

SCHOOL SPIRIT



Monticello Community School District

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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Hello everyone,

We've reached May, and our schools are full of the energy that comes with the end of the year. Field trips, spirit days, music events, classroom celebrations, NHS induction, and the overlap of spring and summer athletics keep everyone busy. For our seniors, this final stretch is especially full—cap and gown walks, graduation practice, the senior breakfast, awards night, and, of course, Graduation—followed by a season of celebrations with family and friends.

While our seniors are understandably eager to reach the finish line, I often wish there were a way to slow things down just a bit so they could fully take in these moments. But asking that might be like asking a runner to ease up in the final stretch—it's just not in their nature.

I would like to congratulate the Class of 2026 and wish them the very best as they complete their high school journey. We are currently finalizing plans for graduation, which will be held on the football field at 2:00 p.m. on May 17. Let's hope for beautiful weather as we send off this class with a memorable ceremony and lasting high school memories.

To the parents of our seniors—congratulations to you as well. Reaching this milestone takes years of dedication and support. From helping with homework to attending concerts, games, and performances; from navigating friendships, challenges, and milestones like learning to drive, first jobs, and big decisions about the future—your role has been constant and invaluable. While graduation is just one day, it represents years of effort and commitment. At some point this summer, it may truly sink in that this chapter is coming to a close. My advice is simple: appreciate it, celebrate it, and embrace the moment when your child walks across that stage. It's okay to feel emotional—it's a proud and meaningful milestone for both of you.

That's all for this month. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out by email or phone 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.*

May 2026

NEWS & NOTES

of the Monticello Community School District

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Thank you to our
Staff & Board
of Education on
page 4!

UPCOMING EVENTS



The Commencement Ceremony for the Monticello Class of 2026 is scheduled for **Sunday, May 17 at 2:00pm** at the High School Football Field. **Congratulations Class of 2026 and Best Wishes in the future!**

Class Motto: The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. – *Eleanor Roosevelt.*

Colors: Crimson. **Flower:** Red Dahlias

PTO NEWS... Thanks to those that are helping donate items for Staff Appreciation Week coming up. Our PTO Fun Day will be held Thursday, May 21 at Shannon in the morning and Carpenter in the afternoon. Notes were sent home asking for volunteers to help on that day. Keep checking our Facebook page for updates about our upcoming events including our *Tattoo a Teacher* fundraiser.



Congratulations to our PTO Officers for the 2026-27 School Year. President Amy Gilkerson, Vice-President Whitney Kraus, Secretary Holly Larkins and Treasurer Laci Van Dorn. Thanks to Danielle Leytem for leading our group this year.



Homecoming for the 2026-27 school year will be the week of September 14-19, 2026.



Important Dates—Please Mark

Your Calendars!

- May 6—Cap & gown pick up in the HS Office from 1:00-3:45pm
- May 8—Senior Silver Service hours due to Alyssa McNally by 3:15pm
- May 8— Final notification (by 3:15) to Alyssa McNally of scholarships/awards to be announced at Honors Night
- May 11—National Honor Society practice for new members and current NHS officers at 7:30am in HS Auditorium
- May 12—National Honor Society Inductions at 7:00pm, followed by Honors Night at 7:45pm in HS Auditorium
- May 13—Baccalaureate at First Presbyterian Church at 6:30pm
- May 15—Last day of classes for seniors who have met graduation requirements
- May 15—Senior Walk Thru, meet at HS commons at 8:00am (wear cap & gown), followed by Senior breakfast in HS commons at 9:15am
- May 15—**MANDATORY** Commencement Rehearsal for all Seniors at football field at 10:00am
- May 17—Commencement at Football Field at 2:00pm
- May 22—**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL—1:00 Early Dismissal**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

5th Annual FREE Community Picnic
Thursday, August 20, 5PM-7PM
Outside the United Church of Monticello

123 N Chestnut Street
School Open House Night



Attention 4th grade parents! In 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

IMPORTANT INFO

TAP STUDENTS: If your student works with Mrs. Angie Sconsa, the Transition Coordinator, watch for information about our TAP Summer Camp. It will run weekdays from late May—early June and we will be exploring a variety of careers. Transportation and lunch is provided. Sign-up letters will be emailed. You can also email Mrs. Sconsa for more information:
angie.sconsa@monticello.k12.ia.us.

IMPORTANT!



- ⇒ Before School starts in August all Kindergarten, 7th, and 12th grade students must have their expected immunizations per state law.
- ⇒ All Kindergarten and 9th grade students must have a current Dental screening certificate on file.
- ⇒ All Kindergarten students must be up to date on their preschool shots and have received their 4-year-old boosters of Dtap, Polio, MMR, and Varicella.
- ⇒ All 7th grade and above students must show proof of having received a Tdap (Tetanus/Acellular Pertussis) vaccination booster AND a Meningococcal vaccination on or after 10 years of age.
- ⇒ All students in grades 7-12 interested in participating in sports must have a current physical and concussion form on file.
- ⇒ All 12th grade students must show proof of receiving 2 DOSES of Meningococcal vaccine; or 1 dose if first dose was received at 16 years of age or older.

Get those appointments scheduled early!

Just a reminder, if you have any outstanding fees or a negative lunch account, please have them paid soon. Checks can be mailed to your school, dropped off, or you can pay online by logging into your Infinite Campus account, or by calling your school office. We accept credit, debit, or e-check when you pay online or over the phone. Our fiscal year ends June 30, 2026. Thank you!



2026-2027 Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now open!

Kindergarten Registration is for students entering Kindergarten in the Fall of 2026. 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.

We kindly ask that you register as soon as possible to help us prepare for the upcoming year!

Students must turn 5 years of age on or before September 15, 2026 to attend Kindergarten.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION-It is the policy of the Monticello Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its education programs or 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, Todd Werner, 860 East Oak Street, Monticello, Iowa 52310, 319-465-3000 ex2101, todd.werner@monticello.k12.ia.us.

CELEBRATIONS



Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8
Support Staff Appreciation Week is May 11-15
School Nurses Day is May 6

Let's take a moment to recognize and appreciate our amazing staff. The impact you have on students each day is truly meaningful. Thank you for making a difference and helping shape their future—we're grateful for all that you do!

Monticello Community School District Board of Education



L to R—front row: Mandy Norton (Vice-President), Tony Amsler. Back row: Creighton Randolph, Craig Stadtmueller (President), and John Schlarman

**SCHOOL BOARD
RECOGNITION MONTH**

May 2026

**BECAUSE
OF you!**

Because of you, students' futures thrive, begin, lead, grow, and opportunities become stronger.

THANK YOU!



Congratulations to the Music Department on earning the *Best Community for Music Education* award once again—marking an impressive 5th consecutive year!

Congrats to **Mr. Thumma, Mrs. Wall, Mrs. Ellis, Mr. Knies, and Mr. Butterworth!**

THANK YOU

- Thank you to **Monticello Parks & Rec** for their donation to the middle school student council & concession stand.
- Thank you to **Hillside Bar & Grill** for their donation to the FFA banquet.
- Thank you to **Vivian Moore** for her donation to the food service department.
- Thank you to **The Bling Pig** for the judges meals for the solo and ensemble contest.
- Thank you to the following for their donations for the middle school outdoor ed day: **Karde's, Monticello River Rentals, and Melissa Porter.**
- Thank you to **Tyler Johnson/Tough Entertainment** for his donations to the Prom dance and to Post Prom.
- Thank you to the **Eastern Iowa Sports Facility** for their donation to the Baseball program.
- Thank you to **Audrey Savage and Sue Lilly** for their donation the MCSD Foundation for our Math curriculum.
- Thank you to **Matt & Mike Wennekamp** for their donation of golf balls to the boys golf team.



Location: Shannon Elementary, 321 W South St, Monticello

Time: Breakfast hours: 8:00 - 8:30am (dine in only)

Lunch hours: 11:00 - 11:45am (dine in only)

Days: Monday-Friday from June 1-August 14 (closed on July 3)

Contact: Pat Kelly, Food Service Director, 319-465-3000 or pat.kelly@monticello.k12.ia.us
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

For kids and teens under 18
No registration or application required



Attention Current Monticello 4th & 5th Graders

Register for FALL 2026 ~ 5th & 6th GRADE YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL

The Monticello Youth Football program, a division of the Youth Sports Foundation, is available to any Monticello area youth entering the 5th or 6th grade in the fall of 2026.

The tackle football program begins the week of August 11th and includes introduction skills for tackle football, and a six-game schedule. Games are held on Sundays beginning September 13th.

REGISTRATION-EQUIPMENT FITTING INFORMATION

Register Online by going to the YSF website and locate your YSF community!
www.youthsportsfoundation.org

Online registration fee is \$180.00 (an additional \$5.00 processing fee will be added to the total amount). An optional hard-cup chin strap is also available for \$25.00

Make Plans To Attend the Required Equipment Fitting Date!

Date: Wednesday, May 13th

Time: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Location: Monticello High School

Mark Your Calendar To Attend The May 13th Equipment Fitting date!
Online registration will be open until May 12th

After Friday, June 26th a \$50.00 Late Fee will be added.

Online registrations after the scheduled area equipment fitting date may be accepted at the discretion of the coordinator for each town! Team numbers are limited. Register early! No refunds after August 14th.

The Youth Sports Foundation offers: Certified Coaches, USA Football affiliation, and full equipment. Our focus is on learning fundamentals and an opportunity to learn the sport of tackle football without a highly competitive atmosphere.

Age Policy: During the football season, the registered YSF youth must be in the 5th or 6th grade AND must turn at least 10 years of age during the 5th grade school year AND must not turn 13 before September 15th of their 6th grade year.

Refunds (less \$35.00) offered until 3:30 P.M. Friday, August 14th. Allow 4-6 weeks to process.

For further questions contact your area coordinator: Courtney Hinrichs (480) 628-6943
or email: cilly01@gmail.com

Call the YSF office: 563-288-2541

To learn more about the Youth Sports Foundation visit our website: www.youthsportsfoundation.org

Parents of next year's Seniors:

Summer is a great time to take senior portraits!



Senior and baby pictures for the yearbook are due **before winter break of senior year**. Plan to take photos over the summer 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)

Capture the memories with Digital Yearbook Signing Pages!

One of the best parts about the yearbook experience is the notes and signatures from friends. Now, with Digital Yearbook Signing Pages, all students have the opportunity to take part in that tradition with a fun, free, interactive experience that results in a permanent keepsake. It's free to all students and is a great way to bring our school community together and remember this historic school year! Check out this video to see how it works. Get started today at yearbooksigning.jostens.com!

DIGITAL
YEARBOOK SIGNING



Asbestos Notification—(Annual Notice)

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (referred to as AHERA) was enacted by Congress to determine the extent of and develop solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos. This notification, education and training of our employees, plans and procedures to minimize the disturbance of asbestos containing materials, and plans for regular surveillance of the asbestos containing materials are a part of our efforts to meet government regulations. A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for your inspection—contact Dennis Dirks at dennis.dirks@monticello.k12.ia.us.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Board Approved: 1/28/26

Monticello Community School District 2026-2027 Master Calendar

Summary of Calendar Hours

Student Hours in Classroom:	
First Semester (82 days):	506.06
Second Semester (93 days):	576.22
PT Conferences:	16.00
Virtual Learning Hours (up to 30 hours):	0.00
TOTAL STUDENT HOURS:	1098.28

Calendar Legend

	Start/End Semester	4
	PD Day	2
	1pm dismissal for PD/IP	29
	Parent/Teacher Conferences	4
	Instructional Planning Day	3
	Holiday	6
	No School Days	15
	Early Dismissal 1pm, No PD	2

Holidays

Sept. 7	Labor Day
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Mar. 26	Good Friday
May 31	Memorial Day

Professional Development Days (No School)

Aug. 19-20

Instructional Planning Days (No School)

Aug. 21; Jan. 4; March 29

1pm Dismissal Dates

Aug. 24; Sept. 2, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21
 Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9, 16, 22; Jan. 13, 20, 27
 Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3
 April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 25

Parent Teacher Conferences

HS, MS, Elem - Oct. 26 & 29
 HS, MS, Elem - March 9 & 11

Break Days

Nov. 25 - 27
 Dec. 23 - Jan. 1
 March 12-19

Weather Make-Up Days

May 26 - June 11 (as needed)

Teacher Floating Work Days

August 3 - 18 (1 day)
 May 26 - June 11 (1 day)

Month	M	T	W	Th	F
Aug.	3	4	5	6	7
	10	11	12	13	14
	17	18	19	20	21
	24	25	26	27	28
	31				

Sept.		1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10	11
	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30		

Oct.				1	2
	5	6	7	8	9
	12	13	14	15	16
	19	20	21	22	23
	26	27	28	29	30

Nov.	2	3	4	5	6
	9	10	11	12	13
	16	17	18	19	20
	23	24	25	26	27
	30				

Dec.		1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10	11
	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30	31	

Jan.					1
	4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15
	18	19	20	21	22
	25	26	27	28	29

Feb.	1	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	24	25	26

March	1	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	24	25	26
	29	30	31		

April				1	2
	5	6	7	8	9
	12	13	14	15	16
	19	20	21	22	23
	26	27	28	29	30

May	3	4	5	6	7
	10	11	12	13	14
	17	18	19	20	21
	24	25	26	27	28
	31				

June		1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10	11

EVENTS

18 - New Teachers Report	August
19-20 - No School, Professional Development Days	
20 - Open House:	
Elementary: 4:30-6pm MS: 5-6:30pm HS: 5:30-7pm	
21 - No School, Instructional Planning Day	
24 - CLASSES BEGIN	
24 - Kirkwood First Semester Classes Begin	
24 - First Day of School, 1pm dismissal	
	September
7 - No School, Holiday	
14-18 - Homecoming Week	

7, 14, 21 - 1pm dismissal	October
26 & 29 - Elem/MS/HS PT Conference 4-8	
30 - No School	

4, 11, 18 - 1pm dismissal	November
25, 27 - No School	
26 - No School, Holiday	

2, 9, 16 - 1pm dismissal	December
11 - Kirkwood First Semester Classes End	
22 - End of 1st Semester, 1pm dismissal , No PD	
12/23-12/31 - No School, Winter Break	
25 - No School, Holiday	

1 - No School, Holiday	January
4 - No School, Instructional Planning Day	
5 - Begin 2nd Semester	
11 - Kirkwood Second Semester Classes Begin	
13, 20, 27 - 1pm dismissal	

3, 10, 17, 24 - 1pm dismissal	February
--------------------------------------	-----------------

3 - 1pm dismissal	March
9 & 11 - Elem/MS/HS PT Conference 4-8	
12 - No School	
15-19 - No School, Spring Break	
26 - No School, Holiday	
29 - No School, Instructional Planning/Prof Development Day	

7, 14, 21, 28 - 1pm dismissal	April
17 - PROM	

3 - Kirkwood Second Semester Classes End	May
5, 12, 19 - 1pm dismissal	
19 - Last day for Seniors	
23 - HS Graduation	
25 - Last Day of School, 1pm dismissal , No PD*	
31 - No School, Holiday	

*Will move to last day if snow days are added

FOOD SERVICE NEWS

BREAKFAST MENU



M

A

Y

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Pop tart Cereal Fruit Fruit juice
4 Breakfast pizza Fruit Fruit juice	5 Long John Fruit Fruit juice	6 Chocolate muffin Fruit Fruit juice	7 Pancake sausage bites Fruit Fruit juice	8 Pop tart Cereal Fruit Fruit juice
11 Chocolate chip French toast Fruit Fruit juice	12 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	13 Blueberry muffin Fruit Fruit juice	14 Scrambled egg bake Fruit Fruit juice	15 Pop tart Cereal Fruit Fruit juice
18 Waffles Fruit Fruit juice	19 Mini donut Fruit Fruit juice	20 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	21 Mini bagel Fruit Fruit juice	22 Pop tart Cereal Fruit Fruit juice
25 NO SCHOOL— Memorial Day	26	27	28 <i>MILK served with all meals.</i>	29

LUNCH MENU



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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Pepperoni pizza Caesar salad Baby carrots Orange wedges
4 Teriyaki chicken Seasoned rice Green beans Diced peaches Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	5 Bacon cheeseburger Smile fries Baby carrots Mixed fruit	6 Deli/bun Baked chips Fresh veggies Apple wedges Chocolate chip cookie	7 Breaded pork sandwich French fries Vegetable medley Mandarin oranges	8 Pizza crunchers Lettuce salad w/ romaine Corn Applesauce
11 Philly Beef Wedge fries Baked beans Pears	12 Stuffed Cheese sticks w/ sauce Tossed salad w/ romaine Cucumbers & cherry tomatoes Orange wedges	13 Cheddar dog Sweet potato fries Green beans Mixed fruit	14 Macaroni & cheese Little smokies Steamed broccoli Grapes Roll & butter (grade 6-12)	15 Quesadilla Vegetable medley Celery sticks Watermelon
18 Breaded chicken drumsticks French fries Peas Apple wedges	19 Country fried steak Mashed potatoes & gravy Green beans Peaches Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	20 Popcorn chicken Seasoned rice Steamed carrots Mixed fruit Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	21 Corn dog Sweet potato fries Mixed vegetables Applesauce	22 Deli/bun Baked chips Fresh veggies Applesauce Fruit juice
25 NO SCHOOL— Memorial Day	26	27	28	29

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

M

A

Y

MAY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 G V Golf @ Wahkonsa Country Club, Durant—12:00 B V Golf vs Camanche-3:45 MS Band Solo Night -4:00 G/B V Track @ Davenport—4:00 G/B V Soccer vs Mid-Prairie-5:00/7:00	2 HS Speech Awards-3:00—HS Auditorium
4 Kirkwood 2nd Semester Ends G V Golf vs Bellevue-4:00 B V Golf @ Bellevue-4:00 G 8 Track @ Beckman-4:00 G/B V Soccer vs Maquoketa—5:00/7:00	5 B V Golf Conference Meet @ Muscatine Municipal Golf Course—10:00 MS Band Concert-6:30 HS Band Awards Concert-7:30	6 NURSES DAY! BPA National Leadership Conference G V Golf Conference Meet @ Muscatine Municipal Golf Course-10:00 Senior Cap & Gown pick up in HS Office 1-3:45pm Booster Club Meeting – 7:00 @ HS Library	7 BPA National Leadership Conference G V Golf @ Camanche-4:00 G/B V Track @ West Liberty-4:00 G/B V Soccer @ MFL MarMac—5:00/7:00	8 BPA National Leadership Conference Seniors—Silver Service hours due to Alyssa by 3:15 today! Any awards/scholarships for honors night due to Alyssa McNally by 3:15 today! G/B 7/8 Track @ West Branch—4:00	9 IHSMA Large Group Festival
Teacher Appreciation Week					
11 G/B V Soccer @ West Liberty-5:00/7:00 HS Dessert Concert -7:00-Berndes Center	12 B 7/8 Track @ Bellevue—4:00 G 7/8 Track @ Anamosa—4:00 National Honor Society Induction—7:00 – HS Auditorium Seniors Honors Night—7:45-HS Auditorium	13 Baccalaureate at First Presbyterian Church—6:30pm	14 G/B V Track State Qualifying Meet @ Hudson-4:00 G V Soccer vs Anamosa-5:30 7/8 Vocal Concert-7:00—HS Auditorium	15 Seniors Last Day Seniors walk-thru schools, breakfast, & mandatory graduation practice-8:00am 8th Grade Canoe Trip G/B V Soccer @ West Branch-5:00/7:00	16
Support Staff Appreciation Week					
18 V BB DH vs Beckman-5:00 Board Meeting—6:00	19 5th & 6th grade Track & Feld Day JV/V BB vs Calamus-Wheatland-5:00/7:00	20	21 PTO Fun Day!	22 Last Day of School! Little Panther Pre-school Graduation @ Austin Strong Park - 10:30-12:00 1:00 Early Dismissal	23 
25 Memorial Day 	26	27 JV SB DH vs Maquoketa—5:00	28 7/8 SB DH @ Bellevue-10:00 9/10 BB vs Marquette Catholic-10:00	29 JV/V BB vs Vinton-Shellsburg - 5:00/7:00	30

Graduation - May 17—2pm- HS Football Field

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

Dr. Brian Jaeger, *Superintendent*

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Fax: 319-465-6050

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Board of Education: Craig Stadmueller, Mandy Norton, John Schlarmann, Tony Amsler, Creighton Randolph

