

TO: Montana Middle Schools and High Schools  
FROM: Joe Moriarty (MBI Consultant and Youth Days Coordinator)  
RE: MBI Youth Days  
DATE: September 2017

Greetings! The Office of Public Instruction and Special Olympics Montana are once again proud to sponsor MBI Youth Days in five different locations for the fall of 2017. Youth Days has positively impacted schools across Montana for the past 15 years and continues its mission to create a student forum for cultivating leadership skills, networking, service learning, and building the confidence to make positive contributions to both school and community.

The theme for the 2017 Youth Days is– *Sense of Purpose*. For the fourth year, MBI is partnering with Special Olympics Montana in their unified strategies for schools. Together we will address the eight conditions for student aspirations as identified by the Quaglia Institute. Special emphasis will be placed on **sense of purpose, leadership and confidence to take action**. This team effort will include a number of student-led activities. Please note that schools may be contacted in advance to solicit some additional student involvement and leadership with a number of the planned activities.

An **invitation** is extended to you and your middle school and high school students to participate in the 2017 MBI Youth Days. Each event will begin on the respective Sunday with check in beginning at 1:00 p.m. and the official start at 2:00 p.m. A meal will be served on Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. with activities concluding around 8:00 p.m. On Monday, we will begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude by 2:30 p.m. Both breakfast and lunch will be provided on Monday. Your school will be reimbursed for travel, lodging (if you should need it) and per diem at the current state rates. Schools will receive a district reimbursement form at the event. Following are the dates and locations:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Venue / Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
10/8 – 10/9	Great Falls	Hilton Garden Inn, 2520 14 <sup>th</sup> St	452-1000
10/29 – 10/30	Missoula	Holiday Inn, 200 S Pattee St.	721-8550
11/5 – 11/6	Glasgow	Cottonwood Inn, 54250 US-2	228-8213
11/12 – 11/13	Helena	Radisson Inn, 2301 Colonial Dr.	443-2100
12/3 - 12/4	Billings	Red Lion, 1223 Mallowney Ln	248-7151

**Ask for the Youth Days block of rooms when making your team's lodging reservations.**

#### **Online Pre-registration**

Please plan to attend this event and bring 5 to 12 student participants. You may bring both a middle school team and a high school team with each having the 5-12 student participants. Youth Days suggest at least one chaperone per 5 students. In selecting your students, please include a broad spectrum of your student population, including student leaders and future student leaders. A cross section of your student population is ideal in promoting diverse ideas and thoughts.

It is important that you commit to attend for **both** days in order for students to experience the full benefit of the conference. **Please complete the online Registration form and submit by the given deadline indicating the number and names of both students and staff who will be attending. This is important to adequately plan for meals and/or other activities.** We want to make sure every person has something to eat and that there are enough service sites for all.

**Online registration form, permission slip and agenda link:**  
<http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Special-Education/Montana-Behavioral-Initiative-MBI>

### **STAFF and FEATURED PRESENTERS**

1. **Oscar McBride** joins us again this year to impart his enthusiasm for leadership and being part of a team. Oscar does a great job sharing his experiences as a Division 1 athlete at the University of Notre Dame, a professional athlete in the NFL, teacher, coach, and educational leader.
2. **Bruce Colton** returns as one of our featured speakers and workshop facilitators. Bruce brings his passion for student health and wellness in his energetic and engaging style.
3. **Cindy Willenbrock** will be presenting with and telling the story of Marshall the Miracle Dog
4. **Jamie Williamson** is coordinator of the Special Olympics Mt. Youth Activation Committee and conference facilitator.
5. **Joe Moriarty, Peggy Perry, Marilyn Granell, Virg Hale and Danni Morrison** are MBI Consultants. Joe will be conference facilitator along with Jamie and Danni. Peggy, Marilyn and Virg will coordinate the community service along with student intern **Summer Reidl**.

### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS MONTANA UNIFIED STRATEGIES**

Special Olympics Montana engages and empowers students to become agents for change in their communities. Through youth leadership, whole school engagement, and inclusive sport opportunities, students can be the drivers in creating an environment of inclusion in their school communities and beyond. Our opponent is intolerance and we are ready to get in the game with you as teammates. Grant funding, resources, and program support from peers and adult allies are available to you and your school team!

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Youth Days will once again feature **Service Projects** on Monday morning. Please come prepared to work. Please check the weather and come prepared to be outside as some service sites can be outdoors.

As always, we appreciate your school bringing a couple of **Door Prizes** that will be given away throughout the Youth Day Event.

We are also encouraging Youth Days participants to gather **non-perishable food items** that will be donated to local food banks when the teams visit and volunteer. This activity builds community and helps others in need.

### **SHARE OUT**

We are extending an invitation to all schools to put together a "Share Out" which might include poster/presentation/video to share with other schools attending Youth Days.

**Please bring the signed permission forms and agenda to the Youth Day meeting that you plan to attend.**

**Please use the hotel telephone numbers on the front page to make your lodging reservations.**

**For questions, please call (406) 581-1909 or email at joefmoriarty@gmail.com**

### **CHECKLIST FOR ITEMS TO BRING TO YOUTH DAYS**

- **Prizes**
- **Non-perishable food items**
- **Share out materials (poster(s), video, etc.)**
- **Enthusiasm and Positive Energy**
- **Willingness to be Student Leaders**

We look forward to seeing you this fall. It is your participation that gives this conference its effectiveness and powerful synergy.

Joe Moriarty, Youth Days Leader  
MBI Consultant

"The Montana Office of Public Instruction provides vision, advocacy, support and leadership for schools and communities to ensure that all students meet today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities."