MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Week in Review

March 23, 2024

QUICK LINKS:

SUBSCRIBE to Week in Review

JOB OPPORTUNITIES



NOW HIRING:

Secretary — 12-month
Front Desk
Administration Building

Elementary Classroom Teachers

Special Education Teacher
Custer Elementary

Positive School Climate Liaison
Custer Elementary

Student Service Provider
Custer Elementary

School Counselor
Monroe Middle School

Registered Behavior Technician

Varsity Boys Basketball Coach

Varsity Wrestling Coach



Superintendent's Corner

ANDREW SHAW

SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome to another edition of ***MPS Week in Review***! Please forward this to your family and friends. Anyone can sign up with the Subscribe button at the left.

MPS *THIS IS US* EXPO TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

What an amazing night for our first MPS—*This Is Us* Expo event! Thank you to all of the families and community members who came out and supported our district showcase! It was wonderful to see you interacting with our MPS staff and district partners, as they shared their excitement and passion for the programs and services they provide. Tables were filled with resources and giveaway items, and delicious smells filled the gym from the food prepared by Sodexo. It was a delightful evening, and I appreciate everyone who helped to make it a success!

I want to give a special shout out to our incredible Technology Department, who made sure everything was up and running and also offered free repair for for student Chromebooks. Almost all of the devices that were dropped off were fixed and ready to pick up before the Expo was over — AMAZING!



The next *Week in Review* will be on April 6, after Spring Break. Take care, rest, and enjoy the time off with family and friends!



NOTICE

Active Shooter Training at MMS

Monroe Public Schools is pleased to support the training needs of our law enforcement partners who work to keep our community safe.

Next week, the City of Monroe Police will host two 2-day training sessions by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for Law Enforcement in Monroe County to prepare for an active shooter event. The training will be held at Monroe Middle School during Spring Break.

You may see police activity around the school. Please do not be alarmed by the safety drills.

Total Solar Eclipse

2-Hour Early Dismissal on April 8

A 2-Hour Early Dismissal is scheduled on Monday, April 8. Schools will dismiss 2 hours early, allowing families to experience the eclipse together. Community Education programs on April 8 will proceed as previously scheduled.

COMING UP:

MARCH 23
Spring Break Begins
Spring Break: March 23 - April 1

APRIL 2
Classes Resume

APRIL 3
High School Conferences, 4-6 PM
Middle School Conferences, 5-7 PM

APRIL 8
2-Hour Early Dismissal
Schools dismiss 2 hours early for Solar Eclipse

Special Events

March 23 - April 1
Spring Break / No School

Tuesday, April 2
Classes Resume

Wednesday, April 3
High School Conferences, 4-6 p.m.
Middle School Conferences, 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, April 4, 5 p.m.
National Junior Honor Society Inductions
Monroe Middle School Auditorium

Friday, April 5, 4-6 p.m.
Military Service Academy Open House
Monroe High School Auditorium

Monday, April 8
2-Hour Early Dismissal
Schools dismiss 2 hours early for Solar Eclipse





Learning Bank *— educational opportunities for adults*



"Passports" offered another opportunity to win prizes

MPS—*This Is Us* Night
Expo Showcases Programs

The Expo provided guests with valuable information and resources in a fun and relaxed setting, bringing together more than 60 programs and services offered by Monroe Public Schools and our district partners.

MONROE LEADERS: *Superintendent* ***Andrew Shaw*** *welcomes Mayor* ***Robert Clark****.*





Performing Arts *— Band, Orchestra, Choir*



P.B.I.S. *— Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports*




Community
(Athletics)
39


DRAMA
CLUB
Clue
Drama Club
37


GUEST


monroe
Monroe Middle School Clubs
33
BOOK CLUB
COSMETOLOGY CLUB
BOARD GAME CLUB
ARTS & CRAFTS CLUB


School Nurses
MPS
MEDICAL


ProMedica
PROMEDICA
MONROE REGIONAL
HOSPITAL


School Resource Officers (SRO)
22


HPS
Transportation
25


Operations / Maintenance
27


ATI


GABBY'S GRIEF CENTER
My
Grief
Feels
Like


Childcare and Kids Club
6
Monroe Public Schools
KIDS CLUB CHILD CARE




MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD of EDUCATION
serving our community


SCHOOL BUS
0615


Employment Opportunities
16
Employee Benefits
17

Brooke Trouten

CLEARY UNIVERSITY SOCCER



COLLEGE COMMITMENT: ***Brooke Trouten*** *with Cleary Women's Soccer Coach —* ***Steve Horn****.*



"I'm excited to officially announce my commitment to Cleary University! While pursuing an academic degree in Sports Management, I will continue following my passion to play soccer. I'm grateful for the incredible journey that has led me to this amazing opportunity. I'd like to thank my family, friends, teammates, and coaches. I'm ready to bring my passion and dedication to the next level."



FAMILY: (Front) *Dad —****Tom Trouten****,* ***Brooke****, Mom —* ***Brandi Barron.*** (Back left) ***Cole****,* ***Brynn*** *and* (back right) ***Steve****,* ***Oma****.*



BEST FRIENDS: ***Brooke*** *with* ***Becca Pace*** (left) *and* ***Jenna Ferguson*** (right).

Photos provided by Brooke's family.

City of Monroe & MPS Community Ed

Daddy-Daughter Dance 2024

Community Education partners with the City of Monroe to host the Daddy-Daughter Dance.



BUY TICKETS NOW!

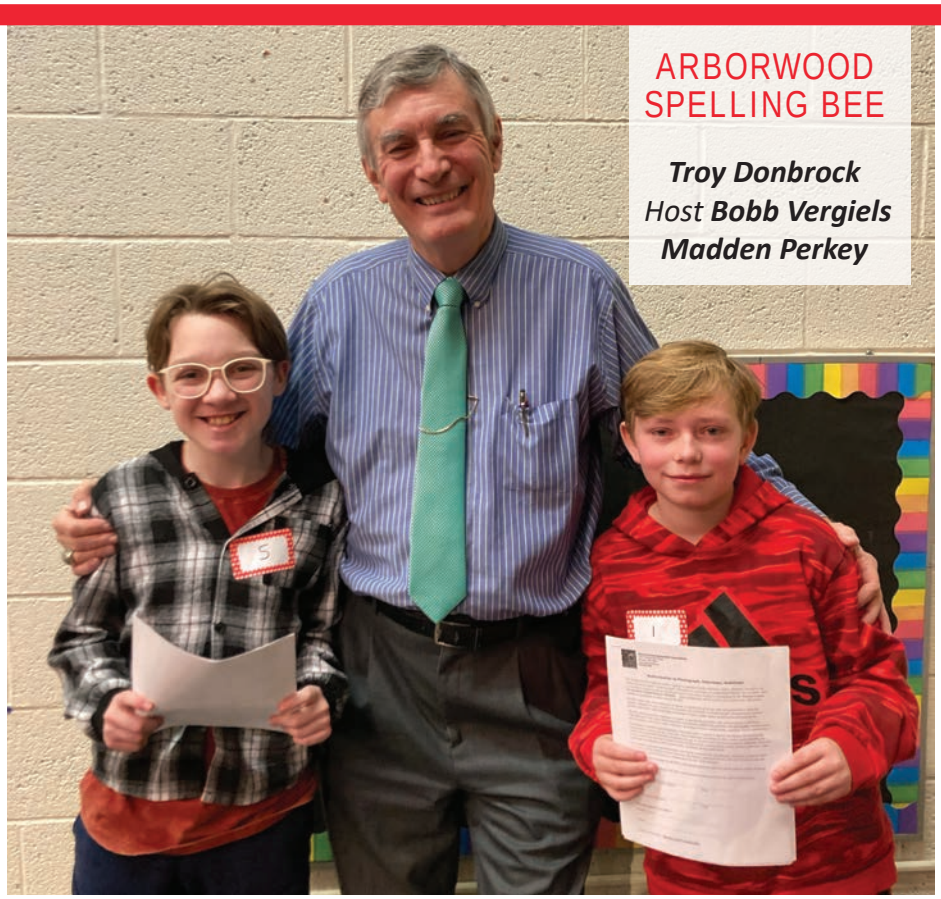
Purchase at City Hall During Spring Break

The 2024 event will be held on Saturday, April 13, 6-8 p.m., at Monroe High School.

Tickets are $25 per couple, $10 for each additional child. Tickets cannot be purchased at the dance; they must be purchased in advance.

The Community Education Office is CLOSED during Spring Break, but tickets may be purchased from the City Hall Recreation Department.

Click on the ***form*** for information, directions.



ARBORWOOD SPELLING BEE

Troy Donbrock
Host ***Bobb Vergiels***
Madden Perkey

Spelling Bee photos provided by schools.

Spelling Bee Winners

Arborwood and Raisinville

Congratulations to the Arborwood Campus Spelling Bee winners — **Madden Perkey**, 5th grade, First Place, and **Troy Donbrock**, 6th grade, Runner-Up! **Bobb Vergiels** hosted the Arborwood Bee.

Raisinville Elementary held its 5th and 6th Grade Spelling Bee on March 22. Congratulations to 5th grade champion **Ellie Hunt** and sixth grade champion **Weston Cosby**!

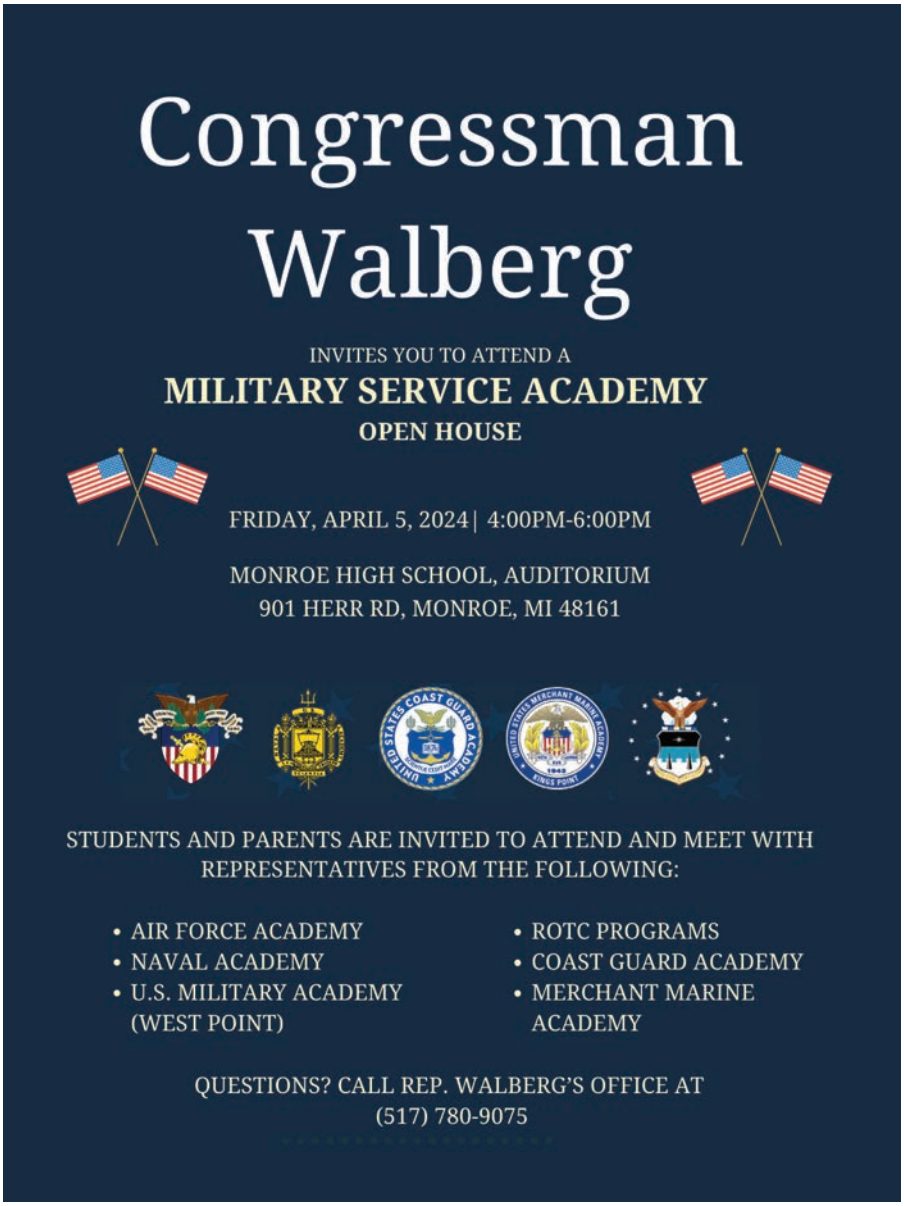


Qualifiers in grades 5-8 from Monroe County public, charter, private, and parchial schools will compete at the Monroe County Intermediate School District Spelling Bee on April 4th.

RAISINVILLE BEE

Weston Cosby
and ***Ellie Hunt***





Military Service Academy Open House

Congressman Tim Walberg will host a Military Service Academy Open House in the Monroe High School Auditorium on Friday, April 5, 5-6 p.m. Representatives will share information, answer questions, and discuss the service academy nomination process. The event is targeted for sophomore and junior students and their parents. Questions? Call 517-780-9075.

News Highlights

Recent Articles

(*Articles below appeared in the Monroe News.*)

The obituary of **Jeffery Paul MacKinnon** was published on Thursday. He was a 1983 MHS graduate, who lettered in golf and swimming, and a former Monroe golf coach.

Sports Highlights

Bubba Bezeau resigned from his position as head coach of Monroe's varsity baseball team. Chris Clark is moving up from the JV coach position to lead the Trojans (3-20).



Young Entrepreneur Showcase

Registration is underway for the Young Entrepreneur Showcase, presented by the Generation E Institute and MPS on Saturday, April 27. Click or scan the QR code below to register:

"Leading by Reading"

Manor Welcomes Guest Readers



***Alania Moody**,*
Human Resource Assistant, ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital

As part of their March is Reading Month celebration, Manor Elementary held a "Leading by Reading" Day on Friday. Business and community leaders were invited to the school to read books to students and talk about their roles.

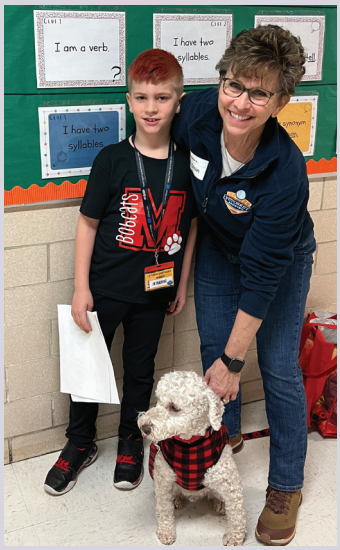
Manor is a *Leader in Me* school, and the special day tied in with the school's programming. Student selected to greet and welcome the school's guests, or serve as assistant guides during their visits, had the opportunity to practice their leaderships skills.



*Dressed as a pirate, **Tino Amaya**, Owner of Amaya's Fresh Mexican Grill, captivated his young audiences.*



***Reese Johnson**,*
Miss Monroe County 2023



***Jaxon Cissney**, 2nd grade*
Barb Stein** with **Jasper



***Gibson Morrison**, 3rd grade*
*Officer **Josh Sawdy** with **Buddy***



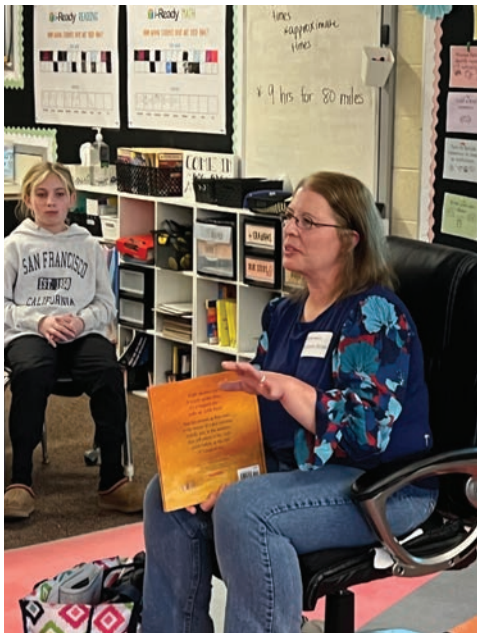
Hawk Mielke, *Community Recreation & Youth Sports Director, Monroe YMCA*

PAWS to Read

Several dogs came to Manor's Reading Day.



Morgan Kerns*, a dog foster at Save Monroe Strays, brought a dog who is looking for a forever home. Sheldon loved all of the extra hugs.*



Suzanne Wisler*, a reporter at the Monroe News*



Cheryl Wassus*, Coordinator for Poject Second Chance and Therapy Dogs Int'l - Chapter 307, brought two dogs that happily posed with the students.*

Lisa Alexander
Co-owner, Alexander's Carpet Cleaning

Tino Amaya
Owner, Amaya's Fresh Mexican Grill
Owner, State Farm Insurance

Al Barron
Supervisor, Monroe Charter Township

Anna Childress
Mother - Parent Volunteer

Bill Cornett
Safety and Operation manager, GEM

April Eggert
Marketing Specialist
Monroe Community Credit Union

Alivia Funchion
Christian Youth Group leader

Reese Johnson
Miss Monroe County 2023

Nikki Kansier
E-commerce Manager,
Proven Winners Direct

Morgan Kerns
Dog Foster, Save Monroe Strays

Hawk Mielke
Community Recreation & Youth
Sports Director, Monroe YMCA

Alania Moody
Human Resource Assistant
ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital

Officer Josh Sawdy
School Resource Officer, Monroe Police

Melissa Shankleton
Enrichment Liaison, Manor Elementary

Ms. Sheree
Monroe County Library System

Andrew Shaw
MPS Superintendent

Cassie Shook
MPS Exec. Dir., Business & Finance

Joel Spotts
MCCC Trustee and
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones

Barb Stein (Retired)
Dental Hygienist, has Therapy Dog

Melissa Stepp
Pharmacy Tech, Walgreens

Hunter Stepp
Business Development Analyst, Ally

Brittney Tylenda
Principal, Manor Elementary

Cheryl Wassus
Coordinator for Project Second Chance,
Therapy Dogs Int'l - Chapter 307

Suzanne Wisler
Reporter, *Monroe News*



Photos provided by Raisinville

Raisinville Second Graders Enjoy Camp Read-A-Lot



March is National Reading Month!

Raisinville second grade teacher **Jordan Scheur** set up a "campground" inside her classroom, transforming desks into mini-tents. In celebration of Reading Month, students at Camp Read-A-Lot spent the day reading by the (paper) campfire, learning about animal footprints and constellations, and doing s'more reading!









Custer Toiletry Drive for MCOP

Student Council-led service project



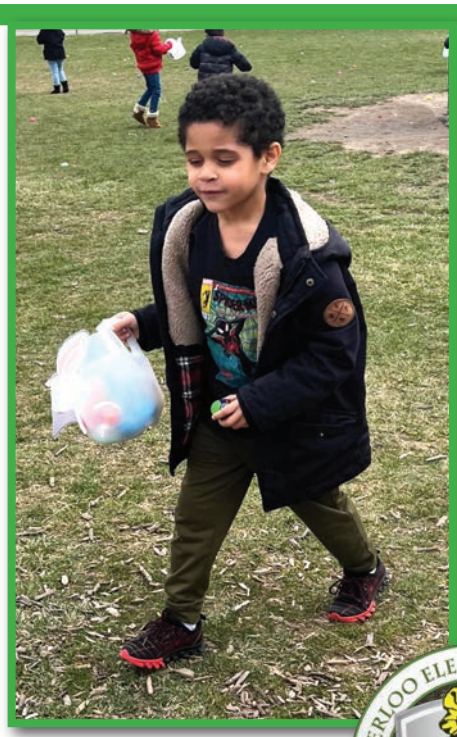
Custer Elementary hosted a toiletry drive for the Monroe County Opportunity Program, which provides a variety of services to low-income individuals and families. The outreach project was hosted by Custer's Student Council, which includes two representatives from each fourth, fifth, and sixth grade class.

The drive was successful, with 250 items collected for MCOP!

The more that you READ, the more things you will KNOW.
The more that you LEARN, the more places you'll GO!

-- Dr. Seuss







Photos from Waterloo Elementary

Waterloo Egg Hunt —
Pre-Spring Break Celebration

Kindergarten and Young Five students at Waterloo bundled up for an exciting egg scavenger hunt on a chilly pre-Spring Break day. Waterloo's Wildcat mascot offered hugs to everyone!









*School resource officer — Deputy **Michael Stahl***

PROMOTIONAL VIDEO for TRANSPORTATION SHOW

A HUGE thank you to **Devan Rucker** and **Pete Rendina** from the DEVelopment Group and Monroe County News Network! For the second year, they have helped to teach about and create the Arborwood Transportation Show commercial with Ashley Cornett's 6th grade class!



Photos provided by Ashley Cornett.

Arborwood Transportation Show

Save-the-Date: Friday, May 17, 6-8 PM

The 3rd Annual Transportation Show will feature a wide range of vehicles and student research projects.











Watch the completed commercial on the Arborwood Facebook page or click ***here***!

STATE JAZZ FESTIVAL







MSBOA Jazz Festival photos provided by Joseph Swinkey and the Monroe Instrumental Boosters.

The 24-member Monroe High School Jazz Band gave a memorable performance at the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association State-level Jazz Festival.

The state festival was held on March 19th at Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte, Michigan. Our MHS students prepared a set of jazz, funk, and Latin music and performed for a panel of four MSBOA adjudicators, who gave them a combination of Superior and Excellent ratings, with an overall composite rating of Excellent (Second Division).

We're immensely proud of them for their outstanding performance at the State level and for representing their school with pride!

SPOTLIGHT: Music in our Schools Month

Monroe High School Students Excel at State Level

Monroe Public Schools provides music education to students of all ages. We are very proud of our instrumental music programs, offered in grades 6-12, and the many accolades they receive.



Photo provided by Joseph Swinkey

Ellen Gerweck, Megan Mahoney, Nolan Livingston, *MHS Band Director* ***Joseph Swinkey, Eli Gibson, Olivia Larner, Mason Smith,*** *and* ***Wyatt Whitelaw.***

MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival

Seven outstanding Monroe High School Band students performed at the state-level Solo and Ensemble after qualifying by receiving Division I Superior ratings at the MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival in February.

We are exceptionally proud of MHS students **Ellen Gerweck** (junior, Flute), **Megan Mahoney** (junior, Flute), **Nolan Livingston** (senior, Flute), **Eli Gibson** (senior, Horn), **Olivia Larner** (senior, Flute), **Mason Smith** (senior, Trumpet), and **Wyatt Whitelaw** (senior, Trombone).

These students had to prepare for a proficiency examination that involved memorizing technical material and performing music that they had never seen for their judge, in addition to performing their solos. Students performed at the proficiency level which they qualified for based on previous years' performances at the State festival.

Special recognition should be awarded to senior **Nolan Livingston**, who, having passed Proficiency I and II in previous years, performed a Proficiency III examination. Completion of a Proficiency III solo examination represents the highest level of accomplishment offered to students by MSBOA. Nolan passed his exam with a score of 98/100!

Purr-fect Pancakes

Emma Mirshak Wins

Sodexo hosted Monroe Public Schools Future Chefs program at Custer 1 on Wednesday night, featuring five student chefs. **Emma Mirshak**, a Manor 2nd grade student, won with her Meow-wow pancakes, which she made look like a cat by using blueberries for eyes and nose, strawberries for ears, and sliced apples for whiskers. As the district winner, she received cookware to hone her skills at home and will advance to the regional level of judging in the national competition.



Future Chefs National Challenge by sodexo

The other MPS student chefs included **Braden Daley**, Raisinville, 3rd grade; **Noah King**, Waterloo, 3rd grade; **Alexis Richardson**, Manor, 3rd grade, and **Rowan Strong**, Custer, 1st grade.



Student chef award photos by Stella Richards













Future Chefs
National Challenge
by sodexo







Student chef photos by 8th grade photographer McKenley Gibson



BRADEN DALEY
Raisinville, 3rd Grade
Cheesy Taco Stick



NOAH KING
Waterloo, 3rd Grade
Chicken Tacos



ROWAN STRONG
Custer 2, 1st Grade
Pumpkin Roll



ALEXIS RICHARDSON
Manor, 3rd Grade
Fresh Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese, Homemade Potato Chips



EMMA MIRSHAK
Manor, 2nd Grade
Meow-wow Pancakes



Emma made her winning recipe — Meow-wow Pancakes — look like a cat by using blueberries for eyes and nose, strawberries for ears, and sliced apples for whiskers.

Future Chefs
National Challenge
by sodexo

Student chef photos by 8th grade photographer McKenley Gibson



JUDGES: *The judges for the 2024 MPS Future Chefs program included **Navarre Gilbert**, Student Services Coordinator, Monroe Middle School; **Larry Zimmerman**, MPS Board President; **Tom Heck**, MPS Board Treasurer; **Andrew Shaw**, MPS Superintendent; and **Melissa Bell**, Custer Principal.*



JUDGES Tasting Entrees

One by one, the student chefs presented their finished entrees to the judges and shared insights and information about their recipes.

Judge photos by Stella Richards



THANK YOU, MENTORS! *Sodexo Food Service staff served as mentors in the kitchen and assisted the student chefs by gathering supplies, opening packages, and overseeing safety. Pictured are* ***Noah King*** *with* ***Cathy Gregurich***, ***Braden Daley*** *with* ***Barb Pifer***, ***Emma Mirshak*** *with* ***Carmen Craanen*** *and* ***Deb Pillarelli***, ***Rowan Strong*** *with* ***Becky Coots***, *and* ***Alexis Richardson*** *with* ***Deb Miller*** *and* ***Amy Volpi***.



Special thanks are extended to Sodexo's staff and event organizers including **Peju Makinde** (MPS Director) **Amber Williams**, **Tina Buckner**, **Stacey Rossen**, and **Mark Havericak** (District Manager), and **Scott Rossen**, Culinary Chef and Director of Food Services, Ferris State University.



Alexis Richardson *preps plates and soup bowls for the judges.*

Photos by 8th grade photographer McKenley Gibson and Stella Richards