



Volume XLI Issue 2
November 2019

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MONTABELLA STRIVES TO KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE

The passage of the bond has brought on many wonderful changes! If you drive by, you see two buildings are now one, and soon that connector will be full of students, free from the elements, and most importantly safely walking within the walls of Montabella Community Schools. Safety and the steps we at Montabella are taking to provide a safe environment for students was one of the most common questions when the bond proposal was placed on the ballot. It was a fair question; one that Ms. Millis did not take lightly. In fact, she went to town writing grants, and Michigan State Police granted us a little over \$160,000 to make multiple upgrades to our security at both buildings.



Now, before entering either building we have HD cameras with a two-way phone that allows us to communicate with guests before being buzzed into the building. Guests now enter through the high school office before they have access to the rest of the building.

When phase two is complete, both buildings will have guests enter through the office first thing. Each classroom now has a new barricade system in place that adds an extra layer of protection in the event of a lockdown. The barricade takes a matter of seconds to install. Other additions that you may not notice are the new door locks and security film installed on the windows at the jr/sr high.

We strive for success and we understand that providing a safe environment for our students to learn is essential. We are Montabella!





Shelly Mills ~ Superintendent

It's the LAW

The legislators and the governor in the state of Michigan advance hundreds of bills into laws every year. It can be difficult to keep up with as some may get more attention than others. Many of these laws have an impact either directly or indirectly with education. One in particular that everyone should be aware of is a law that is referred to as the Third Grade Reading Law that was passed in 2016 but takes full implementation this school year 2019-2020.

This law in a nutshell requires school districts in the state of Michigan to retain third grade students that do not show grade level reading ability on the state assessment. Every 3rd - 7th grade student in the state of Michigan participate in the M-STEP test in the spring of each school year that assess each student's ability to perform the state standards for that grade level. Another portion of the law is that students that are demonstrating reading skills that are below grade level are placed on an Individual Reading Improvement Plan starting as early as first grade.

As a school district we have some huge concerns about this law. This requirement is based on a one time test on one

particular day that may or may not really represent the ability of that student. The most important concern we have about this process is that there is NO clear cut evidence that retention works. We have been providing additional intervention for students that struggle in reading before this law was passed and we will continue to support those students in the future. Regardless of how we personally feel, it's the law and we must abide by it. Parents should be aware of this requirement and be prepared for the potential ramifications of this forced retention.

Currently there is a bill that has been introduced in the Senate (SB 633) that would repeal this law. If you share similar concerns about the ramifications of this law on the students of the state of Michigan including the students of Montabella, I encourage you to reach out to your legislatures and let them know.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Meetings ~ Third Monday of the Month
 Montabella Central Office Board Room
 302 West Main St. PO Box 349, Edmore MI 48829
 989-427-5148 (p) 989-427-3828 (f)
Jann LaPointe, President ~ Scott Parks, Vice President
Ivan Renne, Secretary ~ Eylie Foster, Treasurer
Mike Rasmussen, Trustee ~ Katie Ludwig, Trustee
Shaila Powell, Trustee

2019-2020 1st Six Weeks R.E.A.L. Mustang Pride Honor Roll

Respect--Explore--Achieve--Lead

These students have a "C" or better grade in all classes and have not had any discipline referrals

Grade 7~Keion Adams, Anthony Bennett, Ashlynn Davis, Alayna Foster, Ambrea Humphrey, Mason Irwin, Jaylie Newcombe, Javon Perkins, Elicia Peterson, Brianne Porter, Addyson Strohl, Nathanyal Voorhees, Gavin Willis

Grade 8~Kalia Adams, Kaydenn Aggas, Kelsey Austin-Campbell, Cooper Bolton, MorganBondie, Sydney Boyer, Chase Burggren, Daisy Fitzgerald, Amber Friedrich, Andrew Fuller, Mersadies Geister, Ella Harris, Zaylee Huntoon, Madison Jordan, Chelsea Mason, Emma Murray, Kiana Nickerson, Kylie Pifer, Katie Spohn, Kasondra Voorhees, Neola Wyatt

Grade 9~Makenna Bailey, Ryan Binge, William Daws, Hana Deal, Kase Jerome, Alexis Jordan, Andrew Kelsey, Joseph Kuipers, Alizah Langlois, Lily Lobert, Kaitlynn Miller, Monica Miller, Justin Smith

Grade 10~Tabitha Anderson, Madison Austin, Mashaela Bovee, Sara Courser, MaLinda Johnston, Tabitha Lumbert, Hailee McElhaney, Trista Perkins, Julie Spohn, Anthony Tallent, Alyssa Walwark

Grade 11~Emma Hatton, Kathleen Jensen, MakennaJensen, Eder Lopez-Morales, Natalie Lutz, Mackenzie Minkel, Hannah Willis

Grade 12~Olivia Adgate, Ashlynn Aggas, Mariah Chagoya, Morgan Christensen, Paige Courser, Cory Daily, Mackenzie Dalrymple, Alexis Ferman, Rose Goltz, Whitney Hoover, Lauren Jordan, Joie Kade, Brian Knapp, Brooklynn Knopf, Summer Ladd, John Mazurkiewicz, Paige Pant, Jordan Rose



SEPTEMBER *Kassidy Mallay, Korbin Loomis, Wyatt Scherzer, Addison Nielsen, Breanna Miller, Austin Lobert, James Finley, Chase Miller, Kolton Mayer, Jeremy Ebel, Lia Dood, Kaitlyn Kade, Matthew Bassett, Dominique Ramos-Champlin, Kayden Sisco, Mr. Barnes & Mrs Blumer*



Elementary Spotlight



October *Savanna Sharkey, Claire Baker, Miller Maxon, Katie Taylor, Jagger Ebel, Ella Blanzey, Ema Dood, Callie Bandfield, Kortney Robinson, Brooklyn Kieff, Maxie Ludwig, Carson Mayer, Kody Dalrymple, Gabriel Kauffman, Hayden Helmer, Kira Featherly, Mrs. Kelsey & Mrs. Withey*



what' going on?



Brooklyn Knopf was voted to receive the DAR Good Citizenship Award by her classmates. This recognition awards students who have demonstrated dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. She will have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship that will range from \$250 to \$5000.



PEER-TO-PEER IN ACTION

Chance Wagoner enjoys and is very good at his job as a peer in the elementary. He is shown in the picture below working through a book with an elementary student.

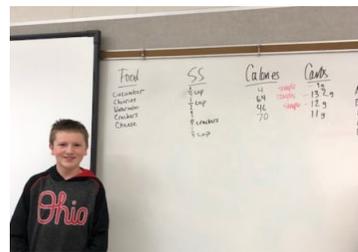
IN PERFORMING ARTS

Jordan Rose was selected to be in the Meyer Music Honors Band. The practices and performance will take place in November and it will be held at Hastings High School.



At this time, we have five soloists from the 7th/8th grade band for the December Solo and Ensemble competition.

Mr. Gormley has arranged to have the Roscommon H.S. Steel Drum Band to return and perform for our school/community. This will take place in May.



Students in **Mrs. Crowley's** health classes recently finished the nutrition unit. In order to better understand caloric intake and macro nutrients, students sampled healthy snacks while tracking calorie intake and vitamins and minerals.



Texas Roadhouse Gift Card Fundraiser is in full swing at Montabella Elementary. Gift cards can be purchased for \$25, \$50, \$75, or \$100 and they will be delivered before Winter break. All funds raised will help with our One Book One School yearly event and also to purchase supplies for our W.I.N groups.

The Mr. Moore's Reading Challenge is on the way at the elementary school. Many students have already submitted reading logs in hopes of being selected for a special prize.



Don't forget to turn in your box tops to any office. We will make sure they get to the elementary. Thank you in advance!



PTO MEETING

The PTO is planning several events for the students and the community this year. Some of the events include- Carnival, Daddy Daughter Dance, Mother Son Bowling, Dances, and Walk-a-Thon.

HOMECOMING



ROSE GOLTZ
TYLER COOK



QUEEN TRICIA WRIGHT
KING TYLER POWELL



OLIVIA ADGATE
NATE PETERS



TAYLOR HARKNESS
EDER LOPEZ-MORALEZ

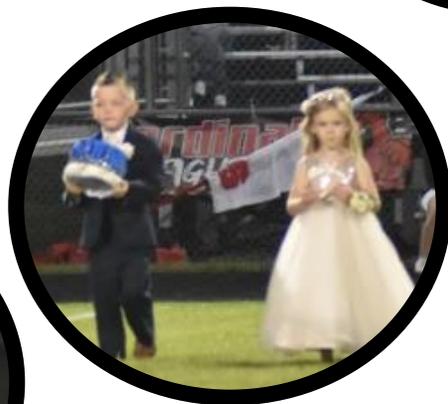


MAKAYLA ALZAMORA
JAKOB PERKINS



LAUREN JORDAN
DAKOTA DYKHUIS

GRAND MARSHALL'S
TERRY & ETHEL LARSEN
PRINCE ASHER BOLTON
PRINCESS CLAIRE BAKER



Students of the Month



August ~ Nate Vorhees, Kaydenn Aggas, Kase Jerome, Trista Perkins, Jayden Carson, Donovan Qualls



September~ Ashlynn Davis, Kiana Nickerson, Sadie Quackenbush, Tony Tallent, Parker Burggren, Chance Wagoner

August

Athletes of the Month

September

Gavin Gatehouse
Football ~Sept



Coach Balhorn said, "Gavin worked hard in the offseason in the weight room and it shows in his ability on the field."

James Wilson
Cross Country ~ Sept



Coach Kauffman said "With a great work ethic, positive attitude and incredible talent, James Wilson had a great opening month to his high school running career."

Hana Deal
Volleyball ~ Oct



Coach Hoyt said "Hana is a model Mustang on the court and off the court."

Caleb Theisen
Football ~ Oct



Coach Balhorn said "Caleb has been a team leader. He has encouraged his teammates and displayed a positive attitude at all times."



Riley Daily and James Wilson both qualified for the state cross country event for the first time. James finished in the top half of the race running a 18:35 while Riley was right outside the top half of the race running a 18:40. Way to go Riley and James!!!

Congratulations Montabella Football for making the playoffs! They played their last game of the season at Johannesburg/Lewiston in several inches of snow.

Winter Sports!

JV/VAR BOYS BASKETBALL

Mon	12/9	Belding	H	5:30 PM
Thu	12/12	Vestaburg	H	6:00 PM
Thu	12/19	Merrill	H	6:00 PM
Tue	1/7	Coleman	H	6:00 PM
Thu	1/9	Breckenridge	A	6:00 PM
Tue	1/14	Lakeview	H	6:00 PM
Tue	1/21	Sacred Heart	A	6:00 PM
Fri	1/24	Ashley	H	6:00 PM
Mon	1/27	Farwell	A	6:00 PM
Wed	1/29	Carson City-Crystal	H	6:00 PM
Fri	1/31	Vestaburg	A	6:00 PM
Tue	2/4	Chippewa Hills	H	6:00 PM
Fri	2/7	Merrill	A	6:00 PM
Mon	2/10	Fulton	A	5:30 PM
Wed	2/12	Coleman	A	6:00 PM
Fri	2/14	Breckenridge	H	6:00 PM
Tue	2/18	Beaverton	H	6:00 PM
Fri	2/21	Sacred Heart	H	6:00 PM
Fri	2/28	Ashley	A	6:00 PM
Thu	3/5	Carson City-Crystal	A	6:00 PM
Mon	3/9-13	Carson City-Crystal	A	TBA

JV/VAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Mon	12/3	Lakeview	A	5:30 PM
Fri	12/6	Carson City-Crystal	H	6:00 PM
Tue	12/10	Belding	A	5:30 PM
Fri	12/13	Vestaburg	A	6:00 PM
Mon	12/16	Tri County	H	6:00 PM
Fri	12/20	Merrill	A	6:00 PM
Fri	1/3	Beal City	A	6:00 PM
Wed	1/8	Coleman	A	6:00 PM
Fri	1/10	Breckenridge	H	6:00 PM
Mon	1/13	Sacred Heart	H	6:00 PM
Mon	1/20	Farwell	H	6:00 PM
Thu	1/23	Ashley	A	6:00 PM
Tue	1/28	Carson City-Crystal	A	6:00 PM
Thu	1/30	Vestaburg	H	6:00 PM
Mon	2/3	Chippewa Hills	A	5:30 PM
Thu	2/6	Merrill	H	6:00 PM
Tue	2/11	Coleman	A	6:00 PM
Thu	2/13	Breckenridge	A	6:00 PM
Thu	2/20	Sacred Heart	A	6:00 PM
Thu	2/27	Ashley	H	6:00 PM
Mon	3/2-6	Ithaca	A	TBA

Competitive cheer

Sat.	1/04	Leslie	A	10:00 AM
Sat.	1/11	Breckenridge	A	11:00 AM
Sat.	1/18	Beal City	A	10:00 AM
Sat.	1/25	Alma College	A	10:00 AM
Sat.	2/01	Evart	A	11:00 AM
Wed.	2/12	Meridian	A	6:00 PM
Sat.	2/22	Districts-North Pointe Christian		TBA

WRESTLING

Wed	12/11	Mich Lutheran Sem.	A	6:00 PM
Sat	12/14	Big Rapids	A	9:00 AM
Wed	12/18	Mio-Au Sable/Beaverton	H	6:00 PM
Sat	12/21	Mustang Round Robin	H	9:00 AM
Sat	1/4	Holton	A	9:00 AM
Wed	1/8	Breckenridge/Fulton	H	6:00 PM
Sat	1/11	Meridian	A	9:00 AM
Wed	1/15	Coleman	A	6:00 PM
Sat	1/18	Carson City-Crystal	A	9:00 AM
Wed	1/22	CCC/Chippewa Hills	H	6:00 PM
Sat	1/25	Mustang Duals	H	9:00 AM
Wed	1/29	Chippewa Hills	A	5:30 PM
Sat	2/1	Clio	A	9:00 AM
Sat	2/8	Carson City Crystal	A	9:00 AM
Thu	2/13	Team Districts-Kent City	A	TBA
Sat	2/15	Individual Districts	A	TBA

Middle School wrestling

Thu	11/7	Ithaca	A	4:30 PM
Thu	11/14	Carson City-Crystal	H	5:00 PM
Thu	11/21	Carson City-Crystal	A	4:30 PM
Wed	12/4	Shepherd	A	4:30 PM
Thu	12/5	Hemlock	A	4:30 PM
Sat	12/7	St. Louis	A	9:00 AM

Middle School Boys Basketball

Mon	1/20	Coleman	A	4:30 PM
Wed	1/22	Vestaburg	H	4:30 PM
Mon	1/27	Breckenridge	A	4:30 PM
Wed	1/29	Ashley	H	4:30 PM
Mon	2/03	Carson City Crystal	A	4:30 PM
Wed	2/05	Coleman	H	4:30 PM
Mon	2/10	Merrill	H	4:30 PM
Wed	2/12	Sacred Heart Academy	A	4:30 PM
Mon	2/17	Vestaburg	A	4:30 PM
Wed	2/19	Breckenridge	H	4:30 PM
Mon	2/24	Ashely	A	4:30 PM
Wed	2/26	Carson City Crystal	H	4:30 PM

Middle School Girls Basketball

Mon	11/11	Vestaburg	A	4:30 PM
Wed	11/13	Breckenridge	H	4:30 PM
Wed	11/20	Carson City-Crystal	H	4:30 PM
Mon	11/25	Coleman	H	4:30 PM
Tue	11/26	Merrill	A	4:30 PM
Mon	12/2	Sacred Heart	H	4:30 PM
Wed	12/4	Vestaburg	H	4:30 PM
Mon	12/9	Breckenridge	A	4:30 PM
Mon	12/16	Carson City-Crystal	A	4:30 PM
Wed	12/18	Coleman	A	4:30 PM

GO MUSTANGS!



Senior Citizen Harvest Dinner

When: **Thursday, November 14th**
Where: **Montabella Elementary Cafeteria**
Time: **1:30 p.m.**
For reservations, please call:
Montabella Central Office – 427-5148



Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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MOST VALUABLE TEACHERS



Gavin Ederer "My MVT is Mr. Balhorn because he has helped me throughout my entire high school experience. There is never a bad day when you have Balhorn picking you up!"



Joie Kade writes "My MVT is Mr. Riley because he has always cared about my athletics and my education. He has always pushed me to do better in everything I do. Thank you, Mr. Riley."



Jordan Rose writes "My MVT is Mr. Gormley because he has always supported me and pushed me to do my best at everything - sports, band and academics. I'm going to miss you so much after I graduate."



Mason "My MVT is Mrs. Eldred because she always tortured herself to help make my life easier all while putting up with my crap."



Rylee Warchuck writes "My MVT is Mrs. Dreyer-Molitor because she has always believed in me. She has pushed me to be a greater student and athlete. Thank you Mrs. Dreyer."



Austin Pawlowski "My MVT is Mr. Balhorn because he has helped me succeed in high school. He would always take time out of his day to make me a better overall person and I thank him for that."



Chance Wagoner, "My MVT is Mrs. Eldred because she always cared for me in and out of school and thank you for being there when no one was."



Zavier Brigham, "My MVT is Mr. Balhorn because he's guided me in ways I thought no teacher could. He makes me feel important and that I'm worth more than I am."



Lauren Jordan writes "My MVT is Mrs. Burggren because she is a wonderful person inside and out. She has always made me feel welcomed. We all know the Force is strong with this one. Thank you Mrs. B."