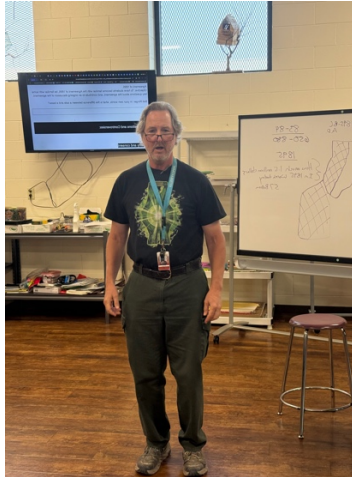


Cleaning our buffalo skulls at BHA is always a memorable and engaging process for many of our students, blending hands-on learning with cultural and scientific exploration. The skulls, generously donated to us by friends connected with the Fire in the Mountains festival, provide a unique opportunity for students to connect with both history and tradition in a meaningful way. As part of our curriculum, the cleaning and processing of the skulls becomes more than just a classroom activity—it allows students to practice patience, attention to detail, and respect for the animal itself. This work also serves as a bridge to conversations about ecology, the role of the buffalo in Blackfeet culture and survival, and the importance of preservation and stewardship. It's an activity that not only sparks curiosity and enthusiasm, but also grounds BHA students in a deeper understanding of their heritage, resilience, and the interconnectedness of life.

New Staff

We are excited to extend a warm welcome to our newest teacher, **Pat Hagan**, who joins the BHA family for the 2025–2026 school year. Pat brings with him more than 30 years of teaching experience, along with a reputation for having one of the most welcoming and approachable personalities in all of BPS. Over the course of his career, he has inspired countless students in Browning through his deep knowledge of local history, his engaging teaching style, and his ability to make every learner feel seen and supported.

At BHA, Pat will primarily be teaching social studies courses, where his passion for helping students understand the past and connect it to the world around them will be invaluable. Beyond the classroom, Pat is known for his dedication to building strong relationships with both students and colleagues, contributing to a positive and inclusive school culture. He's also been a beloved seasonal ranger in Glacier Park for three decades. We couldn't be happier to have him on our team, and we look forward to the energy, expertise, and kindness he will bring to the BHA community.



New Hush Pod @ BHA

In an effort to create a safe, private, and secure environment for the many BHA students who access telehealth mental health services, we partnered with Cinnamon to purchase and install a brand-new Hush Pod. This state-of-the-art, soundproof booth provides students with a confidential space designed specifically for their well-being. By

offering complete acoustic privacy, the Hush Pod ensures that students can fully engage in their counseling and therapy sessions without fear of being overheard or interrupted. For many young people, this level of privacy is essential in allowing them to open up, process difficult emotions, and build trust with their mental health providers.

The booth also addresses logistical barriers, such as the lack of quiet spaces in busy school environments, making it easier for students to access professional help when they need it most. This investment reflects our ongoing commitment to removing stigma, protecting confidentiality, and creating supportive pathways for students to receive the care and resources that can make a lasting difference in their lives. We need to give

Cinnamon a huge shout out for looping us in on this amazing new item!



Counseling Exchange between BHA and BHS

This year, BHS and BHA will be collaborating in exciting new ways to optimize resources and highlight the unique strengths of both campuses. One of the key initiatives will be the sharing of counseling personnel across both buildings, allowing us to better meet the diverse social, emotional, and academic needs of all our students. By working together, our counseling teams will be able to provide more comprehensive support, ensure consistency of care, and expand access to specialized expertise that benefits both schools. This collaborative approach not only strengthens the connection between campuses but also fosters a sense of unity and shared purpose, reinforcing our commitment to the success and well-being of every student we serve in BPS.