# SCHOOL School District Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent PH 319-465-3000 FAX 319-465-6050 WEB www.monticello.k12.ia.us

Hello everyone,

Well we are in the thick of it! School is going full speed ahead and we are trying to dodge the bad weather the next month will bring. Activities are in full force...sports, music, speech, drama, clubs, etc., and our kids, especially the older ones, are very busy with all of it. In addition, I am going to give out a gold star to our parents that attend their kids' activities on weeknights or weekends. If it is on the schedule, they go. Parents, many kids would never admit this, but your support is really appreciated by your kids. I have been an educator for 32 years and have faced all sorts of challenges, but the toughest and most rewarding thing I have ever done is to be a parent. So a special THANK YOU to all of our parents out there! Thanks for raising wonderful kids and trusting us with their education each day.

The second thing on my list this week is the evolution of Virtual Learning in our school district. We are in the middle of the first virtual learning window which will end February 12. The completion of the first virtual learning activities will allow us to waive one of the snow make-up days at the end of the year. We are exploring options for another 1 or 2 virtual learning windows because of the 5 snow days we have already accumulated this school year. Our goal is to do these right and make the content valuable and relevant. As a result, if we can still end the school year close to the scheduled May 22 date, virtual learning will be a success.

February will be an important month to get community feedback on an elementary school bond issue. We will be taking this discussion to a group of community members to discuss the option of having a bond election in November of 2024. If we can keep the cost/taxes down, and the community can get behind the plan, this may become a reality sooner than later. We are getting closer and closer to a solution that our community will be proud of. More information will be coming out over the next few months on this so stay tuned.

That is it for this month. Thank you all for your continued support of the



Monticello Community School District. As always, if you have questions please feel free to give me an email or call at any time. I hope you all have a great February!

Sincerely,

BM

Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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.

# February 2024



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# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Foundation
Tailgate Party &
Alumni Reunion
info on
page 6!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

# A Night of Jazz—February 22

The Monticello Bands would like to invite you to a night of jazz! Come and hear the music of Mercer Ellington, Miles Davis, and other great bigband composers. The middle and high school jazz bands will have their night of swing music on Thursday, February 22 at 7 pm in the high school auditorium.

#### Looking ahead...

- ⇒ Spring Break is March 11-15
- ⇒ Parent/Teacher Conferences are March 26 & 28
- ⇒ Prom is April 20
- ⇒ Graduation is May 19

PTO NEWS...The PTO is super excited to start planning some of our Spring events! Spring pictures are Friday, April 5. We have also set the date for our yearly walk-a-thon for Friday, May 3 (rain date: Tuesday, May 7). This is a fun activity that involves the students and staff at Shannon and Carpenter. Be on the lookout for more information on how you can be a part of this event along with many upcoming activities. If you are interested in being part of the PTO, our next meeting is Tuesday, February 13, at 7pm in the Shannon Library. Everyone is invited to attend our meetings.

#### Band Concert—February 26

Come out to support your high school band in their "Spring Concert" in the High School Auditorium at 7 pm. There will be small ensembles, movie music, and the WORLD PREMIER of a brand new concert band piece. We hope to see you there!

#### **Summer Driver's Education**

Monticello High School will offer one session of summer driver's education. An informational letter and registration form will be available in the middle school and high school offices on Monday, February 12, 2024. Space may be limited. Applications will be considered on a first come first served basis. Return the registration form to the High School Office by Friday, March 1, 2024. The cost is \$320.

The summer session is scheduled to start approximately Tuesday, May 28, 2024 and will conclude approximately Friday, June 28, 2024. Both the start and end dates may be adjusted if there is a change to the school calendar due to adverse winter weather. The class will be done online. There will be a student/parent meeting in May to sign up for the online class and schedule driving times. Students must have a permit to be enrolled in the class.



#### **1ST SEMESTER REPORT CARDS**

1st semester report cards are now available electronically within Infinite Campus. Report cards will not be

printed and mailed out this year. The links below are short videos on how to access them.

<u>Desktop Tutorial Link</u> (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWwi0VQQZws)

Phone App Tutorial Link (https://
www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QVAanYVpGE)

If you have questions about logging into Infinite Campus, please contact Morgan Murray Zimmerman at 319-320-1132. Thank you!



## **HS Counseling Office News**

### **Should Everyone Go to College?**

As with most things in life, there is more than one path to success. College is not for everyone; however, everyone should consider it as one of their many options. Here are post-secondary options that are presented to high school students:

- <u>College</u>- a broad term for education after high school (CDL, diploma, certificate, Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, and other professional degrees)
- Apprenticeship- paid to work with benefits while learning job skills
- Job Corps- learn job skills and live for free at two locations in Iowa
- <u>AmeriCorps</u>- national service organization with education stipend for college
- <u>Teach for America</u>- full-time, salaried position with benefits for two years
- Work- enter the workforce after graduation. Some students choose a gap year to save money for college and then attend.
- <u>Military</u>- service can be active duty or reserves; career-long or one or more enlistments

There are benefits to earning a degree after high school. A study by Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce found that Americans with an Associate's (2 year) degree or higher were much less likely to be unemployed. Earning potential tends to be greater with a post-secondary degree. Wonder what is best for your child or how to support them? Talk to their school counselor!

# Mobile Crisis Outreach It's been a tough year for students in many ways, and it is more important than ever to focus on mental health. Know a youth in crisis? Our Mobile Crisis Counselors are available to provide immediate support on site, over the phone or via telehealth. All at no cost to you. Student crisis mental health and substance use response Transition services after mental health placement IEP, 504 and other educational plan support for youth and family

Extended student case management to

encourage stability

Call us at 319-247-0030 or visit foundation2.org to learn more.

## Free College Planning

Planning for a career and college, applying for financial aid and mastering your financial situation can be confusing and intimidating. Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) works with Iowa students and families to make the transition after high school as smooth as possible.

You will find valuable information under the "Financial Assistance" section. There is notation about scholarships and grants that outlines different opportunities for scholarships. Also in this section are some helpful hints on filling out application materials for financial assistance. Also look for the listing of national databases where students can search for any type of scholarship imaginable. As students are going through the process of seeking financial assistance, encourage them to keep track of where they are applying and the requirements for each of the scholarships they receive. To access the ICAN website, go to icansucceed.org.

#### **SENIORS**

<u>Scholarships</u> are beginning to be posted. They will be posted alphabetically by name of scholarship as we post them. When active, the scholarship name will be turned green.

Go to the school's website

at <a href="https://www.monticello.k12.ia.us">www.monticello.k12.ia.us</a> and go to the High School page. Click on the Counseling tab, then click on Scholarships on the right. Scroll to the bottom of the page to navigate the local, regional, and national scholarship tabs.

## National School Counseling Week is February 5-9, 2024

Thank you to Kathy Larson, Michael Mott, Kristen Bogacz, and Sarah Melsha for all you do! We appreciate you now more than ever!

SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS—National Honor Society applications will be available in the office starting February 19. Any sophomore or junior with at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA and 40 hours of community service is welcome to apply. Applications are due in the office by March 8 at 3:15 pm, with no exceptions.

## PRESCHOOL INFORMATION



#### 2024-2025 Little Panthers Preschool



If you are interested in registering our 4-year old for the Little Panthers Preschool for the 2024-2025 school year, please do so in one of the following ways:

#### 1. Download and print the forms.

Forms will be located on our website: https://www.monticello.k12.ia.us/. Go to Schools, click on Shannon Elementary, click on Downloads, and then download Little Panthers Preschool Application. Mail the completed application & questionnaire to Shannon Elementary, 321 W South St. Monticello, IA 52310

# 2. Complete the application & questionnaire electronically by clicking on the Little Panthers Preschool Application Link.

The link is located on our website: https://www.monticello.k12.ia.us/. Go to Schools, click on Shannon Elementary, click on Downloads, and then click on Little Panthers Preschool Application Link.

# 3. The application & questionnaire can be picked up at Shannon or mailed to you by calling Shannon Elementary Office at 319-465-3000, press 5 and then 2.

Applications will be available on January 3 and are due January 31. 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 Friday with no preschool on Wednesdays for students of all needs. Our program offers:

- A certified teacher & paraprofessional
- · Learning centers
- Thematic instruction
- · Breakfast, lunch, milk, and snack
- · Large & small group instruction
- · Developmentally appropriate schedule and activities
- Social Skills curriculum

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration is open for students entering Kindergarten in the Fall of 2024. Parents are asked to use the electronic registration form to create their student in Infinite Campus: https://monticelloia.infinitecampus.org/campus/OLRLogin/monticello?configGroupID=4. Students must turn 5 years of age on or before September 15, 2024 to attend Kindergarten. Contact Morgan Murray-Zimmerman at morgan.murray@monticello.k12.ia.us with any questions regarding your Parent Infinite Campus account.

Completed immunizations, physical, and a dental exam are required by law for all students entering Kindergarten. Some of the series of vaccines take six (6) months to complete. Start now to make sure all needed immunizations are completed before your child starts school in the Fall 2024!

There are some forms that you will need to download, fill out, and turn into Shannon Elementary by the time your child starts school. Forms include: IDPH Dental Screen, IDPH Vision Screen, Iowan Migrant Parents Form (*everyone must fill out*), Home Language Survey, and a physical form with LEAD screening date. These forms are located in the Downloads folder on the school website under Shannon Elementary.

You may drop them off at Shannon Elementary, email them to sandy.hinrichs@monticello.k12.ia.us (in the subject give the full name of your child), or mail them to: Shannon Elementary School, 321 W South St., Monticello, IA 52310. Thank you!

# Thank You

- Thank you to **Judy Huntsberger** for the donation of water bottles to the 4th grade class.
- Thank you to **Kromminga Motors** for their donation to the hot lunch program.
- Thank you to **J&P Cycles** for their donation of supplies to the District.
- Thank you to **Sherry White** for the donation of water bottles and snack cereal to the 4th grade class.
- Thank you to **St. John's Lutheran Church Fall Festival Account** for their donation the health fund.





Have you been thinking about buying a Yearbook? The price increases soon, so get yours today!

## **EMPLOYMENT**



## **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

#### Teen/Tween Use of Social Media

Recent news reports indicate that lawmakers in some states are trying to limit social media use for youth under the age of 16. New York state limits social media use in that state, referring to it as a "public health hazard". The House has been trying to pass a bill in Florida that prohibits anyone under the age 16 to use most social media platforms, even with parent permission. The news report referenced a study by the Surgeon General that reports up to 95% of youth ages 13-17 report using some type of social media platform and more than one third of these youth say they use media "almost constantly".

A recent publication by the Mayo Clinic cautions that social media doesn't affect all teens the same way and it can be linked with healthy and unhealthy effects on mental health. Sometimes, social media platforms help teens:

- · Express themselves
- Connect with other teens locally and across long distances
- Learn how other teens cope with challenging life situations
- · View or take part in moderated chat forums that encourage talking openly about topics such as mental health
- Ask for help or seek care for symptoms of mental health conditions

Social media use may have negative effects on some teens. It might:

- · Distract from homework, exercise and family activities
- Disrupt sleep
- · Lead to information that is biased or not correct
- Become a means to spread rumors or share too much personal information
- Lead some teens to form views about other people's lives or bodies that aren't realistic
- Expose some teens to online predators
- Expose some teens to cyberbullying

Take steps to help your teens use social media responsibly:

- · Set rules and limits as needed
- · Manage any challenging behaviors
- · Turn on privacy settings
- · Monitor your teen's accounts
- · Have regular talks with your teen about social media
- Be a role model for your teen
- Explain what's not OK
- · Encourage face-to-face contact with friends



<sup>\*\*</sup> Referenced an article in Healthy Lifestyle by Mayo Clinic Staff.

## MCSD FOUNDATION

## Foundation Annual Tailgate Party & Alumni Reunion - March 23, 2024

Get your tickets today! Tickets are available from any Foundation Board Member or at any Monticello School Office.



Dan Goodyear

Phil Hanna Dave Kehoe

Kris Riley

Audrey Savage

Terry Smothers

Julie Welter

Carrie Yates Ex-Officio

Brian Jaeger

Brian Gogel

Robyn Ponder



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2) Search on PayPal to give @MonticelloSchoolFoun

MONTICELLO SCHOOL FOUNDATION 18TH ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY & **ALUMNI REUNION MARCH 23, 2024** 

"Get Your Foot in the Door 2024"

> STARTING AT 5:30 MONTICELLO BERNDES CENTER

The Monticello School Foundation is excited for our annual Tailgate Party & Alumni Reunion. Our theme this year is "Get your Foot in the Door 2024." The event is 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!

A monetary donation or an item for the silent or live auction is instrumental in raising additional funds to purchase computers to support the 1:1 initiative and enrich our K-6 English Language Arts curriculum and music department. Your donation will facilitate students' virtual travel to places around the world while still in their classrooms! Your donation, no matter how large or small, makes an incredible difference in the Monticello educational environment. Please show your support for the kids and teachers by donating and attending. It's a way to help the school and a great way to promote your business.

Come enjoy a relaxing evening in your red and black and help us raise funds for the future of Monticello Community Schools. There will be plenty of opportunities to help support Monticello schools. There is a silent and live auction and we are continuing the popular Panther's Wish List put together by the teaching staff of items they would like to use in their classrooms but is not in the school's budget to purchase.

Thank you, in advance, for your generous donation, but equally important, thank you for your endless support of the Monticello Community School District, the Monticello School Foundation and all the teachers and students. Your daily contributions to our community do not go unnoticed.

Tickets for the evening can be purchased individually for \$30 or a table of 8 can be purchased for \$240. Every \$500 donation will receive up to 8 tickets and every \$1000 donation will receive up to 16 tickets. Individuals and/or businesses can be a sponsor for the event as well. Every sponsor will be recognized during the evening. Sustaining sponsorships are \$100, Foundation sponsorships are \$250, Major sponsorships are \$500 and Visionary Sponsorships are \$1000.

So gather your friends, dust off your Panther gear and make plans to join us March 23. Thanks again for your support!

- Monticello School Foundation Board

Please contact any board member, or the Superintendent's Office 319-465-3000, option 1

I would like to donate an auction item.  Date it may be picked up	Name
☐ I would like to be a sponsor — ☐ Sustaining (\$100) ☐ Foundation (\$250) ☐ Major (\$500, includes up to 8 tickets)	Address
Visionary (\$1000, includes up to 16 tickets)  Other I would like to come and enjoy the evening. number of tickets @ \$30  Current teachers & staff can enjoy the evening for \$15 number of tickets @ \$15 You may also donate on PayPal.	The Monticello School District Foundation is a 501(c)3. EIN #42-1313635
<ol> <li>https://paypal.me/MonticelloSchoolFoun?country.x=US&amp;locale.x=</li> </ol>	en_US

# FOOD SERVICE NEWS

# BREAKFAST MENU &

















MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
	Valentine's Day		1 Frosted long John Fruit Fruit juice	2 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice	
5 Breakfast pizza Fruit Fruit juice	6 Yogurt w/ granola Fruit Fruit juice	7 Cinnamon roll Fruit Fruit juice	8 Biscuit & gravy Fruit Fruit juice	9 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice	
12 Chocolate muffin Fruit Fruit juice	13 Pancake/sausage bites Fruit Fruit juice	14 Long John Fruit Fruit juice	15 Waffles Sausage link Fruit Fruit juice	16 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice	
19 Breakfast sandwich Fruit Fruit juice	20 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	21 Cheese omelet Tater tots Fruit Fruit juice	22 Mini donuts Fruit Fruit juice	23 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice	
26 Pancakes w/ syrup Ham patty Fruit Fruit juice	27 Blueberry muffin String cheese Fruit Fruit juice	28 Yogurt w/ granola Fruit Fruit juice	29 Breakfast bagel Fruit Fruit juice	MILK served with all meals.	



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Menus are subject to change

			Menus are subject to change		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Valentine's Day	Choose a salad as an alternate lunch daily (HS & MS only)		1 Bacon cheeseburger French fries Steamed broccoli w/ cheese Orange wedges	2 Breaded cheese sticks Tossed salad w/ dressing Buttered corn Green Grapes	L.
5 Mini corn dogs Baked beans Blushing pears Cookie	6 Country fried steak Mashed potatoes & gravy Peaches Bread & butter	7 Chicken nuggets French fries Vegetable medley Mixed fruit Baked dinner roll (6- 12)	8 Meatball sub Sweet potato fries Green beans Pineapple	9 Pepperoni pizza Leafy green salad Fresh veggies Strawberries & grapes	
12 Lasagna Broccoli Normandy Mandarin oranges Garlic bread twist	13 Breaded chicken wrap Onion rings Fresh baby carrots Apple wedges	14 Cheese pizza Buttered corn Diced peaches Frosted brownie	15 BBQ pork sandwich Potato smiles Green beans Applesauce	16 Garlic cheese bread Tossed salad w/ dressing Mixed vegetables Watermelon Cookie	
19 Pepperoni pasta Lettuce salad w/ greens Tropical fruit Garlic bread twist	20 Mandarin oranges Seasoned rice Vegetable medley Pineapple Fortune cookie	21 Cheese dog/bun Veggie pasta Baby carrots Applesauce	22 Beef taco Fiesta beans Corn Diced peaches	23 Fish sticks Cheesy hash browns Green beans Orange wedges Roll & butter (6-12)	
26 Deli sandwich Baked chips Fresh veggies w/ dip Banana	27 Breaded chicken club/ bun Steak fries Steamed broccoli Mixed fruit	28 Breaded pork/bun French fries Cheesy cauliflower Pineapple/mandarin oranges	29 Chili w/ crackers String cheese Applesauce Frosted cinnamon roll	MILK served with all meals.	

# FEBRUARY 2024

MONDAY	THECDAY	WEDNECDAY	THIDODAY	EDIDAY	CATLIDDAY
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Girls State Wrestling 7/8 BBB @ Camanche MS-4:00 G/B Bowling @ Maquoketa/Timber Lanes—4:00	2 Girls State Wrestling V GBB vs Northeast – 6:30 JV/V BBB vs Northeast– 4:30 & 7:30	3 State Large Group Speech @ TBA V GBB vs Bellevue– & 2:00 JV/V BBB vs North- east– 12:45 & 3:30
G/B Bowling @ Camanche/ Imperial Lanes—4:00 7 BBB vs Northeast —4:00 8 BBB @ Northeast MS-4:00	6 G/B Bowling @ Western Dbq- Farley—4:00 V GBB @ Ca- manche—6:00 JV/V BBB @ Ca- manche—4:45 & 7:30  National Scho	7 1:00pm Early Dismissal- Prof. Development	8 HS Band Solo & Ensemble Night—HS Auditorium—3:15- 7:30pm 7 BBB vs Maquoketa- 4:00 8 BBB @ Maquoketa MS—4:00 V GBB @ North- east—6:00 JV/V BBB @ North- east—4:45 & 7:30	9 G/B Bowling Tournament vs Durant @ Rose Bowl- 2:00	Wrestling Districts—10:00 @ TBA
12 G Bowing State Qualifier—10:00 @ TBA 7 BBB @ Maquo- keta MS-4:00 8 BBB vs Maquo- keta-4:00 7/8 G Wr @ Maquo- keta-4:00	B Bowing State Qualifier—10:00 @ TBA  PTO Meeting— Shannon Library- 7pm	Boys State Wrestling  1:00pm Early Dismissal- Prof. Development  Board Work Session 6:00pm	15 Boys State Wrestling Tallcorn Jazz Festival @ UNI 7/8 BBB @ Bellevue-4:00	16 Boys State Wrestling 7 BBB@ Anamosa MS-4:00 8 BBB vs Ana- mosa-4:00	17 Boys State Wrestling All State Speech @ Ames
19 BPA Spring Leader- ship Conference Conference Individual Speech Contest @ Anamosa-4:30	20 BPA Spring Leader- ship Conference G/B State Bowling- 9:00 @ Cadillac Lanes Nation	1:00pm Early Dismissal-Prof. Development	22 7/8 BBB @ Cascade-4:00 MS/HS Jazz Con- cert—HS Auditorium -7:00pm	23 Coe College Jazz Band Summit	24 Individual District Speech Iowa FFA Award Application Judging- Ankeny
26 8 BBB @ Beckman- 4:00 7 BBB vs Beckman- 4:00 HS Spring Band Con- cert-7:00pm –HS Aud. Board Meeting—6:00	7-12 Choir Concert- 7:00pm – HS Gym	1:00pm Early Dismissal-Prof. Development	29		

Monticello Community School District 850 East Oak Street Monticello, Iowa 52310

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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WEB www.monticello.k12.ia.us

#### **Board of Education**

Craig Stadtmueller Mandy Norton John Schlarmann Mark Rieken Tony Amsler 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 LX 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, lowa 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, lowa, 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)