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#CHEESEMAKERPRIDE

School District of Monroe Fall 2024-2025

Looking Ahead to Another Great School Year

Rodney Figueroa, Superintendent

Our year is off to a great start and we are pleased to have our students back in school and participating in the many extracurricular activities we have to offer. The summer has been spent preparing to make this the best year for your children. Educators in Monroe care deeply for our students and it is common to see them going beyond what is expected to provide the best for our kids. Many of our staff have been working through the summer to ensure what is needed for our students is ready to go and they are excited to see them.

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School updates and renovations have been completed and the school opened for fall classes as planned. The high school project is completing the earthwork and we expect the walls to begin going up late fall after all of the foundational work is completed. Please check our website and district social media platforms for regular updates on progress and occasional pictures and videos. The Board of Education has been reviewing and selecting contractors through the bidding process and we are one bid pack from being complete with this phase of the project.

Soon, we will have opportunities available for sponsorship of specific areas to enhance the overall project and provide for higher quality finishes, address long-term maintenance needs, and provide support for some of our cutting-edge programming. Stay tuned.

More information regarding the continuation of a \$1.5 million operational referendum, which has been part of the School District of Monroe's annual operations budget for the last 8 years, will be available soon. The Board of Education approved a 4-year non-recurring resolution authorizing the question to be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot. The operational referendum represents no school tax increase from the previous 8 years. There is a video presentation on our website, www.MonroeSchools.com, from the July 8, 2024 Board of Education meeting which goes into detail regarding state funding of public schools and the Board discussion that followed. The decision by the Board to select non-recurring over recurring was well debated, discussed, and decided.

Our staff looks forward to an amazing year of learning and discovery for all of our students. We hope you and your children will take advantage of the many opportunities offered in Monroe and participate in our athletics, arts, and many clubs offered. They all represent an extension of our learning community.

Our best for their best.

Fig

"Education is the leading of human souls to what is best and making what is best out of them." John Raskin



#CHEESEMAKERPRIDE

www.MonroeSchools.com

// 608-328-7171 //



Big Additions to LAUNCH in 2024-2025

In 2024-25, LAUNCH is adding Healthcare Solutions as a career pathway. Students will prepare for a potential career in healthcare by taking the college level course needed to become a certified nursing assistant (CNA) with successful completion of the program, as well as Anatomy and Physiology.

Skilled Building Trades was a new LAUNCH pathway last school year. MHS successfully partnered with Green County Development Corporation (GCDC) to remodel a home. In 2024-2025 the Skilled Building Trades pathway will continue that partnership with GCDC and build a new home from the ground up!! We realize that many of you remember the old program called "Capstone" where MHS students built a house each year, and we are super excited to bring back a version of that program and give our students those same opportunities and experiences.

LAUNCH is GROWING!

School Year	Career Pathways Offered	Students Participating
2022-2023	Business Analytics Media Solutions	28
2023-2024	Business Analytics Media Solutions Behavioral Solutions Skilled Building Trades	64
2024-2025	Business Analytics Media Solutions Behavioral Solutions Skilled Building Trades Healthcare Solutions	80

Youth Apprenticeships

2021-2022 - 12 students completed
 2022-2023 - 40 students completed in 26 different businesses
 2023-2024 - 41 students completed in 34 different businesses
 2024-2025 - 54 students are interested and we are in the process of placing them

SOAR

LAUNCH is not the only way for MHS students to have meaningful and relevant experiences on their career pathway. The MHS SOAR (Student Occupation & Academic Readiness) program, with the support of dozens of local businesses that hire and mentor our students, has dramatically increased the number of students who are able to take advantage of school-to-work opportunities in our Youth Apprenticeship program. Youth Apprenticeship (YA) gives high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to explore their chosen career path, and helps employers develop a qualified and committed workforce. Participating students commit to identified career pathways with local businesses, complete structured competencies and are paid for their work.

Career Communications

In addition to the opportunities students can gain on their career pathway with LAUNCH and SOAR, last year we implemented the Career Communications requirement as part of all students' English 11 experience. In Career Communications class, all students research potential careers, set up and participate in a half-day job shadow experience in a career field that interests them, practice writing cover letters and resumes, and finally learn interview skills and participate in a mock interview experience.

Through all of these opportunities, we feel that our students are more prepared than ever to enter the workforce or college and make better informed choices. We also realize that all of these initiatives are successful thanks to our community. We are so thankful to the businesses and organizations that provide our LAUNCH students with real-world problems and guidance, businesses that hire and mentor our Youth Apprentices, and all of the businesses that take the time to provide job shadow experiences to every single junior, and join us to interview each of those students through our mock interview process.

Thank you so much for your support! We look forward to continuing to provide, with your support, career pathway opportunities that meet the goals of our students and our community.

Monroe Middle School Guidelines to Student Success

Matt Brown - Principal, Monroe Middle School

Being a middle school student is difficult; however, being a parent of a middle schooler is even more daunting! As the parent of a soon-to-be 9th grader that just wrapped up her middle school career, my experience has led me to a few guidelines for student success:

- Get our children involved--Attendance & Participation Matters!
- Be involved in their world--Be CHEESE-y & Ask Questions!
- You can't do this alone--We Got This...Let's Work Together!

Attendance & Participation Matters!

Middle school student habits can predict future success. According to www.attendanceworks.com:

- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

To improve student attendance, the Monroe Middle School (MMS) administration and pupil services team meets weekly to discuss student attendance and make plans for improvement. This will include phone calls and home visits to encourage attendance improvement. Additionally, the team is partnering with the Green County Truancy Diversion Program to assist with setting attendance goals, offering incentives for attendance improvement, and assisting in transportation to/from school. Lastly, MMS students and staff will be setting and tracking a class attendance goal each trimester and competing for best attendance awards and incentives.

If you would like more information on the Green County Truancy Diversion Program, contact our office at 608-328-7120.

In addition to students getting through our main doors, it is also important for students to be involved. MMS has many opportunities for student extracurricular participation through various academic, interest, and service clubs, sports teams and activities.

These opportunities provide students with a way to connect with other students and staff members to create relationships, learn how to work on a team to achieve a goal, and help others in the school and community.

Be CHEESE-y & Ask Questions!

Last school year, we rolled out new behavioral expectations for students and staff. These CHEESE-y expectations are taught and reviewed in various school settings to provide students with clarity on how we expect students to behave and interact with each other and adults. Everyone makes mistakes, especially pre-teens and teens. It's important for us to provide the behavioral guide rails and learning opportunities for improvement.

You may be met with eye rolls, but ask questions about your child's school day--academics and social aspects--and please feel free to use our CHEESE-y vocabulary with your children at home and in the community. The more we can use the same language in all settings, the more we will be seen as a team in pushing our students to success!


We Got This...Let's Work Together!

As you have or will be finding out soon, the preteen and teen years are wrought with many changes and challenges: academic, social, physical and emotional. Please know that you are not alone, and we are willing to work together to address these challenges as a team. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your child's teacher, the Pupil Services team, or the MMS administration to brainstorm and problem-solve any issues that may arise.

We are all invested in student success!

CHEESE

- C** - Character
- H** - Hard Work
- E** - Empathy
- E** - Excellence
- S** - Safe Choices
- E** - Engaged Learners



2024-2025 FOOD SERVICE MENU PRICES

	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
K - 5th Grade	\$1.70	\$2.90
6th Grade - 8th Grade	\$1.80	\$3.20
9th Grade - 12th Grade	\$1.90	\$3.30
Reduced	Free	\$0.40

Milk Grades PreK-12 is \$.50
Ala carte prices range between \$.75 and \$3.75

Breakfast available in all schools
7:35 am - 8:05 am

Monthly menus are available at www.MonroeSchools.com

We recommend ALL families fill out the free and reduced meal application so that everyone who is eligible can receive low or no-cost meals. **Applications are confidential.**

Scan the QR Code to see if you qualify!



ANNUAL NOTICES

Each year Wisconsin school districts are required to inform parents/guardians of annual notices. These notices require they be delivered in many different forms. Scan the QR Code to view the annual notice webpage with links to current district policies and notices. Please note you may receive some of the notices in a different format (U.S. Mail, newsletter, etc.) as required by statute. If you have any questions regarding these notices please contact the District Administrator's office at 608-328-7109 or email chandradeprez@monroe.k12.wi.us.

SCAN HERE





Strengthening our Elementary School Communities: The Vital Role of PTOs



As we settle into another exciting school year, it's crucial to highlight one of the most valuable assets of our elementary school community: the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). Often quietly working behind the scenes, the PTO plays a pivotal role in shaping the educational experience of our children. In this article, let's explore why your involvement in the PTO matters, and the incredible benefits it brings to our schools.

Why Should You Get Involved?

Firstly, your involvement in the PTO directly impacts your child's educational journey. Whether it's organizing events, fundraising for new resources, or advocating for important initiatives, every effort made by the PTO enhances the quality of education our schools can provide. Your voice and participation ensure that decisions are made with a deep understanding of what our children need most.

Moreover, being part of the PTO is an excellent way to stay informed and connected. You gain firsthand knowledge of school activities, policies, and future plans. This involvement fosters a stronger sense of community among parents, teachers, and administrators, creating a supportive network that benefits everyone.

The Benefits for Our Elementary Schools

The benefits of a strong PTO extend far beyond individual families. Here are some ways our school directly benefits from active PTO involvement:

- **Enriched Learning Opportunities:** PTO-funded programs like field trips, guest speakers, and classroom supplies enhance the educational experience and make learning more engaging for our students.
- **Improved Facilities and Resources:** Through fundraising efforts, the PTO contributes to upgrading facilities and furniture, purchasing new technology, and providing resources that might otherwise be unavailable due to budget constraints.
- **Community Building:** Events organized by the PTO, such as family fun nights, cultural celebrations, and volunteer opportunities, create a vibrant school community where families can connect and build relationships.
- **Advocacy and Support:** The PTO serves as a voice for parents, advocating for policies and changes that benefit our children's education and well-being. Your involvement ensures that these concerns are heard and addressed effectively.



How You Can Make a Difference

Join Committees: Whether you have a knack for event planning, fundraising, or advocacy, there's a committee that could benefit from your skills and ideas.

Attend Meetings: Stay informed about school developments and contribute your perspectives during PTO meetings. Your input is invaluable in shaping decisions that affect our school community.

Volunteer Your Time: From helping out at events to assisting in classrooms, your time and effort directly contribute to the success of PTO initiatives.

Share Your Expertise: Do you have professional skills or connections that could benefit the school? Consider offering your expertise to support specific PTO projects or initiatives.

As we embark on this school year, let's remember that our involvement in the PTO is not just about supporting our children's education—it's about actively shaping the future of our school. Together, we can create a nurturing environment where every child thrives academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school community. Your involvement in the PTO makes a significant difference, and we look forward to achieving great things together this year.

*Amy Timmerman
Principal, Northside Elementary*





SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE

2024-2025 CALENDAR

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION 01-08-24

JULY 2024						
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MARCH 2025						
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JUNE 2025						
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KEY TO SYMBOLS (FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, SEE BACK OF CALENDAR)	
●	NEW STAFF ORIENTATION
✂	NO SCHOOL: IN-SERVICE/WORK TIME
NS	NO SCHOOL: NON-PAID DAY
*NS	NO SCHOOL: TIME OWED TO TEACHERS DUE TO PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES, ETC.
✂ ^H	NO SCHOOL: HOLIDAY
*🔔	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: FULL DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 4K-5,6, AND 9 *7 TH , 8 TH , 10 TH , 11 TH , & 12 TH GRADERS START ON SEPTEMBER 4 TH
🔔	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (HALF DAY, NO LUNCH)
Fridays	EARLY RELEASE/IN-SERVICE



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE CONTACTS



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

925 16th Avenue Suite 3, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7171 // Fax 608-328-7214
Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm

Rodney Figueroa, District Administrator
Ron Olson, Business Administrator
Todd Paradis, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Joe Monroe, Director of Pupil Services
Dana Kundert, District Nurse
Eric Ekum, Director of Food Services
Rich Zentner, Director of Building & Grounds

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2625 14th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7172 // Fax 608-328-7228
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:30pm, School Hours 8:05am-3:20pm

Sarah Judd, Principal
Madeline Bartels, School Psychologist

NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3005 8 1/2 Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7134 // Fax 608-328-7226
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 7:55am-3:10pm

Amy Timmerman, Principal
Katllyn Faucher, School Counselor
Jessica Lervik, School Psychologist

PARKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

920 4th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7130 // Fax 608-328-7222
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 7:50am-3:05pm

Jenna Trame, Principal
Amanda Covert, School Counselor
Chelsea Grinvalsky, School Psychologist

MONROE MIDDLE SCHOOL

1510 13th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7120 // Fax 608-328-7224
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 8:00am-3:28pm

Matt Brown, Principal
Lindsay Dahmen, Assistant Principal
Lauren Ritter, School Psychologist
Aaron Heim, School Counselor
Ryan Thompson, Athletic Director

MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

1600 26th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7122 // Fax 608-328-7230
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 8:00am-3:30pm

Jeriamy Jackson, Principal
Josh Wilson, Associate Principal
Melissa Brant, School Psychologist
Lisa Davis, School Counselor
Ethan Langer, School Counselor
Eric Jubeck, Activities Director

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rich Deprez, President
Teresa Keehn, Vice President
Nikki Austin, Clerk
Dylan McGuire, Deputy Clerk
Phil Vosburg, Treasurer
Jim Curran, Member
Eric Eckdhal, Member
Mike Froseth, Jr., Member
Terri Montgomery, Member

School District of Monroe Board of Education Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00pm in the Bauer Education Center, 1220 16th Ave., Monroe, WI 53566

LAMERS BUS GARAGE

2663 3rd Street, Monroe, WI 53566
Ph 608-325-7788 // Fax 608-325-7767
Office Hours: 6:00am-5:00pm
Denise Schindler, Manager

MONROE PUBLIC LIBRARY

925 16th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566
Ph 608-328-7010 // Fax 608-329-4657
Monday-Thursday 9:00am-8:00pm
Friday 12:00pm-6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm
Suzann Holland, Library Director

School District of Monroe

925 16th Avenue
Suite 3
Monroe, WI 53566

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School Closings and Early Dismissals

The School District of Monroe's school closing information is posted to the district webpage and district Facebook page minutes after a decision to close or dismiss early is made. Parents and guardians of current students will also receive an automated phone call from our Skylert messaging system.

The district contacts the following TV and radio stations when these events occur:

RADIO

WBGR FM 93.7 (Monroe)
WEKZ FM 95.5/AM 1260 (Monroe)

TELEVISION

WISC CBS 3 (Madison)
WMTV NBC 15 (Madison)
WKOW ABC 27 (Madison)

School District of Monroe Calendar

August 28th	Meet Your Teacher at Abe Lincoln, Northside, and Parkside 4-6pm	September 3rd	First Day of School 4K-5th, 6th, and 9th
August 28th	Monroe High School Open House 4-6pm	September 4th	1st Day of School 7th-8th, 10th-12th
August 28th	Monroe Middle School Open House 5-8pm	September 22nd-28th	Homecoming Week
September 2nd	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day	September 27th	Homecoming Parade around the downtown square 2pm



ATTENTION NON-RESIDENTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE

This newsletter is provided to all residents of the School District of Monroe. The most affordable process used to circulate this newsletter throughout the district is to use saturation mailing. It is costly to avoid a few non-residents from receiving our newsletter. We apologize for your inconvenience but wish to provide important information to all residents. Thank you.