



SCHOOL SPIRIT

February 2019

Hi everyone,

As we begin February, winter is in full swing. If this spring turns out like last year we really had two winters and one summer. I am hopeful that we have a mild spring because this spring we will begin some very important projects for our school district. We will begin building the new middle school and updating our softball facilities. I hope you have seen our videos explaining the projects in more detail. If you have not they are located on our website.



It is the flu season again and we all see stories on the news of where it is the worst. Last school year we seemed to avoid the big outbreak at our schools and I think that was partially due to increasing our custodial hours and doing daily deep cleaning. This year we will be doing that again. We have started with the elementary schools only and that is because our attendance numbers are normal at the middle school and high school but we are seeing more absences at the elementary level due to sickness. If we see an increase in sickness we will also increase the custodial staff at the middle school and the high school.

As we continue this spring we are preparing our staff for the new state assessment that Iowa is rolling out this school year. It will be an online assessment and students in grades 3-11 can take the test on their Chromebooks. They will be tested in reading, math, and in grades 4, 8, and 11 science. We are preparing for the upcoming tests now and will train staff in a month. Students will take the test the second week of April. We are also working on giving our website a facelift. We want to make it easier to navigate with one click access to the most visited parts of our website. Stay tuned as the new website will be making its debut late spring or early summer. One more technology announcement. For those of you that register, put money in a meal account, or pay other bills for the school electronically we are working on our storefront this spring to make one login for users to get to our storefront. Might seem simple but it has been more difficult than you think to make this happen. We hope to have this problem fixed by registration this summer.

Finally, our school facility project is moving right along. One problem that was unexpected when we started this process in the summer of 2017 was that materials prices have risen at a remarkably high rate. In fact, materials have gone up between 6-8% and we anticipated a 3-4% increase when we built the budget. The increase is due to the hurricanes recently on the east coast and the wildfires on the west coast combined with trade tariffs with China. So we have been looking at each area in the school very closely to find some cost savings in our project. We do not want to compromise the educational spaces in the building so we have been very careful to not make across the board cuts. We will get there but it will take a few more meetings. With a little luck the State Legislature will pass the SAVE extension and we will be able to use our revenue bonds to cover the rate increase.

If you get a chance please come out and support our athletic teams or fine arts over the next month. It is an exciting time of the year for those programs and they could use your support. 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

Monticello Board of Education Corner...



Representative Lee Hein & Senator Dan Zumbach met with the Board of Education on January 9, 2019 to discuss the upcoming legislative session and also some of our top district priorities. Great discussion was held on the following topics: SAVE, Supplemental State Aid (SSA), Mental Health, Bond Issues, Tax Credits, and Senior Year Plus Programming. Thank you Representative Hein & Senator Zumbach for your insights!



Hein and Zumbach thanked Dr. Jaeger for having the forum and also invited Dr. Jaeger and the Board to come to Des Moines to lobby and meet with the legislators. If you have any questions, please contact us. Our emails are located on our website at <http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us/district-2/board-of-education-ii/>. Have a great February!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monticello School District Foundation *Black & Red Gala* March 2, 2019 - 5:30 pm - Berndes Center

The Monticello School District Foundation is excited to announce the annual *Black and Red Gala* which will be held Saturday, March 2, 2019. Doors open at 5:30 pm at the Berndes Center. It is with great enthusiasm that we announce our theme is **MONTI GRAS**. What is **MONTI GRAS**? It's a celebration of the strength of our school, the resiliency of our community, and the drive to ensure our children have the best opportunities possible! This year we will be recognizing the classes of '09, '99, '89, '79, '69, '59, and '49.

Casual dress—where what you would to a Monticello Pep Rally!

Tickets are \$25 and are available from any Foundation Board Member, online, or at any Monticello School Office, or at the District Office. 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. Debit & credit cards will be accepted at the gala. *Discover the Monticello School Foundation; the ability to help, the passion to deliver.*



Free Career, College, and Financial Aid Planning Assistance for Sophomores, Juniors and Parents

The high school counseling office has invited a representative from the Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) to provide two free presentations on **career and college planning and financial aid** for sophomores, juniors and their parents (all are welcome) on **Thursday, February 28th in the High School Auditorium.** The College and Career Planning presentation will occur at 6:00 p.m. and the Financial Aid Night at 7:00 p.m. Please see below for the topics covered in these two presentations. It's a great night to start planning ahead for your child's future! For more information, contact Carmen Stenger at 465-3000, ext. 1315.

College and Career Planning Topics will include:

- Career Exploration and Assessment
- Academic Preparation and Requirements
- Admission Process and Requirements
- College Selection & Campus Visits
- College Comparisons
- Application Process
- Understanding Costs – Cost of Attendance
- Scholarships
- Successful Transitions

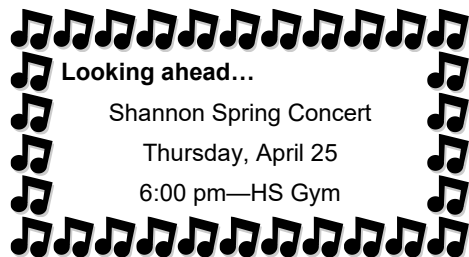
Financial Aid Planning Topics will include:

- Financial Aid Process
- FAFSA Application Review
- Understanding FAFSA Results
- Where to Go for Help
- Understanding Costs
- Financial Aid Options
- Scholarships Process



A Night of Jazz—February 21

The Monticello Bands would like to invite you to a night of jazz! Come and hear music from New Orleans, London, and Iowa. The middle school and high school jazz bands will be having their night of swing music on February 21 at 7 pm in the high school auditorium.



Parent Teacher CONFERENCES

Elementary, MS, and HS Conferences will be held on **February 25** from 4-8 pm and on **February 28** —Elementary from 2:30-8 & MS & HS from 4-8 pm

Summer Driver's Ed

Monticello High School will offer one session of summer driver's education. The summer session is scheduled to start approximately Monday, June 3, 2019 and will conclude approximately Friday, June 28, 2019 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 on Thursday, February 14. Return the form to the High School Office by **Thursday, February 28.**

PTO News

We would like to invite everyone to attend our next meeting Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30 pm in the Carpenter Library. Upcoming Events for the PTO include Spring photos on Wednesday, April 3 and the Elementary Walk-a-Thon on Friday, May 3, 2019. (rain date May 10). Please let us know if you are interested in helping with either of these events. Thank you!



Little Panthers Preschool

REGISTER NOW!

For 2019-20, 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 1 and due February 28.
- Preschool openings are filled through a lottery method.
- Head Start slots and Empowerment Grants are available.

This preschool is an inclusive, full-day program (Monday through Thursday) for students of all needs. 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 2019-20, 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 (TBD) 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
- 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 15th.

Will my four-year-old receive free preschool? Mother Goose is a half day program and to be determined regarding the SWVPP participation, Sacred Heart is a half day program and tuition is free. That program will meet on 4 ½ days. Little Panthers Preschool is a full day program. This program will be 4 full days with a max tuition of \$135.00.

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 2019-20 school year. To increase your chances of securing a slot, apply to the programs by February 28, 2019.

Little Panthers Preschool, Shannon Elementary – Stop in on school days to see Sandy Hinrichs or call (319) 465-3000, EXT. 4114.

Mother Goose Preschool – Call Ann Eby (319) 465-5675.

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 2019-20 school year. Any questions, call 465-3000, ext. 4114.

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-Zimmerman at 319-465-3000, ext. 2030.

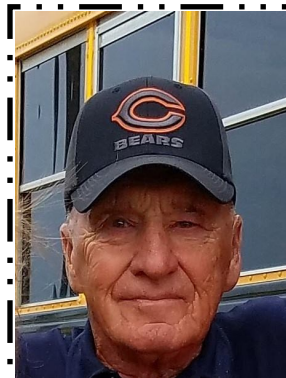
CELEBRATIONS!



In 2018 we saw the highest average ACT scores in ten years!

Over 50% more students took the ACT in 2018 than the year before and the average composite score increased from 20.9 to 23.2.

Great job Monticello students and staff!!!



Distinguished Service Award

Rick 'Hoppy' Wright is the recipient of the *Distinguished Service Award* given by the Iowa Football Coaches Association. He will be recognized on March 1 in Des Moines at the Iowa Coaches Football Clinic. Nominations were accepted for any person who has contributed many years of service to the community or any

civilian who supports football. Hoppy was nominated by Varsity Football Coach Wes Wilson. "Hoppy has been a part of the Monticello Community School District for 44 years driving bus and doing field work to help our athletic programs." Hoppy has worked at numerous athletic events over the years. Thank you for all you do for Monticello Schools!

Congratulations Hoppy!

THANK YOU TO:

- **The Kathryn Peters Family** for their donation of puzzles to the MS & HS.
- **The Porch Posse** for their donation to the Operation Backpack program and for their support over the years!
- **Morgan Stogdill** for her donation of toys to Panther Academy.
- **Angie & Lauren Shady** for their donation of clothing to the Middle School.
- **Ann Buckner** for her donation of clothing items to the drama department.
- **Sheri Osterkamp** for her donation of medical supplies to the Nurse's Office and the athletic department.
- **Mandy & Addi Norton** for the donation of crayons and magtastix to Panther Academy.
- **St. John's Lutheran Church** for their donation to the health fund.

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, 2019**—Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2019-20 school year. **September 1, 2019**- 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 2019-20 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 need (determined by the district). If these circumstances occur after March 1, a parent or guardian may file a "late" open enrollment application. Transportation assistance is available for those who qualify according to income guidelines between contiguous districts. This may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a reimbursement. 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://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/options-educational-choice/open-enrollment>.



Food Service News

February Breakfast Menu <small>“USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer”</small>				
<i>Milk served with meal</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
				Cereal
				Poptart
				Fruit
				Fruit juice
4	5	6	7	8
Ham, egg & cheese croissant or cereal	Cereal bar or cereal	Pancake on a stick or cereal	Cinnamon roll or cereal	Cereal
Fruit	Mozzarella cheese stick	Fruit	String cheese	Poptart
Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice
11	12	13	14	15
Waffles w/ syrup or cereal	Donut or cereal	Breakfast pizza or cereal	Chocolate chip muffin or cereal	Cereal
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	String cheese	Poptart
Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit
			Fruit juice	Fruit juice
18	19	20	21	22
NO SCHOOL	Bagel bites or cereal	Long John or cereal	Pancake on a stick or cereal	Cereal
	Fruit	Fruit	cereal	Poptart
	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit
			Fruit juice	Fruit juice
25	26	27	28	
Mini donuts or cereal	Cereal bar or cereal	Breakfast pizza or cereal	Waffles w/ syrup or cereal	
Fruit	Mozzarella cheese stick	Fruit	Fruit	
Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	
	Fruit juice			

National School Breakfast Week is March 4–8!

Students who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Have better concentration and memory
- Be more alert
- Reach high levels of achievement in reading and math, and score higher on standardized tests.



National School Breakfast Week

Why is it important to eat breakfast?

Breakfast kick-starts your metabolism, helping you burn calories throughout the day. It also gives you the energy you need to get things done and helps you **focus** at work or at school. Those are just a few reasons why it's the most important meal of the day.

Did you know?

Breakfast is served daily at school? School breakfast will give your child a healthy start to the day!



February Lunch Menu <small>“USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer”</small>				
Choose a salad as an alternate lunch daily (HS & MS only) Milk served with meal.				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
				Stuffed crust Pepperoni pizza
				Lettuce w/ Romaine
				Glazed carrots
				Diced pears
4	5	6	7	8
Chicken nuggets	Mini Corn dogs	Hot ham & cheese bun	Beef Taco / Shell	Breaded cheese sticks
French fries	Corn	Seasoned potato cubes	Refried beans	Lettuce w/ Romaine
Orange slices	Apple slices	Baby carrots/dip	Vegetable medley	Fresh broccoli
Roll & butter	Cookie	Fruit	Pineapple Mandarin oranges	Banana
11	12	13	14	15
BBQ Rib/bun	Popcorn chicken	Pepperoni pasta	Breaded chicken / bun	Cheese quesadilla
Augratin potatoes	Seasoned rice	Lettuce salad	Smiley fries	Corn
Baked beans	Green beans	Mandarin oranges	Peas & carrots	Baby carrots w/ dip
Pineapple tidbits	Diced peaches	Garlic toast	Apple sauce	Watermelon
18	19	20	21	22
NO SCHOOL	Deli sandwich	Salisbury steak	Chili w/ crackers	Sausage pizza
	WG chips	Mashed potatoes & gravy	String cheese	Lettuce w/ spinach
	Baby carrots w/ dip	Peaches	Apple sauce	Broccoli/cauliflower
	Apple sauce	Roll & butter	Cinnamon roll	Pineapple/mandarin oranges
	Cookie			
25	26	27	28	
Chicken strips	Grilled chicken/bun	Breaded Pork/bun	Mandarin orange chicken	
Mashed potatoes & gravy	French fries	Seasoned potato cubes	Seasoned rice	
Blushing pears	Green beans	Baked beans	Broccoli w/ cheese sauce	
Roll & butter	Apple slices	Oranges	Grapes	



February 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>GO PANTHERS!</p>				<p>1 <small>Day 2</small></p> <p>JV GBB vs Cascade-4:00 JV BBB vs Cascade-5:30 V GBB vs Cascade-6:45 V BBB vs Cascade-8:15</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Varsity Wrestling Sectionals @ TBA—12:00</p> <p>State Large Group Speech Contest @ CR Kennedy-8:00</p>
<p>4 <small>Day 3</small></p> <p>7 BBB vs Northeast—4:15 8 BBB @ Northeast—4:15 JV GBB vs Mid-Prairie—4:00 JV BBB vs Mid-Prairie—5:15 V GBB vs Mid-Prairie—6:45 V BBB vs Mid-Prairie-8:15 State Vocal Jazz Contest</p>	<p>5 <small>Day 4</small></p> <p>G/B Varsity Bowling @ Camanche—2:00 7/8 BBB @ Camanche-4:15 JV BBB @ Camanche 6:00 V BBB @ Camanche-7:30</p>	<p>6 <small>Day 5</small></p> <p>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</p>	<p>7 <small>Day 6</small></p> <p>7 BBB @ N. Cedar-Stanwood—4:15</p> <p>8 BBB vs N. Cedar—4:15</p>	<p>8 <small>Day 1</small></p> <p>7 BBB vs Anamosa-4:15 8 BBB @ Anamosa MS -4:15</p> <p>Dance Marathon—HS 7-10pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>District Wrestling @ TBA-12:00</p> <p>Girls Basketball Regionals -7:00 @ TBA</p>
<p>11 <small>Day 2</small></p> <p>Boys Basketball Districts-7:00 @ TBA</p> <p>7/8 BBB vs Cascade-4:15</p>	<p>12 <small>Day 3</small></p> <p>G/B Varsity Bowling Regionals/Districts—10:00 @ TBA</p> <p>PTO Meeting—6:30 @ Carpenter Library</p>	<p>13 <small>Day 4</small></p> <p>Board Work Session 6:00 PM</p>	<p>14 <small>Day 5</small></p> <p>State Wrestling</p> <p>7 BBB @ Bellevue — 4:15</p> <p>8 BBB vs Bellevue—4:15</p>	<p>15 <small>Day 6</small></p> <p>State Wrestling</p>	<p>16</p> <p>State Wrestling</p> <p>All-State Festival Large Group Speech @ Ames -8:00</p> <p>Young Musicians Honor Band - TBA</p>
<p>18</p> <p>NO SCHOOL—Professional Development Day</p> <p>BPA State Leadership Conference—Des Moines</p> <p>Var Conference Speech @ Clarence MS-4:30</p>	<p>19 <small>Day 1</small></p> <p>BPA State Leadership Conference-Des Moines</p> <p>7 BBB @ Northeast—4:15 8 BBB vs Northeast—4:15</p> <p>National FFA Week</p>	<p>20 <small>Day 2</small></p> <p>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</p>	<p>21 <small>Day 3</small></p> <p>7/8 BBB vs Camanche-4:15 MS/HS Jazz Concert—7:00—HS Auditorium</p>	<p>22 <small>Day 4</small></p> <p>ECICDA Honor Choir @ Solon</p> <p>Coe Jazz Summit</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Individual District Speech @ TBA</p>
<p>25 <small>Day 5</small></p> <p>Board Meeting—6:00 PM</p> <p>Elementary & MS & HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8pm</p>	<p>26 <small>Day 6</small></p>	<p>27 <small>Day 1</small></p>	<p>28 <small>Day 1</small></p> <p>2:00 Early Dismissal</p> <p>Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences 2:30-8 & MS & HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8pm</p> <p>College & Career Planning Night for Sophomores & Juniors—6:00-HS Auditorium, Financial Aid Night for Juniors—7:00-HS Aud</p>		

Monticello Community School District
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 Mandy Norton
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For up to date information, please check our website at www.monticello.k12.ia.us

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, 319-465-3000, 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) 465-3000. 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.