



Volume XLIII Issue 1
August 2021

Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

WHAT'S INSIDE

Construction Progress
Superintendent's Message
School Calendar
FYI
Student Spotlight
Student of the Month/Mustang Highlights
Student Spotlight
New Mustangs in the Stable



PIECE-BY-PIECE

1. NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND FUTURE GAGA BALL PIT
2. ZIP LINE, SLIDES, BASKETBALL COURT, AND SO MUCH MORE
3. ENTRANCE INTO MUDROOM FROM FUTURE PLAYGROUND
4. BUS CANOPY
5. SECOND EXIT POINT FOR INNER CLASSROOMS
6. MUDROOM IN CLASSROOM
7. CLASSROOM WINDOWS
8. CLASSROOM



BUILDING TOGETHER
LEARNING TOGETHER
GROWING TOGETHER

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 10 — Registration for JR/SR High (6-12th Grade)
SCHOOL PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN DURING
REGISTRATION

- 11th & 12th Grade: 12-2:00 PM
- 8th & 10th Grade: 2-4:00 PM
- 9th Grade: 7:30-9:00 PM
- 6th & 7th Grade: 6-7:15 PM

August 16 — Open House 4:30-6:00 PM

- Come out and enjoy hot dogs & extras

August 18 — First Day of School

August 24 — First Home Volleyball game

August 26 — First Home Varsity Football game

September 24 — Elementary School Picture Day



It's a Great Time to be a Mustang!



The summer went by quicker than most of us would like but we have been busy on all sorts of projects at the schools. The district buildings are under construction and there are some exciting changes that everyone will be able to see when school resumes. These construction projects are all part of the 2018 bond project that was supported by the community. Your support is certainly appreciated and we hope that everyone is excited about the upgrades that are taking place.

Lots of site work took place over the spring and summer. New parking lots, bus parking and an elementary playground have all been installed on the south side of the buildings. There is now a driveway that runs along the east side of the property out to our athletic facilities for easier access.

Inside the buildings also have a different look. New furniture has arrived for all the jr/sr classrooms and offices. Storage buildings on the elementary and in the jr/sr high band room have been added. New mechanical systems for more efficient and effective ventilation are installed. Roofs are in the process of being replaced, most of that work will be completed this fall.

The biggest transformation is with the elementary school. The elementary school will continue to be under construction for another full year. Work is completed in small areas at a time and as they are completed we will move into those areas and the vacated areas will then get work completed. At the start of the school year we will have a new elementary office and 2 new preschool classrooms. Due to some material delays those spaces will not be 100% complete to start the year but they will be mostly completed and we will be able to get moved in and start using those spaces. The main entrance for the elementary will now be on the west side near the Central Office entrance.

This is a very exciting time as we get to watch the buildings get transformed. The new brighter learning spaces are a welcomed addition. Keep track of the latest construction updates on our website, www.montabella.com. Thank you to the community for your support for this project and for continuing to make us proud to be Mustangs!

chartwells
serving up happy & healthy

Our first Summer School Feeding Program went very well this year at Montabella! Students were served breakfast and lunch. Ms. Ann Smith did a wonderful job preparing and serving our students. We also would like to thank our teachers for all the help they contributed.

Great job, Lisa Hicks, on coordinating a delicious program!



Pesticide Advisory

State of Michigan law requires that schools and day care centers that may apply pesticides on school or day care property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending the facility.

Please be advised that Montabella Community Schools utilize an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion, and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation, that is made to the school grounds or buildings during this school year. Please note that notification is not given for the use of sanitizers, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least 2 methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance to the school district, which is located at 1390 E. North County Line Rd Blanchard, MI 49310. The second method will be by posting information on the school's web site (www.montabella.com).

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first class mail, please contact the district office for a form and return it to our office.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request.

If you have questions regarding the school's pest management procedures, please contact:

Shelly Millis
(989) 427-5148
smillis@montabella.com

2021-2022 School Calendar

Montabella Community Schools
1390 E. North County Line Road
989-427-5148 (Fax) 989-427-3828
Blanchard, MI 49310

July 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021						
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					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Parent Teacher Conferences		
Oct 13 & 14		4pm - 8pm
March 17		1pm - 8pm

Early Release Days		
Dec 16	Mar 16	May 26
Dec 17	Mar 17	

No School for Students		
Sept 15	Nov 15	Jan 19
Oct 20	Nov 24	Feb 16
		April 15

83 days first semester, 97 2nd semester

■	School Closed
■	Early Release/ Teacher work day
■	1/2 day PD, 1/2 day teacher work

■	Flex Day
■	Teacher Work Day
■	Teacher Professional Development

	Parent Teacher Conferences
	First & Last Day of School
	End of Semester

January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					21

February 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	30				

TITLE I

Title I is a federally funded program designed to provide additional help for students based on local eligibility criteria. Title I support is available for all students at Montabella Community Schools who meet the criteria. At the elementary level, students may work outside the classroom with Title I staff or a Title I staff member may assist students within the classroom; at the secondary level Title I staff may provide services through a course within the students daily schedule. The parent of any student has the right to request the professional qualifications of all teachers and paraprofessionals working with the student. Requests can be made at the school offices. A students' success in school is directly related to the quality of communication and shared commitment which exists between the home and school. In order to emphasize this point and to respect the Title I guidelines, a school/parent compact, or statement of mutual understanding, is put forth. The purposes of the compact are to identify conditions that are supportive of academic success and to highlight areas of shared responsibility in your student's school experience.

MONTABELLA ELEMENTARY COMPACT:

TEACHER/STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT TEACHER COMMITMENT, I will: Provide a variety of teaching strategies to best meet all student learning styles. Provide a positive atmosphere for teaching and learning. Be flexible to meet individual student needs. Maintain high expectations for myself and my students. Value the uniqueness of each child and his/her family.

STUDENT COMMITMENT, I will: Bring the necessary materials (completed homework, pencil, textbooks) needed to class each day. Ask questions when I don't understand something. Always try to work to the best of my ability. Show respect for myself, my school, other students, and other's belongings. Accept responsibility and consequences for my actions. Follow all school, classroom, and home rules.

PARENT COMMITMENT, I will: Support the school staff in regards to my students' educational and behavioral progress. Provide a structured time and place for study at home. Encourage my child to complete and return all homework assignments. Communicate with the school any concerns regarding my child's progress. See that my child attends school regularly and is punctual. I will contact the school when my child is absent. Be a reading role model for my child and by having him/her see me read and encouraging my child to read at home.

MONTABELLA JR/SR HIGH PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENTCOMPACT:

A PROMISE OF COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE As a Title I school, Montabella Jr./Sr. High School has created a form that states the responsibilities of parents, teachers, and students to ensure that a quality education is available through the efforts of all three parties.

PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY: It is important to have my child reach his/her full academic potential. Therefore, I will: Believe my child can learn. Show respect and support for my child, the staff, and the school, and recognize and respect diverse cultures within the school. Remind my student of behavior expectations at Montabella Jr./Sr. High and support the school in its efforts to maintain proper discipline and provide a safe and orderly learning environment. Make sure my student is on time and strives for 100% attendance and will contact the school when absent. Check with my child daily regarding information sent from school, major assignments given, and current grade levels. Encourage my child to participate in class, complete as much homework as possible, and take advantage of available remediation opportunities. Promote an environment at home so my child understands that living in a group, whether it be a family or classroom, requires standards of behavior and cooperation, and that one must accept the consequences of one's actions. Use internet reports or progress reports to monitor my student's achievement in specific classes. Attend conferences, meetings, parent nights and participate in school committees when available. Keep lines of communication open and model respect by going to the teacher first when there is a concern.

EDUCATOR RESPONSIBILITY: Student must be given the opportunity to succeed. Therefore, I will: Believe each child can learn. Show respect and support for my students, their parents, and recognize and respect diverse cultures within the school. Demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude. Provide a positive atmosphere for teaching and learning in the classroom and guidance and support in GASS class. (Guidance for Academic Student Success) Enforce the rules and policies of the school consistently and fairly. Make efficient use of

academic learning time. Provide individualized strategies to increase student competencies as needed (i.e., organizational strategies, test-taking strategies, reading strategies). Utilize a wide range of teaching techniques to benefit the wide range of learning styles in order to meet the state curriculum standards and ensure student success on state assessments. Strive to teach, not to tell. Maintain open lines of communication with students and parents in order to support their learning and respond to parent communication within 24 hours, when appropriate.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY: it is important that I do the best that I can. Therefore, I will: Believe that I can learn. Show respect for my parents, my peers (and their belongings), the staff, and the school, and recognize and respect diverse cultures within the school. Follow rules at my home and school. Come to school every day prepared, ready to learn and be in class on time. Give my parents (or guardian) all papers and information sent home with me from school. Finish my schoolwork and participate in classroom activities. Take responsibility for my actions. Take advantage of guidance, support, and additional time offered in GASS class. Take advantage of the additional opportunities offered to me through tutoring and remediation classes. Communicate with my teachers and parents by asking for help when I need it.

Homeless

In order that homeless youth receive the necessary means and measures of appropriate teacher and learning, both State and Federal Government along with Local School Districts are required to provide a coordinated effort to assure that such services are available and delivered. Such provisions generally include but are not limited to free lunch, Title I services, and when possible, transportation to the students school of origin. It is important to understand that income is typically not the main factor in the identification of and qualification for homeless status. Should you have concerns about homeless youth within our school district, you are encouraged to contact any of our school counselors, school social workers, or school administrators. The designated homeless liaison for Montabella Community Schools is Mr. Marty Weese, Montabella AD/Dean of Students (989)427-5175.

Who is homeless? (Sec.725) The term "homeless children and youth" - (A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and (B) Includes: (i) children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations', or are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement; (ii) children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings...(iii) children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and (iv) migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

ANNUAL REPORT

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will not have assessment and accountability data ready for schools until fall. Therefore, Montabella Community Schools Annual Education Reports are not available at this time. When new public reporting requirements are released from the MDE the annual report will be published and available at the central office and at each building office.

IMMUNIZATIONS

New vaccination regulations have been put in place that affect any student changing schools, as well as those who will be enrolled in the 7th grade. Please visit www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines for more information.



SCHOOL OF CHOICE

Montabella Community Schools school of choice procedures: All students that were previously accepted into Montabella Community Schools through school of choice will remain students of the district until transferring. Students do not need to reapply to remain at Montabella Schools. If a non-resident student transfers out of Montabella Schools, in order to return the student must go through the school of choice application procedures. School of choice application periods are closed on the dates indicated. Non-resident students will remain in their school of choice district until the next application period, which is at the start of each semester. The only transfer allowed during non-application periods is a transfer back to the student's resident district. Fall open enrollment: **August 2-20, 2021.**

FAMILY RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 require school districts to make available to parents and students the contents of student records maintained by the school. A procedure has been established which allows **parents** who are interested in examining their child's record to contact the building principal where the child attends school to make arrangements for the examination. If, after examination, the parent (or student who has reached the age of majority) conclude that the file is in error or in any way disagrees with the contents, they are afforded the opportunity to challenge the record. Further, a due process hearing is afforded, if desired. Those who examine the records and conclude that they would like a copy will be able to obtain one from the school for a nominal fee. The official administrative student record contains such information as the record of academic work completed, level of achievement, intelligence and achievement test score, attendance dates, teacher or counselor ratings, etc. Notification of Rights under FERPA for elementary and secondary institutions and designation of directory information; 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. 2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believe are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask Montabella Community Schools to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school administrator, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interest. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist) or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance service committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Montabella Community Schools, 1390 N. County Line Rd., Edmore, MI 48829, 989-427-5148.

ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS

Information about adult education classes, GED preparation, and GED testing can be found on the Mt. Pleasant Community Education website mtpleasantschools.net/Domain/15 or call 989-775-2370 Central Montcalm Public Schools also offers adult education classes. Information can be found on the Central Montcalm Community Education website www.centralmontcalm.org or 989-831-2402.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS LAW

As the school year begins, students and parents should be reminded of the Dangerous Weapons Law. Section 1311, paragraph 2 of the State School Code gives district Boards of Education the power and the authority to expel students possessing dangerous weapons on school grounds. There are guidelines that the Board of Education must follow when determining the consequences for violating the Dangerous Weapons Law. With heightened national concern regarding school violence, please be aware, and make your child aware, of the danger and consequences resulting from bringing or possessing any type of weapon on

school property. What may be a unique or beautiful part of a knife or gun collection at home, will be considered a "dangerous weapon" when brought to school. Appropriate action will be taken by school administration.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

It is the policy of the Montabella Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity or in employment. Grievance procedures for the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, are available by contacting the Montabella Central Office at 989-427-5148.

BUILD UP MICHIGAN (Project Find)

In Michigan we know that education begins at birth. We also know that some of our children need extra help or other related special services along the way. That's why Michigan's special education system helps children as young as newborns and up to age 26. Build Up Michigan provides information about special education programs and services and helps to arrange free evaluations to find out if a child is eligible for extra help from any of Michigan's public schools. If a child you know is struggling in school or has a physical, emotional or communication problem that might prevent success in school, call Build Up Michigan. We're here to help. Contact your building principal or call 800-252-0052, visit www.BuildUpMichigan.org You can also contact Angie Porter at the MAISD 616-225-4830.

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

Public Law 93.380 provides: An education agency or institution may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student who is in attendance at the institution or agency if the information had been designated as directory information 45 C.F.R.99.37(a). According to Section 99.37(a) of Public Law 93.380, the following information is designated as directory information with respect to all past and present students of the Montabella Community Schools: 1) Name; 2) Address; 3) Telephone Number; 4) Date and Place of Birth; 5) Major or minor fields of study and courses taken; 6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports; 7) Weight and height of member of athletic teams; 8) Dates of attendance; 9) Degrees and awards; 10) The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student; and 11) Other similar personally identifiable information. If you, as parent, do not want this type of personally identifiable information made part of publicity, please send a letter of notification designating the specific categories of information you do not want released with respect to your child. Direct this letter of notification to: Montabella Central Office, PO Box 349, Edmore MI 48829. In accordance with this law, a parent or student currently in attendance in the Montabella Community Schools has ten (10) days from the date of this notice to file written notice to the school district.

Find Us



www.montabella.com
www.montabellamustangs.com (Athletics)



Montabella Community Schools
Montabella Elementary



Mpride_stampede (Mr. Riley)

Be Responsible

Be Respectful

Be Safe



Kenton Nielson



Braedyn Wright



Sylar Bauman



Rachelle Shappee



Avery Keeler



Jackson Smith



Brooklin Crandell



Breanna Miller



Emmitt Hudson



Isabella Irwin



Johnathan Barber



Jasmin Ricci



Brennin Crandell



Brayson Uebele



Savannah Sharkey



Cassidy Mallay



Lawson Willis



Thomas Spencer



Landon Willis



Aby Rummel



Saralynn Shelley



Chloe Decker



Colton Eldred



Elizabeth Nielsen



Bowdie Blanzly



Blayne Rogers



Mia Lumbert



Emma Peterson



Cane Tomac



Cooper Kieff



Lily Cloutier



Kaitlyn Kade



Tucker Evans



Allison Cook



Hunter Amon



Trenton
Dolson-Nisonger



Miss O'Malley



Mr. Merrill



YOUTH
FOOTBALL
CAMP



Thank YOU!

Jana Cook & Beth Cook

Montabella Elementary Staff would like to thank you for all of the hard work you have done the past years. Your presence will be greatly missed on the PTO. Your accomplishments are far too great to list. Thank you for all the time you put into PTO and the extra meetings. ~Mr. Moore

JR/SR STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS



April: Natalie Ludwig (7), Cameron Stoneham (8), Kalia Adams (9), Alexis Jordan (10), Tabitha Anderson (11), Eric Chaffee (12)



May: Hayden Helmer (7), Peyton Webb (8), Cooper Bolton (9), Stanley Fitzgerald (10), Daltin Hendrickson (10), Ryan Cook (11)



Hayden Helmer, recently traveled to, Boston Massachusetts, to participate in the National Youth Leadership Forum, STEM camp. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. His main focus was the robotics lab, but he also attended forensic science, medical, and engineering labs. While there, he even got to hear from four former NASA astronauts that spoke to them about their experiences in space! Midway through his camp, when I checked in with his mom, he said his favorite thing there [so far] was learning block coding to make his robot move.

What an experience Hayden, we hope you had a fantastic trip!

Mustang Spotlight

A couple of amazing students out in the world representing Mustang Pride during summer vacation!

Isabell raised over \$1000 for the Alzheimer's Association in honor of her late grandmother Susan by shaving her head! Last summer she held a yard sale (all on her own) and raised \$300 for Helen Devos Children's Hospital, the hospital where her sister is treated for epilepsy.

Great job, Isabell! We are so proud of you and your selfless acts of kindness.



Meetings held Third Monday of the Month
JR/SR High School Cafeteria
1390 North County Line Rd. Blanchard, MI 49310
989-427-5148 (p) 989-427-3828 (f)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scott Parks..... President
Eylie Foster..... Vice President
Ivan Renne..... Secretary
Mike Rasmussen..... Treasurer
Anna Jensen..... Trustee
Jared Simon..... Trustee
Erica Vincent..... Trustee



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Edmore, MI 48829
Permit No. 1

Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



As always, we thank the Sons of the American Legion Post 240, from Blanchard, for making sure we have flags to fly at the Central Office, Jr/Sr High and our Elementary.

School Closing Information

In the event that school is closed or delayed due to inclement weather, the information will be broadcast to the following television and radio stations.

TV Stations

WOOD TV8 Grand Rapids
WWTV 9&10 Cadillac
WJRT TV12 Flint
WZZM TV13 Grand Rapids

Radio Station

WCFX 95.3FM Mt. Pleasant
WGLM 106.3FM Greenville
WCUZ 1230AM/105.7FM Grand Rapids

DON'T LOSE YOUR BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES

Follow these rules:

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom
2. Be courteous, use no profane language
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Cooperate with the bus driver.
6. Do not smoke.
7. Do not be destructive.
8. Stay in your seat.
9. Keep head, hands and feet inside the bus.
10. The bus driver is authorized to assign seats.



Send in your Coca-Cola caps and Box Tops to help us earn cash for our school.



SEE THIS...
CLIP IT



SEE THIS...
SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Welcome to Montabella



BUS DRIVERS

WANTED

We will train. Please call 989-427-5024 ext. 631 to learn more.



Heidi Eldred will be sliding into “the big chair” as the new building secretary. Heidi attended Cornerstone University. **Jordan Ragnone** will be joining the team as one of our physical education teachers, and he will be working to get and keep our Mustangs in shape. Jordan is a Concordia University graduate, and he did his student teaching at Creekside Intermediate School in Dexter. **Elizabeth Fox** (see introduction below) is joining the social studies group, and she will be focusing on world history, government, and economics. Elizabeth is a CMU graduate who did her student teaching at Port Huron H.S. Recent Michigan State University graduate, **Ashley Thoms**, will take over the reins of the college advisor position. She will join the team after completing August training in East Lansing. **Julie Simon** will be serving as a school social worker intern with Kristi Romashko. She is a Ferris State student, and a local face.

Montabella Elementary will also be welcoming **Ms. Lisa Mortensen** as our Social Worker.

Hello! My name is Ms. Fox and I am the new Social Studies Teacher! I am a recent CMU graduate, I love travelling, and learning more about history. I was actively involved in a number of clubs and organizations while at CMU, as well as in high school! This year I will be teaching World History, Civics, and Economics, and am very excited to meet all of my new students!