



# HELENA HIGH SCHOOL

1300 BILLINGS AVE.  
HELENA, MONTANA 59601-3981

August 26, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! As we embark on this crazy time of providing in-person learning blended with remote learning, we are very excited to have your child in our Co-Teaching class this school year! Co-Teaching is when two certified teachers are present in the classroom and they work together through the teaching process: planning, teaching, and assessing progress. Students frequently have different learning styles and preferences. Co-Teaching often allows those different needs to be more easily met. This will also allow us to provide unique instructional opportunities for students working remotely.

Having two teachers in the same classroom looks different depending on the activity we're doing in class and the needs of the students. Sometimes we may split the class into two groups with each teacher teaching one of the groups. This allows for a smaller teacher-to-student ratio for more complex topics. Occasionally, one teacher will pull a small group aside for additional-support or make up instruction while the other teacher assists students with an extension assignment or project. Unique to this year, one teacher has the opportunity to work with remote students. This way, students receive additional help when needed or they receive meaningful extension activities led by a teacher instead of busywork to complete independently at their desk or home. If you are interested in learning more about the different Co-Teaching strategies available, this website offers quick summaries of each strategy: <http://www.marilynfriend.com/approaches.htm>.

If you have any questions or concerns, we are available via email:

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Thank you. We are planning to have a great year!