



The mission of the Helena Public School Music Department is to create meaningful, memorable, and diverse musical experiences in a physically and emotionally safe environment that fosters artistic creativity.

The Helena Public School Music Department believes in creating and fostering a strong musical community in Helena and beyond.

Students study, create, and perform music with their peers and fellow musicians.

Students develop musical literacy to instill a lifelong engagement with the arts.

Students learn to be responsible and contributing members of society.

Students experience positive social interactions that promote strong mental health and encourage them to stay educationally engaged.

Families share in the artistic development of their children.

Families engage with their school community during musical performances.

Music Teachers work within a community of educators in and out of the classroom.

Music Teachers design innovative, collaborative, and interdisciplinary lessons.

Music Teachers educate the whole child to help them feel accepted, included, involved, and needed in school.



The Helena Music Department faculty consists of 19 professional educators.



ELEMENTARY
 2 full-time K-5 music teachers
 6 itinerant K-5 music teachers



MIDDLE SCHOOL
 1 full-time band director
 1 full-time orchestra director
 1 full-time choir director
 1 band/choir director
 1 orchestra/choir director
 1 part-time music tech instructor



HIGH SCHOOL
 2 full-time band directors
 2 full-time choir directors
 1 itinerant orchestra director

OUR SUCCESSES

Classroom Experiences

Elementary students develop foundational skills for all future musical development in ensembles.
 Elementary students learn both vocal and instrumental performance techniques
 Elementary schools tailor a variety of performances to meet community needs and resources
 Middle School Band, Choir, Orchestra each hold 4 concerts per year
 CRA Orchestra applies musical skills to the creation and presentation of an original movie
 High School Band, Choir, Orchestra each hold 4 concerts per year
 Middle and High School Band, Choir, Orchestra participated in a variety of festival performances

Collaborations

HMS and CRA orchestra prepare and present most concerts and festivals collaboratively
 HMS and CRA choir prepare festivals with their respective high schools
 CRA and High School Orchestras swap teachers for two days
 CRA and CHS band prepare and present a multi-grade collaborative concert
 Folk Dance night between Central and Broadwater
 Interdisciplinary collaboration between physical education, library skills, and music at Rossiter
 Last Chance Music Camp that brings together almost 20 community educators to teach 140 students over two weeks in June

Community Building

Guest Artist performances
 Ensemble Community Tours
 Helena Youth Orchestra, Voices of Tomorrow, HMS/CRA Jazz Bands, HMS Fiddle Club, HMS Choir Club
 Folk Dance night between Central and Broadwater

OUR GOALS

Establish Helena as a community that supports great Arts education.

Achieve consistency with the instructional standards of other AA districts.

- Arts administrator
- Middle school music every day
- More elementary instructional time

Transition elementary music toward true performance opportunities and genuine experiences guided by best practice and PLC decision making.

Create a comprehensive budget line item to properly manage:

- Instrument repair
- Instrument replacement plans
- Choir accompanists

Standardize and improve elementary music budgets.