

SCHOOL SPIRIT



Monticello Community School District

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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Hello everyone,

I am not sure why but the older I get the faster March, April, and May seem to go every year. We have just completed Parent/Teacher Conferences at each school, Spring Break is in the rearview mirror, we have been reviewing our survey results from students, staff, and parents, we are preparing for the upcoming ISASP testing in April, and we have been working with OPN Architects to plan the new elementary school building.

When is the last day of school this year? The school calendar we use with the state is based on the hours that students attend school. They are required to attend for 1,080 hours during the school year. Each year we build some extra hours into the school calendar so we can navigate some late starts and early dismissals for various weather-related reasons. We have had 4 snow days and 4 two hour delays this school year. The schools have done 12 hours of virtual learning which can wipe out two of the make-up days. In addition, we have some banked hours we did not use this winter and the school board could decide to use some of those hours to forgive the additional snow days. So it is entirely possible that we could still end on May 28th as scheduled. We will know the answer after the board meeting on April 28th and I will communicate that out as quickly as possible when we know the actual end date.

What are these "Tax Cards" we are receiving in the mail? These cards are tax information from the school, the county, and the city. The school tax rate is an estimate as the state has not settled on the money they will give the schools as of the date I am writing this. When we can plug in the state funding to our financial planning for the 2025-2026 school year the tax rate will go down.

Why is the ISASP important? For those of you that grew up in Iowa you may remember taking the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) or the ITED (Iowa Test of Educational Development) test in the spring every year. These used to be the Gold Standard of tests and they were used in Iowa and many other states across the country. Students are now required to take the ISASP (Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress) each spring and each year it has become harder and harder to motivate kids to TRY THEIR BEST on these tests. These tests are a reflection of our students and our school district and we use the data to guide us on curriculum decisions, instructional strategies, and how we teach each student. So I am asking for your help to stress the importance of TRYING THEIR BEST on each of these tests with your child. If we are required to do these, I would like real results that we can use to make our school district the best that it can be.

Where are we at with our Elementary School Bond project? We have been working very hard with OPN Architects to design a really great school. It is time in the process to collect some costing data from the professionals who do this to see if we are on budget with the size and scope of the project. From our planning process it looks like we are on target but many of the materials that are used in an Elementary School building are going to be affected by escalating tariffs, especially with Canada, where contractors often get wood and metal products. Stay tuned and I will keep you in the loop as the results from the professional costing estimators come back in a few weeks.



That is it for this month. 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

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.

April 2025

NEWS &

NOTES

of the

Monticello

Community

School District

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

HS Seniors —
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on page 2!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shannon Elementary Spring Concert



April 29



Join us for some "Animal Fun" for the Shannon Elementary Concert on April 29 at 6:00pm in the HS Gym.

SENIORS



Scholarships—Many scholarship deadlines are quickly approaching. Check out the scholarship website for details and deadline information and be sure to turn in completed applications soon!

We want to recognize seniors for the scholarships and awards they have earned. Seniors are responsible for contacting Mrs. Larson with this information no later than May 16. Kathy Larson can be reached at kathy.larson@monticello.k12.ia.us. Honors Night is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 at 7:45pm. Thank you!

PTO NEWS...The Monticello PTO has a lot of exciting events coming soon! Our first event is Spring pictures for the Shannon and Carpenter students on Friday, April 4. Next is our walk-a-thon at the track happening May 12 with a rain date of May 19. The PTO will soon be planning the Elementary Fun Day! If you would like to join us in the planning of our upcoming events or have new ideas to share with the PTO, please join us at our next meeting on TUESDAY, APRIL 15 at 7pm in the Carpenter Library.



We would like to thank all of the volunteers that help keep the PTO going! A special thank you to everyone who provided food for the staff during conferences.

Elementary Spring Pictures are Friday, April 4.

Order online by scanning these QR



Shannon

codes.



Carpenter

Important Dates—Please Mark Your Calendars!

April 11—Deadline for Senior Questionnaire

April 12—Grand March at 3:30pm (HS Aud.) Prom Dance from 8pm to 10pm (MS Gym), followed by Post Prom from 10:15pm to 2:30am (HS & MS)

May 14—Cap & gown pick up in the HS Office from 1:00pm to 3:45pm

May 16—Senior Silver Service hours due to Mr. Lambert by 3:15pm

May 16 – Final notification (by 3:15) to Mrs. Larson of scholarships/awards to be announced at Honors Night

May 20—National Honor Society Inductions at 7:00pm, followed by Honors Night at 7:45pm in HS Gym

May 20—Last day of classes for seniors who have met graduation requirements

May 21—Senior Walk Thru, meet at HS commons at 8:00am (wear cap & gown)

May 21—Senior breakfast in HS commons at 9:15am

May 21—Commencement Rehearsal for all Seniors at football field at 10:00am—**MANDATORY**

May 21—Baccalaureate at SS Peter and Paul Lutheran Church at 6:30pm

May 25—Commencement at Football Field at 2:00pm

BAND Info

7/8 Grade Band Solo Fun Night!

7/8 grade band Solo Fun Night will be held Friday, April 11 at the middle school from 4:15-7:00pm. Since this is an individually scheduled event, please contact Mrs. Ellis at ellen.ellis@monticello.k12.ia.us if your band student has activities that afternoon/evening that will need to be scheduled around. Thank you.

Attention 4th grade parents! In April and May, Mrs. Ellis and Mr. Butterworth will be visiting with 4th grade classrooms at Carpenter Elementary & Sacred Heart to begin the process of recruiting members for next year's 5th grade band. There will be a scheduled "video/demonstration day" for each class, and "instrument matching" time for individuals. It's a great opportunity for students to learn about band, and all students will get to participate regardless if they are planning to join band or not. It's a great time to start discussions at home about the possibility of joining our band family next fall! If you have questions at any time, please contact Mrs. Ellis at ellen.ellis@monticello.k12.ia.us

UPCOMING EVENTS



Grand March & Post Prom!

The Post Prom Committee will be hosting a Red Carpet Grand March Event on Saturday, April 12 at 3:30pm in the High School Auditorium. **Students need to check in at 3:15pm sharp** in the hallway at the door to the stage entrance. Public and family members are welcome. Doors will open at 2pm if anyone would like to take photos with students prior. Multiple backdrops provided by Flynn Photography will be available to use at your leisure around the outside of the auditorium and commons. **FREE WILL DONATIONS WELCOME** to help with the 2026 Post Prom fundraising efforts.

This year's Prom Dance is hosted by the Monticello Junior Class and themed "HOLLYWOOD" and will be held at the Middle School Gym from 8-10pm.

Post Prom (After Party) will be from 10:15pm – 2:30am in the High School and Middle commons areas, gyms, auditorium, and wrestling room. This year's After Party is themed "Let's Glow Crazy" with glow golf, a mechanical bull, a variety of Inflatables from *Tough Entertainment*, karaoke, movie, poker/blackjack, yard games, food, caffeine bar, candy bar, and hundreds of prizes for Junior & Senior students to choose from! **Students must arrive by 9:30pm sharp (even if they don't attend the dance) at the High School entrance only.**

CLEAR BAG POLICY: (clear backpacks are provided with the purchase of the t-shirt or can be purchased at the door for \$15) If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Schneider, 319-480-4204(text is best), jackie@we78ins.com or Donna Wall, 319-480-0635, dwallenote@gmail.com. Volunteer to help for the After Party (Junior & Senior Parents) here:

Help with Food here:



Monetary or prize donations can be dropped off at the District Office anytime or you can use this QR Code:



Monticello Post Prom can be found on FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/postprommhs>. THANK YOU!

IMPORTANT INFO

Thank You!

The Monticello Community School Foundation would like to thank all those who helped in any way to make the 20th Annual Tailgate Party and Alumni Reunion such a huge success on March 1st. The Foundation appreciates all those who donated items, purchased tickets to attend the dinner, The Market at the Tap for a delicious meal, the 5th/6th football players for cleanup, June Fellingner for the decorations, Kevin & Annette Smith for the music and sound system, Elliott Siefert for auctioneering/emceeing, Nancy Toenjes' Foods Class for the wonderful cookies, the Jones County Dairy Board for the cheese trays, the Chamber of Commerce for beverage service, Culligan Total Water for the bottled water, Camp Courageous for the ice and miscellaneous supplies, Citizens Investment Center for their hard work, school administrators, Judy Hayen, The Monticello Express, Kris (Kromminga) Riley, Annette Smith, and Kathy Harms. **THANK YOU** to all of the volunteers who helped make the night a great success!

-Foundation Board Members: Annette Smith- Past President, Jon Kyte- President, Carrie Yates- Vice President, Phil Hanna, Chris Brokaw, Marcia Fisher, Dan Goodyear, Dave Kehoe, Audrey Savage, Terry Smothers, Julie Welter, and Kris (Kromminga) Riley. Honorary Members Charlie Becker and Steve Williams.

Become a Foundation Board Member!

Interested in volunteering with the Foundation? Since 1988 the board of the Monticello Community School Foundation has worked to provide educational improvements to assist classroom teachers in their goal of a strong education. The students benefit from the many projects the foundation has supported. If interested in helping with growing the education for the Monticello Community School District and becoming a Foundation Board Member please reach out to a current board member or email foundation@monticello.k12.ia.us.

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!

Thank You

- Thank you to **Nancy Toenjes & FCCLA** for their donation of strawberries to Panther Academy.
- Thank you to **Accent Construction** for their donation.
- Thank you to the **Monticello School District Foundation** for a wonderful Pep Rally and for all you do for our students and staff.
- Thank you to the **Monticello PTO** for providing snacks & pizza for staff during conferences. Much appreciated!
- Thank you to **Dollar Fresh** and **Fareway** for their donations to the Transition's School Chili Cook-Off.

**Register
Today!**

2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open!

Kindergarten Registration is for students entering Kindergarten in the Fall of 2025. Parents are asked to use the electronic registration form to create their student in Infinite Campus. You can register on our website at www.monticello.k12.ia.us at any time.

Please register as soon as you can so we can plan for next year!

Students must turn 5 years of age on or before September 15, 2025 to attend Kindergarten.

FOOD SERVICE NEWS

BREAKFAST MENU

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Egg & sausage biscuit Fruit Fruit Juice	2 Chocolate muffin Fruit Fruit juice	3 Pancake sausage bites Fruit Fruit juice	4 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
7 Mini waffles Fruit Fruit juice	8 Breakfast pizza Fruit Fruit juice	9 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	10 Blueberry muffin Fruit Fruit juice	11 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
14 Pancakes w/ syrup Sausage links Fruit Fruit juice	15 Mini donuts Fruit Fruit juice	16 Cheese omelet Fruit Fruit juice	17 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	18 NO SCHOOL-- Holiday
21 NO SCHOOL-- Teacher Collabora- tion Day	22 Breakfast bagel Fruit Fruit juice	23 French toast sticks w/ syrup Fruit Fruit juice	24 Chocolate muffin Fruit Fruit juice	25 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
28 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	29 Breakfast burrito Fruit Fruit juice	30 Long John Fruit Fruit juice	MILK served with all meals.	

LUNCH MENU

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Menus are subject to change.*

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Cheeseburger/bun French fries Baked beans Tropical fruit	2 Deli/Bun Fresh baby carrots Baked chips Orange wedges	3 Mandarin orange chicken Seasoned rice Oriental vegetables Pineapple tidbits Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	4 Stuffed crust pizza Tossed salad w/ greens Steamed broccoli Mandarin oranges
7 Beef taco/WG soft shell Seasoned potatoes Fiesta beans Applesauce	8 BBQ rib/bun Sweet potato fries Green beans Diced peaches	9 Garlic cheese bread Steamed broccoli Cucumber slices Mandarin oranges	10 Chicken nuggets Twister fries Mixed vegetables Pineapple tidbits Dinner roll & butter (grades 6-12)	11 Pizza crunchers Lettuce salad w/ greens Celery and carrots Fresh melon WG cookie
14 Salisbury steak Mashed potatoes & gravy Vegetable medley Applesauce Roll & butter	15 Breaded chicken sandwich Sweet potato fries Baked beans Fruit cup	16 Mini corn dog Green beans Baby carrots Strawberries & grapes	17 Breaded pork / bun Wedge fries Steamed broccoli Apple wedges	18 NO SCHOOL-- Holiday
21 NO SCHOOL-- Teacher Collaboration Day	22 Breaded chicken drumstick Mashed potatoes & gravy Green beans Tropical fruit	23 Cheesy hot dog w / bun Wedge fries Baked beans Apple wedges	24 Philly Beef / bun Waffle fries Mixed vegetables Peaches	25 Stuffed crust pizza Lettuce salad w/ greens Baby carrots Fresh melon
28 Breaded chix drummies Seasoned potatoes Steamed carrots Tropical fruit Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	29 Chicken fajita wrap Sauteed peppers & onions (grades 6-12) Lettuce salad Corn Fruit cocktail	30 Pepperoni pasta Tossed salad w/ greens Steamed broccoli Pears Bread stick	MILK served with all meals.	
				Choose a salad as an al- ternate lunch daily (HS & MS only)

APRIL 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 G/B V Track @ Tipton—3:30	2 1:00 Early Dismissal-Prof. Development	3 B V Soccer vs Western Dubuque-5:00	4 Elementary Spring Pictures Speech/Drama Banquet-6:00	5 IHSMA Solo Ensemble Music Festival @ Cascade-8:00 BPA Music Bingo Fundraiser in HS Commons—7:00
7 G V Golf @ Northeast-Preston Valley Golf Course-4:00 B V Golf vs Northeast-4:00 B V Track @ Anamosa -4:00 G/B V Soccer @ Bellevue-5:00 & 6:45	8 Iowa Jazz Band Championships @ ISU G V Track @ Dubuque Senior-4:00	9 1:00 Early Dismissal-Prof. Development Board Work Session—6pm	10 G 7/8 Track @ Clayton Ridge-4:00 B 7/8 Track @ Beckman-4:00 G/B V Track Meet @ Alburnett-4:30	11 7/8 Grade Band Solo Night 4:15-7pm G/B V Track @ Beckman-4:30	12 B V Golf @ Ed-Co-10:00 G/B V Track @ Assumption-10:30 Prom Grand March – 3:30pm-High School Auditorium Prom Dance—8-10pm @ MS Gym Post Prom 10:15pm-2:30am –High School
14 G V Golf @ Beckman-4:00 B V Golf vs Beckman-4:00 G/B JV Track—Home-4:00 G V Track @ Dubuque Hempstead-4:00 G/B V Soccer @ Mid-Prairie-5:00 & 6:30	15 B V Track @ DeWitt-4:00 G V Track @ North Cedar-4:30 G/B V Soccer vs Cedar Valley Christian-5:00 & 6:30 PTO Meeting – Carpenter Library-7:00	16	17 B V Golf @ Tipton—12:00 G/B V Track—Home – 4:00	18 NO SCHOOL— Holiday G V Soccer vs Northeast-5:00 V B Soccer vs Prince of Peace-6:30	19
21 NO SCHOOL— Teacher Collab. Day B V Golf @ Anamosa-4:00 G V Golf vs Anamosa-4:00 G V Track @ Maq. Valley-4:30 G/B V Soccer @ Iowa City Regina-5:00 & 6:30	22 G 7/8 Track @ Maquoketa-4:00 7/8 B Track @ West Delaware-4:00 G/B V Track @ Tipton-4:30 G/B V Soccer vs Marquette Catholic-5:00 & 6:30	23 B V Golf @ Beckman -10:00	24 G V Golf @ Glynn's Creek Golf Course-12:00 G/B 7/8 Track @ Maq. Valley- 4:00 G/B V Track –Home-4:30	25 Drake Relays G/B V Soccer vs West Branch—5:00 & 6:30	26 Drake Relays
28 G V Golf @ Cascade-4:00 B V Golf vs Cascade-4:00 G 7/8 Track –Home-4:00 G/B V Soccer @ West Liberty-5:00 & 6:30 Board Meeting—6:00	29 G/B V Track @ Anamosa-4:00 B 7/8 Track @ Cascade-4:15 Shannon Elementary Spring Concert—6:00 @ HS Gym	30 B V Golf –Home-10:00 1:00 Early Dismissal-Prof. Development			

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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