

# the MTC VOICE

Monticello Transition Center

Dream, Believe, Achieve

Realize your potential and your dreams. Believe in yourself and others.  
Achieve independence by learning life skills, communication skills, and work skills.



Spread your wings and fly!

Year 1 Issue 3

2012-2013  
Calendar of Events  
11/1 Early Out 1pm  
Conferences 2-8

11/2 No School

11/4 Daylight  
Savings

11/11 Veteran's Day

11/14 Early Out 2pm

11/21-11/23  
Thanksgiving Break

11/28 Early Out 2pm

11/28 Eat Lunch at  
a Restaurant

TBD Visit Hobby  
Railroad

Volunteer:  
Veteran's Day cards,  
decorate items for  
holiday sale

Mondays: Grocery  
Shopping

December  
12/12 Early Out  
12/21 End 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr  
12/22-31  
Winter Break No  
School

Contact Us:  
Monticello  
Transition Center  
818 1<sup>st</sup> St., Ste 306  
Monticello, IA 52310  
[cindy.arnold@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:cindy.arnold@monticello.k12.ia.us)

Ph# 319) 465-3989

*From the teacher:*

*Hello Everyone,*

*We are well under way in our routine. All students are in a regular working routine and working 2 ½ hours a day. There have been a couple of work placement changes, as we no longer work outdoors. We had a couple of exciting field trips, one to KCC main campus and one to the Linn-Mar Transition Center. We made many new friends that we hope to stay in contact with. Enjoy Our Newsletter!*

## A Look Back

In October we established our cooking and grocery shopping routine. Each student is on a two-person team. One student is in charge of his/her team and for the week chooses a recipe, makes a grocery list, shops at the store, leads in cooking, clean-up and serving of the food they made. The following week the other team member is in charge. This is also when IEP progress monitoring takes place for each student. Progress reports will be sent home at the end of each quarter as indicated on the district calendar.

In the classroom, students focused on decision-making skills. This was difficult for everyone and requires continued practice. For example, students were asked to decide where they wanted to live when they are older. That part was easy. Then they had to make a "good" and "bad" list. The challenge was making the "bad" or "negative" list for this setting.

We went on a field trip to KCC main campus and toured many of the programs. We checked out the rec. center and the bookstore. Students were given a limited amount of money to make a lunch purchase. Everyone stayed within his/her budget. We also went on a field trip to the Linn-Mar transition center. We met 9 students enrolled in a program like ours. Everyone made at least one new friend and discovered many things we had in common with each other. We look forward to the chili cook off challenge with them in late winter.

## Rights and Responsibilities for October

**Rights:** "that which is due to a person from nature or law" We can make our own decisions. We can ask for help to make a good decision. We can use a decision making guide. We can make mistakes.

**Responsibilities:** "particular duties and jobs that are expected" We know how to make a good decision. We know how to learn from our mistakes. We know when to ask for help. We know right from wrong.

3-Way Planning is a money management strategy. It is a structure to money management that involves:

- Money for things you need now.
- Money for something special you want.
- Money to save for the future.

As young adults get closer to adult living, they should be aware of the responsibility to pay for needs (e.g. bills) before they spend money on things they want.

**At School:** We learned about being “money smart.” Keep money in your wallet when you go places for the things you need, but do not have too much money in your wallet. Plan for the things you need before you spend money on things you want or you will not have money when you need it. Make a plan and stick with it! If your money is in your wallet, keep your wallet with you. If you leave your money at home, put it in a safe place. When it came to decision-making, students had a difficult time deciding if they would spend their money on something they really wanted or spend their money paying borrowed money back to a friend or family member. Another tough one was to buy a meal they really wanted and not leave a tip or buy a cheaper meal and leave a tip. Most stated they would eat the meal they really wanted and not leave a tip.

**At Home:** When the family goes out to eat, point out all the things the wait staff does for the customer and what expectations a customer has of the wait staff. Show them how you figure the tip and explain why you leave a tip.

Help at/from Home.

- Reminder: For a planned absence, please remind your student to let us know at least 48 hours in advance, as the student is responsible to let work placements know of his/her absence.
- Some students report that they cook for the family once a week. I would encourage all families to have their student cook for the family once a week. It’s important for them to get practice in multiple settings as we all do things differently in our kitchens.

A Look Forward, In November:

We are volunteering to help decorate items for sale at the holiday bazaar. We will be making cards for the veterans at the Senior Center.

November we are covering Relationships. This includes understanding boyfriend/girlfriend relationships, sexual abuse, positive body image/self-esteem, public behavior and private behavior, and the difference between loving favorite things and the feeling of loving others in a healthy relationship.

We will be going to a local restaurant to practice eating-out. Not sure where yet as we still need to vote on it. Students will be given a set amount of money of which they need to stay within their limit, including tip.

We’ve been talking for a couple of months about the upcoming election, how it’s our responsibility to learn about the candidates and our right to vote. Thank you parents who helped your young adult go through the registration procedure. It’s their right to have the ballot read and explained to him. It might be best to call ahead for that accommodation. They most likely will allow a family member to read and explain the ballot.

Student Voice

In October, my favorite thing to do was see the other transition center and it was cool. I got to meet a new friend and his name was Price. We have the same birthday. They made Sloppy Joes for us and we made rice crispy treats for them.

I also liked going to Kirkwood main campus. I liked the rec center that was fun and neat. I had pasta and cookie for lunch at Kirkwood it was good.

I enjoy working at the nursing home. I like to work with Dylan clearing the tables and doing the dishes.  
By Parker

