

White & Blue Review

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.



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ✓ Business Honor Roll
- ✓ Elementary Construction Updates
- ✓ Salute to Healthcare Heroes
- ✓ Student Holiday Greetings



Celebrating Veteran's Day looked a bit different this year, but one thing that didn't change was our 5th graders writing heartfelt letters of thanks to those who have served, 168 letters to be exact!



MPSD celebrated Liam Stumpf on National Signing Day in November as he signed his National Letter of Intent to play NCAA Division 1 College Baseball for the Missouri State Bears.



A big thanks to our Pointer Media crew who worked hard to bring you the livestreams of home fall events! Make sure to stay tuned to pointermedia.org and MPTV for live action of home winter activities as well.



Homecoming 2020 looked a bit different this year, but we were excited to be able to safely celebrate our Pointer Pride! Congratulations to Parade Marshals Bonnie and Jim Laverty and Queen Alexis Berget.



Adorable 3rd grade future voters. We can't wait to see what their amazing hearts and minds do.



Superintendent's Corner

Mitch Wainwright, District Administrator



We have all had our vocabularies expanded in ways no one could have ever imagined. Starting last spring when school districts were closed due to the pandemic, new words and the connection to education have crept into everyone's conversations.

There is not one teacher that would have ever thought that after years of training, anticipation for being in front of a room full of students, landing their first or dream job, they would be changing everything they thought they knew about teaching. No parent ever thought that the school day routine for their children would be making sure the internet connection is strong and that their child has a place to attend school through a computer. I remember how difficult it was to walk my children to school for their very first day, and struggled with how quickly they grew up. Now the struggle is to make sure they get online for each of their classes.

Suddenly, words like hybrid, virtual, quarantine, pandemic, and surge have become part of our normal conversations. We find ourselves asking, "Do you think the district is going to pivot, transition, switch their instructional delivery method? Are you a close contact or a positive case? How will my child(ren) succeed at the next grade-level if they are virtually learning?" I am sure there are many more that could be easily added to these questions.

This pandemic is taking a toll on every person. Businesses have shut down, maybe to never open back up. We were all ordered to stay safer at home. Healthcare providers see fluctuations in the number of people they can care for and the direct impact that has on families. There are many people that have not been able to touch a loved one since early March. You may have someone in a nursing home facility that you used to visit through a window. That is no longer allowed. Many families

have suffered a loss of life, for any reason, and had to limit or postpone services for that loved one.

I know that the students and staff have all suffered. Changing the routine for students always causes suffering. Schools' primary goal is to educate each and every student, but we also know that the socialization opportunities are endless. I have witnessed the younger students' joy when they see someone for the first time in a long time. I have even heard some of our oldest students admit that they missed school. If we take one more step back, every adult misses the students.

We are not alone at this time. Every school district, in every state, is dealing with no school, some school, in and out of school, or any combination you could think of. This is not a Mineral Point problem; it is an everywhere problem. The staff have been working extremely hard to try and provide what they always provide—the best education they can! Each person is giving more now than they ever have before. They are giving extra time preparing lessons for in-person and online learners. Many times this is happening at the same time. The devotion to their students—your children—is unmatched. So many staff members are stretched to the breaking point because they want to ensure that their students are learning. They take great pride in helping the students prepare for the next unit, grade-level, or challenge. The entire staff at the Mineral Point Unified School District continues to work tirelessly for every student.

It does not matter if we are in a hybrid or virtual learning environment, the staff continues to deliver the best possible education. As we move closer to the end of the calendar year and a time of reflection, I ask that you pause for just a moment and think about the dedicated group of people that make up the teaching and support staff. We are all very lucky to have these great people working to make tomorrow a better place in #PointerNation! 🗡️


Mitch.Wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0740



**SHAKE RAG ALLEY
CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

- 🎨 ARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOPS
- 🍷 YOUTH PROGRAMS
- 🏠 HISTORIC LODGING
- 📷 SITE RENTALS

18 Shake Rag Street • Mineral Point, WI 53565
(608) 987-3292 • info@shakeragalley.org
www.ShakeRagAlley.org



ANGEL & ANGEL, S.C. ATTORNEYS

REAL ESTATE	FAMILY LAW
WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATES	LAWSUITS AND LITIGATION
PROBATE AVOIDANCE	CRIMINAL AND DUI DEFENSE
POWER OF ATTORNEY	WORKER'S COMPENSATION
LLC AND BUSINESS LAW	SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

DODGEVILLE • 110 W. FOUNTAIN STREET • (608) 935-2338
www.angelandangelawoffice.com

From the Principal's Pen

Matt Austin, High School Principal



One of the most common questions that I get asked is “What makes Mineral Point such a great place to work?” As I am asked this question, I can tell you that a million reasons run through my mind.... the students, the staff, the families, the community, the culturethe list could go on and on.

Many times, my answer will start off saying that we have the best students in the entire state of Wisconsin. Our students at Mineral Point can be described with words such as kind, caring, positive, trustworthy, smart, respectful, hard-working, dependable, passionate, and empathetic. More importantly I like to use the words: leader, learner, and resilient. The main reason as to why these words stand out to me the most is that our students are always striving to do their best and be the best that they can be. They are willing to put in the time, whether in the classroom or on the field, in order to make sure that they will be successful with what they are doing. As I take a moment to think about how this unusual school year has transpired, I would like to thank the student body for their adaptability and positive mindset as we work together to continue to be the best.

At this point, the conversation will turn to the topic of our staff. Our staff is one of a kind and collectively one of the best at what they do. Staff members are working extremely hard during these times in order to provide the best educational opportunities for all students. They are professional, supportive, and have taken on a major task of changing how instruction and learning looks. To say that they have given 110% would be an understatement and does not showcase all of the amazing things that are happening every day. As we continue to navigate through this school year, please know that each and every staff member is doing their part to ensure the best education possible for each student. And if your student needs help, do not hesitate to ask because we are all working on this together.

The third topic of the conversation centers on the families and community of Mineral Point. I cannot say this enough but we are blessed with great support from the community as a whole. Everyone is willing to chip-in and help when others are in need. The support for our students in music, art, agriculture, business, athletics, and academics is all-encompassing and is appreciated. In my opinion, the Mineral Point Community is the true definition of what a small town is. Together we have done a great job in preparing our students for the world that they face. As we continue through this year, I just want to say thank you for all of your continued help and support.

continued on bottom of page 5...

Principal's Post

Matt Renwick, Elementary Principal

Trust Begins With Us



The school staff and now several students and families are aware that my home office is in my family's laundry room. During a Zoom meeting, you can usually see the top of our washer in the background. If I am joining a virtual lesson or an important meeting and the dryer is running, I am mindful about putting myself on mute so that background noise

does not distract anyone else online.

I have thought about hanging a canvas background of a faux book shelf behind me, or repositioning my thin table that serves as my desk so our appliances are out of sight. However, I have kept things as is. Maybe I am overthinking it, but I believe sharing small pieces of my personal life helps others see me as a regular person and not just a principal.

Being open is one facet of what I think matters more than ever right now: **trust**. Dr. Megan Tschannen-Moran, an educational leadership professor, defines trust as “one’s willingness to be vulnerable to another based on the confidence that the other is benevolent, honest, open, reliable, and competent.” Trust matters in education. Citing multiple studies, Dr. Tschannen-Moran has found that when high levels of trust are present in a school, academic achievement goes up while the risk factors associated with trauma and economic hardship are reduced. Trust is, at its core, the belief that we can take risks and not feel like we will be too harshly criticized for our attempts and innovations.

So what does this have to do with working out of a laundry room? To make education work during these challenging times, teachers have to open up their homes to their students and families. Dogs bark in the background. Kids ask for a snack. We have learned to relax and let everyone into our home, at least a little bit. And I think that can be a good thing. By sharing our stories and our lives, we bring more humanity into the educational process. With teaching and learning being at a distance, we could use more personal experiences.

The thing about trust is it is a reciprocal process. You need two parties to make it work. As teachers have offered more about themselves than typical, and the students have been all too interested in their stories, there is an unspoken agreement that this information is safe to share. (The same can be said for families opening up their home to school.) Ensuring that we honor and show respect for each other's worlds is important now and may also bear fruit for the future. 🗨️

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

Middle School Mentions

Vickie Dahl, Middle School Principal and Middle/High School Athletic Director, CAA

Staying Positive



To say we are living in unprecedented and challenging circumstances would be an understatement. Staying positive has not been easy with the challenges we are facing. When we look back on our lives, it is usually the most difficult challenges that offer a new perspective.

We have all received the well-meaning advice to “stay positive or look at the glass as half full rather than half empty.” It is hard to focus on the positive when being positive seems like nothing more than wishful thinking.

In my 36 year career in education, this school year has been exceptionally challenging. As Athletic Director, trying to navigate our high school sports seasons has been stressful. Meetings with coaches to make sure protocols and guidelines are being practiced to keep our athletes safe and healthy keep me up at night. It has also been challenging to keep up with all of the schedule changes which occur on a weekly basis. As Middle School Principal, a challenge I face is maintaining

my relationships with students in a virtual setting. I miss the daily interaction with my students and staff. The number one priority in our educational setting is to keep students/staff safe and healthy. I am very thankful for our staff and the job they are doing with our hybrid/virtual schedule. I am also very proud of our students and how hard they are working during these challenging times.

Here are a few things to remember:

- Recognize what you are doing well.
- Share some kindness.
- Stay active.
- Stay connected.
- Practice gratitude.

At this time in our lives, practicing gratitude is so important. Gratitude means thanks and appreciation. Gratitude can be applied to your past, the present, and the future. This is a difficult time but it will not be this way forever. 🗨️

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

📢 Staff Shoutouts



1st Grade Teacher **Kimberly Diefenbach** was published in National Geographic as part of an article regarding the importance of parent/teacher communication this school year.



Wisconsin School Public Relations Association President-Elect and #PointerNation Communications Director **Joelle Doye** has been named to the National School Public Relations Association's Communication Technology and Innovation Project Team (Special Committee). Joelle will also be presenting two sessions at the virtual Wisconsin State Education Convention in January—"Loneliness in Leadership" and "From Crisis to Calm: How to Communicate Effectively During a Pandemic."



#PointerNation had two representatives in the annual Dodgeville Chronicle's "Best of Our Readers' Choice Awards." Head Football Coach **Andy Palzkill** took 2nd in the Best Coach category while 4th Grade Teacher **Laura Busch** was named Honorable Mention in the Best Teacher category.



Middle/High School Choir Teacher **Ashley McHugh** and Middle/High School Band Teacher **Matt Nevers** presented at the Wisconsin State Virtual Music Conference about the College Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) through UW-Oshkosh. Mineral Point students have been fortunate to earn college credits through this great partnership. 🗨️

Options in Education Update

Amanda Heisner, OIE Coordinator/Teacher



Flexibility and perseverance have been key skills that we have all been practicing at Options in Education this fall. Students and staff have navigated the challenges of virtual learning with patience and determination. While our delivery model has changed, we have been able to continue to implement our 6 Pillars of Success. Our Pillars are Academic Support,

Career Exploration, Employment Support, Life Skills, Family Engagement and Student Assistance.

Despite the change in educational models, our student enrollment trends continue to be similar to previous years. We currently support 18 students. Six of these students are seniors who will graduate from MPHS. Our twelve remaining students vary from 8th-11th grades. We have all become masters at Zoom and Google Classroom, tools which will continue to help students be successful throughout their high school career. While we miss the daily camaraderie that was available in previous years, we are maintaining strong connections among our students. We have adapted our in-person learning activities to support virtual learning (both synchronous and asynchronous), including take-home kits for some elective courses. 🗨️



Amanda.Heisner@mp.k12.wi.us | 608.520.0835

Matt Austin continued from page 3...

Finally, the culture that has been created within Mineral Point over time is truly what sets it apart from other schools and places to work. This culture has taught our students to be determined, to fight for what they believe in, to explore new opportunities, to learn from failure, and most notably, how to build character. When we look back at this year as a whole, I believe that we are going to see a lot of character-building moments that will help everyone grow.

In the end, to truly answer the question of "What makes Mineral Point such a great place to work?," you don't need to look much further than yourself as we all contribute to making what is known as #PointerNation incredible. 🗨️

Matt.Austin@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0730

Director's Discussion

Angela Klein, Director of Special Education & Pupil Services

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade



When I started writing this article, the district had just pivoted to 100% virtual learning, a member of my household was in self-quarantine after being named as a close contact, and I was talking to friends and family about how our holiday gatherings were going to be disrupted. To be honest, it was stressful, frustrating, and the comments of "I just want things to go back to normal" kept replaying in my head.

One of the hardest parts of my life since COVID first started has been the disruption and stress it has caused for both my personal family and my work family. I find myself encouraging teachers to put down school work in the evenings and take a break with their family. I talk with families about how we can support their child in different ways than we have in the past. I look for opportunities to get outside or read a book for pleasure just so that I can get away from a computer or phone screen. Every day I consciously reframe the picture because each family dinner, board game night, or home improvement project that gets taken off the list is another opportunity to find small successes, joy, and happiness where it could easily be overlooked.



I encourage you to reframe the picture as well. Cognitive reframing is a mental shift that asks, "Is there another way to look at this?" The outcome of cognitive reframing is to help create less stress and a greater sense of control. It can alter our perceptions of stressors and help us look past what we are losing or are not able to control by identifying patterns and noticing our thoughts. We can then set to challenge our thinking by examining the truth and accuracy (or lack thereof) of these thoughts. Challenge every negative thought and see if you can adopt thoughts that fit with the current situation but have a more positive outlook. There is no aspect of our lives that has gone unchanged this past year, but by reframing our perspective we can find opportunities to create new traditions, maybe even traditions that are better than those we have had in the past. 🗨️

angela.klein@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0712

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.

Psychologist's Thoughts

Katelyn Oellerich, Ed.S., NCSP School Psychologist



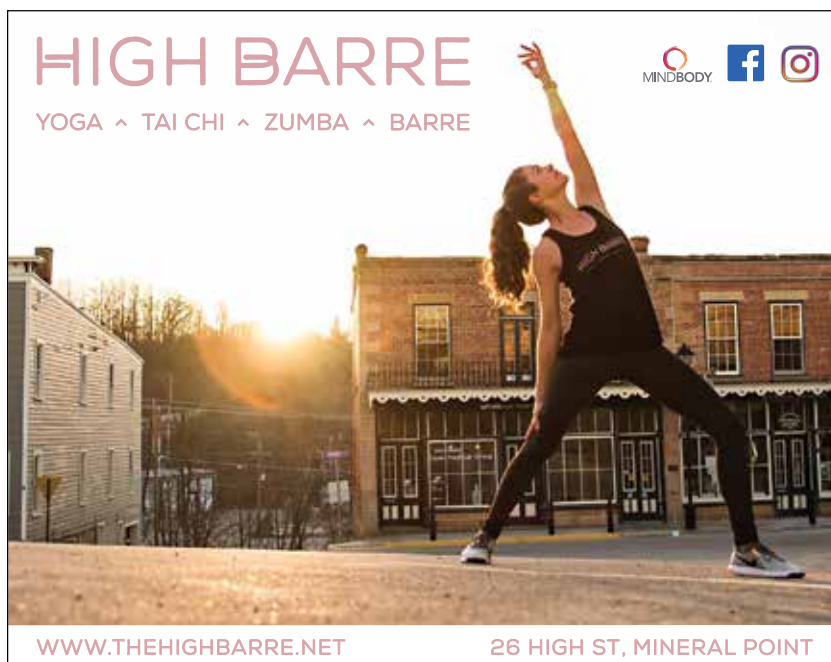
Losing Control



As my husband and I were putting our children to bed one night, my son had an intense moment of anger and frustration. Once he calmed down he came to me and said, "Mom, sometimes it feels like lightning and thunder come into my brain and take over and make me so mad!" I appreciated his four year old explanation of losing control. I then talked with him about ideas that can help. The problem is, when we are in control, we can have perfectly rational ideas for what can help us when we are feeling frustrated like taking a deep breath, going to a calming space, listening to music, etc. However, when we've lost control and "the lightning and thunder take over" that logical part of our brain can struggle more with these ideas. For a kid, the mere reference to take a deep breath or go take a break can send them over the edge in anger. In addition, as we approach the holiday season and venture into month nine of the pandemic, I would guess that many adults may be struggling with more moments of stress, fear, frustration and anger.

The following are steps that can be helpful in working through these intense feelings. It is important that these ideas are not only talked about but modeled, practiced, and reinforced all throughout the day and not just in moments of frustration. In doing this, it helps to train our brain to access these coping and calming strategies whenever we need them.

1) Become aware of your body. Notice what signs your body gives you when you are beginning to lose control. Consider if you feel it in your hands as they form into fists; do you notice your stomach feeling like it's been punched; do you notice that your jaw begins to clench? Oftentimes, our body is made aware of our feelings before our brain recognizes them. That is why it is so important to consider how your body is impacted by your feelings so that you can identify them early.



2) Notice your thoughts. Focus on your thoughts and consider what is resonating. Are you making judgments, are you jumping to the worst case scenario, are you considering something that is possible to happen rather than probable to happen?

- Be careful that you are noticing your thoughts and not judging them as good or bad. This is especially important when talking through these steps with kids as they also want to feel validated in how they are feeling.

3) Implement Coping Skills. Some Coping skills can include:

- Challenging your thoughts (e.g.; if you feel you've disappointed everyone, consider if that thought is really true and look at examples that discredit that generalization)
- Finding something that helps you to feel calm (e.g.; drawing, listening to music, reading, etc.)
- Look for things that can help you to be in control (e.g.; cleaning your house, organizing a space, scheduling time to do something you enjoy)
- Talk to someone about how you are feeling.
- Finding an outlet to release the tension in your body (e.g.; running, walking, exercising)
- Practicing mindful breathing, either through a guided practice or just by being with your breath and continually bringing your awareness back to your breath.
- If you are noticing you are beginning to have an anxiety attack, the following may help you to come back to focus in the moment as well:
 - 5-4-3-2-1 Grounding: Say outloud five things you can see; four things you can touch; three things you can hear; two things you can smell, and one thing you can taste
 - 4-7-8 Breathing. Breathe in for a count of four; hold for a count of seven; and breathe out for a count of eight.

Just like everything else, these steps take awareness and practice. It's important to take care of ourselves so that we have the energy to continue to support others. 💬

katelyn.oellerich@mp.k12.wi.us |
987.0739 ext. 137

Notes from the Nurse

Jayne Lindsey, District Nurse

Changing Circumstances, Same Spirit

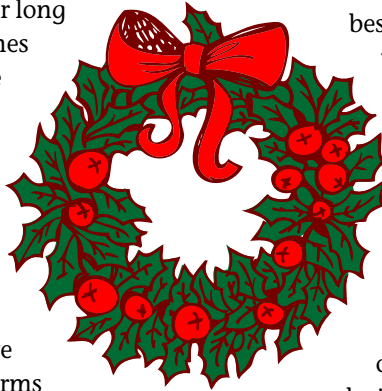


This holiday season will be like no other before for our family and many others. I have a love-hate relationship with some of the decorating as we get so excited while carrying up the totes of twinkle lights and the giant, heavy bags that contain our squashed up oversized Christmas tree. Shortly after exposing these treasures inside, I am reminded of the actual time and

patience it takes to put them all up. We don our long sleeves before starting to straighten the branches of our faux tree because we know that if we don't, afterward we'll look as if we've been attacked by a family of farm kittens. My husband makes a second trip to the shed to get the other ladder because I've insisted it's taller than the first six foot ladder he brought. Turns out it's not! He also creates a homemade pole hook to hang lights on our pine trees outside and makes sure we have ibuprofen in stock for the anticipated sore arms and shoulders that seem to worsen every year after completing this task. The decorating process gets dragged out over several days at our house because, well... kids.

This year, while we set out reindeer and Santas, put up wreaths, and hung garland, my husband, kids, and I reminisced about our usual large family gatherings with cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents. We allowed ourselves to really feel the loss this difficult year has brought to us and so many others. We know that this holiday season will be more low-key and a whole lot quieter than we'd prefer, but we will treasure our memories and we will be sure to make more this year with

those we are with. We will make extra efforts to reach out by phone or Facetime to extended family and to friends, who may as well be family. We will let them know we love them, miss them, and wish we were with them. We know there are many more celebrations ahead together and for now we will do what works at our house. We know this will look different for everyone's family and that we all must do what we feel is best in caring for ourselves and our loved ones.



I know that everyone in our community wishes the very best for one another and will reach out to those who may be in need to offer support, a meal, or a phone call to lift their spirits. I look forward to a time when we can all be together again without a second thought. In the meantime, let yourself enjoy the season, whatever it looks like for you. Let gratitude guide you when you start yearning for normalcy or cursing the tangled twinkle lights. Let love keep you from losing it when your loved one continues talking though they're on mute during your Zoom visit or when the lights stop working after you've finished hanging them. Let hope for the future and the chance there's another fresh package of lights give you the strength to get through this season where there are better days ahead. My family and I wish you all health, wellness, and joy this holiday season. May you embrace your circumstance and the spirit of the season to make lasting memories, new traditions, and let yourself forget the twinkle lights without guilt, because sometimes it's just not worth the trouble! 📺

Jayne.Lindsey@mp.k12.wi.us | 608.574.1621

Mineral Point Excellence in Education Grant

Mrs. Gorgen's Kind Kids Campaign is underway in 2nd grade. Thanks to the Mineral Point Excellence in Education Endowment Fund who funded this book, "You Got This" (as well as other items). Before they spread kindness to others, they're learning to take care of their own well-being. They are focusing on being positive thinkers, reflecting on their own emotions, and finding things to be thankful for everyday. They can't wait to make a difference.



TO DONATE: www.mineralpointfoundation.org 📺



eMPathy—we wear the t-shirts in our school district, but do we talk the talk



I know deep down that all of us in #PointerNation care about each other—we've shown that in hours of need time and time again. This column isn't to challenge the fact we have good hearts.

However, I'd like us to consider how we are communicating, especially during these trying times. Stress has been plentiful for everyone in some form or another. Hurt and frustration can manifest itself in some not so nice ways.

Words matter. I'd argue they matter even more now when we can't be together in-person. Social media and email correspondence has likely taken on a greater role in all of our lives, but both of those mediums have serious shortcomings when it comes to building and maintaining relationships.

We'd be hard-pressed to find someone who hasn't been on the receiving end of a passionate communication this school year and we have likely sent a couple ourselves. I sometimes find myself feeling poorly for how I handled a situation. None of us is immune from this, no matter how hard we try—we can all do better. Timing is everything. If I am really upset, I'll try to take some time before responding. This helps clear my head and better frame my message for clarity and compassion.

Listening skills are also important to develop. Empathy is all about being able to actively take on another person's perspective. I'm always working on listening to understand instead of listening to respond. This can be especially hard when emotions run high.

Understanding that people are often upset with policies and procedures, and not necessarily upset with you personally, can also move the conversation in a more productive direction. We never truly know what someone else is going through. Their anger might be due to issues completely outside of our control.

We all don't need to agree about every decision made this school year, but we can disagree with grace. I'm confident we all want the same things when it comes to our schools—the best education possible while looking out for each other's health and safety. We might have different ideas how to get there, but the end goal is the same.

Being part of a small town means we are able to put faces with names—there is little anonymity. This pandemic will end, hopefully sometime soon. When we make it to the other side, my wish is we will be able to look each other in the eye and know we did all we could to help each other through this time, and that includes communicating with eMPathy.

Best wishes for a relaxing and peaceful holiday season. 📧

joelle.doye@mp.k12.wi.us | 987.0723



The strength OF TEAMWORK, the reputation FOR RESULTS!

Mike Wagner and Associates

260 High Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565
Phone: 608.574.5952
Email: WagnerM@FirstWeber.com
Web: www.mikewagner.firstweber.com

MIKE
WAGNER
"Proud Pointer
Supporter"

*"Serving all of
Southwest
Wisconsin"*

Science Night

#PointerNation was the inaugural host of a Virtual UW-Madison Biocore Outreach Ambassadors Science Night on Friday, November 13th.

The UW Madison Biocore Outreach Ambassadors (BOA) was founded in 2004 by Annika Swenson, a parent of a little Pointer. Over the last 16 years the BOA has grown and reached countless students across the state.

The BOA goals are to:

- Enrich rural science curriculum by introducing inquiry-based science activities aligned with Wisconsin DPI science standards
- Create connections between the Outreach Ambassadors and other outreach efforts on UW-Madison campus
- Encourage community involvement
- Instill the Wisconsin Idea
- Help students realize the wonders of learning science



The families in attendance were able to watch UW scientists do hands-on experiments and demonstrations. 🗨️



WASB Business Honor Roll

The Mineral Point School Board is proud to recognize four businesses as part of this year's Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) Business Honor Roll. Thanks for your support of #PointerNation!

Alliant Energy: Alliant has been a cornerstone in the Mineral Point community for decades. Their support of our students through scholarships for graduating seniors has been admirable. Additionally, Alliant was instrumental in installing our Class of 2020 banners downtown. Their crew made quick work of a large project that helped give much deserved recognition to our Seniors.

Ann Gorgen Photography: Ann Gorgen was instrumental in honoring our 2020 seniors by organizing, designing, and printing banners to hang on light poles downtown Mineral Point that provided another unique way to honor the Class of 2020.

Ivey Construction: Founded in 1946 and still family owned and operated, Ivey Construction's roots run deep in Mineral Point. The company's Pointer Pride shines in many ways, including generous donations to new scoreboards for various sports and multiple donations of time and materials for various construction projects.

Vortex Optics: Located in Barneveld, Vortex has been an impressive and valuable addition to our Iowa County community. They generously host our students for facility tours, which always generate excitement surrounding the company. 🗨️



Fall Sports Success

CROSS COUNTRY

Both the Dodge-Point Boys and Girls Cross Country teams fared well this fall. The Boys claimed the SWC Conference Championship with the Girls placing second. The Boys also qualified as a team for the WIAA Sectional by placing second at the Subsectional. Haylee Kearns and Julia Thompson were also Sectional qualifiers. Will Aurit earned a trip to the State meet. Individually, six Pointers received All-Conference honors—First Team: Haylee Kearns; Second Team: Emily Cody, Chloe Oberhauser, Joey Robinson, Regan Schuette, and Grace Wersal.



Emily Cody,
Cross Country

FOOTBALL

The Pointer Football team went undefeated in their games played, were ranked #1 in the state in Division 6, and participated in the WIAA Playoffs. Individually, Will Straka was named a finalist for the Wisconsin Sports Network's Top Senior Linebacker Award and Dominik McVay was named the Wisconsin Sports Network's State Player of the Week.



Will Straka,
Football

SOCCER

The Dodge-Point Boys Soccer team claimed the SWC and WIAA Regional championships, their first Regional title since 2008. Individually, three Pointers earned All-Conference honors—First Team: Drew Hottenstein, Malachi Stropolis-Salama, and Jared Wedig. 🗨



Malachi Stropolis-Salama, Soccer

VOLLEYBALL

The Pointer Volleyball team earned its first WIAA Regional championship since 1998. Individually, three Pointers received All-Conference honors—First Team: Kennedy Kabat and Blair Watters; Honorable Mention: Emma Steffes.



Ivy Lawinger,
Volleyball

6th Graders make cards

Great job by our 6th graders making cards for local nursing home residents. Thank you for taking the time to brighten others' day.



Rural Mutual
Insurance Company

Farm

Business

Home

Auto

Life



CONTACT ME FOR A QUOTE!

Charles Collier
(608) 935-2769
ccollier@ruralins.com

*Proud supporter of
Mineral Point Athletics!*



Rural Mutual Insurance is a proud sponsor of the WIAA/
Rural Mutual Insurance Sportsmanship Award.

It's time to be thinking of school board candidates.

The election will be held Tuesday, April 6, 2021. The term of office for these school board members is three years and begins Monday, April 26, 2021.

Incumbents whose seats are up for re-election include Nathan D. Chambers, Aaron Dunn, and Everett R. Lindsey. If these incumbents do not wish to run, they need to file non-candidacy no later than 5:00 pm Monday, December 28, 2020 in the District Office.

For all interested candidates (including incumbents), a Campaign Finance Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy must be filed no later than 5:00 pm Tuesday, January 5, 2021 in the District Office located at 705 Ross Street.

If a primary is necessary, that will be held Tuesday, February 16, 2021. (A primary would be necessary only if there were seven or more candidates seeking the three available seats.)

The Guide for Candidates from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards is available from the District Office.

A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the District Office. If you have any questions on the process, please call District Administrative Assistant Angela Schubert at 987-0740 or email angie.schubert@mp.k12.wi.us.



WSMA Honors

The MPMS & MPHS Music Departments have been honored for meeting criteria for 2019-20 Accreditation by the Wisconsin School Music Association. To receive accreditation, schools must:

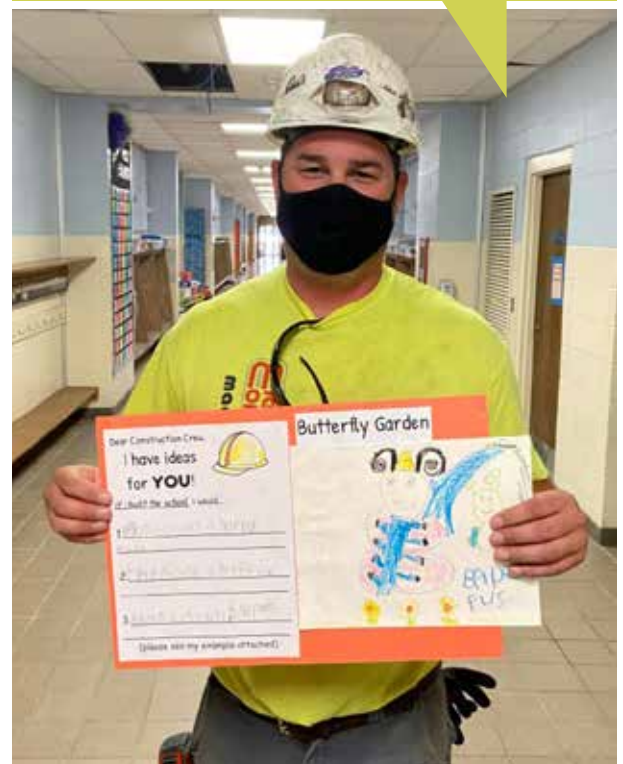
- Wisconsin School Music Association membership
- WSMA District Solo & Ensemble Festivals participation
- WSMA concert group participation from each type of performing group

This honor recognizes our school's outstanding participation in WSMA programming and distinguishes our school's music program. WSMA applauds our efforts to provide valuable music education opportunities for our students! 🗨️

Each of our students in the district received a complimentary #PointerNation face mask courtesy of some very generous donors!



2nd graders read the story **"If I Built the School"** by Chris Van Dusen. Then they wrote letters to the construction workers of Kraemer Brothers LLC working on the new addition right outside their window. Some of the construction crew stopped by to review their plans. The crew was highly in favor of a school ice cream truck and a puppy room, but made no promises!





Project Update

November 2020

Overall Construction Schedule



Progress during October 2020

- Continued installing rubber roofing
- Poured interior concrete floors
- Installing steel stud framing
- Installing mechanical rough-ins

Scheduled for November 2020

- Start installation of exterior windows and doors
- Start installation of Glu-lam structure at Mainstreet
- Continue mechanical rough-ins
- Continue steel stud framing



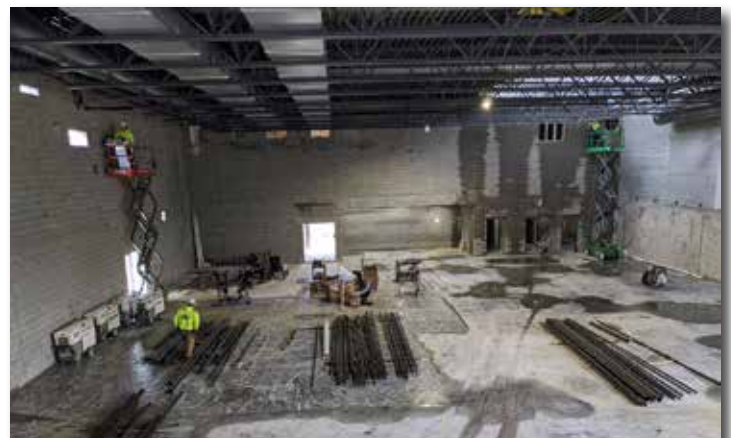
North Entry Exterior



Library Looking Up



Interior Walkway



Gymnasium

KRAEMER
BROTHERS



ARCHITECTURE
ENGINEERING
INTERIOR DESIGN
HSR Associates

THE MAGIC OF THE
HOLIDAYS NEVER ENDS,
AND THE GREATEST
GIFTS ARE FAMILY AND
FRIENDS.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



GABE O., 1ST GRADE



LILLY S., 3RD GRADE



COLLINS T., 2ND GRADE



WYATT H., 5TH GRADE



SYDNEY G., 4TH GRADE

LILLIAN H., 4TH GRADE



Mineral Point Unified
School District
705 Ross Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565
Phone: (608) 987.0740
Fax: (608) 987.3766

The White and Blue Review
is published by the Mineral Point
Schools. Available in alternative
formats by request.

Interested in advertising in the White and Blue Review?

We welcome advertisers.
For ad size and rate information
please contact **Joelle Doye** at
Joelle.Doye@mp.k12.wi.us or
608.987.0723.

 **LIKE the Mineral Point
School District on Facebook.**

 **Search #PointerNation on Twitter**

 **Search Mineral Point School
District on YouTube**

For events and yearly school calendar info: www.mineralpointschools.org



FARMERS SAVINGS BANK

**Committed
to helping our
Communities
Grow**

Visit us today and meet the
bank that's right for you.

LOCAL,
INDEPENDENT,
HOMETOWN BANK
A Full Service Bank
in Mineral Point
(608) 987.3321

Offices in
Dodgeville (608) 935.9988
Hollandale (608) 967.2211
Edmund (608) 623.2434
Ridgeway (608) 924.4531
Mt. Horeb (608) 437.2265
or Toll-Free (888) 443.3226
www.farmerssavings.com



1st Graders are famous!

They were selected from
classrooms around the
world to participate live with
National Geographic Education
and Nat Geo Explorer & Marine Biologist
Andrej Gajic. It was broadcast live on
Nat Geo YouTube.

