

[Diana Hicke](#), School Counselor for
the Class of 2025, Class of 2026 A-F

[Wes Andrews](#), School Counselor for
the Class of 2023, Class of 2026 G-O

[Charlene Jakich](#), Chair, School Counselor for
the Class of 2024, Class of 2026 P-Z

[Renaef Bafus](#), College & Career Center

[Dee Bishop](#), Counseling Secretary

[Ien Wilson](#), Registrar



Moscow High School Counseling Center Update

December 7, 2022

Winter Break is almost here, and we hope our students indeed make time for a break. This is the longest school-free stretch of the semester, so it is a great time for students to rest and recharge so that they can meet their end-of-semester goals in January!

Our Natural Helpers Retreat took place on November 14-16 at Palouse Divide Lodge. Natural Helpers is a peer-helping program based on the premise that within every school is an informal helping network. Students seek out other students whom they trust for advice, assistance, or a sympathetic ear when they are having difficulties. The program uses this existing network to provide training to students who are already identified as those natural helpers. Our retreat is designed to give them the skills they need to provide more effective help and to know when to refer to supportive adults. Much of the funding comes from our annual poinsettia sale, so thank you to those who purchased a poinsettia. We'd also like to thank the staff who joined us: Mr. Shipley, Ms. Barnes, Ms. McMurtry, and Ms. Irelan.



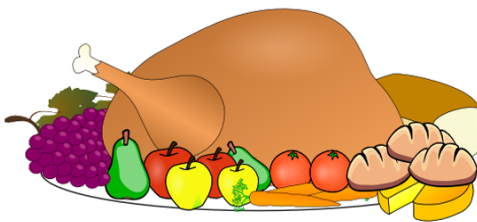


Every Week this Semester!



- ★ Submit your FAFSA to win prizes!
- ★ Mr. Andrews will draw names and announce **EVERY** Friday.
- ★ Air Pod Pros will be the **GRAND PRIZE** drawn at the end of this semester for everyone who has submitted their FAFSA.
- ★ **LETS GO BEARS!!!**

Seniors, the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) is open. This application is required for all students who want to be considered for any form of federal aid in college, including work study, and is also required to be considered for many scholarship opportunities. Select the 2023-2024 FAFSA and use your 2021 Tax Return. To get started, students *and* parents each apply for a [FSA ID](#).



We are putting together **Meal Kits** for the upcoming Winter Break. Please tell your counselor or Ms. Bishop if you know someone who would like one.

Also remember that our Food Bank School Pantry is conveniently located in the Moscow High School basement to help you get food for your family at no charge. To access the Food Pantry by appointment or for more information, contact Diana Hicke.



Winter Break is also a great time to explore scholarship opportunities. Most scholarships are pertinent to seniors, but students of any grade level can research the scholarships that they can consider applying for and begin compiling the materials to do so. Here are the best places to find scholarships:

1. **The Colleges / Universities themselves.** Colleges have financial aid offices and webpages with helpful information regarding their scholarship application and lists of scholarships that students may apply for. Most colleges offer a variety, and some offer automatic scholarships based on grades, test scores, etc. In-state merit scholarships for Idaho residents, for example, range from [\\$1,000 - \\$6,500](#) at the University of Idaho, [\\$1,000 - \\$2,500](#) at LC State, [\\$1,000 - \\$7,500](#) at Idaho State University, and [\\$2,000 - \\$2,500](#) at Boise State University.

2. **The Idaho State Board of Education** has several need-based and merit-based scholarships for Idaho students. **The Idaho Opportunity Scholarship** is a need-based award with a deadline of March 1st. This scholarship is renewable for four years and students need to have at least a 2.7 GPA and have completed the FAFSA. No essay is required. Last year, *all* eligible applicants received award offers for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship. Another to be aware of is the competitive Governor's Cup, which is due February 15th. Yet another is the Armed Forces and Public Safety Officer Dependent Scholarship which will be awarded to dependents of fallen or permanently disabled members of the armed forces or public safety officers. For more information, students can contact the Scholarship Program Manager, Joy Miller at 208-332-1595. All of these scholarships can be found at the one-stop [Scholarship Idaho](#).

3. Juniors and Seniors can use the **Big Future Scholarship Search at [College Board](#)** to explore careers, build a college list, work on the FAFSA, apply to colleges and more. At each step is a monthly drawing of \$500 with 150 winners selected, and two \$40,000 scholarships will be drawn each month from both classes. Drawings are on the first of every month so the earlier students participate the more chances they have to win.

4. The [scholarship listing](#) through **Next Steps Idaho** is growing and can be filtered by due date, academic program, GPA, and more.



5. The [scholarship page on the MHS website](#). We keep an extensive list of additional scholarships here and posted in the Counseling Center and outside the Career Center. There are many local scholarships that open in late winter and early spring.

6. **National scholarship search sites** like bold.com, fastweb.com, and niche.com. It's possible to earn scholarships through these, but the competition is nationwide. Also keep in mind that they make money by selling data to their business partners; they sell some of the information that you provide to their partner companies who will market certain things toward you. One site we recommend for finding scholarships, summer programs, internships, and conferences is hsnavigator.org.

The [Horatio Alger Scholarship](#) is now open to juniors. The awards range in value from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Students may apply online between December 1st and March 15. To qualify, juniors need to:

- Be planning on attending college
- Demonstrate financial need (\$55,000 or lower adjusted gross family income)
- Be involved in service activities
- Display integrity in overcoming adversity

If you're looking at out-of-state colleges, make sure to check the [list of colleges and universities](#) at the **Western Undergraduate Exchange**. These western-state institutions offer significantly discounted tuition for Idaho students. The discount is not dependent on income eligibility, but applying early is crucial, and sometimes high school GPA is a factor. For example, the [University of Montana's full WUE amount](#) of \$18,888 is only available to students with a 3.95 and above. Not all colleges in the west participate in the WUE, and each can have different criteria for the award, so let us know if you'd like any help researching more about the WUE.



MOSCOW FFA FOSTER CARES DRIVE

NOVEMBER 28th ~ DECEMBER 16th
DROP OFF ITEMS IN THE MHS SHOP

Possible Items

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Gift Cards
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Phone Charger
- Headphones
- Sun Glasses
- Body Wash
- Face Wash
- Chapstick
- Hair Ties



**Moscow Holiday
Food Distribution**

Monday, December 19th
10am - 12pm or food is gone

Latah County Fair Grounds
Enter from Mountain View Road

Brought to you by:





PSAT scores were made available on December 6th. Scores are posted online, and students will need to create an account through [CollegeBoard](#) to access them. If you provided an email address when taking the PSAT, then you should have received an email with instructions. Students with any questions about their score can ask their counselor, and we can also help show you how to [connect your scores to Khan Academy](#) for a free practice guide. To retrieve your PSAT answer book, visit Mrs. Bafus in the Career Center.

Juniors will take the **SAT** at MHS on **Wednesday, April 12th, 2023**. Taking a college-entrance exam like the SAT or ACT is a requirement for graduation in the Moscow School District and Mrs. Bafus will register all juniors. SAT prep classes will take place in February and March during Access with Ms. Lyon and Mr. Gravel.

Over 1,800 universities are now [test-optional](#), but a good score can still help admission chances and improve one's course placement for English and Math. The Princeton Review is offering a free [SAT Strategy Session](#) on December 5th and an [ACT Strategy Session](#) on December 6th. The [ACT](#) is the other nationally recognized exam accepted by all colleges and universities.


ACT (MHS code 130415)	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
February 11, 2023	January 6, 2023	January 20, 2023
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023

SAT (MHS code 130415)	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
March 11, 2023	February 10, 2023	February 28, 2023
May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023
June 3, 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023





Your Story



CLASS OF 2023



Your Style

- *Announcements
- *Cap & Gown
- *Apparel & Swag
- *Jewelry
- *Packages

Cheri Hoagburg
HERFF JONES GRADUATION EXPERT
phone: 866.238.5336
Email: highschoolcs@herffjones.com



[Highschool.herffjones.com](https://highschool.herffjones.com)
Search: Moscow High School

Seniors, there is **still time** to [order your cap, gown, and tassel](#). The basic package is \$32.95, but that price will soon increase by \$10. If you already have a black cap and gown that you plan to use, please tell our registrar, Jen Wilson, at wilsonj@msd281.org.

How do I meet with my MHS Counselor? We can meet with **students** during non-core classes or during an available class period. You can use our online scheduler <http://go.oncehub.com/MHSCounselors> to schedule appointments in order to discuss individual planning, academic and college advising, or personal concerns. We welcome meetings with **parents** as well and ask that you schedule your appointment through the Counseling Center Secretary, Dee Bishop, by calling (208) 882-2591.



Question from an MHS student: If my GPA decreases between first and second semester, will I lose my current award level from the U of I's Go Idaho scholarship?

Answer: No. The University of Idaho's Go Idaho scholarship is set up as a no-lose situation.

Students who apply to the U of I before the end of first semester will receive an initial award offer based on their current cumulative GPA. If their GPA goes down by the time they graduate, the U of I will not take away the offer. So if a student with a 3.9 is offered the Vandal Pride award, and then their GPA goes down to a 3.8 after our first semester, they will still receive the Vandal Pride award.

On the flipside, if a student increases their GPA after they apply, then the U of I will increase their scholarship award. So a student with a 3.8 in the fall will initially be offered the \$4,500 Vandal Summit award, but that will change to the \$6,500 Vandal Pride award if they can earn a 3.9 GPA by the time they graduate from MHS.

Keep in mind that this scenario is specific to the University of Idaho and the Go Idaho award. Losing a merit-based scholarship due to a decreased GPA is a very real possibility with other scholarships and other universities. If you have questions about those, make sure to check with us and the admissions office of your choice.

If a friend or loved one is in crisis, there is help available.

*Call **911** if there is an imminent danger to self or others.*

*Idaho Crisis & Suicide Hotline / National Suicide Prevention Lifeline : **988** [Call or Text]*

The Crisis Text Line [Text 741741] can receive texts about any number of issues, including isolation, anxiety, depression, self-harm, stress, abuse, grief, etc.