

The Black and Gold



Volume I

October 2021

Editor: Kalei Smith

Superintendent's Section

Dear Highland Community,

My name is Jacob Gion and I am the new Superintendent/Athletic Director for Highland School. I am so excited to be a part of the Highland Community and am looking forward to partnering with you to provide an excellent educational experience for the students at Highland School. My wife Shanny and I have three children; a sophomore, an 8th grader and a three month old and we are blessed to be a part of the Highland community.

We have a number of new staff members this year that we are thrilled to have on board. Ken Thompson is the new head of maintenance, Shandrie Stigum in our new technology coordinator, John Ayres is the new secondary math teacher, Kaleigh Poxleitner is the new secondary English teacher and Anne Mueller is our new middle school teacher. We have also added three new para-professionals to our staff; Jordyn Beck, Tessica Lustig and Shayla VonBargen. We are excited about our new additions and the excitement and energy they bring to Highland.

Finally, with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic I would like to encourage you to keep your kids home if they are sick. We want to keep everyone safe, healthy and in school. One of the best ways we can do that is for them to stay home if they feel ill. Also we encourage students to get tested for Covid-19 if they are exhibiting the following symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

I would like to thank you for doing your part to keep everyone healthy and I am looking forward to a great year.

Sincerely,
Jacob Gion
Superintendent - Highland Schools #305



Principal's Piece

September/October Newsletter

Gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder (GK Chesterson). That is a perfect reflection of what I have experienced during my time at Highland. Every day, I am moved and inspired by what I see. Every day, I marvel at the incredible devotion of our staff and their unique ability to teach and inspire our children. Every day, I celebrate the amazing support of our parents and community. And, importantly, I see our students working hard in classes, being great classmates, and participating at a high level in our school.

Every day, dedicated teachers and staff nurture a culture of fairness, love and caring, all focused on the goal of providing a safe learning environment for our students and families. Highland is committed to continuing this focus and supporting our families during the school day and beyond.

I am very grateful that we are able to get back to a sense of “normalcy”: FFA in-person events are happening.

Having our weekly PACK lessons with all students grades 7 - 12.

Regular assemblies are back to encourage school spirit and unity.

Homecoming! Plans are already underway for an awesome week of activities and fun. Our hallway will be decorated by each class. Traditional rock painting, sidewalk chalk art and window decorating will continue! Back this year is the class vs class and staff Volleyball tournament with Nezperce. And... a Homecoming Dance! This year's dance will be in the band gazebo at Craigmont City Park. Set your calendars to Homecoming week from October 4th through the 8th.

The remainder of this school year will be filled with learning and a ton of fun!

Go Huskies! - Go Eagles!

**Respectfully,
Dennis Fredrickson
K - 12 Principal**



Club Cluster

FFA

District Soils- October 5th
Nationals- October 24th-30th

BPA

We are so excited for this year! We have a ton of new members and we can't wait for our in-person conference in December!

Be on the lookout for our first fundraiser this Christmas!

National Honor Society

We have a wonderful new advisor, Mrs. Poxleitner. We are so excited for the upcoming year!



Updates

Homecoming- October 4th through October 8th

Dress up Days:

Monday: Cowboys vs. Aliens

Tuesday: Color Day

Wednesday: Decades Day

Thursday: Spirit Day

Don't forget to come support the Lewis County Eagles on Friday, October 8th as they face the Deary Mustangs!



Athlete Highlights

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Caristae Robinson is our Athlete Highlight for October!

Sports Played: Volleyball and Softball

Caristae has played volleyball for five years now and has played softball for one year.

Caristae's Best Sports Memory: When Taylor Osburn went to go sub into the volleyball game, and her foot got stuck in her chair. Her chair went flying, her shoe came off, and she ended up laying on the floor. It was really funny.

Tips for Younger Athletes: Be coachable, when coaches or teammates give you advice on how to become a better player, take it. It is very hard to grow to become a better player if you are not willing to learn. It can be hard when you are losing an important game, but negativity never helps. You have to lift up your team and be positive.

Biggest Supporters: My mom and my sister are my biggest supporters. My mom and sister come to as many games as they can, even if they are away games. They always cheer me on from the stands and make sure I am hydrated. I really appreciate them because having supporters helps me play better. Knowing I have someone rooting for me helps me stay focused on the game.

Thank You: I want to thank my mom, sister, and Amy. My mom has always supported my volleyball even when I was having bad days. I want to thank my sister because she always cheers for me and tells me how awesome I am. I want to thank Amy for pushing me to become a better player and being patient with me when I have bad days and blonde moments.



Teacher Spotlight

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From Mrs. Davis's Classroom

The science classes were treated to a presentation from our community member Mike Lamping. Students were captivated when they learned about the Fibonacci number and mathematical relationships in nature. Mr. Lamping had the students test the ratios in the Fibonacci number using calipers. Students were able to see the ratio in pine cones and the shape of our galaxy. We would like to thank Mr. Lamping for taking the time to spark imagination and wonder in our school.

Sheriff Davis came to the Forensic Science class and discussed challenges at a crime scene. He informed the students of the crime scenes, precautions and how the Lewis County Officers approach and investigate crime scenes.



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Welcome our new teacher Mrs. Poxleitner!

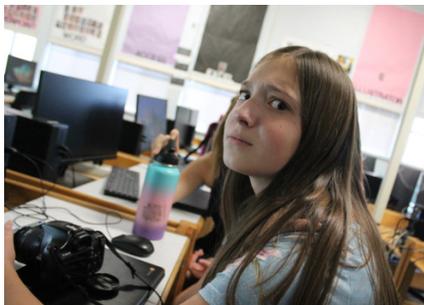
I was born and raised outside of Reubens, ID and I graduated from Highland in 2015. After attending the University of Idaho for four years, I got a job at Grangeville Middle School. I worked there for 2 years before deciding to come back home and teach English. It's so nice to be home!

I currently live outside of Keuterville with my husband Brandon where we have a healthy assortment of cattle, pigs, chickens, cats, and dogs.

We are so excited to have Mrs. Poxleitner join our Husky Family!



Husky Pride



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