

lighthouse ●

view

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

AUGUST 2023 • ISSUE 66



WELCOME BACK
— *SAILOR FAMILIES!* —

SUPERINTENDENT2
 BOARD OF EDUCATION3
 HUMAN RESOURCES4-5
 TRANSPORTATION6
 ATHLETICS7

HIGH SCHOOL 8-11
 COUNSELOR'S CORNER 12-13
 TEACHING & LEARNING 14
 SPECIAL EDUCATION 15-17
 FOOD SERVICE 15

MIDDLE SCHOOL 18-19
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS 20
 NIKOLAS WYPA SCHOLARSHIP 21
 EARLY CHILDHOOD 23
 MS HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS... 24

a letter from our Superintendent

Sailor Families,

As this edition of the Lighthouse View hits your mailbox, the back to school season is in full swing. The weeks and months ahead are full of opportunities to be engaged in our schools. From welcome backs, to open houses, to celebrations, to classroom activities there is always something going on in our schools and we want you to be part of it!

Our schools are the hub of our community. Each and every day our hallways are filled with the positivity, the excitement, and the learning that make Mona Shores a great place to be. Be it a kindergartner reading their first word or a 5th grader solving that high level math problem, the young people in our schools are thriving. Look for the good and you will have no problem finding it in any one of our schools at any time.

Mona Shores Schools are full of all that is great, good, amazing, incredible, and outstanding about our community. Every time you walk into a school you can see how bright our future truly is. The things our young people can do are inspiring. The students of Mona Shores are fortunate to be surrounded by a supportive community, amazing staff, and incredible families. As always, thank you for being our partner to help make such an amazing experience for our children. We look forward to an incredible 2023-24 school year!



Have questions or want additional information?
 Call Bill O'Brien at
 (231) 332-8201 or
 email obrienb@monashores.net
 or visit www.monashores.net/



BUILDING PHONE NUMBERS

CENTRAL OFFICE	(231) 780-4751
ADULT EDUCATION @ GLENSIDE	(231) 720-2530
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



LOOKING
Forward
 to
 a
 great
 School
 YEAR

a look ahead. . .

Board of Education 2023-2024 Meeting Schedule

September 11, 2023.....7:00 pm..... Work Session HS-LMC
September 18, 2023.....7:00 pm..... Regular Session HS-LMC
October 9, 2023.....7:00 pm..... Combined Session HS-LMC
November 6, 2023.....7:00 pm..... Work Session RP-PLC
November 13, 20237:00 pm..... Regular Session RP-PLC
December 4, 2023.....7:00 pm..... Combined Session RP-PLC
January 8, 2024.....7:00 pm..... Combined Session RP-PLC
February 5, 20247:00 pm..... Work Session RP-PLC
February 12, 20247:00 pm..... Regular Session RP-PLC
March 4, 20247:00 pm..... Work Session RP-PLC
March 11, 2024.....7:00 pm..... Regular Session RP-PLC
April 8, 20247:00 pm..... Combined Session RP-PLC
May 6, 20247:00 pm..... Work Session RP-PLC
May 13, 2024.....7:00 pm..... Regular Session RP-PLC
June 10, 2024.....7:00 pm..... Work Session RP-PLC
June 17, 2024.....7:00 pm..... Regular Session RP-PLC
July 8, 20247:00 pm..... Combined Session RP-PLC

Board of Education 2023-2024

Stan Miller, President
(231) 557-4039
E-mail: millers@monashores.net

Chris Burnaw, Vice President
(231) 557-4949
E-mail: burnawc@monashores.net

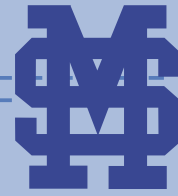
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Jeanne Cooper-Kuiper, Trustee
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A.J. Eckert, Trustee
(616) 889-2063
E-mail: eckerta@monashores.net

Mary McClellan, Trustee
(231) 486-5285
E-mail: mcclellanm@monashores.net



SEPT. 5..... First Day of School

OCT. 4 Count Day

OCT. 16 - 20 Fall Break

NOV. 4..... Holiday Arts & Crafts Show - 9am-3pm

*Online Ticket Sales Singing Christmas Tree
Tickets 9am-3pm; Frauenthal Box Office*

NOV. 22..... Half Day K-12

NOV. 23-24 Thanksgiving Break

NOV. 29, 30, DEC. 1, 2, Singing Christmas Tree

All shows at 7:00 p.m. with a matinee on Saturday, December 2nd at 3:00 p.m.

DEC. 22 - JAN. 2..... Holiday Break

JAN. 3 Classes Resume

**WE ARE
stronger
TOGETHER**



New Staff *a message* from Sue McAvoy, Director of Human Resources

I want to extend a warm welcome back to all of our students and staff. I hope everyone enjoyed a happy and restful summer and had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends over the last several weeks. We at the District Office have been busy preparing for your return and looking forward to another successful school year. Much of the preparation done in the summer is focused on hiring the highest quality educators in the State. Although we have not yet finished our task at the point when this article was published, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you those members we have brought on board so far as well as share some changes within our administrative team that took place on July 1. We look forward to their contributions in making the upcoming school year a huge success for our students. Rest assured that by the time students enter our buildings, Mona Shores Public Schools will have in place the most outstanding group of administrators, teachers, and support staff to greet and assist them in their 2023-2024 journey. I encourage you and your family members to extend a warm welcome to all of our new staff. Mona Shores is extremely fortunate to have them!

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

With the retirement of Assistant Principal, Kent Higgs last June, we are excited to announce that **Mr. Todd Conrad**, former District-wide Athletic Director, will move into the role of High School Associate Principal. Mr. Conrad will focus much of his efforts in this new role on curriculum and instruction as he assists with the continued growth of our staff and students.

Mr. Jack Nummerdor, former Assistant Principal and Coordinator of Athletics at our Middle School, will now take on the role of District-Wide Athletic Director.

NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Mrs. Roxanne (Roxie) Ammeraal, has been hired as the district's first ever Special Education Supervisor. This role will help support our students with special education needs to help ensure their classroom experience is the best it can be. Mrs. Ammeraal comes to us from West Ottawa Public Schools where she has taught for 19 years. She brings a passion for co-teaching and truly has an "all means all" approach to student learning. Mrs. Ammeraal earned her Bachelor of Arts in Special Education from Hope College and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Literacy from the University of Texas at Arlington. She, along with her husband Doug have two children attending Mona Shores. We are excited and grateful to have her join our administrative team.

We are ecstatic to welcome back to Mona Shores, **Mrs. Emily Basse**, in her new role as Assistant Principal at the Middle School. Mrs. Basse earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from Western Michigan University, and her Masters of Education in Educational Leadership: Special Education Administration from Grand Valley State University. She has taught a total of 15 years, 8 of which were at Ross Park Elementary. She most recently served as an assistant principal at a local elementary school. Mrs. Basse, her husband Andrew, and their two children are a Mona Shores family. We are delighted to have her return.

**Human Resources news continues on page 5*

ERIC WAHLBERG
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ericwilderness@yahoo.com
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NORTON SHORES
(231) 375-5995
info@SerenityWellnessChiro.com



NEW TEACHERS

MS. MEREDITH ARMOUR

Ms. Meredith Armour will be joining our Ross Park Special Education staff as a Resource Room Teacher. Ms. Armour earned her Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Special Education from Grand Valley State University. She brings with her some excellent student teaching experiences as well as time spent as a Centria Autism Therapist. We look forward to the positive impact Ms. Armour will bring to our students with special needs.

MRS. JENNA ARTER

Our middle school staff welcomes Mrs. Jenna Arter as our new science teacher, replacing Dave Check, who moved to the high school. Mrs. Arter is a graduate of Albion College, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts as well as Saginaw Valley State University where she earned her teaching certificate. While busy raising their children, Mrs. Arter worked as a substitute teacher in the county and for Mona Shores. Having witnessed her ability to build relationships with students we know she will be an incredible asset to our students at the middle school. We welcome her to the Sailor Staff.

MR. DAVE GROSS

Please welcome to our high school science department, Mr. Dave Gross. Mr. Gross earned his Bachelors of Science in Education from the University of Michigan. He has earned two Master's Degrees, one in education with an emphasis in physics from Grand Valley State University, and one in theology from the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Illinois. Mr. Gross is dual certified in both math and physics and brings a tremendous amount of experience, especially in building positive relationships, to our district and our students. Prior to arriving in Mona Shores, Mr. Gross spent several years as Pastor of Saint Mary's Catholic Parish in Spring Lake. In addition, he has been a sports official for basketball, volleyball, track and cross country for many years. We are beyond grateful to have someone of his high caliber join our Mona Shores team. Welcome to Sailor Nation!

MR. MICHAEL KEELY

Mr. Michael Keely will be our new Physical Education, Health, and Consumer Science Teacher at the high school this fall. He is entering the teacher field as a second career and is extremely passionate about working with high school students and being an inspirational and supportive educator and role model. Mr. Keely earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Michigan University majoring in English and minoring in history. He went on to earn his graduate teaching certification from Grand Valley State University. We are looking forward to having Mr. Keely as part of our Sailor Family.

MR. TRAVIS STUBE

We welcome back to Mona Shores and Campbell Elementary Mr. Travis Stube. Mr. Stube is a graduate of Mona Shores as well as a former employee in our childcare program. Mr. Stube earned his Bachelor of Arts in Education from Grand Valley State University. He will join the Campbell team as a Fifth Grade Teacher. Travis brings great enthusiasm and passion for the teaching profession. He will be an incredible asset to an already stellar Fifth Grade team. We welcome Mr. Stube home to Sailor Nation!

MR. LUCAS FARBER

Mr. Lucas Farber, will be joining our district fine arts team as he takes the lead music position at both Churchill and Ross Park Elementary buildings. Mr. Farber is a graduate of Mona Shores and earned his Bachelors of Music Education from Grand Valley State University. We look forward to him bringing his enthusiasm and talent to our elementary students. Welcome Mr. Farber.

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TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

By Dave Muskovin, Transportation Supervisor

The walk-out distance for all Mona Shores schools is 1.5 miles. Students eligible for busing are allowed one designated pick up location and drop off location only. Students must board and exit the bus at their designated/assigned stop only.

Bus routes and bus stop locations are reviewed each year and may be changed for efficiency. Bus stop locations are established in accordance with state and federal laws and school board policies. The driver/aide are NOT allowed to make bus stop or route changes. Parents of students with specialized transportation needs will be contacted directly by the Transportation Department staff.

Parents may check Powerschool
Parent Portal for Bus Number and
Bus Stop information.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Student/s must arrive at the assigned stop at least 5 minutes prior to the bus arrival time and be ready to board (NOT waiting in a vehicle or doorway of a house).
- Provide supervision for your student/s going to and from the bus stop and while at the bus stop.
- Accept responsibility for your student/s conduct while at the bus stop and on the bus.
- Dress your student/s appropriately for the weather while waiting at the bus stop.

ELEMENTARY EARLY RELEASE MONDAYS:

Buses will arrive 1.5 hours earlier than the normal scheduled drop off.

SECONDARY LATE START WEDNESDAYS:

Buses will arrive 2 hours later than the normal scheduled pick up.

SCHOOL OF CHOICE (SOC) STUDENTS:

Transportation is not included in the Schools of Choice plan and SOC students are not allowed to ride the buses during the first 2 weeks of school. However, at the end of the second week of school, after we ensure that we have adequate seating available for eligible resident students, you may contact the Transportation Department office at 231-332-8269 to see if there is room on a bus at an existing bus stop.

If you have questions, please feel free to
contact the Transportation Department
at 231-332-8269 or 231-332-8270.

Athletic Update

~ a message from Jack Nummerdor, Director of Athletics

End of The Year Brings a New Beginning

Sailor Athletics had yet another great year of accomplishments on and off of the field. Many of our athletes are recognized for what they do on the playing surface, but what they have been recognized for in the classroom leaves a much larger impact. Mona Shores High School had 9 of our teams go Academic All-State with 16 individuals that went Academic All-State as well. Volleyball, Boys Tennis, Girls Golf, Girls Swimming, Girls Bowling, Competitive Cheer, Girls Basketball, Hockey, and Boys Volleyball were the 9 teams that qualified for Academic All-State. This is quite the accomplishment and a testament to the work that our students are doing in the classroom with their teachers and coaches backing them while also finding time to compete.

With the academic success has also come triumph through many wins on the playing surface of each of our sport offerings. 8 of our Varsity sports were Conference Champions, 5 were Greater Muskegon Athletic Association Champions, 1 was a District Champion and 1 was a Regional Champion. For the first time in school history, our Boys Lacrosse team brought home the wooden mitten trophy as Regional Champions. Individuals had to lead these teams to their winning ways. Sailor Nation had 7 student-athletes achieve First Team All-State honors. Drew Hackney of Boys Tennis (3 time all-state, Regional Champ), Ke'Waun Farnum of Football, Dahmir Farnum of Football, Jesse Love of Football. Delaney Buckner of Girls Swimming (2 event Conference Champion), Trent Benedict of Hockey, and Jack Reelman of Hockey were the athletes that were recognized by either their coach associations or the media as being some of the best at their craft in the state. What an amazing representation of what being a Sailor student-athlete is all about!

With every ending comes a new beginning. Todd Conrad has served as the Athletic Director at Mona Shores High School for the past 5 years. He was the calm of the storm through COVID and the many challenges that brought to athletics. Todd was able to navigate Sailor Athletics during some of the harder times in our community. Thank You Todd for all you have done for Sailor Nation! The good news is that Todd will not be traveling far. Mr. Conrad will be assuming the Associate Principal role at Mona Shores High School beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. His absence is being filled by myself, Jack Nummerdor. I have been a part of the Sailor family for the past five years as the Middle School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director. My family and I are looking forward to the new opportunity to head Sailor Athletics. My wife Megan is an art teacher at Campbell and Lincoln Park Elementaries,

my daughter Hailee will be a 5th grader at Ross Park, and my son Jack will be a 1st grader at Lincoln Park. We live and breathe athletics whether it be the playing and coaching careers of my wife and I and now watching our kids. We know the true value of interscholastic athletics and cannot wait to be deeper engrained in what it is to be a Sailor. Sailor Athletics will continue to rise and become something that is revered throughout the State of Michigan. The past is something that we can look back at and show gratitude towards, however the future is what we get to make it. The future is what we can mold and shape into exactly what we want. For those who have come before us, Thank You for all you have done. For the current and future Sailors, it is our turn to make our legacy. It is our turn to take Sailor Athletics to a whole new level. It is time to get to work!



GO SHORES!

High School

a message from High School Principal, Jennifer Bustard

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

Personal responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Disciplined | Engagement

Sailors, Seize the Day! Making the most of each moment

Welcome to the
2023-24 School Year Sailors!

Our theme for the school year is *Sailors, Seize the Day! Making the most of each moment*. There are amazing opportunities for our Sailors to take advantage of each and every day. All of these Academic, Arts, Athletic and Extra-Curricular opportunities at MSHS are a part of the growth and development process of our Sailors as they work towards achieving their post secondary goals and dreams. With College, Career and Life Readiness our goal for each of our Sailors we continue to encourage our students to take advantage of the many career opportunities. Such as Work Experience, Teacher Aid, Mentorship, Anchor Cafe, Intro to Manufacturing, Welding, Robotics, Design, CAD, Career Tech Center and the 11 CTE programs here at MSHS that students can earn articulated credit. For a full list of opportunities, please visit our HS webpage.



Our ongoing commitment to creating a positive and safe school culture will continue to be centered around acceptance, respect and

seeking to understand one another. Our **Sailor PRIDE** culture is rooted in our core values. Each and every student and staff member has had the opportunity to create our core values. The Sailor PRIDE core values are a set of expectations for all of us to live by in our school and out in the community. **Making the most of each moment we have with one another.**



Sailors Raised the Bar in 2023! Congratulations to the students who participated in the advanced placement courses. There were 454 exams taken by 277 students. MSHS offered 27 AP Exams. There were a total of 234 students who earned a 3 or higher allowing for college credit to be earned. The percent of total AP students with scores of 3 or higher is 84.48 %. Well above the state and global average. This is a tremendous achievement. A direct reflection of the commitment of our students' tremendous work ethics and commitment to a rigorous curriculum that will best prepare students for post secondary education. In addition, the class of 2023 had 4 students earn the AP Capstone Diploma, signifying completion of 6 or more AP courses including AP Research and AP Seminar. Our teachers who lead these programs continue to participate as AP readers and attend specialized professional development. Their commitment is to be commended.

**High School news continues on page 9*

Sailors Raised the Bar in 22-23!!



Celebrating the Class of 2023!

The Class of 2023 certainly has much to be proud of! The words **Determined** and **Drive** come to mind when we think of their ability to adapt and persevere.

The past 4 years have been incredibly challenging for this class. It was not an easy wave to ride. During their HS Career they experienced the state wide spring of 2020 shut down, a full year in hybrid, transition to full in person building wide and to end their career with a full school year, where many of the traditions were back in full swing.



A school record of over 10 million dollars in academic and athletic scholarships has been awarded and earned by the Class of 2023. In addition, there were 119 students who earned academic honor cords, 26 seniors earned a 3.5 or higher, 34 seniors earned a 3.75 or higher and 59 seniors earned a 4.0 or higher. It is important to note that this group of seniors performed well above the state and global averages on their SAT and AP exams. The National Honors Society senior members totaled over 3,777 community service and tutoring hours earning the National Community Service Sapphire Award. The list of fine art awards earned is extensive as well. Most notably the MSPS Fine Arts department earned national distinction for being named Best Communities for Music Education in 2023 for the 8th year in a row.

And MSHS being named a "Best High Schools in America" for the 5th year in a row.

None of this was possible without the hard work of each and every student, staff member, administrator, and Board of Education members. As well as, the importance of the many parents that are behind the scenes volunteering and supporting the many student activities that were provided this past school year. There is a lot to be proud of and much more to be accomplished!



Engaging in our School Community!

Being a part of a school community, a musical ensemble, a team, a group, a club, allows you to be a part of something bigger than yourself. 531 Sailors participated in the various performing arts programs and 491 Sailors participated in educational athletic programs. Through hard work, dedication, commitment and genuine support and care for one another amazing things can happen. With College, Career and Life Readiness the ultimate goal for our students, we encourage every Sailor to take advantage of the many opportunities here at Mona Shores High School. From the over 65 plus clubs, activities and extracurriculars to taking the challenge of participating in an Advanced Placement Course the choices are expansive. Visit our high school webpage to check out the many opportunities for our students to participate in and attend.



Looking forward to an amazing school year for the Class of 24, 25, 26, 27 and look forward to what lies ahead for our entire school community. Thank you for your support, commitment, and dedication to Mona Shores. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at (231) 780-4711, extension 8499, or by email at bustardj@monashores.net. **GO SAILORS!**

*High School news continues on page 10

The following are tips to help all of our students and parents get off to a successful school year:

- The **Student Handbook** includes our school policies and procedures. The handbook is online for students and families to access electronically whether on their school issued Chromebook or a personal electronic device. We encourage you to review the handbook with your student. Please pay close attention to attendance and tardy policy as the number of days and tardies reflect the trimester schedule.
- Please take time to view your student's academic progress and attendance utilizing our **Parent Portal**. Administratively, we realize the Parent Portal is not updated daily but the information you see may be reason to make inquiry with the appropriate staff member to discuss your student's progress.
- The **Extended day program** is on Monday's-Thursday's in the LMC from 3-3:45 pm. Faculty and NHS tutors are available during this time to support. Come have some coffee in the Anchor cafe and finish a project or study for a test.
- **WIN time** will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays allowing for 40 minutes during the school day for academic support and enrichment.
- **Parent and student communication** will be primarily completed by the email notification system on Fridays of each school week. **If you do not receive a Friday email from the Principal's office, be sure to contact the counseling office to ensure that our records are accurate. The HS webpage continues to host the daily announcements, school and department information and is a great resource to locate information on College and Career information. (www.monashores.net) Follow us for all the Sailor action on twitter and Facebook at @MSHSPRIDE!**

Student Orientation Begins August 24

High School Student Orientation Week will begin Thursday, August 24, 2023.

Parents please complete the online annual enrollment information update through the parent portal in the demographic update section.

Students will have the opportunity at registration to:

- Receive class schedules, textbooks and Chromebook
- Chromebook cases will not be issued unless upon request during registration.
- Locker assignments and locker combinations can be accessed via the student portal.
- Return "Free/Reduced" Hot Lunch and Student Insurance Applications
- Receive Choir/Orchestra uniform(s) as applicable
- Order 2023-24 yearbooks
- All students will receive New Student ID Cards
- Purchase Sports Passes
- Have Student Pictures Taken
- Register Vehicles and Purchase Parking Tags (\$20 fee)
 - o Please note all students will park in the west lot. Those students who would like to park in the east lot there will be a lottery for the 41 spots available. Signing up for these spots will be done during student registration.
 - o Mopeds and Motorcycles must be registered and park in the designated area in the west lot.

A student information packet was mailed August 9th. Please contact us at (231) 780-4711 ext. 8351 if you have not received yours by August 12th. (Leave your name, address, and phone number if calling after office hours).

MSHS Orientation Dates and Times:

Thursday, August 24

8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ~ 10th Grade (Last names A-L)
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ~ 11th and 12th grade (A-L)

Friday, August 25

8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ~ 10th and 11th grade (M-Z)
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ~ 12th grade (M-Z)

Monday, August 28

Link Crew Freshman orientation is 9 am-2:15 pm
9 am- 2:15 pm 9th grade Registration (All alpha)
Meet in the Sailor Center - Lunch will be provided.

a message from High School Principal, Jennifer Bustard

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

Personal responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Disciplined | Engagement



Are You Planning to Drop Off Your Student at the High School?

If so, please use the front circle drive or the east parking lot as the main student drop-off locations.

Parents on Campus

At Mona Shores High School, we encourage your involvement in our Parents on Campus program. Volunteer your help for as little or as much time as you have available. This is a great benefit to parents and the school. Both gain a new sense of appreciation for the other and the extra help allows us to accomplish tasks that we might not be able to do. Email notification will be sent to parents to sign up to participate.

Open House

Please join us for the Fall High School Open House scheduled for **Wednesday, August 30, 2023 - 7:00-8:30 pm**. You will have an opportunity to meet your son/daughter's teachers and become familiar with their schedule and school.

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences

Our Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled by appointment. The 2023-24 dates for this year's 1st Trimester Conferences are **October 10 & 12** (4:00-7:00 pm), the 2nd trimester date is **January 25th** (4:00-7:00 pm) and 3rd trimester date is **April 25th** (4:00-7:00 pm) Specific information will be emailed to you at a later date.

New Student Registration

If you are a new student to Mona Shores High School, please stop and visit the Administration Office at Ross Park Elementary to complete a registration packet. New Student enrollment began July 17th. Hours: 8:00 am- 4:00 pm. Enrollment information can be found on the High School webpage, or for more information please call the Main office at (231) 780-4711.

Positive Culture, Student Voice, and Community Partnerships within the High School PRIDE Program

Our PRIDE program continues to be a difference maker in the culture at the high school. Each year we evaluate the prior year's work and challenge ourselves to make the program even better. This past school year, we added student voice to our PRIDE expectations. All students had the opportunity to provide input and they exceeded our expectations with their ideas. This school year we will continue to learn lifelong behaviors in the areas of Personal responsibility, Respect, Integrity, and being Disciplined and Engaged. We take much PRIDE as we prepare our students for college, careers and life after high school. Being able to acknowledge and reward students' positive actions throughout the year and at our end of the year celebration assembly, is one of the reasons why we have the success we do. We could not do this without our community sponsors. We would like to extend a thank you to the following community members, businesses, and groups who donated in 2022-2023.

Aldea Coffee, Anchor Chiropractic (Bill Lengkeek), @Home Realty (James Richardson), Betten Baker, Billinghurst Photography, Chick-fil-A, Hamburger Mikey, Jostens, Langlois Furniture, Members of the Board of Education, Mosley's Driving and Testing Center, Mrs. Kandace Boysen, MSHS Anchor Cafe, MSHS Athletic Department, MSHS Class of 2023, MSHS Yearbook Department, Nichols, Pit Viper (Melissa Duff), Walmart, Waterstone Insurance, Webb Chemical, Yodels Frozen Yogurt Norton Shores



The school leadership team (comprised of teachers, students, counselors, administrators, parents, and board of education members) develops an action plan each summer for our PRIDE initiative for the following school year. To support this action plan, we are in need of continued sponsor support. If you, your business, or organization is interested in supporting our PRIDE efforts, please consider donating a gift card, prize of your choosing, or select one of the below monetary options.



buoy - \$50



lighthouse - \$250



anchor - \$100



flagship - \$500+



To donate, please contact Anne Brainard at brainara@monashores.net or at **231-332-8352**.

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.

We are excited about assisting the students in our building in preparation for College, Career and Life! We are here to help! Please feel free to contact the office if we may be of assistance or visit the Mona Shores High School Counseling webpage for a wealth of information and the answers to frequently asked questions:

<https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/counseling-office>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - SAT TESTING CYCLE 2023-2024

Seniors planning to retake the SAT this fall should note the following dates.

Students may pick up information for online registration in the Counseling Office or go directly online to register at: collegeboard.org.

TEST DATE	NORMAL DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION*
August 26, 2023	July 28, 2023	August 15, 2023
October 7, 2023	September 8, 2023	September 26, 2023
November 4, 2023	October 6, 2023	October 24, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 21, 2023
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024

FAFSA NIGHT:

We will invite an area representative to come in and present any updates and changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to our families. This is very informative and aimed at getting families set to apply by the October 1 opening. We are planning for the 3rd week of September. More information to follow.

COLLEGE VISITS:

Many colleges send representatives to our high school in the fall to talk to interested students. These visits usually begin in late September and continue through November. We will post notices of these visits on the daily announcements and Counseling Office bulletin board. We also have a link that will be updated weekly: <https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/college-and-career-preparation-resources>

JUNIORS AND SENIORS interested in talking to a particular college representative must sign up in the Counseling Office during the week of that school's visit. They must also obtain permission from the classroom teacher for that hour to attend.

Seniors may take up to 2 college visitation days to visit the colleges of their choice during the school year (to be charged as "XT" exempt from absences total - college visitation) pending prior counselor and administration approval. The form is available in the Attendance Office, and the student is responsible for getting the following signatures prior to the day off: parent, counselor, and administrator. The student must have a college representative sign the form at the college while visiting and then return it to the Attendance Office. If the form is not completed prior to the visit, the absence may be excused by the parent, BUT will not be exempt. The visitation days may not be used to visit MCC or Baker during school hours as they are local and students will have availability to attend during non school days.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Most colleges, including Muskegon Community College, would prefer that students apply online at the college website beginning August 1. After students have completed their college application, place an order for your high school transcript in Parchment to be sent to the college where you applied (undergraduate admissions). The 'Order Records' link is found on the Mona Shores High School webpage. Please allow 5 school days for processing. All electronic requests for transcripts are free of charge through July 31 of the student's graduation year. Students must request OFFICIAL ACT/SAT scores directly from ACT or SAT. (There is a fee assessed for this service.) This can be done at www.actstudent.org or <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/> if the student did not indicate at the time of registration for ACT/SAT to mail scores to prospective colleges.

FINANCIAL AID

Students will be able to file a 2023–24 FAFSA as early as October 1, 2023. The earlier submission date is a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit the FAFSA as early as October 1 every year. Please visit the following link for more information on FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

SELECTIVE SERVICE

It is important that young men must register with the selective service when they turn 18. It is the law, and it may adversely affect eligibility for federal financial aid. Eligible candidates can now register online by going to this website: <http://www.sss.gov>. You need your social security number to complete this process.

CLASS OF 2024 SENIOR FALL MEETINGS:

Counselors will begin meeting with the Class of 2024 students in September. This is an early one on one meeting to work with seniors to help them prepare for post-secondary plans. Topics covered include:

- Survey
- Senior year to-do checklist
- Scholarship process
- Graduation audit/review transcript
- Sending a transcript (how to) and SAT scores
- Financial aid/paying for college
- College/career aspirations
- TIP eligibility

FRESHMAN INTRODUCTION MEETINGS:

Counselors will meet with incoming freshmen to welcome them to the high school. These meetings will take place over the duration of the first trimester.

SCHOLARSHIP NOTICES

When we receive notice of a scholarship, the notice will be posted on the Counseling Office webpage, bulletin boards, and emailed directly to students by using their school Gmail account. These notices and deadlines will also be announced in this newsletter when they are available in time for publication. Please visit the high school counseling website for more information: <https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/financial-aid-and-scholarships>.

RECOGNIZE THE HUMAN RACE AS ONE 1

SIKHS OF AMERICA

WWW.SIKHS.ORG

The Sikh Faith originated in Punjab (India)
The Sikh Turban represents honor, courage and spirituality

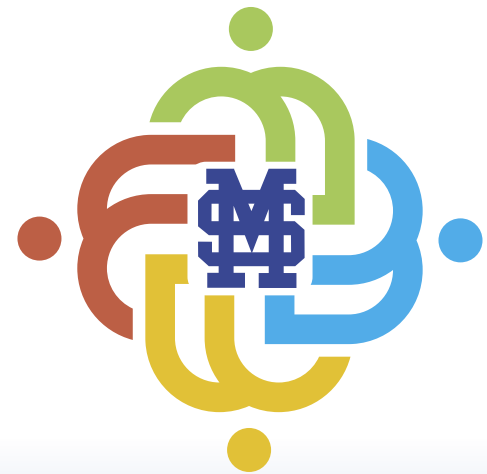
Teaching and Learning

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

On the very last day of school each year there is a flurry of activity to both bring closure to the school year and begin preparing for the next. Recognizing that summer “happens” quickly and ends much too abruptly, the need to soak in the moment and celebrate the milestones gives way to the pursuit of excellence. A variety of professional learning opportunities and collaboration for teachers and staff, as well as enrichment opportunities, camps, practices and rehearsals for students all occur in June, July and August. Purposeful preparation and planning leads to a better tomorrow and this is the approach embraced by Sailors.

The teamwork and collective efforts of many makes our school-community unique. We truly are better together and never rest on our laurels. We are willing to take on challenges and make changes that create vast possibilities. We are a team, family, and community. We appreciate one another, support one another, and look for the best in one another.

Wishing all of Sailor Nation the best school year yet!



Teamwork

"This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change." - Taylor Swift

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DID YOU KNOW?

The Career Tech Center in Muskegon equips teens to excel by offering the following career-prep programs:

Allied Health | Auto Collision/Refinishing | Auto Service Technology
| Bio Tech & Engineering | Computer Aided Design | Construction
Trades | Cosmetology | Criminal Justice | Electrical/Computer
Technologies | Environmental/Veterinary Sciences | Graphic
Production | Health Science Academy | Hospitality & Food
Management | Software Design & Development | Machining/
Engineering Technology | Welding Technology

To learn more visit muskegonctc.org or call 231.767.3613



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to schedule your
appointment today!**

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

**Beltone Hearing Centers
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Muskegon, MI 49441**

GO SAILORS!

Special Education & Student Services

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



INTRODUCING: SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPERVISOR - ROXIE AMMERAAL

As the largest district in Muskegon County, Mona Shores made the decision to hire a Special Education Supervisor to increase the availability, support and resources for our students, families and staff. Mrs. Ammeraal came to us from West Ottawa Schools, where she has been a special education teacher for 19 years. Mrs. Ammeraal is an active volunteer in West Michigan, and has supported Camp Sunshine (<https://www.campsunshinemichigan.org/>) since she first volunteered as a student at Hope College. By the time you receive this issue, Roxie will have already started working with our special education teams. We are looking forward to Roxie meeting our students, families and staff over the next few weeks.

INTEROCEPTION:

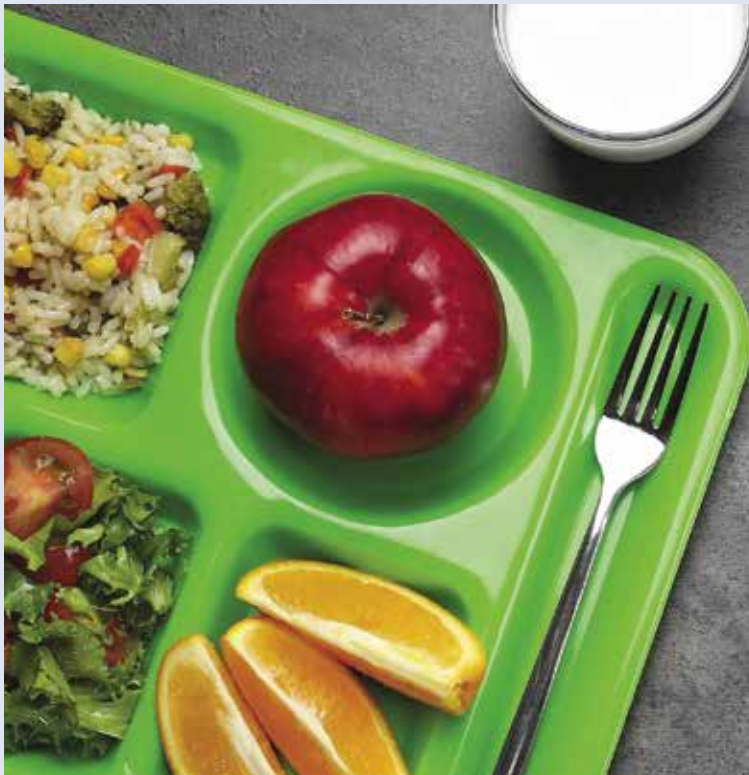
A huge thanks to our Therapy Crew for sharing information with us about sensory integration and sensory processing.

Most of us know the seven senses: Sight, Smell, Taste, Hearing, Touch, Vestibular (movement & balance), and Proprioception (body position). In this issue, our therapists share information about INTEROCEPTION, often called the "Eighth Sense." When we don't understand or recognize the relationship between a feeling in our body, it can be upsetting, or cause anxiety. Something as simple as being "hangry" is a real experience that can influence how we respond to a situation. It is powerful to help students learn to identify and recognize the connection between a physical feeling and the resulting emotions.

... Special Education news continues on pages 16 & 17

Thank you

Food Service *a message* from Bethany Taylor-Moore, Director of Dining Services



The Michigan Department of Education has approved Free Meals for all students for the school year 23-24!

FOOD SERVICE does still need parents to fill out the Household Information Reports, located in your school buildings, and at monashores.familyportal.cloud in order for us to collect data for other programs.



Sailing Tips from the Therapy Crew

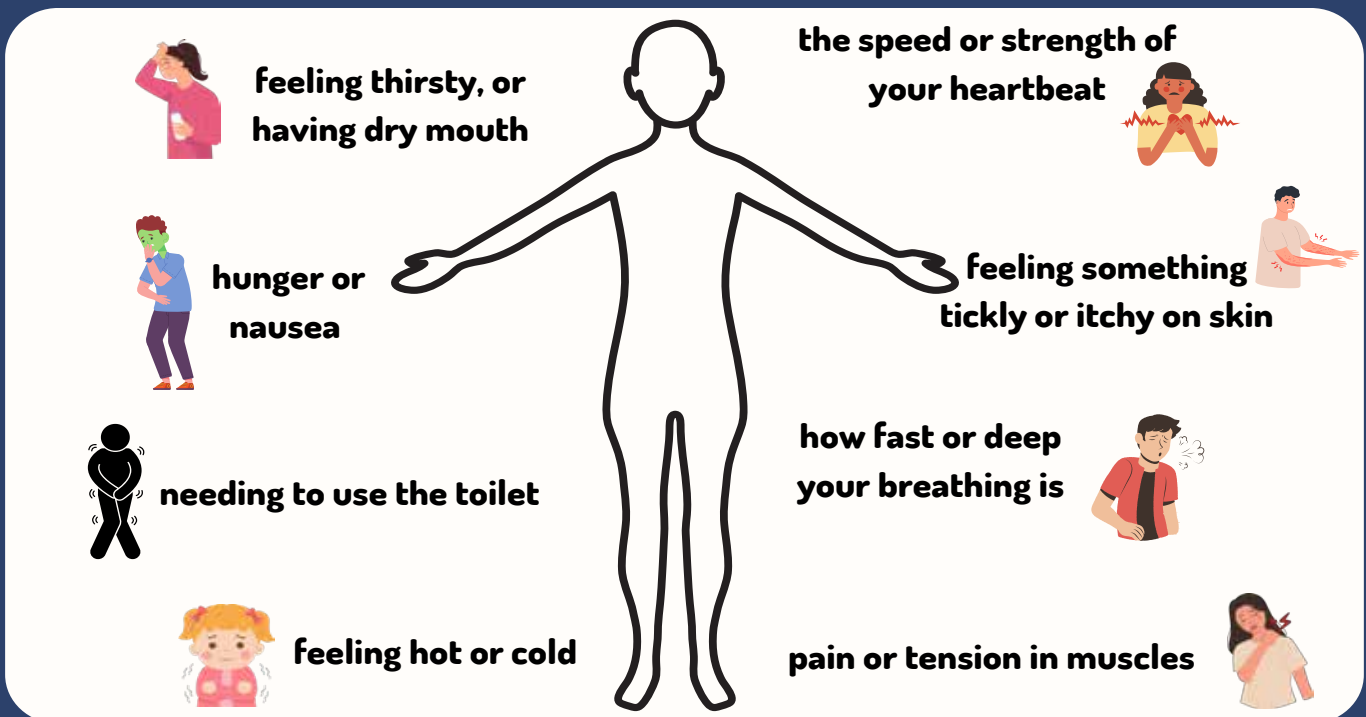


Learn About Interoception

Jessica Kever, MS OTRL Lisa Luttrull, DPT Nina Mulder, MS OTRL Melissa Stark, MS OTRL

What is Interoception?

- Interoception is considered our '8th sense' and is necessary for self-regulation.
- This '8th sense' helps us to interpret and respond to how we are feeling on the inside.
- For example, our interoception system sends signals to our brain to help us know:
 - when we are hungry or thirsty
 - when we need to go to the bathroom
 - when our muscles are sore
 - when we are out of breath
 - when our skin is itchy
- There are many benefits to helping children develop this sense of interoception, including:
 - promotes the ability to recognize, describe, and respond to body signals
 - provides children with the tools to understand the connection between their physical state and emotional state
 - increases positive well-being
- In order to be skilled at noticing body signals from our sense of interoception, practice during everyday life is important.



Practicing Interoception at Home

- Model using the body signals listed below to describe how your own body feels during daily activities.
 - i.e. "My bladder feels full after drinking so much juice." or "The air is so cold outside, my lungs feel tight."
- Model connecting your body signal to an action that promotes a sense of well being within the body.
 - i.e. "My bladder feels full so I need to go to the bathroom." or "My brain feels distracted so I am going to take a walk, and then come back to this task."
- During daily activities ask questions that prompt their attention to body signals.
 - i.e. while playing in the sand, "How does this sand make your hands feel?"

Heart



- fast
- slow
- pounding

Lungs



- fast
- slow
- tight
- coughing
- burning
- panting
- sore

Bladder



- full
- empty
- sore
- okay

Stomach



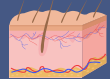
- empty
- full
- growling
- nauseous
- tingly
- sore
- okay

Muscles



- fast
- slow
- tight
- loose
- fidgety
- shaky
- sore

Skin



- cold or warm
- wet or dry
- messy or clean
- itchy
- goosebumpy
- tickly
- sweaty
- sore

Mouth



- cold or warm
- wet or dry
- empty or full
- messy or clean
- tight or loose
- sore
- too much
- want to bite or chew

Brain & Head



- focused or distracted
- tight or loose
- fast or slow
- too much
- sore
- dizzy

Eyes



- itchy
- wide
- heavy
- crying
- focused
- distracted
- wet or dry
- tight or loose
- sore
- too much

More RESOURCES to Check Out

- <https://www.kelly-mahler.com> or [CLICK HERE](#)
- <https://www.understood.org/en/articles/interoception-and-sensory-processing-issues-what-you-need-to-know> or [CLICK HERE](#)
- <https://kids.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frym.2021.558246> or [CLICK HERE](#)

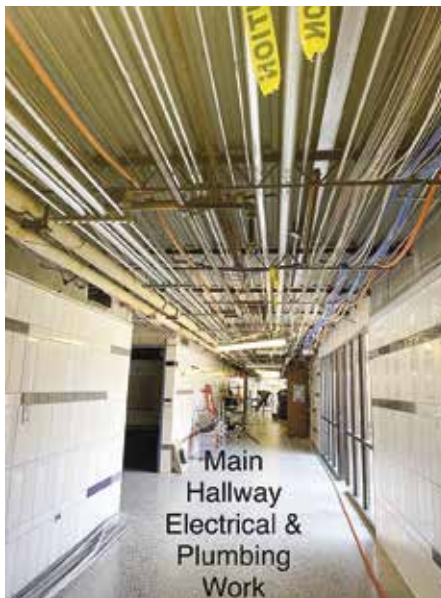
Summer is not done; it's only getting started! There is plenty of time left for beach days, vacations, family adventures, sleeping in, connecting with friends, bonfires, and so much more! We hope that you are all able to continue to embrace each one of these opportunities! At Mona Shores Middle School, we have begun to think about the upcoming 2023-2024 school year! In reflecting on this past year, we recognize that while there will always be challenges and hurdles, we also recognize what an outstanding group of students and dedicated teachers we had! We had students that were successful academically, modeled strong behavior, gave of their talents, impacted the lives of others, and poured themselves into representing Sailor PRIDE. We believe that this year's group of students will do the same thing! 2023-2024 will be another year of expecting and giving our best; as students, teachers, and administrators. It will be another year of working hard for our students to know that they are loved, valued, and appreciated for exactly who they are. MSMS is excited for this focus, for strengthening our students' knowledge, growing levels of excitement, maintaining high expectations, and observing individual growth and success for our students. This school year is going to be outstanding!

As we strive and focus on reaching these goals, we must all 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. This will be our focus. No matter what role we assume in the education of our children, we must make a conscious effort to be our **best** every day, regardless of ability, situation, or circumstances. I believe that if we embrace this collective responsibility and focus, Mona Shores Middle School will be the **best** middle school in America, through academic success, high-character, positive behavior, and in creating a memorable middle school experience for our students!

As a school, we will continue to be focused on creating a positive learning environment, providing high quality instruction, engaging students in their thinking and learning, increasing blended learning opportunities, and challenging ourselves to be and give the **best** version of ourselves each and every day. With this commitment by our staff, along with student ownership and a partnership with parents, we will continue to rise and reach new levels of learning, thinking, and success.

With this, please allow us to share a couple of updates regarding MSMS and the 2023-2024 school year.

- **ADVISORY (CREW) ||** As we begin the new school year, we will continue with our advisory hour, that we will call Crew. This is a focused and intentional 27 minutes dedicated to connecting with and supporting our students. Each teacher will start their day with 16-20 students that they will connect with, build relational capacity, monitor success, build on social and emotional strengths, enhance connections to school, build upon character traits, and more. We are excited for some of the adjustments to this time and for the positive impact and experience that it will offer to our students.
- **CONSTRUCTION ||** Here are a few pictures of the current work, beginning in 7th grade, being done at MSMS. This includes foundation and walls going up for the new locker commons at the end of each hallway, bathrooms being gutted and redone, and classrooms receiving needed updates around HVAC, plumbing, electrical, technology, and furniture. We are excited for our students and teachers to experience these updates over the next three years.



- **PORTS OF CALL** || As we head into August, please plan on attending our **Ports of Call** at the Middle School. Students will be able to obtain class schedules, locker combinations, photo ID, yearbook pictures, registration/forms, complete Ride with Pride registration, get Chromebooks, and much more. We look forward to seeing students and parents filling our hallways!

6th Grade:	Tuesday, Aug. 22	9:00am - Noon AND 3:00pm - 6:00pm
7th/8th Grade:	Wednesday, Aug. 23	9:00am - Noon AND 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Make-Up Date:	Tuesday, Aug. 29	4:00pm - 6:00pm

This would be a great time to practice opening lockers, follow student schedules (become familiar with the route from class-to-class), and meet some of the great staff at MSMS. Note that we will run these through the gymnasium and open up hallways and classrooms as construction allows for students and families to visit.

- **OPEN HOUSE** || We will also be hosting our annual Open House, another great time to connect with your student's Crew Leader, meet teachers, go through your schedule, and see your classrooms prior to the first day of school.

Open House:	Wednesday, Aug. 30	5:30pm - 7:00pm
--------------------	---------------------------	------------------------

I look forward to another great year! A year filled with success, failures, and opportunities to grow. I look forward to a continued partnership between Mona Shores Middle School, our families, and the greater community! I look forward to being at our absolute **best!**

With **SAILOR PRIDE**,
Doug Ammeraal, Principal | ammeraad@monashores.net



ASBESTOS ANNOUNCEMENT

The regulations of federal law 40 CFR 763.84, as published in the Federal Register, require that local educational agencies annually notify various groups, including building occupants or their legal guardians, regarding asbestos containing materials in the school district buildings and plans related thereto. The above are hereby notified that management plans and inspection reports are available for review at both the Mona Shores Schools Administration building and the office of the Principal in each individual school building.

As specified in the management plans, the district inspects its facilities on a regular basis in compliance with the regulations of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. The areas in district buildings containing asbestos have been evaluated and judged to present no health hazard in their current condition as determined by the guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Public Health.

The district will continue to regularly inspect all areas to assure that the buildings will meet all federal, state and local health and safety standards.

PESTICIDE ADVISORY

Please note that Mona Shores staff must occasionally apply pesticides within and around our school buildings. Except in emergencies, prior notice will be provided by mail before these applications occur to parents who submit a request form. If an emergency application takes place, you will be informed immediately thereafter. If you desire prior notification, please complete the Request for Advance Notification of a Pesticide Application available on our website at www.monashores.net on the Parents tab or in district building offices. For additional information, please contact:

Mona Shores Public Schools
 Operations Department, attention
 Kurt Jeffries,
 121 Randall Road,
 Norton Shores, MI, 49441
 231-332-8268.

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GREAT FOOD FAMILY FUN

Elementary News

a message from the
Mona Shores Elementary Principal Team
Kelly Ivy, Lowell Whitaker, Shari Ralston, Joe Shaffer

The entire staff at Mona Shores would like to welcome you back to the 2023-2024 school year. This year promises to be excellent for all of our Sailors.

The construction around the district has continued, with three of the elementaries already settled in and enjoying their new spaces. Lincoln Park, Churchill, and Campbell are now completed projects. Ross Park students and families will see a finished project this year as well. The child care/preschool wing is scheduled to be completed, and we will be gaining access to the media center, technology space, sensory room and OT/PT space. We continue to be thankful for the hard work and efforts of the construction crews, as well as the support of the community that made this all possible.

We are eager to welcome back all of our Sailor families at the **Open House on Wednesday, August 30 from 4:30 - 6:00**. This initial visit with your child's teacher and a first glance at the classroom will help your child acclimate to their new surroundings, as well as build some excitement for the first day of the school year on Tuesday, September 5.

Our fantastic PTO organizations have begun planning for the upcoming school year as well, and are excited to plan for and offer amazing experiences for our families once again this year. Please plan to attend the PTO meetings at your school to ensure each building is able to continue to offer wonderful opportunities for each of our students.

CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY	CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY	LINCOLN PARK ELEMENTARY	ROSS PARK ELEMENTARY
MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM	MEETINGS: 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM	MEETINGS: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 PM	MEETINGS: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 PM
EMAIL: mscampbellpto@gmail.com	EMAIL: Jen_164@yahoo.com	EMAIL: lincolnparkptocrew@gmail.com	EMAIL: rossparkpto@gmail.com



We would like to thank you in advance for your continued dedication to your children at home. Your efforts to stay informed about school happenings through ClassTag, newsletters, emails, our website, and social media will help the school year run smoothly. A great way to stay connected to all of our buildings is to download the Mona Shores App. Just search Mona Shores in the App Store or Google Play Store! Be on the lookout for your child's teacher assignments being mailed to you in late August, as well as important information, protocols, and reminders from the office.

It's everything Mona Shores, in your pocket.

- News
- Events
- Documents
- Staff
- Alerts
- Dining

Download the Mona Shores Public Schools app from the iOS App Store or Android Play Store and enable Notifications.

Nikolas Wypa 2023 Scholarship Winners



This is the 11th year of the Nikolas Wypa Scholarship. For those that don't know....the scholarship is in memory of Nikolas Wypa. He was a kindergartener at Churchill, when he suddenly passed away during field day 2012. To honor his memory, a \$500.00 award is given to four 5th students as they move on to middle school. The award is held at The Muskegon Community Foundation until they graduate from high school. It can be used for higher education such as college or trade school. To date, 45 scholarships totaling \$22,500 have been awarded.

This year's winners are no exception to the ultimate citizenship award to inspire others as they grow. It's meant to reflect all the traits Nikolas possessed: kindness, always willing to help, always appreciative, and all with a big heart! The 2023 winners are: Finley Wallace from Lincoln Park, Madison Dudley from Campbell, Piper Sroka from Ross Park, and Henry Rice from Churchill.

Also pictured is the Class of 2023 who won the Nikolas Wypa Scholarship Award back in 2016. They are from left to right: Issac Habetler, Chase Brott, Iliana Bejarano and Noah Carr.



Issac Habetler, Chase Brott, Iliana Bejarano and Noah Carr.

2023 Graduates and winners of the scholarship in 2016



Finley Wallace
Lincoln Park



Madison Dudley
Campbell



Piper Sroka
Ross Park



Henry Rice
Churchill

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3597 HENRY STREET NORTON SHORES, MI 49441

231.215.3242 TIMUPDYKEREALTY@GMAIL.COM



The Mona Shores Tuition Preschool Program has an outstanding reputation in our school community.

We offer both three and four-year old preschool classes at Ross Park Elementary. Our newly remodeled facility will be complete in the fall and was designed with young learners in mind. Our experienced, caring, certified teachers are ready to work with your child and help prepare them for their next level of education.

Call Mona Shores Early Childhood Center at (231) 780-6720.

Mona Shores Child Care A B C D E F

Mona Shores Community Child Care offers a nurturing and caring environment filled with many experiences to allow your child to play, learn and grow. We provide care for children ages 6 weeks through fifth grade.

We also offer Sailor Care for before and after school care needs at all Mona Shores elementary schools. If you are interested in enrolling your child for child care or before/after school care, please contact us today at **231-780-6720**.



FREE PRESCHOOL!



Head Start of Muskegon/Oceana

FREE preschool for 3 & 4 year old children at Ross Park Elementary. Classes are held full days Monday through Thursday and include nutritious meals and snacks, art, music and story time to increase school readiness in low-income families.



Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

FREE preschool to children who turn 4 by December 1st. Classes are full day and are held Monday through Thursday at Ross Park Elementary. This program is FREE to those who qualify, or may include a fee for those over income.



1 Sign Up
Register for **FREE** preschool by calling (231) 865-2497

2 Get Ready
The following documents are needed to complete your child's application:

- ★ Birth Certificate
- ★ Proof of Income
- ★ Shot Record
- ★ Proof of Residency
- ★ Medical Insurance Card

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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Mona Shores
**HOLIDAY ARTS
& CRAFTS
SHOW**

Saturday, November 4, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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Three Gyms, Cafeteria & More
Located at 1121 W. Seminole Road in Norton Shores

Over 180 Exhibitors!

Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks Available

Admission - \$1.00, free parking

For further information, please contact
Mona Shores Community Services at

(231) 332-8230 or visit **www.monashores.net**