

SCHOOL SPIRIT



Monticello Community School District

Dr. Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

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WEB www.monticello.k12.ia.us

Hi everyone,

It is the start of a new year and 2025 that means the start of our Elementary School Project. We have already started by scheduling site-surveying and soil borings to get the project started. Over the next few months we will begin some heavy planning and school design. Diving deeply into the planning phase of the project will be a good way to make our school project funds go a long way. We will look for ways to be efficient and maximize the space we are using as well as plan out every detail so we do not get charged a higher amount for changes that would have to be made later. During the spring/summer of 2025 we will complete the design and planning phase, the blueprint phase, the bidding phase, and we will select a construction company to do the project. That is a lot of work and a lot of details to cover between now and the summer. Stay tuned and I will keep you updated.

A long-standing partner of the Monticello Community School District has been the Monticello School Foundation. The Monticello School Foundation wants our students to have all of the resources needed to have the best educational experience possible. They have worked very closely with the school district to provide needed support in our classrooms since 1988.

The Monticello School Foundation has donated over \$1,000,000 to Monticello Community School District projects over the last 36 years. Here are some examples of items the Monticello School Foundation has purchased in support of the Monticello Community School District over the years:

- Sound system for the HS auditorium
- Field trip expenses
- New instruments & band uniforms
- Employee recognition awards
- Laminator for the MS
- Chromebooks & cases
- Table saw for HS Industrial Tech Dept.
- Additional curriculum materials that supplement our annual curriculum purchases
- LCD projection devices for the High School Science department
- Presentations by guest authors & musicians in the elementary schools... AND MUCH MORE!
- Elementary and MS library books
- Weight room equipment at the HS
- iPads for the Middle School & Elementary
- Computers for HS Business Classes
- Purchase of Teacher Wish List items
- Enclosed trailer for hauling equipment
- Portable science lab for the middle school

How can you help the Monticello School Foundation? **Answer...**By attending their biggest fundraiser which is the Monticello School Foundation Tailgate and Alumni Reunion to be held **Saturday, March 1, 2025** at the Berndes Center. Please consider attending this event to help support our Monticello students. Tickets will be available soon at any Monticello School Office, or at the District Office.

So welcome to 2025 and as always thank you for your continued support of the Monticello Community School District. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email any-time.



Sincerely,

Brian Jaeger, Superintendent

January 2025

NEWS &

NOTES

of the

Monticello

Community

School District

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Foundation Tailgate & Alumni Reunion info on page 6!

*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.*

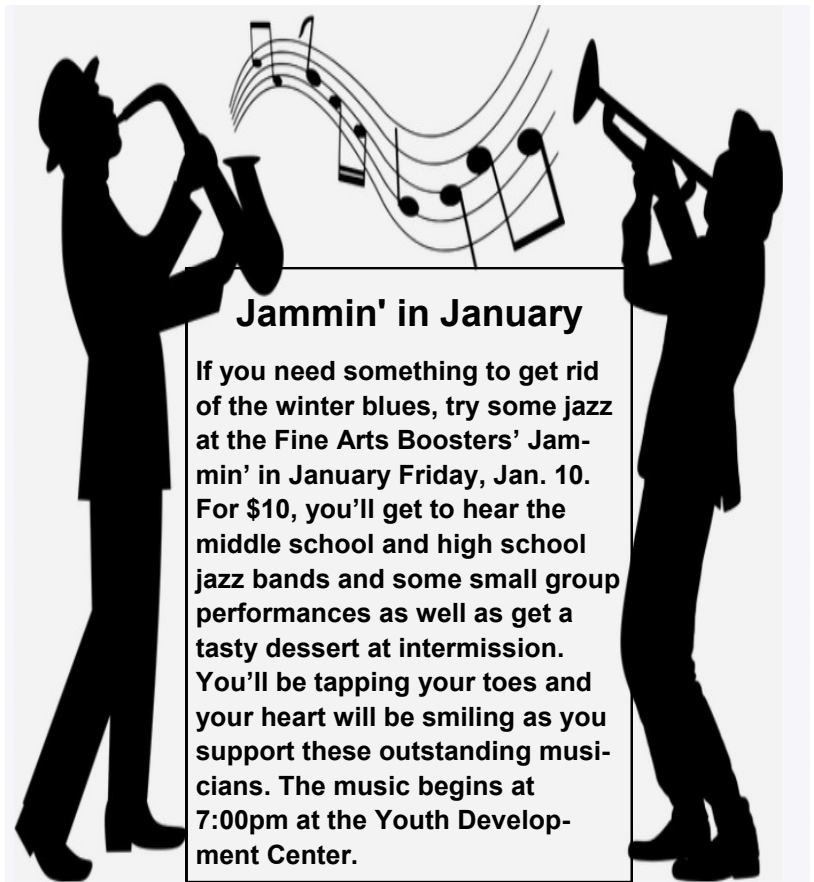
UPCOMING EVENTS

District Speech Contest Help Needed!
Saturday, January 25
(shifts available 7:30am-12 or
12-4:30pm)

Monticello will be hosting the District Speech Contest on January 25 and volunteers are needed. There are several areas you could volunteer. Room chair keeps the room running on time, time keeper (just have to know how to run a stopwatch), or concession helper. If you are interested in helping contact Kim Carlson either by phone 465-3000, option 2 or email kim.carlson@monticello.k12.ia.us.

****Winter Break****

Winter break is December 23—January 2. No School on Friday, January 3—Teacher Collaboration Day. **Classes resume on Monday, January 6!**



Jammin' in January

If you need something to get rid of the winter blues, try some jazz at the Fine Arts Boosters' Jammin' in January Friday, Jan. 10. For \$10, you'll get to hear the middle school and high school jazz bands and some small group performances as well as get a tasty dessert at intermission. You'll be tapping your toes and your heart will be smiling as you support these outstanding musicians. The music begins at 7:00pm at the Youth Development Center.

Thank You

- Thank you to the **Diane & Pete Temple family** for the donation of instruments to the elementary music rooms.
- Thank you to **Sheila Tjaden** for the donation of coats to the Middle School & High School.
- Thank you to **all who donated** to Carpenter's 20th Annual Food Drive! We collected 1,010 items for the Monticello Food Pantry. All classes earned an extra recess!
- Thank you to **Whitney Kraus** and **Tyler & Jayme Freye** for helping to deliver food to the food pantry from Carpenter.
- Thank you to **Orbis Corporation** for the plastic containers!
- Thank you to **Laura & Avery Jurgens** and **Rick Rice** for the donation of FFA fruit to Panther Academy.
- Thank you to **Audrey White** and **Kara Burrack** for the donation of winter gear to Shannon & Carpenter.
- Thank you to **The Delphian Society** for their donation to the health fund.
- Thank you to **Mary Melchert** for the donation of clothing to Shannon & Carpenter.
- Thank you to the **Orbis employees** for the donation for lunch accounts.



PTO News... Thanks to those that helped with Panther Projects

night in December and donated supplies for the Cart of Joy. Our next PTO meeting will be January 7 at 7pm in the Carpenter Library.

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, work 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.

High School Scheduling Dates

The following dates are of note for 8-11th grade students in regards to scheduling high school credit and college credit classes for next year:

- **February 10**
9th-11th grade scheduling meetings
- **February 13**
8th grade scheduling meetings
- **February 14**
High School & Kirkwood registration sheets due

If your child misses any of the dates above, please remind them to stop in the high school office as soon as possible so they do not miss opportunities for next year.

Job Shadow Opportunities

Want your child to experience a job firsthand? Encourage your sophomore, junior, or senior to register for a group job shadow, a two to four hour experience on a job site! The Workplace Learning Connection application is open from January 6-22 at <https://www.kirkwood.edu/workplace-learning-connection/job-shadows/index>

The Workplace Learning Connection portal to apply for summer Internships is also open until February 7.

This is a wonderful, free opportunity for your child to confirm a career interest they have or explore their options.



Silver Service Cord

SILVER SERVICE CORD

The goal of the Silver Service Cord is to recognize students who have contributed to their community or school by volunteering their time and talents. Interested MHS students must complete 300 hours of service during four years of high school starting with the summer after eighth grade, to receive the Silver Service Honor cord on Senior Honors night. More specific details can be found on our website: <https://www.monticello.k12.ia.us/silver-service/>

SENIORS

Scholarships are beginning to be posted. They will be posted alphabetically by name of scholarship as we post them.

Go to the school's website at www.monticello.k12.ia.us and go to the High School page. Click on the Counseling tab, then click on Scholarships on the right.

Parents/Guardians!

Winter is setting in...are you receiving our text messages?

If not, text Y or YES to 67587

Also, if you are not getting our emails, make sure your email is correct in Infinite Campus. We use School Messenger to send out our delays, cancellations, and important messages. Thank you!



PRESCHOOL INFORMATION

Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programming for Four-Year-Old Children

For the 2025-2026 school year, we are expecting to receive state funding to support preschool programming for four-year-old children. Here are some Frequently Asked Questions to help community members gain a better understanding of what this preschool funding means to Monticello.

Which preschools are partners in the MCSD Program? Little Panthers Preschool (Shannon Elementary) and Sacred Heart Preschool (Sacred Heart School).

How will the funding be used? There are many assurances (i.e., requirements) that need to be met when using preschool funding. Money will be spent to make sure that these assurances are met. The assurances include (but are not limited to):

- Facility requirements including accessibility and playground guidelines
- Costs associated with teacher and paraprofessional professional development and certifications
- Paying staff costs for required instruction, program operation, home visits, family nights, and parent/teacher conferences
- Supplies and Equipment

Which children will this funding support? Funding must be used to support children that turn age four on or before September 15. **Will my four-year-old receive free preschool?** Sacred Heart is a half day programs and is tuition free. Little Panthers is a full day program and has a max tuition of \$135.00. All programs run Monday thru Friday with no preschool on Wednesdays.

Will my four-year-old receive transportation to and from preschool? The school district may be able to provide free transportation using an existing bus route. Check with your preschool provider for more information.

Where can I obtain more information about the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children? You can visit with representatives of the participating preschools and you can visit the Iowa Department of Education web site: <https://educate.iowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/swvpp>.

All Monticello preschool programs are currently taking applications for the 2024-25 school year:

- Little Panthers Preschool—Please see registration information at the bottom of this page.
- Sacred Heart Preschool— Call Sacred Heart at (319) 465-4605.

REGISTER NOW!



2025-2026 Little Panthers Preschool

If you are interested in registering our 4-year old for the Little Panthers Preschool for the 2025-2026 school year, please do so in one of the following ways:

1. Download and print the application.

The application is available on our website: www.monticello.k12.ia.us, click on the registration icon and then Little Panthers Preschool. Mail the completed application to Shannon Elementary, 321 W South St. Monticello, IA 52310.

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

The link is located on our website: www.monticello.k12.ia.us, click on the registration icon and then Little Panthers Preschool.

3. The application 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 February 7. 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 for the 2025-2026 school year will be ready on January 1st. Kindergarten Registration is for students entering Kindergarten in the Fall of 2025. Kindergarten registration is done all online. You can register on our website at www.monticello.k12.ia.us, click on the registration icon on the home page and then kindergarten registration. Mandatory forms can also be found on the website. These forms need to be turned in by the first day of school.

Students must turn 5 years of age on or before September 15, 2025 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 2025!

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 on the Kindergarten registration page on our [website](#) under *Registration*.

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!



Mental Wellness Month

From your **School Counseling Team**: January is **Mental Wellness Month**, a perfect time to focus on keeping your brain as healthy as your body!

For Students:

- Practice mindfulness with deep breaths or calming music.
- Write down three things you're grateful for every day—it's like a warm hug for your mind.

For Parents:

- Check in with your child regularly—it's amazing how much a simple "How are you feeling?" can help.
- Set aside family time to unplug and connect.
- Let's start the year with good vibes and healthy minds! Remember, even snowstorms pass—and sunny days are ahead.



Foundation Annual Tailgate Party & Alumni Reunion - March 1, 2025

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



FOUNDATION BOARD

- Jon Kyte – President
- Carrie Yates – Vice President
- Annette Smith
- Charlie Becker - Honorary
- Chris Brokaw
- Marcia Fisher
- Dan Goodyear
- Phil Hanna
- Dave Kehoe
- Kris Riley
- Audrey Savage
- Terry Smothers
- Julie Welter
- Ex-Officio**
- Brian Jaeger
- Brian Gogel
- Robyn Ponder

**MONTICELLO SCHOOL FOUNDATION
20TH ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY &
ALUMNI REUNION
MARCH 1, 2025**



**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 "Making it Happen...Overdrive in 2025." 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 IT 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 Teacher's Wish List put together by the teaching staff of items they would like to use in their classrooms but are 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 1. Thanks again for your support!

- Monticello School Foundation Board



f Find us on Facebook

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)
 - Visionary (\$1000, includes up to 16 tickets)
 - Other _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

- 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



Please return to – Monticello School Foundation
PO Box 2, Monticello, IA 52310-0002
The Monticello School District Foundation is a
501(c)3. EIN #42-1313635

You may also donate on PayPal.
1) https://paypal.me/MonticelloSchoolFoun?country.x=US&locale.x=en_US
2) Search on PayPal to give @MonticelloSchoolFoun

FOOD SERVICE NEWS

BREAKFAST MENU

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 NO SCHOOL— Holiday	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL— Teacher Collabora- tion Day
6 Breakfast bagel Fruit Fruit juice	7 Waffles Fruit Fruit juice	8 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	9 Yogurt cup / granola Fruit Fruit juice	10 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
13 Breakfast pizza Fruit Fruit juice	14 Long John donut Fruit Fruit juice	15 Chocolate muffin Fruit Fruit juice	16 Egg & cheese biscuit Fruit Fruit juice	17 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
20 Mini donuts Fruit Fruit juice	21 Breakfast burrito Fruit Fruit juice	22 Cereal bar Fruit Fruit juice	23 Cheese omelet Fruit Fruit juice	24 Cereal Pop tart Fruit Fruit juice
27 Blueberry muffin Fruit Fruit juice	28 Pancake sausage bites Fruit Fruit juice	29 Long John donut Fruit Fruit juice	30 Yogurt cup / granola Fruit Fruit juice	31 Cereal Pop tart Fruit 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 NO SCHOOL— Holiday	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL— Teacher Collaboration Day
6 Stuffed crust pizza Three bean salad Steamed broccoli Pineapple tidbits	7 Cheeseburger/bun French fries Peas Tropical fruit	8 Mandarin orange chicken Seasoned rice Oriental vegetables Orange wedges Roll & butter (grades 6-12)	9 Chili w/ crackers String cheese Applesauce Cinnamon roll	10 Pizza crunchers Tossed salad w/ greens Steamed corn Fresh melon
13 Breaded chicken drummies Seasoned potatoes Steamed carrots Strawberry Cup	14 BBQ rib/bun Sweet potato fries Green beans Mixed fruit	15 Chicken drumstick Mashed potatoes & gravy Corn (grades 6-12) Applesauce Roll & butter	16 Breaded cheese sticks Lettuce salad Baked beans Diced peaches	17 French toast sticks Sausage links HB patty Strawberries & bana- nas
20 Pepperoni pasta Tossed salad w/ greens Vegetable medley Pears Garlic twist (grades 6-12)	21 Philly beef/bun Peppers & onions French fries Baked beans Apple wedges	22 Popcorn chicken Garlic mashed pota- toes Mixed vegetables Peaches	23 Chicken fajita/shell Potato cubes Fajita vegetables Mixed fruit	24 Sausage pizza Lettuce salad w/ greens Green beans Mixed berry cup
27 Breaded chicken sandwich Sweet potato fries Baked beans Apple wedges	28 Meatball sub Seasoned potatoes Green beans Pears	29 Deli / croissant Fresh baby carrots Baked chips Orange wedges	30 Teriyaki chicken Seasoned rice Oriental vegetables Mandarin oranges Vegetable egg roll (grades 6-12)	31 Cheese quesadilla Tossed salad w/ greens Broccoli & cauliflower Strawberries & grapes

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**Choose a salad
as an alternate**

JANUARY 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HAPPY NEW YEAR!		1 NO SCHOOL— Holiday	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL— Teacher Collabora- tion Day JV/V GBB @ Anamosa -4:00 & 6:00 JV/V BBB @ Anamosa -4:45 & 7:30	4
6 Classes Resume! V Girls WR @ Northeast-5:30	7 JV/V GBB @ Ca- manche— 4:00 & 6:15 JV/V BBB @ Ca- manche—5:00 & 7:45 PTO Meeting-7:00— Carpenter Library	8 1:00 Early Dismissal— Prof. Development	9 V G/B Bowling@ Maquoketa-2:00 JV/V GBB @ Solon- 5:30 & 7:00 V Boys WR @ Beck- man-5:30	10 Jammin' in January Jazz Band — 7:00 @ Youth Development Center	11 NEIBA Honor Jazz Band @ CR Kennedy V Girls WR @ Ana- mosa-9:30 JV/V Boys WR @ Cen- tral Elkader—10:00 JV/V BBB @ Easton Valley—2:00 & 3:30
13 End of 1st Semester V B Bowling @ Bellevue-4:00 V Girls WR @ Ana- mosa-5:30	14 2nd Semester Begins V G/B Bowling vs Vinton Shellsburg-4:00 JV/V GBB vs Northeast- 4:00 & 6:00 JV/V BBB vs Northeast- —4:45 & 7:45	15 1:00 Early Dismissal— Prof. Development	16 7/8 BBB vs Beck- man—4:00 V Girls WR @ Cas- cade-4:30 V Boys WR @ Tip- ton-5:30	17 JV/V GBB @ Ma- quoketa-4:30 & 6:00 JV/V BBB @ Ma- quoketa-6:00 & 7:45	18 Large Group Confer- ence Speech @ Mid- -Prairie V Boys WR @ Mari- on-9:30
20 Spring Play Audi- tions-3:30 JV Boys WR @ So- lon-3:30 7/8 Girls WR @ Maquoketa-4:00 Speech Public Pre- view Night-6:00	21 Kirkwood 2nd Semester Begins Spring Play Auditions- 3:30 V Girls WR @ Sumner- Fredericksburg-6:00 JV/V GBB @ Bellevue- 4:30 & 6:00 JV/V BBB @ Bellevue- 4:30 & 7:45	22	23 7/8 BB @ Bellevue- 4:00 G/B Bowling vs Isaac Newton--4:00 V Boys WR @ Cas- cade-5:30 9/10 BBB vs Ed-Co- 6:00	24 V Girls WR @ West Liberty-4:00 JV/V GBB vs Ana- mos-4:00 & 6:00 JV/V BBB vs Ana- mosa—4:45 & 7:30	25 Large Group District Speech—Home V BBB @ Benton Com- munity-11:00 V BBB @ Benton Com- munity-11:00 V GBB @ Benton Community-12:30 JV/V WR @ Louis- Muscatine—5:00
27 7/8 BB vs Anamosa-4:00 7/8 Girls WR @ Iowa City Regina- 4:00 Board Meeting— 6:00	28 G/B Bowling vs Inde- pendence-4:00 JV/V GBB @ Beckman- 4:30 & 6:00 JV/V BBB @ Beckman- 5:00 & 7:45 V Boys WR —Home— 6:00	29 1:00 Early Dismissal— Prof. Development	30 7/8 BB @ Cascade-4:00	31 JV/V GBB @ Cas- cade-4:00 & 6:00 JV/V BBB @ Cas- cade—5:00 & 7:15	

Monticello Community School District
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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 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