



ALTURAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FAMILY HANDBOOK
2023-2024

1111 Alturas Elementary Lane
Hailey, ID 83333
(208) 578-5090
blaineschools.org/alturas



TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION.....	3
District Philosophy.....	3
School Philosophy.....	3
Contact Information.....	4
Alturas Elementary Office.....	4
DUAL IMMERSION SCHOOL.....	5
Benefits of a Two-Way Dual Language Immersion Program.....	5
Goals for our Dual Immersion Program.....	5
Academic Achievement.....	5
PROGRAMS & POLICIES.....	7
Outdoor Education & Community Partnerships.....	7
School Hours.....	7
Drop Off & Pick Up.....	7
Be Safe.....	8
Be Responsible.....	8
Be Respectful.....	8
Consequences.....	8
Inclement Weather.....	9
Requesting a Teacher.....	9
Parent Teacher Organization.....	9
STAFF DIRECTORY.....	10



GENERAL INFORMATION

District Philosophy

Mission

The mission of Blaine County School District is to inspire, engage, educate and empower every student.

Values

Balancing rigorous, evidence-based instruction with an environment of collaboration, compassion, humility and inclusion to help every student succeed at the highest level.

School Philosophy

Mission

We, the community of Alturas Elementary School:

EMPOWER learners

ENRICH experiences

ENGAGE as citizens of our world

Vision

As a collaborative community, we create pathways of respect; of learning; and of appreciation for linguistic and cultural diversity

Values

We, the students, parents and staff at Alturas Elementary School believe:

We must all do our part.

We must help each other whenever we can.

We will celebrate our successes.

We will set high goals in order to know where we are going.

We will measure our results often to see if we are accomplishing our goals.

We will do whatever it takes to fulfill our mission. And, together we will reach new heights.

Grades: Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Mascot: Eagles



Contact Information

Address	1111 Alturas Elementary Lane, Hailey, ID 83333
School Office Phone	(208) 578-5090
School Office Fax	(208) 578-5190
District Website	https://www.blaineschools.org
School Website	https://www.blaineschools.org/alturas
School Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/AlturasEagles

Alturas Elementary Office

NAME	POSITION	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Brad Henson	Principal	(208) 578-5091	bhenson@blaineschools.org
Melissa Sevin	Head Secretary	(208) 578-2901	mservin@blaineschools.org
Gaby Patlan	Attendance Secretary	(208) 578-2902	gpatlan@blaineschools.org
Rojeanna Bohl	Kitchen	(208) 578-2921	rbohl@blaineschools.org
	Transportation	(208) 578-5420	



DUAL IMMERSION SCHOOL

Alturas Elementary School is a dual immersion magnet school. Students at Alturas will receive half their academic instruction in English and half in Spanish. We do our best to balance classrooms between native Spanish and native English speakers providing an equal balance of language models in each classroom.



Benefits of a Two-Way Dual Language Immersion Program

- Offers equal access to education
- Raises self-esteem for all children
- Better prepares students to meet the challenges of a global society: academically, linguistically and socially
- Promotes increased cognition, such as critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Supports academic achievement
- Provides the added value of being functionally literate in two languages
- Develops an appreciation and understanding of diverse cultures
- Increases parent and community involvement

Goals for our Dual Immersion Program

- High levels of proficiency and literacy in students' first language
- High levels of proficiency and literacy in their second language
- High academic achievement at each grade level in both languages
- Positive cross-cultural attitudes and behaviors

Academic Achievement

Upon their completion of Kindergarten through 5th grade, the expectation is for dual language students to be proficient in reading, writing, speaking and listening in both languages. Students will be assessed on their language proficiency of both languages throughout their elementary career.

For a true immersion experience, Alturas Elementary has adopted a “content through language allocation” model, where students receive instruction in the academic core in one designated language for the entire year. Through this model, students must learn in the language of instruction, rather than just waiting to receive the language a day or two later in their native language.

All classrooms will receive language arts instruction in both Spanish and English languages daily. For the integrated core subjects (math, science, social studies, and health), Alturas Elementary will follow this schedule:



GRADE	ENGLISH	SPANISH
Kindergarten	S/SS/H	Math
1st Grade*	Math	S/SS/H
2nd Grade*	S/SS/H	Math
3rd Grade**	Math	S/SS/H
4th Grade**	S/SS/H	Math
5th Grade**	Math	S/SS/H

* *State Assessment (ISIP)*

** *State Assessment (ISAT 2.0) & Spanish language proficiency assessment (AAPPL)*

All Students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade are given the Idaho Reading Indicator twice annually.

All students are tested with the ISIP Assessment – Early Literacy (K-1), Language Arts (Spanish and English) and Math three times annually, and a Dyslexia screener in the fall.

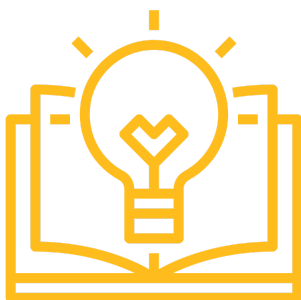
PROGRAMS & POLICIES

Outdoor Education & Community Partnerships

Outdoor education and our community partnerships are highly valued at Alturas Elementary School. We incorporate the outdoors as much as possible. 5th graders go on a 2-night camping trip to the [Idaho BASE Camp](#), 4th graders participate in Wagon's Ho. All students in 1st-5th grade participate in our Winter program by either skiing, snowshoeing, Nordic skiing or ice skating at the Sun Valley ice rink.

School Hours

7:15 - 7:40 a.m.	Breakfast served
7:40 a.m.	Warning bell rings
7:45 a.m.	School begins
2:15 p.m.	School dismisses



If your child is ill or absent, parents are expected to call the office in the morning to report and excuse their absence. You may leave a voicemail message at x2901.

When arriving in the morning, all students are invited to go directly in the main doors. If they are going to join us for breakfast, they should go into the cafeteria. If students are not going to eat they will continue out the door by the library to the playground. Students are expected to remain on campus throughout the school day.

Drop Off & Pick Up

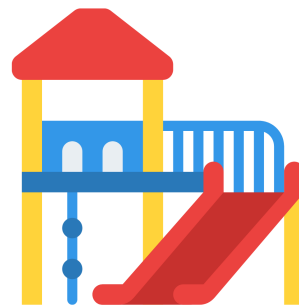
We have a drop off/pick up loop in front of Alturas Elementary. It is located on the first driveway to the left as you enter the school grounds. The drop-off is one way. Stay to the right and please DRIVE SLOWLY as children can be unpredictable. Have your children prepared to immediately leave your vehicle, so that traffic can keep moving. At no time should you park in the drop off area and leave your car. Allow for a constant flow of traffic. If you need to come into the school for any reason, please park in a designated parking place in either of the two lots.

All classes for all grades begin promptly at 7:45 a.m. and students are expected to be in their classroom ready for the school day at that time. The warning bell will ring at 7:40 a.m. and kids should be at school and on their way to class when that bell rings. Parents, please make every effort to get your child to school on time. It is very disruptive in a classroom for students to arrive late. Being tardy can affect a child's entire day. If any child is eating breakfast here at school, please plan accordingly to provide them time to eat and still get to class on time.

Bus schedules are posted online. School staff will be happy to assist you in determining bus numbers, and arrival times. Students who are not taking the bus are to leave as soon as school is dismissed at 2:15 p.m.

Be Safe

Stay inside the fenced boundaries. Respect the neighborhood. Do not climb on, run into, or throw/kick playground balls against neighboring fences. Do not toss playground equipment into neighboring yards. Do not aggravate dogs or other domestic or wild animals. Keep your hands, feet, and bodies to yourself – no physical contact. Attempt to be as careful and conscientious of your body during team activities, such as soccer and kick-ball, to avoid unnecessary contact. Use the equipment for what it is intended (jump ropes are for jumping). Rocks, snowballs and wood chips are not to be thrown. Personal toys or equipment is to be kept at home.



Be Responsible

Keep our playground clean. Do not kick or carry wood chips out of the bordered areas. Ask permission from a staff member before entering the building to use the bathroom or get a drink of water. Ask for assistance from a staff member if your ball goes outside the fence. Get permission or be escorted to the office. Seek staff assistance to problem solve when conflicts occur. When the bell rings, return equipment you have used and line up immediately in your designated areas to go back to class.

Be Respectful

Invite others to join you in play. Be careful with your words. Be a good friend who shares and cares. Clean up after yourself and put playground equipment away after recess. Do not ever exclude others from games or participating in activities. All are friends and everyone is always welcome to participate.

Playground problems should be resolved during recess with a recess monitor prior to returning to class. Remember that “tattling” is when you want to get someone into trouble; “telling” is when you want to help them make the right choice.

Consequences

If students choose not to follow these procedures they will be removed from the activity and asked to choose another activity where they can show the appropriate behaviors. If actions are repeated, students will lose their recess and be sent to the planning room or to the principal. Students will be expected to contact their parents and explain the choices they made to lead to their loss of playground activities.



Inclement Weather

When it is 10 degrees or colder, we will have indoor recess with a variety of activities. All other days we will be outside. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather: pants, shirts, shoes, coats, boots, proper snow attire, etc. If you need help getting these items, contact the school social worker.

Requesting a Teacher

Although we do our best to accommodate parents, our policy is that we do not guarantee parent teacher requests. We work very hard to balance classrooms with regard to language, gender, skills, and relationships. If and when parents request specific teachers, it can result in our school magnet model being disrupted. We believe all our teachers are exceptional and will provide an outstanding learning experience for all our students.

Parent Teacher Organization

Alturas Elementary also has a Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO), which has been very beneficial to our school. The PTO helps our school or classrooms organize events, purchase materials, and find fundraising opportunities that benefit all of us. They help plan special activities to engage our school community. The PTO is made up of caring parents who support the social emotional health of our school.

For more information as to how you can get involved please call the office and we will put you in contact with our current PTO president. We welcome your participation and hope you enjoy the time you and your children spend with us at Alturas Elementary.



STAFF DIRECTORY

Kindergarten

Edith Lopez	A06	SP	elopez@blaineschools.org	x2932
Deb Van Law	A07	SP	dvanlaw@blaineschools.org	x2956
Teagen Palmer	D14		tpalmer@blaineschools.org	x2964
Elaine Poklema	D15		epoklema@blaineschools.org	x2963

1st Grade

Sharon Dohse	A04	SP	sdohse@blaineschools.org	x2918
Deysi Monjaras	A02	SP	dmonjaras@blaineschools.org	x2952
Shawn Fenwick	A05		sfenwick@blaineschools.org	x2954
Star Neely	A03		sneely@blaineschools.org	x2940

2nd Grade

Rosa Segura	B04	SP	rquispe@blaineschools.org	x2947
Gaby Ruiz- Meza	B02	SP	nruizmeza@blaineschools.org	x2938
Kristin Cassalia	B05		kcassalia@blaineschools.org	x2942
Lauren Herzberg	B03		lherzberg@blaineschools.org	

3rd Grade

Elizabeth Ornelas	B10	SP	eornelas@blaineschools.org	x2933
Rosalyn Leon	B08	SP	rleon@blaineshools.org	x2946
Gabby Diedrick	B09		gdiedrick@blaineschools.org	x2925
Blaire Sant	B07		bsant@blaineschools.org	x2927

4th Grade

Maria Pina	C01	SP	mpina@blaineschools.org	x2941
Luis Monjaras	C03	SP	lmonjaras@blaineschools.org	x2934
Melanie Blacker	C02		mblacker@blaineschools.org	x2935
Casey Ellison	C04		cellison@blaineschools.org	x2914

5th Grade

Kiley Hoefer	C05	SP	khoefer@blaineschools.org	x2930
Juan Salamanca	C07	SP	jsalamanca@blaineschools.org	x2961
Lee Stoops	C06		lstoops@blaineschools.org	x2910
Meagan Ramos	C08		meaganramos@blaineschools.org	x2945



Specials

Layne Vanderbeek	D21	Music	lvanderbeek@blaineschools.org	x2923
Karyn Slotten	D22	PE	kslotten@blaineschools.org	x2937
Kelly Michalec	D28	Tech	kmichalec@blaineschools.org	x2928
Kristen Kent	D29	Art	kkent@blaineschools.org	x2926
Helen Joyce Brown	D27	IT	hjbrown@blaineschools.org	x2916
Maggie Shaughnessy	D26	Library	mshaughnessy@blaineschools.org	x2919

ESL (SP)

Matt Archibald	D33	SP	mattarchibald@blaineschools.org	x2915
Gretchen Weber	Conf Rm2		gweber@blaineschools.org	x2931

Reading

Clarie Dustin	A01		cdustin@blaineschools.org	x2939
Kelly Maxwell	D33		kmaxwell@blaineschools.org	x2950
Michelle Archibald	B02		marchibald@blaineschools.org	x2936

Special Services

Stephanie Snider	D32		ssnider@blaineschools.org	x2929
Sydni Arnold		SLP	sarnold@blaineschools.org	x2929
Katey Dahlstrom	D33	Psych	kdahlstrom@blaineschools.org	x5439
Elizabeth Galpin	B01	GATE	egalpin@blaineschools.org	x2844

Social Worker

Miguel Sanchez		SP	msanchez@blaineschools.org	x5092
Becky Tinsley			rtinsley@blaineschools.org	x5052

Paraprofessionals

Crystal Peck
Cameron Patrick
Silvia Cortez
Wendy Young
Rocio Paucar
Damaris Matheu Mena

To reach staff without an extension, please call the office and ask to leave a message for the person directly.