MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | NORTHERN

Grant to Strengthen Student Success – MSU Northern has been selected for approximately $2.5 million in federal funding over five years through the U.S. Department of Education's Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP). The grant funds will be used to expand student support at Northern, strengthen academic and career pathways, and help more students successfully complete their degrees and transition into the workforce.

**Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees – ** MSU Northern Athletics proudly welcomed the 2026 class of the Northern Athletic Hall of Fame. This year's class included Christian Oberquell, Sierra (Richards) Woodward, Laramie Schwenke, Donald Saisbury, Khalin Anderson, and John Briney—six individuals whose accomplishments, leadership, and dedication helped shape Lights and Skylights athletics for more than three decades.

Nationally Ranked – MSU Northern has been named one of the Best Colleges for Rural America, ranking No. 36 in the nation in Washington Monthly magazine's first-ever ranking of colleges serving rural students and communities.

New Pickleball Courts - MSU-Northern's tennis courts were recently transformed from two tennis courts into one tennis court with pickleball lines and two dedicated pickleball courts. They provide recreational opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community members.

Roof Replacement - Work has begun on the roof of Cowan Hall. Roofing materials, heavy equipment and dumpsters are staged in Cowan's east-end parking lot. The project is scheduled for completion by Nov. 20.

MPSEOC College Fair - MSU-Northern was proud to host the first college fair of the Montana Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities Council (MPSEOC) three-week tour. Sixty-five colleges and organizations were on hand to talk to over 300 students from 12 high schools from across the Hi-Line.

Festival Days Parade - As the sponsor the Havre Festival Days Parade, MSU Northern had an outstanding show of clubs, athletes and programs. This year's theme, "Stars, Stripes & Hi-Line Life," celebrated patriotic spirit and small-town pride.

TekNoXpo and ShowCASE – introduced over 400 high school students from 15 schools to Northern's academic programs through hands-on activities in diesel, nursing, trades, theatre, biology, and more, exploring career paths.

Fall Career Fair – MSU Northern's annual Fall Career Fair was held on Tuesday, October 6, in the Armory Gymnasium, drawing strong participation from both students and employers. The event brought together over 60 companies representing a wide range of industries from across the Hi-Line, Montana, and beyond.

Advisory Boards - Professionals from the automotive, diesel, and welding industries recently visited MSU Northern to take part in advisory board meetings aimed at strengthening the connection between classroom learning and real-world application.

Suicide Awareness Walk – MSU Northern hosted the 12th Annual Hill County Suicide Awareness. This event raises the awareness of suicide and decreases the stigma in the community. The group went on a gentle 1-mile, handicap accessible, walk on a path around the MSU Northern campus.