

lighthouse ●

# view

The District Newsletter for **Mona Shores**  
Public Schools

JANUARY 2022 • ISSUE 61



**Happy New Year Shores Family!**

PHOTO BY HUME PHOTOGRAPHY

SUPERINTENDENT LETTER.....2  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION.....3  
 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE .....4  
 TEACHING & LEARNING .....5

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT.....6  
 SPECIAL EDUCATION.....7  
 ATHLETICS.....8  
 HIGH SCHOOL ..... 9-10

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING...11-12  
 MIDDLE SCHOOL ..... 13  
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ..... 14  
 EARLY CHILDHOOD..... 15



## *a letter* from Our Superintendent

The new year is always a time to be thankful. There are times when we need a reminder to look for the great things happening all around us. This can be especially challenging in this day and age of the 24 hour news cycle, constant

media "outrage", social media negativity, and more. As a school community we have the opportunity to notice and celebrate all of the great things happening in our community.

Our kids are leading the way in so many respects. The first half of the school year had many great examples of this. One in particular stands out and involves an incident of racism towards our students at an away football game. The hurt and anger felt by all of us was very real and the immediate thought was to blast that anger all over social media, in a community-wide letter, and any other avenue upon which we could make the other community feel pain for the actions of a few. But, as our students stepped in and worked through the hurt, it was realized that condemning a whole community for the actions of a few does not help in the long run.

Our Mona Shores students, with support from their families and school personnel, took a different approach. They met with student leaders and administrators from the other school to find a way forward for both communities. The meeting was focused on our students sharing the hurt

that was caused, listening to the apologies of the student leaders from the other school who did not commit the act, and then action planning together for the future. The outcome, led by our students, is that two communities have learned from this incident. Two communities, led by our students, have forged a path for the future that will help ensure a safe experience for all students. The original incident is appalling, without a doubt, but watching and hearing our student leaders find a way to educate while blazing a path towards healing the hurt was truly incredible. When our students lead the way, it is amazing what can happen.

Students lead the way every day in our schools. We get to see Kindergarten students welcoming a new classmate, we get to see middle school students rallying around the success of a friend, we get to see our high school students thriving in the academic, arts, and athletics worlds. Our kids have found a way to help all of us be a little bit better by being who they are. The future is very bright thanks to the student leaders abundant at Mona Shores!

As a community, let's make 2022 the year to focus on the good, celebrate the positive, and enjoy all of the great things we get to be a part of in Mona Shores!

Bill O'Brien, Jr.  
 Superintendent, Mona Shores Public Schools



### THE LIGHTHOUSE VIEW

The Lighthouse View is published three times per year by Mona Shores

Public Schools, 121 Randall Road, Norton Shores, MI 49441. Mona Shores accepts advertising to defray the cost of production and distribution and appreciates the support of its advertisers. Mona Shores does not specifically endorse advertisers or their products or services.

**To advertise in The Lighthouse View, please contact Mark Williamson at:(231) 766-3038 or email: mark@orshalrdproductions.com**

### BUILDING PHONE NUMBERS

CENTRAL OFFICE .....	(231) 780-4751
CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY .....	(231) 755-2550
CHILD CARE OFFICE .....	(231) 780-6720
CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY .....	(231) 798-1276
COMMUNITY SERVICES.....	(231) 780-4748
LINCOLN PARK ELEMENTARY.....	(231) 755-1257
PRESCHOOL.....	(231) 780-4748
ROSS PARK ELEMENTARY .....	(231) 798-1773
MIDDLE SCHOOL.....	(231) 759-8506
HIGH SCHOOL .....	(231) 780-4711

*a letter* from  
Our Board President

Have you thanked  
a teacher lately?

Teaching in public schools has never been an easy job -- and it's never been harder than the last couple of years. Our dedicated teachers have about as many hours with your kids as you do, and they must do so much more

than teaching the "three Rs" -- because they know kids can't learn when they're hungry, when they're traumatized, when they're depressed or angry.

From switching on the fly to virtual school through helping our students get back into the routines of in-person learning, our teachers have done

it all with patience, grace, and professionalism. They've done it while helping their own families cope with the pandemic, and while coping with it themselves. Especially in our elementary schools, they've done it while their classrooms have been moved, torn up, rebuilt, and moved again. Most of them hauled their own boxes. Twice.

Through all that, they've continued their professional development, their lesson planning, and all the other "normal" things teachers do, and done their best to stay above the fray as attacks on public education have become far too common -- and sometimes far, far too personal.

This school year hasn't been as close to normal as many of us had hoped. We're getting closer, and the Board of Education is unendingly grateful to our teachers for the big part they play in that. For whatever sense of normalcy your kids have had this year, please join us: Thank a teacher today.



Stan Miller  
President, Mona Shores Board of Education



Happy  
New Year!

**Board of Education  
2022 Meeting Schedule**

Jan 10.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Combined Session HS-LMC
Feb 7.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Work Session HS-LMC
Feb 14.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Regular Session HS-LMC
Mar 7.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Work Session HS-LMC
Mar 14.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Session HS-LMC
Apr 11.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Combined Session HS-LMC
May 9.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Work Session HS-LMC
May 16.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Regular Session HS-LMC
Jun 6.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Work Session HS-LMC
Jun 13.....	6:45 PM to 7:00 PM.....	Budget Presentation HS-LMC
Jun 13.....	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.....	Regular Session HS-LMC

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION 2021-2022**

**Stan Miller, President**

(231) 557-4039

E-mail: millers@monashores.net

**Chris Burnaw, Vice President**

(231) 557-4949

E-mail: burnawc@monashores.net

**Kandace Boysen, Treasurer**

(231) 375-0459

E-mail: boysenk@monashores.net

**Jeanne Cooper-Kuiper, Secretary**

(231) 798-3815

E-mail: cooperj@monashores.net

**Jay Keessen, Trustee**

(231) 206-0889

E-mail: keessenj@monashores.net

**Mary McClellan, Trustee**

(231) 486-5285

mccllellanm@monashores.net

**Wesley Wilson, Trustee**

(231) 798-8416

E-mail: wilsonw@monashores.net

# Bonded Construction Update

By Robert Jonker, Director of Finance

Lincoln Park Elementary is finished!



All classrooms are complete and the students and staff have settled into their new spaces. Due to the pandemic and shut down in May 2020, the entire construction schedule had to be re-phased delaying completion to Thanksgiving rather than the start of school. Original construction cost was \$11,009,500. We had budgeted an additional \$942,101 in construction contingencies of which we have \$98,268 remaining to date, for a total build cost of \$11,853,333. We fully expect to have some minor items pop up and need correcting throughout the winter, which could reduce that contingency amount should that occur.

Construction is continuing to go well. Churchill Elementary is on track for completion by spring break of 2022. Ross Park Elementary and Campbell Elementary are on schedule and the Middle School went out for bid on November 24th with bids due on December 15th. Once again, I would like to thank our community and staff for their support and patience throughout this project.



# Teaching and Learning

*a message* from Andy Hogston, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

## 2021 Highlights and Preparation for 2022

Despite the fact that 2020 and 2021 have been extremely challenging and complicated times for all of us, we have managed to resume some curriculum projects. We are always looking forward and preparing to continually improve resources, curriculum, and strategies for "Teaching & Learning".

### Several Highlights for 2021:

- The approval, adoption, and purchase of the 2018 version of Math Expressions.** This work was nearly complete and a recommendation ready to be made when the COVID-19 virus hit. However, we were able to have this in place for the 2021-22 school year. This replaces the 2013 version of Math Expressions. We are in the process of establishing a multi-year plan for ongoing professional learning related to Math Expressions and instructional practices.
- The addition of a full-time K-3 Literacy Coach.**  
 Mrs. Michelle Wahlberg is working with our four elementary buildings. This is made possible through a grant initiative and funding in partnership with the MAISD. This work connects perfectly with our district learning focused on the instructional practices of the 10 Essentials of Literacy.
- K-8 Benchmark Assessments**  
 We are once again administering a common benchmark assessment three times per year (Fall, Winter, Spring) for both Math and Reading. It provides another measure of student performance individually and overall.
- New Elementary Health Special**  
 This school year began with a new addition to the elementary specials rotation. Health has been added to the schedule and is taught by our Physical Education teachers. We are utilizing the MI Model of Health as our primary resource for this class.
- The Middle School launches its first Robotics Team.**  
 This new opportunity for students links our programs from the elementary to high school.
- The Middle School purchases FOSS Science as the new Science resource 6th-8th.**  
 This process began a number of years ago, but the middle school science team has officially started the process of transitioning to utilizing FOSS this school year.
- Updating and Re-tooling our District Strategic Plan (DSP)**  
 The DSP prioritizes district focus. This work will take place this school year.
- The High School & Middle School resume student performances and activities.**  
 This school year most of the traditional and much anticipated activities from the Academics, Arts, and Athletics have resumed (with few restrictions). This has been a welcomed return. The opportunity for students to once again participate and thrive in a multitude of activities has been refreshing and wonderful for our Sailor Family!

The last year has reminded me that it is more important than ever to show our gratitude to others. To give others the benefit of the doubt. To look for the good. To appreciate and acknowledge the "big" & "little" things. To recognize the humanity that connects us all. Thank you parents, grandparents, educators, and students for all your contributions to Sailor Nation. Hoping that 2022 will be your best and most productive year yet!

*"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."  
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## Spring Assessment Schedule

Mona Shores will be fully prepared for the M-STEP, SAT, and all other State Assessments from a student, staff, and technology perspective. It will be exciting to see the performance of our Sailors across the District as they take on these State assessments.

The table shown helps to lay out our assessment plan for the 2022 testing season:

GRADE	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSMENT WINDOW	ESTIMATED TOTAL TESTING TIME
3rd grade	ELA and Math	April 25 - May 20, 2022	3.5 hours
4th grade	ELA and Math	April 25 - May 20, 2022	3.5 hours
5th grade	ELA, Math, Science, & SS	April 11 - May 6, 2022	6 hours
6th grade	ELA and Math	April 25 - May 20, 2022	4 hours
7th grade	ELA and Math	April 25 - May 20, 2022	4 hours
8th grade	PSAT, Science, and SS	April 11 - May 6, 2022	5.5 hours
9th grade	PSAT	April 13-19, 2022	2.5 hours
10th grade	PSAT	April 13-19, 2022	2.5 hours
11th grade	M-STEP Science & SS	April 11 - May 6, 2022	2 hours
11th grade	SAT	April 13, 2022	4 hours
11th grade	ACT Work Keys	April 14, 2022	3 hours

# SHORES Community Spotlight

Chief of the Norton  
Shores Police  
Department  
**Jon Gale**

**J**on Gale was appointed as Chief of the Norton Shores Police Department on December 1, 2014. Prior to that appointment, he served the NSPD for twenty years as a patrol officer, narcotics investigator, traffic investigator, administrative sergeant, patrol sergeant, and patrol lieutenant.

School safety has always been a passion of Chief Gale as he strives

for better security measures in Muskegon County schools. He served on a team which implemented a countywide school lock down policy, and led a team of police, fire and school experts to create a countywide school emergency management plan. He founded the award-winning FACE THE BOOK and RIDE with PRIDE programs, which actively seek new ways for youth to make positive choices. Each of these programs began in the Mona Shores School District, and have now expanded into nine other school districts in Muskegon and Oceana counties.

Chief Gale and the Norton Shores Police Department is proud to provide an accredited police department to our community that continues to strive to be better. The police department employs two full-time school resource officers who assist at the Mona Shores High and Middle schools. These officers are assigned to a variety of tasks, but focus on a mentorship mentality. School resource officers also work with school administration to find creative solutions and promote positive behavior. Also, two new traffic specialist positions were created this year to provide targeted traffic enforcement in and around the schools to make the commute safer for our children.

New specialty positions were also implemented in 2021 with the support of Mayor Nelund and the City Council. Federal and State grants were secured to fund these new positions, which included two full-time detectives that were hired and compensated through the Federal Stop Violence against Women fund. This grant funding allows the police department to dedicate these detectives to investigate crimes that include; criminal sexual conduct, domestic abuse, stalking, and other serious crimes committed against women.

The police department also joined forces with AgeWell Services, and the Muskegon County Prosecutor's office to receive a grant through the Muskegon County Senior Millage. This grant provides dedicated detectives to investigate crimes against our senior population. This successful team has investigated over forty cases this year of abuse and fraud, and has recovered hundreds of thousands of dollars in restitution for victims in Muskegon County.

Effective mental health response is another major focus of the NSPD. The police department has teamed up with Health West to provide a co-response model to mental health calls. Police officers, medical personnel, and mental health professionals collaborate together to get people in crisis the help they need. Chief Gale is continuing to work at both the state and local levels to provide valuable resources to those who need specialized mental health services.

The NSPD and the Mona Shores School District have a close-knit relationship, and will continue to partner together to provide a safe educational experience.

Chief of the  
Norton Shores  
Police Department  
**Jon Gale**



  
**COVENANT SHORES  
PHYSICAL THERAPY**

FREE 30 MINUTE  
INJURY CONSULTATION

**DEAN MILLAR, PT Owner**  
Physical Therapist

**231-737-5481** | [www.covenantshorespt.com](http://www.covenantshorespt.com)  
955 W. Norton Ave., Ste. B • Norton Shores, MI



**ERIC WAHLBERG**

NeXes Realtor • Licensed Builder

**NE XES**  
Realty, Inc.

[ericwilderness@yahoo.com](mailto:ericwilderness@yahoo.com)


**231-740-1698**

# Special Education & Student Services

*a message* from Jennifer Briggs Russell, Director of Special Education and Student Services

We are very fortunate to have a Physical Therapist and three Occupational Therapists at Mona Shores. Our therapists provide direct and consultation services to students, complete evaluations, and share resources with families and staff throughout our district. This year, our therapists created a family newsletter that


contains helpful hints and simple activities that families can easily use at home. We will continue to share our therapists' "Sailing Tips" in the Lighthouse View to give families ideas for movement activities that can be used during everyday routines in the home. You can cut it out, put it on a bulletin board or your fridge!



## Sailing Tips from the Therapy Crew

Movement & THE BRAIN

Jessica Kever, OTR/L JoAnn Hradsky, OTR/L Lisa Luttrull, DPT Melissa Stark OTR/L




### Did you know?

- The average learner benefits from a movement break every 15-20 minutes.
- Simply standing increases blood flow to the brain by 30%.
- Exercise increases the number of connections between neurons.
- Research has shown kids learn more quickly after exercise.

### Impacts of Movement on the Brain

- Focus and attention
- Alertness
- Motivation
- Behavior
- Memory
- Concentration
- Academics
- Social emotional well being
- Sleep



### Tips for Using Movement at HOME

- Exercise for 10-15 minutes before starting homework.
- Take a movement break every 15-20 minutes of homework.

"MOVEMENT is the starting point for wiring the brain for learning."  
-Gill Connell

## Movement Ideas



### Jumping Jacks



### Wall Push-Ups



### Cross Crawls



### Yoga Poses



### Play with a Pet



### Kick a ball

## Finger Warm-Up Ideas



### Play-doh



### Finger to thumb touches



### Push hands together

## More FUN ideas

- Do a wall push-up for each letter sound during spelling practice.
- Bounce a ball for each letter of the alphabet, math fact, or sight word.

## ❄️ IS SCHOOL CLOSED TODAY? ❄️ WINTER WEATHER ALERTS! ❄️



During this time of year we're more likely to experience school closings/delays. **Delays** postpone start time by two (2) hours and therefore, cancel **morning** ECSE, Tuition Preschool, and Head Start classes. With delayed start, childcare latchkey sites open at regular times in their regular locations.

**Closings** typically cancel all school activities for the day; including Tuition Preschool, Head Start, GSRP and latchkey program sites. With a school closing, the

Childcare Center at Ross Park Elementary is open during regular hours for students currently enrolled in childcare/latchkey from **any** building. Contact your school building for information regarding evening activities.

To quickly notify families, Mona Shores utilizes the District Notification System. Parents and staff will be contacted via telephone/email/opt-in text with a message for school closings or delays. The information is also available on our Facebook page, radio, TV, or our district website at [www.monashores.net](http://www.monashores.net).

# Boys Tennis, Academic Recognition, and Female Strength Training Highlight the 2021 Fall Season

~ a message from Todd Conrad, Director of Athletics

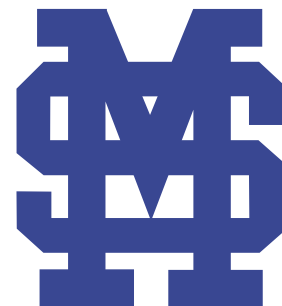
Under the direction of second-year head coach Traci Hackney, the boys tennis team has continued their ascent as one of the premier programs in west Michigan. Not only did they win their third straight Greater Muskegon Athletic Association title, they finished the 2021 season as champions of the Green Division of the Ottawa-Kent Conference. Receiving first-team all-conference recognition were #1 singles Drew Hackney, #2 singles Kayden Hellmann, and the #1 doubles team of Collin Khatir and Lydia Sowles. Sophomore Drew Hackney also received first-team all-state honors for the second straight season by advancing to the round of eight at the MHSAA Division 2 Championships hosted by Hope College. It's not just athletic talent, however, that keeps the tennis program going as four seniors were named academic all-state as individuals while helping their team attain academic all-state status through the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association: Kayden Hellmann, Lydia Sowles, Luke Uptigrove, Sam Uptigrove & Bobby Wasserman. A huge thanks goes out to the entire program for representing Mona Shores both in and out of the classroom.



While many fall sports do not name academic all-state teams until much later in the year, the Michigan Volleyball Coaches Association has recognized the 2021 Mona Shores volleyball team as academic all-state. Just like the boys tennis team, our volleyball program had four girls named as academic all-state individuals: Holli Brus, Linden Gentzkow, Anabeth Hylland, and Grace Norris. Congratulations to the girls volleyball team on excellent performances both in the classroom and on the court.

Mona Shores athletes improving themselves in the off-season has been a standard practice for decades. It's the reason many of our teams have been so successful over the years. One of the ways that this has been accomplished is through participation in a strength & conditioning class during the school day. During the 2019-2020 school year, however, only 10 of our female athletes were enrolled in such a class. This fall, we have tripled the number of girls

enrolled by creating a female strength & conditioning class taught by Head Girls Basketball Coach Mike Phillips. Under the direction of Mercy Health Athletic Trainer Dan Schroeder, those athletes are given research-based daily workouts to help develop overall athleticism and prevent injury. These workouts are distributed via the Volt Athletics training app that provides daily feedback to our girls about their improvement. In just eight weeks in the program, our female athletes have already seen measurable improvement in the volume of weight they are able to lift in a wide variety of exercises. The Volt Athletics interactive tool was funded by the Sailor Classic Foundation. A huge thanks goes out to this organization for providing innovative ways for our athletes to get better.



Don't forget that updated athletic schedules and results can be found at:

[www.monashoresathletics.com](http://www.monashoresathletics.com)

**WE DON'T  
SAY WE'RE  
THE BEST.  
OUR CUSTOMERS DO.**

2150 E. Laketon Avenue  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
231.773.6857

**CallBishop.com**





# "Sailor P.R.I.D.E."

Personal responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Disciplined | Engagement

*a message* from High School Principal, Jennifer Bustard

## Happy New Year!

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) supports for Mona Shores High School students, staff and parents.

MSSH is very fortunate to have the very best of educators and support staff who care for the well being and learning of all our students. As a District we are committed to engaging in SEL strategies to further enhance their educational experience in high school. The following are just a few of the projects students and staff have taken on this school year to support the social and emotional well being of students and staff.

The Social Emotional Student Advisory Team under the support of Counselor Amorette Clausen and Anne Brainard have truly embarked on a whole new level of passion and commitment to supporting and caring for the Sailor community. **The Purpose of SEL Student Advisory Committee Is to:** Provide Social Emotional awareness and strategies to support our students and faculty. Encouraging student voice to grow and expand our positive school culture. Provide hope and care to all we encounter. Making the most of each and every opportunity to impact what we can.

SEL student team members have created PSA's for the daily Sailor Broadcast news and just recently created Wellness Week. Creating a building wide awareness of



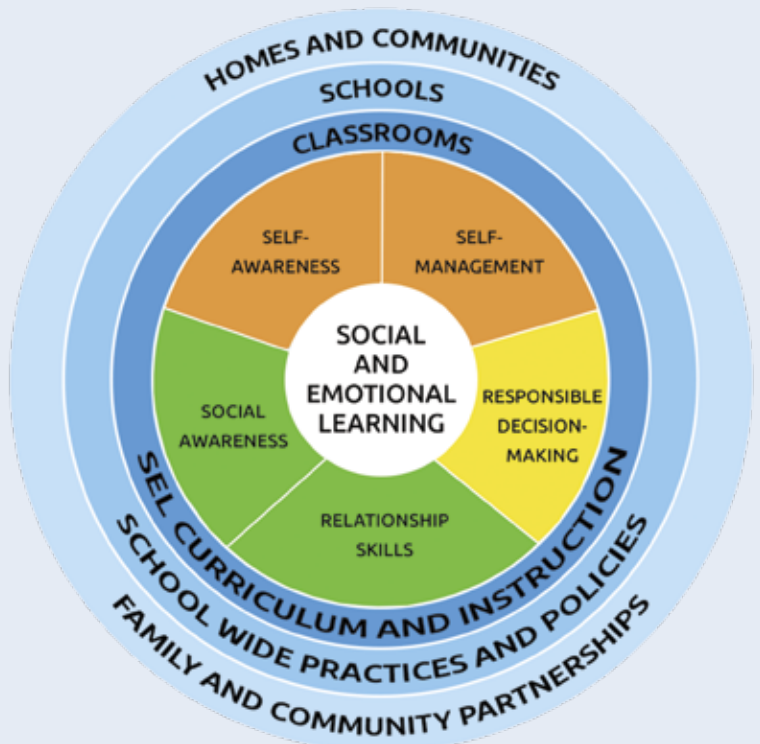
WELLNESS WEEK NOVEMBER 15-19				
NOVEMBER 15	NOVEMBER 16	NOVEMBER 17	NOVEMBER 18	NOVEMBER 19
<b>Mindful Monday</b>	<b>Together Tuesday</b>	<b>Work Out Wednesday</b>	<b>Thankful Thursday</b>	<b>Fun Friday</b>
Take care of yourself in stressful times.	Support each other and ask for help when needed.	Good physical health helps your emotional health.	Find the little things to be appreciative of.	Manage stress, seek support, make connections, exercise, & be thankful.
Dress in pajama or yoga attire today!	Dress up as a twin today!	Dress in workout clothes today!	Dress in Fall colors today! 90%-purple, 10%-red, 10%-orange, 12%-green	Dress in something you are a part of. MS, a club, a team, etc.!
Activity: 1st Hour - Mindful Activity (Free 20min!)	Activity: 2nd Hour - Weekly Member Bookmark Activity	Activities: Lunch - Joint Session, Social Games, \$10.00 am - Meditation	Activities: Lunch - Thanksgiving Meal, 3rd Hour - "Thank a Sailor" Activity	Activity: 5th Hour - Dress a Turkey Activity

strategies to cope with stress and support one another has been the driving vision. Encouraging all that it is safe to talk about mental health. **#breakthestigma**. Students have participated in learning through the Student Mental Health Summit where they heard first hand knowledge from experts in the field. They came away with ideas to bring to the student body throughout the school year.

## Question, Persuade, Refer



MSSH Sailor Staff have been provided professional development around social emotional learning and mental health. Staff have received training from MAISD consultants on QPR strategies specific to suicide prevention, understanding how to have mental health conversations and how to refer for support. In addition, staff have received training in Social Emotional Instructional strategies centered around welcoming activities, engagement strategies and optimistic closures.



© CASEL 2017

continued on page 10

**New this year is Esports!** We are so excited for this brand new sport that our Sailors get to participate in. Coach Dave Droski and his players meet after school in gaming competitions with other high school students from all over the state. In their first season the Sailors competed in fine fashion often ranking in the top 15. This new sport is capturing the attention of colleges and universities throughout the country. Many offer college scholarships to attend their schools and compete at a collegiate level. "Opportunities for all Sailors"



**CHAMPIONS SERIES**  
MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ESPORTS LEAGUE



We are now at the midway point of the 2nd trimester, and it's hard to believe we are gearing up for the scheduling season for our high school students. Please review the Counselor's Corner for more specific information regarding assembly dates and course selection form return dates. This is an exciting time for our students as they plan for their high school schedule and post-secondary aspirations. For more information, please visit the Counseling Department web page.

We continue to have much to celebrate and to look forward to here at the high school and would encourage you to join us at any of our events that are sure to highlight student talents and performances! You can also follow the many events on the official MSHS Twitter and Facebook account @MSHSPRIDE.

Thank you for your support, commitment, and dedication to Mona Shores. If you have any questions please contact me at 780-4711, extension 8499, or by email at [bustardj@monashores.net](mailto:bustardj@monashores.net).



*Looking forward to seeing you at the next event!*  
Go Sailors!  
Jennifer Bustard, Principal



Beltone has been the most trusted name in hearing healthcare for over 80 years. Locally owned and operated in West Michigan since 1980, with over 1,500 locations nation-wide to serve your hearing health needs.

- \$1,000 off a set of Beltone Amaze or Beltone Imagine hearing instruments
- FREE hearing evaluations.
- FREE no-obligation trials of our industry-leading technology
- Clean and checks of all makes and models of hearing aids
- Local in-home service as needed

Most insurances accepted: TruHearing, Priority Health Medicare, BCBS, MPSERS, UAW, and more! Many discount programs available.



**Call 231-755-3920 to schedule your appointment today!**

Jordan P. Smith, BC-HIS, President  
Larry D. Williams, BC-HIS, Vice President

**Beltone Hearing Centers**  
**843 W. Summit Ave.**  
**Muskegon, MI 49441**

**GO SAILORS!**

## ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

**Medical, Dental, Behavioral Health Services**  
Accepting New Patients ages 5-21

We accept Medicaid products and most private insurances. Medical copays are waived.

**HACKLEY COMMUNITY CARE**



## MUSKEGON TEEN HEALTH CENTER

80 West Southern Ave., J Building, Room E113 • 231.733.6680  
Monday - Thursday 8am-4:30pm, Friday 8am-12pm

# COX

## Accounting & Tax Service

1975 Holton Rd., Muskegon, MI 49445  
**Phone 231.744.3827**  
[www.coxaccounting.biz](http://www.coxaccounting.biz)

**CALL US TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT**

*Serving Muskegon for over 70 years*

Frank Cox  
Ila Cox  
John Cox  
Mark Hekkema  
Jason Cox  
Jon Johnson

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

by Danielle Smith-Walker, Director of Counseling

The mission of the Mona Shores High School Guidance and Counseling Program is to provide support for student achievement in partnership with parents, staff and community. Counseling services will be provided in a safe and positive environment with a focus on college, career and life readiness.

## COLLEGE, CAREER AND LIFE READY!

In an effort to ensure that all students are College, Career and Life Ready, we employ a wide variety of tools to assist them. We begin early utilizing career interest inventories to assist students in identifying possible career pathways. Currently, we utilize XELLO. Xello helps students plan their own unique journey whether it involves a trade, college, university, entrepreneurship, or other training. Our district will develop Educational Development Plans (EDP) with students in order for them to understand their skills, values, career choices and college training options. The district shares a Career Specialist that is based out of the MAISD that may facilitate work based learning opportunities for students that include job shadows, externships, and internships. In addition to the learning opportunities, students are also exposed to several career exploration events such as: Modern Manufacturing Day, Groundhog Shadow Day, MiCareerQuest, and Muskegon Made Job Fair. There are lots of options for students! As we approach the new scheduling season, if interested in any of these, or to learn more information, please contact the counseling office.

## STUDENT SCHEDULING FOR 2022-2023 BEGINS IN JANUARY

Counselors will begin meeting with students in scheduling assemblies shortly after the holiday break. Students will be given a copy of their transcript to review and will be instructed to select their classes for the next school year. Parents can assist their sons and daughters in this process by reviewing their choices, signing the course selection sheet, reminding them to return the materials to school on time and finally scheduling with them online at home. Counselors and students will meet individually during this time to review their scheduled course selections for accuracy and planning.

The following scheduling time frame will be followed:

Class	Assembly Date	Course Selection Return Dates
2023	Thursday, January 20, 2022	Monday, Jan. 24- Wednesday, Jan. 26 Make-up January 28
2024	Thursday, January 27, 2022	Monday, Jan. 31-Wednesday, Feb. 2 Make-up Feb. 4
2025	Thursday, February 3, 2022	Monday, Feb. 7- Wednesday, Feb. 9 Make-up Feb. 11

### \*\* 8TH GRADERS: CLASS OF 2026\*\*

#### 8th Grade Assembly - February 28

(2nd hour: 8:50 am-9:45 am at MS Middle School)

#### 8th Grade Parent Night- February 28

(7:00 pm HS Auditorium)

#### Course selection Return Date: Thursday March 3

(All day during Social Studies Classes)

Friday March 4 - Any make-up schedules returned

## EXTENDED DAY AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

Students needing tutoring can get assistance every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school in the Media Center. There are teachers and National Honor Society students available to tutor in core subjects from 3:00 – 3:45 PM. Have your student check out these very valuable resources! Please contact your student's counselor for more information.

## SAT

**Junior Registration:** The State of Michigan will pay for all juniors to take the SAT test on April 13 during the school day. On April 14 students will take the ACT Workkeys. Juniors will be able to send 4 free scores to colleges that they are considering attending. They should give this some thought ahead of time because they will be asked to give that information. **Parents, please be mindful that this is the third day after Spring Break (State Mandated Date) and it is important that your student be present. Also, please note that this exam is required for graduation.**

## FAFSA

Students have to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, for each school year to qualify for grants, scholarships, federal work-study and federal student loans. But deadlines vary for federal, state and institutional aid. Each year, the FAFSA opens on Oct. 1. File your FAFSA as close to Oct. 1 as possible to improve your chances of qualifying for the most grant, scholarship and work-study aid. **Please Note:** You can call the Financial Aid Office at Baker College or Muskegon Community College and get help for FREE on filling out the Financial Aid Form. Beware of people who want to charge you for this service, or of people who promise to get you Financial Aid if you pay them to complete your form. When in doubt, call first for advice. Go to <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/> for an early estimate of federal aid eligibility. Additional information is available at <https://studentaid.gov/>.

### SCHOLARSHIP NOTICES

Please go to our scholarship page to see many more available scholarships at: <http://www.monashores.net/our-schools/monashores-high-school/hs-departments/counseling/financial-aid-scholarships/>. The following is a **sampling** of some of our local scholarships that offer multiple opportunities. Scholarship notices are posted throughout the building, on our website, and on the announcements.

**THE MUSKEGON AREA PROMISE:** The Muskegon Area Promise makes a unique commitment to the young people of our community - if they work hard they will be able to earn at least a two-year college degree tuition free. The Promise Scholarship is an award promised to resident graduates of high schools within the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District boundaries. It provides the financial assistance necessary to obtain a two-year degree or its equivalent at an eligible partnering institution when used in conjunction with federal, state and institutional grants. Students must graduate with a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher from a high school located within the boundaries of the MAISD. Please go to: <http://www.muskegonisd.org/career-college/promise/> for more information.

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MUSKEGON COUNTY:** CFFMC offers a number of scholarships. Most are for seniors going away to a four-year school. Some are for students going to a vocational or technical program. They do offer a few merit-based scholarships worth more money. Financial need is often a consideration.

**Deadline: February 1.** The application is now online at the Foundation website, [www.cffmc.org](http://www.cffmc.org). Please visit the website for more information.

**MEA SCHOLARSHIPS:** Last year 36 scholarships totaling \$30,000 were awarded based upon leadership, community service, and

academics. Preference is given to children of MEA members. You can fill out a scholarship application at <http://www.mea.org/mea-scholarship>. The deadline for applications is February 17, 2022.

**MICHIGAN COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP:** Any senior who attained a qualifying score of at least a 1200 on the SAT is eligible for this scholarship. We will notify those that qualify and alert them to the next step. This is renewable and worth up to \$1300 per year. Students must attend a Michigan public college and **show financial need**. You must file the FAFSA, and it must be received by March 1. Social security numbers are required. See your counselor for details.

**AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS:** American Legion gives a number of \$500 scholarships to children and sometimes grandchildren of Veterans. Go to [www.michiganlegion.org/scholarships](http://www.michiganlegion.org/scholarships) and [www.michalaux.org](http://www.michalaux.org) for more information.

**WOMEN'S DIVISION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** A minimum of six \$1000 scholarships are available to all students planning to attend Muskegon Community College or Baker College full time. Applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA and reside in Muskegon County. PLEASE NOTE: Applicants may be MALE or FEMALE. Applications are available in the Counseling Office or online at [www.womensdivision.org](http://www.womensdivision.org) Deadline is March 11.

**TUITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP):** This is an incentive (and need based) program that encourages eligible students to complete high school by providing tuition assistance for the first two years of college and beyond. To meet the financial eligibility requirement, a student must have (or have had) Medicaid for at least two years between the age of nine and high school graduation, you are encouraged to contact MI Student Aid or call **888-447-2687** to learn more. Counselors met with TIP eligible seniors to review this opportunity. If you think your student may be eligible please contact their high school counselor.

# your way home



# MUSKEGON

3145 HENRY ST., SUITE 200 | MUSKEGON, MI 49441  
231.830.3000

# Middle School

*a message* from Principal, Doug Ammeraal

## GRATEFUL FOR AND PROUD OF OUR FOCUS AND COMMITMENT

With Christmas around the corner, I cannot help but reflect on the start of the school year, on the transition to a sense of normalcy, and on outstanding students and staff that we have at Mona Shores Middle School. I continue to be inspired and grateful for who they are as individuals, as educators, and as sailors. Here are just a couple of items that I shared with students and staff prior to Thanksgiving break:

I am **grateful** for a student body that demonstrates **Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Engagement (PRIDE)** in all they do. I am **grateful** for a student body that is compassionate, caring, and eager to impact the lives of others.

- I am **grateful** for a team of educators (teachers, paraprofessionals, coaches, substitutes, bus drivers, and office staff) that put students first, that put their hearts and souls into their craft, and that are committed to doing whatever it takes to help students succeed.
- I am **grateful** to parents, guardians, and families that work diligently to support their students, impact their learning, and guide them through currents of adolescence.
- I am **grateful** to be a **Mona Shores SAILOR!**

Our families and community should be **proud** of the students and staff that enter this building every day! They should be **proud** of not only the academics and behavior, but also of the high-character young people that they are developing and growing into! They should be **proud** of learning experiences, depth of conversations, and relational capacity that occurs at MSMS! I know that I am!

Here are just a few things that I am proud of regarding some of the positives happening at Mona Shores Middle School.

**BEHAVIOR DATA** | Last year, we had very good data numbers, documenting nearly every situation, big or small. Clearly, last year was a different experience. This year, while our students are re-establishing how they move in the hallways, engage socially, and interact with adults at school, our overall numbers are down! We have 30% of discipline coming from less than 1% of our students. Additionally, we are well below the national average. Know that we will continue to hold our students accountable to high expectations of respect and ownership. Collectively, I am **proud**

of our students for their overall positive behavior and choices!

**PEER TO PEER** | Our Peer to Peer (P2P) class continues to be a huge success. Students in this class are learning about acceptance, various disabilities, engagement, and overall relational capacity. They are working with other students who have different abilities, bringing them into the culture of our building, establishing authentic relationships, and learning

alongside each other. I look forward to seeing this class grow, develop, and impact our school climate and culture; I look forward to seeing these students impact our community! I am **proud** of this class, these students, and the adults that lead it!

**DAILY INSTRUCTION** | Visiting classrooms, being present in hallways, and seeing final products, know that our teachers are creating outstanding learning opportunities for our students! What we have observed include: refurbishing home furniture in Trades Academy, discussing heroes in The Outsiders, building roller coasters in STEM class, solving two-step equations in math class (and applying them), collaborating in a GooseChase, performing at a concert, or engaging in high level workouts in 21st Century Fitness. At MSMS, daily opportunities for our students abound! I am **proud** of the work of our teachers and the engagement of our students.

**MONTHLY CHARACTER TRAITS** | Our students, staff, and families continue to reflect, learn, and grow with our character traits. Mrs. Butterfield, one of our counselors, does a phenomenal job of creating lessons and activities for students and staff that reinforce positive behavior and strengthen character. Teachers are intentional in recognizing, discussing, and tying the focus trait into their curriculum. Administrators work hard to remind our students each week of our focus trait, challenging them to consider what it might look like, how it might impact their lives, and in what ways might they be able to model that trait. I am **proud** of our staff and families for intentionally focusing on these traits with our students.

As we continue to learn, grow, and strive to be the best Middle School for our students, we must continue to challenge each



other to be the best version of ourselves that we can possibly be - our best as students, educators, parents, friends, and community members. No matter what role we assume

in the education of our students, we must keep making the conscious effort to be our very best every day, regardless of ability, situation, or circumstances. I believe that if we continue, together, to embrace this collective responsibility and focus, Mona Shores Middle School will be the **BEST** middle school it can possibly be, through academic success, high-character, positive behavior, and in creating a memorable middle school experience for our students!

With the back half of the year right around the corner, please know that this team of high-quality, passionate educators at Mona Shores Middle School will continue to strive for excellence in all that we do! We will stay focused on our students, their successes, their failures, their emotional well being, and their overall experience at Mona Shores Middle School!

With **SAILOR PRIDE**,

Doug Ammeraal, Principal | ammeraad@monashores.net

A handwritten note on a piece of paper. The text reads: "It is more polite and respectful. You don't want to say the 'autistic' kid because that is saying that they are defined by their disability. They are special because they are who they are."

# Exciting announcement!

All four of our elementary schools have partnered with the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District and the Muskegon Community Foundation, to provide literacy coaching opportunities for all K-3 educators. MAISD employee, Michelle Wahlberg, through consulting and coaching, supports educators in implementing high-quality instruction in the areas of ELA and literacy standards, practices, and assessments.

Some of the ways Michelle is interacting with our staff includes:

- Facilitation of a meeting
- Providing or leading training on a specific topic
- Observation in a classroom
- Modeling instructional practices in the classroom
- Working directly with students
- Working directly with administrators or building leadership teams to make literacy related decisions
- Planning instruction with a teacher(s)
- Analyzing data with a teacher(s) or leadership team
- Providing instructional coaching and feedback



Our hopes are that through these efforts, teachers will be best equipped to deliver high-quality literacy instruction to all students, with the ultimate goal of increasing student proficiency in literacy.

If you are interested in learning about the Essential Literacy Practices for grades Pre-K, K-3, 4-5, 6-12, elementary coaching, and/or school-wide leadership, please be sure to visit: [literacyessentials.org](http://literacyessentials.org). Please also feel free to reach out to any of our elementary principals at Mona Shores Public Schools to learn more.

## Senior Citizen LUNCHEON FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND, 2022

This popular event fills up quickly!  
Mona Shores Residents ages 62 and older are eligible to attend.  
Reservations begin March 28, 2022.

Mona Shores Public Schools is partnering with Spectrum Health Continuing Care, Seminole Shores, the Village at Park Terrace, AgeWell Services and Beltone Hearing Center for our Annual Senior Citizen Event. The date of the event is Friday, April 22, 2022 at 1:00 pm. Join us for a delicious lunch served in the High School Cafeteria along with special entertainment from our talented students!

**RSVP beginning March 28.** Visit our webpage at [www.monashores.net/our-community/senior-citizen-luncheon](http://www.monashores.net/our-community/senior-citizen-luncheon) and complete the form. You can also call our 24-hour reservation line at (231) 332-8253 to leave a recorded reservation. To make a reservation, leave first and last name, address, and phone number for each person attending. All attendees must be Mona Shores residents. Reservations are taken on a first come, first serve basis and fill very quickly. (No early reservations please), We will send out telephone confirmations the week before the event to confirm your reservation. Looking forward to another great event!



# Mona Shores Tuition Preschool

Mona Shores Tuition Preschool offers preschool classes for three and four year olds. Our highly qualified teachers and assistants offer a variety of hands-on activities to help each child learn and prepare for the next level of their educational journey. We believe children learn best through play and real life opportunities.

We still have a few openings for the 2021-2022 school year. If you are interested, please contact our early childhood office at 231-780-6720.

# Mona Shores Child Care

Mona Shores Child Care offers a nurturing and caring environment filled with many experiences to allow children of all ages to play, learn and grow. We provide care for children ages 6 weeks of age through fifth grade. We also offer sailor care which is before and after school care at all of our elementary buildings. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact us at 231-780-6720.

Our early childhood programs are looking for caring and passionate individuals to join our team. If you are interested in becoming an employee, please contact us today!



**HEAD START:** A federally funded preschool program that offers three and four year old children a full day of educational experiences. Breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack are provided.

### GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM:

A state-sponsored preschool experience for 4-year-olds to include a full day of educational experiences. Breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack are provided.



**Classrooms are located in Ross Park Elementary.**

**Please call 231-865-4102 for information.**

**Now enrolling for the 21-22 school year.**

Both programs are FREE to families that qualify.



Color By Numbers

- 1 = Yellow
- 2 = Black
- 3 = Brown
- 4 = Blue
- 5 = Orange

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Future Sailors Activity**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Inspiring excellence, building character, and impacting the future through academics, arts, and athletics....Mona Shores!*

**\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
POSTAL CUSTOMER**



**SERENITY WELLNESS**  
CHIROPRACTIC CENTER & MASSAGE

Dr. Lynnmarie S. Leyder  
Doctor of Chiropractic

542 S. STATE ST.  
SPARTA  
(616) 887-2178

www.SerenityWellnessChiro.com

374 SEMINOLE RD.  
NORTON SHORES  
(231) 375-5995

info@SerenityWellnessChiro.com



*Happy New Year!*

**A LOOK AHEAD:**

- January 3 .....Classes Resume (after Holiday Break)
- January 17 .....No School K-12th Grade - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 17 .....Half Day K-12th Grade
- February 18-21 .....No School K-12th Grade - Mid-Winter Break
- March 31 .....Half Day K-12th Grade
- April 1-8 .....No School K-12th Grade - Spring Break
- April 15 .....Half Day K-12th Grade - Good Friday

**TONIGHT'S HOMEWORK:**  
**PREPARE FOR**  
**FINANCIAL SUCCESS**

**...AND, WE CAN HELP**



**BRAEBURN**  
Wealth Management



**INVESTMENTS & PORTFOLIOS**



**COMPANY RETIREMENT PLANS**



**RETIREMENT PLAN ROLLOVERS**



**SOCIAL SECURITY ANALYSIS**



**FINANCIAL PLANNING**

**231.720.0743** [www.braeburnwealth.com](http://www.braeburnwealth.com)

Braeburn Wealth Management, LLC An SEC Registered Investment Advisor.



"The drive and respect I learned at the CTC helped get me to where I am today. My instructors inspired me to reach my true potential and pushed me to further my education."

*Jackson Huizenga*  
Former CTC Machining/  
Engineering student

**READY TO ACCELERATE YOUR CAREER?**  
See your school counselor to enroll. [muskegonctc.org](http://muskegonctc.org)