



Located at: Helena College
 1115 North Roberts, Room 004
 Helena, MT 59601
 Phone: 406-447-6380
 Fax: 406-447-6394
<http://accesstosuccess.helenaschools.org/>

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAM

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER- FEBRUARY 2018

Wow, it is already February! The end of the semester will be here before you know it! It is also never too soon to start looking for scholarships. We have highlighted a few below and more can be found on the board in the office.

David Strong Memorial Scholarship:

The David Strong Memorial Scholarship was generously created by Helena College following the unexpected death of our first administrator and creator of Access



to Success, David Strong. David felt that any Helenan that did not

have their high school diploma deserved a second chance at education, resulting in the creation of this program in 2009. His belief in quality, rigorous, and real world education helped mold the teachers and curriculum that you see in the classrooms today. David's kind heart, big smile, dedication to student success and friendship is truly missed, but his memory lives on in the teachers, staff and in the recipient of this generous scholarship. The David Strong

Memorial Scholarship offers a two-year tuition waiver to an outstanding Access to Success graduate who demonstrates the qualities and commitment to education that David had. Finishing high school and going on to be a successful college student was a dream that David had for every student. Earning this scholarship and being successful in college is all the thanks that David could ask for.

If you are interested in applying you can pick up application in the Access to Success office or find it on the Helena College website:

www.umhelena.edu/financialaid/scholarships

Angel Fund Scholarship:

The Angel Fund Program will be awarding 15 Montana graduates a \$1000 scholarship! The scholarships will be based on financial need, academic success, and a commitment to "pay it forward" in the future. You will find the new 2018 Angel Fund Scholarship application at www.angelfundhelena.org or in the Access to Success office.

Trivia Questions?

Did Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow?



Comments for an Access Student:

I am a student in the Access Program, I am here because of multiple medical and psychological problems that I have had for two years before I joined this program. Some of them include diabetes, extreme vertigo, and PTSD from things that have happened in my life. I was out of school for almost two years trying to get better; when I went back to school, it just was not the same. Everything was so overwhelming and just did not feel right. It was very hard for me to go from staying in my house and lying in bed because of the vertigo to going to school with hundreds of kids. It was a big adjustment and I was suffering through because I needed to. Then I found out about Access and how it was a lot smaller than Helena High and other schools,

****Access to Success is a high school completion program in the Helena School District. We provide students, 16 and over, who have dropped out the opportunity to earn their diploma. ****

it gave me relief and when I first came in for the first day of school here at Access I was welcomed and respected more than any school I have been to. When I go to Access I feel loved and supported with everything that I do as though they are my second family, and for that I would not ask for anything else.
~Austin Higley

Class Spotlight – Algebra:

Algebra is one of the few major domains of mathematics that students study from preschool all the way through twelfth grade, says



Matt Larson, president of National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). "Algebra is critically important because it is often viewed as

a gatekeeper to higher-level mathematics and it's a required course for virtually every postsecondary school program," he says. Excelling in Algebra can lead to many new prospects for success in the 21st century. What's more, when students make the changeover from concrete arithmetic to the symbolic language of algebra, they develop abstract reasoning skills necessary to excel in math and science. ~Nathan Whitsel

History Lesson:

Before there was Rosa Parks, there was Claudette Colvin.

Most people think of [Rosa Parks](#) as the first person to refuse to give up their seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. There were actually several women who came before

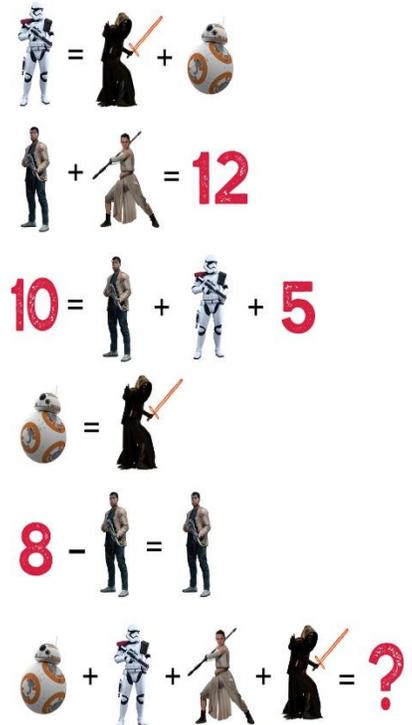
her; one of whom was Claudette Colvin.

It was March 2, 1955, when the fifteen-year-old schoolgirl refused to move to the back of the bus, nine months before Rosa Parks' stand that launched the Montgomery bus boycott. Claudette had been studying Black leaders like Harriet Tubman in her segregated school, those conversations had led to discussions around the current day Jim Crow laws they were all experiencing. When the bus driver ordered Claudette to get up, she refused, "It felt like Sojourner Truth was on one side pushing me down, and Harriet Tubman was on the other side of me pushing me down. I couldn't get up."

Claudette Colvin's stand didn't stop there. Arrested and thrown in jail, she was one of four women who challenged the segregation law in court. If *Browder v. Gayle* became the court case that successfully overturned bus segregation laws in both Montgomery and Alabama, why has Claudette's story been largely forgotten? At the time, the NAACP and other Black organizations felt Rosa Parks made a better icon for the movement than a teenager. As an adult with the right look, Rosa Parks was also the secretary of the NAACP, and was both well-known and respected – people would associate her with the middle class and that would attract support for the cause. But the struggle to end segregation was

often fought by young people, more than half of which were women.

Math Challenge Question



Math Jokes Section (Really?)

Parallel lines have so much in common.

~It's too bad they'll never meet.

What do you call a number that can't keep still?

~A roamin' numeral.

A farmer counted 196 cows in the field.

~But when he rounded them up, he had 200.

Upcoming Information Nights

February 6th, 2018

March 6th, 2018

April 3rd, 2018

Information nights are at 6:00pm on the Helena College campus in room 008.