



# SCHOOL SPIRIT

February 2020

Hello everyone,

We have just started the second semester and it seems like the first semester went by so fast. We have so many things happening in the Monticello Community School District, which is probably the reason the year seems to be going so fast.

First up, we are about six months away from the completion of our grade 5-8 middle school. Everything seems to be going so well up to this point. The project included a \$1.2 million dollar contingency for unexpected items and as of this date we still have about \$1 million left in that contingency account. At this time they are working on closing up the building and getting it heated so they can complete the inside work. Hard to believe but in some areas they are already putting up drywall. The entrance to the high school has started to take shape. If you get a chance to drive by and look at the front of the high school you will see the framework for the new entrance and that will give you an idea of what that will look like.



Next, we have been working very hard over the last year to put together a new five-year Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) for 2019-2024. The plan has been finalized and will go to the school board for approval. When approved this plan will be the blueprint for the work we need to do in the Monticello Community School District for the next five years. The plan was developed through the input and feedback from parents, students, staff, the school board, and the administrative team. The areas of concentration for the SOP are: School Facilities, Communication, Teaching & Learning, and School Environment & School Climate.

Next, we have also been working very hard on a new school website. We are hoping it is ready to "go live" in a few weeks. The new website is a response to the collection of information from students, staff, and parent groups and should be easier to navigate by phone or other handheld devices. The new website will give easy access to both the school and activity calendars, have more one-button access to our most frequently visited areas, and be iPhone friendly.

Finally, as we transition into the new middle school the most common question is, "what are you going to do with the old middle school?". The school board is exploring options at this time such as making modifications to the old building to keep the gym and warehouse space. In order to make these decisions we will need to work with an architect/engineering firm to help us explore options and pricing. So at this time we are waiting on a Fee Proposal for this architectural/engineering work.

If you get a chance, please come out and support our winter athletic teams. There is always excitement in the air when the teams are playing well. Our basketball, wrestling, and bowling teams have a chance to do well in the postseason this year, so jump on the Panther bandwagon and show your support for our student-athletes.

As always, if you have questions please feel free to give me a call. Have a great February!

Sincerely,

*Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent*



## Board of Education Corner...

At the monthly Board meetings we ask our Board members "What did we learn at this meeting and what would we want the public to know"?

In December the Board wanted the public to know that we are making progress with our new middle school construction project and are on schedule. They will be doing a tour of the current middle school and the new construction at their February Work Session. They will also begin discussing the future of the current middle school. 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 *Pep Rally & Class Reunions* March 7, 2020 - 5:30 pm - Berndes Center

The Monticello School District Foundation is excited to announce the annual *Pep Rally & Class Reunions* which will be held Saturday, March 7, 2020. Doors open at 5:30 pm at the Berndes Center. 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's theme is "**2020 MCSD: Seeing the Future Clearly**". This year we will be recognizing the classes of '40, '50, '60, '70, '80, '90, '00, and '10.

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

Tickets are \$25 and are available from any Foundation Board Member or at any Monticello School 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 Pep Rally. *Discover the Monticello School Foundation; the ability to help, the passion to deliver.*



## SWITCH Kickoff Night

Monticello Middle School Family Night

Monday, February 17 6-8 pm Monticello Middle School

School Wellness Integration Targeting Child Health

Please bring your family and join us for a fun night of educational activities and to learn about the SWITCH program!

### 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 1, 2020 and will conclude approximately Tuesday, June 30, 2020. Both the start and end dates may be adjusted if there is a change to the school calendar due to adverse winter weather. The cost is \$320. An informational letter and registration form will be available in the middle school and high school offices on Thursday, February 19. Space may be limited. Applications will be considered on first come first served basis. Return the registration form to the High School Office by Monday, March 2. Thank you!

Looking ahead...

### Shannon Spring Concert

Thursday, April 30, 6:00 pm—HS Gym

### Parent Teacher CONFERENCES

Elementary, MS, and HS Conferences will be held on **March 3** from 4-8 pm and on **March 5**—Elementary from 2:30-8 & MS & HS from 4-8 pm



### *A Night of Jazz*—February 27

The Monticello Bands would like to invite you to a night of jazz! Come and hear music from New York, Seattle, and Brazil.

The middle school and high school jazz bands will be having their night of swing music on February 27 at 7 pm in the high school auditorium.

## 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, 2020**—Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2020-21 school year. **September 1, 2020**- 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 2020-21 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>.

## Little Panthers Preschool

**REGISTER NOW!**

For 2020-21, 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 January or go to <http://www.monticello.k12.ia.us> - Shannon Elementary-Little Panther Preschool

- Applications are available on January 6 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 paraprofessional
- 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 2020-21, 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 Lutheran 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
- 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?** Mother Goose and Sacred Heart are half day programs and are tuition free. Little Panthers Preschool is a full day program and has a max tuition of \$135.00. All three programs runs Monday through Thursday.

**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 2020-21 school year.

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, and 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 2020-21 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.

## From the High School Counselor's Office...

### High School Scheduling Dates

The following dates are of note for 8-11th grade students in regards to scheduling high school credit and college credit classes for next year:

- Tuesday, February 4: High School & Kirkwood registration sheets due
- Monday, February 10: Kirkwood class requests in Dual Enroll
- Tuesday, February 11: 9-11th grades request classes in PowerSchool
- Thursday, February 13: 8th graders request classes in PowerSchool
- Monday, April 6: 9th Grade Orientation for 8th grade students & parents (5:30 pm at the HS)

If your child misses any of the dates above, please remind them to stop in the high school office as soon as possible so they do not miss opportunities for next year.

### Free Career, College, and Financial Aid Planning Assistance for Sophomores, Juniors & 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 **Tuesday, March 3 in the High School Auditorium**. The College and Career Planning presentation will occur at 5:30 p.m. and the Financial Aid Night at 6:30 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

## THANK YOU TO:

- **Jim Anderson and his antique tractor club** for their donation of hats and gloves to Shannon & Carpenter Elementary.
- **Becky Stahlberg** for her donation of hats and gloves to Shannon & Carpenter Elementary.
- **Morgan Stogdill & family & Kelli McDermott & family** for the donation of toys to Panther Academy
- **St. John's Lutheran Church** and **St. Matthew's Lutheran Church WELCA** for their donations to the health fund.
- **Lilliana Wright & family** for the donation of Merge Cubes to the Carpenter Library
- **Angela Schwendinger & family** for donating Legos and an Osmo to Carpenter Elementary.
- **Orbis Corporation** for their donation to the lunch program. And the **Anonymous Donor** who also donated to the lunch program.
- **Shannon & Katie Guyer** for donating prizes to the Elementary music rooms.
- **Dorothy Ray** for her donation of books to Shannon Elementary.
- **Accent Construction** for their donation.
- **Alliant Energy** for their donation to the lunch program.
- **Morgan Baugh & family** for donating prizes to the Elementary music rooms.
- **Phil Hanna** for donating his time to assist with heart dissection in 5th grade.
- **Baked/The Edge/Blue Inn, The Century House, Citizens State Bank, The Cone Shoppe, Kardes, Legacy Lanes, Above & Beyond, Walmart,** and **Wolken Dental** for their donation for prizes for the Middle School Geo Bee!
- **Diane Gesie** for an alto saxophone mouthpiece to the Band Department.

## PTO News

Hello everyone! The PTO is looking for volunteers and input for some of our upcoming events. We need volunteers to bring food for the Parent/Teacher conferences on March 3. If interested in helping with meals please contact Michelle Hinrichs at michelle\_hinrichs@yahoo.com. We also have our yearly walk-a-thon coming up on May 13. If you would like to help with this event please contact Nikki Siebels at n.siebels@gmail.com. Another event we are currently working on is our end of the year Fun Day. If you would like to join the committee to help in the revamping and planning of this event please let Ashley Christensen know at ashley.christensen@monticello.k12.ia.us. Another option for contacting the PTO is through our Facebook page. Please join us at our next meeting on **Tuesday, February 11 at 6:30 pm in the Carpenter Library**. We are always looking for new input.





# Food Service News

February Breakfast Menu				
"USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer"				
Milk served with meal				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Rainbow yogurt	BB muffin	Breakfast pizza	French toast/syrup	Cereal
Granola	String cheese	Fruit	Fruit	Poptart
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit
Fruit juice	Fruit juice			Fruit juice
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
Sausage, egg, cheese croissant	Cereal bar	Pancake on a stick w/ syrup	Cheese omelet	Cereal
Fruit	String cheese	Fruit	Hash brown patty	Pop tart
Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit
	Fruit juice		Fruit juice	Fruit juice
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	Stuffed bagel	Breakfast pizza	Chocolate chip muffin	Cereal
<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	Fruit	Fruit	String cheese	Pop tart
	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit	Fruit
			Fruit juice	Fruit juice
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Rainbow yogurt	Biscuits & sausage gravy	Long John	Mini donuts	Cereal
Granola	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Pop tart
Fruit	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit juice	Fruit
Fruit juice				Fruit juice



February Lunch Menu				
"USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer"				
Choose a salad as an alternate lunch daily (HS & MS only) Milk served with meal. Menus are subject to change.				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Hot Ham & cheese/bun	Walking taco	Country fried steak	Cheeseburger/bun	Pizza crunchers
Potato cubes	Seasoned rice	Mashed potatoes	Sweet potato waves	Lettuce w/ Romaine
Baby carrots w/ dip	Refried beans	Mixed fruit	Green beans	Glazed carrots
Sidekick	Mandarin oranges	Roll & butter	Apple sauce	Blushing pears
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
Chicken nuggets	Mini Corn dogs	Maidrite / bun	Bacon chicken ranch wrap	Breaded cheese sticks
French fries	Baked beans	Waffle fries	Vegetable medley	Lettuce w/ Romaine
Orange slices	Apple slices	Steamed broccoli	Pineapple/Mandarin oranges	Fresh broccoli w/dip
Roll & butter	Cookie	Peaches	Ricekrispie treat	Strawberries & bananas
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	Mandarin chicken	Pasta w/ meat sauce	Breaded chicken/bun	Cheese quesadilla
<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	Seasoned rice	Lettuce salad	Smiley fries	Corn
	Green beans	Diced pears	Peas & carrots	Baby carrots
	Mixed fruit	Garlic toast	Apple sauce	Watermelon
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Dutch waffle	Hot dog / bun	Cheese pizza	Chili w/ crackers	Garlic cheese bread
Sausage links	Fiesta beans	Romaine/lettuce	String cheese	Lettuce w/ spinach
Hashbrown patty	French fries	Green beans	Baby carrots w/ dip	Broccoli & Cauliflower
Homemade applesauce	Jello w/ fruit	Peaches	Diced pears	Orange slices
			Cinnamon roll	



## National School Breakfast Week is March 2-6!

Studies show that children who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math
- Score higher on standardized tests
- Have better concentration and memory
- Be more alert and maintain a healthy weight



# February 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>GO PANTHERS!</b></p>					<p>1 Wrestling Conference Tournament @ Tipton— 10:00 9/10 BBB @ Regina—12:00 JV BBB @ Regina—1:30 BV BBB @ Regina—3:00</p>
<p>3 Day 2 7/8 BBB vs Bellevue—4:15</p>	<p>4 Day 3 JV GBB vs Northeast—4:00 V GBB vs Northeast—6:30 JV BBB vs Northeast-5:15 V BBB vs Northeast-8:15</p>	<p>5 Day 4 FFA Northeast District Degree &amp; Proficiency Review @ Independence</p>	<p>6 Day 5 7 BBB vs Anamosa—4:15 8 BBB @ Anamosa—4:15</p>	<p>7 Day 6 9/10 GBB @ Cascade-4:00 9/10 BBB @ Cascade-4:00 JV GBB @ Cascade-5:00 JV BBB @ Cascade—5:00 V GBB @ Cascade-6:00 V BBB @ Cascade-7:00</p>	<p>8 Sectional Wrestling @ TBA-12:00 State Large Group  Speech @ CR Washington-8:00 JV GBB @ Regina—4:30 V GBB @ Regina—6:00</p>
<p>10 Day 1 7 BBB @ Northeast-4:15 8 BBB @ Northeast-4:15 JV GBB @ Mid-Prairie-6:00 V GBB @ Mid-Prairie-7:30</p>	<p>11 Day 2  G/B Varsity Bowling @ Camanche-4:00 7/8 BB vs Camanche—4:15 JV BBB vs Camanche—6:00 V BBB vs Camanche—7:30 PTO Mtg—6:30 – Carpenter Library</p>	<p>12 Day 3 <b>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</b>  <b>Board Work Session 6:00 PM</b></p>	<p>13 Day 4 G/B Varsity Bowling @ Camanche—3:30 7 BBB @ N. Cedar Stanwood—4:15 8 BBB vs N. Cedar—4:15</p>	<p>14 Day 5 </p>	<p>15 District Wrestling—12:00 @ TBA  Young Musicians MS Honor Band - TBA </p>
<p>17 <b>NO SCHOOL—Professional Development Day</b> BPA State Leadership Conference—Urbandale 7/8 BBB vs Cascade—4:15 SWITCH Family Night—MS—6-8pm</p>	<p>18 Day 6 BPA State Leadership Conference-Urbandale District Bowling –10:00 @ TBA FFA Sub-Dist. Leadership Development @ Central City - 4:00</p>	<p>19 Day 1 <b>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</b></p>	<p>20 Day 2 State Wrestling 7/8 BBB @ Bellevue-4:15 Tallcorn HS Jazz Festival @ UNI</p>	<p>21 Day 3 State Wrestling   Dance Marathon  7-10pm</p>	<p>22 State Wrestling  All-State Large Group Speech @ ISU</p>
<p>24 Day 4 7 BBB @ Anamosa -4:15 8 BBB vs Anamosa - 4:15 Conference Speech @ Mid-Prairie HS - 5:00 <b>Board Meeting—6:00 PM</b></p>	<p>25 Day 5 7 BBB vs Northeast-4:15 8 BBB @ Northeast-4:15  ← National FFA Week</p>	<p>26 Day 6 <b>2:00 Early Dismissal — Prof. Dev</b></p>	<p>27 Day 1 7/8 BBB @ Camanche - 4:15  HS/MS Jazz Concert - 7:00 @ HS Auditorium</p>	<p>28 Day 2 Coe College HS/MS Jazz Summit</p>	<p>29 District Individual Speech - TBA</p>

**Monticello Community School District**  
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**Board of Education**

John Schlarmann  
Craig Stadtmueller  
Mandy Norton  
Bud Johnson  
Amanda Brenneman

For up to date information, please check our website at [www.monticello.k12.ia.us](http://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](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) 465-3000. 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.*