



**School District of Monroe** Fall 2023-2024



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**#CHEESEMAKERPRIDE**

## Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!



By Rodney Figueroa  
Superintendent

Dear Residents and Parents,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year. We are excited to start and continue working with our District students. Many of our staff have been serving students and families in different capacities during the summer months and have been working to improve educational access for all. Principals and other administrators have been at work all summer in preparation of a new school year with a few new staff in every building.

The District has started the process for building the new high school and is planning for the updates to Abraham Lincoln Elementary School. On July 17, 2023, the District Electors approved a 70 plus acre site, referred to as the B&S site, to build a new high school. Many of you made time to attend and make an informed vote based on facts and what is in the best interest of our children and District communities. There were 1,730 votes cast with 1,064 yes, 660 no, and 2 ballots were spoiled and not counted. Since that evening, we have been engaged in the process of satisfying contingencies with our land survey being one of the first steps.

The owners of B&S provided the District and taxpayers a very rare opportunity through the purchase agreement which will ultimately be a total project cost savings of \$3,250,000.

Abraham Lincoln will begin receiving updates similar to the Parkside and Northside Elementary school work completed in the previous 4 years. Some of the less disruptive work will be done through the school year, but the bulk of this work will be done through next summer. Regular updates on the building projects are available at [monroeschools.com](http://monroeschools.com) and our social media platforms.

If you are looking for some excellent and entertaining hometown entertainment, I encourage you to take in an athletic contest, concert, or theatrical performance. Our programs and students are consistently recognized and achieve awards at the highest levels in the state. We have many very talented students and dedicated staff in all areas serving kids in and out of the classroom. Monroe offers a wide variety of clubs and activities for our students to take advantage of during and outside of the school day. If a student is interested they will find something they like, we have something for everyone.

Our High School LAUNCH program experienced a high level of success in the first year and our participation numbers have increased significantly. One of the new LAUNCH strands this year is a partnership with SSM and the Green County Development Corporation in what is being called The Home Construction Cooperative. Jeriamy Jackson, MHS Principal, and LAUNCH Coordinator Cara Carper shared additional information at the August 14th Board of Education Meeting. To get the program running, SSM Clinic provided a home near the hospital to the Cooperative (managed by Olivia Otte GCDC Director) which will be reconditioned/remodeled by students under the direction and supervision of school instructors and community construction partners. This is the first phase of creating a building trades partnership with the District.

Our commitment to healthy educational growth is an asset which will provide continuous advantages for our students now and in the future. Simply stated, your children are the most important part of our mission and we will work to provide the best for them. When your children are here, they are surrounded by adults who truly care about them and want them to succeed. Their future success is all of our future success.

*Our best for their best, Fig*

# MAST is Keepin' It Cool at the Pool

The Monroe Area Swim Team, or MAST, has been an institution in Monroe for nearly 70 years, offering young people an opportunity to strengthen their swimming skills and compete in area swim meets. In 2021, MAST became part of the School District of Monroe Summer School program and is open to swimmers in grades 1st-12th. Students can join the swim team for just \$2 and the cost of a Monroe Pool season pass. The Monroe Park and Rec also offers assistance with fees to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate.

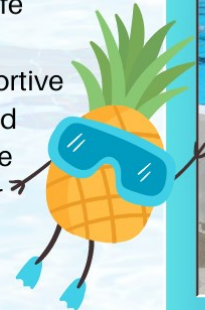
This year we had around 50 swimmers join MAST and we had a blast!



Each week, students have regularly scheduled class times with our coaches and work on improving their skills and learning new strokes. They also have an opportunity to participate in 5-6 swim meets each season at home and away. New Glarus and Platteville were a few of the meets we competed in this year.

A huge thank you to our guards/coaches who are all current or former MHS students, many of whom were once MAST members themselves! We also couldn't do this without the help of our awesome staff and volunteers who make everything run smoothly at our meets and practices.

Learning to swim is a valuable life skill and super fun, too! MAST is all about creating a fun, supportive environment for kids to learn and grow together as a team. Be sure to watch for next year's Summer School book so you can make your big splash with MAST!



**JOIN US IN  
CELEBRATING  
UNITY DAY!**

Wednesday,  
October 18th, 2023

School District of Monroe

**UNITE**  
*for*



**Kindness  
Acceptance  
Inclusion**

**SCAN ME for Project Updates!**



**MHS BUILDING PROJECT**

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE



# Meet Our New Admin Team at MMS!



Matt Brown has been Assistant Principal at Monroe Middle School since 2014 but things will be a little different this year as he transitions to the Principal role at MMS. Long-time Special Education teacher Lindsay Dahmen is also making a change to be our new Assistant Principal.

We asked them both a few questions to learn more about them and find out what they are most excited about for the 2023-2024 school year.

? How many years have you worked in education?

**Mr. Brown:** 17 years, 9 years in Verona & 8 years at Monroe Middle School

**Mrs. Dahmen:** nearly 20 years, all at Monroe Middle School!



? What are you most excited about for next year?

**Mr. Brown:** I am most excited about jumping into my new role as MMS Principal and working with students, staff, & families to create a positive middle school experience for all

**Mrs. Dahmen:** I am most excited about working with the full student body, parents, staff, and greater community of Monroe in this new position!

? What is something you want every middle schooler to know about MMS?



**Mr. Brown:** Get involved, try new things & meet new people! Also, yes, there is a tunnel to nowhere hidden under the school.

**Mrs. Dahmen:** Even though the middle school years can be tough, there are so many ways to get involved & stay connected to school.

? What is your favorite pizza topping?

**Mr. Brown:** Pile it all on. Mr. Boehm nicknamed me Dumpster Bear which my family now calls me, too.

**Mrs. Dahmen:** "The works!" I love all the toppings.

? M & Ms or Skittles?

**Mr. Brown:** Frozen peanut butter M&Ms

**Mrs. Dahmen:** Skittles, but my heart belongs to Milk Duds



## 2023 Summer School Stats

- 1020 students enrolled in Summer School
- 74 different classes were offered
- 109 teachers, support staff, and aides worked at Summer School
- Nearly 13,000 breakfasts and lunches were served for FREE to students



Seussical KIDS 2019



The Jungle Book KIDS 2022

# The Making of a Musical in Just 14 Days

Since 2018, the School District of Monroe has offered a Summer School Musical class, open to students entering grades 4th - 6th. With just 14 days to put together a show, students audition and learn music on day one, and by day 14, they sing, dance, and perform in front of a live audience in the Performing Arts Center. How do they do it? With a whole lot of focus and a whole lot of fun.

Students have the opportunity to perform onstage or work backstage. Our onstage friends make up the cast and our backstage friends work on sets, costumes, makeup, lighting, and sound. Alex Lentz (MHS Choral Director) and Jenny Bochar (PAC Director) teach the onstage class, and Brenda Davis (MHS Theatre Crew Advisor) leads the backstage group. This year, we had the largest group ever with 35 students enrolled for our production of "Annie KIDS!" Students performed in front of over 250 family and friends on June 30th, 2023 and received a standing ovation for their spectacular show!

We welcome student performers and artists of all skill levels and hope you'll join us next year for "Finding Nemo KIDS!"



The Lion King KIDS 2018



Annie KIDS 2023



## Some of Our Outstanding Alumni

Many students who joined us for the Summer School musical have gone on to great success at the high school level.

- Jack Tran (The Lion King KIDS, Seussical KIDS) was nominated for a 2023 Jerry Award
- Jack Bochar (The Lion King KIDS) was nominated & won a 2023 Jerry Award
- Ashton Klemm (The Lion King KIDS) won a 2022 WISDAA Best Actor award and will direct a play for the 2024 MHS Fine Arts Festival
- Owen Klemm (The Lion King KIDS) won a 2022 WISDAA Best Actor award
- Trevor Klarer (The Lion King KIDS) was part of the team that won 2021 & 2022 WISDAA awards for Best Technical Theatre and will direct a play for the 2024 Fine Arts Festival
- Bella Davis (The Lion King KIDS) won a 2022 WISDAA Best Actor Award and was nominated for a 2023 Jerry Award
- Dorian Ryan (The Lion King KIDS) was nominated for a 2022 Jerry Award & won a 2021 WISDAA Best Actor Award





# MHS LAUNCH Program Takes Off in Year Two!

Last year, Monroe High School introduced LAUNCH, a new, collaborative classroom experience for Juniors and Seniors featuring project-based learning to solve real-world problems right here in our community.

Students have the opportunity to take classroom knowledge into the real world and gain experience working with local business mentors. Students develop career skills in leadership, collaboration, critical thinking, problem-solving, time/project management, and more.

This year, we are introducing TWO new exciting strands of study - Behavioral Health and Skilled Building Trades! The Behavioral Health strand is geared towards designing innovative solutions to promote mental health and wellness for individuals and our community. Students will investigate a variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health issues. The Skilled Building Trades strand will expose students to the materials, tools, machines, and processes used in light building construction. It uses a problem-based, hands-on learning approach to construction, carpentry, plumbing, and electrical, and uses the design process in building projects.



Imagine. Create. Engage.

# LAUNCH




## District Website and Social Media Platforms

In an effort to communicate effectively with our school community, the School District of Monroe will continue to utilize the district's web page and social media. The District will continue to feature various postings on Facebook, Twitter (a.k.a. "X"), Instagram, LinkedIn, and our YouTube channel. To access these pages, please visit [www.monroeschools.com](http://www.monroeschools.com) and click on the associated social media icons located on the top right side of the webpage. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding social media, feel free to email the district Director of Media and Marketing, Jennifer Bochar at [jenniferbochar@monroe.k12.wi.us](mailto:jenniferbochar@monroe.k12.wi.us) or call (608) 328-7280.

Follow us on social media for up-to-date information and to celebrate our schools!



-  @MonroeSchoolsWI
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# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE CONTACTS

## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

925 16th Avenue Suite 3, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7171 // Fax 608-328-7214  
Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm

Rodney Figueroa, District Administrator  
Ron Olson, Business Administrator  
Todd Paradis, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Joe Monroe, Director of Pupil Services  
Eric Ekum, Director of Food Services  
Rich Zentner, Director of Building & Grounds

Dana Kundert, District Nurse



## ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2625 14th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7172 // Fax 608-328-7228  
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:30pm, School Hours 8:05am-3:20pm

Sarah Judd, Principal  
Aaron Heim, School Counselor  
Madeline Bartels, School Psychologist



## NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3005 8 1/2 Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7134 // Fax 608-328-7226  
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 7:55am-3:10pm

Amy Timmerman, Principal  
Katlyn Faucher, School Counselor  
Jessica Lervik, School Psychologist



## PARKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

920 4th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7130 // Fax 608-328-7222  
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 7:50am-3:05pm

Jenna Trame, Principal  
Amanda Graham, School Counselor  
Chelsea Grinvalsky, School Psychologist



## MONROE MIDDLE SCHOOL

1510 13th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7120 // Fax 608-328-7224  
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 8:00am-3:28pm

Matt Brown, Principal  
Lindsay Dahmen, Assistant Principal

Kylee Gilbert, School Counselor  
Jenna Samaha, School Psychologist

Ryan Thompson, Athletic Director



## MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

1600 26th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 // Ph 608-328-7122 // Fax 608-328-7230  
Office Hours: 7:30am-4:00pm, School Hours 8:00am-3:30pm

Jeriamy Jackson, Principal  
Josh Wilson, Associate Principal

TBA, School Counselor  
Lisa Davis, School Counselor

Melissa Brant, School Psychologist  
Jeff Newcomer, Activities Director



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bauer Education Center, 1220 16th Ave., Monroe, WI 53566

Rich Deprez, President  
Teresa Keehn, Vice President  
Nikki Austin, Clerk  
Dylan McGuire, Deputy Clerk  
Phil Vosburg, Treasurer

Jim Curran, Member  
Eric Eckdahl Member  
Mike Froseth, Jr., Member  
Terri Montgomery, Member

## LAMERS BUS GARAGE

2663 3rd Street, Monroe, WI 53566  
Ph 608-325-7788 // Fax 608-325-7767  
Office Hours: 6:00am-5:00pm  
Denise Schindler, Manager

## MONROE PUBLIC LIBRARY

925 16th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566  
Ph 608-328-7010 // Fax 608-329-4657  
Monday-Thursday 9:00am-8:00pm  
Friday 12:00pm-6:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm  
Suzann Holland, Manager

**School District of Monroe Board of Education Meetings  
are held the 2nd & 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00pm**  
*The public is welcome to join us in person or via live stream on the  
School District of Monroe YouTube channel*

Please visit [www.MonroeSchools.com](http://www.MonroeSchools.com) for agendas



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE

## 2023-2024 CALENDAR

APPROVED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION 12-12-22

JULY 2023							AUGUST 2023							SEPTEMBER 2023						
						1			1	2	3	4	5	(20)					*	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3		5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27							24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31																			
OCTOBER 2023							NOVEMBER 2023							DECEMBER 2023						
(20)							(18)							(16)					1	2
1	2	3	4	5		7				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	NS	28	19	20	21	*NS		NS	25	24	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	30
29	30	31					26		28	29	30			31						
JANUARY 2024							FEBRUARY 2024							MARCH 2024						
(21)							(20)							(16)					1	2
	NS	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
14	NS	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22		24	24	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	30
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			31						
APRIL 2024							MAY 2024							JUNE 2024						
(22)							(22)													1
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4	2		4	5	6	7	8
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
28	29	30					26		28	29	30			30						

KEY TO SYMBOLS (FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, SEE BACK OF CALENDAR)	
	NO SCHOOL: IN-SERVICE/WORK TIME
NS	NO SCHOOL: NON-PAID DAY
*NS	NO SCHOOL: TIME OWED TO TEACHERS DUE TO PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES, ETC.
	NO SCHOOL: HOLIDAY
*	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: FULL DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES K-5,6, AND 9
	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (HALF DAY, NO LUNCH)
Fridays	EARLY RELEASE/IN-SERVICE

(175 Contact Days)





**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**MONROE, WISCONSIN**  
**PERMIT NO. 98**

**School Closings and Early Dismissals**

The School District of Monroe’s school closing information is posted to the district webpage and district Facebook page minutes after a decision to close or dismiss early is made. Parents and guardians of current students will also receive an automated phone call from our Skylert messaging system.

The district contacts the following TV and radio stations when these events occur:

**RADIO**

WBGR FM 93.7 (Monroe)  
WEKZ FM 95.5/AM 1260 (Monroe)

**TELEVISION**

WISC CBS 3 (Madison)  
WMTV NBC 15 (Madison)  
WKOW ABC 27 (Madison)

**School District of Monroe Calendar**

<b>September 1st -</b>	First Day of School K-5th, 6th, and 9th	<b>October 16th -</b>	District Annual Meeting 5pm at Bauer Center
<b>September 4th -</b>	No School - Labor Day	<b>October 18th -</b>	Monroe High School Family/Teacher Conferences 4-7pm
<b>September 5th -</b>	First Day of School 4K, 7th-8th, and 10th-12th Grades - all grades attend	<b>October 18th -</b>	MHS Senior/Family College Financial Aid Meeting 5:30pm in MHS PAC
<b>Sept 17th-23rd -</b>	Homecoming Week	<b>October 24th -</b>	MHS Choir Concert 7pm in MHS PAC
<b>October 6th -</b>	No School - In-service Day	<b>October 27th -</b>	No School
<b>October 12th</b>	Monroe Middle School Family/Teacher Conferences 4-7pm		



ATTENTION NON-RESIDENTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONROE  
This newsletter is provided to all residents of the School District of Monroe. The most affordable process used to circulate this newsletter throughout the district is to use saturation mailing. It is costly to avoid a few non-residents from receiving our newsletter. We apologize for your inconvenience but wish to provide important information to all residents. Thank you.

