



School Receives National Honor



LEGACY
OF
LEARNING

On September 17, U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced the recipients of the 2003 "No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon School" awards. Just 248 U.S. schools received that award, including just two in Montana.

Among those schools honored in Montana is Plentywood Middle School.

Governor Judy Martz wrote the following message to Plentywood Principal Rob Pedersen: "I am delighted to congratulate you as well as the teachers, parents, and students on being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education. Your hard work is a national model of excellence that other schools can follow. Keep up the great work!"

Also, this message arrived from Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch: "Times are difficult for education and educators everywhere due to the lack of resources and the increasing mandates of President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act.



**Charting the
Course to
Excellence!**

This is a good news and cause for celebration! Plentywood 7-8 is truly a first-rate Montana School. Enjoy your trip to Washington, D.C. for the 2003 No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon Schools Award Ceremony in October."

Those involved with education of Plentywood Middle School students during the 2003-2004 school year include: LeAnn Ryder, Mary Chandler, Jeanne Nathe, Karleen Harris, Merle Thompson, Denise Heppner, Patsy Morstad, Judy Nikolaisen, Lisa Tryan, Principal Rob Pedersen and Superintendent Joe Bennett.

The Blue Ribbon School designation is based on academic excellence of students, as measured by state tests. Those representing Plentywood Middle School at the October 30-31 Blue Ribbon School Ceremony in Washington, D. C. were instructors Patsy Morstad and Merle Thompson.

Congratulations!

100 East Laurel

... a Christmas and New Year message from Kordy

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy New Year! We hope your holidays are filled with an abundance of love and peace. The year, 2003, has been an exciting time for the Foundation, from it's inception to the current progress we have made! Each of us is a contributing architect in building bridges to

assist students in their journeys to the future. We have the vision to see what can evolve through our commitments and the benefits that are being derived by students and teachers. May we all continue to

**We are, each of us, a
contributing architect in
building bridges~**

be a part of this rewarding legacy and step forward in 2004 to accept new challenges and cultivate a stewardship of maintaining the bridges we have built for our young people. Following is a story, *The Bridge Builder*, which vividly describes the concept of the education foundation as we understand it.

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*Plentywood Education and
Alumni Foundation, Inc.*

100 East Laurel Avenue
Plentywood, Montana 59254

(406) 765 - 1803
kordy@airtimeisp.net

Visit our websight at
www.plentywoodalumni.com

Kordelia French
Executive Director

We're on the web!



The Bridge Builder

*An old man going a lone highway, came at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and wide and steep, with water rolling cold and deep.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim—the sullen stream held no fears for him.
But he turned when safe at the other side and built a bridge to span the tide.*

*“Old Man,” said a fellow pilgrim near, “You’re wasting your strength with building here.
Your journey will end with the ending day; you never again will pass this way.
You’ve crossed the chasm deep and wide, why build you this bridge at eventide?”*

*The builder lifted his old gray head: “Good friend, in the path I have come,” he said,
“There followeth after me today a youth whose feet must pass this way.
The chasm which was as naught to me, to that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in twilight dim—good friend, I am building this bridge for him.”*

~Source Unknown



Ask Rick . . . Montana Income Tax Credit

The Montana Legislature recently increased the income tax credit available to taxpayers for donations made to the endowment funds of qualified Montana charities. As you surely know, only the interest earned by endowment gifts can be used, the principle isn't ever spent. Just think: a gift that gives forever!

As of July 1, 2003, the following changes are in effect:

- ◆ Individuals must make “planned gifts”. Those gifts qualify for a 40% tax credit up to \$10,000. Planned gifts include charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, charitable gift annuities, life estate agreements (gift of residence or farm), paid up life insurance policies.
- ◆ Planned gifts must have a life of over one year.
- ◆ Corporate or other business entity gifts qualify for a 20% credit up to \$10,000 and these entities may make outright gifts.

The tax credit was first offered in 1997. Montana is the only state in the nation to offer a tax credit for philanthropy. The Montana legislature feels the tax credit benefits the people of Montana in many ways. Three of which are:

- ◆ The Philanthropy Tax Credit helps “lessen the burden” of Montana Government. By strengthening Montana endowments, charities are more capable of resolving social, educational and cultural problems.
- ◆ The Philanthropy Tax Credit can raise Montana Revenue. A “planned gift” is a type of gift vehicle that often significantly increases the spendable (and thus taxable) income of the taxpayer each year for the remainder of his or her lifetime.
- ◆ The Philanthropy Tax Credit saves Montanans federal income tax dollars. The Montana Tax Credit for Endowed Philanthropy “induces” Montanans to be generous to Montana charities. Such giving generates meaningful income tax savings on the federal level as well.

As the tax year draws to an end, please think about how a charitable gift can benefit us all, now and into the future. If you have questions, contact your financial advisors.

DID YOU KNOW?

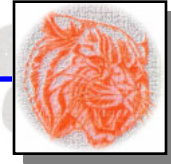
- ⇒ 38% of all charitable giving goes to Religious Organizations
- ⇒ 11% of all charitable giving goes to Education. 97% of this goes to Colleges
- ⇒ 8.3% of all charitable giving goes to Health Care

Why not consider giving part of this 97% to your graduating High School?

From The Philanthropic Institute of America



Let's Talk Sports

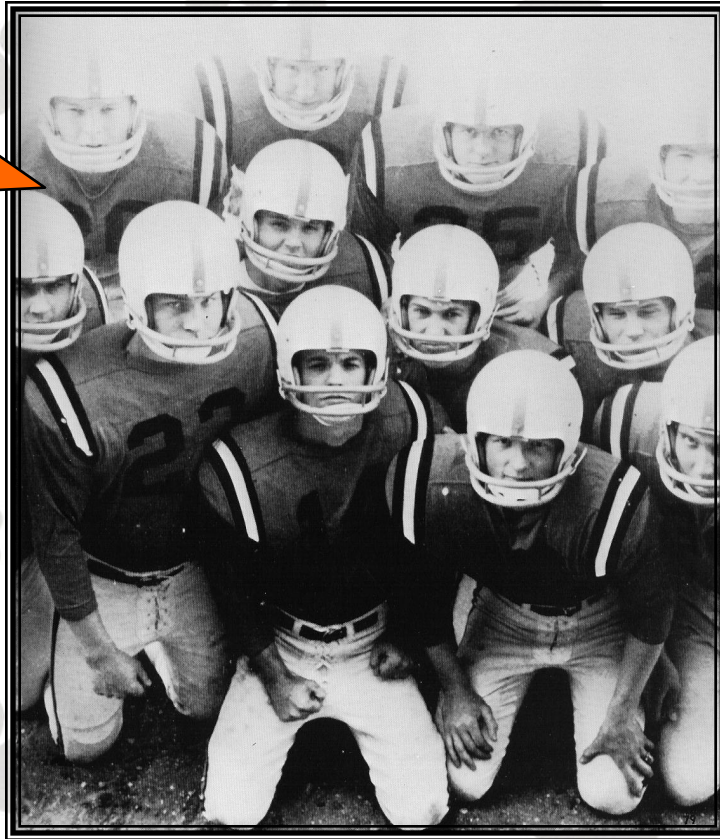


Sports World

'68-'69

- Wildcats, coached by Doug Dierenfield, took top honors as the Eastern B football champs.
- Wildcats, coached by Zoonie McLean, competed in the Glendive tourney, finishing as No. 1
- Wildcats, coached by Ed Ternes, made it to the state meet.

Know any
of these
guys?!?
Please
tell us!



Remember When



*Let
there
be
Music...*



How many of us remember this image?!? Those were the Good Old Days when Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter inspired us with their musical talents!

In perusing the School Albums we ran across the following dedication in 1984:

Car' pen—ter (- pen—ter), n. An artisan who frames and builds houses.

Mr. Car' - pen—ter (pen—ter), pn. A teacher who builds and frames minds and personalities.

Mr. Carpenter has been at P.H.S. for 29 years. He has been respected by parents as well as students. The dictionary defines carpenter as a builder. We at P.H.S. also define carpenter as a builder, but not a builder of houses or ships. Instead, we think of him as a builder of minds, personalities, and manners. Mr. Carpenter has won the respect of many people, teachers, students, and parents and we know that he will keep gaining respect for many more years to come.

~ M. D'Angelo



PLENTYWOOD EDUCATION AND ALUMNI FOUNDATION

100 East Laurel Avenue
Plentywood, MT 59254
Telephone: (406) 765-1803

- ☐ I intend to give a \$50.00 donation to become a member of the
Plentywood Education and Alumni Foundation

Please consider a gift that will qualify you for additional recognition.

- ☐ Bronze Membership \$ 250 ☐ Silver Membership \$ 500
☐ Gold Membership \$1,000 ☐ Platinum Membership \$5,000

Please make checks payable to "Plentywood Education and Alumni Foundation".
Thank you for including this form with your tax-deductible gift.

Name

Street Address

City, State & Zip Code

Telephone & E-Mail Address

.....
Please retain this portion for your records and return the above form with your tax-deductible donation.

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation is to generate creative approaches and distribute resources to the Plentywood School District to enrich, maintain and expand programs needed to meet the District's stated mission of excellence in education.

Gift Receipt

Name

Street Address

City, State & Zip Code

Amount of Donation & Date

THANK YOU!

