

# White<sup>and</sup>Blue Review

Fall 2017 🐾 *Education... That's the Point*

## POINTER PHOTO ROUNDUP



*Congratulations to elementary teacher Pam Anderson on her retirement from Mineral Point Elementary after three decades! Thank you for your countless impact on our students.*



*Governor Scott Walker traveled to Mineral Point Elementary School June 1 to sign Assembly Bill 73, which designates cheese as Wisconsin's official dairy product. The designation of cheese as the official state dairy product was proposed by a group of fourth grade students at Mineral Point Elementary.*



*It was another great Summer School at MPES!*



*The Mineral Point High School Concert Band has been selected to perform at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL this spring. The group will be doing a clinic March 25 and a concert on March 27. Congrats!*

**District Mission:** Grounded by our history, as one of the oldest publicly supported schools in Wisconsin, MPSD is the heart of a small community that educates and inspires our students for a bright future in a big world.

# Superintendent's Corner

Luke Francois, Mineral Point District Administrator



**H**appy New Year! In the traditional sense, the new year begins January 1st. For Superintendents across the state, there is a second new year. A new year of school starts with staff returning to buildings August 23rd and students to classes September 5th. I am excited to share Mineral Point's changes for 2017-2018.

The first of many new initiatives for the school year begins with an **updated strategic plan**. The plan guides the District's focus and creates actionable items that are monitored for results. The previous plan deployed in the 2014-2015 school year served the community well for the past three years, and I am eager to learn stakeholders' direction for upcoming years. More information about the Strategic Planning Team can be found in an article by Joelle Doye, also in this issue of the *White and Blue Review*.

Personalizing academics for each student remains a focus area for the District. **Academic intervention** is a professional development topic that teaching staff will be trained in before school's start. By the end of training, staff will have a refined process for how to respond when students are not learning, and ways to answer to students that have already learned outcomes. Personalizing academics further, Mineral Point reopens the alternative school under a new name and location. **Options in Education** is now located west of the Town Hall of Mineral Point on Highway 39. The Options in Education School allows for graduation acceleration, credit recovery, full-time on campus programming, and a fully online learning option. The Options program adds Erin Leonard in a half-time position to support Amanda Heisner while Erin's other half of the day will be supporting struggling learners in mathematics outside of the classroom as a first-ever **math interventionist** at Mineral Point Schools.

Supporting students' emotional health and well-being in the classroom helps students' ability to focus on their academics. To support mental health needs, Mineral Point will host a private **mental health clinic** within school walls to give students and families the opportunity to receive counseling without having to travel out of the area. The clinic will operate out of both buildings part-time to support all age levels. The mental health clinic is highlighted later in an article by Dixie Dempsey in this issue of the *White and Blue Review* and is complemented by a new program entitled F.A.S.T. or **Families and Students Together**. This program helps children succeed by building stronger relationships at home. No matter where students live, what language they speak,

or what circumstances they live in, F.A.S.T. exists to make a difference in the midst of these challenges by empowering parents, strengthening families, and creating social networks that give children opportunities. The District will also implement a **bullying incident reporting system**. Students often know what is happening in the schools before adults do, and the incident reporting system allows our administrative team to stay connected and prevent problems before they occur by receiving anonymous tips 24/7/365 by phone, email, text, and website.

Technology will expand this year to enhance student learning opportunities. The District replaced the **wireless system** at the middle and high school locations and further developed the wireless system at the elementary to bring stable connectivity for additional devices in schools. Students in grades 9-12 will upgrade their Chromebook with a **MacBook Air** allowing for the ability to use a more robust machine with applications that enhance the learning environment. For families that do not have the internet at home, students will now be able to check out a **KaJeet mobile hotspot**. The District purchased 24 devices that give students in homes without the internet a wireless opportunity to access the internet for projects and homework creating better equity for student success.

Following recommendations from a safety and security assessment, coupled with committee work to include internal and external stakeholders, the District deployed recommendations to include **upgrading exterior lighting to LEDs** to make for brighter spaces in the evening while conserving energy. Other safety and security measures will be studied in conjunction with the School Board's work toward creating a long-range facility plan to repair and enhance our aging buildings.

I look forward to celebrating a Happy New (School) Year as students return. The Mineral Point Unified School District has accomplished so much, yet continues to move forward to bring the best educational opportunities to students in an affordable manner. 🐾

Luke.Francois@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0740

White and Blue Review articles and photography credit to Joelle Doye, MPSD Communications Director, unless otherwise noted.

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# Message from Mitch Wainwright

Principal, Mineral Point High School & District Assessment Coordinator



Education is one of the most important institutions we have in our country. Long ago, our Founding Fathers decided that an educated society was vital for the growth of a nation. At first, the idea was to educate males from the wealthy class. However, as time went by, it was understood that educating everyone was not only the right thing to do, it was imperative that we provide an education to make our towns, cities, states, and country leaders in the world.

The understanding that education is completed in a lifetime is incorrect. We are always learning—on the job, from each other, and hopefully not from the school of hard knocks! Children, teens, and adults are taking advantage of opportunities that did not always exist. We must remember that education is a participatory sport. If you want to take something out from your education, you must put in the effort to get it.

The same is true for many of the adults in our school district. Teachers are taking part in book studies, working on improving programs that support student learning. They are also

taking courses through universities, exploring interests to improve their own knowledge. This is even true for the high school principal. I have recently been travelling to La Crosse to take some additional courses to advance my career in education, and am very thankful for the opportunity to continue to grow as a professional. The beauty for me taking classes is that not only do I get new information from practicing administrators, I also get to meet other people doing the same job that I do and learn from them as well. My program has challenged me to think in much larger terms how the school can continue to have a positive impact on our community.

Your continued support for the education of every child that attends our school is deeply appreciated. There are many towns and cities in Wisconsin that have schools within their boundary lines, but none of them can compare to Mineral Point. Here we have some of the best teachers committed to providing every child the best education possible. They are tireless in their efforts to educate the next generation of leaders. They are proud to do this work, in this community.

On behalf of the Mineral Point Schools, thank you. 🐾

Mitch.Wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0730

## Badger Girls and Boys State Representatives

Katie Fitzsimmons and Haakon Schriefer represented Mineral Point High School at Badger Girls and Boys State this summer.

Badger Girls and Boys State are programs that teach students the inner workings of our government.

The girls met at UW-Oshkosh and the boys at Ripon College.

Upon arrival, they were grouped into cities and counties which formed a “51st state.” For eight days, the citizens of this “new state” carried out all the main functions of city, county, and state government using basic laws and fundamental procedures of the State of Wisconsin as their guide. The program is designed to teach its “citizens” that the American form of government is stronger and more vital in today’s world than ever before.

The students themselves elected their own municipal, county and state officials. As alderman or county supervisors, they framed, presented and passed their own ordinances and laws, while their own police and sheriffs



enforced them. As attorneys, they prosecuted or defended. As judges, heard cases in their own courts. Through this program, these leaders of the future developed a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.

These students were sponsored for this event by the Mineral Point American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary. 🐾

Badger Girls and Boys State are programs that teach students the inner workings of our government.

## Extracurricular Activities

Vickie Dahl, Middle School Principal, Athletic Director



**M**PHS offers many athletic and activity programs for students to participate in throughout their high school career. In order to participate in extracurricular activities, students must meet the MPHS academic eligibility requirements.

Studies have been conducted on the relationship from extracurricular participation and academic performance. This research indicates that participation in extracurricular activities affects students' academic performance.

Music, sports, parental involvement—all of these have an influence on how students perform academically. The way students choose to spend their free time can affect their school performance.

Most Athletic/Activity Directors would agree that students who are involved in extracurricular activities generally perform better academically than those who choose not to be involved in extracurricular activities. A student is more engaged in school when participating in extracurricular activities.

According to the Alliance for Student Activities, a non-profit dedicated to raising awareness about the value of student activities, participation in activities increases students' standardized test scores, GPAs, graduation rates, college acceptance rates, and college success rates.

MPHS offers 15 athletic programs and 16 activity programs. We have seen a positive impact of extracurricular activity participation on academics. During the 2016-2017 school year, over 85% of our high school students participated in at least one extracurricular activity. There is also a high percentage of our students who are multi-sport athletes and participate in multiple activities. The number of extracurricular activities a student chooses to be involved in is up to the student. Some students thrive when engaged in multiple activities while others prefer to limit their focus.

At #PointerNation our staff and students make the time, promote the value and become champions for all student activities! 🐾

Vickie.Dahl@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0720

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## Francois Appointed WMEAP Assessor

**M**ineral Point Superintendent Dr. Luke Francois has been appointed by State Superintendent Dr. Tony Evers to serve as a Wisconsin Master Educator Assessment Process (WMEAP) Assessor.

WMEAP is an assessment process for achieving the voluntary Wisconsin Master Educator license.

Francois served on his first panel in July for candidates looking to become Master Administrators.

WMEAP portfolios are formally assessed by a team of three educators who:

- Have the same or similar job responsibilities.
- Have been nominated by professional organizations.
- Have been provided training by the Department of Public Instruction.
- Have been approved for appointment by the State Superintendent.

In addition, WMEAP assessors are educators who:

- Are not current or non-achieving candidates for the WMEAP.
- Hold a Wisconsin Professional Educator license in the assessment area.
- Have at least five years of successful professional experience in the assessment area.
- Hold a master's degree related to the assessment area.

WMEAP assessors are trained using a portfolio assessment guide developed by a national expert in the teacher portfolio assessment and Wisconsin educators who are involved in the development of the WMEAP. Assessors use note-taking strategies, summary statements, rubrics, and a judgement of each entry's documentation of mastery.

WMEAP Assessors training and portfolio assessment occurs annually during the summer. 🐾



# From the Desk of Matt Renwick

Mineral Point Elementary Principal



While there are many new approaches today in the area of teaching and learning, some ideas are timeless. One such idea is understanding the connection between reading and writing.

At first glance, you might think this obvious. "Of course, reading and writing are connected." And that is true. To be able to write means to understand who we are

writing for: the reader. Reading well means knowing who the writer is, including their style, topics of interest, and beliefs. More simply, learning to write helps you become a better reader and vice versa. However, education sometimes treats these tenets of literacy as two separate disciplines. We see it in the programs sold by educational companies and in how we might have been trained.

Our goal this school year as an elementary professional staff is to develop a better understanding of the reading-writing connection. We are participating as a whole faculty in the Regie Routman in Residence professional learning program (<http://www.regieroutman.com/inresidence/>). This program contains a series of videos and related content to help all of us learn and apply new ways of teaching reading and writing. Faculty watch Regie Routman teaching a lesson, discuss what was observed, and then they try out the instructional strategy in the classroom. Professional support, including monthly celebrations and instructional coaching, are offered to support teachers in this initiative.

What I appreciate about professional learning experiences like the one we are starting is they invest in teachers, not stuff. We are developing ourselves instead of committing to resources that may come and go. This work is similar to and is embedded within our district's commitment to professional learning communities (PLCs). In fact, we are focusing on the "L" part of PLCs: Learning. It reminds me of the Chinese fishing proverb:

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

To be clear, our current work as educators has been successful for students. We see it every day in our students' successes and through outside indicators, such as the state report card. As in other professions, we are simply striving to always improve. Learning more deeply about literacy, especially how reading and writing are two sides of the same coin, is that next step for us in becoming better as educators on behalf of all of our students and families. 🐾

Matt.Renwick@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0710

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## New Counseling Services

Dixie Dempsey, Director of Pupil Services/School Psychologist



School districts across the country spend a great deal of time, money, and effort helping students become good readers, good mathematicians, and hard working individuals. At times, we struggle to view the “whole child” and all that may negatively affect a particular student on any given day.

Studies have shown that one in five kids in the U.S. experience symptoms of a mental health disorder in a given year. That would equate to a classroom of 25 students where five of them may be struggling to cope with a mental health disorder such as depression, anxiety, ADHD, adjustment disorder, eating disorder or any other mental health disorder.

Some of these disorders are beyond the scope of the resources available in schools. Outside counseling agencies are pivotal in helping students, as well as their families, cope and manage the stressors and struggles associated with mental health issues. However, getting assistance from outside agencies can be a struggle in itself. Scheduling conflicts, time commitment, transportation, and sometimes school truancy for students to attend sessions, can be obstacles that hinder families from accessing outside mental health support.

The Mineral Point School District has partnered with CWM Counseling to provide services to students within the four walls of our school buildings. Craig W. Miller, Ph.D., LPC (owner), along with Shanna Schumacher, LPC-IT, will have private and confidential space in both the Middle/High School and Elementary School to provide students mental health support.

This agency is not managed, affiliated, or paid for by Mineral Point School District. The school district is solely providing this agency space to meet with students to help families access services more easily with little to no disruption in a student's attendance or a family's busy schedule.

CWM Counseling continues to be strictly bound by privacy and confidentiality requirements governed by HIPPA, therefore, no information will be shared with school personnel unless written parent permission to do so is obtained first. Parents are obligated to make appointments with the agency directly during times that will not impede the student's academics. Parents will not be able to make appointments through the school district offices. Students will not be allowed to walk-in to receive services without parents first making an appointment. CWM Counseling does accept several health insurance plans.

To get more information regarding services CWM Counseling provides, please contact Craig W. Miller via email at [cwmcounseling@gmail.com](mailto:cwmcounseling@gmail.com) and via phone at (563) 580-5151 or Shanna Schumacher via email at [shanna.counseling@gmail.com](mailto:shanna.counseling@gmail.com) and via phone at (608) 642-0055. 🐾



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- Musical Theater (7-10 yrs)
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or call 608-345-8020

The Mineral Point Unified School District, in accordance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and other Federal and State regulations, hereby declares that it is committed to the principle of equal education and employment opportunity and, accordingly, does not discriminate as to sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Any inquiries or complaints alleging non-compliance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 or other Federal and State civil rights or nondiscrimination regulations shall be referred to the Title IX Coordinator of the Mineral Point Unified School District.

STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT  
**1 in 5 KIDS**

IN THE U.S. EXPERIENCE SYMPTOMS OF A  
MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER IN A GIVEN YEAR.

# Strategic Plan

Joelle Doye, Communications Director



“Grounded by our history, as one of the oldest publicly supported schools in Wisconsin, MPSD is the heart of a small community that educates and inspires our students for a bright future in a big world.”

This is the mission statement the District has been operating under since the last Strategic Plan was completed in 2014. The Plan has served students, staff, and the community well in a roadmap to increased achievement. This alone is an accomplishment because so often, strategic plans seem to just end up being documents that are never revisited after the intense planning process is over.

By the time you are reading this newsletter, the Mineral Point School District will have a draft completed of a new Strategic Plan.

The four focus areas of the former Strategic Plan included: Academic Achievement, Community Engagement, Fiscal Responsibility, and Technology.

As the group does its work, it will hear reports on the progress achieved in each area and decide to keep these focus areas, or switch them out for new ones based on current needs and priorities.

So, what's in a Strategic Plan?

It's the celebration of work done to date.

It's a disciplined and thoughtful process that links the values, mission, and goals of a school system with a set of coherent strategies and tasks designed to achieve those goals.

## According to Envisio, there are seven reasons why districts need strategic planning:

- A Strategic Plan articulates a shared vision, mission and values.
- A strategic plan effectively organizes schools and their staff.
- A strategic plan defines how success is measured.
- A strategic plan aids a school board with governance decisions and provides direction for the future.
- A strategic plan increases communication and engagement.
- A strategic plan keeps everyone in a school—from teachers to administrators—connected.
- The best reason of all for strategic planning comes back to every great school's number one priority: students.

When you see the following people around town, give them a thank you for being so giving of their time, talents, and efforts to help mold this living document: Mayra Angel, Matt Austin, Jason Basting, Judy Benish, Andy Busch, Vickie Dahl, Dixie Dempsey, Joelle Doye, David Engels, Luke Francois, Kelly Gundlach, Jim Harris, Zoe Hay, Debi



# POINTER NATION COMMUNICATION

How the Mineral Point Unified School District communicates with families

## SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook.com/  
MineralPointSchoolDistrict



Twitter  
#PointerNation



YouTube  
Mineral Point School District

## ELECTRONIC



Text messaging alerts  
through Skylert



Website  
mineralpointschools.org



Calendar info on  
website

## ELECTRONIC



Direct Email

- Monthly eNews
- Emergency & no school
- School Board business
- Weekly elementary Pointer Press



Skyward Family  
Access

## PRINT



Report Cards



White & Blue  
quarterly newsletter



- Emergencies & no school notices
- Attendance
- Low food account

\* Individual teacher communication varies \*

QUESTIONS? CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
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Heisner, Mary Jean James, Jennie Pete, Jordyn Poad, Matt Renwick, John Rury, Peter Schmalz, Julie Stephenson, Crystal Taylor, Mitch Wainwright, and Joe Witmer, along with technology resources Kari Kabat and Kris McCoy, as well as secretary Angie Schubert.

The group was facilitated by Mary Gavigan, Ed.D., a former superintendent and now Executive Director at CESA #1.

I look forward to the next newsletter where I will get to share the newest Strategic Plan with you all. 🐾

## Renwick Publishes Second Book



Elementary Principal Matt Renwick's latest book will be released in August.

This is his second book published through ASCD.

Renwick's "Digital Portfolios in the Classroom" is a guide to help teachers sort through, capture, and make sense of the messiness associated with assessment. By shining a spotlight on three types of student portfolios—performance, process, and progress—and how they can be used to assess student work, Renwick helps educators navigate the maze of digital tools and implement the results to drive instruction.

On a related note, more than 20 area educators attended a Digital Portfolios in the Classroom workshop at CESA 3 in Fennimore on July 18, made possible through a CESA 3 TEACH Grant consortium.

"With the spreading use of computers and mobile technology in schools, going digital with student portfolios has become more popular. Simply put, digital portfolios are online collections of student work," Renwick said. "They allow us to archive, curate and analyze samples of student learning from both the past and the present and keep that data—literally—at the tip of our fingers." 🐾

## NSPRA Awards

Mineral Point Unified School District Communications Director Joelle Doye attended the National School Public Relations Association Seminar in San Antonio, Texas July 8-13.

Joelle was honored as one of the top, young up and coming school communicators in the country by being named to the NSPRA 35 Under 35 list. She received her award from Annette Eyman, APR, Director of Communications for Papillion-La Vista Community Schools in Nebraska. Eyman is also the NSPRA Vice President for the North Central Region.

For her efforts in the #K12PRChat on Twitter, which provides free professional development to school public relations professionals twice a month, she was presented with a hashtag award by Dane Dellenbach of Provo, Utah, Senior Product Manager for Blackboard, Inc. and founder of #K12PRChat.

Joelle, along with Howard-Suamico School District Communications Coordinator Brian Nicol, were selected to present a skill session entitled, "Small Schools, Big Success!" that focused on maximizing communication production to best engage stakeholders in a one-person school pr shop.

She was also one of 20 in the nation to be named a NSPRA Influencer, which empowered her to tell the official story of the seminar using social media. 🐾



## New Softball Scoreboard

Take a drive by Soldiers Memorial Park and view the new softball scoreboard in right field. Jim Bennett has been instrumental in keeping the park beautiful for many years and we are honored to have the field dedicated in his name.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their donations to this project: Carey Carpentry, Midway Bar & Grill, Bossert Insurance Group LLC, the Mineral Point Lions Club, Mound City Bank, and Hoffman Electric for getting it all powered up and ready for the next game.

The new scoreboard will continue to honor past Mineral Point resident, Mark Loken, who passed away in 1991. Mark was an avid player and spent a lot of time on this field and others. We are pleased to dedicate this scoreboard in his memory.

And lastly, thank you to head MPHS coach Quinn Schultz for all his hard work and dedication to this project. 🐾





# STATE FFA

## ☀ Loken Wins State FFA Prepared Speaking Contest



Tommie Loken of the Mineral Point FFA Chapter was selected as the state winner of the FFA Prepared Speaking Contest with her speech titled: GMO.

The Prepared Speaking Contest recognizes outstanding FFA members for their ability to present factual information on agricultural topics in a well thought-out and logical manner.

Tommie will represent Wisconsin at the 90th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October. The national winner will be selected from a group of state finalists, and will receive a plaque and additional scholarship money.

## ☀ Fitzsimmons Elected State FFA Vice President



Morgan Fitzsimmons of the Mineral Point FFA Chapter was elected to a year of service as the 2017-18 State FFA Vice President.

Fitzsimmons feels the theme "Small Acts, Big Impact" is a fitting description for her personal FFA experience. Her passion for FFA was sparked by a middle school quiz bowl contest and never waned. Since, she has competed in numerous leadership and career development events, including qualifying for national livestock judging.

In 2016 she earned first place recognition for the Veterinary Science Proficiency.

She looks forward to making connections with youth and helping them take full advantage of every opportunity FFA has to offer. "FFA has given me a family for the past several years," Morgan states. Her hope is to ensure that members across the state have that same experience.

During Fitzsimmons' year as a State FFA Officer, she will meet thousands of FFA members and will travel over 10,000 miles. In addition to meeting with members on the local, state, and national levels, the entire state officer team will meet with leaders in government, education, business and agriculture.

## ☀ Heisner Wins FFA Vegetable Production Award

As the owner of his own enterprise, Eric Heisner, a member of the Mineral Point FFA, is responsible for every aspect of care in his garden, which includes nearly twenty different crops from tomatoes to sunflowers to kohlrabi and herbs.

Heisner utilizes crop rotation techniques to ensure the best health and highest quality production possible for his crops.

He also focuses on pest management and applies fertilizers when necessary so that every vegetable receives the right level of nutrients.

Heisner sells his vegetables in town providing fresh produce to those who cannot grow it themselves. Through the creation of a Facebook page, "Eric's Fresh Produce," Heisner spreads the word about his business.

## ☀ Moellers Wins FFA Diversified Horticulture Award

Mineral Point FFA member Elizabeth Moellers has never outgrown a childhood love of playing in the dirt. Instead, she's transformed that passion into a successful Supervised Agricultural Experience project caring for and engaging in a wide variety of horticultural work.

Moellers' projects include landscape maintenance, gardening, flower bed installation and care, fruit and vegetable harvesting, and processing and caring for houseplants.

Elizabeth works for her parents and other local families, and also volunteers her skills in the community. The family garden is her sole responsibility, requiring her to develop the skills to plant, weed, water, spray, and harvest each crop she grows. Recently she's started to pass her skills onto her younger brother as well.

## ☀ Fitzsimmons Is Star in Agricultural Placement Finalist

Mineral Point FFA member Morgan Fitzsimmons is an employee at Military Ridge Veterinary Service, as well as working on the Fitzsimmons Family Dairy Farm, spending time at each company almost daily, managing her time between a variety of different tasks.

At the clinic, Morgan answers phones, cleans exam rooms, assists clients and maintains invoices and packages and stocks medicines. Her role helps to ensure that the clinic runs smoothly for the staff as well as for their customers. She strives to ensure that all customers have a positive experience.

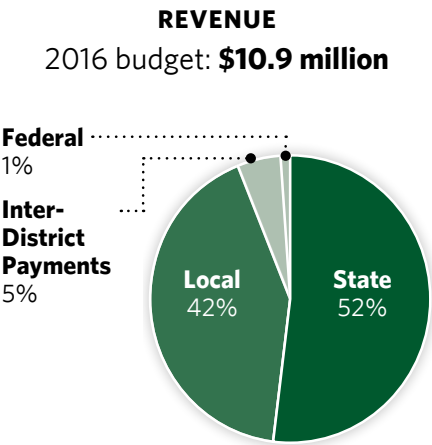
On the family farm, Morgan helps mate animals using her livestock and meat judging background to make the best genetic choice possible. She also assists with veterinary care, administering vaccines and medications when necessary and working to diagnose and treat animals that become ill.

Gold rated proficiency winners included: Jake Steffes, Morgan Vondra, Lauren May, Tea Bossert, Boone Schmitz, Kaleb Pilling, Katie Fitzsimmons, and Morgan Fitzsimmons.

Advisor Mike Robinson accompanied the students at the 88th State Convention in Madison June 12-15. 🐾

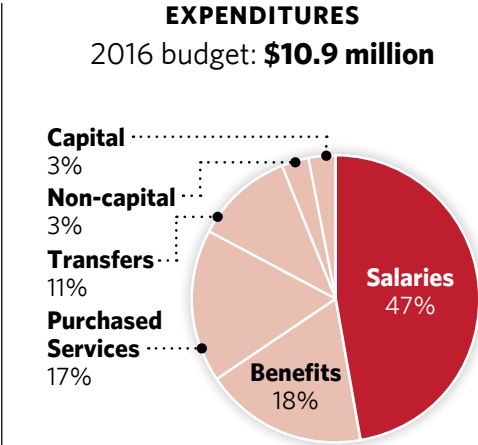
# MINERAL POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT | FINANCES

School districts in Wisconsin are primarily funded through a combination of state aid and local property taxes. Below is a snapshot of where the money comes from and where it goes.

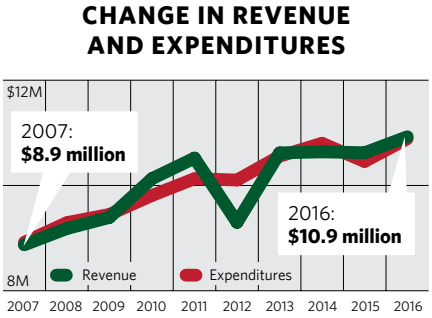


The district gets most of its funding from the state and from local property taxes. Inter-district payments are open enrollment dollars. Federal money is allocated to programs like free and reduced lunch and block grants to help with literacy and professional development.

Note: The school district has 10 separate funds that comprise its budget, but the operational budget, which is illustrated above, is only drawn from two: Funds 10 and 27.

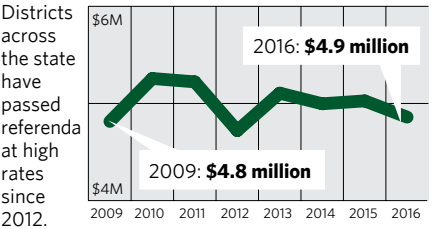


Salaries and benefits comprise  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the district's expenses. Capital expenses are for building and grounds and non-capital are for instructional materials; transfers are expenses toward special education; and purchased services are for contracted services such as transportation.



### STATE REVENUE

Mineral Point approved a \$1.1 million recurring referendum in 2012 following the revenue reduction of Act 10.

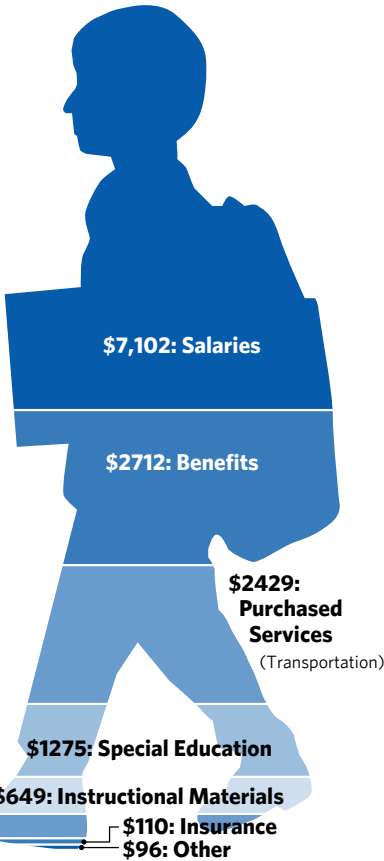
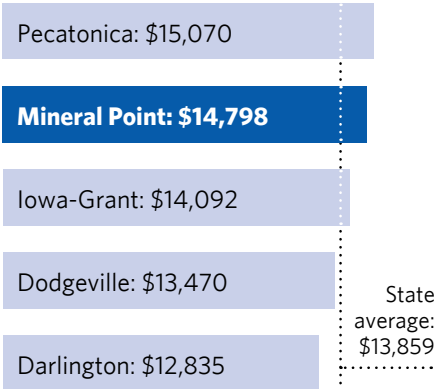


### COST PER PUPIL

Our district spends on average \$14,798 to educate each student.

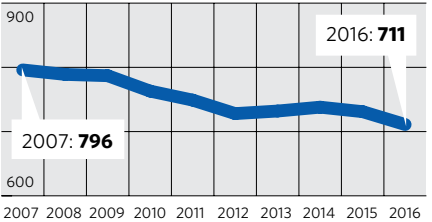
**\$14,798 per pupil!**  
**Why does it cost so much?**  
Salary and benefits are  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the cost to educate a student. Transportation, insurance, and utilities are fixed costs out of the district's control. Special education is a significant part of the budget, as some students require one-to-one services and cost much more than \$15,000 to educate. Also, technology for students, building maintenance, instructional materials add up.

**Here's how our district compares**  
2016 per pupil spending (Funds 10 and 27)



### ENROLLMENT

State funding is tied to enrollment. Fewer students mean less money.



In addition to the district residents who enroll (above), Mineral Point saw a net gain of 12 students enroll into the district in 2016-17. The open enrollment transfer amount for these students is about \$6,748, which is less than the state revenue for a student living in the district.

### STATE FUNDS DIVERTED

**-\$60,511**  
State funds withheld in 2016-17

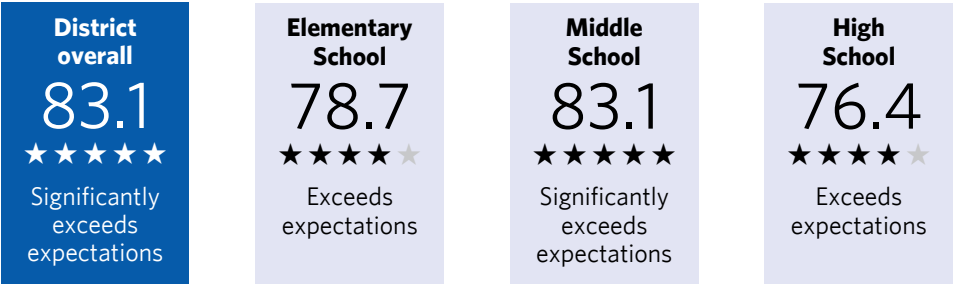
100% of the funding for 23 independent charter schools comes from the state—no property taxes—and is created by withholding about 1.4% of every district's general aid.

# MINERAL POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT | ACHIEVEMENTS

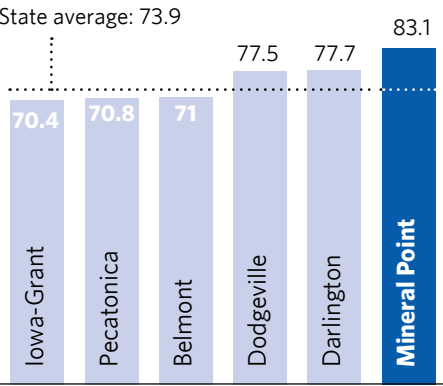
Mineral Point's academic success is based on statewide annual assessments consisting of the Forward Exam, Dynamic Learning Maps assessment, Access assessment, and Aspire and ACT assessments, along with measures of attendance, academic growth, and graduation rates.



As part of the state accountability system, the Department of Public Instruction produces report cards for each district and school in Wisconsin. Here is how Mineral Point fared in 2016.



Here is how the district's overall score measures up to nearby districts.



**What does the report card measure?**

It includes data on multiple indicators for multiple years across four areas:

- Performance on the state reading and math tests; improvement over time on the state reading and math tests; progress of student subgroups in closing gaps in reading and math performance and/or graduation rates; performance on key indicators of readiness for graduation and post-secondary pursuits, whether college or career

Performance on three Student Engagement Indicators is also reported: test participation rate, absenteeism rate, and dropout rate.

## EFFECTIVENESS PROJECT

CESA 6 Effectiveness Project® is a professional evaluation system for teachers, educational specialists, and administrators.

**Academic growth**

**No. 1**

out of 180 districts for the 2012-13 to 2015-16 school years

CESA 6 is currently engaged in a study of its Effectiveness Project districts that have seen exemplary academic growth from the 2012-13 to 2015-16 school years. Of the Wisconsin districts participating in the Effectiveness Project, Mineral Point saw unmatched academic growth.

## ACT RESULTS

Mineral Point's composite score average for 2016 edges out area districts.

Mineral Point	21.3
Dodgeville	21.0
State average*	20.3
Pecatonica	20.2
Darlington	20.0
Iowa-Grant	19.6

\*Public schools only. (Note: The public/private state average is 20.5.)

## CONTINUING TO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

Mineral Point Schools have a clear vision for what makes great schools and are deliberate about achieving better results through better practices for a brighter future.

"Good is the enemy of great.  
And that is one of the key reasons why we have so little that becomes great.  
We don't have great schools, principally because we have good schools."

—James C. Collins, Good to Great: Why Some Companies  
Make the Leap... and Others Don't





# Filardo Inducted Into Mineral Point Gridiron Hall of Fame

Nick Filardo became the latest member of the Mineral Point Gridiron Hall of Fame at halftime of the August 18 home football game vs. Lake Country Lutheran.

Nick is one of three Filardo brothers that graduated from Mineral Point. His older brother, John, set the standard for work ethic and success and Nick had the privilege to play two years with his younger brother, Gabe, who was the first player inducted into the Mineral Point Football Hall of Fame. Their father, Jack, was a true driving force that pushed Nick and his brothers to be the best athletes they could be.

Nick was a two year letterwinner for the Pointers. He was a key component to the new offense that was geared towards the pass in the 1987-88 season. As a junior, the 1987 team was the first team in Mineral Point to participate in the WIAA playoffs. In that game, the Pointers beat DeSoto where Nick had three touchdowns, an interception, made a game saving tackle to halt a sure score, and caught the winning touchdown in overtime.

Nick's athleticism played a valuable role for the Pointers, enabling him to play many positions, which included wide receiver, running back, kick and punt returner, and defensive back. Nick

was voted most valuable back by his teammates as both a junior and senior and named captain as a senior.

Nick made Honorable Mention as a junior and was named First Team All-Area his senior year by the *Dodgeville Chronicle*. Nick was the *Dubuque Telegraph Herald* First Team All-Area selection and named to the SWAL II All-Conference First Team as a split end.

In his career on defense, Nick racked up 52 tackles and had four interceptions. On offense, he had 100 catches for 1,230 yards and 391 rushing yards. He averaged 12 yards a return on punts and over 17 yards on kick returns. Nick secured 20 career touchdowns, 18 rushing and receiving, and threw for two touchdowns.

After Nick's senior year was complete, he set five school records:

- Passes caught in one season – 78
- Receiving yards in one season – 846
- Passes caught in a career – 100
- Receiving yards in a career – 1230
- Career receiving touchdowns – 12

In addition to football, Nick also excelled at other sports earning four letters in basketball and track. Nick was a proficient shooter on the court which led to all-conference selections and ending his career with a 53% field goal percentage as a shooting guard. Nick was the first athlete in Mineral Point to make a 3-point basket when the 3-point line was introduced to high school basketball. In track, Nick won conference his junior and senior year jumping a personal best of 20'6 1/2" in the long jump and also competed at the WIAA State Track Meet his senior year.

Nick is the owner of Badger Mats and currently resides in Mineral Point with his wife, Michelle, three sons—Joah age 13, Koby age 12, and Luke age 11 and two step-children—Payton age 19 and Wyatt age 16. Nick looks forward to watching his three sons continue the Filardo tradition on the football field. 🐾



Nick Filardo 1987-88

Halfback/Receiver/  
Defensive Back/  
Punt & Kick Returner



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# Join Us in Welcoming Our New Staff!

## KATIE HUGHES

### Kindergarten Teacher

In December 2015, Katie earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in Early Childhood and Middle Education.

Since, she has been long-term substitute teaching in the La Crosse School District. Prior to that, her student teaching was completed in the La Crosse, Arcadia, and Holmen School Districts.

"As a teacher, I believe in fostering students' learning by creating a classroom environment that is welcoming, comforting, and challenging to each individual student," she said.

"I strongly believe that education goes far beyond the 'transferring of knowledge' and teaching of core subjects. To me, the most rewarding aspect of teaching is being able to see the progress and positive changes that I am making in students' lives."

## ERIN LEONARD

### Alternative Teacher/Math Interventionist

Erin earned her Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in Elementary Education with a minor in Early Childhood. She then went on to obtain her Reading Teacher License from Viterbo University, which has prepared her to support diverse learners and their literacy goals in a strong balanced literacy environment.

Prior to Mineral Point, she was working in the Platteville School District as a 4th grade teacher. Before that, she was employed in the Pecatonica and Weston School Districts.

She was an intern under Penny Wiegel at Mineral Point Elementary in 2008.

"My greatest pleasure in teaching is when my students have the big 'ah-ha' moment," she said. "The smiles and confidence that follow once the students grasp a new concept is absolutely amazing. I also love seeing each child's unique personality shine through in different moments during the day or week. My greatest pleasure in teaching is also knowing that every day I have eight hours to help children feel safe, supported, and loved. I get to try and change the world every day by showing each individual student how important and unique they are."

"I enjoy spending time with loved ones, especially my children and husband. Creating memories with my family and friends is something I value greatly and every moment is certainly cherished. I also enjoy reading when time allows, watching movies, taking walks, and baking."

## BRITTANY ROSCOVIUS

### High School English Teacher

Brittany earned her Bachelors of Science in English Education with a minor in History from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, as well as her Masters of Education in Professional Development, also from UW-La Crosse.

Prior to Mineral Point, she was employed by the Adams-Friendship School District as a High School English Teacher.

"Seeing students achieve in both small and big ways provides me with the most joy," she said. "For some students, scoring well on a quiz is a huge achievement while for others it's how they perform on a standardized test or their acceptance into college. I have had students share their accomplishments with me in each of these scenarios, and in many others, and it is wonderful to share in their success with them."

"I enjoy reading, traveling, and cooking when I have free time." 🐾

*"Seeing students achieve in both small and big ways provides me with the most joy."*

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# 2017 FALL VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES



## FOOTBALL

8/18 vs. Lake Country Lutheran  
8/25 at Dodgeville  
9/1 at Boscobel  
9/8 vs. Darlington  
9/15 vs. Marshall  
9/22 at Iowa-Grant  
9/29 vs. Cuba City (Homecoming)  
10/6 at Fennimore  
10/13 vs. Southwestern  
10/21 WIAA Level 1 Playoff  
10/27 WIAA Level 2 Playoff  
11/3 WIAA Level 3 Playoff  
11/10 WIAA Level 4 Playoff  
11/16 WIAA State at Madison



## VOLLEYBALL

8/23 & 8/24 at Onalaska  
8/29 vs. Darlington  
8/31 vs. Iowa-Grant  
9/2 at Richland Center  
9/7 at Darlington  
9/12 vs. Riverdale  
9/14 at Fennimore  
9/16 at Iowa-Grant  
9/19 vs. Boscobel  
9/21 at Southwestern  
9/26 at Iowa-Grant  
10/3 at Cuba City  
10/5 vs. Fennimore  
10/10 at Boscobel  
10/12 vs. Southwestern  
10/17 WIAA Regional Quarterfinal  
10/19 WIAA Regional Semifinal  
10/21 WIAA Regional Final  
10/26 WIAA Sectional Semifinal at Mineral Point  
10/28 WIAA Sectional Final at Dodgeville  
11/3 WIAA State at Green Bay



## BOYS SOCCER

8/22 at Wisconsin Dells  
8/24 at Monroe  
8/26 at Delavan-Darien  
8/29 vs. Evansville  
9/14 at Richland Center  
9/18 vs. Reedsburg  
9/19 at Prairie du Chien  
9/21 vs. River Valley  
9/26 vs. Platteville-Lancaster  
10/2 at Lodi  
10/3 vs. Richland Center  
10/5 vs. Prairie du Chien  
10/9 vs. Mauston  
10/10 at River Valley  
10/12 at Platteville-Lancaster  
10/17 WIAA Regional Quarterfinal  
10/19 WIAA Regional Semifinal  
10/21 WIAA Regional Final  
10/26 WIAA Sectional Semifinal  
10/28 WIAA Sectional Final at La Crosse Logan  
11/3 WIAA State at Milwaukee



## CROSS COUNTRY

8/29 at Prairie du Chien  
9/2 at Darlington  
9/5 at Platteville  
9/9 at River Valley  
9/16 at Mount Horeb  
9/23 at Janesville Craig  
9/30 at Platteville  
10/12 Conference at Dodgeville  
10/21 WIAA Sectional at Platteville  
10/28 WIAA State at Wisconsin Rapids





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## 2016-17 Staff Milestone Awards

Staff gathered for an end-of-year celebration at Dodge-Point Country Club and honored those staff members reaching milestone years of service.

### FIVE YEARS

**Matt Austin**, High School Science Teacher

**Sue Gollon**, Middle/High School Library Assistant

**Cindi Nothem**, High School Math Teacher

**Julie Pompos**, Nurse

**Diane Reichling**, District Assistant Bookkeeper

**Lynn Ross**, Fourth Grade Teacher

**Patti Wanta**, Sign Language Interpreter

### TEN YEARS

**Kyle Carey**, Tech Ed Teacher

**Mary Joestgen**, Custodian

**Ben McWilliams**, High School Math Teacher

### FIFTEEN YEARS

**Mike Chambers**, Middle School Math Teacher

**Quinn Schultz**, Middle/High School Phy Ed & Health Teacher

**Jessie Van Overmeer**, Elementary Art Teacher

### TWENTY YEARS

**Sue Niehaus**, Third Grade Teacher

**Tom Steger**, High School Science Teacher

**Dan Van Galen**, Middle School Science Teacher

### THIRTY YEARS

**Judy Benish**, Fifth Grade Teacher

**Jill McGuire**, Kindergarten Teacher

**Scott Schmitz**, High School Phy Ed Teacher

### THIRTY FIVE YEARS

**Helen Klaas**, Sixth Grade Teacher

## HOMECOMING 2017 APPROACHES

**Parade:** Thursday evening, Sept. 28

**Football Game:** Friday evening, Sept. 29 vs. Cuba City

**Dance:** Saturday evening, Sept. 30

*More details to follow!*



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**Congrats to the  
#PointerNation  
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*Best of luck always!*

