

The Lighthouse View

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Mona Shores
Cooking Club -
Real Food,
From Scratch!

Our Cooking Club has been a tremendous success this year! Over 100 kids signed up to learn about cooking with real food, from scratch. The Club is free and although it is geared to middle school students, we have several younger students and parents that also attend. It is open to anyone in the community. For more information, please visit the Mona Shores Green Team Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MonaShoresGreenTeam/>.

DEAR COMMUNITY OF MONA SHORES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Y-E-S! Our community passed our November 3rd bond proposal by over 1,100 votes. Thank you! Thank you for supporting our students by providing us a funding source to address high priority items in each of our 6 buildings improving our facilities for our students. Thank you for supporting our staff and faculty, so we can provide teaching and learning experiences in classroom environments and facilities that are warm, safe, and dry. Thank you for supporting our community by investing in upgrades and updates, so we can be the type of neighbor that maintains and improves home values. Thank you for allowing us to successfully pass phase 2 of 3 in regards to our long-term facilities plan.



I would also like to thank the Warm, Safe, & Dry Committee - Melissa Baker, Kandace Boysen, Jenny McNeill, George Thurlow, and Mark Quigg for their relentless passion and detailed campaign. Our Committee members along with Chairman Mark Quigg dedicated a tremendous number of hours, resources, and organization into a campaign that they believed in since their original engagement back in December of 2014. In addition, I would like to thank our Board of Education, District Leaders, and several campaign subcommittees; including our Band, Orchestra, Choir, Athletic Parent Groups and Boosters, and Parent Teacher Organizations. Your communication, support, and messaging were simply outstanding. Finally, I would like to thank the many volunteers who assisted with Warm, Safe, & Dry tables, neighborhood canvassing, passing out buttons/brochures, sign placements, and all of the other details it took to successfully pass our bond proposal. It took an entire community to engage and we should be proud!

On a personal note, I am thankful that I don't have to focus my communications around a bond proposal campaign. Since December of 2014, my messaging has been intentional and consistent. I am sure it will be a welcomed change for you as well, to not hear another message about a bond proposal for at least 4 years. In future communications, I look forward to keeping you updated on how we move forward with construction projects and bond fund allocations, but more importantly, I look forward to sharing how we will continue to align our district operations towards our vision of being the premier PreK-12 educational destination in the county, state, and nation. Working together, we certainly have the students, parents, staff, faculty, and community to do so...We are the Port of Sailor Excellence!

*Sailing Forward,
Greg Helmer, Superintendent*

helmerg@monashores.net • (231) 780-4751, Extension 8201

Website: <http://www.monashores.net>

Twitter: @HelmerGreg



4 Action Steps to Ensure Transparency and Accountability with our Bond Funds

Because our community has supported our school district with the approval of our bond proposal, we would like to share the following 4 action steps to ensure transparency and accountability:

1. We will be establishing a bond transparency committee to ensure safe, responsible bond fund investing and allocations
 - This will be an independent committee comprised of local business professionals
 - The role of the committee will be twofold:
 - Advise and oversee investment of bond proceeds
 - Ensure bond proceeds are spent on the most pressing needs identified in the facilities study
2. We will post a project list on our website and provide updates from the beginning to the end of construction
 - Projects will be posted with updates by line item
 - Expenditures will be reported by line item
3. We will not ask our community voters to consider a bond proposal, or an increase of millage rates until 2019. As a reminder, in 2019 we have 5.8 mills that expire
 - Phase 3 of 3 of our facilities plan will be addressed in 2019
 - It is likely that we may maintain, or even decrease our millage rate, depending on what our facilities advisory committee would like to recommend, depending on our Board of Education's action, and what our voters would like. Regardless, not an issue until 2019
4. We will meet all requirements by law in regards to bond expenditure spending as deemed by the Michigan Department of Treasury
 - Permissible expenditures are: Building remodel and refurbishing, site improvements, school bus purchases, security infrastructure, and furniture/equipment purchases
 - Impermissible expenditures are: Maintenance and repair, salaries/benefits, operating costs, training, and software.

A LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

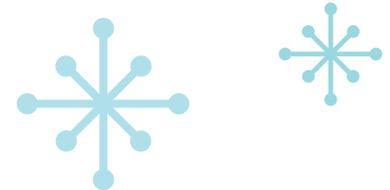


Thank you to a very caring community! The citizens of Norton Shores and Roosevelt Park have shown that they are concerned about providing our youth with the best possible facilities in which to learn. The entire area benefits from good schools. Our students excel in academics, the arts, and athletics because they know the adults in their lives support them. The priority lists are being made, and the bids will be out soon for the construction that needs to be done. Please feel free to stop by one of the buildings to see what is being accomplished.

Thanks also to the members of the Warm, Safe, & Dry Committee, administrators, dedicated staff, concerned parents, and members of the Board of Education for the countless hours that were spent to help communicate the needs for proper maintenance of the buildings, and the necessary changes that have to be made for the security of our students!

Mona Shores Schools are a vital force in the development of the entire Muskegon area. We look forward to the continuation of your involvement in making them even better. Thank you for your support!

Kay Olthoff
President, Mona Shores Board of Education



BOARD OF EDUCATION 2015-16 MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	MEETING TYPE	LOCATION
January 4, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Review Strategic Plan	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
January 11, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Combined	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
February 1, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Work Session	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
February 8, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Regular	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
March 14, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Combined	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
April 11, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Combined	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
April 19, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Building Reports	Location TBD
April 21, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Building Reports	Location TBD
April 26, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Building Reports	Middle School
April 28, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Building Reports	High School
May 2, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Work Session	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
May 9, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Regular	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
June 6, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Work Session	Judith L. Wilcox PLC
June 13, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Regular	Judith L. Wilcox PLC



The Lighthouse View

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SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON

This year's annual Senior Citizens Luncheon hosted by Mona Shores Community Services will take place at the end of April. Please look for more information and how to register in the April issue of the Lighthouse View. Looking forward to another great event!

Is School Closed Today?

Winter Weather Alerts!

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

Closings typically cancel all school activities for the entire day; this includes Tuition Preschool, Head Start, GSRP and latchkey program sites. With a school closing, the Childcare Center located at Ross Park Elementary is open during regular hours for all students currently enrolled in the childcare/latchkey program from **any** building. Evening co-curricular activities may not be cancelled. Contact your school building for updated information regarding evening activities.

To quickly notify our families, Mona Shores utilizes the District Notification System. Parents and staff will be contacted via telephone/email with a message for school closings or delays. The information is also available on our Facebook page, radio, TV, or our district web site at www.monashores.net. You may also telephone your building of choice for a recorded message.

DISTRICT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Attention Parents and Staff! In order to receive messages from the District Notification System your contact information on file must be current. Please call your building secretary whenever your home, cell or work telephone numbers change as well as your email address. Thank you!

Office of SPECIAL EDUCATION

A Message from Mary VanderMolen, Director of Special Education

Parents, when you are around the dinner table do you ever ask your child to tell you about the best part of their day? That's what we're supposed to do, right? Well, maybe that's not the question we should be asking. Read on to find out more.

GROWTH

This is a word we hear often in education. We talk about student growth, school growth, teacher growth, growth model, physical growth, enrollment growth, team growth, and on and on. Webster defines growth as the process of growing. As parents we certainly understand the process of growing as we watch our infants become toddlers, then preschoolers, then kindergartners and before we know it they are in high school, driving, and planning for college and/or career. It happens quickly. As teachers we focus on the growth we want our students to experience from the first day of school until the last. Our daily purpose is to do all we can to nurture that growth through the relationships we create, the lessons we prepare and the way we structure our class. The days are filled with our individual and collaborative efforts to maximize the growth of each individual student.

Certainly we can all give many examples of growth. What we sometimes don't focus on or talk about is the **PROCESS** of growing. Because Webster uses the word 'process' in the definition of growth he implies that growth is an ongoing and continuous series of changes. Thinking about growth as a process is a very good thing for all of us and has significant implications for education. This year our Special Education Department has spent time studying how the process of growth has changed.

Many years ago the prospect for ALL students to grow was not in our mindsets. The thinking was that of a fixed mindset in which people believed that each of us was born with a fixed amount of intelligence and talent. We either had it or we didn't. Unfortunately this led to parents, educators, employers and others believing that students could not get better at something - or grow - past the limits of their present ability. We now know that intelligence and talent are not fixed but can continually grow and be developed.

The way this happens is through creating and maintaining a growth mindset. People with a growth mindset believe that their current intelligence and talent level are just the starting point for development and growth. They believe one can cultivate intelligence and talent through effort. This is great news for teaching and learning. Through developing a growth mindset we also develop a desire to learn, the confidence to accept new challenges and the knowledge that through our own efforts we can increase our intelligence and our talents.

Much of our information about developing a growth mindset comes from psychologist and author Carol Dweck. One of the ways Carol's work has impacted us is it has changed the way we give praise to students. We have always focused on praise and acknowledging students in positive ways but now we are focusing on praising effort. So instead of saying "Great job, you are so smart to earn an A on your test" we will say "Great job, your hard work and effort resulted in you earning an A on your test." According to Dweck, when students feel good about their effort, and know it leads to improvement, they are more apt to take risks and challenge themselves in school. Learning with a growth mindset allows students to become more aware of their current abilities and where they need to improve. This self-awareness increases as they further understand their learning styles and they are much more willing to take a chance and fail because they realize their effort will move them forward. This leads to increased confidence and success.

Developing a growth mindset is a process. We can all do it with some effort. So let's start praising our kids for their effort and hard work at school. Let's help them to see that effort, risk and sometimes failure, will lead to growth in their abilities and talents. We can start by changing some of our language. So tonight instead of saying, "What was the best part of your day?" we could say "What did you really struggle with today?" How we handle those struggles will help us develop a growth mindset that will have huge impacts on teaching and learning for all.

Have a wonderful, growth filled 2016!



Teaching AND Learning

A Message from Bill O'Brien, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

CHROMEBOOKS ENHANCE TEACHING AND LEARNING



Mona Shores had a monumental first half of the school year in terms of technology for learning. Years of planning and preparation culminated with nearly 3,500 Chromebooks in student's hands for the opening day of school this year. It is with special thanks to Muskegon County voters who passed the County-wide technology millage that we were able to make this happen for our students.

The shift to a blended learning environment with a device for every student has helped to enhance the instruction in our classrooms. Technology resources are essential for a blended learning environment. It is important to know that instruction is most important in the classroom and the resources that enhance learning are used to support this instruction. The Chromebooks that we put in our classrooms do just that; support the great teaching and learning that are the hallmarks of Mona Shores.

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a laptop that runs the (Google) Chrome Operating System. It utilizes "cloud" based applications and storage, therefore does not require wait time for loading, memory, etc.

Why did Mona Shores choose Chromebooks for students?

Chromebooks are economical, often times 50%-80% less expensive than traditional laptops. They also naturally integrate with the Google learning environment that Mona Shores utilizes. Mona Shores students had the opportunity to pilot several different Chromebooks and ultimately chose the one that was to be used. The Mona Shores Digital Learning Team helped narrow down the choices that students would have the opportunity to use.

Who is using Chromebooks in Mona Shores?

Every student in 4th through 12th grade has a Chromebook to use each day. Students in 9th through 12th grade are allowed to take them home at night.

Students in 1st through 3rd grade have 10 Chromebooks in their classroom at all times. Every teacher also has a Chromebook to utilize for classroom instruction, planning, and blended learning.

*For more information on the Mona Shores digital learning transformation visit: <https://sites.google.com/a/monashores.net/one-to-one-computing/>

MONA SHORES PARENT LEADERSHIP NETWORK - NOW FORMING

Every child deserves a champion! In Mona Shores we firmly believe this and we also believe that every great organization needs great people to help steer, guide, advise, and collaborate in order to be the best possible organization. For this and many other reasons, we are forming the Mona Shores Parent Leadership Network and are looking for parent leaders to help drive our outstanding school district forward.

The PLN will be the voice of the parents in Mona Shores Public Schools. The PLN will help with topics such as:

- District-wide curriculum steering
- Reproductive health advising
- Wellness committee decision making
- Big picture visioning
- Communication throughout the community
- Parent engagement activities coordination
- School/Community partnerships
- Michigan Merit Curriculum
- Student assessment
- And much more!

The Mona Shores PLN will meet once every 6 weeks throughout the year to drive the above topics and more. The meetings would be in the evening hours or early morning depending on the needs of the committee members. All meetings would take place in the Professional Learning Center at Ross Park with the first one occurring in February.

If you would like to be a part of this important group of stakeholders please email Bill O'Brien at obrienb@monashores.net or call (231) 780-4751 extension 8231.

Looking forward to seeing the work of this next great Sailor team!

WEDNESDAYS-New Life ROCKS! YOUTH GROUP...For 6-12th graders tackling the tough stuff in life with friends, food, fun and faith! 6-8pm



New Life
COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.NewLifeLakeshore.org 231.798.0103
4095 Grand Haven Road in the Old Robert Hall

SUNDAYS-Contemporary, Casual Worship 10am

Jilly's Place For Kidz during worship for infants through 6th graders

building lives of meaning and purpose



Mona Shores EDUCATION FOUNDATION

By Shannon Glinski, President

2016 EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Mona Shores Education Foundation presented Excellence Awards to five Mona Shores' employees who were nominated for their dedication and exceptional service to the students of Mona Shores Public Schools. Congratulations to our 2015 recipients!

Leigh Eckerman	Ross Park Elementary	Third Grade Teacher
Rhonda Grevious	Middle School	Paraprofessional
Colleen Hoffer	Middle School	Special Education Teacher
Kristin Johnson	Churchill Elementary	Fourth Grade Teacher
Marc Miedema	High School	Science Teacher

The first Excellence in Service Award was presented to Andrew Hogston, Principal at Campbell Elementary School, for his dedication to both the Mona Shores Education Foundation and Mona Shores Public Schools. Andy has spent countless hours furthering the mission of the Education Foundation. We are grateful for his dedication and service to our organization. Thank you Andy!

MISSION STATEMENT

A retreat was held in July for the current Board of Trustees. The Board participated in activities to help begin goal planning and to generate ideas for growing the Foundation. A new mission statement was developed to align our work with that of Mona Shores Public Schools.

THE MONA SHORES EDUCATION FOUNDATION WILL SUPPORT AND ENHANCE EXCELLENCE, CHARACTER AND INNOVATION THROUGH ACADEMICS, ARTS AND ATHLETICS.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2016 A Taste of Mona Shores will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 6 – 9 pm at Norton Pines Athletic Club. This event will raise monies to continue our Mini-Grant Program and support the students of Mona Shores Public Schools.

THANK YOU CLASS OF 1965!

The Mona Shores Class of 1965 held their 50th reunion on September 26, 2015. At their reunion they raised \$1,000 for the Foundation. Thank you to the Alumni that made a donation at the event and to Leigh Fonstein and Steve Anderson for coordinating the donation. Funds will be used to support our Teacher Mini-Grant program. Thank you for the support!



@MSEduFdn



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*A Message from High School Principal
Jennifer Bustard*

What an amazing 1st trimester for our entire school community! There were extraordinary performances in the classroom, on the stage, playing courts and on the fields. Our theme Sailor P.R.I.D.E. ...



Courtesy of Sailor's Log/Yearbook Staff

Power Up! has proven to be a perfect fit for the 2015-16 school year. Over 1250 Chrome books were distributed to all students on opening day and have proven to be a tremendous instructional resource for our students and staff.

Our Student Senate has taken on the platform of the Be Nice program for our school. This program is sponsored by the Michigan Department of Mental Health and has a focus on promoting a positive school culture through an anti-bullying and a positive self-image message. Senior, Chloe Grigsby has been instrumental in providing the outstanding student leadership necessary to drive this positive self-love message. The Positive Behavior Matrix continues to be a major focus for our staff and students. Throughout this school year we have been recognizing our students, grades 9-12, for demonstrating positive behaviors with a PRIDE pass. Students then are entered in random drawings for the chance to win prizes ranging from gift cards to local food restaurants, movie tickets, Lumberjack tickets and the list goes on. The data is in for 1st trimester and once again there has been a dramatic increase in positive behaviors and a significant decrease in negative behaviors.



Grigsby

- Over 2,000+ Pride passes were distributed by HS staff and received by students, grades 9-12, during the 1st trimester.
- 96% of our students, grades 9-12, have had less than 1 behavior referral. Absolutely fantastic!

The Sailor PRIDE Behavior Matrix is more than just words. It has become a system of beliefs for our students and staff and has proven to impact our entire school culture. If you would like to donate to our PRIDE pass student recognition system, please contact Anne Brainard at 780-4711 extension 8352.

Start Enjoying the Sounds of Family!
and get your hearing tested today!




Dr. Kim Keessen Au.D.

Shoreline
Hearing Center

941 W. Broadway Ave., Muskegon (across from the Station Grill Restaurant)
Call 231.755.0552 to schedule an appointment ■ www.shorelinehearingcenter.com

SAILORS ride with pride

RIDE WITH PRIDE CAMPAIGN

In partnership with Muskegon ALI, Norton Shores Police Department, Ramos Auto Body, and Nexes Realty, Mona Shores High School is proud to present the 4th Annual RIDE with Pride positive behavior campaign. In May 2016 one lucky student will win a car! Again this year our 9th and 10th grade students are eligible to win a moped! This is an opportunity to recognize safe driving behaviors and positive behaviors in our school and community. Special thank you to Chief Jon Gale and School Liaison Officer Jared Passchier of Norton Shores Police Department, as well as Ramos Auto Body and Nexes Realty for their generosity in making the car and moped give-away a reality.

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 Counselors' 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.



Courtesy of Sailor's Log/Yearbook Staff

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 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 e-mail at bustardj@monashores.net

Looking forward to seeing you at the next event! Go Sailors!

SAILOR PRIDE INITIATIVE



We take much PRIDE in the gains we continue to make with positive behaviors in the building. Being able to acknowledge these behaviors throughout the year and at our end of the year celebration assembly is one of the reasons why we have made such gains. 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 that donated last school year.

Buffalo Wild Wings, Chartwells Food Service, Mosley's Driving & Testing Center, Jostens, Mr. Joe Abdelkader, Mr. Justin Abdelkader, Mrs. Kandace Boysen, Mrs. Kay Olthoff, Lakeshore Eyecare, Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken/Golden Corral, Lumberjacks, Meijer, MSHS Athletic Department, MSHS Class of 2014, Mr. Sean Sobczak of Lakeshore RV Rental and Norton Pines Athletic Club, Sherman Bowling Center, Texas Roadhouse, The Station Grill, and Trophy House and Jones Sports

As we take our PRIDE initiative to the next level this school year, 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



Anchor - \$100



Lighthouse - \$250



Flagship - \$500+

To donate, please contact Anne Brainard at brainara@monashores.net or at (231) 780-4711 extension 8352.

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Counselor's CORNER

by Danielle Smith-Walker, Director of Guidance

STUDENT SCHEDULING FOR 2016-2017 BEGINS IN JANUARY

Counselors will begin meeting with students during scheduling assemblies right after holiday break. Students will be given a copy of their transcript to review and instructed to select their classes for the next school year. Parents can assist their child in this process by reviewing the choices, signing course selection sheet, reminding them to return the materials to school on time and finally scheduling with them online at home. Two years ago, our students embarked upon online scheduling at home and it has been a smooth transition. This is an added benefit as it allows parents to have more active participation in the scheduling process. Counselors and students will meet individually during this time to review scheduled course selections for accuracy and planning. Also, each student will have the opportunity to update his/her Educational Development Plan at that time.

The following scheduling time frame will be followed:

Class	Assembly Date	Course Selection Return Dates
2017	Thursday, Jan. 21	Monday, Jan. 25 - Wednesday, Jan. 27
2018	Thursday, Jan. 28	Monday, Feb. 1 - Wednesday, Feb. 3
2019	Thursday, Feb. 4	Monday, Feb. 8 - Wednesday, Feb. 10
2020	Monday, Feb. 22	Thursday, Feb. 25

8th Grade Parent Night will be scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2016, in the High School Auditorium. All parents of incoming 9th grade students are encouraged to attend. There will be a presentation to review graduation requirements and the scheduling process.

FAFSA

Paper FAFSA's are only available through download at the Federal Aid website or by calling 1-800-4-FEDAID. About 5% of FAFSA's are now filed by paper with the majority being filed on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Both the dependent student and parent must apply for a pin number that will serve as an electronic signature. This can be done at www.pin.ed.gov. Keep this in a safe place. It will be used every year that you apply for financial aid.

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 www.FAFSA4caster.ed.gov for an early estimate of federal aid eligibility. A pin number is not required and the information can transfer directly to your FAFSA. Additional information is available at www.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

On Wednesday, January 6, we will have a Financial Aid Workshop at 6:00 PM in the High School Media Center. A Financial Aid Officer will be here to go over the financial aid process and the FAFSA worksheet. Any questions that you have concerning completion of FAFSA and financial aid documents will be discussed.

DO THE FAFSA

College Goal Sunday: A Michigan College Goal event is held to have an expert help you fill out the FAFSA. This year's event will be on Wednesday, February 24 from 4:30 - 6:30pm at Muskegon Community College. Get help filling out the FAFSA. Bring your family's completed 2015 tax forms (or W2s and 1099s), social security numbers, Driver's licenses, and 2015 untaxed income records to complete the form right there. Students/parents can sign up for personalized message reminders. Also, students who attend the event and complete the Student/Family Survey are entered for a chance to win a \$1000 scholarship, an iPad Mini, and other awards. For more information, please visit www.micollegegoal.org.

SAT

Junior Registration: The State of Michigan will pay for all juniors to take the SAT test on April 12th during the school day. The SAT will be the first phase of the Michigan Merit Exam. Juniors will be able to send their scores to colleges that they are considering attending. They should give this some thought ahead of time as they will be asked to give that information during a February registration process here at the high school.

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

Students needing tutoring can get assistance every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school in the Media Center. National Honor Society students are available to tutor in core subjects from 3:00 – 3:45 PM. In addition, there is an after-school or before-school schedule for tutoring in the core subject areas with teachers. Have your student check out these very valuable resources!

CAREER CRUISING

A county-wide portal system (Career Cruising for K-12) will be offered to districts allowing students, parents, counselors and adult learners easy-to-use web based, personalized tools to ensure that each step in the process of career exploration and applying for college is successful! Our district will develop Educational



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TEEN HEALTH CENTER

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. for lunch)
Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Located in Muskegon High School J Building, Room E113, 80 W. Southern Avenue

Offering Sports Physicals for ALL Athletic Sports

COUNSELOR'S CORNER (CONT.) Development Plans (EDP) for students in order for them to understand their skills, values, career choices and college training options. Please contact your school counselor for more information.

SCHOLARSHIP NOTICES

Please go to our scholarship page to see many more available scholarships at: <http://www.monashores.net/schoolbuildings/highschool/departments/counseling/scholarshipsandfinancialaid>. The following is a sampling of some of our local scholarships. Students will receive scholarship notices for Muskegon Community College and Baker College in March and April. Scholarship notices are posted throughout the building, on our website, and on the announcements. Also, seniors receive personal emails monthly to their school Gmail accounts indicating scholarship availability, requirements and due dates.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MUSKEGON COUNTY: 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. Last year 14 Mona Shores seniors were selected in this program. Financial need is often a consideration. Deadline: March 1. The application is now online at the Foundation website, www.cffmc.org. Please note that applicants must complete the FAFSA by March 1 and list the school they plan to attend so that the Financial Aid Officer will have the necessary information to complete the Financial Information form by the Foundation's deadline.

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 application is February 25, 2016. Contact Barb Hitchcock at bhitchcock@mea.org for additional information.

MICHIGAN COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP: Any senior who attained a 23 composite on the ACT is eligible for this scholarship. 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.

GERBER FOUNDATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIP: At least one \$2,000 scholarship for a Mona Shores senior - five Mona Shores High School students earned these scholarships last year - with a maximum 3.7 GPA in order to target the average to above average student. Winners will be selected on basis of overall academic record, recommendations, leadership qualities, and involvement in curricular, extracurricular, and community activities. Preference is given to those with little scholarship support. Essay and financial statement required. Deadline: to Gerber Foundation by February 28 (online application required at www.gerberfoundation.org).

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

WOMEN'S DIVISION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Five \$1000 scholarships will be awarded. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA and reside in Muskegon County. Applicants must also plan to attend either Muskegon Community College, Baker College or a Muskegon County Technical school in Muskegon full time. Applications are available in the Counseling Office or online at www.womensdivision.org. Deadline March 14.

TUITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP): This is an incentive program that encourages eligible students to complete high school 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 coverage for 24 months within a 36-consecutive month period as identified by the Michigan Department of Human Services. The high school counseling office notified all students that were on our list. If you think your student may be eligible please contact their high school counselor.

Sailor Athletic News

A Message from Ryan Portenga, Director of Athletics

Jordan Spieth: Championship golfer and... multisport athlete?

A few months ago, one of our coaches forwarded me the link to an article on Jordan Spieth – golf superstar and champion of this past year's Masters and United States Open tournaments. At first, when I started reading the article ("Jordan Spieth: Athlete First", posted by the Titleist Performance Institute), I thought the article was going to attribute Spieth's successful rise to the thousands of hours spent on the course with personal trainers while getting personalized attention. It sort of did. However, the article rather abruptly took a left turn and described a different reason behind Spieth's achievements.

While growing up, all the way through high school, Spieth wasn't just a golfer... he was a point guard on the basketball court, the quarterback of his football team, and a pitcher on the baseball diamond. In short, the guy was an incredibly well-rounded, multisport athlete – something we don't see too often anymore these days.

"We did not raise our kids to be one-sport athletes. You have to let them explore options... You have to make sure they know that life is more than one sport or one goal," said Spieth's mother, Chris, in the article.

"There's a lot that can be learned from competing as a team," she continued. "I think having that experience really grounds you and prepares you for other things in life beyond sports. I think, sometimes, when kids show an aptitude for golf at a young age – or any sport for that matter – their parents push them into spending all of their time on that one sport. They get burnt out and they don't have the opportunity to explore all the other things out there."

Since 2009, Mona Shores has seen almost one hundred of its student-athletes move on to compete in the college ranks. Of those who earned scholarship dollars to do so, roughly 75% were two- and three-sport athletes. Already this year, we have seen five student-athletes commit to an NCAA Division I or II institution to continue competing upon graduation. All (Hunter Broersma, Tyler Trovinger, Jordan Walker, Kobe Burse, Darece Roberson) are multisport athletes.

Too often, our sports culture gets caught up in the idea of specialization – and there is certainly an argument for such training. However, as Chris Spieth testifies, "life is more than one sport or one goal." Furthermore, it seems like every other week or so that I read an article or see a quote from a major university coach who prefers soccer players to run track, football players to wrestle, or baseball players to play tennis and/or hockey – simply to challenge different muscles within their body, take on a different role, and to have fun with friends.

Moving forward here at Mona Shores, I certainly would love to see more of our student-athletes – and their parents – take on a similar mindset. After all, when a part of different teams or groups (athletic and non-athletic) – once again turning to the advice of Chris Spieth – such experience "prepares you for other things in life beyond sports."

Do you know a four-year college athlete who graduated from Mona Shores?

In an effort to continue documenting our school's rich athletic tradition in our "Hall of Records", we are searching for information on former student-athletes who went on to compete for four (or five, if "red-shirted" or transferred) years at the college level. This could be an athlete who played for four years at Hope College, an athlete on scholarship at a Big Ten university, or an athlete who competed at Muskegon Community College and went on to play elsewhere after transferring.

If you know anyone – whether it was back in the 1960s, 1970s, or more recent – please email portengr@monashores.net or call (231) 780-4711 (ext 8312). Thanks so much!

Please remember all information regarding athletics can be found at www.monashoresports.com. Also, if you're an active Twitter or Facebook user, remember to tag your posts with #GoShores when detailing an athletic event or activity here within the school district.

Yours in Sailor spirit, Ryan Portenga



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2015/16 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Friday	1/22/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	7:30 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	7:00 PM
Friday	1/29/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	7:30 PM
Tuesday	2/2/16	Western Michigan Christian HS	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	2/5/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	7:30 PM
Tuesday	2/9/16	Muskegon Catholic Schools	Home	7:30 PM
Friday	2/12/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	7:30 PM
Tuesday	2/16/16	Fremont High School	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	2/19/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	7:30 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	2/26/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	7:30 PM
Tuesday	3/1/16	Holland High School	Home	7:00 PM

BOYS JV BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/5/16	Jenison High School	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/7/16	* Muskegon High School	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	1/12/16	West Ottawa HS	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/14/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Home	7:00 PM
Thursday	1/21/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	7:00 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	5:45 PM
Thursday	1/28/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/2/16	Western Michigan Christian HS	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/4/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/9/16	Muskegon Catholic Schools	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/11/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/16/16	Fremont High School	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/18/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	5:45 PM
Thursday	2/25/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	7:00 PM
Tuesday	3/1/16	Holland High School	Home	5:30 PM

BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/5/16	Jenison High School	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/7/16	* Muskegon High School	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday	1/12/16	West Ottawa HS	Home	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/14/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/21/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	5:30 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/28/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/4/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/11/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	5:30 PM

Tuesday	2/16/16	Fremont High School	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/18/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/25/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	5:30 PM
Tuesday	3/1/16	Holland High School	Home	4:00 PM

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/5/16	Jenison High School	Home	7:00 PM
Friday	1/8/16	* Muskegon High School	Away	6:00 PM
Tuesday	1/12/16	West Ottawa HS	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	1/15/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Home	6:00 PM
Tuesday	1/19/16	Rockford High School	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	1/22/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	6:00 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	1/29/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	6:00 PM
Friday	2/5/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	6:00 PM
Tuesday	2/9/16	Muskegon Catholic Schools	Home	6:00 PM
Friday	2/12/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	6:00 PM
Friday	2/19/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	6:00 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	7:00 PM
Friday	2/26/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	6:00 PM

GIRLS JV BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/5/16	Jenison High School	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/7/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	7:00 PM
Tuesday	1/12/16	West Ottawa HS	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/14/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	1/19/16	Rockford High School	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday	1/21/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	1/22/16	Grandville HS	Home	4:00 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	5:45 PM
Thursday	1/28/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	7:00 PM
Thursday	2/4/16	* Muskegon High School	Away	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/9/16	Muskegon Catholic Schools	Home	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/11/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Home	7:00 PM
Thursday	2/18/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	5:45 PM
Thursday	2/25/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	7:00 PM

WINTER SPORTS LISTINGS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

* Designates League Event.
Events subject to change, check website for updates.

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2015/16 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

GIRLS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Tuesday	1/5/16	Jenison High School	Home	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/7/16	* Muskegon High School	Home	5:30 PM
Tuesday	1/12/16	West Ottawa HS	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/14/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS	Away	5:30 PM
Friday	1/15/16	Fruitport HS	Home	4:00 PM
Tuesday	1/19/16	Rockford High School	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/21/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Zeeland East HS	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	1/28/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Home	5:30 PM
Friday	1/29/16	Spring Lake High School	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/4/16	* Muskegon High School	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday	2/9/16	Allendale High School	Away	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/11/16	* Covenant Christian HS	Home	5:30 PM
Thursday	2/18/16	* Kenowa Hills High School	Home	5:30 PM
Tuesday	2/23/16	* Zeeland East HS	Home	4:00 PM
Thursday	2/25/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS	Away	5:30 PM
Friday	2/26/16	Spring Lake High School	Home	4:00 PM

BOYS/GIRLS VARSITY BOWLING

Saturday	1/9/16	(Fruitport Invitational @ Northway Lanes)	Away	12:00 PM
Saturday	1/16/16	* (Pre-Conference Tournament @ Kenowa Hills (Westgate Lanes))	Away	TBA
Tuesday	1/19/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS @ Sherman Bowling Center	Home	3:30 PM
Thursday	1/21/16	* Muskegon High School @ Sherman Bowling Center	Home	3:30 PM
Monday	1/25/16	* Kenowa Hills High School @ Sherman Bowling Center	Home	3:30 PM
Wednesday	1/27/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS (Northway Lanes)	Away	3:30 PM
Saturday	1/30/16	(Zeeland East Baker Invitational)	Away	8:30 AM
Monday	2/1/16	* Zeeland East HS @ Sherman Bowling Center	Home	3:30 PM
Wednesday	2/3/16	* Grand Rapids Union HS (Westgate Lanes)	Away	3:30 PM
Saturday	2/6/16	(Reeths-Puffer Invitational)	Away	12:00 PM
Monday	2/8/16	* Muskegon High School (Sherman Bowling Center)	Away	3:30 PM
Wednesday	2/10/16	* Kenowa Hills High School (Westgate Lanes)	Away	3:30 PM

Monday	2/15/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS @ Sherman Bowling Center	Home	3:30 PM
Wednesday	2/17/16	(GMAA Tournament @ MS (Sherman Bowling Center))	Home	TBA
Thursday	2/18/16	* Zeeland East HS (Zeeland Lanes)	Away	3:30 PM
Saturday	2/20/16	(Post-Conference Tournament @ Zeeland East (Westgate Lanes))	Away	TBA
Friday	2/26/16	(MHSAA Regionals)	Away	TBA
Saturday	2/27/16	(MHSAA Regionals)	Away	TBA

GIRLS VARSITY COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday	1/9/16	(Grandville Invitational)	Away	9:30 AM
Wednesday	1/20/16	* (Kenowa Hills Jamboree)	Away	6:30 PM
Saturday	1/23/16	(Thornapple-Kellogg Tournament)	Away	TBA
Wednesday	1/27/16	* (Reeths-Puffer Jamboree)	Away	6:30 PM
Saturday	1/30/16	(LMCCOA Invitational @ East Kentwood)	Away	12:30 PM
Wednesday	2/3/16	* (Mona Shores Jamboree)	Home	6:30 PM
Saturday	2/6/16	(Kenowa Hills Invitational)	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday	2/13/16	(PR Cheer Tournament @ The Deltaplex)	Away	TBA
Saturday	2/20/16	(MHSAA Districts @ Cedar Springs)	Away	10:00 AM
Wednesday	2/24/16	(GMAA Tournament @ Muskegon)	Away	TBA
Saturday	2/27/16	(MHSAA Regionals @ Mona Shores)	Home	5:00 PM
Saturday	3/5/16	(MHSAA State Finals @ Delta Plex)	Away	10:00 AM

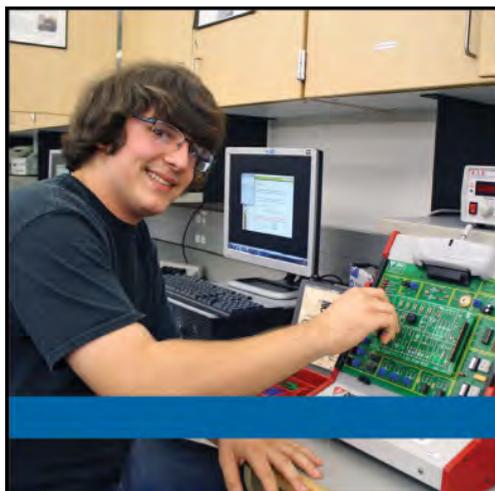
GIRLS JV COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday	1/9/16	(Grandville Invitational)	Away	9:30 AM
Wednesday	1/20/16	* (Kenowa Hills Jamboree)	Away	6:30 PM
Saturday	1/23/16	(Thornapple-Kellogg Tournament)	Away	TBA
Wednesday	1/27/16	* (Reeths-Puffer Jamboree)	Away	6:30 PM
Wednesday	2/3/16	* (Zeeland East Jamboree)	Away	6:30 PM
Saturday	2/6/16	(Kenowa Hills Invitational)	Away	10:00 AM

BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

Friday	1/8/16	(Konrad Tournament (GR Christian vs PC)) @ Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	6:00 PM
Friday	1/8/16	(Konrad Tournament (MS vs EK)) @ Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	8:00 PM

*Designates League Event. Events subject to change, check website for updates.



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2015/16 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY (CONT.)

Saturday	1/9/16	(Konrad Tournament-Consolation Game) @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	2:00 PM
Saturday	1/9/16	(Konrad Tournament-Championship Game) @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	4:00 PM
Friday	1/15/16	Hartland High School@Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	7:30 PM
Wednesday	1/20/16	Grand Rapids Catholic Central @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	7:30 PM
Saturday	1/23/16	Forest Hills Central HS @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	7:00 PM
Wednesday	1/27/16	* Reeths-Puffer HS (@ L.C. Walker Arena)	Away	7:30 PM
Wednesday	2/3/16	Kenowa Hills High School @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	7:30 PM
Friday	2/5/16	(Trenton Showcase)	Away	TBA
Saturday	2/6/16	(Trenton Showcase)	Away	TBA
Friday	2/12/16	Rockford High School @Lakeshore Sports Centre	Home	7:30 PM
Saturday	2/13/16	Traverse City Central HS @ Howe Arena	Away	2:00 PM
Wednesday	2/17/16	Rockford High School @ Griff's Ice House	Away	8:00 PM
Friday	2/19/16	Grand Rapids Catholic Central @ Eagle Ice Center	Away	7:30 PM
Saturday	2/20/16	Forest Hills Central HS @ Patterson Ice Arena	Away	3:00 PM
Wednesday	2/24/16	Kenowa Hills High School @ Walker Ice Center	Away	7:00 PM
Friday	2/26/16	East Kentwood HS	Away	7:30 PM

BOYS VARSITY SWIMMING

Tuesday	1/5/16	Holland High School (Holland Community Aquatic Center)	Away	6:30 PM
Saturday	1/9/16	(Spring Lake Invitational)	Away	9:00 AM
Tuesday	1/19/16	* East Grand Rapids HS	Away	6:00 PM
Tuesday	1/26/16	* Forest Hills Central HS	Home	6:00 PM
Thursday	1/28/16	Ludington High School	Away	6:00 PM
Tuesday	2/2/16	* Grand Rapids Christian HS	Home	6:00 PM
Saturday	2/6/16	(Ottawa Hills Invite)	Away	8:30 AM
Tuesday	2/9/16	* Jenison High School	Home	6:00 PM
Tuesday	2/16/16	* Northview High School	Away	6:30 PM
Thursday	2/25/16	(Conference Diving @ EGR)	Away	TBA
Friday	2/26/16	(Conference Swim Prelims @ EGR)	Away	TBA
Saturday	2/27/16	(Conference Swim Finals @ EGR)	Away	TBA

Friday	3/11/16	(MHSAA Regional Finals)	Away	TBA
Saturday	3/12/16	(MHSAA Regional Finals)	Away	TBA

BOYS VARSITY WRESTLING

Wednesday	1/6/16	* (Byron Center Quad)	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday	1/9/16	(Grand Haven Invitational)	Away	9:30 AM
Wednesday	1/13/16	* (Zeeland West Quad)	Away	5:00 PM
Wednesday	1/20/16	* (Mona Shores Quad)	Home	5:00 PM
Saturday	1/23/16	(GMAA Tournament @ Ravenna)	Away	10:00 AM
Wednesday	1/27/16	* (Kenowa Hills Quad)	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday	1/30/16	(Lakewood Invitational)	Away	8:30 AM
Wednesday	2/3/16	* (Zeeland East Quad)	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday	2/6/16	(O-K Black Division Tournament @ Muskegon)	Away	TBA
Thursday	2/11/16	(MHSAA Team Districts)	Home	6:00 PM
Saturday	2/13/16	(MHSAA Individual Districts)	Away	TBA

BOYS JV WRESTLING

Saturday	1/9/16	(East Kentwood Invitational)	Away	9:00 AM
Saturday	1/30/16	(Grand Haven Invitational)	Away	9:30 AM
Friday	2/5/16	(Combined Tournament @ Reeths-Puffer)	Away	TBA

*Designates League Event. Events subject to change, check website for updates.

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Proud of Our BEST Efforts

*A Message from Middle School Principal
Doug Ammeraal*

With the new year around the corner, I cannot help to reflect on the start of the school year and on the climate and culture at Mona Shores Middle School. I continue to be inspired and grateful. Here are just a couple of items that I shared with students and staff prior to the holiday 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 that puts students first, that puts their hearts and souls into their craft, and is committed to doing whatever it takes to help students succeed.
- 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 are developing and growing their character! 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 cut our discipline numbers by nearly 47% compared to the year prior and 56% from the year prior! While the numbers are not as low as they were last year, we are still well below the national average and only about 25 off compared to November last year. Ultimately, we are holding our students accountable to high expectations of respect and ownership. I am **proud** of our students for their overall positive behavior and choices!
- **Cooking Club** -- Our Cooking Club continues to be wildly successful. What began as 15-25 students participating in spring of last year has grown to nearly 70 participants! Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Kimball, and Mrs. Mogdis have had to create two different time slots simply to accommodate the numbers. What is even more impressive is that not only do we have MSMS students attending, but teachers, parents, friends, and even High School students. I am **proud** of this club!

- **“Involved” Students** -- Over the first few months of school, we have looked at the number of our students that are involved in extended learning, leading, or participating opportunities here at MSMS. This includes: Cooking Club, Fall/Winter 1 sports teams, the Fall play, Tech Wizards, DI, 6th Grade Running Club, CAC Student Congress, Green Team, and MMLI. At this point in the year, **42%** of MSMS students (377) are involved in opportunities outside/after school! I look forward to watching that number grow with Winter/Spring sports, intramurals, and additional opportunities that come about. I am **proud** of how many of our students are finding ways to be involved!
- **Robotics Class** -- With our first trimester upon us, we are extremely happy with the engagement, application, and feedback from this class! Mr. Pesch has done a phenomenal job of learning, organizing, presenting, and allowing our students to create and program their robots! I look forward to assessing this class and determining what MSMS’s next step is with Robotics and STEM. I am **proud** of the students and opportunities in this class!
- **Monthly Character Traits** -- Our students, staff, and families continue to reflect, learn, and grow with our character traits. Mrs. Mogdis does a phenomenal job of creating “kickoff” lessons for students and staff at the beginning of each month. 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 in America, 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 in America, 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, our **best**, in all that we do! We stay focused on our students, their success, their failures, and their experience at Mona Shores Middle School!

*With SAILOR PRIDE,
Doug Ammeraal -- Principal*

MONA SHORES MIDDLE SCHOOL MASTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY:

- 4 School Resumes
- 6 **No Late Start** Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 11 Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 13 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 18 Martin Luther King Day - No School
- 20 **No Late Start** Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 25 Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 27 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 29 Sailor Celebration, 6-8 p.m.

FEBRUARY:

- 3 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 4-6 Drama Production @ MSHS, 7 p.m.

- 8 Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 9 8th Grade Band Festival, 1 p.m.
- 10 COUNT DAY
No Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 12/15 No School, Mid-Winter Break
- 17 **No Late Start** Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
Make-Up Date: Ski Club, Cannonsburg
- 18 6th Grade Orchestra Solo Festival, 5 - 8 p.m.
- 22 8th Grade Scheduling Assembly at M.S., 8:50 a.m.
8th Grade Parent Night, 7 p.m. - **MSHS Auditorium**
Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 24 Conferences, 4-7 p.m., by invitation
Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
Orchestra Solo Festival@Grand Haven, 5 - 9 p.m.
- 25 8th Grade Scheduling During the Day at MSMS
- 29 7th Grade Band Rehearsal, 3 - 3:45 p.m.
Battle of the Books Kick-Off, 11 a.m.

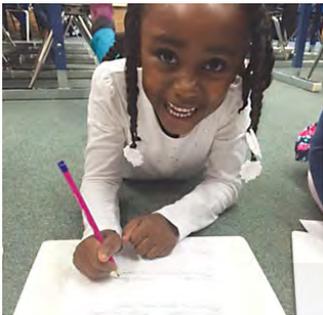
MARCH:

- 1 7th/8th Grade Band Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- 2 **No Late Start** Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
- 9 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
- 10 6th Grade Band Concert, 12-1 p.m.
- 14 Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 16 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
Records Day
- 16-17 Choir Festival
- 17 8th Grade Visitation to the High School
- 18 2nd Tri Ends
- 23 Late Start Wednesday, School Starts at **9:40 a.m.**
- 25 Half-Day, Good Friday, (Dismissal at 11 a.m.)
- 28 Cooking Club, 4 and 5:30 p.m.
- 30 **No Late Start** Wednesday, School Starts at 7:40 a.m.
Battle of the Books Tournament, 8 a.m.

APRIL:

- 1 Half Day, (Dismissal at 11 a.m.)
Spring Assembly
- 4-8 No School/Spring Break

Campbell First Graders Planting Seeds of Knowledge That Will Continue to Grow!



This past October, all first graders at Campbell elementary were able to experience a day of hands-on learning fun. Students learned all about apples with fun life cycle activities, writing projects, leveled readers based on the tall tale of Johnny Appleseed, science and math related activities and much more! Students followed recipes to make homemade applesauce and an allergy-friendly apple smiles snack. It was a great opportunity to make real world connections while reinforcing previous classroom learning. Parents had an opportunity to connect with our students while running hands-on learning centers. With smiles on their faces and their tummies full of yummy apple treats, this learning fun won't soon be forgotten!



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Mona Shores Community Services Enrichment Classes

Kid's Yoga

Mondays 4 - 5 p.m.
Feb. 1 - March 14

Available to Kids Grades 1 - 5

At Muskegon Yoga Center
6 Weeks for \$65.00

For more information about available classes, or to register, visit monashores.net/departments/communityservices or call 231-780-4748



Mona Shores Community Services Enrichment Classes

2016 Winter Tennis

4 Weeks for \$35.00 • Available to Kids Grades K - 5

Starting Week of Feb. 15 - 3:45pm - 4:30pm
at Elementary Gyms

Coaching: Jay Starke-JV Coach, Current & Former Tennis Team Players

For more information about available classes visit monashores.net/departments/communityservices or call 231-780-4748





Socktober at Lincoln Park



Churchill Brings First Boys' Total Trek Quest Team to Muskegon County

With the help of Pathways MI, Churchill Elementary was able to bring the first Muskegon County Boys' Total Trek Quest Running Team to Muskegon County! This fall, a team of 28 Churchill third, fourth, and fifth grade students completed a 9-week running program and finished the Total Trek Quest Celebration 5K at West Ottawa High School on Saturday, November 14. Churchill was proud to bring this athletic program to Muskegon County and to also have had the largest team of all 26 participating schools!

Total Trek Quest Goals:

- Building Positive Relationships
- Teamwork
- Increasing Physical Activity
- Healthful Habits
- Promoting Wellness



Churchill Total Trek Quest was coached by Churchill Teachers Kristin Johnson and Angela Goodwin, High School Teacher Chris Johnson, and Churchill Parent Chris Burnaw.

Every night in the United States an estimated 600,000 people live on the streets. This October, Kid President wanted 2 million people to prove that even the smallest acts of love, like donating a pair of socks, can make a big difference in the lives of our neighbors who are homeless.

Last year, more than 10,000 schools, families, businesses, and churches rallied together to bring Socktober to life. People from every state and continent have taken part in Socktober! This year the students at Lincoln Park joined the mission to make a difference in our local community.

In September, the Lincoln Park Student Council decided to collect socks for the month of October. Student Council advertised Socktober with signs and announcements. Their goal was to collect 500 pairs of socks. They ended up collecting 560 pairs!

The socks were donated to Every Women's Place. We are excited about our students having the opportunity to make a difference in our local community. The 12 Lincoln Park Student Council members have learned that they can make a positive impact outside of the school environment by working together.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" – Helen Keller

Head Start: A federal preschool program that provides three and four-year-olds an early boost in their education. Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Great Start Readiness Program: A state sponsored preschool experience for 4-year-olds. Classes are taught by state certified teachers.

Classrooms are located in Ross Park Elementary.
Please call 231-865-4102 for information.

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Ross Park Third Graders Learn with the Lakeshore Museum Center

This school year Ross Park Elementary third graders will be participating in several of the programs offered by the Lakeshore Museum Center (LMC). In mid-October Mrs. Eckerman, Mrs. Eigenauer and Mrs. Young's third grade classes traveled to the new "Michigan Heritage Park" near Whitehall to experience daily life in a Native American wigwam village, interact with a fur trader stocking his shelves, visit a Settler's Cabin, and learn about the life of early settlers. Students were invited to take part as a Civil War Soldier in their winter camp and also were able to stretch out on a bunk in a Lumber Shanty.



our third graders will be experiencing throughout the rest of the school year. These programs include tin-punching where students will discover the importance of tin during the early pioneer and colonial days. Students will tin punch and take their projects home. Another program titled "Rocking Rocks" will be brought to us by the LMC in mid-April. This program will show students how a rock is made and what the different types of rocks are. Students will identify the three types of rocks—igneous, metamorphic, and

sedimentary—through hands-on detective work.

At the end of the school year Ross Park Third Graders will spend a day in downtown Muskegon. Students will tour the homes of Muskegon's most prominent lumber barons. They will learn about the gifts Charles Hackley

gave to Muskegon and grasp the concept of economics and philanthropy by becoming mill workers or lumber barons dealing with the cost of living in the late 1800s.



At the end of October the LMC visited our classrooms with their outreach program titled Nature's Food Web to teach third graders about the food web of an owl. Students learned about the prey that owls hunt and digest. To end our lesson the students were able to dissect an owl pellet.

In Early November, the LMC returned to our classrooms to discuss Native American Indians-Michigan's First People. The students learned about Indian culture in Michigan, examined artifacts including arrowheads, and were able to touch beaver, deer, rabbit and fox furs. The LMC provides many other programs that



alive through outreach programs and great field trip opportunities. Thank you LMC for a wonderful partnership and for helping support our school's curriculum!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Over the past few years, legislation has changed the entry age for students to enroll in kindergarten. In 2016-17 a child must be 5 on or before September 1, 2016 to register for kindergarten.

Parents can learn more about kindergarten at our upcoming parent meetings. The building principal, teachers and other district staff will relay details of a typical kindergarten day, what students will learn and be expected to have mastered prior to first grade and questions about transportation. This year kindergarten round-up meetings are scheduled in each building on the following date:

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016
at 6:00 p.m.**

In Mona Shores the enrollment process begins with your elementary building secretary. She will provide you with an enrollment packet to complete and return to the school prior to round-up. Please feel free to call or drop by your home building and to pick up this enrollment packet. Along with the completed packet you will be asked to provide birth certificate (original), immunization record (including hearing and vision screening results), and proof of residency (i.e., warranty deed to mortgage, most recently paid property tax statement, rental lease or agreement, mortgage payment receipt, or affidavit of residency with property owner).

Transportation is provided to resident kindergarten students who reside beyond the 1.5 mile walk out distance. For the safety of your kindergartener, you or a guardian must be present at both pick-up and drop-off locations. Additional information will be provided regarding transportation at a later date.

If you have any other questions, feel free to contact your building principal.

2016-2017 MONA SHORES TUITION PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

*Open Registration
begins in March*



The Mona Shores Tuition Preschool Program provides a positive, safe, nurturing environment that promotes physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth. We offer three and four-year old programs, including our popular PreK Class. All classes are held at Ross Park. Our teaching staff is selected by considering academic qualifications, experience and the desire to teach and work with preschool age children. All teachers are highly certified and meet the state of Michigan qualifications to teach early childhood education. Non-resident students enrolled in Mona Shores Early Childhood programs will be given first preference for identified Schools of Choice openings.

To request an enrollment package, please call (231) 780-4748 or visit our website at www.monashores.net/departments/community-services/early-childhood/preschool. The Preschool office is located in Ross Park Elementary at 121 Randall Road in Norton Shores, MI 49441. Registration begins in March on a first come first serve basis and continues until classes are full. A non-refundable registration fee with one-month's tuition as a deposit is required at the time of registration. Students currently enrolled in our three-year-old



program will automatically receive a four-year-old enrollment package during the closed enrollment period.

Head Start and Great Start Readiness Programs at Ross Park Elementary
Mona Shores is in consortium with Fruitport Community Schools to provide free preschool programs to eligible families. Both follow curriculum guidelines from the State of Michigan. Call Fruitport Early Childhood Center at (231) 865-4102 for more information about these programs.



Please visit our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/monashorespreschool](https://www.facebook.com/monashorespreschool).

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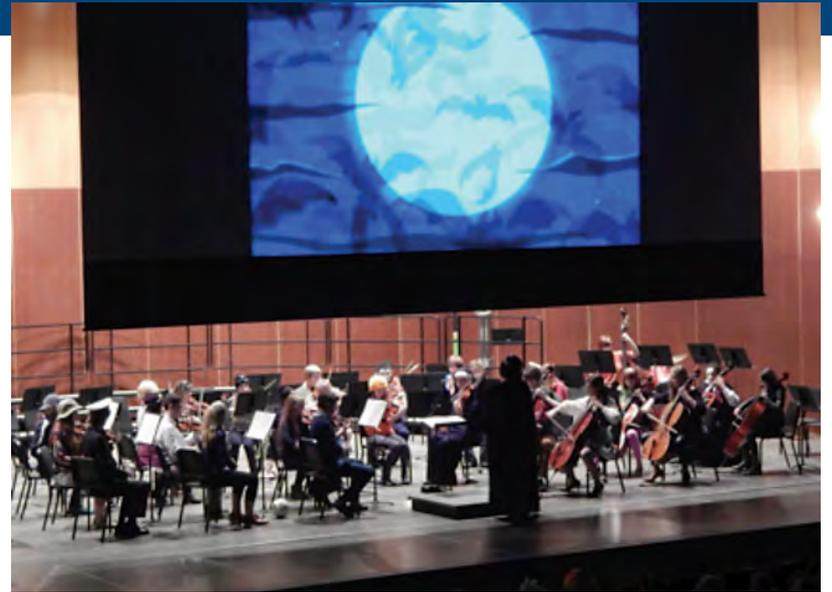
OR LOG ON TO DRIVESAFEWM.COM



14th Annual Fiddle Festival

On Saturday, November 14, the Mona Shores Fiddlers hosted their 14th Annual Fiddle Festival featuring the Middle Fiddles directed by Nick Mosley, the High School Fiddlers directed by Kelly De Rose, and guest artist An Dro. Students had a unique opportunity to work closely with An Dro in an afternoon session prior to the concert. The workshop was made possible by a generous grant from WALK THE BEAT, an organization established to promote music education opportunities to the youth of West Michigan. Both student groups and the guest band put on a great show!

Top photo: Middle Fiddles, Bottom photo: High School Fiddlers



High School Orchestra and 5th Grade Singers Perform in Spooktacular Concert

On Wednesday, October 28, 2015, the High School Orchestras along with 5th graders from Campbell and Lincoln Park Elementary joined together for an evening of music making. The elementary students, under the direction of Mrs. Cathy Sander, joined the orchestra to begin the show by singing our National Anthem. Both Concert and Chamber Orchestras, under the direction of Mrs. Kelly De Rose performed music of the season including Two Scenes from the Hollow by Kirt Mosier, inspired by the story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow", a medley of tunes including Toccata and Fugue, the Munsters Theme and Phantom of the Opera named Fright Night arranged by Larry Moore, and A Witches' Sabbath from Symphonie Fantastique by Hector Berlioz arranged by Deborah Baker Monday.

One of the highlights of the evening was the costume contest. The Mona Shores Orchestra Parents Association awarded prizes in four different divisions including preschool, elementary, middle & high school, and adult. Jennifer Bustard (High School Principal), Joe Shaffer (High School Assistant Principal), Andy Hogston (Campbell Elementary Principal), and Karen Abraham (Lincoln Park Principal) all took part in judging the costume contestants. Prizes were awarded to a preschooler dressed as Yoda, an elementary student dressed as Coach Koziak, and a team of high school students dressed as the characters from Scooby-Doo.

The program ended with the elementary students singing the Addam's Family Theme and dancing on the risers while the orchestra played Michael Jackson's Thriller. Special appearances were made by a trio of high school dancers and the voice of Vincent Price to conclude the show on this final number.

The Orchestra Program is looking forward to making this concert a fall tradition. Visit www.MonaShoresOrchestra.org for more photos from this and other orchestra events.

Mona Shores Community Services Enrichment Classes

Spring Drawing & Painting



Under the direction of Middle School Instructor Tom Jordan
6 Weeks for \$50.00 • For Grades 6 - 8

**Thursdays from April 14 - May 19
3-5 p.m. at Middle School Art Room**

For more information about available classes,
or to register, visit monashores.net/departments/communityservices
or call 231-780-4748



2016 WINTER PERFORMING ARTS SCHEDULE

Winter Band Retreat

Friday-Saturday, January 15-16

MSBOA All State Band and Orchestra performance

Saturday, January 23
DeVos Performance Hall

Players Winter Show

Thursday-Saturday, January 28-30
High School Dance Room

MSBOA High School Solo and Ensemble

Saturday, January 30 – All Day
Oakridge High School

Middle School Drama Performance (Wizard of Oz)

Thursday-Saturday,
February 4-6 – 7pm
High School Performing Arts Center

High School Orchestra Winter Retreat

Friday - Saturday, February 5 - 6

MSMS Singing Sailors - National Anthem at Lumberjacks Game

Saturday, February 6 - 7pm
L.C. Walker Arena

Concert Band Festival

Tuesday, February 9 – 2-5pm
High School Performing Arts Center

Combined Vocal Concert (4th-12 grade)

Thursday, February 18 - 6pm
High School Performing Arts Center

Sailor Brass at Lumberjacks Game

Friday, February 19th - 7pm
L.C. Walker Arena

MSBOA Orchestra Festival

Wednesday, February 24
Grand Haven High School

Ross Park/Churchill Elementary Choir Festival/Concert

Saturday, February 27
Festival All Day, Concert at 2:30pm
Ross Park Auditorium

7th & 8th Grade Band Concert

Tuesday, March 1 - 7:30pm
Middle School Auditorium

MSBOA MS Band Festival

Wednesday, March 2

Churchill Talent Show

Monday, March 7 - 6pm
Ross Park Auditorium

Ross Park Talent Show

Tuesday, March 8 - 6pm
Ross Park Auditorium

6th Grade Band Concert

Thursday, March 10 – 12-1pm
Middle School Auditorium

Middle School Orchestra at Lumberjacks Game

Friday, March 11 - 6pm – 10pm
LC Walker Arena

High School Orchestra and Fiddlers at Lumberjacks Game

Saturday, March 12 - 6pm – 10pm
LC Walker Arena

Marching Band performs in Dublin St. Patrick's Day Parade

Thursday, March 17 – Noon
Dublin, Ireland

Allegros Show – Legally Blonde

Friday, March 17, 18, 19 - 7pm
(Saturday Matinee at 2pm)
High School Performing Arts Center

6th Grade Choir Concert

Tuesday, March 22
Middle School Auditorium

Michigan Musical-Churchill

Wednesday, March 23 - 6pm
Ross Park Auditorium

High School Spring Choir Concert

Tuesday, March 29 - 7:30pm
High School Performing Arts Center

High School Orchestra Italy Tour Farewell Concert

Wednesday, March 30 - 7pm
High School Performing Arts Center

Michigan Musical-Ross Park

Monday, March 28th - 6pm – 7pm
Ross Park Auditorium

High School Orchestra Italy Tour

Friday, April 1 - Saturday, April 9

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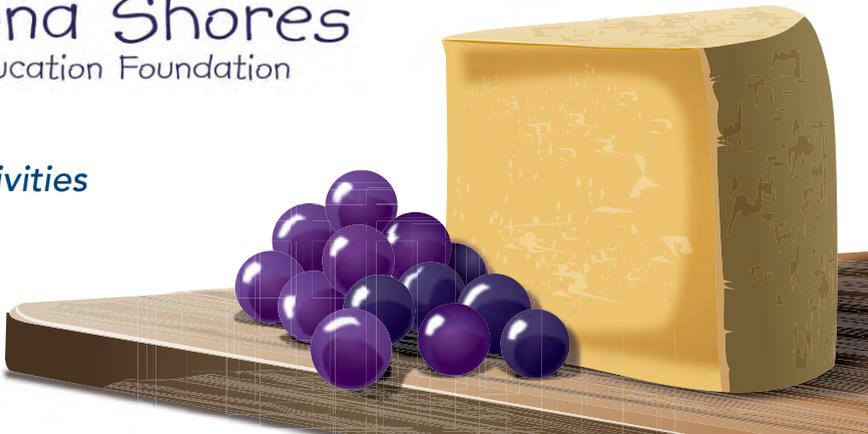
"A Taste of Mona Shores"

The 9th Annual "A Taste of Mona Shores" Fundraiser featuring The Cheese Lady and beverages from Ladd's & Co. will be held on Saturday, April 30th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Norton Pines Athletic Club. Tickets are currently on sale and can be purchased through any Mona Shores Education Foundation member, Mona Shores Community Services or Ladd's & Co.



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