



The mosinee link

A LINK BETWEEN THE DISTRICT AND ITS CITIZENS



Open House

Thursday, May 9

3:45pm - 6:00pm

Mosinee High School's Construction 3 class is nearing completion of house number 73 for **Habitat for Humanity**. Students have been working since the beginning of the school year to build this house from the ground up. The experience has given them valuable construction skills such as framing, sheathing, house wrap, window installation, truss installation, and drywall.



On Thursday, May 9th the Construction 3 class is hosting an Open House for the community from 3:45 pm - 6:00 pm. Tour the house and see the craftsmanship the MHS students have put into this incredible, authentic work experience. The house is located northwest of Mosinee High School in the staff parking lot, near Pine Street.

On May 15th, the house will be lifted in two halves by a crane and hauled by truck to its permanent location on Second Street in Wausau, providing affordable housing for a family in need.

Pictured above (l to r): Crew members that worked on the Habitat House are Gavin Obremski, Zachary Owens, Teryn Walls, and Duncan Butterfield. Not pictured: Griffin Grohall, Maxwell Kloos, John Reede, and Jack Schippers

Teacher and Staff Member Appreciation, New Superintendent Excited to Serve Mosinee District



Robert Way
Interim Superintendent of Schools

The school board, administration, students, families, and the Mosinee community will show their appreciation for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week which is Monday, May 6th - Friday, May 10th. Our community is a better place because our teachers inspire joyful, rich learning and develop lifelong learners. Our future is bright because of our dedicated teachers and staff members.

Some of the most memorable moments in my life have been in the classroom. Meeting my wife, Susan, in Mr. Koepsel's 8th grade band; performing at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. with my dad, Mr. Jerry Way, directing; my first teaching job teaching science in Manawa; and my son Bryan teaching elementary school children. I know how challenging and rewarding our teachers' jobs are, and I know how much they contribute to Mosinee everyday.

I want to thank each of our employees who come to our schools everyday and have dedicated their lives to service. You are all heroes in my book deserving of our utmost respect and gratitude.

During a Special School Board Meeting on Monday, February 26th, 2024, the school board approved the superintendent contract for Mr. Greg Doverspike. When asked what thoughts or feelings were going through his mind after being named the next Mosinee Superintendent, Mr. Doverspike stated, "I am truly honored for the trust placed in me to lead the Mosinee School District. My family and I are truly excited to get started and look forward to getting involved in the community. Our children are beyond excited to get started in the school system and are impressed with all of the great opportunities available to the students in the district. During my visits to the district I have been impressed with the passion the staff, administration, school board, and community have for the education of the students. I also greatly appreciate the warm welcome I have received during my visits." Mr. Doverspike will start his duties in the district on July 1, 2024. Please join me in making him and his family feel welcome in our community and schools.

Class of 2024 Award Winners

State of Wisconsin
Academic Excellence Scholarship
(recognizes top two students based on academic criteria)



Brett Dudei

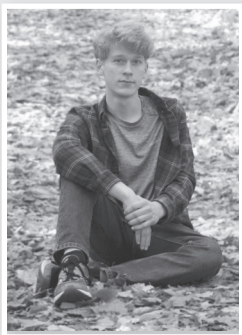


Emma Leach

Wisconsin Technical Excellence
Scholarship
(recognizes top two students based on career/technical education)



Morgan Simonis



Ryan Simonis

Fundraiser Supports Mosinee Tech Ed Programs

A Double Scotch Bowling Tournament was held on March 9th at Paper City Lanes to raise funds in support of the Mosinee Technical Education Department. Two MHS alumni, **Josh Simonis - Wausau Tile**, and **Jennifer Zastrow - Marathon Co. Social Services**, led the event as part of a professional development project. In addition, **Shane Hardrath - Crystal Finishing**, **Tyler Mancel - Greenheck Group**, and **Vince Collelo - Sutton Transport** helped with the fundraiser by securing gift baskets and getting donations from local businesses for the raffles. MHS Woods students also contributed by providing cutting boards for team prizes. Over 20 bowling teams participated, and **Mrs. Kristie Heckendorf-Paul** and **Mr. Paul Bartnik**, two MHS technology education teachers, attended. The money raised will be used to purchase items from a wish list of tools and materials for the tech ed department. Thank you to those who organized this fundraiser and to everyone who participated in the event!

MMS Student Wins Wisconsin DNR Poster Contest

Wisconsin students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade had the opportunity to submit an entry into the sixth-annual **Wisconsin DNR Keep Wildlife Wild Poster Contest**. The contest slogan this year was "Safe in Their Home." **Paige Rife**, from Mosinee Middle School, won first place in the 6th grade division with her entry depicting a cottontail rabbit.



The Keep Wildlife Wild program started in 2014 with the intention of educating others about wildlife native to Wisconsin. The goal was to provide information about different species' behavior, what to do if a wild animal needs assistance, and how to keep wildlife safe in their habitats.

Pictured above: Paige Rife displays her winning poster - a cottontail rabbit in its natural habitat.

MHS Band Students Earn Spots in State Honors Ensembles

The **Wisconsin School Music Association** holds annual auditions for State Honors Ensembles. Qualifying students will be placed in the Honors Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Treble Choir, or Mixed Choir. The entire audition process is extremely competitive and selective, with each student preparing a solo, a challenging etude, scales, and sight reading at the audition itself.

Almost 1,500 students auditioned for these instrumental and vocal ensembles across the state, and three juniors from Mosinee High School Band - **Henrik Thompson**, **Jackson Nechuta**, and **Chloe Horrell** - earned their place among the best high school musicians in Wisconsin. Jackson will be performing with the Honors



Orchestra, while Henrik and Chloe will be performing with the Honors Band. All three students will attend an Honors Camp at UW-Eau Claire in June, and then perform at the Overture Center in Madison in October. Congratulations!

Pictured above (l to r): Chloe Horrell, Henrik Thompson, and Jackson Nechuta earned spots in the WSMA State Honors Ensembles.

American Legion Donation

This winter, **American Legion Post 492** held a fundraiser for area elementary students with disabilities. **Mary Dwyer** lead the cause and spent many hours selling tickets for raffle baskets at various local businesses. The funds raised were split between the Mosinee and D.C. Everest districts, with Mosinee receiving \$1,830.00!



Pictured above (l to r): Mary Dwyer from American Legion Post 492 presented the donation to School Board President Diane Gorman at the April board meeting.

Mosinee School District Selects 2023-24 Teachers and Support Staff of the Year



Mosinee Elementary has selected **Melissa Bolanda** as Teacher of the Year. Melissa has taught second grade in Mosinee for the past six years and has devoted herself as an elementary teacher for over 20 years. Known for her ever-present smile and warm welcome, Melissa's classroom is the epitome of positivity and inclusivity. Her ability to understand the

individual needs of her students while doing whatever it takes to help them succeed sets her apart as an outstanding educator.

Both colleagues and parents offer praise for Melissa. One colleague says, "Melissa has the ability to stop a classroom out of control with a whisper. She has the patience of a saint, a sense of humor that can be witty or sarcastic when needed, and is a bottomless well of kindness that she bestows on students and staff alike." A parent states, "She's able to bring out the best in her students and gives them the confidence to learn more. I've noticed a difference in my son this year. In the past he didn't want to go to school and homework was a punishment. This year he looks forward to going to school and has the confidence that he can do his homework with little help."



Mosinee Elementary's Support Staff of the Year is **Lynn Sharnak**. Lynn has worked for the district in custodial for over ten years. Described as someone who consistently exceeds expectations, Lynn's dedication to maintaining a clean, organized, and welcoming environment is unparalleled. Her positive demeanor and genuine kindness resonate with

everyone she encounters, creating a nurturing atmosphere for both students and staff.

A colleague says, "Lynn goes above and beyond in everything she does to keep our school clean, orderly, and running smoothly. She is one of the most positive and kind people I know and always does whatever she can to make things better for our students and staff. She is always thinking of others and always has the warmest smile to greet you each time she sees you. Lynn goes out of her way to help out however and whenever she can."



Mosinee Middle School has selected **Dan Lesniak** as the MMS Teacher of the Year. Dan embodies the qualities of an exceptional educator with unwavering commitment to student learning and an ability to foster a nurturing and inclusive classroom environment where every child feels valued and respected. Dan consistently goes the extra mile to tailor

his instruction to meet the diverse needs of his students, instilling in them a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

Dan is not only dedicated to his students' academic success but also to their overall well-being and personal growth. One parent says, "Mr. Lesniak has been a life saver for our family this year. He has been accommodating while our son has dealt with his injury and we are forever grateful!"

Dan builds meaningful relationships with each student, offering encouragement, guidance, and support both inside and outside the classroom. His kindness, compassion, and empathy leave a lasting impression on all who have the privilege of knowing and working with him.



The MMS Support Staff of the Year is **Leah Meidl**. Leah goes above and beyond in her role in the special education department, providing essential support to teachers, assisting students with special needs, and creating an inclusive environment in which all students can thrive. Her kindness, patience, and genuine care for each student leaves a lasting impact and inspires those she works with.

A peer describes Leah as a jack of all trades. She can keep high anxiety students calm, and she can motivate students that need a little extra "umph." Leah can be stern when she needs to be, however, most often she gets her point across with humor and a soft or no nonsense approach. She helps staff even before they knew they needed help! She encourages students to do more than they thought they could, and she does it all with a smile!



Mosinee High's Teacher of the Year is **Lori Natzke**. Lori has taught science at MHS for 11 years. Her dedication and hard work is appreciated by colleagues and students. A colleague says, "Lori is a leader in every sense of the word. She is an amazing, innovative educator, a trusted colleague, and a kind human." A student comments, "Mrs. Natzke is an amazing teacher with a heart of gold. She helps students when they need it and has a fun personality. She truly loves teaching and I couldn't ask for a better teacher." Another adds, "She is an excellent teacher who always has time for students. She inspires me."



Support Staff of the Year for MHS is **Katie Guthman**. Katie has been a school counselor at Mosinee High School since 2013. Her passion towards education as a whole can be witnessed everyday by students, teachers and families alike. A student says, "She will listen to you and help you find the best classes for you if you don't know what to take. You can

talk to her about anything you need. If it's bad or good she will help you feel better." Another says, "She's helpful, kind, good at giving advice, supportive." Colleagues note, "Katie tirelessly helps students to meet their graduation requirements as well as helping them through their life struggles. She gives of herself daily to students to help them reach their maximum potential while challenging them to think about their future."

The Mosinee School District is fortunate to have many outstanding teachers and staff – the 2023-24 recipients are no exception. Congratulations to all of this year's honorees!

PTO Grant Provides Solar Eclipse Glasses

Students had the opportunity to view the solar eclipse on April 8th, thanks to the Mosinee PTO's generous mini grant that was used to purchase special glasses for K-5 students. The cheers of excitement said it all as the clouds parted ways allowing the kids to see this unique celestial event!



Pictured right: Elementary students use solar eclipse glasses to watch as the moon passes between the earth and the sun.

2024 Visual Arts Classic

Mosinee High School students competed for the first time this spring in the **Visual Arts Classic**, a competition that provides a platform for students to showcase their talents in two categories: classic art studio and digital art. From long-term art pieces to on-site projects, critical thinking group activities, and even a quiz bowl, this competition offered a well-rounded experience for the budding artists. The students received feedback and engaged in open art critiques with judges, which was invaluable for their growth and development.

Congratulations to the Mosinee students who participated in the 2024 Regional Visual Arts Classic:



Kylee Fox - 1st Place Long-term Drawing & 1st Place On-site Drawing

Julia Gear - 1st Place Long-term Drawing & 1st Place On-site Drawing

Kathryn Salber - 2nd Place Long-term Personal Adornment & 1st Place On-site Personal Adornment

Genevieve Thompson - Honorable Mention Long-term Art History & 1st Place On-site Art History

Abigail Wysocki - 2nd Place Long-term Digital Art & 2nd Place On-site Digital Art

Isabel Plaisance - 3rd Place On-site Painting

Pictured above: Julie Gear works on her on-site drawing at the Visual Arts Classic at UWSP.

FCCLA Members Qualify for Nationals at State Conference



In April, Mosinee FCCLA members competed at the State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells. The students earned seven Gold Medals, three Silver Medals and one Bronze Medal, and nine are National Qualifiers!

Katelyn Baars, Macie Hartle & Kiarra Kennedy - Promote and Publicize FCCLA - Top Gold & National Qualifier

Jena Bartnik, Dustin Brooks, & Macey Mielke - Chapter Service Project Top Gold & National Qualifier

Sophia Knetter - Entrepreneurship - Top Gold & National Qualifier

Ruby Sliwicki & Abigail Wysocki - Focus on Children - Silver & National Qualifier

Eowyn Pince - Fashion Construction - Silver

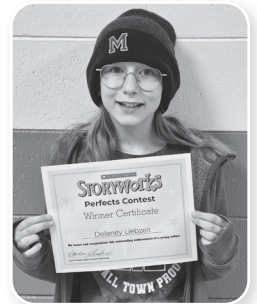
Eli Sackmann - Culinary Arts - Bronze

This year's National FCCLA Conference is June 29-July 3 in Seattle, WA. Good luck to all competing at the national level!

Pictured above (l to r): (Back row): Abigail Wysocki, Ruby Sliwicki, Eowyn Pince, Sophia Knetter, Macie Hartle, Katelyn Baars, Kiarra Kennedy, (Front row): Adviser Susan Swinick, Eli Sackmann, Dustin Brooks, Jena Bartnik, and Macey Mielke competed at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference.

5th Grader Wins Writing Contest

In January, several fifth grade students at Mosinee Middle School entered a **Scholastic Storyworks** magazine writing contest. The students read a story called "The Perfects" and responded to a prompt from the story. **Delaney Liebzeit** was chosen as one of the winners! Her essay response demonstrated "strong critical thinking, point of view and reading and writing skills." For her efforts, Delaney won a \$25 gift card to Scholastic Book Clubs.



Pictured above: Delaney Liebzeit proudly displays her award certificate from the Scholastic Storyworks magazine writing contest.

4th Grade Students Experience Symphony Orchestra

In April, the 4th grade students at Mosinee Middle School had the amazing opportunity to experience "The Orchestra Rocks" at Sentry Theater in Stevens Point. This program was sponsored by **The Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra**. The fourth graders recently concluded a unit on the instrument families and were able to experience a symphony orchestra live with hands-on learning with other area schools. Through singing and dancing, they participated in a fun-filled afternoon of music.

6th Graders Visit Smithsonian Exhibit

MMS 6th graders studied the concept “moving” during their Ancient Civilization unit. In April, the students had the opportunity to travel to Two Rivers, WI to see the exhibition *World on the Move: 250,000 Years of Human Migration*, developed by the American Anthropological Association along with the Smithsonian’s Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. The exhibit featured the ancient civilizations that the students studied in class, and explained the reasons why people move and how societies relocate due to various circumstances.



Pictured above: MMS students learned about human migration at the Smithsonian Exhibit.

UWSP “On Point” Band Festival

Seven Mosinee High School students attended the UW-Stevens Point “On Point” Honor Band Festival in April. The day began with the students receiving three challenging pieces of music. They then spent their time rehearsing those pieces as a group and attending masterclasses on their specific instruments. In the evening, they performed in the UW-Stevens Point Honors Band concert.



Pictured above (l to r): Chloe Horrell - flute, Anna Gagnon - percussion, Logan Neufeld - saxophone, Abby Yelkin - bass clarinet, Cailyn Bauer - bassoon, Noah Nechuta - saxophone, and Jackson Nechuta - French horn participated in the “On Point” Honor Band Festival.

Spudmobile Visits MES

The Wisconsin Spudmobile, designed and developed by the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association visited Mosinee Elementary School. Students toured the Spudmobile and learned about the potato industry, how to be good environmental stewards, and the field to fork process.



Pictured above: Mrs. Fandrey’s kindergarten class in front of the Spudmobile.

MES Breakfast and Books Day

Mosinee Elementary second graders invited special people in their lives to come to school for Breakfast and Books. The students and their guests read books, enjoyed a light breakfast, made crafts, interviewed each other, and played games. They also showed their special someone their classrooms.



Pictured above: Ms. Jamroz’s class at Breakfast and Books.

Mosinee Board of Education Notes

At the April 16, 2024 regular Board of Education meeting, the Board approved the following:

- minutes from the regular Board of Education meeting on March 19, 2024
- Board policy updates
- student handbooks and fee changes for the 2024-25 school year
- joining a lacrosse cooperative team
- statement of the Board of Canvassers from Spring election
- 4K and Kidstown contracts
- transitioning to a new health insurance provider
- March’s monthly voucher list and treasurer’s report
- resignation from Fourth Grade Teacher and Middle School Social Studies Teacher
- extended field trip
- recognition of Board Member’s years of service, and presentation by the high school music education program

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the District Educational Service Center. The public is invited to attend.

PTO Notes

Highlights from the April PTO meeting:

- The PTO approved 8 mini grant applications for either full or partial funding.
- The PTO will provide snacks for Staff Appreciation Day on May 9th.
- The PTO will select three students to receive scholarships for the 2023-24 school year.

The May PTO meeting has been canceled. A regular meeting along with a fundraiser meeting will be scheduled this summer, date TBD.

Care Solace

The Mosinee School District has partnered with **Care Solace**, a service that quickly and confidentially connects individuals to available mental health and substance use providers. The service offers multilingual support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, regardless of insurance coverage. There is also a self-serve website to find providers and services on your own. Care Solace is provided to Mosinee students, staff, families and community members at no cost.

Call: 888-515-0595 or visit: caresolace.com/mosinee
Please note: Care Solace is not an emergency response service or mental health service provider. In the event of a life threatening emergency, call 9-1-1 or the National Suicide Hotline 9-8-8.

The Mosinee School District shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, handicap or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law in the educational programs or activities which it operates or in employment practices. All inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination under Title II, Title IX, Section 504 or other state or federal law shall be directed to Stephanie Durrant, Director of Human Resources, Mosinee School District, 146001 State Highway 153, Mosinee, WI 54455 at 715-693-2530.



MOSINEE HIGH SCHOOL
**Class of 2024
 Graduation**

Friday, May 24th
 7:00pm

- MOSINEE RECREATION CENTER -

The Mosinee Link is published monthly to promote communication and cooperation between district residents and the schools.

Link Coordinator
 Heather Bartnik

Editorial Board
 Toni Bagby Dana Kamke
 Jenny Bruening Ann Kedrowski
 Kim Fandrey Anna Kaiser
 Mari Jo Nechuta Robert Way

Reporters
 Administrators, Staff, and Students

Address comments and inquires to:
 Superintendent of Schools
 Mosinee School District
 146001 State Highway 153
 Mosinee, WI 54455
 715-693-2530



Community Outreach Classes

To register, contact: Michelle Pozorski at mpozorski@mosineeschools.org

CLASS	BEGINS	DAY	TIME	SESSIONS	LOC.
Beginning Drop Spindle	5-7	Tues	6:00-8:00pm	2	Creske Library
Leather Earrings	5-13	Mon	5:00-7:00pm	1	Creske Library
Acrylic Painting - Summer Theme	5-21	Tues	5:00-7:00pm	1	MHS Café
Spotted Lantern Fly	5-23	Thur	6:00-7:30pm	1	Creske Library

May/June Calendar of Events

MOSINEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	
May 3	3rd Gr. Concert - Creske Auditorium1:30pm
6	NO SCHOOL - District Inservice
27	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
31	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - EARLY RELEASE12:40pm
MOSINEE MIDDLE SCHOOL	
May 6	NO SCHOOL - District Inservice
7	6th & 7th Gr. Choir Concert - Creske Auditorium ..7:00pm
14	6th & 7th Gr. Band Concert - Creske Auditorium ..7:00pm
20	8th Gr. Band Concert - Creske Auditorium7:00pm
23	8th Gr. Variety Show - Creske Auditorium.7:00pm
27	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
30	8th Gr. Recognition Ceremony - Creske Auditorium ...1:30pm
31	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - EARLY RELEASE12:49pm
MOSINEE HIGH SCHOOL	
May 1	Golf - Invitational (A - Troy Burne)9:00am
2	Golf - GNC Meet (A - Northwood Golf Club)3:00pm
	Baseball - Tomahawk (H)5:00pm
	Softball - Northland Pines (A)5:00pm
	Soccer - Clintonville (H)7:00pm
3	Softball - Marshfield (A)5:00pm
	Track - Meet (A - Merrill)5:00pm
4	State Solo & Ensemble - UWSP.....8:00am
6	NO SCHOOL - District Inservice
7	Golf - GNC Meet (A - Bass Lake Country Club)3:00pm
	Track - Invitational (A - Colby)4:30pm
	Baseball - Northland Pines (H)5:00pm
	Softball - Rhinelander (A)5:00pm
	Soccer - Rhinelander (A)7:00pm
9	Baseball - Clintonville (A)4:30pm
	Softball - Pacelli (A)4:30pm
	Soccer - Lakeland Union (H)7:00pm
10	Golf - GNC Meet (A - Eagle River Golf Course)3:00pm
	Softball - Lakeland Union (A - Doubleheader)3:00pm
	Track - Invitational (A - Marshfield)4:30pm
	Baseball - Northland Pines (A)5:00pm
11	Softball - Tournament (A - Robinson Park)10:00am
	Soccer - Invitational (A - D.C. Everest)10:30am
	Baseball - Rhinelander (A - Doubleheader)11:00am
13	Band Concert - Creske Auditorium.....7:00pm
	Soccer - Medford (A)7:00pm
14	Golf - GNC Meet (H - Indianhead Golf Course)3:00pm
	Track - Conference Meet (A - Medford)4:00pm
	Baseball - Antigo (A)5:00pm
	Softball - Medford (H)5:00pm
	Soccer - Amherst (H)7:00pm
16	Golf - GNC Meet (A - Timber Ridge Golf Club)3:00pm
	Soccer - Antigo (H)7:00pm
17	Baseball - Antigo (H)5:00pm
18	Baseball - Triangular (A - D.C. Everest)10:00am
	Choir Spring Concert - Creske Auditorium7:00pm
20	Baseball - Stratford (A - Athletic Park)7:00pm
21	Baseball - Ashwaubenon (A)4:30pm
	Soccer - Northland Pines (A)5:00pm
22	Senior Awards Night - Creske Auditorium6:30pm
24	Graduation - Mosinee Recreation Center7:00pm
27	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
31	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - EARLY RELEASE12:49pm
WIAA PLAYOFF SCHEDULES	
BASEBALL:	Regionals - May 23, 28 & 29 Sectionals - June 4 State - June 10-13 (Grand Chute)
GOLF:	Regionals - May 21 & 22 Sectionals - May 28 & 29 State - June 3 & 4 (Blackwolf Run)
SOCCER:	Regionals - May 28, 30 & June 1 Sectionals - June 6 & 8 State - June 13, 14 & 15 (Milwaukee)
SOFTBALL:	Regionals - May 16, 21 & 23 Sectionals - May 28 & 30 State - June 6, 7 & 8 (Madison)
TRACK:	Regionals - May 20 (Medford) Sectionals - May 23 (Colby) State - May 31 & June 1 (La Crosse)

*** Activities and events subject to change.
 For the most current information, visit mosineeschools.org ***