



Volume XLVI Issue 1
August 2024

Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Proposal on August Ballot



Montabella Community Schools will have two different proposals on the August ballot. Both of these proposals are renewals of current initiatives, even though the ballot shows them as new taxes. Details are listed below to help explain why they are renewal but not listed as renewals. The two proposals have two very different purposes, here is a brief description of the non-homestead and sinking fund proposals.

Non-Homestead: This millage is levied on properties that are NOT main residential dwellings. Typically this millage impacts business owners and second homes. The 18 mills collected from this millage are used for operating expenses for the district. Those expenses include supplies, personnel, transportation, and utilities as well as many others. This is the only tax collected that can be used for operating expenses. The state of Michigan assumes each public school district will collect this tax and if the measures fails the state will not replace that tax revenue. For example, each year the state approves a budget that indicates per pupil funding for every school district, the state does not pay that entire amount for every student they pay the difference between that amount and the non-homestead tax collected. If a district has 10 students and receives a per-pupil funding of \$9000 they would anticipate \$90,000 in total funding. The district also should collect a non-homestead of \$20,000 from the non-residential properties in the district. The state pays the district the difference of \$70,000. If the community does not support the non-homestead millage the district still only receives \$70,000 and more than likely has to do some major budget reductions to operate on the reduced revenue. Currently, Montabella is not collecting the full 18 mills due to some rollbacks that were forced because of increased taxable values. The proposal is to renew the current rate and then an increase to restore the rate back to the full 18 mills. Remember that this millage is for non-homestead properties, most residential homes are excluded.

Sinking Fund: This millage is levied on all properties in the school district and is used specifically for maintenance/repair of facilities. The community has supported this 1.5 mill levy for a number of years and has allowed us to maintain our facilities throughout the years. Repairs and replacements of boilers, drain fields, roofs, doors, and HVAC systems have taken place over the past several years using these funds. Although the funds can not be used for operating expenses the sinking fund has directly helped those expenses since we do not have to use the operating expenses to fund the repairs and replacements of these items. This allows for the operating expenses to have a greater impact on students.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 8** — Registration for JR/SR High (6-12th Grade)
SCHOOL PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN DURING REGISTRATION
(retakes 09/23/24)
- 10th, 11th & 12th Grade: 12—2:00 PM
 - 7th & 8th Grade: 2—4:00 PM
 - 6th Grade: 6—7:15 PM
 - 9th Grade: 7:30—9:00 PM
- August 12** — First day of fall high school sports practices
- August 15** — Open House 4:30-6:00 PM
- Come out and enjoy hot dogs & extras at the elementary
- August 20** — First Day of School
- August 26** — First day of middle school sports practices
- August 26** — Elementary School Picture Day (retakes 10/26/24)

Recently there have been some changes to the allowable uses of sinking funds to include transportation expenses. This would allow a district to spend these funds on the purchase of vehicles used to transport kids; school buses. In order for the district to use sinking fund proceeds towards the new allowable uses the public needs to approve the new uses through the election process. The ballot language for the sinking fund in August will include this new allowable area. Since there will be new language added the word renewal can not be used however this really is a renewal of a millage that has been in place for over 20 years.

**The election will take place on
Tuesday, August 6, 2024.**

Video →

Open the camera on your mobile device. Once the camera opens, scan the QR code to watch a quick video.





AMANDA MOORE

My name is Amanda Moore and I'm excited to be a Mustang with my children, Connor and Zoey. I earned my bachelor's degree from Lenior-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina and taught 5th grade for 3 years with Hickory City Schools. I later found my path in Special Education, completed my master's degree at Spring Arbor University, and enjoyed the last 3 years at Seiter Education Center teaching students with autism. Our blended family resides in Greenville and our favorite activities include swimming, fishing, kayaking, golfing, and being together around a bonfire. I'm excited for this new adventure with the Mustang family!



ALI LAPREZE

My name is Ali LaPreze and I am very excited to join the Montabella community! I moved back to Michigan 9 years ago. I graduated from Ferris State University with my Bachelors degree in Elementary Education. I have a double minor in Language Arts and Social Studies. I moved to Tennessee in December 2009 and taught 1st grade there for 3.5 years and then to Indianapolis for 3 years before moving back! I have 2 dogs and a cat! They keep me busy! This summer I spent my time with friends and family and going to the beach! This will be my 15th year teaching!

Hi Mustangs! My name is Brook Irani, and I will be teaching 1st grade. I moved to the area this summer from St. Louis, where I not only grew up, but also taught 4th grade there for the last three years. After high school, I lived in Louisville, Kentucky where I attended Boyce College for my undergraduate degree. I completed my Master's Degree in Trauma and Resiliency in May through Spring Arbor University. My most exciting news, and the reason for my recent move, is that I just got married this summer! In my free time, I love to do puzzles, read, play with our Goldendoodle, Lexington, and help out on my husband's family dairy farm. I'm so excited to join the Mustang family this fall!



BROOK IRANI

Hello, my name is Allysa Babcock. I am a proud alumni of Montabella and I'm excited to return to teach 4th grade this year! After



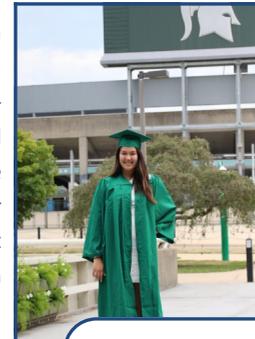
ALLYSA BABCOCK

Montabella, I attended Grand Valley State University where I graduated with my Bachelors Degree in 2022. Outside the classroom, I enjoy reading, writing, and hiking. I love being outdoors and exploring the beauty of nature. I'm looking forward to a wonderful school year!



DANIELLE DURFEE

Hi! My name is Danielle and I am so excited to be a Montabella Mustang! I grew up in Mid-Michigan and am looking forward to being back in this awesome community. I spent my first four years of teaching in West Michigan (2 years in 5th grade and 2 years in 6th grade) and excited to jump back into 5th grade after being in 6th the past couple years. I got my bachelors degree from Central Michigan University and actually did part of my student teaching at Montabella (and loved every minute of it!). Aside from teaching, you can find me running, reading, traveling (I've been to Africa and Europe), pushing myself outside my comfort zone (I went skydiving last year!), and spending time with my family/friends (including my Australian Shepherd puppy Rory). I am looking forward to a GREAT year!



HAILEE CANTU

Hello, Mustangs! My name is Hailee Cantu and I am the new 6th grade ELA and Social Studies teacher. I graduated from Lakeview High School and went to college at Michigan State University.. GO GREEN! At MSU I studied Elementary Education with an ESL endorsement. I am beyond excited to be a part of the Mustang family and create new bonds with all of you. Let's have a great school year! Go Mustangs!



ALLISON SCHAEDING

Hi Mustangs! My name is Allison Schaeding and I am so excited to be joining Montabella Jr. Sr. High School as an English Teacher! I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Secondary English Education from Central Michigan University. I have experience with English Education, Creative

Hi Everyone, my name is Gitte Hansen and I am the new Spanish teacher and yearbook advisor at the high school. I am very excited to begin the school year and to meet the students and everyone else. I am originally from Denmark: I married an American and moved to the US a long time ago. I've been fortunate to have lived in four different countries (Denmark, England, Spain and the US) and since I love experiencing new cultures this has been exciting for me. Besides spending time with family and friends, I love animals, creative projects and reading but I'm happiest when I get to travel to new places and learn languages. See you soon Mustangs!



GITTE HANSEN

Hi! I am Eric Vinciguerra. I will be teaching Middle School Mathematics in the Jr/Sr High School. I am changing subject areas this year after teaching bands, music, and choirs for 17 years. I have two music degrees and a mathematics teacher endorsement from Central Michigan University. My house is very busy with my two boys, 8 and 4 years old, three dogs, and my wife of 18 years. On the side, I also conduct a church choir.



ERIC VINCIGUERRA

In my scarce free time, I love to cook, go to nature parks and camp, do Sudoku, and watch fantasy and comedy shows. I look forward to a great year creative math learning!

Writing, and Drama and cannot wait to bring these skills to Montabella. Outside of the classroom you can often find me with my dog (Zemo), playing video games, reading, working on my Master's Degree, or adventuring with my partner and friends. I can't wait to meet y'all this coming fall!

Welcome To Our Newest Mustangs

We would also like to welcome Ashley Good (HS Math) and Tyler Neuman (HS Social Studies)



BRITTANY PALENCER

Hello! My name is Brittany Palencer, and I am thrilled to join the Mustang Family as the new elementary assistant principal. I have 12 years of experience in education where I have taught kindergarten, first, fourth, and fifth grade. I have also served as a Reading Specialist and most recently a Master Teacher and Literacy Coach. I attended IUPUI to obtain both my bachelor's and master's degrees. All of my educational experience has been in the state of Indiana. I'm excited to be in Michigan and more importantly to be at Montabella! In my free time, I enjoy exploring new restaurants, spending time with my family, and being outdoors.



LUIS GOMEZ

Hello, my name is Luis Gomez. I am excited to serve Montabella as Director of Special Education. I was born in Mexico City, but grew up in Oxford, MI. I had the opportunity to attend Wayne State University, for all of my undergraduate and graduate work. I am thrilled to serve a wonderful community and be apart of the Mustang family. During my free time, I enjoy coaching my children, playing the piano, looking for an adventure (traveling), cooking, nature, or just enjoying time with my family. Go Mustangs!

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

2024-2025 School Calendar

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	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 2024						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
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29	30					

October 2024						
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31						

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Parent Teacher Conferences		
Oct 9 & 10	4pm - 8pm	
March 13	1pm - 8pm	

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

Aug 15	Open House
Aug 20	First Day of School for Students
Aug 30 - Sept 2	No School, Labor Day Holiday
Sept 25	Teacher PD, no school for students
Oct 9-10	Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct 11	No School
Oct 14	Teacher PD, no school for students
Nov 15	No School, Safety Day
Nov 27	Teacher PD, no school for students
Nov 28-29	No School, Thanksgiving Break
Dec 19	Student dismissal 12:15pm; Teacher work
Dec 20	Student dismissal 12:15pm; Teacher work
Dec 23 - Jan 3	No School; Holiday Break
Jan 15	Teacher PD, no school for students
Feb 17	Teacher PD, no school for students
March 12	Student dismissal 12:15pm; Teacher PD
March 13	Student dismissal 12:15pm; Conferences
March 14	No School
March 24-28	No School, Spring Break
April 18	Flex Day, snow day make up if needed
April 23	Teacher PD, no school for students
May 28	No School, Memorial Day
May 30	Last Day of School 12:15pm dismissal

January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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30	31					

April 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2025						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Early Release Days		
Dec 19	Mar 12	May 30
Dec 20	Mar 13	

No School for Students		
Aug 30	Oct 14	Feb 17
Sept 2	Nov 15	March 14
Sept 25	Nov 27	April 23
Oct 11	Jan 15	May 26

83 days first semester, 97 days second semester

■ School Closed	■ Flex Day
■ Early Release/ Teacher day	■ Teacher Work Day
■ 1/2 day PD, 1/2 day teacher work	■ Teacher Professional Development

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

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 Kindergarten and 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 1 – September 15, 2024.**

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 disclosure 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., Blanchard, 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, 1390 N. County Line Rd., Blanchard, MI 49310. 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



Remington Stainbrook



Molly Randall



Charlee Gilman



Ryleigh Irani



Briella Moreland



Auri Eldred



Ava Spaeth



Uriah Davis



Evan Davis



Sam Oswald



Raelyn Parrish



Brooklynde Cox



Luke Jackson



Olivia Wright



Oakley Bandfield



Eli Mount



Brooklin Crandell



Jayce Wilson



Finley Foster



Teagan McIntyre



Winter Forquer



Lilly Wilkinson



Harley Corwin



Waylon Harvell



Corbin Lombard



Emmy Moreland



Janson Swarts

*April
&
May*

Spotlight Students

A Reader Today

A Leader Tomorrow

JR/SR STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS



April

Alyssa Helmer (6), Sam Santoro (7), Logan McElhaney (8), Ryann Ball (9), Wyatt Knapp (10), Mya Felan (11), Jlyn Chapman (12)



May

Natalie Sissell (6), Noah Barber (7), Kirstyn Cummings (8), Bryson Williamson (9), Landon Wymer (10), Jaylie Newcombe (11), Chase Burggren, Andy Fuller, & Landin Lindenbusch (12)

Other Nominations

Malachi Houghton
Jade Burk
Jossy Porter
Maddie Jordan
Zaylee Huntoon
Julius Hudson
Lily Davis
Michael Ockert
Bryton Strohl
Rhesa Bauman
Seana Johnson
Jayden Brigham
Chelsea Mason
Erika Esch

Montabella Jr/Sr High School 2023-2024 2nd Semester Honor Roll

Highest Honors: 3.78-4.00

12th Grade: Kalia Adams, Kaydenn Aggas, Brady Carlson, Jlyn Chapman, Kaylee Cook, Erika Esch, Austin Foster*, Amber Friedrich, Mersadies Geister, Ella Harris, Madison Jordan*, Rebekah Mayer*, Kiana Nickerson*, Josselyn Porter*, Katie Spohn

11th Grade: Tyler Koons*, Jaylie Newcombe*, Peyton Webb*, Gavin Willis*

10th Grade: Ashlyn Binge*, Addyson Bouwkamp, Isabell Darling*, Lillien Fuller, Hayden Helmer*, Kenzie Karcher*
Natalie Ludwig*, Gavin Simmons, Jaelyn Snyder, Colin Vanas, Bryce White, Mason White, Landon Wymer

9th Grade: Ryann Ball*, Allison Cook*, Lydia Eldred, Brayden Foster*, Braleigh Fulk*, Gabriel Kauffman, Marly Lambert*, Emma Peterson*, Presley Storey-Dolan, Leah Stratton, Bryson Williamson, Bryce Willis

8th Grade: Joshua Arganbright, Kirstyn Cummings, Lewis Davidson, Mason Davidson, Lia Dood*, Tucker Evans, Kain Karcher, Bailey Kauffman*, Cooper Kieff, Alexander Kohn, Maxie Ludwig, James Rodriguez*, Leah Sissell, Alivia Thompson, Makaylynn Wood

7th Grade: Elsa Koop, Chloe Decker, Matthew Gonzalez, Kolton Mayer, Ella Scherzer

6th Grade: Callie Bandfield*, Lily Brewington, Bailie Carlson, Ema Dood*, James Finley, Nathaniel Green, Evan Greene, Jacoby Koehler, Riley Pitts, Marshall Preston, Henry Sweet

*Student Received a 4.00 for the 2nd semester

High Honors: 3.40-3.77

12th Grade: Savannah Almanza, Sydney Boyer, Emma Murray, Kylie Pifer, Brooklyn Welch

11th Grade: Connor Ball, Mya Felan, Alayna Foster, Javon Perkins, Addyson Strohl

10th Grade: Annaliese Harris, Zaidan Myers, Tuff Rood, Leia Webb, Braydon Williamson

9th Grade: Noah Carlson, Grant Cook, LJ Jordan, Bailey Kelsey

8th Grade: Gabriella Arguijo, Marley Demmick, Sidney Jaquays, Jessica Keyes, Mia Lambert, Owen Maybee
Carson Mayer, Skylar Miller, Bryton Strohl, Temperance Wilson

7th Grade: Noah Barber, Bowdie Blanz, Ashlynn Bott, Colton Eldred, Oakley Gatehouse, Jackson Hansen,
Makayla Helmer, Savannah Johnson, Brooklyn Kieff, Annika Marr, Elizabeth Nielsen, Shawn Walker, Trayton Ward

6th Grade: Chad Burke, Sophia Belson, Eleanor Compton, Brady Currier, Annabella Grandy, Danial McCarthy
Reese Pitts, Brooklynn Porter, Abygail Rummel, Cory Stratton, Autumn Willis, Landon Willis

Honors: 3.00-3.39

12th Grade: Chase Burggren, Josephine Houghton, Zaylee Huntoon, Landin Lindenbusch, Abigail Munro,
November Phenix, Blake VanVlerah, Tyler Willemstein

11th Grade: Carly Bonasse, Ashlynn Davis, Brianne Porter, Eli Rathka, Isabelle Storey, Jennifer Swanson

10th Grade: Aleceya Hernandez, Stewart Houghton, Brady Kieff, Blake Snyder, Jaxson Stockwell

9th Grade: Mason Bogart, Kody Dalrymple, Dakarai Ely, Wade Hanshue, Kaitlyn Kade, Sierra Pranger,
Brooklynn Rauch, Joslynn Smith, Brayden Snyder, Ellie Zeien

8th Grade: Gavin Aldrich, Lesley Burggren, Kailyn Ely, Kenneth Graham, Seth Jordan, Davis Peterson,
Katelyn Pifer, Joseph Silverthorn, Ethan Snyder

7th Grade: Sharon Cline, Caroline Darling, Callen Eldred, Amelia Felan, Olivia Lau, Chase Miller,
Ashlyn Newcombe, Lorelei Phillips, Patyn Recker, Lincoln Snyder, Mason VanderVeen

6th Grade: Kadin Dalrymple, Brennin Crandell, Bentley Dittenber, Aiden Fletcher, Alyssa Helmer, Brooklynn Race
Landyn Visser



Marshall Preston
Reese Pitts
Brooklynn Porter
Landyn Visser
Ella Hubble
Austin Lobert
Autumn Smith

Ashlynn Bott
LJ Jordan
Allison Chapman
Liam Mongold
Ryan VanVlerah
Colin Vanas
Serenity Oaks



ANDREW DEGOOD

Hello Mustangs! My name is Andrew DeGood and I will be the new Athletic Director and Dean of Students! I graduated from Trine University with a business degree and graduated from Florida State University with a Masters in Sport Management. After working for the Florida State University Baseball program from 2015-2020 I found myself back in my home state with my wife and 3 kids teaching middle school Math

and working as an Athletic Director along with coaching college baseball at Aquinas College. I am excited to meet everyone in the community and be a part of the great things going on at Montabella!

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*
 Erica Vincent..... *Treasurer*
 Anna Jensen..... *Trustee*
 Sherri Miel..... *Trustee*
 Mike Rasmussen..... *Trustee*



Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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



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
 WCZY 104.3FM Mt. Pleasant

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.




BUS NEWS

We are hiring, training provided. Please call 989-427-5024 ext. 631 to learn more.

Please give the bus garage a call if your child will not be riding the bus.

Roger McCarthy brought his 1950 John Deere tractor to school for Christine Willis' preschool class for "T" day. This is the same tractor that worked the fields where Montabella schools are now located, about 60 years ago! ~submitted by Sherri Miel



MEET UP and EAT UP

Montabella and Chartwells was honored to sponsor the MEET UP and EAT UP program once again this year!

Our Mustangs had fun building their own solar ovens to make s'mores! A delicious lesson made possible by Chartwells!

