

# THE PANTHER PAW



#### Monticello Middle School

February 2022

# **February Staff Spotlight**

### Interviews with Mrs. Schauf (6th Grade) and Mr. Stoltz (7th Grade Math)

By Kennedy Hermsen, Koye Jaeger, and Halle Recker



#### 1. What is it like being a new teacher?

**Shauf-**It has been an awesome experience and a very positive experience. I have a great team. **StoItz-**It is interesting because you have to learn about everything and everybody's name and at the same time students have to learn about you.

#### 2. Is it different to transition from semester to semester?

Schauf-No at the middle school level you just continue on and it isn't different at all.

**Stoltz-**Yes because I went from student teaching to this and it is actually kind of nice. Because when I was a student teacher I followed along with what the head teacher does.

#### 3. What is your favorite thing to do outside of school?

**Shauf-**I enjoy going to my children's activities but I also really like running, reading, and crafting. **Stoltz-**I like to go hunting, fishing, and watch basketball.

#### 4. Did you play sports in school?

**Shauf-**Yes, I ran cross country and track and played basketball. Then I went on to run in college as well. **Stoltz-**Yes, I did football, track, and basketball. I also played basketball in college at Northwestern.

#### 5. Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

**Shauf-**For the most part but there were times I thought I wanted to be a barista and own my own coffee shop and in middle school I thought i wanted to be a hairstylist

Stoltz-No, I wanted to be an engineer, or an actuary in high school.

#### 6. How would you describe the new school climate?

**Shauf-**It is very positive! I've worked in a lot of places and experienced many people and this has been the most friendliest and most positive experience of all.

Stoltz-I was a student teacher in a different school and this school is positive with more student interaction.

#### 7. Where did you go to college?

**Shauf-**I went to Wartburg originally and I also have degrees from Buena Vista and Morningside. **Stoltz-**I went to college at Northwestern and then I transferred to UNI.

#### 8. Did you have a favorite class as a kid?

**Shauf-**I would say art was my favorite. I really enjoyed it and I wanted to be an art teacher. In high school we had a sociology class that I really enjoyed.

Stoltz-I would say I enjoyed math the most, but I also enjoyed physics and chemistry.

9. How long have you been teaching?

Shauf-This is my 13th year being a teacher.

Stoltz-I have been teaching for 3.5 weeks.

#### 10. What made you want to become a teacher?

**Shauf-**One of the biggest things was that I had some really good teachers, especially my 6th grade teacher. She made people feel really good about themselves. I had a really bad teacher and I wanted to make a difference and show what I didn't want to be.

Stoltz-My high school and middle school math teachers because they inspired me to be better.

#### 11. If you were a superhero who would you be?

**Shauf-**Elastigirl because she seems to be able to get a lot done with her long arms.

Stoltz-Iron Man. I love Iron Man because he gets a suit and he's super smart.

# Positive Panthers

#### By Macey Burlage, Meghan Besler, and Katie Stadtmueller

Hello February! The shortest month of the year is here. There are many different ways to keep yourself healthy and here are some Self Care and Meditation tip to do sos:

#### Selfcare

Selfcare is very important for your body! Here are some ideas on ways to practice self-care!

- Move your body! Including riding your bike!!
- Make sure to maintain a good sleep schedule. This means go to bed between 8:30-10:00 pm.
- Turn off your cell phone by 9 pm.
- Try to avoid snacking and drinking beverages past 8:30 pm.
- Keep a balanced diet.
- Try to be outside more and enjoy the fresh cool air. Take a walk and enjoy the scenery!
- Maintain friendships.
- Ask for help and accept help when it is offered.
- Think of yourself as your own best friend!
- Seek professional help when needed.

#### Meditation

Paying attention to your breathing builds the muscles of attention and mindfulness. Focusing on your breathing also lets us remain in the present; in the moment.

#### 1) Take a seat

Find a place to sit that feels calm and quiet to you.

#### 2) Notice your body

You can sit in a chair with your feet on the floor, you can sit loosely cross-legged, you can kneel—all are fine. Just make sure you are stable and in a position, you can stay in for a while.

#### 3) Feel your breath

Follow the sensation of your breath as it goes in and as it goes out.

#### 4) Notice when your mind has wandered

Your attention will leave the breath and wander to other places. When you get around to noticing that your mind has wandered—in a few seconds, or even one minute simply return your attention to the breath.

#### 5) Be kind to your wandering mind

Don't judge yourself or obsess over the content of the thoughts you find yourself lost in. Just come back.

#### **Reasons to Meditate**

- Lower stress
- Improve focus
- Reduce brain chatter

#### Quotes of the Month

- "Mistakes are a fact of life. It is a response to the errors that count."
- "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." Dolly Parton
- "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life." Steve Jobs

# February Fun Facts and Trivia

#### Brynn Schmit and Skylar Christensen

- 1. What is the birth flower of February? Violet
- **2**. When is George Washington's birthday? February 22, 1732
- **3**. When did New York's Central Station open? February 1, 1913



4. What was Valentine's Day originally called?The Feast of Saint Valentine

**5. Who invented Valentine's Day?** The Ancient Romans

6. On average, how many roses are sent a year? Around 50 million

7. How many years has February been Black History Month?40 years

8. What are the odds of being born on February 29th? 1 in 1,461

Happy Valentine's Day!

# **MMS February Events**

#### MMS Boys Basketball End of January Recap

By Lincoln Schneiter, Brady Gogel, Aedan Althoff and Ryker Hein

January 25, 2022 8th grade wins at the buzzer! 7th rallies in the 2nd half, but it wasn't enough. 8th grade @ Cascade Monticello - Cascade 42 40 7th grade @ Cascade Monticello - Cascade 14 27

8th grade holds off Cascade's 4th quarter rally. With 10 seconds left Brady Gogel made a game- winning layup. 7th grade, after a mistake-filled first half, 7th rallies in the 2nd half, unfortunately it wasn't enough.

January 27, 2022

8th grade holds on against Maquoketa; 7th grade wins their first game of the season in an overtime thriller.

8th grade vs Maguoketa

7th grade @ Maquoketa

Monticello - Maquoketa 55 42 Monticello - Maquoketa 28 27

Monticello - North Cedar

Monticello - North Cedar

20

21

55

19

January 31, 2022 7th grade celebrates after their first win! 8th grade @ North Cedar Monticello

7th grade @ North Cedar

**February 1st**, 2022 8th grade @ Anamosa

7th grade vs Anamosa

31 21 Monticello - Anamosa 54 25 Monticello - Anamosa



After a 11-21 deficit with 2 minutes left, Monticello rallies causing a 8-0 run, with 3 seconds left Monticello misses the tying shot as time expired.

February 7th, 2022

8th grade vs Northeast

57 Ist Monticell

7th grade vs Northeast

Monticello - Northeast 57 26 Monticello - Northeast

February 11th, 2022	8	52
8th grade vs Camanche	Monticello - Co	amanche
-	48	23
7th Grade vs Camanche	Monticello - Co	amanche
February 15th, 2022	8	52
8th grade @ Bellevue		
_	Monticello - B	ellevue
	46	29
	Monticello - B	Bellevue
	2	36
Honon Chain		

### Honor Choir

The honor choir students did very well at their January 25th concert at Calamus Wheatland.

## <u>Jazz Band</u>

Jazz Band has an upcoming event on the 24th-25th. They will be gone for the first three hours of the school day and will be performing after all of their hard work at morning practices before school.

# <u>USA Volleyball</u>

USA volleyball had a tournament in Hiawatha. The 8th grade team did well and ended up in a 3rd place finish. The 7th grade team finished in 2nd place and earned some medals. It is nice to see their hard work pay off after practicing for many hours during the week.



# Student Creation

### By Marlee G, Destiny W, Anna G, and Emma P

In Mr. Norton's class, students are playing strategy games. Here are two groups playing different games which are Ticket to Ride and Catan. Everyone was having lots of fun!



In Mrs. Ahrendsen's class, they are doing presentations about black history month. Everyone was very focused and working hard.







Playing football and basketball in Mrs. McQuillen's class! One group was playing half court basketball and another group was playing half court football. Everyone was having lots of fun.



Paper weaving hearts with Mrs. Wallerich! Everyone was trying something new and creating some neat art!!



# **JOKES AND RIDDLES**

By Isaac Kray and Quinn Thomas

How do you stop an elephant from charging? You take away its Credit Card! What is a chiropractor's favorite style of music? *Hip-Pop!* When does a joke turn into a dad joke? When it becomes a-parent! What is the best food to have during the cold weather? A brrr-ito! I was wondering why the frisbee kept getting bigger and bigger ...then it hit me! Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because it was outstanding in his field! Why don't skeletons go trick-or-treating? Because they have no-body to go with! How did Darth Vader know what Luke got him for Christmas? He felt his presents! Can one bird make a pun? No, but toucan! What did the traffic light say to the car? Don't look, I'm changing. My son is a man trapped in a woman's body. He'll be born in February. What flower gives the most kisses on Valentine's day? TULIPS What did the sea monster eat for lunch? Fish and Ships! What is Forrest Gump's Email password? "1forest1" Why did the elephant fall out of the tree? Because it was dead. Why did the second elephant fall out of the tree? Because it was glued to the first. Why did the third elephant fall out of the tree? Cause he thought it was a game.

