



# SCHOOL SPIRIT

February 2017

Hi everyone,

We have reached February!!! I know I don't have to tell you this but.....it is busy!!! Seems like February is always packed with school related activities and family events. That can make the shortest month of the year feel like the longest month of the year. As parents we want our kids to be involved, have friends, and get the most out of the opportunities they have. In the adult world that translates to some busy schedules for all of us. From an educational standpoint, the research out there shows that students involved in after school activities often get better grades, are more likely to be college completers, and feel more connected to their school and community. In addition to school events, add in birthday parties, church activities, community groups, etc... and it all adds up to a very busy schedule during the week and on the weekends.



As a school district we are also very busy. Since September we have been working on the development of a Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) in the areas of Communication, Technology, Facilities, and Curriculum. This work is moving along through various stakeholder groups and taking shape very nicely. I am excited to see the finished product and to be able to share it with the community when the work is completed in April.

In addition, we have been working hard since November to get the facts out about the upcoming Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) election on February 7th. The PPEL has provided financial support for the purchase of items like school busses, building repairs, and technology. A Community Forum was held on January 30 at the high school, but if you were not able to attend or have additional questions, please feel free to call or email anytime.

As we move through February and navigate our family schedules remember a few things. First, it is ok to miss an event once in awhile. You have permission to not feel guilty about it. Second, even though we can all get caught up in the schedule continue to talk about other life events with your children. Finally, remember to talk with your children about balancing school, homework, and activities. Work with them to be organized and make strategies that help them feel balanced and in control of it all. There is a certain peace that comes with making it all balance in life.

As always if you have any questions please feel free to send me an email or give me a call at anytime. Thank you for your continued support of the Monticello Community School District.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent*



## **Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) Special Election** **February 7, 2017**

**Polling Place:** Berndes Center  
766 N Maple Street  
Monticello, Iowa

**Polling Hours:** 7:00 am– 8:00 pm

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Monticello School District Foundation Gala

March 4, 2017

5:30 PM - Berndes Center



The Monticello School District Foundation dinner and auction will be held Saturday, March 4, 2017. Doors open at 5:30 PM at the Berndes Center. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at any school building, the District Office, or from any Foundation Member. Please consider this note an invitation to purchase a ticket and attend this enjoyable event in support of the children of the Monticello Community School District. If you are interested in donating an item or items for either the silent or live auction, they may be dropped off at the District Office, 711 South Maple Street, between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. A listing of some of the auction items will be posted on our website: [www.monticello.k12.ia.us](http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us)

### Summer Drivers Ed

Monticello High School will offer one session of summer driver's education. The summer session is scheduled to start Wednesday, May 30th, and will conclude approximately June 22, 2017, depending on snow make-up dates. The cost is \$320. The informational letter and form will be available in the middle school and high school offices. Return those to the High School Office by **Friday, March 3, 2017.**

### Shannon Elementary Spring Concert

Thursday, April 27

6:00 p.m.

High School Gymnasium



### CONFERENCES



Elementary/MS/HS Conferences will be held on

**February 2** from 4-8 PM

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Monticello, Iowa



**Polling Hours:** 7:00 am– 8:00 pm

Absentee ballots are available in the Auditor's Office at the courthouse in Anamosa during normal business hours (Mon-Fri 8 am to 4:30 pm) for in-person voting. Or you can have a ballot mailed to you. **The last day absentee ballots can be mailed to voters is Friday, Feb. 3.** Voted ballots must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 6 to be considered for counting. The Auditor's Office will also be open until 5 pm on Friday, January 27, Friday, February 3rd, and Monday, February 6th.

### Upcoming Programs at the Monticello Public Library

**February 1st -2-5pm** Early Dismissal Day Activities. Movie from 2:10-4:00pm, Coloring for all ages available. Bring your Pokémon cards, games and electronic devices and talk Pokémon with others from 2-5pm

**February 9th -3:30-4:30pm** After School Brick Building Club- kids ages 7 & up can join us for themed LEGO® building fun.

**February 11th -10-11:30am** Valentines Tea Party, Registration required, Kids ages 4-9 can join us along with their favorite adult to enjoy crafts, card making, games, a story, tea & a light lunch

**February 13th -3:30-5:30pm** STEAM Team for ages 8 & up, explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math in a hands on environment, no registration required.

**February 16th -1:30pm** Pushing the Limits- Thunderstruck book discussion

**February 16th -4-6pm** US Cellular Technology Workshop

**February 21st -6pm** Pushing the Limits- Thunderstruck book discussion

**February 22nd-2-5pm** Early Dismissal Day Activities. Movie from 2:10-4:00pm, Coloring for all ages available. Bring your Pokémon cards, games and electronic devices and talk Pokémon with others from 2-5pm

**February 23rd-3:30-4:30pm** After School Brick Building Club- kids ages 7 & up can join us for themed LEGO® building fun.

**February 28 -6:30pm** From Macaroni to Martians: The Mystique of Radio in the Early 20th Century with Dr. Joy Hayes

**March 4 \*10-11:30am** Princess & Pirates Party- All ages are welcomed to join us for themed games, crafts, activities & snacks. Come dressed in your princess or pirate best!

For questions on any of these programs contact the library [319-465-3354](tel:319-465-3354) or visit our website at [www.monticello.lib.ia.us](http://www.monticello.lib.ia.us)

### CPR/First Aid for Babysitters

Camp Courageous is offering a CPR/First Aid session for babysitters nine years of age and older on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12pm. Participants will learn correct actions to follow in the event of an emergency. An opportunity to have hands on experience in practicing first aid measures, bandaging techniques, and preparing a standard first aid kit. Safety measures will be reviewed, CPR, and the technique for assisting a choking victim will be taught by instructors Sandy Stamp RN and Sharon Roller RN. Fee for this class is \$20 made payable to *Camp Courageous*.

If you are interested please call today! Space is limited. Register before February 3<sup>rd</sup> by contacting Camp Courageous at 465-5916, ext. 2200.

**Upcoming *Treble Makers* Events:**

The Treble Makers meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm at Happy Joe's. NEW MEMBERS are always welcomed! Our remaining meetings for the 2016-2017 year will be: February 21, March 21, April 18, and May 16.

Vocal Concerts yet this year will be: Grades 7-12 Concert—February 28, and the Dessert Concert—May 9. Please come out and support the Fine Arts programs!

**2017-18 Little Panthers Preschool Registration Information**

For 2017-18, we will have openings in the Little Panthers Preschool. If you are interested in registering your 4-year-old, please pick up an application from the Shannon Elementary School office in February or go to <http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us> -Shannon Elementary-Little Panther Pre-School

- Applications are available on February 1st, and due February 28th.
- Preschool openings are filled through a lottery method.
- Head Start slots and Empowerment Grants are available.

Our program offers:

- A certified teacher and para professional
- Large and small group instruction
- Learning Centers
- Developmentally appropriate schedule and activities
- Thematic instruction
- Social Skills Curriculum
- Breakfast, lunch, milk, and snacks

**Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programming for Four-Year-Old Children**

For 2017-18, we are expecting to receive state funding to support preschool programming for four-year-old children. Here are some Frequently Asked Questions to help community members gain a better understanding of what this preschool funding means to Monticello.

**Which preschools are partners in the MCSD Program?** Little Panthers Preschool (Shannon Elementary), Mother Goose Preschool (St. Matthew Church), and Sacred Heart Preschool (Sacred Heart School)

**How will the funding be used?** There are many assurances (i.e., requirements) that need to be met when using preschool funding. Money will be spent to make sure that these assurances are met. The assurances include (but are not limited to):

- Facility requirements including accessibility and playground guidelines
- Costs associated with teacher and paraprofessional professional development and certifications
- Increasing hours of preschool instruction
- Paying staff costs for required instruction, program operation, home visits, family nights, and parent/teacher conferences
- Supplies and Equipment

**Which children will this funding support?** Funding must be used to support children that turn age four on or before September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Will my four-year-old receive free preschool?** Little Panthers Preschool is a full day program. The program will be 4 full days with a max tuition of \$135.00. Mother Goose Preschool (M-Th, 8:00 am–11:00 pm) and Sacred Heart Preschool (M-Th, 8 am – 11 am or 12 pm – 3:10 pm) are ½ day programs, and they are free.

**Will my four-year-old receive transportation to and from preschool?** The school district may be able to provide free transportation using an existing bus route. Check with your preschool provider for more information.

**Registration?**

All three programs are currently taking applications for the 2017-18 school year. To increase your chances of securing a slot, apply to the programs by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Little Panthers Preschool, Shannon Elementary – Stop in on school days to see Sandy Hinrichs or call (319) 465-5425.

Mother Goose Preschool, St. Matthew Church – Call (319) 465-5675 or call Ann Eby (319) 465-3476.

Sacred Heart Preschool, Sacred Heart School – Stop in on school days to see JoEllen Schlarmann or call (319) 465-4605

**Where can I obtain more information about the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children?** You can visit with representatives of the participating preschools and you can visit the Iowa Department of Education web site: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/statewide-voluntary-preschool-program-four-year-old-children>

**REMINDER**

If your child turns 5 on or before September 15, please stop by Shannon Elementary to register for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Kindergarten Screening is April 11, 2017. Any questions, call 465-5425, ext. 4114.

## THANK YOU TO:

- **St. Matthew's Lutheran Church** and **The 94 Club** for their donations to the Health Fund.
- The **Logan Baugh Family** for their donation of pencils.
- **Citizens State Bank, Wolken Dental, Dutrac, Blue Inn, B.E. Fitness and Training Center, La Hacienda, Pizza Ranch,** and **Carrie Steger** for donating to the MS Geo Bee!
- **The Porch Posse** for their donation of winter gear to the Elementary schools.

### School Lunch Accounts—Reminder!

You can check balances and deposits and see what your child is eating each day on your account in the School Dining System. This system will send automatic email reminders when your family's account balance is getting low, once you set your 'low balance warning'.

**Please ensure you have a valid email address (under CONTACT 1) within PowerSchool in order to receive these reminders.**

*NOTE: Lunch fees/balances are not available in PowerSchool, only in the School Dining/Total Access program.*

You can access the school dining website (<http://mcsd.schoolodiningsystem.com/>) or find the school dining link on our school website (<http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us>) under the food service menu.

Also, if you have a negative balance in your lunch account you are not allowed to purchase any food or drinks from the ala cart. We will be giving any student that has a negative balance of \$20.00 or more, a brown bag lunch. This lunch will include a cheese sandwich, baby carrots, and a carton of white milk. Please check your family's lunch account and make sure you have a positive balance.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 319-465-5963, ext. 1374. Thank you!

- Pat Kelly, Food Service Director

Breakfast Menu				
February 2017				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		Breakfast pizza	French toast / syrup	
		Fruit	Fruit	
		Fruit juice	Fruit juice	NO SCHOOL
6	7	8	9	10
Sausage biscuit	Cereal bar	Sausage pancake bite w/ syrup	Cheese omelet	Cereal
Fruit	Mozzarella cheese stick	Fruit	English muffin	Poptart
Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit
	Fruit juice		Fruit juice	Fruit juice
13	14	15	16	17
Pancakes w/ syrup	Breakfast wrap	Breakfast pizza	Chocolate chip muffin	Cereal
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Poptart
Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit
				Fruit juice
20	21	22	23	24
	Biscuits & gravy	Long John	Sausage panckes bites	Cereal
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Poptart
NO SCHOOL	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit
				Fruit juice
27	28			
Mini donuts	Cereal bar			
Fruit	Mozzarella cheese stick			
Fruit juice	Fruit			
	Fruit juice			

### **PARENTS! PARENTS! PARENTS!**

It is vital that the school district has current and updated information on students. Please remember to log in to your PowerSchool account and make sure everything is current, including your cell phone #'s, home phone #'s, email addresses, mailing address, emergency contacts, etc. This is very important, especially for emergency situations. If you need assistance, please feel free to call Morgan Murray at the Middle School at 319-465-3575, ext. 2280

### **Mission Statement:**

*The mission of the Monticello Community Schools, a district striving for educational excellence, is to prepare students through challenging experiences, to be caring, productive, creative citizens who will be life-long learners.*

Lunch Menu "USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer"				
February 2017				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		Country fried steak	Cheeseburger / bun	
		Mashed potatoes	Smiley fries	
		Mandarin Oranges	Glazed carrots	NO SCHOOL
		Roll & butter	Apple slices	
6	7	8	9	10
Chicken nuggets	Deli sandwich	Beef taco	Salisbury steak	Breaded cheese sticks
French fries	Baby carrots	Spanish rice	Mashed potatoes & gravy	Lettuce w/ Romaine
Pineapple Tidbit	apple slices	Blackbean & corn salsa	Mixed fruit	Baby carrots / dip
Bread & wow butter	Sun chips	Apple sauce	Roll & butter	Strawberries / bananas
13	14	15	16	17
BBQ Rib / bun	Mandarin orange chicken	Pasta w/ meat sauce	Hot dog / bun	Cheese quesadilla
Augratin potatoes	Seasoned rice	Lettuce salad	Baked beans	Baby carrots w/ dip
Steamed broccoli	Green beans	Diced pears	French fries	Fresh fruit
Mandarin oranges	Pineapple tidbits	Garlic toast	Diced peaches	Cookie / dessert
20	21	22	23	24
	Breaded chicken / bun	Pulled pork	Chili w/ crackers	Sausage pizza
	Vegetable soup / crackers	Sweet potato fries	String cheese	Lettuce w/ spinach
NO SCHOOL	Orange slices	Green beans	Apple sauce	Carrots / Broccoli / Cauliflower
	Dessert	Jello w/ fruit	Cinnamon roll	Apple slices
27	28			
Pepperoni pasta	Chicken strips			
Green beans	Mashed potatoes & gravy			
Apple sauce	Pineapple / mandarin oranges			
Bread stick	Roll & butter			



## From the Guidance Office...

**Juniors** who are planning to attend a four-year institution are encouraged to take the **ACT** the morning of Saturday, April 8th at the high school. If interested, register online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and use our school code 163000. Contact Mrs. Stingley at [christi.stingley@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:christi.stingley@monticello.k12.ia.us) with any questions or stop in the guidance office to pick up registration materials.

**Attention sophomores, juniors, and parents!** —Two important informational sessions will be available that you are strongly encouraged to attend on Thursday, February 2nd, in the high school auditorium. ICAN, (Iowa College Access Network) will share valuable information at 6 p.m. regarding "College and Career Planning" and at 7 p.m. regarding "Financial Aid Information". This is during our Parent-Teacher Conferences, so feel free to come early to visit with your son's/daughter's instructors. This critically important information will give our 9th and 10th graders and their parents tons of guidance that will be useful in the coming years. See you there!

It's that time of year to start registering our 8th graders for their high school classes next year. This is such an exciting step for the 8th graders, so we want to make sure that the process goes as smoothly as possible. 8th graders were given registration materials on January 31st. Prior to this, on Thursday, January 26th, they toured the vocational area of the high school to learn about electives available to them. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Bibb at the middle school or Mrs. Stingley at the high school for further assistance.



## Middle School Geography Bee

By: Laura Schmitt-8th Grade History Teacher



8th grader Bo Kramer won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on January 17, 2015 and a chance at a \$50,000 college scholarship. Bo will take a written test to be submitted for scoring. Up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will be asked to compete in their state bee, which takes place on March 31, 2017. The winner of the state bee will earn a trip to Washington, D.C. for the national championship rounds. The winner of the national competition will win a \$50,000 scholarship, a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society, and a trip to the Galapagos Islands, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic.

The top ten school finalists to compete included the following students 5th graders John Welter and Kyle Cox, 6th graders Dylan Ponder and Jacob Miller, 7th Graders Elise Kehow, Nathan Oswald, and Eian Weber, and 8th graders Brooklyn Stark, Lauren Bader, and Bo Kramer. Lauren Bader earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

A big thank you goes out to local groups, businesses, and individuals who donated various items so that the finalists would have a small prize. Thank you to Citizens State Bank, Wolken Dental, Dutrac, Blue Inn, B.E. Fitness and Training Center, La Hacienda, Piz-za Ranch, and Carrie Steger. I would also like to thank Deb Bowman for acting as the master of ceremonies for the event.





Do you know your geography? Anyone can brush up on geography with the GeoBee challenge, an online geography quiz at [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee). It poses ten new questions a day from previous geography bees. You can also download an app with more than 1,000 questions from past Bees, "National Geographic Bee Challenge" for your iPhone, iPod touch or iPad; from the Android Market; or for Nook Color.

All 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at the middle school participated in the preliminary rounds of the bee in their social studies classes to attempt to be finalists.

## Open Enrollment Timelines

Parents/guardians considering the use of the open enrollment option to enroll their child/ren in a public school district in the State of Iowa other than their district of residence should be aware of the following dates: **March 1, 2017**— Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2017-18 school year. **September 1, 2017**- Last date for open enrollment request for entering kindergarten students. In order to qualify for open enrollment *after* the March 1st deadline, the student must meet the "good cause" definition for the 2017-18 school year. Good cause relates to: (1) There is a change in district of residence due to: family move, change in marital status, foster care, adoption, or treatment program; (2) Participation in foreign exchange program; (3) Failure of negotiations for reorganization or whole grade sharing; (4) Loss of accreditation or revocation of a private charter school; (5) Pervasive harassment; (6) severe health (determined by the district). If these circumstances occur after March 1, a parent or guardian may file a "late" open enrollment application. Parents/guardians of open enrolled students whose income falls below 160% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for transportation assistance. This may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a cash stipend. Parents should be aware that open enrollment may result in the loss of athletic eligibility for students in grades 9-12 for varsity competitions for the first 90 school days of transfer. Children will remain on open enrollment status unless the parent/guardian decides to cancel it or the agreement is terminated as a result of the parent/guardian moving, by not sending the child to the requested district or any other circumstance that results in the pupil no longer attending the receiving district. For more information on open enrollment please view the Iowa Department of Education website at: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/options-educational-choice/open-enrollment>

# February 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Day 2 <b>2:00 Early Dismissal</b> <b>— Prof. Dev</b>	Day 3 ICAN College and Career Planning MTG-6:00 @ HS Auditorium ICAN Financial Aid Information- 7:00pm @ HS Auditorium <b>4-8 PM Elem/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL— Collaboration Day</b> 7 BBB vs Anamosa-4:00 8 BBB @ Anamosa-4:00 JV GBB vs Tipton-4:00 JV BBB vs Tipton -5:15 V GBB vs Tipton-6:30 V BBB vs Tipton-8:00	4 Varsity Wrestling Sectionals -12:00 @ TBA State Large Group Speech @ CR Washington
6 Day 4 7 BBB vs Bellevue-4:15 8 BBB @ Bellevue-4:15 9/10 BBB @ Wilton-6:30 JREC Open House-6:00 & 7:00 State Vocal Jazz Contest @ Maq. Valley	 Day 5 <b>PPEL Election</b> 7/8 BBB @ Maq. Valley- 4:00 9/10/JV/V BBB @ Bellevue-4:30 HS Registration Forms/ Student Planning Sheets due for 2017-18 for grades 9-11	8 Day 6 Girls Varsity Reserve BB @ Cascade -4:00 <b>Board Work Session 6:00 PM</b>	9 Day 1 7/8 BBB @ Camanche-4:15	10 Day 2 7/8 BBB vs Northeast-4:15 Registration Forms/Student Planning Sheets due for 2017-18 for 8th graders	11 District Wrestling – 12:00 @ TBA Girls V BB Regionals – vs Beckman –here— 7:00 PM
13 Day 3 Boys V BB Districts-6:00	 Day 4 7/8 BBB (B teams) @ Ed-Co – Colesburg Gym-4:15 7/8 BBB vs Cascade-4:15 <b>PTO Meeting-6:00 PM @ Carpenter</b>	15 Day 5 G V BB Regionals-7:00	16 Day 6 Boys V BB Districts —6:00 7 BBB vs North Cedar—4:15 8 BBB @ North Cedar—Stanwood-4:15	17 Day 1 	18 All-State Large Group Speech @ Ames Young Musicians Honor Band G V BB Regional Finals-7:00
20 <b>NO SCHOOL— Professional Development Day</b> BPA State Leadership Conference National FFA Week	21 Day 2 BPA State Leadership Conference B V BB Districts-7:00	22 Day 3 <b>2:00 Early Dismissal</b> <b>— Prof. Dev</b>	23 Day 4 MS/HS Jazz Concert—7:00—HS Auditorium	24 Day 5 Coe Jazz Summit—12:00	25 Individual District Speech @ Tipton Boys V BB Substate-7:00
27 Day 6 <b>Board Meeting—6:00 PM</b>	28 Day 1 7-12 Vocal Concert—HS Gym				

For up to date information, please check our website at [www.monticello.k12.ia.us](http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us)

**Monticello Community School District**  
**711 South Maple Street**  
**Monticello, Iowa 52310**

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent  
 Phone: 319-465-5963  
 Fax: 319-465-4092  
[www.monticello.k12.ia.us](http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us)

## **Board of Education**

Angie Beitz  
 Peg Mere  
 Bud Johnson  
 David Melchert  
 John Schlarmann

*Students, parents, employees, and others doing business with or performing services for the Monticello Community School District are hereby notified that this school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, creed, marital status, gender identity, socio-economic status, physical attributes, physical or mental ability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, familial status, and genetic information in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs, activities, and employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the District's Equity Coordinator, Brent Meier at 217 South Maple Street, Monticello, Iowa, 319-465-5963, [brent.meier@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:brent.meier@monticello.k12.ia.us). Any person having inquiries concerning the school district's compliance with state and federal laws and regulations concerning discrimination is directed to contact: Superintendent of Schools, 711 South Maple Street, Monticello, Iowa 52310, (319) 465-5963. This individual has been designated by the school district to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with all state and federal laws and regulations concerning discrimination.*