



# SCHOOL SPIRIT

May 2015

## Congratulations Class of 2015!



The Commencement Ceremony for the Monticello Class of 2015 is scheduled for **Sunday, May 24th at 2:00 PM** in the High School Gymnasium. **Congratulations Class of 2015 and Best Wishes in the future!**

## National Honor Society Induction

The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30 PM in the High School Auditorium. **Bridget Ahlrichs, Rachel Barkema, Kaitlyn Heinrich, Danielle Isaac and Mandi Miles will be inducted as seniors. Juniors being inducted are: Kaitlin Bayne, Jacob Bergman, Tommy Brokaw, Carter Bronneman, Alex Carlson, Maisy Cigrand, Kyle Folken, David Gray, Zachary Holmes, Jesse Iben, Krista Jackson, Darby Kramer, Tyler McDonald, Derek Manternach, Matthew Manternach, Marcus Norton, Traci Plummer, Cortney Price, Allison Ries, Ellen Schlarmann, Abigail Schmerbach, Haley Stickfort, Lane Stahlberg, Zachary Timm, and Hanna Wall.** Following the induction ceremony, Senior Honors Night will begin at 8:00 PM.

## School Board Recognition Month



L to R—Chris Brokaw, Kevin Gray, Angie Beitz, Peg Mere and Bud Johnson

The month of May is School Board Recognition Month. Your School Board is working hard to make sure all students succeed. Take a minute and say thanks to the following members of the Monticello Board of Education: **Chris Brokaw**, President, **Angie Beitz**, Vice-President, **Peg Mere**, **Kevin Gray** and **Bud Johnson**. Thank you Board members for all you do!

Last day of school is **May 27th**  
with a **2:00 Dismissal**.

**Enjoy your summer vacation!!!!**



## **Teacher Appreciation Week** is May 4-8 & **Nurses Day** is May 6

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4 thru May 8, and Nurses Day is May 6. Please join us in saying thank you to all of our teachers and nurses. The time you spend with students goes further than you know. Thanks for shaping the future of our children. We appreciate *each* and *every* one of you!

## **THANK YOU TO:**

- **Everyone** who helped at the Shannon Elementary concerts.
- **Breanne Stahlberg, Larissa Holub, Kaitlyn Weber, Mark & Jen Speltz, Andrea & Jeremy Glawatz, Pam Hardersen, Deb Keating, Kati Besler, Lili Bauers, Rebekah Schnoor, Angie Fangmann, Keri Childs, Dave & Kelly Postel, Michelle Prull, Marie Zirkelbach, Adriel Soper, Jen Luensman, Lisa Stadtmueller, Karla Koehler, Jenn Hartwig, Michelle Prull, Olivia Zimmerman, Marty & Lisa Neofotist, Stacy & Chad Thies, Shane & Jessica Hack, Amy & Alan Wickman** who donated items to the Carpenter Music Store.
- **Terry Feuling** for donating an abundance of toys to the elementary music store and for donating paper to Carpenter Elementary.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 7th Grade Multicultural Fair

The seventh graders have been working on a Multicultural Fair project in their language arts and geography classes. Please join us on May 13th from 1:30-2:45. Over 30 countries from around the world will be represented! Each group will have a display of their country that will include history, climate, customs, landmarks, and much more. Stop by each display to hear a presentation about the country. This promises to be a lively and informative event. Come and see all of the seventh graders' hard work. Don't miss it!

Summer Drivers Education will be held June 1-25 Mondays - Thursdays, no Fridays. Mandatory parents meeting will be on Wednesday, May 6 at 5:00 PM in the HS Auditorium.



### Save the Date!

- Panther Classic Golf
- Outing is Saturday, August 15th



## "Drive One 4 UR School"

Choir Department Fundraiser



**Saturday, May 9**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Monticello High School

Come test drive a new Ford and help us raise money! (must have a valid driver's license and only one per household.) We earn \$20.00 per test drive.

The **Color-a-Thon Color Run** is coming up fast!



May 16, 2015 at 10:30 am  
Monticello High School

You can still register up until the time of the race, but are not guaranteed a t-shirt or color pack unless you register before April 30th! Sign up online at <http://schoolathon.org/find-a-thon/> Look under Iowa for the Shannon-Carpenter Elementary run. Or registration forms are available in all school offices. If you have any questions, contact Robyn Like Ponder at [robynponder@gmail.com](mailto:robynponder@gmail.com) or 319-465-3551 ext. 3105. Everyone is welcome, people of all ages!!



Go Panthers!!

## Important Dates—Please Mark your Calendars!

May 6—5:00 PM -Mandatory parents meeting for summer drivers ed-HS Auditorium

May 13—Seniors cap & gown pick up day after school. **All bills must be paid before picking up cap & gown.**

May 19—7:30 PM -Honors Night/National Honor Society—HS Auditorium

May 20—Seniors Last Day; Commencement practice at 1:00 PM— all GRADUATES must attend; Baccalaureate at 7:00 PM at Monticello Baptist Church

May 24— Commencement at 2:00 PM—HS Gym

May 27—Last day of classes, 2:00 early dismissal

June 1—Summer Drivers Ed begins

## Mark Your Calendar!



Kirkwood for Kids

June 23-26

9:00—Noon

Kirkwood Jones Regional Education Center

Grades 1-8. Limited scholarships available. Contact Bethany Moore for more information at 465-2301.

## Elementary, Middle School & High School Lunch Menu

*Milk served with meal.*



<p><b>May 1</b> Breaded cheese sticks Tossed salad Strawberries/bananas Chocolate chip cookies</p>	<p><b>May 4</b> BBQ rib sandwich Smiley fries Baked beans Fresh apple slices</p>	<p><b>May 5</b> Chicken Nuggets Mashed potatoes &amp; gravy Diced peaches Roll</p>	<p><b>May 6</b> WG Sausage Pizza Tossed salad Fresh broccoli Applesauce</p>	<p><b>May 7</b> Grilled chicken sandwich French fries Steamed carrots Diced pears</p>
<p><b>May 8</b> Macaroni &amp; cheese Sausage links Green beans Pineapple tidbits</p>	<p><b>May 11</b> Hot dog Sweet potato fries Green beans Mixed fruit</p>	<p><b>May 12</b> Country fried steak Mashed potatoes &amp; gravy Peaches Frosted cake</p>	<p><b>May 13</b> Pasta w/ meat sauce Tossed salad Pears Bread stick</p>	<p><b>May 14</b> Breaded pork sandwich French fries Baked beans Mandarin oranges</p>
<p><b>May 15</b> Sausage pizza Tossed salad Pineapple tidbits Cookie</p>	<p><b>May 18</b> Beef nacho's w/ WG chips Seasoned potatoes Refried beans Applesauce</p>	<p><b>May 19</b> Popcorn chicken Seasoned rice Fresh broccoli &amp; carrots Orange slices</p>	<p><b>May 20</b> Hamburger Sweet potato fries Tossed salad Peaches</p>	<p><b>May 21</b> Breaded chicken sandwich Smiley fries Steamed carrots Mixed fruit</p>
<p><b>May 22</b> Cheese quesadilla Tossed salad Peaches Cookie</p>	<p><b>May 25</b> NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day</p>	<p><b>May 26</b> WG mini corn dogs Potato cubes Fresh broccoli w/ dip Orange slices</p>	<p><b>May 27</b> Deli sandwich WG chips Apple Cookie</p>	


### Attention Seniors!

It is important to recognize seniors for scholarships that they have been awarded. The awards presented at Honor's Night are those we know about. In order to honor all others, seniors need to be responsible for contacting Mrs. Thompson in the Guidance Office to inform her of any scholarships received. If she is contacted no later than Friday, May 15th, she will mention or present those awards. Please don't assume that Mrs. Thompson is aware of all scholarships received. You may contact her at [christi.thompson@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:christi.thompson@monticello.k12.ia.us). Honor's Night is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19th.


### Parents of next year's seniors:

Be aware that senior and baby pictures are due for yearbook in December of the senior year, near the end of first semester. Plan ahead! Have senior portraits taken the summer BEFORE senior year, to have plenty of time for processing and making selections etc. A no cost option is also available. Seniors may have a Life-touch portrait taken on school picture day in the fall. Seniors are not charged for this option unless they choose to order copies to keep. Summer is also a good time to look for the baby picture for the senior yearbook. Those are also due in December of the senior year. Thanks!





United States Department of Agriculture



### SUMMER FOOD ROCKS!

Call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE  
Visit [www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks](http://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks)  
to find a summer meal site near you.

*\* Summer meal site information will be available as school ends and summer begins in your community. New sites will be added throughout the summer.*

### MEET UP & EAT UP!

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

### 2015-16 Calendar

Enclosed is the 2015-16 Calendar. Due to the many changes for next year, we've also enclosed Questions & Answers that we hope will help. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact the District office at 319-465-5963 or email Dr. Chris Anderson at [chris.anderson@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:chris.anderson@monticello.k12.ia.us)

**Thank you for your patience & understanding!**

**PARENTS OF 4TH GRADERS** - Beginning band recruitment will be happening during the first part of May at Carpenter & Sacred Heart schools! All 4th grade students have received an information packet—if this packet did not make it home, please contact Jill Dobel at the Middle School. Instrument rental night will be held in the High School band room on Tuesday, May 26 from 4-7pm; at that time parents will receive information on summer lessons as well! If you have questions about your child getting started in band, please contact Middle School Band Director, Jill Dobel, at [jill.dobel@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:jill.dobel@monticello.k12.ia.us), or call (319) 465-3575 ext. 2165.

### Educational Equity—(Annual Notice)

It is the policy of the Monticello Community School District to provide equal educational and employment opportunities and not to illegally discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, religion, creed, age, marital status, socioeconomic status or disability in its educational programs, activities or its employment and personnel policies. Affirmative steps will be taken to integrate students in attendance centers, programs, and classes on the basis of race, national origin, gender, socioeconomic status and disability. Formal complaints should be filed with the District's Equity Coordinator, Mr. Brent Meier, Middle School Principal. If the party feels they need mediation, complaints are deferred to Dr. Chris Anderson, Superintendent of Schools. Inquiries or grievances related to this policy may be directed to Monticello Community School District, 711 South Maple, Monticello, Iowa 52310. (319) 465-5963; the Director of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission in Des Moines; the Director of the Regional Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; or the Director of the Regional VII Office of the Civil Rights, United States Department of Education in Kansas City, Missouri. Inquiries may also be directed to the Director, Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

### Asbestos Notification—(Annual Notice)

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (referred to as AHERA) was enacted by Congress to determine the extent of and develop solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos. This notification, education and training of our employees, plans and procedures to minimize the disturbance of asbestos containing materials, and plans for regular surveillance of the asbestos containing materials are a part of our efforts to meet government regulations. A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for your inspection at the Transportation/Buildings Grounds Office at 708 South Maple Street, Monticello, IA.

# Monticello CSD 2015-2016 School Calendar

(Adopted: April 27, 2015)

Summary of Calendar:

Student Hours in classroom:	
First Semester . . . . .	550.58
Second Semester . . . . .	554.24
PT Conferences . . . . .	13.16
<b>TOTAL STUDENT HOURS</b>	<b>1117.98</b>

## CALENDAR LEGEND

<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #cccccc; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Start/End
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffcc00; border: 1px solid black;"></span> PD Day (6)
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 2 PM out for PD (20)
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #00ffff; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Quarter
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ccccff; border: 1px solid black;"></span> PT Conference
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ccffcc; border: 1px solid black;"></span> "Floating" Work Day (2)
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffcc99; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Collaboration Day (7)
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #99ccff; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Related to Kirkwood
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ff99cc; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Holidays (6)
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ccff99; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Vacation Days
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ff9999; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Make-Up Days

## HOLIDAYS:

Labor Day	(9/7)
Thanksgiving Day	(11/26)
Christmas Day	(12/25)
New Year's Day	(1/1)
Good Friday	(3/25)
Memorial Day	(5/30)

Collaboration Days: Research shows that frequent collaboration by teachers throughout the school year has a greater positive impact on student learning than having all teacher learning at the beginning or end of the school year.

The purpose of Collaboration Days is to provide teachers with opportunities to work in their Professional Learning Communities in order to apply Professional Development learning to student instruction. These days help us reach our state-mandated number of teacher collaboration hours.

August					Student Hours (Cumulative)
M	T	W	Th	F	
03	04	05	06	07	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	30.9
31					37.48
<b>September</b>					
	01	02	03	04	62.47
07	08	09	10	11	88.79
14	15	16	17	18	120.36
21	22	23	24	25	146.68
28	29	30			165.09
<b>October</b>					
			01	02	171.67
05	06	07	08	09	203.24
12	13	14	15	16	236.14
19	20	21	22	23	261.13
26	27	28	29	30	294.03
<b>November</b>					
02	03	04	05	06	319.02
09	10	11	12	13	351.92
16	17	18	19	20	383.49
23	24	25	26	27	396.65
30					403.23
<b>December</b>					
	01	02	03	04	428.22
07	08	09	10	11	461.12
14	15	16	17	18	492.69
21	22	23	24	25	505.85
28	29	30	31		
<b>January</b>					
				01	
04	05	06	07	08	537.42
11	12	13	14	15	570.32
18	19	20	21	22	595.31
25	26	27	28	29	628.21
<b>February</b>					
01	02	03	04	05	653.2
08	09	10	11	12	685.1
15	16	17	18	19	710.09
22	23	24	25	26	742.99
29					749.57
<b>March</b>					
	01	02	03	04	767.98
07	08	09	10	11	800.88
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	827.2
28	29	30	31		853.52
<b>April</b>					
				01	
04	05	06	07	08	885.09
11	12	13	14	15	917.99
18	19	20	21	22	949.56
25	26	27	28	29	982.46
<b>May</b>					
02	03	04	05	06	1007.45
09	10	11	12	13	1040.35
16	17	18	19	20	1071.92
23	24	25	26	27	1104.82
30	31				
<b>June</b>					
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	

## 1080 Required Calendar Hours

Date	Events
Aug 10-19	"Floating" Work Days
Aug 18	New Teachers Report
Aug 19-20	No School, PD
Aug 20	Open House 5:00-6:30 PM
Aug 21	No School, Collaboration Day*
Aug 24	Begin 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester / 2 PM Dismissal
Aug 24	1 <sup>st</sup> day of Kirkwood classes
Aug 25	2 PM Dismissal
Sep 2	2 PM Dismissal
Sep 7	Labor Day, No School
Sep 16	2 PM Dismissal
Sep 25	No School, PD
Sep 29	HS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Sept 26	Homecoming Dance
Sep 30	2 PM Dismissal
Oct 1	Elem /MS PT Conf 4-8
Oct 2	No School, Collaboration Day
Oct 7	2 PM Dismissal
Oct 8	Elem/MS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Oct 19	No School, PD
Oct 21	2 PM Dismissal
Oct 28	End 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
Oct 29	Begin 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
Nov. 4	2 PM Dismissal
Nov.6	No School, Collaboration Day
Nov 18	2 PM Dismissal
Nov 25-27	Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)
Dec 2	2 PM Dismissal
Dec 3	HS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Dec 15	Last day of class @ Kirkwood
Dec 16	2 PM Dismissal
Dec 23-31	Winter Break (No School)
Dec 25	Christmas
Jan 1	New Year's Day (No School)
Jan 6	2 PM Dismissal
Jan 12	End 2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr / 1 <sup>st</sup> Sem
Jan 13	Begin 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem
Jan 18	No School, PD
Jan 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Kirkwood Classes
Jan 20	2 PM Dismissal
Feb 3	2 PM Dismissal
Feb 4	Elem/MS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Feb 5	No School, Collaboration Day
Feb 11	Elem/MS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Feb 15	No School, PD
Feb 16	HS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Feb 17	2 PM Dismissal
Mar 2	2 PM Dismissal
Mar 4	No School, Collaboration Day
Mar 14-18	Spring Break
Mar 25	Good Friday
Apr 1	No School, Collaboration Day
Apr 5	End 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr
Apr 6	Begin 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr
Apr 6	2 PM Dismissal
Apr 20	2 PM Dismissal
Apr 26	HS PT Conf 4-8 PM
Apr 30	Prom
May 4	2 PM Dismissal
May 6	No School, Collaboration Day
May 10	Last day of class @ Kirkwood
May 18	2 PM Dismissal
May 25	Last Day for Seniors
May 27	End 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester
May 29	HS Graduation
May 30	Memorial Day (No School)
May 31- Jun 3	Floating Work Days
May 31 – Jun 10	Make up days



# Monticello Community School District

## 2015-16 School Calendar

### Questions & Answers

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#### **1. Why are we changing from days to hours? What are the differences?**

*The Iowa Legislature passed and Governor Branstad signed legislation mandating the earliest school start date to be August 23. If Monticello Schools had remained on a “days” based calendar the last day for students (excluding snow days) would have been June 2, 2016. The district is adding 20 minutes to each school day which allows Monticello Schools to provide students 9.73 more hours of instruction during the 2015-16 school year than was given during the 2014-15 school year while still scheduling an end date of May 27, 2016 (barring any full snow days to be made up).*

#### **2. How many hours of instruction are necessary to be considered a day of school?**

*In years past when using a “days” based calendar, a school day required 5.5 hours of instructional time, which excluded lunch. For an “hours” based calendar Districts are required to use the building which offered the fewest number of contact hours as our benchmark for hours in a school day. Monticello’s elementary schools provide 6.584 hours of instruction per day, which is the fewest hours in the district.*

*When using an “hours” based calendar, there are no set hours of instruction required for a day of school, however the Code of Iowa requires 1080 hours of instruction time per year. By definition, instructional time is all the time students are scheduled to be at school minus lunch time. Our new calendar offers 5.25 hours of instructional time per day when an early dismissal is scheduled and 6.584 hours of instructional time per full school day. Our calendar schedules 1117.98 hours of instructional time, exceeding the state requirement by 37.98 hours or 5.772 days. Furthermore, the 2015-16 calendar exceeds the number of hours of instructional time offered in the 2014-15 calendar by 9.73 hours or 1.5568 days. The end result is more scheduled instructional time for students using fewer calendar days. Also, please note that contrary to previous years, there are no 1:00 PM dismissals in the 2015-16 calendar. All scheduled early dismissals will occur at 2:00 PM.*

#### **3. What happens if we have a delay or early dismissal due to weather, etc., do we have to make up those hours?**

*There are 37.98 hours built into the calendar to address this issue. Using 2 hours for late start/early dismissal as a benchmark, Monticello Schools could have up to 18 late start/early dismissal occurrences without having to add time to the calendar. The number of available late start/early dismissals would vary if the District is forced by unforeseen circumstances to deviate from the 2 hour benchmark (i.e. weather conditions force a 3 hour early dismissal). It is very unlikely the district would use this number of late start/early dismissal hours. However, if the District does hit the 18 event threshold it would be in a position in which it would have to cancel the entire day rather than have a late start. The Code of Iowa requires teacher contracts be written in terms of days, not hours.*

*If Monticello Schools had a nineteenth late start and added two hours to the end of the school year that would have the net effect of adding a day to each teacher's contract without negotiations which would put the district in violation of the Code of Iowa and the Master Agreement between the Monticello Community School District and the Monticello Education Association.*

**4. What if there is a school cancellation, due to weather, etc., does that day need to be made up?**

*If Monticello Schools cancels an entire day for any reason it will make up the day at the end of the school year. If a day is cancelled for an unforeseen event for one building only, for example a water main break or a boiler malfunction, the district could count the hours students in other buildings meet toward the required hours for the entire district. However, this does not apply to dismissing a building for athletic events. If a building dismisses to allow students to attend a state level athletic event, the entire district can only count the number of hours that particular building was in session.*

**5. If there are hours still remaining at the end of the school year, why do we need make up days?**

*The Code of Iowa requires that teacher contracts be written in terms of days, not hours. The District's Master Agreement with the Monticello Education Association stipulates a 195 day contract, 6 days of which are holidays, netting 189 teacher work days. You will note this calendar does have 189 working days for teachers. To remove hours from the end of the school year and then not have teachers report would have the net effect of paying teachers to not work. To bring teachers in for PD or Collaboration time would be ineffective at best as there would not be adequate planning for these events. The District does not want to offer fewer hours/minutes of instruction to our students than was offered under the 180 day calendar. The proposed calendar nets about 1.6 days worth of hours/minutes of additional instruction.*

**6. Why do we need to add 20 minutes on to the end of the school day? Why can't we add it at the beginning?**

*Several years ago when the District was considering the addition of early outs for Professional Development the feedback we received indicated parents could more easily adjust their child care at the end of the day as opposed to the beginning of the day. The District took this previously gained information into consideration, as well as feedback which indicated parents already have a set schedule for preparing their students for the school day. Furthermore, there is research which indicates earlier start times have a detrimental impact on student performance.*

**7. How will the longer school day effect after school activities?**

*It should have no impact on High School activities. On the Middle School level, there will be minimal time lost when traveling to away events.*

**8. Why are we starting later this year?**

*Pursuant to Iowa Code 279.10, as amended by Senate File 227 during the 2015 legislative session, all Iowa school districts and accredited nonpublic schools are required to begin the school year no earlier than August 23. The only exceptions to this legislation are for districts and nonpublic schools that apply for and receive permission from the Iowa Department of Education to operate a year-round calendar for one or more elementary and/or prekindergarten through eighth grade attendance centers. There is no waiver available for high schools.*

## **9. Why do we have Spring Break?**

*Monticello Schools has aligned its spring break with JREC's due to the sharing of students and staff between the two entities. Furthermore, our attendance data shows a .5% increase in average daily attendance since the implementation of Spring Break. This amounts to averaging an additional 5.4 students in school each school day.*

## **10. What are Teacher Team days?**

*The purpose of Teacher Team Days (also called Collaboration Days) is to provide teachers with opportunities to work in their Professional Learning Communities in order to apply Professional Development learning to student instruction. These days help us reach our state-mandated number of teacher collaboration hours. Administration will be tracking teacher use of Collaboration Day time in order to gather data to help the District determine the best use of the time.*

- Why are there 6 of them during the school year?

*In past years teachers had 45 minutes at the end of the work day to collaborate and team for various purposes. This time has been reduced by 20 minutes in the new calendar. By adding collaboration time back into the calendar teachers will regain meaningful team time as well as have time to meet with instructional coaches, special education staff and other various learning supports staff throughout the district to improve teaching and learning for each student in the district.*

- How are they different than Professional Learning days?

*Professional Learning days are focused on specific initiatives at the building and district level.*

## **11. Why are there more 'no school' days for students next year vs. this year?**

*There are three additional 'no school' days built into the calendar for 2015-2016. Are students losing out on too much 'instruction' time? No, by moving to the 'hours' system, District students will actually have more instruction time.*

## **12. What are "floating" work days?**

*"Floating" work days are flexible work days that may be held based on the needs and schedules of the teachers. The "floating" work days may consist of partial or whole days as long as they meet contractual obligations. Are they for teachers only? Yes.*

## **13. Why do we have 2:00 PD dismissals and full PD days?**

*2:00 PM Dismissals are used to support teacher learning and Iowa Department of Education required peer review. District full PD days are spent learning new initiatives that teachers then take back and put into practice in their classrooms. Many times the 2:00 dismissal times are spent in following up learning from full PD days. Teachers also meet in Authentic Intellectual Work (AIW) teams to score student work, teacher assessment tasks and Instruction. When scoring instruction through AIW teachers are taking part in DE required peer review. Every teacher that is not on their formal evaluation year (once every three years) are required to have a minimum of one peer review per year.*

**14. How is the calendar determined?**

*The Calendar Committee, consisting of one teacher from each building, building and District administration, and the principal of Sacred Heart School, meets to construct the calendar. Factors considered by the Calendar Committee include: 1) Requirements placed upon school districts by the Code of Iowa; 2) Required Carnegie Units for the High School (Carnegie Units are the amount of time a class must be scheduled in order to meet Department of Education requirements for granting credit for taking a class); 3) The Master Agreement between the Monticello Community School District and the Monticello Education Association; 4) the impact of the calendar on Sacred Heart School; and 5) the schedule of Kirkwood's Jones Regional Education Center (JREC).*

**15. Why do we need to follow Kirkwood's Jones Regional Education Center (JREC) schedule?**

*Kirkwood's JREC follows the Monticello Schools calendar with the exception of early release times, semester start/end dates (due to legislation that requires a district start date after August 23), and spring break. Monticello Schools has aligned its spring break with JREC's due to the sharing of students and staff between the two entities. Furthermore, JREC is not the only factor impacting the school calendar (see question number 14).*

**16. Why are make-up days only added to the end of the school year?**

*Data gathered this year showed a sharp increase in absenteeism on the make-up days scheduled during Spring Break.*

**17. Why is there a 2:00 early dismissal on the 1st and 2nd day of school?**

*To allow teachers to meet for collaboration purposes.*

**18. How does each level intend to utilize the additional instructional time?**

*High School: The high school plans to build in an intervention time to help students for either remediation or enrichment.*

*Middle School: Some discussion on the additional time has included: adding an additional amount of time for 2nd chance math and/or reading, or possibly adding more time for Rtl that is currently 25 minutes.*





*Elementary: The elementary plans to build in more time to implement science and social studies curriculum due to the legislated requirements for increased instructional time in reading and math.*

**2015-16 School Day Hours**

High School:	8:05am – 3:15pm
Middle School:	8:02am – 3:15pm
Carpenter Elementary:	8:15am – 3:15pm
Shannon Elementary:	8:15am – 3:15pm



# May 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Iowa School Board Recognition Month</b> <b>Thank a Board Member today!</b>			1 <sup>Day 5</sup> B V Golf @ Cascade-3:30 G V Golf @ Beckman—4:00 <b>Elementary PTO</b>	2 G V Soccer @ Northeast Gooselake-10:00 
4 <sup>Day 6</sup> Last day of classes @ Kirkwood G Golf vs Camanche—4:00 B Golf @ Camanche-4:00 B VJV Soccer vs Clear Creek Amana—4:00 G JVV Soccer @ Marion-4:15 MS Girls Track @ Beckman-4:15 MS Boys Track @ Maq. Valley-4:15 B V Track @ Marion—4:45 DARE Graduation—3:30	5 <sup>Day 1</sup> B VJV Soccer @ West Liberty—5:00 G V Track Meet Here—5:00 New Kindergartners Parent/Student Night 7:00 @ Shannon Elementary	6 <sup>Day 2</sup> <b>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</b> B Golf Meet Here—1:00 Mandatory Summer Drivers Ed Mtg—5:00 PM @ HS Auditorium PTO Mtg @ Carpenter—6:00 <b>NURSES Day!</b>	7 <sup>Day 3</sup> G/B V River Valley Conference Track—Home—4:00 B VJV Soccer vs Mid-Prairie-4:30 <b>Teacher Appreciation Week</b>	8 <sup>Day 4</sup> MS B/G Track @ West Branch—4:00	9 Cheer Placements-8:00 "Drive One 4 UR School" Choir Department Fund-raiser— 10-2 at the High School 
11 <sup>Day 5</sup> <b>Band Round-Up @ High School Gym—7:30</b>	12 <sup>Day 6</sup> B V Conf. Golf @ Saddle Back Golf Course-9:00 MS G/B Conference Track @ NE Gooselake -4:00 B VJV Soccer vs Bellevue Marquette-4:00 Dessert Concert—7:30 PM @ Berndes Center <b>Seniors: Silver Service hours due today by 3:00 PM</b>	13 <sup>Day 1</sup> <b>Board Work Session—6:00</b> G Conf. Golf @ Muscatine Municipal Golf Course—10:00 7th grade Multicultural Fair—1:30 at MS Gym Senior Cap & Gown Pick Up	14 <sup>Day 2</sup> B/G Varsity Track Districts—home—4:00 G VJV Soccer vs West Liberty—5:00	15 <sup>Day 3</sup> B V Golf Regional-10:00—TBD G V Golf vs Anamosa-4:00	16 <b>Color-a-Thon Color Run 10:30 AM at the High School—sponsored by Monticello PTO</b> G/B V Soccer @ Beckman-11:00
18 <sup>Day 4</sup> G V Regional Golf—10:00 TBD Concert on the Green—11:45 G/B Soccer vs West Delaware-4:00	19 <sup>Day 5</sup> National Honor Society Induction-7:30 Seniors Honors Night-8:00 7/8 Vocal Concert—7:00 @ MS Auditorium	20 <sup>Day 6</sup> <b>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</b> <b>Seniors Last Day of School Baccalaureate—7:00 @ Monticello Baptist Church</b> Mandatory Graduation Practice—1:00 @ HS Gym 5/6th grade Track & Field Day—9-1:30 Preschool Program—6:00-HS Aud.	21 <sup>Day 1</sup> G/B State Track—Drake-10:00 G VJV Soccer @ Vinton-Shellsbug-4:30	22 <sup>Day 2</sup> G/B State Track—Drake-10:00 	23 G/B State Track—Drake-10:00
25 <b>Memorial Day—No School</b>	26 <sup>Day 3</sup> <b>Board Meeting—6:00 PM</b>	27 <sup>Day 4</sup> <b>Last Day of School -2:00 Early Dismissal —</b> MS Softball @ Cascade—4:00 JV Softball DH vs Cascade—6:00 9/10 Baseball vs Solon—4:30	28 <sup>Day 5</sup> V Baseball DH vs Bellevue—5:30 V Softball DH vs Bellevue-6:00	29 <sup>Day 6</sup> MS Softball @ Regina-4:00 	30 Varsity Baseball Tourney @ Maq. Valley -9:00

Return Service Requested

**MCS D**

**Board of Education**

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Dr. Chris Anderson, Superintendent

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Monticello Community School District

It is the policy of the Monticello Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its 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, Middle School Principal, 217 S. Maple St., 319-465-3575, [brent.meier@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:brent.meier@monticello.k12.ia.us)

Bud Johnson

Rag Mere

Kevin Gray

Angie Beltz

Chris Brokaw