

SCHOOL SPIRIT



Monticello Community School District

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

PH 319-465-3000

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WEB www.monticello.k12.ia.us

Hi everyone,

The planning meetings for our staff and the first days of school are in our rear-view mirror. It is time for everyone to get into a routine. For school, classroom routines help the students systematically move forward one step at a time as they roll into the lessons and learning activities. At home, a good morning routine, after school routine, and bedtime routine can really help children transition back into the school year. So take a little time to make a game plan and adjust accordingly when needed.

It is always so exciting when school starts up. I admit it, I am a first day of school NERD. There is a buzz of excitement and the thrill of new beginnings for our students on the first day of school. It is so exciting for our students to experience the first day of kindergarten, first day at the middle school, first day at high school, or the start of senior year. Those are great milestone moments for our students and families. Not to mention first day pictures, first day outfits, first day meeting new teachers, first day meeting new friends, and many first impressions! Each student only gets 13 first days of school! So I hope yours had a great one that they will remember!

In our classrooms our teachers are doing some amazing things as we start the year. It is fun to see students of all ages engaged in activities, working with other students, creating, problem solving, and connecting prior learning to new learning. We really do have some wonderful staff members who take pride in working with students every day. Both the teaching staff and the support staff do an incredible job with our students in the classroom, the halls, the playground, the cafeteria, and on the buses. GREAT PEOPLE MAKE GREAT SCHOOLS! That is the foundation of a successful year for every student.

So many exciting extracurricular activities are starting at the middle school and high school as we begin the school year. Drama, Speech, Marching Band, Volleyball, Football, Cross Country, Cheer, Student Council, NHS, and Interact Club are all just getting started for the year. Please encourage your child to get involved in something...there is so much research on students that participate in school activities in middle school and high school. Students that participate in extracurricular activities are more organized, get better grades, do better on standardized tests, have better attendance at school, and they establish stronger relationships with peers. I would highly encourage you to talk to your child about getting involved in something at school. In Monticello, we have had a tradition of a very high rate of participation in extracurricular activities. Let's continue that tradition as we start the 2023-2024 school year.



As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email or give me a call at any time. Thank you for your continued support of the Monticello Community School District.

Sincerely,

Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

September 2023

NEWS & NOTES

of the Monticello Community School District

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Homecoming Information on page 2!

*The **MISSION** of the Monticello Community Schools, a district striving for educational excellence, is to prepare students through challenging experiences, to be caring, productive, creative citizens, who will be life-long learners.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE BAND CAR WASH



The Monticello Bands will be hosting a Free Car Wash on September 16 at various locations around town. Bring your car and let our band members wash your car between 9:00-2:00! Donations accepted. If you are a business interested in sponsoring the band program, please contact Ellen Ellis or Alec Garringer at their school emails. They will receive recognition in each concert program.



Elementary School Pictures are October 6! Picture retake day is November 10!

The High School Drama department is accepting clothing and paint donations for our plays. You may email Kelli Osterkamp at kelli.osterkamp@monticello.k12.ia.us to arrange a drop-off at the High School to see if we can use your donations. Thank you!

2023 Seniors: If you ordered a yearbook last year, they are in the HS office. You can come pick it up Monday-Friday after 3:15pm. Thank you!



Meet our School Based Therapists— Monticello Community School District has been fortunate enough to receive two school based therapists for the 2023-2024 school year! Returning is Amanda Kelchen and joining us for her very first Monticello Community School District school year is Tera Martin. Tera has been in the mental health field for 11 years and has a passion for assisting children and families with their mental health needs and developing relationships with children and their families. Amanda and Tera's goal for this school year is to continue to create a more positive environment for students and staff while providing individual and group services to students and staff in need. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Amanda or Tera via email or phone. Thank you!

Amanda Kelchen—Email: amanda.kelchen@monticello.k12.ia.us—319-465-3000 x1559 or 319-251-3488

Tera Martin—tera.martin@monticello.k12.ia.us- Phone: 319-465-3000 x1558



Homecoming 2023 Lineup of Events!



September 18–23, 2023

Monday, 9/18 - Homecoming Parade at 6pm, followed by the Coronation at 6:45pm (*if weather doesn't permit a parade, the coronation will be in the HS Gym at 6:30pm*). The Powder Puff game will be at 7:00pm. These events will be at Dean Nelson Field. The Ironman Volleyball game will be at 8:15pm in the HS Gym.

Tuesday, 9/19 — Volleyball at home vs Beckman.

Thursday, 9/21—Volleyball at Camanche.

Friday, 9/22— Pep Rally for MS & HS in the HS Gym, time TBA. XC team running of the football from Northeast to Monticello with presentation of game ball to officials at mid-field. Football Game vs Northeast, JV at 5:30, Varsity at 7:00pm.

Saturday, 9/23 — Varsity volleyball tournament at home, XC meet at Anamosa, Homecoming Dance from 8-11pm in the HS Commons.

More info to come soon! Please contact Nick Schauf at nick.schauf@monticello.k12.ia.us with any questions.

GO PANTHERS!!!

PTO NEWS...The PTO is excited to get another year started. Elementary parents be on the lookout for a form coming home in your child's folder after Labor Day. This form will contain information for our first meeting and a portion you can return to the school so you can be kept up to date on meeting minutes and possible ways to get involved!



Tailgate!!

Who: All High School Students
When: September 8 at 6:00pm before the football game
Where: Pavilion behind the Austin Strong Park (by the pool)

Come play games, eat food, get in FREE to the game, and win some awesome door prizes!

Sponsored by the High School PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) Team

IMPORTANT INFO

Parents of Seniors!



Senior and baby pictures for the yearbook are due **before winter break of senior year**. Submit your Senior's photo and have one thing crossed off the senior to-do list! A free option is available for a yearbook photo on Halverson's school picture day in the fall also. Guidelines are listed below.

GUIDELINES FOR SENIOR PHOTOS FOR YEARBOOK

- vertical format
- clothing should conform to school dress code
- no inappropriate poses
- no other people, animals, objects/props in photograph
- no sunglasses
- color or B/W are acceptable
- submit digitally (preferred) or write name on back if submitting a hard copy.
- must be received by deadline (before winter break of senior year)

Photos can be emailed to emily.marjoua@monticello.k12.ia.us or can be turned in at the office drive up window. Baby photos are optional but must also be submitted by deadline if you wish one. Copies and digital submissions are preferred to original heirloom photos. Baby pictures not submitted digitally should be labeled on the back with first and last names. For senior pictures, of course, you are free to have any senior photo poses you and your photographer wish for your own use. However, the senior portrait selected and submitted for use in the school yearbook must meet the above guidelines. Thanks!

Activities Calendar

Get all your activities schedules at: www.rivervalleyconference.org. You can follow this link and click on 'Monticello' to get to our activities calendar. This will show all of our activities for the year. You can view schedules for a particular sport/activity or multiple sports or activities. You can also click on "Notify Me!" in the right hand section of the website and are able to set up an account to receive reminders before each activity or notifications of schedule changes or cancellations via text or email. Great tool! Please check back often for updates or sign up to receive the notifications!

The activities calendar is also available on our website under "calendars" at the top of the page.



Get the free App:



FRIDAY FOLDERS

Friday Folders is on our website and is a great place to check for upcoming events (*for all grade levels*) and activities or items that used to be sent home in your child's folder. Please contact Judy Hayen to post items in our Friday Folder at judy.hayen@monticello.k12.ia.us. Check it out!

Important!!!

The District's phone # is 319-465-3000. This will get you to a menu with the following options:

- District Office—press 1
- High School—press 2
- Middle School—press 3
- Carpenter—press 4
- Shannon—press 5
- Athletic Director—press 6
- Bus Barn—press 7
- Food Service Director—press 8
- Curriculum Director—press 9

You can no longer reach someone with their extension #. Thanks!



GET ON BOARD

2023 School Board Election

The 2023 School Board Election is set for **Tuesday, November 7, 2023**. Two seats are up on the Monticello Board of Education. Members are elected to serve four-year terms. The first date to file nomination papers with the Board Secretary is **August 28**. The candidate filing deadline is **5:00 pm Thursday, September 21, 2023**. All nomination materials and info are available online on the Iowa Association of School Boards website, the Iowa Secretary of State website, or at the District Office. School board candidates must obtain 46 signatures to file nomination papers and must live in the boundaries of the Monticello Community School District.

PARENTS! PARENTS! PARENTS!

It is vital that the school district has current and updated information on students. Please remember to log into your Infinite Campus 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 319-320-1132.

Good luck to all the Fall athletes and coaches!

GO PANTHERS!



IMPORTANT INFO

COMMUNITY



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance. Did you know:

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (18 days a school year) makes it harder for young students to learn to read and drastically affects older students' academic success.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is a key predictor that a student may drop out of high school.

CONNECTION

• By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.

- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from high school and achieve success in whatever postsecondary option they choose.

What can families do to support student attendance?

- Make school attendance a priority. Establish the expectation that your child attends school every day.
- Help your student with regular daily routines. For younger students, this could include things like laying out clothes the night before and putting the backpack in the same place so it's easy to find in the morning.
- Keep open lines of communication with your child's teachers. Use Infinite Campus notifications to help monitor attendance with older students.
- Seek help from your child's school counselor, other parents, or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your student to school. *Source: attendanceworks.org*

GWAEA Hearing Screenings Update

We had an adjustment in our hearing screening services for the upcoming academic year due to an unforeseen staff shortage. Previously, our team provided comprehensive hearing screenings for preschool learners with IEPs, learners in K-2nd grade, 5th grade, and any learners with a known hearing loss in all other grades. This year, we will conduct hearing screenings for 3-year preschool learners with IEPs, 4-year-old preschool, AK/Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 5th grade learners.

As always, students outside the specified grade levels who require hearing assessments should schedule an appointment at our Cedar Rapids or Coralville office locations. We will continue to allocate our resources to prioritize the critical early and transitional years of education where hearing health plays a significant role in academic development.

We appreciate your continued partnership in ensuring the health and educational success of all students in your district. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

-Melissa Grennan, mgrennan@gwaea.org, 319-399-6742

Thank You

- Thank you to **Connie Randolph** and **Chanda Gassman & family** for the donation of toys to the elementary music classroom prize box.
- Thank you to **Jackie Mayo & family**, **Bob & Judy Roussell**, **Jeff Pettiecord**, **Diane Cali**, and **Dubuque Tri-State Surgery** for donating items to the elementary classrooms.
- Thank you to **Advancement Services**, **Cornerstone Building Brands**, and **Orbis** for donating school supplies to Shannon & Carpenter.
- Thank you to **Carrie Cleeton** for donating books to Ms. Janssen's classroom.
- Thank you to **Ron & Lori Welter** for the donation of snack bags to Mrs. Isaac's classroom.
- Thank you to **Energy Manufacturing** for donating a refrigerator & dryer to our High School Family Consumer Science Room.



Energy's General Manager Joe Zakrzewski, Nancy Toenjes, and Carey Hosch, Energy's

FOOD SERVICE NEWS

BREAKFAST MENU

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Cereal Pop tart Fresh fruit Assorted fruit juice
4 NO SCHOOL —Labor Day	5 Powdered sugar donuts or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	6 Mini waffles or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	7 Blueberry muffin or cereal String cheese Fruit Assorted fruit juice	8 Cereal Pop tart Fresh fruit Assorted fruit juice
11 Cheesy omelet slider or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	12 Yogurt parfait or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	13 Cheesy breakfast bagel or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	14 Chocolate chip cereal bar or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	15 Cereal Pop tart Fresh fruit Assorted fruit juice
18 Egg & cheese breakfast burrito or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	19 Chocolate muffin or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	20 Breakfast pizza or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	21 Frosted cinnamon roll or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	22 Cereal Pop tart Fresh fruit Assorted fruit juice
25 Breakfast loaded HB or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	26 Frosted log john or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	27 Panther sandwich or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	28 Cinnamon breakfast cookie or cereal Fruit Assorted fruit juice	29 Cereal Pop tart Fresh fruit Assorted fruit juice

MILK served with all meals.

LUNCH MENU










USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Menus are subject to change.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 French toast sticks HB patty Sausage patties Strawberries & bananas
4 NO SCHOOL —Labor Day	5 Cheese pizza Broccoli salad Green beans tropical fruit	6 Walking taco w/ the fixings Tater tots Diced peaches Cinnamon Churro	7 BBQ rib sandwich Baked beans Curly fries Applesauce	8 Garlic cheese bread Garden salad Cucumbers & tomatoes Watermelon
11 Chicken nuggets Garlic mashed potatoes Steamed carrots Grapes & kiwi Dinner roll & butter (6-12)	12 BBQ pork/bun Cheesy green beans Fresh baby carrots Mixed fruit	13 Breaded chicken wrap Seasoned potatoes Apple wedges Chocolate brownie	14 Deli/hoagie bun Sun chips Fresh veggies w / creamy dip Orange slices	15 Chicken linguine Tossed salad w/ dressings Corn Watermelon Garlic bread stick
18 Cheeseburger/bun Criss-cut seasoned fries Peaches Chocolate chip cookie	19 Teriyaki chicken Seasoned rice Mixed vegetables Grapes Dinner roll & butter	20 Deli sandwich on a croissant Baked chips Fresh veggies w/ dip Apple slices	21 Meatball sub Steak fries Three bean salad Pears	22 Pizza crunchers Lettuce salad w/ dressing Peas & carrots Banana
25 Breaded chicken/bun Sweet potato fries Broccoli w/ cheese sauce Mixed fruit	26 Pretzel dog Green beans Mandarin oranges Frosted cake	27 Salisbury steak Baked potato w/sour cream Marinated vegetables Peaches	28 Loaded beef nachos Seasoned rice Refried beans Tropical fruit	29 Cheese quesadilla Tossed salad w/ dressing Veggie pasta salad Fruit kabob

Choose a salad as an alternate lunch daily (HS & MS only)

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SEPTEMBER 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 FFA NE District Soils Judging Dairy Cattle & Milk Quality & Products CDE JV/V FB vs Beckman—5:30 & 7:00	2 V VB Tournament @ Midland—8:30am 
4 No School—Labor Day	5 7/8 VB vs Regina-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB vs Regina-6:00 & 7:15	6	7 7/8 VB @ Anamosa-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB @ Anamosa-6:00 & 7:15	8 V FB vs Cascade-7:00 	9 7/8 XC—Home-8am V XC—Home-9am 9th VB Tournament @ Cascade-9am JV VB Tournament – Home—9am
11	12 7/8 FB @ West Branch—4:00	13 1:00 Early Dismissal– Prof. Development Board Work Session—6pm	14 7/8 XC vs Cascade @ Fillmore Fairways-4:00 V XC vs Cascade @ Fillmore Fairways-5:00 7/8 VB vs Cascade-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB vs Cascade-6:00 & 7:15	15 JV/V FB @ Anamosa—5:00 & 7:30	16 V VB Tournament @ Springville—8:00 Band Car Wash – 8am-4pm 
18  Homecoming Parade-6:00 Coronation-6:45, Powder Puff-7:00 @ Football Field Ironman Volleyball-8:15 @ HS	19  7/8 XC @ Center Point-Urbana-4:15 7/8 FB vs Maquoketa-4:00 7/8 VB vs Beckman-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB vs Beckman-6:00 & 7:15	20  1:00 Early Dismissal– Prof. Development	21  7/8 VB @ Camanche-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB @ Camanche-6:00 & 7:15	22  JV/V FB vs Northeast-5:30 & 7:00	23  Homecoming Dance – 8-11pm in HS Commons 7/8 XC @ Anamosa-8:30am V XC @ Anamosa-9:00am V VB Tournament-Home-8:30am 9/10 VB Tournament @ Cascade—9:00am
← Homecoming Week →					
25 JV FB vs Northeast-5:00 9 VB @ Maquoketa-5:00 Board Meeting—6:00	26 7/8 FB @ Camanche-4:00 7/8 VB vs Northeast-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB vs Northeast-6:00 & 7:15	27 MS Shadow a Student Day! 1:00 Early Dismissal– Prof. Development	28 V XC @ Western Dbq. Epworth-4:15 7/8 VB @ Maquoketa-4:00 9/10/JV/V VB @ Maquoketa-6:00 & 7:15	29 V FB @ Camanche-7:00	30 Dance Challenge @ Marion

Monticello Community School District
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Monticello, Iowa 52310

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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Board of Education

Craig Stadtmueller

Mandy Norton

John Schlarmann

Amanda Brennehan

Mark Rieken

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION-Students, parents, employees, and others doing business with or performing services for the Monticello Community School District are hereby notified that the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information (for employment) in any of its education programs, activities, or employment opportunities, pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable state and federal laws. This prohibition on discrimination applies to admission and employment. The District has adopted grievance procedures for processing and resolving formal and informal Title IX sex discrimination and sexual harassment complaints and other discrimination complaints. Inquiries regarding sex discrimination pursuant to Title IX of the District's nondiscrimination policy may be directed to the District's Title IX Coordinator, Todd Werner, 860 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa 52310, 319-465-3000 ext.2101, todd.werner@monticello.k12.ia.us; other grievances or complaints related to the District's nondiscrimination policy may be directed to the District's Equity Coordinator, Todd Werner, at 860 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa, 319-465-3000 ext. 2101, todd.werner@monticello.k12.ia.us. Inquiries related to sex discrimination pursuant to Title IX may also be referred to U.S. Department of Education (attn. Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights; 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest, Washington, DC 20202; 800-421-3481; OCR@ed.gov). Inquires related to other grievances or complaints may be directed to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-7204, Telephone: (312) 730-1560 Facsimile: (312) 730-1576, Email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov