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a letter from our Superintendent

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year Gailor Families and Community.

This year is going to be amazing! School starts before Labor Day this year in Mona Shores with a half day on Thursday August 29, 2024. This day will be filled with exciting things as we have the opportunity to get our kids into the groove, materials passed out, lockers assigned, and some of the bumps worked out so we can hit the ground running following the Labor Day weekend.

One of our hopes is that this first day prior to Labor Day will help reduce the worry and anxiety of the unknown that often looms throughout the days leading up to the first day. We believe this first day, being only a half day, will allow all of us to get some of the start of the year things out of the way. We look forward to feedback from our families once we have given this pre-Labor Day start a try.

The start of a new school year is always full of hope, excitement, and a fresh start. It is a time for meeting new people, staff and students. A time for getting to know families and engaging with our community. A time to refocus and rally around our schools as a community. We look forward to welcoming you and your children into our amazing classrooms full of incredible staff for what we hope is the best school year ever.

We will see you in the halls of our schools very soon!



Superintendent, Bill O'Brien Mona Shores Public Schools (231) 332-8201 obrienb@monashores.net



Mona Shores THE VIEW

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#### Board of Education 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule

September 9, 20247:00 pm Work Session RP-PLC	
September 16, 20247:00 pm Regular Session RP-PLC	
October 7, 20247:00 pm Combined Session RP-PLC	
November 4, 20247:00 pm Work Session RP-PLC	
November 11, 20247:00 pm Regular Session RP-PLC	
December 9, 2024	
January 13, 20257:00 pmCombined Session RP-PLC	
February 10, 20257:00 pmCombined Session RP-PLC	
March 3, 20257:00 pm Work Session RP-PLC	
March 10, 20257:00 pm Regular Session RP-PLC	
April 14, 20257:00 pm Combined Session RP-PLC	
May 5, 20257:00 pm Work Session RP-PLC	
May 12, 20257:00 pm Regular Session RP-PLC	
June 9, 20257:00 pm Work Session RP-PLC	
June 16, 20257:00 pm Regular Session RP-PLC	
July 14, 20257:00 pm Combined Session RP-PLC	
(All meetings are held at: Professional Learning Center.	

(All meetings are held at: Professional Learning Center, Ross Park, 121 Randall Rd., Norton Shores, MI 49441)

#### Board of Education 2024-2025

Chris Burnaw, President (231) 557-4949 E-mail: burnawc@monashores.net

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Mary McClellan, Trustee (231) 486-5285 E-mail: mcclellanm@monashores.net

Stan Miller, Trustee (231) 557-4039 E-mail: millers@monashores.net

a letter from our Board President



As you read this note, we are getting ready to head back to school – stocking up on supplies, picking out new backpacks, thinking about that first day of school outfit, filling out forms, adding open houses to family calendars.

However, as I write this note, there are still several weeks of summer left. It's a reminder that even though we take a break from our school year each summer, the activity in our district doesn't stop. Our Community Services department puts together this newsletter to share important information; our teachers and administrators meet to plan for the upcoming year (and beyond); our operations team continues to keep our buildings and grounds in shape; our tech department works on Chromebooks and other technology to get ready for another year; and Board meetings are held to handle district business. Many Mona Shores students also stay involved in academics, arts, and athletics during the summer months - summer classes and fun learning camps; performing arts camps, trips, rehearsals, and performances; and athletic training, practices, and games.

Whatever your summer activities involved, I hope you had a summer filled with sunny days, time spent with family and friends, and a chance to relax and recharge.



Looking forward to a great school year with our Sailor community!

Chris Burnaw, President Mona Shores Board of Education AUGUST 2024 | www.monashores.net | 3

### New Staff a message from Sue McAvoy, Director of Human Resources

ello Sailor Nation: I hope this message finds you well. As we gear up for the upcoming school year, I am delighted to introduce our new additions to the teaching and administrative staff here at Mona Shores. Each individual brings a unique set of skills, experiences, and enthusiasm that will undoubtedly enrich our school community.

These talented educators were selected for their dedication to academic excellence and commitment to nurturing our students' growth. They embody the values of Mona Shores Public Schools and are eager to contribute to our vibrant learning environment.

We believe their passion for education will inspire both our students and our faculty. Their arrival marks an exciting new chapter for our district, and I encourage you to extend a warm welcome to them as they settle into their roles.

As always, Mona Shores is committed to providing the highest quality education and fostering a supportive community where every student can thrive. Together, let's make this school year a remarkable journey of learning and achievement.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in our mission. Please join me in welcoming the following new staff members:

## NEW TEACHER AND ITINERANT STAFF MEMBERS

#### **KRISTIN ANDERSON - 4TH GRADE AT ROSS PARK ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Anderson has spent the last couple of years as a daily long-term sub at Ross Park. She knows the staff and students well and is always willing to support them in any way possible. She is a graduate of Grand Valley State University where she earned a Bachelors in integrated science. We are thrilled to have her officially join our Ross Park team and the Mona Shores staff.

#### **ADRIANA AUSTIN - 5TH GRADE AT CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY**

Ms. Austin is a graduate of Western Michigan University where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Public and School Health Education. She is certified in health education as well as biology and elementary education. She brings several years of teaching experience to her new position as well as an endorsement in English Speakers of Other Languages. We welcome Adriana to Sailor Nation!

#### SYDNEY BAAR - SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Ms. Baar is a graduate of Grand Valley State University, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Allied Health as well as Midwestern University where she earned a Master's of Science in Speech-Language Pathology. We are excited to have her join our very talented itinerant staff. Welcome Sydney.

#### **CHARITY BEAN - 1ST GRADE AT LINCOLN PARK**

Mrs. Bean has also been one of our rockstar long-term subs at Lincoln Park. She has experience in all grade levels, and is familiar with the district as she was always willing to sub in other buildings when needed. She is a graduate of Cornerstone University with a Bachelor's in Psychology and is currently a teaching candidate with the Teachers of Tomorrow program. Lincoln Park is fortunate to have someone of her caliber and dedication.

#### **SOPHIE BRANTLY - 5TH GRADE AT CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Brantly, a recent graduate of Taylor University in Indiana, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, is also currently serving as an intern for the children's ministry at Forest Park Covenant Church. She did her student teaching internship at Campbell Elementary and is a graduate of Mona Shores. We are grateful to have Sophie join the Churchill team.

#### **CLAIRE BROWN - 5TH GRADE AT LINCOLN PARK ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Brown brings a wealth of experience from her years teaching in both the United States as well as in Switzerland. She is a graduate of both Aquinas College where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree as well as Grand Valley State University, where she earned a Masters in Education. She is certified in both the State of Washington as well as Michigan. Mrs. Brown is also a graduate of Mona Shores and her husband Peter teaches at our high school. We are excited for the experiences their entire family will bring to our community.

#### **BRENNA BUSTARD - 1ST GRADE AT ROSS PARK ELEMENTARY**

Miss Bustard is a recent graduate of Hope College where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree and is certified in Elementary as well as Early Childhood education. She too is a graduate of Mona Shores. As her interview notes state, she is kind, compassionate, and has a tremendous amount of positive energy. We are so excited to have Brenna join the First Grade team at Ross Park.

#### NEW TEACHER AND ITINERANT STAFF MEMBERS ... continued from page 4

#### **BRENDAN CLOSZ - DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL**

Mr. Closz, a former Mona Shores grad, earned his Master's of Music Conducting from Western Michigan University and has led incredible choirs at a variety of school districts from Detroit, to Ann Arbor Public Schools as well as most recently for Howell Public Schools. Brendan will be certain to uphold the traditions of excellence and will only add to the future years of memories and success stories in our already well renowned choir program.

#### **ANDREA FAZER - ENGLISH AT OUR HIGH SCHOOL**

Miss Fazer is a recent graduate of Hope College where she earned her Bachelor's in Secondary Education with endorsements in both social studies and English. Last fall she was chosen to present at the Michigan Council of Teachers of English and was awarded the Hope College English Student of the Year! We are certainly excited that she chose to become a part of the Mona Shores Community.

#### **CARLEY JARVIS - RESOURCE ROOM AT CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY**

Ms. Jarvis comes to us from Orchard View Early Elementary. She is a graduate of Grand Valley State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science and Arts for teaching special education. She has four years of experience and will be an incredible asset to our overall special education program. We are excited that she chose to become a Sailor.

#### **DAYNA MARENTETTE - SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST - DISTRICT**

Mrs. Marentette comes to us from Kings Local School District in Ohio. She earned both her Bachelors and Masters of Science in Speech-Language Pathology from Grand Valley State University. She will be a welcome addition to our already strong itinerant team.

#### EMELIE PESICKA - NEWSPAPER/JOURNALISM AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. Pesicka is a Hope College graduate where she earned her Bachelor's in English and Secondary Education. She then earned her Master's in Technology Education from the University of South Dakota. Emelie brings a wealth of experience to her new role including years taught in both South Dakota as well as Whitehall Public Schools. She has also served in various extracurricular roles such as yearbook advisor, bowling and soccer coach, LINK advisor, and drama director to name a few. Sailor Nation is fortunate to have a team member with her experience level.

#### **MORGAN RALSTON - 2ND GRADE AT CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY**

Miss Ralston is also a recent graduate of Hope College where she maintained a 4.0 gpa while earning her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. We welcome Morgan back to Mona Shores and to Campbell Elementary where our students will greatly benefit from her contributions.

#### **EMILY SANDISON - 4TH GRADE AT CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Sandison has also been one of our phenomenal long-term subs at Churchill. She has experience in all grade levels, and took on multiple long-term assignments in various grades during her tenure as the building sub. She is a graduate of Grand Valley State University where she earned her Bachelor's in English and a minor in Elementary education. We officially welcome Emily to our teaching staff!

#### ALEX YOUNKERS - WORLD LANGUAGE TEACHER AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

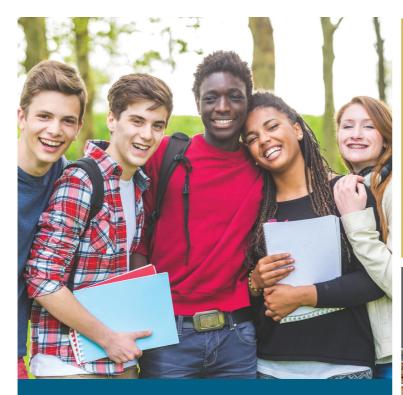
Mr. Younkers is a recent graduate of Grand Valley State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Secondary Education. His prior experience includes a long-term role at Grandville High School as well as his travel and study abroad in Granada, Spain. We are excited for the impact he will have on our world language students. Welcome Alex!

#### ADAM ZAROTNEY - SOCIAL STUDIES AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Zarotney is a graduate of Spring Arbor University where he earned a Bachelors in Comprehensive Social Studies with a concentration in Secondary Education. He previously taught for St. John's Public Schools. We are excited for him to join our Sailor Family and bring his knowledge and experience to the students of our middle school.



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#### ASBESTOS ANNOUNCEMENT

The regulations of federal law 40 CFR 763.84, as published in the Federal Register, require that local educational agencies annually notify various groups, including building occupants or their legal guardians, regarding asbestos containing materials in the school district buildings and plans related thereto. The above are hereby notified that management plans and inspection reports are available for review at both the Mona Shores Schools Administration building and the office of the Principal in each individual school building.

As specified in the management plans, the district inspects its facilities on a regular basis in compliance with the regulations of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. The areas in district buildings containing asbestos have been evaluated and judged to present no health hazard in their current condition as determined by the guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Public Health.

The district will continue to regularly inspect all areas to assure that the buildings will meet all federal, state and local health and safety standards.

#### **PESTICIDE ADVISORY**

Please note that Mona Shores staff must occasionally apply pesticides within and around our school buildings. Except in emergencies, prior notice will be provided by mail before these applications occur to parents who submit a request form. If an emergency application takes place, you will be informed immediately thereafter. If you desire prior notification, please complete the Request for Advance Notification of a Pesticide Application available on our website at www. monashores.net on the Parents tab or in district building offices. For additional information, please contact:

Mona Shores Public Schools Operations Department, attention Kurt Jeffries, 121 Randall Road, Norton Shores, MI, 49441 231-332-8268

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### **Transportation Update**

by Dave Muskovin, Transportation Director

#### **TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION**

Opens on July 1st for the 24-25 School Year. You can access the Transportation Link from the Mona Shores website. The walk-out distance for all Mona Shores schools is 1.5 miles. This means that if you live less than 1.5 miles from the assigned school building that your student attends, your student can walk to school or you will need to provide transportation.

#### YOU MUST BE A RESIDENT TO SUBMIT THIS FORM.

Transportation is only provided to resident students whose permanent residence is 1.5 miles or further from their assigned building. Transportation is NOT provided for elementary students who choose to attend another elementary building in the district other than the building assigned to their residence.

### Please complete a separate form for each student on the transportation website.

Bus routes and bus stop locations are reviewed each year and may be changed for efficiency. Bus stop locations are established in accordance with state and federal laws and school board policies. Bus drivers and aides are NOT allowed to make changes to bus stops or routes. Parents of students with specialized transportation needs will be contacted directly by the Transportation Department staff.

Bus routes will be emailed to families the week before school starts. Bus rules and expectations are posted on the website. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Transportation Department at 231-332-8269.

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- Paid Training
- Pay \$19.31 to \$21.37 hr., based on
- Pay \$15.45 hr. attendants experience/drivers

• Field Trips for extra earning potential

• Holiday Pay



To Learn more on what we have to offer contact: Mona Shores Public Schools Transportation at: 231-332-8269 or Michigan Educational Transportation Services at: 1-517-647-7765

Food Service a message from Bethany Taylor-Moore, Director of Dining Services

The Michigan Department of Education has approved Free Meals for all students for the school year 24-25!

FOOD SERVICE does still need parents to fill out the Household Information Reports, located in your school buildings, and at **monashores.familyportal.cloud** in order for us to collect data for other programs.

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### **Athletic Update**

~ a message from Jack Nummerdor, Director of Athletics

#### A "Brief" Summary of Sailor Athletics in 2023-2024

Sailor Athletics has prided itself on the success of our programs in and out of the classroom. This school year was no different. We did not win any state titles, but we saw plenty of success with the close of the OK Green Conference and also within the State Tournament. Next school year we will be in a new conference (OK Green), but it will have some new faces and Football has a different alignment than other sports. Football will join Reeths-Puffer, Muskegon, Byron Center, Grand Rapids Union, and Forest Hills Northern. All of our other sports are paired with Reeths-Puffer, Muskegon, Byron Center, Caledonia, and Jenison. As we look forward to building new relationships and rivalries, we need to know where we have been.

This past year saw many individual and team accomplishments. Mona Shores High School had 26 Academic All-State Members with 1 Academic All-American in Eva Stout in Swim. This was matched with 4 Academic All State Teams (Boys Tennis, Volleyball, Competitive Cheer, and Girls Tennis) and 1 Academic All-American Team in Girls Swim. Mona Shores Athletics continues to set a high bar within the classroom. We also had success on the playing surface with 89 All Ok Conference athletes on 5 Conference Championship Teams. Girls Golf, Volleyball, Competitive Cheer, Girls Soccer, and Boys Golf all took the OK Green by storm on our way to joining a new look OK Green. We had close calls for District Championships in Volleyball, Football, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Competitive Cheer, Girls Soccer, and Baseball with all of these teams losing in the District Finals. Girls Lacrosse, Boys Tennis, Girls Tennis, and both Girls and Boys Golf gave us close opportunities for Regional Championships as well. Our programs are on the edge of greatness and athletes as well as coaches are pushing for the quest of holding a Mitten! (state tournament awards) The GMAA has become something that many past and future Sailors have come to covet as well. MSHS compiled 8 Greater Muskegon Athletic Association Championships during the 2023-2024 school vear.

The individual honors were just as impressive as the team awards listed above. MSHS boasted 8 All-District Athletes in Niesha Sharp(Competitive Cheer), Zack Keessen and Trevor Cunningham (Baseball), and Shay Norden, Jersey VanderWall, Ava Freye, and Ella Kinney(Girls Soccer). All-Region honors were bestowed upon Luke Emmons, Andrew Baker, Jeremiah Love, and O'Mari Hall-Brown in football as well as Shay Norden in Girls Soccer. The most impressive of all feats this year is our All-State athletes. In Boys Tennis we had Drew Hackney and Victor Powell

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earn All-State. Girls Lacrosse had a 3rd team member in Jordyn Briseno and Girls Soccer had Shay Norden earn 1st Team Honors. Sailor Nation was also represented at the state level with Peyton Petersen from Wrestling earning his way to the State Championships as well as Derek Kern throwing a 300 game in his Regional Qualifier to take him the States. In the Spring both Jayda Trigg and Ryan Opsommer went to the State Finals in shot put and hurdles respectively. Another set of great accomplishments on their respective surfaces.



With all of these individuals, two really stand out. Shay Norden became the 2nd ever 1st Team All-State Soccer athlete in the history of Mona Shores. She joins Reagan Cox in this accomplishment. Shay helped our Girls program claim their 8th Conference Championship in the row and also earned a ranking of #10 in Division 1 rankings. On

her way to becoming All-State, Shay accumulated over 100 career goals which earned her the title of Division 1 Offensive Player of the Year by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association. A remarkable career by a remarkable woman. Shay will continue her playing career at Calvin University.

The other student athlete to rise above is Drew Hackney.



Drew wrapped up his career by becoming a 4 time 1st team All-State player in Boys Tennis. Drew's career was marked by many wins in becoming the schools all time wins

leader with an impressive home undefeated record. Drew was also honored by his coaches association by being a Mr. Tennis Finalist in Division 2. Drew will also continue playing at Trine University.

With all of the success listed above one might think we are bragging. However we are doing just that. These student-athletes have earned that right. They need to be celebrated and also recognized for what they have done for Sailor Nation. This is not something we need to apologize for, but something we will continue to make notice of and push for more student-athletes to follow these standards. Sailor Nation be proud of your young men and women as they continue to represent Mona Shores with great pride and gratitude for all you have done for them.

### Athletic Update .....(continued from page 8)

~ a message from Jack Nummerdor, Director of Athletics

#### A Look Ahead at Fall Sports

If you have students entering the High School or the Middle School, they are entering the realm of school sports. Interscholastic sports come with accountability, expectations, and PRIDE. They are different from youth sports in that there may be cuts made to keep the correct number of athletes on a team or there are more responsibilities and dates for practices. There are specific requirements for a student to play school sponsored sports.



#### FINAL F**URMS**

Students and parents must create a Final Forms account in order for your son or daughter to sign up for Middle School and High School Athletics at Mona Shores. It is a free service for the athletes and parents but does need to occur as a part of the requirement of playing school sports. Final Forms allows the Athletic Department to collect all the needed forms and information that was once filled out on paper. You will also upload your physicals onto Final Forms. You can start or edit your Final Forms account by going to the QR Code.

#### **MHSAA Physical**

A doctor must fill out a MHSAA Physical form stating that your student is healthy enough to participate in athletics. This needs to be done each year. In order for your student to have an up to date physical, it must have been completed after April 15, 2024 to be used for the 2024-2025 school year. Mona Shores offers 3 opportunities each summer for these to be done right here at the High School campus each year. You can also see your primary provider or an Urgent Care. These must be done prior to practicing or trying out for a school team.

#### Eligibility

In order for a student to play a sport at MSMS or at MSHS they must be a student first. The term Student-Athlete is in a very particular order in that an athlete must be a student first. If a student falls below eligibility standards they will need to sit for a period of time in order to get back onto the playing field. This also goes for discipline as well. The student handbook for both buildings outlines what those standards are.

These 3 main differences between Youth or Club Sports and School Sponsored sports are sometimes misunderstood or unknown. The Mona Shores Public Schools Athletic Department and Administrative Team feel that it is important that new athletes, new students, and parents at home know what is expected of them. Please feel Free to reach out to the Mona Shores Director of Athletics for any questions. Jack Nummerdor can be reached at nummerdorj@monashores.net.

LEVELS	DATE	MIDDLE SCHOOL	LEVELS	DATE
			•	
JV, V	8/12	Cross Country(B/G)	6, 7, 8	8/26
F, JV, V	8/12	Football	7, 8	8/19
JV, V	8/12			
JV, V	8/12	MS IS THROUG	H SAILOR SOCCER AND	O MFA
V	8/12	Coed Swim	6, 7, 8	Late Fall
JV, V	8/12	Coed Tennis	6, 7, 8	March
F, JV, V	8/12	Volleyball	7, 8	8/26
JV, V	8/12	Sideline Cheer	7, 8	Spring Tryout
F, JV, V	11/18	Girls Basketball	7, 8	January
F, JV, V	11/11	Boys Basketball	7, 8	Late Fall
JV, V	11/14			
JV, V	11/11	Competitive Cheer	7, 8	Late Fall
V	10/28	MS IS THROUGH NORTON SHORES RECREATION		
V	11/25	Coed Swim	6, 7, 8	Late Fall
JV, V	11/11	Wrestling	6, 7, 8	January
F, JV, V	3/10	MS IS THROU	GH RPYA AND MSYBS.	ORG
JV, V	3/10			
JV, V	3/10	MS IS THROU	GH SOUTHSIDE LACRO	SSE
JV, V	3/10	MS IS THROU	GH SOUTHSIDE LACRO	ISSE
JV, V	3/10	MS IS THROUGH SAILOR SOCCER AND MFA		O MFA
JV, V	3/10	MS IS THROUGH MSYBS.ORG		
JV, V	3/10	Coed Tennis	6, 7, 8	March
V	3/10	Track & Field (B/G)	7, 8	March
	JV, V F, JV, V JV, V JV, V V JV, V F, JV, V F, JV, V F, JV, V F, JV, V JV, V F, JV, V F, JV, V JV, V	JV, V         8/12           F, JV, V         8/12           F, JV, V         8/12           JV, V         8/12           F, JV, V         8/12           JV, V         8/12           F, JV, V         11/11           JV, V         11/11           JV, V         11/11           V         10/28           V         11/25           JV, V         3/10           JV, V         3/10	JV, V         8/12         Cross Country(B/G)           F, JV, V         8/12         Football           JV, V         8/12         Football           JV, V         8/12         MS IS THROUG           JV, V         8/12         Coed Swim           JV, V         8/12         Coed Tennis           F, JV, V         8/12         Volleyball           JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer           F, JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer           F, JV, V         11/18         Girls Basketball           F, JV, V         11/11         Boys Basketball           JV, V         11/14         Ecoed Swim           JV, V         11/14         MS IS THROUGH           JV, V         11/11         Wrestling           JV, V         11/11         Wrestling           JV, V         11/11         Wrestling           JV, V         3/10         MS IS THROUGH           JV, V         3/10 </td <td>JV, V         8/12         Cross Country(B/G)         6, 7, 8           F, JV, V         8/12         Football         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Football         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         MS IS THROUGH SAILOR SOCCER AND           V         8/12         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Coed Tennis         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Volleyball         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer         7, 8           F, JV, V         11/18         Girls Basketball         7, 8           F, JV, V         11/14         Boys Basketball         7, 8           JV, V         11/14         Competitive Cheer         7, 8           V         10/28         MS IS THROUGH NORTON SHORES RECH           V         11/25         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           V         11/25         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         3/10         MS IS THROUGH RPYA AND MSYBS.           JV, V         3/10</td>	JV, V         8/12         Cross Country(B/G)         6, 7, 8           F, JV, V         8/12         Football         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Football         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         MS IS THROUGH SAILOR SOCCER AND           V         8/12         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Coed Tennis         6, 7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Volleyball         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer         7, 8           JV, V         8/12         Sideline Cheer         7, 8           F, JV, V         11/18         Girls Basketball         7, 8           F, JV, V         11/14         Boys Basketball         7, 8           JV, V         11/14         Competitive Cheer         7, 8           V         10/28         MS IS THROUGH NORTON SHORES RECH           V         11/25         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           V         11/25         Coed Swim         6, 7, 8           JV, V         3/10         MS IS THROUGH RPYA AND MSYBS.           JV, V         3/10

You can always find coach information on our website: https://www.monashores.net/o/msa for the HS and https://www.monashores.net/o/msms/page/athletics for the MS. If you ever need to reach out to our department, you can use the information to the right.

#### **Mona Shores Athletic Department Contacts**

Director of Athletics	Jack Nummerdor	nummerdorj@monashores.net
HS Athletic Administrative Asst	Annie Muth	mutha@monashores.net
Middle School Athletic Director	Kevin Terpstra	terpstrk@monashores.net
MS Athletic Administrative Asst	Jaime Steward	stewardj@monashores.net

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### **High School**

a *message* from High School Principal, Jennifer Bustard

#### "Sailor P.R.I.D.E."

Personal responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Disciplined | Engagement

#### WELCOME TO THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR SAILORS!

We are thrilled to be charting our course into a new school year! Excited to see what our Sailors will accomplish in 2024-25 taking full advantage of the many opportunities that are possible in the areas of Academics, Arts, Athletics and Extracurricular activities. There is truly something for all students to be involved in to further explore their interests and prepare them for post secondary college and career aspirations. Check out all of the amazing opportunities on the HS webpage. www.mona shores.net.

Our theme for the school year is *Sailors, Just Own it*! Students, staff members and the SLT team have had the opportunity to create our core values. The *Sailor PRIDE* core values are a set of expectations for all of us to live by in our school and out in the community. The MSHS School Leadership Team meets monthly to review student academic and behavior data. Goals are reviewed and strategies are created to support a positive and safe school culture. As we prepare for the upcoming school year, it is important to recognize and celebrate the work of this leadership team and the student data as a collective effort of our entire school community.

#### 23-24 Student Data Celebrations:

- 1st Trimester
  - Attendance: 83% of students had <5 absences Goal: 73% Academic Failure rate: 2.86% Goal: 4% or < Behavior referrals: 97.5 % of students had 0-1
- 2nd Trimester
   Attendance: 80% of students had <5 absences Goal 61%</li>
   Academic Failure rate: 2.70% Goal: 4% or <</li>
   Behavior referrals 90% of students had 0-1
- 3rd Trimester
   Attendance: 87% of students <5 absences Goal: 76%</li>
   Academic Failure rate: 2.38% Goal: 4% or <</li>
   Behavior referrals 86% of students had 0-1

Thank you to the members of the HS School Leadership team for their commitment and dedication to this important

work. **SLT Co-Chairs** Anne Brainard, Lori Foley **Teachers:** Melissa Brown, Danielle Smith-Walker, Aaron Santa-Maria, Jim Johnson, Kyle Mireles, Ross Rosenthal, Marc Miedema, Jeremy Andres, Summer Kishman. **SRO Ofc.** Dave Wypa **Student Representatives:** Luci Cooper and Abby Buikema **Board of Education Representatives:** Chris Burnaw and Kandace Boysen **Parent Representative:** Jamie Osterhart **Administration:** Jennifer Bustard & Eve Mills





CONGRATS! EVIE & BEN

# EBRATING THE CLASS OF 2024

#### **Celebrating Sailors Academic Achievements in Spring**

2024: Congratulations to the students who participated in the advanced placement courses. There were 482 exams taken by 296 students. MSHS offered 22 AP Exams. There were a total of 240 students who earned a 3 or higher allowing for college credit to be earned. The percent of total AP students with scores of 3 or higher is 82.%. Well above the state and global average. This is a tremendous achievement. A direct reflection of the commitment of our students' tremendous work ethics and commitment to a rigorous curriculum that will best prepare students for post secondary education. In addition, the Class of 2024 had 3 seniors earn the AP Capstone Diploma, signifying completion of 6 or more AP courses including AP Research and AP Seminar. Our teachers who lead these programs continue to participate as AP readers and attend specialized professional development. Their commitment is to be commended.

#### **Celebrating the Class of 2024!**

The Class of 2024 earned 7 million dollars in academic and athletic scholarships. In addition, there were 113 students who earned academic honor cords, 33 seniors earned a 3.5 or higher, 30 seniors earned a 3.75 or higher and 50 seniors earned a 4.0 or higher. The National Honors Society senior members totaled over 3, 964 community service and tutoring hours earning the Michigan Community Impact Award and the National Community Service Sapphire Award. The list of fine art awards earned is extensive as well. Most notably the MSPS Fine Arts department earned national distinction for being named Best Communities for Music Education in 2024 for the 9th year in a row. And MSHS being named a "Best High Schools in America" for the 6th year in a row.



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High School .....(continued from page 10)

a *Message* from High School Principal, Jennifer Bustard

### **Open House**

Please join us for the Fall High School Open House scheduled for Wednesday, August 28, 2024; 6:30-8:00 pm. You will have an opportunity to meet your son/daughter's teachers and become familiar with their schedule and school.

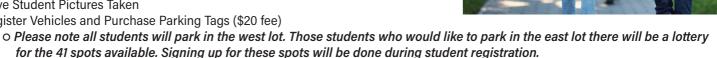
### **Student Orientation Begins August 22-26**

High School Student Orientation Week will begin Thursday, August 22, 2024.

Parents please complete the online annual enrollment information update through the parent portal in the demographic update section.

#### Students will have the opportunity at registration to:

- Receive class schedules, textbooks and Chromebook
- Chromebook cases will not be issued unless upon request during registration.
- Locker assignments and locker combinations can be accessed via the student portal.
- Return "Free/Reduced" Hot Lunch and Student Insurance Applications
- Receive Choir/Orchestra uniform(s) as applicable
- Order 2024-25 yearbooks
- All students will receive New Student ID Cards
- Purchase Sports Passes
- Have Student Pictures Taken
- Register Vehicles and Purchase Parking Tags (\$20 fee)



• Mopeds and Motorcycles must be registered and park in the designated area in the west lot.

A student information packet was mailed August 8th. Please contact us at (231) 780-4711 ext. 8351 if you have not received yours by August 12th. (Leave your name, address, and phone number if calling after office hours).

### **MSHS Orientation Dates and Times:**

#### **Thursday, August 22**

8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ~ 10th Grade (Last names A-L) 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ~ 11th and 12th grade (A-L)

Friday, August 23

8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. ~ 10th and 11th grade (M-Z) 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ~ 12th grade (M-Z)



Monday, August 26

Link Crew Freshman orientation is 8 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 9th grade Registration (All alpha)

Meet in the Sailor Center - Lunch will be provided.

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE TIPS TO HELP ALL OF OUR STUDENTS AND PARENTS GET OFF TO A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR:

- The Student Handbook includes our school policies and procedures. The handbook is online for students and families to access electronically whether on their school issued Chromebook or a personal electronic device. We encourage you to review the handbook with your student. Please pay close attention to attendance and tardy policy as the number of days and tardies reflect the trimester schedule.
- · Please take time to view your student's academic progress and attendance utilizing our Parent Portal. Administratively, we realize the Parent Portal is not updated daily but the information you see may be reason to make inquiry with the appropriate staff member to discuss your student's progress.
- The Extended day program is on Monday's-Thursday's in the LMC from 3-3:45 pm. Faculty and NHS tutors are available during this time to support. Come have some coffee in the Anchor cafe and finish a project or study for a test.
- WIN time will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays allowing for 40 minutes during the school day for academic support and enrichment.
- Parent and student communication will be primarily completed by the email notification system on Fridays of each school week. If you do not receive a Friday email from the Principal's office, be sure to contact the counseling office to ensure that our records are accurate. The HS webpage continues to host the daily announcements, school and department information and is a great resource to locate information on College and Career information. (www.monashores.net) Follow us for all the Sailor action on twitter, Facebook at @MSHSPRIDE, and the MSPS app.

Looking forward to an amazing school year for the Class of 25, 26, 27, 28 and look forward to what lies ahead for our entire school community. Thank you for your support, commitment, and dedication to Mona Shores. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at (231) 780-4711, extension 8499, or by email at bustardj@monashores.net. Go Sailors! ~ Jennifer Bustard | Principal

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### Counselor's Corner

by Danielle Smith-Walker, Director of Counseling

The mission of the Mona Shores High School Guidance and Counseling Program is to provide support for student achievement in partnership with parents, staff and community. Counseling services will be provided in a safe and positive environment with a focus on college, career and life readiness.

We are excited about assisting the students in our building in preparation for College, Career and Life! We are here to help! Please feel free to contact the office if we may be of assistance or visit the Mona Shores High School Counseling webpage for a wealth of information and the answers to frequently asked questions: https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/ counseling-office

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS • SAT TESTING CYCLE 2024-2025

Seniors planning to retake the SAT this fall should note the following dates. Students may pick up information for online registration in the Counseling Office or go directly online to register at: **collegeboard.org**.

TEST DATE	NORMAL DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION*
August 24, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 13, 2024
October 5, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 24, 2024
November 2, 2024	October 18, 2024	October 22, 2024
December 7, 2024	November 22, 2024	November 26, 2024
March 8, 2025	February 21, 2025	February 25, 2025

#### **FAFSA NIGHT:**

We will invite an area representative to come in and present any updates and changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to our families. This is very informative and aimed at getting families set to apply by the October 1 opening. We are planning for the 4th week of September. More information to follow.

#### **COLLEGE VISITS:**

Many colleges send representatives to our high school in the fall to talk to interested students. These visits usually begin in late September and continue through November. We will post notices of these visits on the daily announcements and Counseling Office bulletin board. We also have a link that will be updated weekly: <a href="https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/college-and-career-preparation-resources">https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/college-and-career-preparation-resources</a>

**JUNIORS AND SENIORS** interested in talking to a particular college representative must sign up in the Counseling Office during the week of that school's visit. They must also obtain permission from the classroom teacher for that hour to attend.

Seniors may take up to 2 college visitation days to visit the colleges of their choice during the school year (to be charged as "XT" exempt from absences total - college visitation) pending prior counselor and administration approval. The form is available in the Attendance Office, and the student is responsible for getting the following signatures prior to the day off: parent, counselor, and administrator. The student must have a college representative sign the form at the college while visiting and then return it to the Attendance Office. If the form is not completed prior to the visit, the absence may be excused by the parent, BUT will not be exempt. The visitation days may not be used to visit MCC or Baker during school hours as they are local and students will have availability to attend during non school days.

#### **COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**

Most colleges, including Muskegon Community College, would prefer that students apply online at the college website beginning August 1. After students have completed their college application, place an order for your high school transcript in Parchment to be sent to the college where you applied (undergraduate admissions). The 'Order Records' link is found on the Mona Shores High School webpage. Please allow 5 school days for processing. All electronic requests for transcripts are free of charge through July 31 of the student's graduation year. Students must request OFFICIAL ACT/SAT scores directly from ACT or SAT. (There is a fee assessed for this service.) This can be done at www.actstudent.org or https://collegereadiness. collegeboard.org/ if the student did not indicate at the time of registration for ACT/SAT to mail scores to prospective colleges.

### Counselor's Corner.....(continued from page 12)

by Danielle Smith-Walker, Director of Counseling

#### **FINANCIAL AID**

Students will be able to file a 2025-26 FAFSA as early as October 1. This submission date is a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit the FAFSA as early as October 1 every year. Please visit the following link for more information on FAFSA: https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

#### **SELECTIVE SERVICE**

It is important that young men register with the selective service when they turn 18. It is the law, and it may adversely affect eligibility for federal financial aid. Eligible candidates can now register online by going to this website: http://www.sss.gov. You need your social security number to complete this process.

#### **CLASS OF 2025 SENIOR FALL MEETINGS:**

Counselors will begin meeting with the Class of 2024 students in September. This is an early one on one meeting to work with seniors to help them prepare for post-secondary plans. Topics covered include:

Survey

- Senior year to-do checklist
- Scholarship process

Graduation audit/review transcript

College/career aspirations

- Sending a transcript (how to) and SAT scores
- Financial aid/paying for college
- TIP eligibility

#### **FRESHMAN INTRODUCTION MEETINGS:**

Counselors will meet with incoming freshmen to welcome them to the high school. These meetings will take place over the duration of the first trimester.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP NOTICES**

When we receive notice of a scholarship, the notice will be posted on the Counseling Office webpage, bulletin boards, and emailed directly to students by using their school Gmail account. These notices and deadlines will also be announced in this newsletter when they are available in time for publication. Please visit the high school counseling website for more information: https://www.monashores.net/o/mshs/page/financial-aid-and-scholarships.

### FUTURE FOCUSED.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Career Tech Center in Muskegon equips teens to excel by offering the following career-prep programs:

Allied Health | Architecture & Design | Auto Collision/Refinishing Auto Service Technology | Bio Tech & Engineering | Construction Trades | Cosmetology | Criminal Justice | Electrical/Computer Technologies | Environmental/Veterinary Sciences | Graphic Production | Health Science Academy | Hospitality & Food Management | Software Design & Development | Teacher Academy | Machining/Engineering Technology Welding Technology

To learn more visit muskegonctc.org or call 231.767.3600

#### College Board

#### **Mona Shores High School ASSESSMENT CORNER**

As we all start to plan for the return to school on August 29th, please keep in mind a few important dates for College Board testing for the 2024-25 school year:

- All students should have gotten their spring 2024 AP scores on Monday, July 8th. If not, log into your College Board account to view.
- All 10th and 11th grade students and their families should look for an email from the high school on August 12th with information to sign up for the fall PSAT/NMSQT test on Wednesday, October 23rd. Not only is this excellent practice for the spring SAT test, it is a National Merit qualifying exam for juniors. Below is a link to more information.

#### **PSAT/NMSQT INFORMATION**

Students taking Advanced Placement courses will order their AP exams through the Total Registration online system. Last year was our first year using the TR system, which allowed for a streamlined ordering process with an electronic means of verifying your purchase. Below is a link with more information. Look for an email from Mr. Conrad the first week of September to begin the process in earnest.



#### www.totalregistration.net

As always, feel free to email Mr. Conrad at: conradt@monashores.net or call: (231) 332-8494 with any questions.





#### SERENITY WELLNESS CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Dr. Lynnmarie S. Leyder Doctor of Chiropractic

542 S. STATE ST. SPARTA (616) 887-2178 www.SerenityWellnessChiro.com

#### 374 SEMINOLE RD. NORTON SHORES (231) 375-5995 info@SerenityWellnessChiro.com

#### Why Choose Us?

**Expert Care:** Experienced and caring staff committed to youth health.

**Confidential Services:** Your privacy is our priority.

#### HACKLEY COMMUNITY CARE SCHOOL BASED HEALTH

Muskegon Teen Health Center Conveniently Located Inside: Muskegon High School 80 W. Southern Avenue 231.733.6868

**Oakridge Teen Health Center** Conveniently Located Inside: Oakridge Middle School 251 S. Wolf Lake Road 231.733.6868



### BACK TO SCHOOL With HCC's Teen Health Center

Services We Offer: Physical Exams Vaccinations Mental Health Counseling Sports Physicals Dental Check-ups

# WE DON'T SAY WE'RE THE BEST. OUR CUSTOMERS DO.

2150 E. Laketon Avenue Muskegon, MI 49442 231.773.6857

### **CallBishop.com**





### **First Congregational Church**





1201 Jefferson St., Muskegon, MI 49441 231-726-3254 www.fccmuskegon.org



Come see us in person or check us out online for services Sundays at 10:30AM.

We embrace into our full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

We offer vocal & hand bell music opportunities, Youth Group, Saturday Breakfasts, LGBTQ+ Events, Community Vegetable Garden, Scripture conversations, and Community Service Opportunities.

> Hosting Westshore GSA Every Monday 7-8pm

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Beltone has been the most trusted name in hearing healthcare for 84+ years. Locally owned and operated in West Michigan since 1980, with over 1,500 locations nation-wide to serve your hearing health needs.

- \$1,000 off a set of Beltone Serene rechargeable hearing instruments
- FREE hearing evaluations
- FREE no-obligation trials of our industry-leading technology
- · Clean and checks of all makes and models of hearing aids
- · Local in-home service as needed

Most insurances accepted: TruHearing, Priority Health Medicare, BCBS, MPSERS, Humana, UAW, UHC, and more! Many discount programs available.



#### Call 231-755-3920 to schedule your appointment today!

Jordan P. Smith, BC-HIS, President Larry D. Williams, BC-HIS, Vice President

Beltone Hearing Centers 843 W. Summit Ave. Muskegon, MI 49441

**GO SAILORS!** 



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### Middle School a message from Principal, Doug Ammeraal MSMS FOCUS: CULTURE || CURRICULUM || LITERACY || SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING || EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION || MTSS

#### **VALUE OTHERS & BE YOUR BEST**

Summer is not quite done; it's only getting started! There is plenty of time left for beach days, vacations, family adventures, sleeping in, connecting with friends, bonfires, and so much more! We hope that you are all able to continue to embrace each one of these opportunities! At Mona Shores Middle School, we are preparing for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year! In reflecting on this past year, we recognize that while there will always be challenges and hurdles, we also recognize what an outstanding group of students and dedicated teachers we had! We had students that were successful academically, modeled strong behavior and positive choices, gave of their talents, impacted the lives of others, and poured themselves into representing Sailor PRIDE. We believe that this year's group of students will be no different! 2024-2025 will be another year of expecting and giving our best; as students, teachers, and administrators. It will be another year of being focused and intentional so that our students know that they are loved, valued, and appreciated for exactly who they are. MSMS is excited for this focus, for strengthening our students' knowledge, growing levels of excitement, maintaining high expectations, and observing individual growth and success for our students. The '24/25 school year is going to be a tremendous year!

As we strive and focus on reaching these goals, we will challenge each other to be the best version of ourselves that we can possibly be, our best as students, educators, parents, friends, and community members. This will be our focus. No matter what role we assume in the education of our children, we must make a conscious effort to be our best every day, regardless of ability, situation, or circumstances. I believe that if we embrace this collective responsibility and focus, Mona Shores Middle School will be the best middle school in America, through academic success, high-character, positive behavior, and in creating a memorable middle school experience for our students!

As a school, we will continue to be focused on creating a positive learning environment, providing high quality instruction, engaging students in their thinking and learning, increasing blended learning opportunities, and challenging ourselves to be and give the best version of ourselves each and every day. With this commitment by our staff, along with student ownership and a partnership with parents, we will continue to rise and reach new levels of learning, thinking, and success.

With this, please allow us to share a couple of updates regarding MSMS and the 2024-2025 school year.

- ADVISORY (CREW) || As we begin the new school year, we will continue with our advisory hour, that we will call Crew. This is a focused and intentional 27 minutes dedicated to connecting with and supporting our students. Each teacher will start their day with 16-20 students that they will connect with, build relational capacity, monitor success, build on social and emotional strengths, enhance connections to school, build upon character traits, and simply have fun. We are excited for the positive impact and experience that it will offer to our students.
- CONSTRUCTION || Our final phase of construction continues in 6th grade. This includes the new locker commons at the end of the hallway, bathrooms being gutted and redone, and classrooms receiving needed updates around HVAC, plumbing, electrical, technology, and furniture. We are excited for our 6th grade students and teachers to experience these updates when they return to school.



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Middle School a message from Principal, Doug Ammeraal.....(continued from page 16)

MSMS FOCUS: CULTURE || CURRICULUM || LITERACY || SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING || EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION || MTSS

PORTS OF CALL || Please plan on attending our Ports of Call at the Middle School. Students will be able to
obtain class schedules, locker combinations, photo ID, yearbook pictures, registration/forms, complete
Ride with Pride registration, and much more. They will also be able to see our finished 6th grade wing and
locker commons. We look forward to seeing students and parents filling our hallways!

6th Grade:	Tuesday, Aug. 20	9:00am - Noon & 3:00pm - 6:00pm
7th/8th Grade:	Wednesday, Aug. 21	9:00am - Noon & 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Make-Up Date:	Tuesday, Aug. 27	4:00pm - 6:00pm

This would be a great time to practice opening lockers, follow student schedules (become familiar with the route from class-to-class), and meet some of the great staff at MSMS. Note that we will run these through the gymnasium and open up hallways and classrooms as construction allows for students and families to visit.

• OPEN HOUSE || We will also be hosting our annual Open House, another great time to connect with your student's Crew Leader, meet teachers, go through your schedule, and see your classrooms prior to the first day of school.

Open House: Wednesday, Aug. 28, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

• FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL || We are excited to have our students spend a half day with us prior to the holiday weekend! We will spend the day connecting with our Crews, practicing class schedules, moving through the hallways, and getting to know teachers. It should be a fun and engaging day! We can't wait to see our students!

Student First Day: Thursday, Aug. 29, 7:40am - 11:00am

I look forward to another great year at Mona Shores Middle School and am confident that it will be a year filled with positive experiences, success and failures, and opportunities for growth. I look forward to a continued partnership between MSMS, our families, and the greater community!

With SAILOR PRIDE, Doug Ammeraal | Principal





"Remember that you are loved, valued, and appreciated for being exactly who you are."

#### The entire staff at Mona Shores would like to welcome you back to the 2024-2025 school year. This year promises to be excellent for all of our Sailors!

We are eager to welcome back all of our Sailor families at the **Open House on Wednesday, August 28 from 4:30 - 6:00**. This initial visit with your child's teacher and a first glance at the classroom will help your child acclimate to their new surroundings, as well as build some excitement for **the first day of the school year on Thursday August 29**. This half day will have a delayed start for kindergarten students only, beginning at 9:30. All students will be dismissed at 11:45. Our elementary staff invite you to come experience first hand why we all love our jobs so much. There are countless other ways to become an active member of your school family. You can volunteer to read to and with children at school, help in your child's classroom one time or as a regular volunteer, attend field trips, send in needed items for the classroom, and become an active member of our PTO.

Our fantastic PTO organizations have begun planning for the upcoming school year as well, and are excited to plan for and offer amazing experiences for our families once again this year. Please plan to attend the PTO meetings at your school to ensure each building is able to continue to offer wonderful opportunities for each of our students.

CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY	CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY	LINCOLN PARK ELEMENTARY	<b>ROSS PARK ELEMENTARY</b>
MEETINGS:	MEETINGS:	MEETINGS:	MEETINGS:
2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM	1st Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM	2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 PM	3rd Wednesday of the month at 3:45 PM
EMAIL:	EMAIL:	EMAIL:	EMAIL:
mscampbellpto@gmail.com	mschurchillpto@gmail.com	lincolnparkptocrew@gmail.com	rossparkpto@gmail.com







We would like to thank you in advance for your continued dedication to your children at home. Your efforts to stay informed about school happenings through *SchoolStatus Connect*, newsletters, emails, our website, and social media will help the school year run smoothly. A great way to stay connected to all of our buildings is to download the Mona Shores App. Just search Mona Shores in the App Store or Google Play Store!

Be on the lookout for your child's teacher assignments being mailed to you in late August, as well as important information, protocols, and reminders from the office.



Kerri Rakocy Ross Park Elementary Principal

It is with great excitement that we welcome Mrs. Kerri Rakocy as the next principal of Ross Park Elementary. Mrs Rakocy joins us with 24 years of educational experience. That experience includes teaching at all levels including in elementary classrooms. She has also been an elementary Principal and has a vast array of experiences, training, and skills. Mrs. Rakocy will begin her work at Ross Park on August 1. She is going to be a great fit for Ross Park and we look forward to our kids and families meeting her as the new school year begins.

Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Rakocy to the Sailor Team!

### **Teaching and Learning**

a message from Andy Hogston, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Something about the Olympic Games just makes summer better! The patriotism, competition at the highest level, and a showcase for the efforts of 10,500 athletes from around the globe. Hearing the stories of overcoming adversity, challenges, and setbacks is truly inspiring. In keeping with this spirit, thinking about the 2024-2025 school year comes with a similar sense of anticipation.

This only happens with investing in learning, planning, preparation, and a lot of hard work. To develop new skills, refine, grow, learn, and recognize potential. Only better than accomplishing an important goal is to actively help others achieve their goals and dreams, which teachers do everyday. All of this happens because of the dedication and continuous pursuit of excellence by the entire team - parents, students, teachers, and staff. We have begun efforts to adopt and implement a new elementary English Language Arts resource called *Bookworms*. This was made possible through grant funding.



This summer we have a unique opportunity to learn from Dr. Sharon Walpole, the author of *Bookworms*, and an important figure in literacy for some time. These sessions afford collaboration and communication that leads to stronger connections, improved consistency, and tremendous commitment. The implications of this work are numerous and specific to improved outcomes for all of our students in reading, writing, and literacy.

Looking forward to making the 2024-2025 school year the best year yet!

"You can't put a limit on anything. The more you dream, the farther you get."

~ Michael Phelps (American Swimmer)

### **Special Education & Student Services**

a MCSSAGC from Jennifer Briggs Russell, Director of Special Education and Student Services



Welcome to the 2024-25 School Year! We are excited to see your students first thing on Thursday morning, August 29th!

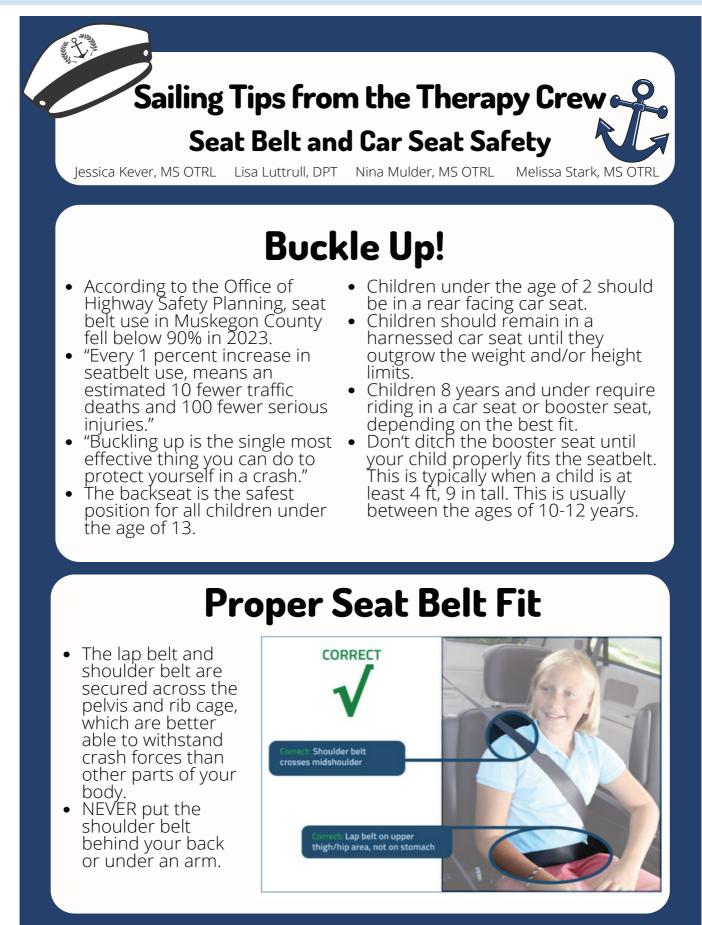
Whether you are going to experience your very first, first day of school with a kindergartener, or facing the first of the lasts with a high school senior, we are looking forward to starting our school year together before the Labor Day Weekend.

Our team of special educators will be in classrooms all over the district that morning greeting students, being an extra set of hands for teachers, and helping out where they are most needed.

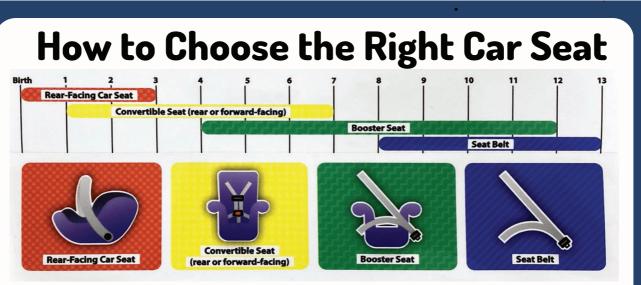
As school gets going this fall, please don't hesitate to reach out to one of our team members if you have questions for us about your child's special education needs.

..... (Special Education continues on page 20-21)

### Special Education .....(continued from page 19)



### **Special Education**



# The Danger of Heatstroke



- Over the past two years, more than 100 children have died from being unattended in a hot car.
- Never leave a child alone in a car, not even for a minute.
- A car can heat up 19 degrees in 10 minutes. Cracking a window does not help.
- A young child's body heats up 3-5 times faster than an adult's.

## **Car Seat Inspections**

- Schedule a car seat inspection at your local inspection station by calling (231) 672-4910.
- At an inspection station, you can learn how to install your child's car seat or booster seat.
- Car seats are available for families in need at a car seat inspection station.



### Resources

- https://www.michigan.gov/msp/divisions/ohsp/safety-programs/seat-belts
- https://www.michigan.gov/mspnewsroom/news-releases/2023/10/31/michigan-seat-beltuse-rate-fell-slightly-in-2023
- https://www.nhtsa.gov/vehicle-safety/seat-belts
- https://www.buckleupnc.org/choosing-using/booster
- https://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/documents/car\_seat\_checklist\_for\_parents\_201
   9.pdf
- https://www.buckleupnc.org/choosing-using/use-a-seatbelt-and-wear-it-right/
- https://www.safekids.org/take-action-prevent-heatstroke

### Early Childhood

#### **Mona Shores Child Care**



Mona Shores Community Child Care offers a nurturing and caring environment filled with many experiences to allow your child to play, learn and grow.

We provide care for children ages 6 weeks through fifth grade. We also offer Sailor Care for before and after school care needs at all Mona Shores elementary schools.

If you are interested in enrolling your child for child care or before/after school care, please contact us today at 231-780-6720.

#### **Preschool Programs**

The Mona Shores Tuition Preschool Program has an outstanding reputation in our school community.



We offer both three and four-year old preschool classes at Ross Park Elementary.

Our newly remodeled facility was designed with young learners in mind.

Our experienced, caring, certified teachers are ready to work with your child and help prepare them for their next level of education.

Call Mona Shores Early Childhood Center at (231) 780-6720 for more information.





#### Positive Culture, Student Voice, and Community Partnerships within the High School PRIDE Program

Our PRIDE program continues to be a difference maker in the culture at the high school. Each year we evaluate the prior year's work and challenge ourselves to make the program even better. This school year we will continue to learn lifelong behaviors in the areas of Personal responsibility, Respect, Integrity, and being Disciplined and Engaged. We take much PRIDE as we prepare our students for college, careers and life after high school. Being able to acknowledge and reward students' positive actions throughout the year and at our end of the year celebration assembly, is one of the reasons why we have the success we do. We could not do this without our community sponsors. We would like to extend a thank you to the following community members, businesses, and groups who donated in 2023-24.

Aldea Coffee, Anchor Chiropractic (Bill Lengkeek), Baker Auto, Blended Furniture Market, Chick-fil-A, Jostens, Langlois Furniture, Members of the Board of Education, Mosley's Driving and Testing Center, Mrs. Kandace Boysen, MSHS Anchor Cafe, MSHS Athletic Department, MSHS Class of 2024, MSHS Yearbook Department, Nichols, Pit Viper (Melissa Duff), Walmart, Webb Chemical, Yodels Frozen Yogurt Norton Shores, Norton Shores Family Dentistry, Radium Photo, Riversedge Photography, Sweet Spot Disc Golf-Dan Jensen, Socibowl-Stephon Vanderwater. The school leadership team (comprised of teachers, students, counselors, administrators, parents, and board of education members) develops an action plan each summer for our PRIDE initiative for the following school year. To support this action plan, we are in need of continued sponsor support. If you, your business, or organization is interested in supporting our PRIDE efforts, please consider donating a gift card, prize of your choosing, or select one of the monetary



buoy - \$50
 anchor - \$100
 lighthouse - \$250
 flagship - \$500+

To donate, please contact Lori Foley at **foleyl@monashores.net** or Jennifer Bustard at **bustardj@monashores.net** 



This is the 12th year of the Nikolas Wypa Scholarship. The scholarship is in memory of Nikolas who was a kindergartener at Churchill, when he suddenly passed away during field day 2012. To honor his memory, usually a \$500.00 award is given to four 5th graders as they move onto middle school. Because this marks a special year, Nikolas' graduation year, we have increased the award to \$1,000. The award is held at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County until they graduate from high school. It can be used for higher education such as college or trade school.



This year's winners are no exception to the ultimate citizenship award to inspire others as they grow. It's meant to reflect all the traits Nikolas possessed: kindness, a willingness to always help, and compassion for others.

The 2024 winners are: Ophelia Lucas (Churchill), Amelia McGrane (Lincoln Park), Chloe Mui (Campbell), and Ezraela Clish (Ross Park).



Chloe Mui Campbell



If you would like to donate to The Nikolas Wypa Scholarship Fund please go to www.muskegonfoundation.org and search Nikolas Wypa. Thank you for being Touched by Nik!



Ezraela Clish Ross Park



Amelia McGrane Lincoln Park



Ophelia Lucas Churchill

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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Inspiring excellence, building character, and impacting the future through academics, arts, and athletics....Mona Shores!

#### \*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\* POSTAL CUSTOMER



### Mona Shores HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW Saturday, November 2, 2024

**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Mona Shores High School

Three Gyms, Cafeteria & More Located at 1121 W. Seminole Road in Norton Shores

**Over 180 Exhibitors!** Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks Available Admission - \$1.00, free parking

For further information, please contact Mona Shores Community Services at (231) 332-8230 or visit www.monashores.net

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AUG. 29 First Day of School
SEPT. 3 Full Day of School
OCT. 2 Count Day
OCT. 14-18 Fall Break
NOV. 2 Holiday Arts &
Crafts Show - 9:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.
NOV. 27 Half Day
NOV. 28-29 Thanksgiving Break
DEC. 4, 5, 6, 7
Singing Christmas Tree
All shows at 7:00 p.m. with a matinee on
, Saturday, December 7th at 3:00 p.m.
DEC. 23 - JAN. 3 Holiday Break
JAN. 6Classes Resume
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