



Volume XLV Issue 3  
February 2024

# Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## WHAT'S INSIDE

**Student Success**  
**Superintendent's Message**  
**Celebrating our Mustangs/Word of Thanks**  
**Student Activities**  
**Honor Roll/FYI**  
**Spotlight Students**  
**Students of the Month**  
**Kindergarten Roundup**



*Kinsley Hubbard—runner-up  
"Attend Today. Achieve Tomorrow."  
Attendance campaign*

## "Attend Today. Achieve Tomorrow."

Montcalm Area ISD Superintendent Kyle Hamlin, along with Montabella JR/SR High Principal Shane Riley, and Montabella Elementary Principal Michael Moore, presented 6th grader, Kinsley Hubbard with a framed copy of her artwork that won second place in a poster competition held last spring. Kinsley, along with her peers, made posters to help spread the word about the importance of consistent attendance through the ISD's "Attend Today. Achieve Tomorrow." campaign. Elementary and middle school students from seven school districts were eligible to compete in the contest. Kinsley's artwork will be on display at Montabella Community Schools, as well as online, and possibly on a billboard in the near future! Great job Kinsley! Thank you for helping us spread the word on the importance of good attendance! We are so proud of you!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 20 — MS & HS Band Concert—7PM
- Feb. 21—Teacher PD—No school for students
- March 6 — JR High Band Festival—Greenville
- March 7 —HS Band Festival—Cedar Springs
- March 11 — NHS Blood Drive with American Red Cross
- March 13— EARLY DISMISSAL 12:15 PM—Teacher PD
- March 14 —EARLY DISMISSAL 12:15 PM—Conferences
- March 15—NO SCHOOL
- March 25-29—Spring Break
- April 17—Teacher PD—No school for students
- May 2—Kindergarten Roundup 3:30-6:00 PM

# School Board Appreciation



January is designated as School Board Appreciation Month in Michigan. Montabella Community Schools has a school board that is composed of seven members that are elected by the community. Members are elected for a six year term. These members dedicate their personal time to make decisions that impact the operation of the school district.

That sounds great, but what does the board really do? What type of decisions do they make on behalf of the district? The main responsibility of the Board of Education is policy. They approve all policies that impact operations of the district from personnel, to finances, to programs and more. Many of these policies ensure that state laws are being followed, while others outline certain procedures. Montabella Schools along with other school districts in the state of Michigan have multiple policies that govern the way that the organization works. There are over 300 policies that help govern the district. In addition to policy work the board approves all large purchases, election information, bond issues, contracts and more.

There are a variety of topics that the board of education needs to be familiar with and take action on. It is not a glamorous role but one that is very important for the operations of the school district. Please thank these fine individuals for their dedication and commitment to making Montabella the best it can be.

Scott Parks  
Erica Vincent

Sherri Miel  
Eylie Foster

Mike Rasmussen  
Anna Jensen  
Ivan Renne



**Winter fun—full of laughter, memories, and lots of snow!**



Class Swap

Teacher's swapped classes for a couple of hours to share a craft with some new friends before we left for winter break!



Reminder  
**FREE breakfast and lunch for ALL students!**



# L.A.T.

## Freshman

Brayden Foster  
Ryann Ball  
Raelyn Baez

## Sophomores

Kenzie Karcher  
Ashlyn Binge  
Isabell Darling



## Juniors

Tyler Koons  
Zoe Nicholson  
Peyton Webb

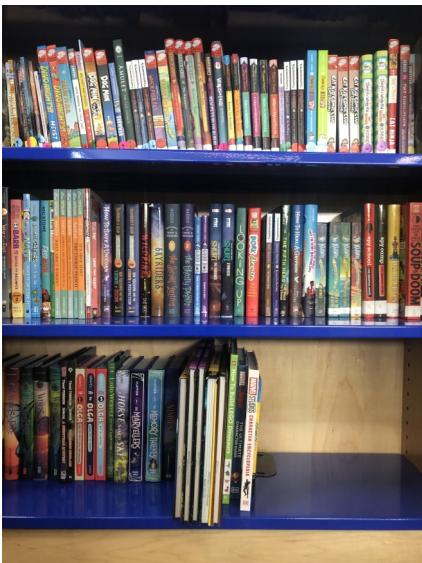
## Senior Captains:

Amber Friedrich  
Emma Murray  
Bekah Mayer



The Montabella Mustang Language Arts Team recently completed the 2023-24 season. The two-time defending league champions started the season in a huge hole. After the first event, the team was in 5th place out of eight teams and over eight points out of first place. It seemed like insurmountable odds. The team regrouped and won the next two events. When the final tally was completed, the Mustangs found themselves in second place. This was a remarkable come-back and will serve as an invaluable learning experience and momentum going into next season. Congratulations on being the 2023-24 Language Arts league runner-up. **Great job Mustangs!**

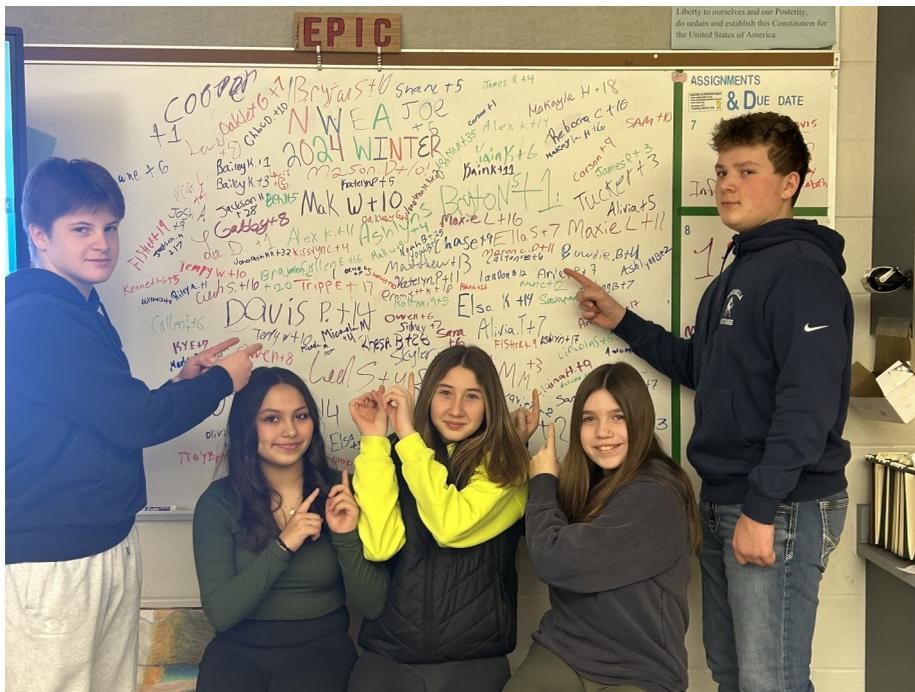
# Thank You



The Eastern Stars (chapter #111) recently donated money to Montabella Elementary that will go towards purchasing outdoor gear, shoes, and clothes that come in handy for emergencies.

Montabella Elementary PTO made a generous donation that allowed us to purchase more books for the library! The shelves are filling up with adventures!





The 2024 NWEA winter test season is officially over and as you can see, the middle school students worked hard! Class representatives were voted by their peers to help recognize all of the ms winter NWEA growth—from left to right: Davis Peterson, Gabriella Arguijo, Elizabeth Nielsen, Elsa Koop, Kain Karcher. All of our students did a wonderful job!

## Real Bodies Exhibit with 8th Grade

On January 5th, our eighth grade students went on a field trip to the Sloan Museum in Flint to see the Real Bodies exhibit. They were able to learn more about all of the body systems by seeing real bodies and organs. They were amazed at what the blood vessels looked like inside of the body and how smoking can affect the lungs.

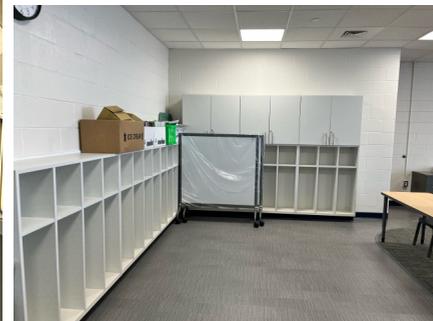
After the exhibit, they were able to learn about other areas of science including: physics, chemistry, electricity, sound waves, and weather. They also had the opportunity to visit a car exhibit, a history exhibit, and some down time to do an art activity. We were grateful to have five parents and four teachers as chaperones for this visit! The students were able to learn new things, had a fun time, and were happy to have a field trip! ~Mrs. Cook



Construction is complete and we are now down to the finishing touches for our new 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms.

Mrs. Tuzinsky's class and Miss Willmore's class will be moving into their new classrooms shortly!

We are very excited for the new space!



## 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 Stations

WCFX 95.3FM Mt. Pleasant  
WGLM 106.3FM Greenville  
WCUZ 1230AM/105.7FM Grand Rapids  
WCZY 104.3FM Mt. Pleasant

Of course—Ms. Millis usually shares the most creative school closing announcements on Montabella Community School's Facebook page.

## Montabella Jr/Sr High School 2023-2024 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Honor Roll

### Highest Honors: 3.78-4.00

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Savannah Almanza, Cooper Bolton\*, Sydney Boyer, Brady Carlson\*, Kaylee Cook, Daisy Fitzgerald, Austin Foster\*, Amber Friedrich, Mersadies Geister\*, Ella Harris\*, Madison Jordan, Rebekah Mayer\*, Kiana Nickerson\*, Kylie Pifer, Josselyn Porter, Katie Spohn

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Tyler Koons\*, Jaylie Newcombe\*, Addyson Strohl, Peyton Webb\*, Gavin Willis\*

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Ashlyn Binge, Isabell Darling, Hayden Helmer\*, Kenzie Karcher\*, Natalie Ludwig, Bryce White\*, Mason White, Landon Wymer

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Ryann Ball\*, Allison Cook\*, Lydia Eldred, Brayden Foster\*, Braleigh Fulk\*, Gabe Kauffman, Marly Lambert\*, Emma Peterson\*, Bryce Willis

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Joshua Arganbright, Kirstyn Cummings, Lewis Davidson, Mason Davidson, Lia Dood\*, Tucker Evans, Kain Karcher, Bailey Kauffman, Cooper Kieff, Alexander Kohn, Maxie Ludwig, Skyler Miller, James Rodriguez\*, Leah Sissell, Temperance Wilson, Makaylynn Wood

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Colton Eldred, Oakley Gatehouse, Matthew Gonzalez, Makayla Helmer, Brooklyn Kieff, Elsa Koop\*, Annika Marr, Ella Scherzer, Mason VanderVeen, Trayton Ward\*

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Callie Bandfield\*, Sophia Belson, Lily Brewington, Bailie Carlson, Ema Dood, James Finely\*, Nathaniel Green, Evan Green\*, Jacoby Koehler, Riley Pitts, Autumn Willis\*

\*Student Received a 4.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester

### High Honors: 3.40-3.77

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Kalia Adams, Kaydenn Aggas, Jlyn Chapman, Erika Esch, Josephine Houghton, Zaylee Huntoon, Chelsea Mason, Emma Murray, November Phenix, Brooklyn Welch, Tyler Williamstein

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Connor Ball, Alayna Foster, Justin James, Javon Perkins, Eli Rathka, Jennifer Swanson

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Addyson Bouwkamp, Lillian Fuller, Annaliese Harris, Judith Mesta-Rivas, Gavin Simmons, Blake Snyder, Jaelyn Snyder, Colin Vanas, Leia Webb, Braydon Williamson

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Grant Cook, Wade Hanshue, LJ Jordan, Kaitlyn Kade, Bailey Kelsey, Brayden Snyder, Presley Storey-Dolan, Bryson Williamson

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Gabriella Arguijo, Kailyn Ely, Seth Jordan, Jessica Keyes, Mia Lambert, Davis Peterson, Katelyn Pifer, Saralynn Shelley, Alivia Thompson

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Ashlynn Bott, Chloe Decker, Callen Eldred, Tripp Eldred, Olivia Lau, Kolton Mayer, Chase Miller, Ashlynn Newcombe, Elizabeth Nielsen, Samantha Santoro, Emma Teed, Shawn Walker

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Eleanor Compton, Brady Currier, Annabella Grandy, Marshall Preston, Abygail Rummel, Kaylee Seaman, Henry Sweet, Landyn Visser, Landon Willis

### Honors: 3.00-3.39

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Maeson Baez, Chase Burggren, Landin Lindenbusch

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Alyssa Bishop, Carly Bonasse, Anthony Chaffee, Ashlynn Davis, Mya Felan, Isabell Storey

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Conner Cluley, Bryce DeLong, Stewart Houghton, Brady Kieff, Serenity Oaks, TJ Rood

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Mason Bogart, Noah Carlson, Austin Jensen, Brooklyn Rauch, Gabryle Santoro, Joslynn Smith, Leah Stratton, Lillian Tilden, Ellie Zeien

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Lesley Burggren, Marley Demmick, Kenneth Graham, Sidney Jaquays, Owen Maybee, Carson Mayer, Garrett Paulson, Ethan Snyder, Ashlyn Stockwell, Bryton Strohl

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Noah Barber, Bowdie Blanz, Ben Brundage, Sharon Cline, Rebecca Collins, Amelia Felan, Jackson Hansen, Jillian Keyes, Dayton Mishler, Patyn Recker, Lincoln Snyder, Hunter Wittig

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Chad Burke, Brennin Crandell, Kadin Dalrymple, Aiden Fletcher, Liam Harvell, Danial McCarthy, Reese Pitts, Brooklyn Porter, Cory Stratton



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.



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.

## BUS NEWS

### Bus Safety

When the **Yellow** caution lights are on, within 200 feet, the **Reds** will come on, which means **Yellow flashing lights are not the time to speed up and try to pass the bus.**

The weather is unpredictable and the road conditions are not always ideal. Now is a great time to road bus safety. We have teenage drivers on the road so we ask that you are patient with slower drivers who are still learning the roads. Please remember to give yourself plenty of time to get to school without having to feel rushed. Watch for buses and be prepared to stop with extra distance. #SafetyFirst



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



**Be Responsible \* Be Respectful \* Be Safe**

Find Us



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



Montabella Community Schools & Montabella Elementary



Mpride\_stampede (Mr. Riley)



Elzie Williams



Adaline Barnes



Brentley Moses



Mia Nadeau



Silas Laaksonen



Benson Swartz



Brodrik Seath



Charlotte Cox



Eleana Peterson



Knox Nemeth



Hugo Cinco



Avery Ames



Alivia Peterson



Freya Mortensen



Macey Gonzalez



Thea Eldred



Jaiden White



Kenna Prill



Candice Decker



Sylar Bauman



Gavin Nielsen



Aurora Stone



Caylee Decker



Parker Koehler



Sophia Arguijo



Thomas Spencer



Lawson Willis



Alana Gonzalez



Brayden Jensen



Alexander Geer



Deakon Keeler



Ella Blanz



Ali Dood



Kathryn Graham



Wyatt Scherzer

*A Reader Today ~ A Leader Tomorrow*

# JR/SR Student of the Month Recipients



## October

Callie Bandfield (6), Matthew Gonzalez (7), Bailey Kauffman (8), Allison Cook (9), Damien Stoneham (10), Tony Chaffee (11), Josselyn Porter (12), Connor Davis (12)



## November

Kinsley Hubbard (6), Elsa Koop (7), Davis Peterson (8), Brayden Foster (9), Hayden Helmer (10), Tyler Koons (11), Isaiah Bedford (12)



## December

Eleanor Compton (6), Matthew Gonzalez (7), Alivia Thompson (8), Presley Storey-Dolan (9), Donovan Lampo (10), Gavin Willis (11), Carter Simmons (12)

## Other Nominations

Samantha Santoro  
Brooklyn Kieff  
Lia Dood  
Marly Lumbert  
Gabe Kauffman  
Ashlynn Davis  
Emma Peterson  
Stewart Houghton

Nathaniel Green  
Brennin Crandell  
Riley Pitts  
Marshall Preston  
Rebecca Collins  
Trayton Ward  
Sophia Belson  
Marshall Preston

Aiden Fletcher  
Jacoby Koehler  
Chloe Decker  
Sharon Cline  
Ella Scherzer  
Ky Ely  
Ashlyn Stockwell  
Rhesa Bauman

Kody Dalrymple  
Gabe Kauffman  
Abbigail Brecht  
Gage Fleck  
November Phenix  
Amber Friedrich  
Savannah Almanza

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



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

# Mustang News

A PUBLICATION OF MONTABELLA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## Down on the Farm Montabella Elementary

### Kindergarten Roundup

**May 2, 2024—3:30-6:00 pm**

Class of  
2037

Step 1: Schedule Appointment by scanning QR code below (click on “Look for appointment slots further ahead” until you reach May 2nd.) or call (989) 427-5414 ext. 606.

Step 2: Complete enrollment forms found at [Montabella.com](http://Montabella.com)—click on “Enroll” create an account if you do not already have a student enrolled at Montabella

### Onsite Hearing/Dental/Vision Screenings



Child must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2024 or approved waiver

