



**HYALITE**  
**E L E M E N T A R Y**  
**S C H O O L**

2015/2016  
STUDENT HANDBOOK

Welcome to Hyalite Elementary School. We as a staff work to fulfill the **Bozeman School District Long Range Strategic Plan** and our Hyalite initiatives discussed below. The skills students need to succeed in the global community and marketplace are changing rapidly. The Hyalite staff constantly search for ways to best educate **all** students and to prepare them for a rapidly changing society which is already upon us. We constantly review and strive to follow Larry Lezotte's Effective Schools Research (see below) and all staff work together to assure the highest achievement possible for each student in all areas.

Therefore, we will uphold the **Core Purpose of the Bozeman Public School District:** *Bozeman Public Schools exist to provide an outstanding education that inspires and ensures high achievement so every student can succeed and make a difference in a rapidly changing world community.*

We are a staff of continuous growth, always learning in order to fulfill this purpose. We will fulfill the notion of "every student succeeding," **WHATEVER IT TAKES!**

### **When our children leave Hyalite Elementary School we want them:**

- ◇ To have questioning minds
- ◇ To have an awareness of their earth and different cultures
- ◇ To seek diversity not just accept it
- ◇ To be able to cooperate with others
- ◇ To be able to recognize strengths in themselves and others
- ◇ To know what they would like to change and how to accomplish it (on both a small and large scale)
- ◇ To recognize they are contributors and leaders
- ◇ To have the potential to be agents of change
- ◇ To be enthusiastic about learning and exchanging ideas with others
- ◇ To be excited about the future and the possibilities it can bring
- ◇ To have all of the academic and specialist (music, health enhancement, library) skills to meet the above goals
- To know that they are valued

### About Us

#### **Programs to Ensure Success for All Students**

We provide a full range of programs to ensure that all students are learning. Services which are a key part of our success include our school psychologist/counselor, speech clinicians, intervention specialists, special educators and gifted consultants. These range from resource and self-contained special education programs, counseling and counseling curriculum, to reading intervention and math assistance programs as well as consultation for gifted needs. Following the **Response to Intervention initiative** we are able to utilize these services in a flexible manner to assist all students.

## **No Child Left Inside**

Because one of the factors of an effective school is student engagement and motivation, we utilize the great outdoors around us in Bozeman, Montana as outdoor classrooms. We will work closely with the concept of "No Child Left Inside", an initiative of the federal government: This concept supports the science standards of the Bozeman Public School:

[http://www.bsd7.org/district/departments/curriculum\\_instruction/curriculum/documents.php?dir=03%20Science%20Standards%20/](http://www.bsd7.org/district/departments/curriculum_instruction/curriculum/documents.php?dir=03%20Science%20Standards%20/) Our proximity to the Bozeman Pond and Hyalite Canyon support this endeavor. Several studies have found that, when environmental education is incorporated into the curriculum or used as an integrating context for learning, students perform better on standardized tests in reading, math, writing, social studies, and science. Other studies have documented that environmental education achieves the following: improves critical thinking skills; motivates students to become more engaged in the classroom and achieve more strongly in their schoolwork; reduces discipline and classroom management problems; encourages civic engagement and environmental stewardship; and better problem-solving skills.

Along with our outdoor emphasis, we have garden plots along the west side of our playground for each grade level. We take digital field trips to our neighboring ponds and Hyalite Canyon. The riparian area around our creek is planted with flora to further diverse growth in life, which we study seasonally. Working with the landscapers we have almost completely edible trees and bushes on our school ground to further our outdoor engagement. We utilize the Gallatin Forest Service and Montana Fish Parks and Wildlife personnel in staff field trips as well as student field trips in the great outdoors surrounding our community. We realize that we need to find the way to balance exposure to nature with an increasing technological world around us while still preparing students for the 21st century. In order for our students to grow up to be caring adults who contribute to the global community we must teach them to care and to function in a community. We look at all of the education today not as barriers but as possibilities. We are partnering with the Gallatin National Forest Service, the Audubon Society, Montana Outdoor Science School and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission to further our endeavor.

## **Partnership with Parents**

When parents work with the school community, student success is assured. All of our staff members are ready to help your student succeed. Besides the stellar teaching staff, our principal, our school psychologist, our parent liaison, our after school coordinator, and our specialists are all available to assist you with any needs regarding your child. In addition, there are many ways to partner with a school. These include helping teachers with materials for the classroom, volunteering, coming to school events, joining our PAC, Parent Action Committee, or having conversations with us.

At Hyalite Elementary School, we also have a program called Thriving Tots. This program is geared for parents with children ages 2-4 years old. Thrive personnel host this program where parents and children come to Hyalite for learning/play sessions and become familiar with their future school.

## **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – Please read carefully!**

Hyalite Elementary School is a Safe Routes to School school. **We encourage children to walk and bicycle to school; we work to improve their safety along the way; and therefore reduce traffic congestion.** By improving the drop-off and pick-up process, traffic conditions become safer for all, including pedestrians and bicyclists. PLEASE PARTNER WITH US IN THIS.

How will biking be safe for your child? We will have many bike racks on the east side of the school to protect your bikes. We ask that children WALK THEIR BIKES as soon as they are on school property. This includes the entire sidewalk in front of the school.

### Walking or Biking

1. Walkers will cross Babcock at Sheridan St. and Yellowstone St. ONLY.
2. All students who walk or bike from the west, will stay on the sidewalk at the front of the school until they come to the sidewalk at the east end of the school which will take them to the playground.
3. **We have a bridge at the back of the East parking lot for children to safely come from the South neighborhoods. CHILDREN MUST STAY ON THE SIDEWALK ALL THE WAY TO THE PLAYGROUND, NEVER GOING INTO THE PARKING LOT.** If you bring your bike over the bridge, you proceed to the bike racks at the East end of the school. Walkers and bikers will reverse this at the end of the day.

### DROP OFF

Drop off is ONLY in the East Parking Lot in the middle, right side by gate to the playground. Stop, let your child out ONLY on the right side of your vehicle and have them enter the gate to the playground where there will be supervision after 8:00 a.m. THEN PLEASE KEEP MOVING.

PICK UP – All parents meeting their children will meet them under the awning on the playground. Please park and walk to the awning to pick up your child.

DO NOT EVER USE THE BUS LANE IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL.

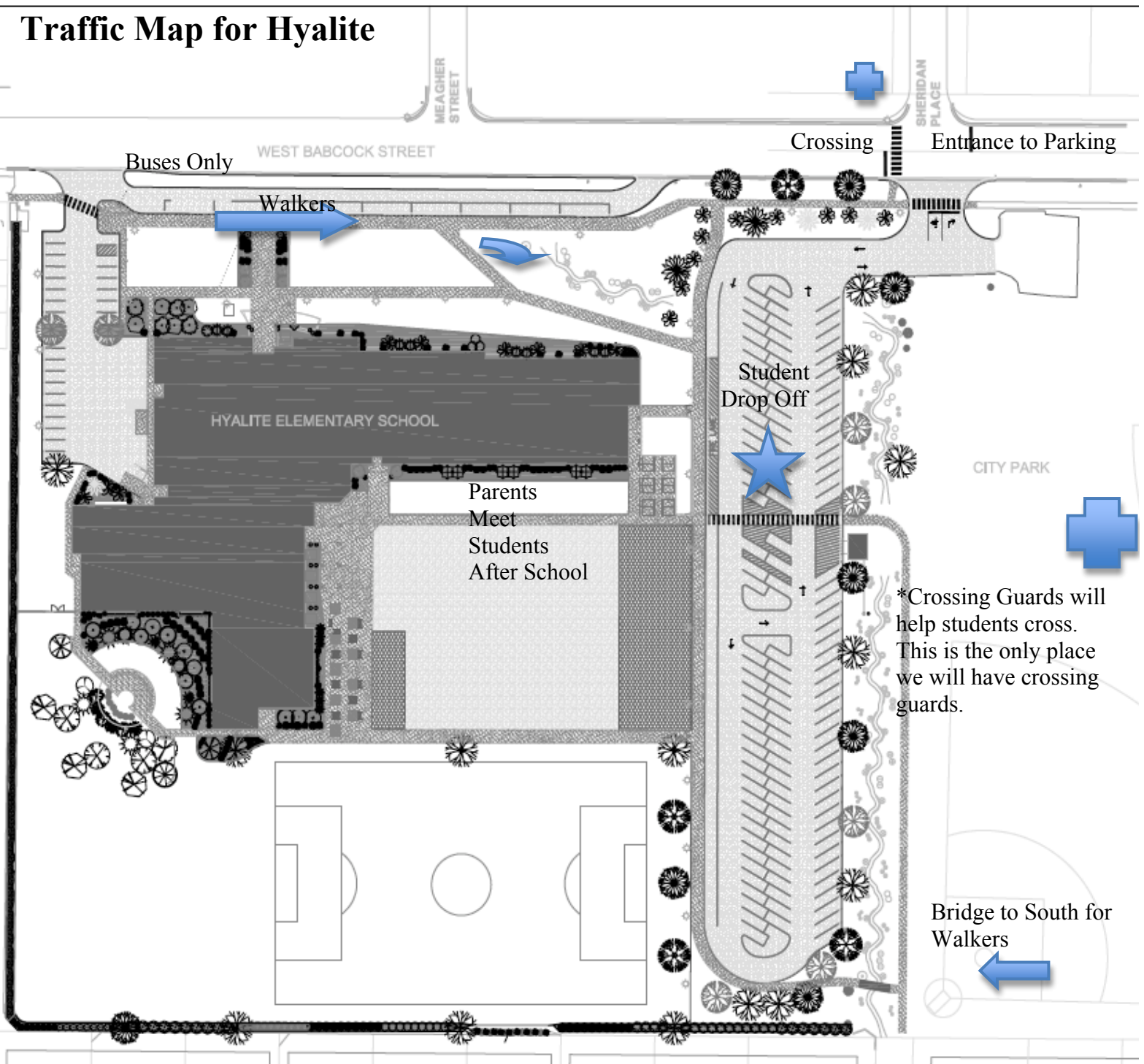
HANDICAPPED PARKING IS LOCATED BOTH IN THE EAST PARKING LOT AND THE WEST PARKING LOT.

PLEASE practice the way your child will come to school – walking, biking, drop off at a time when school is not in session.

**WE THANK YOU FOR MAKING SCHOOL SAFE FOR ALL CHILDREN.**

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THE MAP ON THE NEXT PAGE for walking or biking to school or for drop-off and pick up.

# Traffic Map for Hyalite



Buses Only

WEST BABCOCK STREET

MEAGHER STREET

SHERIDAN PLACE

Crossing

Entrance to Parking

Walkers

HYALITE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student Drop Off

Parents Meet Students After School

CITY PARK

\*Crossing Guards will help students cross. This is the only place we will have crossing guards.

Bridge to South for Walkers