

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:

- ✓ State Report Cards
- ✓ Pointer Media
- ✓ Points of Pride
- ✓ Elementary Construction Updates



We are so fortunate to be in a community that gives back to our schools, and therefore, it's our pleasure to give back to our community through our annual high school Day of Service! This year's event was held September 25.



The Mineral Point High School Musical Theatre Department was proud to present "Les Misérables" at the Mineral Point Opera House December 6-8. Congrats to all the cast and crew for an outstanding performance.



Superintendent's Corner

Mitch Wainwright, Mineral Point District Administrator



Today, not only do the students get report cards, but the schools and school districts get one as well. This report card represents the scores our students receive on statewide tests. For elementary and middle schools, the exam is the Wisconsin Forward Exam and is given to every third through eighth-grader. It tests math and reading for all of those grades and adds science and social studies for fourth and eighth grade. In high school, freshmen and sophomores take the ACT Aspire exam, sophomores take the social studies section of the Forward exam, and juniors take the ACT exam. Each building level is given a grade based on how the respective students did on those exams. Then the district receives a grade that compiles those scores.

I am proud to report that for the fourth year in a row, the Mineral Point Unified School District is a 5-star rated school district. We received the top rating, "Significantly Exceeds" state standards. Mineral Point is one of three school districts in this part of the state to receive that rating!

This report card score is the result of a great deal of effort by many people. The teachers and support staff deserve a huge amount of credit for all of the education and support they give to all our students. The students deserve credit for working hard and putting in the time to learn new material. They allow their minds to grow and explore new ideas. Parents deserve some of the credit also. Helping your children learn the value of a good education, bringing them to school each day, and providing whatever support you can at home, helps to make the job of an educator easier. Finally, to all of the community members that support the school--you provide us with space, materials, and the resources we need to do the best possible job we can. While there is a report card score is tied directly to each building, and one to the district as a whole, the Mineral Point community plays a big part in the success.

We have come a long way from the days of Reading, Riting, and Rithmetic. Students now are taking college classes from university locations within the high school building. They are taking college courses taught by our very own teachers. We are building job skills and trying to provide career explorations to help build a brighter future for all of our students.

Everyone can be very proud of the level of education Mineral Point students receive. It is a great time to be a Pointer! 🍷

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

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.

From the Principal's Pen

Matt Austin, Principal, Mineral Point High School

Tis the Season to be Grateful



The word *grateful* can be defined as "feeling or showing an appreciation of kindness or being thankful." As the holiday season continues to approach, I am going to ask you to take a minute to reflect back on 2019: the joys, the experiences, and the moments that we get to share with one another. As I take time to reflect, I have many things that I am grateful for, moments that I am thankful to have had, and opportunities that I am blessed to have been given. To start off, I am grateful for my family, my wife and children, their understanding, support, and love, as we navigate through the undertaking of this new role. I am thankful that we get to spend time together and have new experiences as my children continue to grow older and learn. I am also grateful for the rest of our family, as during 2019 we saw the passing of my wife's grandfather and then my grandfather. While these are both sad occasions, I appreciate their wisdom, service to the country, leadership, and kindness that both great men shared during their lives.

Another thing that I am grateful for are the students and staff at Mineral Point. As I look around the student body, I am thankful and excited to see students be successful within the different academic areas, arts, agriculture, trade skills, music, and athletics. I am glad that our students have taken advantage of opportunities and are willing to extend beyond their comfort zone in the learning process. With that, I am grateful for our staff at Mineral Point, as they are caring, willing to go the extra mile, and always wanting to better themselves in the profession. I am appreciative that they also recognize the need to expose our students to new opportunities, new technology, and are willing to learn alongside the students as they try new things. I cannot thank them enough for what they do for our students and their dedication to learning.

Finally, I am grateful for the Mineral Point Community, as they continue to support and stand behind the school. It is amazing to see what a small community can accomplish through various avenues and how we work together to continue to grow. So let me take a moment to just simply say, "Thank You" as we will continue to push our school to be the best possible. As we progress throughout the school year, I look forward to further developing the relationship that the school has with the community and the connections our students make through community opportunities. As we finish out the 2019 year and begin the year of 2020, I would ask that you take a moment to reflect back on the things that you are grateful for. 🍷

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Middle School Mentions

Vickie Dahl, Middle School Principal,
Athletic Director



The Project Lead The Way (PLTW) curriculum is a hit among our middle school students. Mr. Chuck Smet is in his second year at Mineral Point Middle School and the PLTW classes have been very popular at MPMS.

Through modeling and design, coding and robotics, flight and space, students are engaged in PLTW classroom activities. These activities enable students to develop skills like problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, and perseverance.

The 6th graders are starting to work on the skimmer project; this is an activity that teaches technical drawing skills, as well as measurement skills. The activity that attracts the most attention for the 6th graders is the egg crash vehicle; this activity is designed to teach engineering problem solving skills. One of the activities that we are looking forward to is the 3D printing and solid modeling; the students will be able to make their own name tag that can be put on their backpack or key chain.

The 7th graders are learning about mechanical devices; they have done this by building a vehicle using the maker cart. 7th grade students will be building an automated robot that is faster than all of their classmates; this is done by using knowledge learned in previous lessons, involving gears and motors.

The 8th graders are working on several different lessons this quarter. The project that draws the most interest is the cutting board that each student can take home. This project includes learning about traditional tools and equipment. Learning about flight is also an area that grabs the students' attention as they get to make their own airplanes out of available materials. One of the areas that will affect these students in their future is the idea of coding; they are able to code a physical device and get it to move forward, backward, and turn right and left. The final activity for 8th graders is the "battle" using a remote control robot in which they try and get an advantage over their competition. 🗨️

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

Principal's Post

Matt Renwick, Mineral Point Elementary Principal



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

—Nelson Mandela

Much of history describes a balance of power: who has it and who does not. You could say history is a study of the constant imbalance of power. Wars begin and end, civilizations are built and fall, one event creates a tipping point for a larger movement.

Social studies typically focus on people, yet we live within the context of one's culture, our physical environments, and the society of the time. We are influenced by the world as well as being an influence on our world.

One could almost say "worlds" to emphasize that everyone has a distinct perspective on reality. Our beliefs and values sway what we see and how we see it. These filters give us a unique hue as we each view the same experience. Example: in the fable *Seven Blind Mice*, each mouse makes a false assumption as they interact with a part of an elephant's body, such as its tail ("It's a snake."). The point to be made here is that there are many shades of meaning we can construct about an event or an object, such as a given text to read and understand in school.

This line of thinking leads to a question: should we embrace different ways of seeing the world and facilitate a deeper understanding through student discussion and inquiry? Or, do we guide students toward one right answer? Many of us would likely embrace the former. But our past actions in education seems to show we have valued the latter.

Paulo Freire wrote about this challenge in *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. He rallied against the "banking model of education", in which students are seen as reservoirs for information regardless of the accuracy or source of knowledge. Past content standards and standardized testing reinforced this instructional approach. "Columbus discovered America in 1492" is an example, a day of recognition common in many schools. Few would question this.

And yet if a teacher and students read *Encounter* by Jane Yolen and David Shannon together, which describes the arrival of Columbus and his crew from the perspective of the Taini people on San Salvador, this time in history no longer looks or feels the same. (Several members of that community were enslaved by the crew.) Students might start to relate to today's events with issues of the past. Minds expand as they consider other ways of seeing the world.

Peter Johnston, author of *Opening Minds*, describes this process as "perspective taking", in which we can socially imagine what it might be like for someone else. This capacity for empathy can lead to compassion, in which we take these new understandings and put them into action in order to improve the situation for others.

So, where do we begin? Maybe through themes, such as students examining "injustice" as a common thread throughout our nation's history. From this perspective, social studies transforms from a march through facts to a vehicle for advocacy. 🗨️

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Options in Education Update

Amanda Heisner, OIE Coordinator/Teacher



This year, in addition to our focus on academic requirements, students and staff have been increasing our participation in the community. Now in our third school year, we continually look for additional opportunities to become involved. We have always participated in physical education activities and life skills lessons that are community-based.

New this year is our focus on being of service to our community.

This school year both morning and afternoon students volunteer once a month at the Mineral Point Care Center. These experiences have allowed students to learn from residents, plan activities, and assist residents in creative and recreational activities. Our monthly visits have become a favorite of both students and residents.

Another opportunity to be of service presented itself this year. Our Mineral Point veterans are quite busy on Veteran's Day, as they participate in three programs throughout the day. This busy schedule led us to the idea that we could be of service by hosting the veterans for lunch. On November 11, we hosted around 20 veterans at Options. We served soup, sandwiches, drinks, and homemade pie. We also provided thank you treat bags for the veterans to take with them. For most, this was their first time in our building. We shared a little about Options in Education and were blessed with a story about overcoming adversity from one of the veterans. He shared his story about not completing high school and the path his life took from that decision. He went on to say that he has accomplished great things but encouraged the students to continue on their path to graduation. The students were touched by this genuine interaction. We are hoping this is the beginning of an annual tradition that will grow over time.

We welcome further opportunities to both be of service, and share our program with members of the community. Please reach out if you'd like to learn more or work with us for the benefit of our community. 🗨️

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Director's Discussion

Angela Klein, Director of Special Education and Pupil Services



Every school district has the task of ensuring their graduates are college and career ready, but for students with a disability, that preparation includes activities that rely upon school, community, and agency collaboration. As a member of the Iowa and Lafayette County Communities on Transition, our school participates in several collaborative programs that provide transition opportunities for our

students in the areas of post-secondary education, community participation, vocational training, independent living, continuing and adult education, employment, and adult agencies.

- ✔ Disability Mentoring Day focuses on building the knowledge of our students about local businesses and potential careers. Students visit three businesses per year of interest. This allows the students to get a first-hand look at the types of skill sets, postsecondary education, and training opportunities that are required for each job. Guest speakers talk about the important soft skills needed to be a good employee. Students are encouraged to choose new businesses each year so they get a wide variety of job opportunities in local southwest Wisconsin.
- ✔ Career Prep and Life Skills Day allows students to learn about valuable resources and services that are available to them. Sessions have provided information about the Youth Apprenticeship program, Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Eating, Financial Advising, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Aging Disability and Resource Center, Hodan Community Center, School Counseling advice, cyberfootprint, UW-Platteville, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, and the Military.
- ✔ Recreational Education and Exploration Day was created to allow students with disabilities to experience lifelong recreational activities in a fun laid back setting at Governor Dodge. Students enjoy hiking, critter catching, fishing, yard games, and barbecuing. This event is a great social event for students that may have a hard time communicating or have behavior challenges.

In addition to these programs, our high school special education teachers and staff are working to build our community partnerships with area businesses. By connecting our students and local businesses we hope to support students in a diverse number of work-based learning options including job shadowing, service/volunteer learning, local internships, co-ops, training programs, school-based enterprises, entrepreneurship, supervised agricultural experiences, Department of Public Instruction skill standards programs and Youth Apprenticeships.

Our goal is to make sure all students leave with the knowledge, skills, and habits they need to reach their goals and return as a member of the Pointer Nation community that wants to give back the same way to the next group of students. 🗨️

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Psychologist's Thoughts

Katelyn Oellerich, School Psychologist



As demands for our attention continue to grow, being able to focus and be present in the current moment is becoming especially important. Mindfulness is a concept you may be hearing more about from your students, as it's a strategy that our staff is working to incorporate more into the classroom setting. Studies have shown that the use of mindfulness practices can relate to increased focus and attention, reduced stress, improved emotion regulation, and improved teacher/student relationships (Jennings, 2015; Napoli, Krech, & Holley, 2005).

So, what is mindfulness? Mindfulness is the practice of bringing your awareness to the present moment in an open, non-judging, non-reactive, and accepting way (Brown & Ryan, 2003). Often, we are not completely aware in the present moment and tend to get lost in our thoughts by thinking about what happened earlier in the day, worrying about something that we need to get done, or maybe thinking about something that will be happening later. In addition to our thoughts tending to wander, many of us are quick to judge and/or react to our thoughts. Why did I just say that? I just got a notification for a text, I better leave what I'm doing and check it now! When we are doing these things, we are not fully in the present moment and may feel more stressed, less focused, and disengaged.

Today, our children are involved in so many different activities, and technology is always at our fingertips. It can be easy to avoid, become distracted, or disengage from what is happening in the moment. Some strategies that promote mindfulness include breath awareness, yoga, and sensorimotor awareness activities. In school, teachers have been utilizing mindfulness-based strategies to support in the ease of transitions from one activity to the next, as a tool to support with emotion regulation, and to promote overall feeling of well-being in our students. The more that mindfulness techniques are practiced, the more our brains begin to focus in the present without so much effort. Mindfulness takes patience, practice, and time but can help to support in our overall well-being. ■

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District Honored With Communication Awards of Excellence

The Mineral Point Unified School District was honored by the Wisconsin School Public Relations Association (WSPRA) with two awards for its work in school communications during the 2018-19 school year.

#PointerNation has now earned 12 WSPRA Awards since the fall of 2015.

WSPRA showcased the Spectrum Awards at its annual fall conference, this year held in Oshkosh November 6-8 with the theme of "The Art of School Communications." 47 Districts were honored with awards.



Spectrum Awards

Spectrum Awards honor high-quality public relations efforts produced by, or on behalf of, Wisconsin school districts. There are two levels of awards with Excellence being the highest followed by Merit.

Mineral Point earned two Spectrum Awards, accepted by Communications Director and WSPRA Vice President Joelle Doye:

Award of Excellence



2018 Referendum Campaign
(graphics by Kristin Mitchell Design)



2019 2nd Grade Kindness Video
(compiled by Alex Carey and Denise Gorgen)

"Spectrum Award winners exemplify the very best communications work in school districts across the state," said WSPRA President Christina Brey of the Wisconsin Education Association Council. "The winners demonstrate the value of engaging stakeholders in order to build community support for Wisconsin's schools."

WSPRA's Spectrum Awards are judged by members of other school public relations associations throughout the United States, including from Illinois, North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, New York, and South Carolina. All entries were judged on a 30-point scale in six areas: goals and objectives, research and planning, execution and evaluation, results, language, and design.

WSPRA is a state affiliate of the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). The mission of WSPRA is to expand the capacity of its members to provide effective communication management for the purpose of strengthening educational opportunities for all students. ■

All MP Schools Earn Five Star Report Card Rating

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has released state report cards, based on 2018-19 school data.

The Mineral Point Unified School District has scored an 86.4, which places it into the Significantly Exceeds Expectations category, a five star rating.

This is the fourth year in a row the District has received the prestigious five star rating.

For the first time, each Mineral Point school and the district as a whole earned the five star rating.

Breaking down the district by building, the following scores were achieved:



★ **Elementary: 86.1**
Significantly Exceeds Expectations (five stars)

★ **Middle: 83.0**
Significantly Exceeds Expectations (five stars)

★ **High: 83.1**
Significantly Exceeds Expectations (five stars)

Report cards are issued on four priority areas:

- Student Achievement
- District/School Growth
- Closing Gaps
- On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness

Out of 421 districts in the state, only 40 received the five star rating that Mineral Point received.

Scoring categories are: Significantly Exceeds Expectations (five stars) 83-100; Exceeds Expectations (four stars) 73-82.9, Meets Expectations (three stars) 63-72.9, Meets Few Expectations (two stars) 53-62.9, Fails to Meet Expectations (one star) 0-52.9.

Any report card for any school in the state can be downloaded here: <https://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>

Helping Hallways and Calming Corners

By Tyce Sylvester, 5th grader

In the Mineral Point Elementary School teachers take Education and focus very seriously. They also think that all students should get a break once in a while. That's why we now have new ways to get that essential break. Sensory hallways and a Calming Corner!

Sensory hallways, or as we call it the "Pointer Path" let students do various actions like hopscotch, reaching to the vibrantly colored stars taped to the wall, bear crawling, and streaming your hand on the pieces of tape in a wavy motion.

The Calming Corner is located on the main floor so it is largely used by kindergarten through second grade students. It is a private space in the hallway closed off by a curtain. One student can use this space at a time. When they enter, they identify how they're feeling, then choose a tool (such as coloring, a fidget toy, or resting.) The teacher gives the student a sand timer. When the time is up they choose how their body feels after taking some time to pause. Then they return to class.

The Calming Corner and Pointer Path have made a change in our students' focus and attitude. They both provide a great break for children's brains and help them refocus on what they



need to be doing in class. I personally, have used the sensory hallway as a tool to re-group myself when my body is feeling energetic. While some students prefer to follow the actions quickly, I like to go through the movements slowly and really pay attention to how my body moves throughout the course. This way of moving through the Pointer Path helps my body feel more calm before I return to the classroom.



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Pointer Media

By Nick Dubois, 12th Grader

In today's world, it seems like everything is done digitally and shared over the Internet.

As a result, in this year's Mineral Point High School multimedia class, students are learning to navigate their way through photo and video editing, web design, fair use policies, news presentation, music mixing, and so much more. Each student has their own interests and talents, and the multimedia course gives them an extra opportunity to show them off. From Florencio Torres making and editing music for basketball games, to Grace Engels taking incredible action shots, to the amazing newscasting team - the ebb and flow of creativity and leadership in the multimedia class is a sight to be seen. As said by multimedia member McKenna Bowers, "This class helps me stand out creatively and lets the whole community see my work."

This multimedia class, run by Mrs. Kristin Staver, Mrs. Lesley Macaulay, Mrs. Kris McCoy, and Mr. Dan Bureson allows us to work collaboratively. Every project is done in teams, making it much easier to bounce ideas off one another. This style of learning also means that high schoolers can combine their different areas of expertise to create an amazing finished product. Take the school website, pointermedia.org, for example. It was a huge project, and I didn't think it was going to look good to be honest. It was a good thing we had a few people. The website needed pictures, stories, news presentations, and a general design. A group of six students, each with their own skill set, took on the task of making a website from scratch. With very little prior experience, they made a very impressive final product to show off the Mineral Point High School. According to multimedia member Wes Berget, "I'm not sure what I'm going to do in the future. With the multimedia class, I am definitely learning different possible options."


On top of all the media presentations going on, the class has the responsibility of designing and publishing the middle and high school yearbooks. A yearbook has to encapsulate

the memories from an entire year filled with events and sports - no small task by any means. Yearbook design teaches the students yet another set of useful skills. Having to mold your product to a certain audience - in this case, high school students - is something every student should know how to do. Making the yearbook visually pleasing is another task this group has to fulfill. In addition, advertisements are needed to be able to print the yearbooks. High school students build strong business and marketing skills through the selling of ads. Small groups of yearbook students travel all over southwest Wisconsin to find willing business owners to purchase ad space in the yearbook. Ryver Galle from the yearbook group said, "Selling ads gave us a good chance to reach out and talk to our community. I saw some people that I hadn't seen in years, and it gave us some good funding for our yearbook." Communicating like this with complete strangers can be a difficult task, even as an adult.

These experiences are sure to help any student moving on to the "real world."

The final component to the class is the Blue Crew piece. This piece requires the students to learn the job of a director of game operations for basketball games. We also learn the ins and outs of branding, layout and design, music editing, and everything to organize an event that will be memorable for all.

On top of teaching the students valuable skills for the future, the class also provides a very fun environment to do what you love! 🎬



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Math Team Does Well at UWP

On November 6, 28 of Mineral Point's High School mathletes competed in the 47th annual UW-Platteville High School Mathematics Contest.

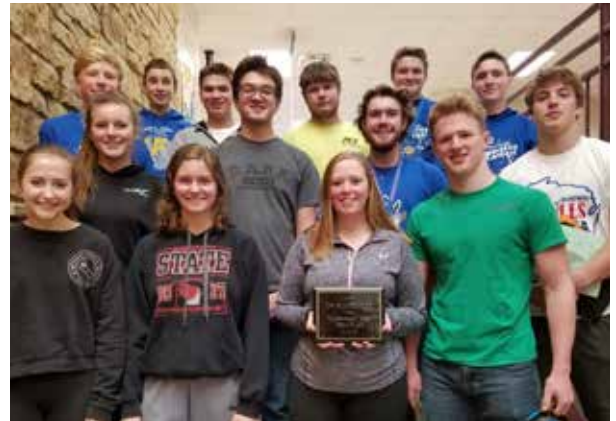
At the contest, teams are broken down into four divisions based on school enrollment. This year, students competed in Division 3, in which there were 13 teams representing 10 different schools. Team scores are formed from the total of individual scores for the five highest scoring on each team in both the freshman/sophomore and junior/senior levels, as well as the team test for each of these levels.


This year, our team consisting of Joey Robinson, Griffin Albaugh, Cole Ferrell, Drew Hottenstein, Jazmine Cool, Emma Steffes, Callie Pierce, Daniel Nordstrom, Will Straka, Carson Thomas, Cody Pierce, Owen Stephenson, Nick DuBois, and Hannah Ryser placed third in our division.

In addition to competing as a team, students are also able to earn individual honors for their scores on the individual test. This year, we had four students earn this honor. Drew Hottenstein had the highest score of any freshman and sophomore in our division. Nick DuBois, Owen Stephenson, and Cody Pierce each received awards in the junior/senior level competition.

In addition to the contest, students enjoyed a tour of the UW-Platteville campus. The second competing team included Gena Byrnes, Alana DuBois, Koby Filardo, Maddix Jackson, Ella Fox, Jared Wedig, Hayden Bakken, Skylar Martin, Lexie Berget, Ian Keyes, Tatum Novak, Ben Basting, Morgan Vondra, and Bodhi Broderick.

The contest for the High School Math Team was the Mathematical Association of America High School Contest on Thursday, December 5. 🐾





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21.9

2018-19 ACT COMPOSITE



WI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



FIVE STAR REPORT CARD RATING
4 YEARS RUNNING

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS

1879



18-19

- FORENSICS • FFA •
- FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA • SKILLS USA •
- SPECIAL OLYMPICS •
- SOLO & ENSEMBLE • TRAP SHOOTING •
- BASEBALL • GOLF •
- CROSS COUNTRY • GYMNASTICS •
- TRACK & FIELD • WRESTLING •



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
CO & EXTRACURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

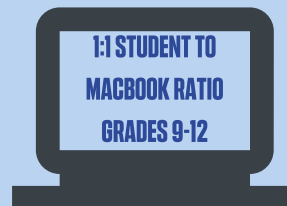
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ELEMENTARY RENOVATION &
ADDITION UNDERWAY

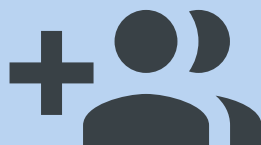
\$748,150

SCHOLARSHIPS TO
2019 SENIORS



4

BRONZE WISCONSIN
SCHOOL HEALTH AWARDS



POSITIVE OPEN
ENROLLMENT
IN TREND

ADVANCED PLACEMENT &
DUAL CREDIT COURSES



HS COMMUNITY



DAY OF SERVICE

OPTIONS IN EDUCATION

Providing **Personalized** Learning
in Southwest Wisconsin



MP ELEMENTARY

MODEL PLC
SCHOOL

ONE OF 6 IN WISCONSIN



2 SUCCESSFUL RECURRING
OPERATING REFERENDA
SINCE 2012



Mineral Point High School Special Education Teacher Callie Gundlach is currently undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Tuesday, November 26, the Mineral Point Pointers welcomed the River Valley Blackhawks for a girls basketball game as both schools came together to Rally for Callie.

Dozens of baskets with various goods were bid on during a silent auction, and a Miracle Minute donation collection was held at halftime. Combined with tshirt sales, over \$4000 was raised to help Callie with expenses related to her cancer.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this a success!



Checking in with Cooper, our Elementary School Therapy Dog! He has been busy getting to know more kids in the elementary school. Cooper has been to Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Grimm, Mrs. Doyle, Ms. Beinborn, and Ms. Singer's classrooms. "We have answered some very thought provoking questions regarding therapy dogs. More visits are currently being planned. Cooper loves being around these caring kids," said Mrs. Gorgen.



A new Pointer friend will be joining us at home games this winter! A contest to name him/her will be coming shortly!



Congrats to #PointerNation Athletic Director Vickie Dahl who was honored for 30 years of service by both the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in Wisconsin Dells! Also attending the conference was Brian Gallagher, a MP alum and Athletic Director at Two Rivers.



6th graders had such a fun week learning about the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and how it came to be! They read the book "Balloons Over Broadway" to learn the history and how Tony Sarg used the engineering and design process to come up with his idea. Then, students created their own parade floats based on a character from a story, movie, or cartoon. They had to use the engineering process and had some requirements to follow. The event culminated with a parade of all their floats!



Mineral Point School District was proud to once again honor our veterans with two outstanding programs at our schools, and lunch served at Options in Education!



Kindergarten students and their 3rd grade buddies had a fantastic time collaborating together on their festive gingerbread houses!

School Board Election

The School Board election will be held Tuesday, April 7, 2020. The term of office for these school board members begins Monday, April 27, 2020. The top two vote recipients will serve three year terms, with the third place vote recipient serving a two year term.

Incumbents whose seats are up for re-election include Jeff Basting, Tony Dahl, and Gary Sullivan. If these incumbents do not wish to run, they need to file non-candidacy no later than 5:00 pm Friday, December 27 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 7, 2020 in the District Office located at 705 Ross Street.

If a primary is necessary, that will be held Tuesday, February 18, 2020. (A primary would be necessary only if there were seven or more candidates seeking the three available seats.)

Superintendent Mitch Wainwright held a Prospective Candidate Info Night Wednesday, December 11. If you were unable to attend, but would like to learn more, please reach out to him at 987-0740 or mitch.wainwright@mp.k12.wi.us.

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. 🗨️

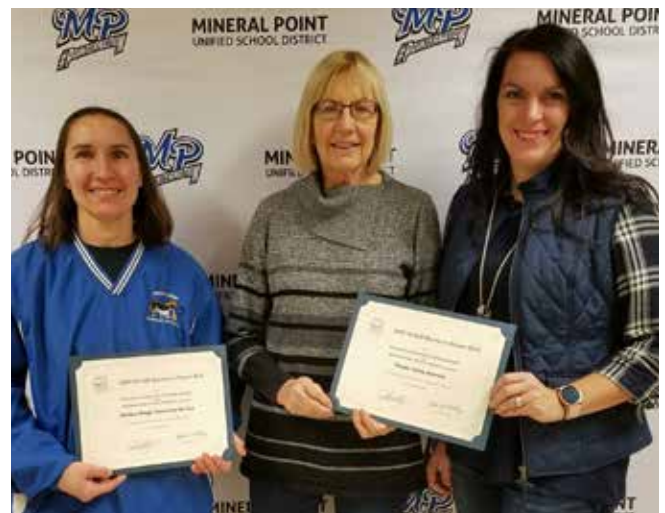


Local Business Recognition

The Mineral Point School Board recognized three businesses as part of this year's Wisconsin Association of School Board's Business Honor Roll.

Military Ridge Veterinary Service & Sleepy Valley Kennels, LLC: Military Ridge Veterinary Service of Dodgeville provided discounted services for Mineral Point Elementary School's first-ever therapy dog, Cooper. Sleepy Valley Kennels of Mineral Point was so generous as to donate Cooper. The district is excited to have Cooper on staff to provide emotional support for students. Present were Amy Robinson and Claudia & Jackie Spoor.

Shake Rag Alley: Shake Rag Alley in Mineral Point is a true center for the arts. Shake Rag Alley generously allows the use of its outdoor amphitheater for Mineral Point Elementary School's 5th Grade Graduation ceremony each spring. Shake Rag Alley also offers week-long residencies to their annual writing contest winners. These authors then visit Mineral Point Schools to speak to students about the writing process and their publications. Additionally, Mineral Point is home to many talented, professional artists and Shake Rag Alley has hosted free art workshops for elementary students. Present were Board President Mike Christensen, Vice President Lorraine Reynolds, Secretary Betty Hogan, Executive Director Sara Lomasz Flesch, Program Director Carole Spelic' & Youth Program Director Elizabeth Johanna. 🗨



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Elementary School Renovation/Addition Updates

The floor plan for the elementary renovation/addition has been approved by the School Board. The District is looking to begin the bidding process in January 2020 for a Spring construction start. Updates to the project will continue to be posted here: <https://mineralpointschools.org/elementary-renovation/>



1 LOWER LEVEL
1" = 10'-0"

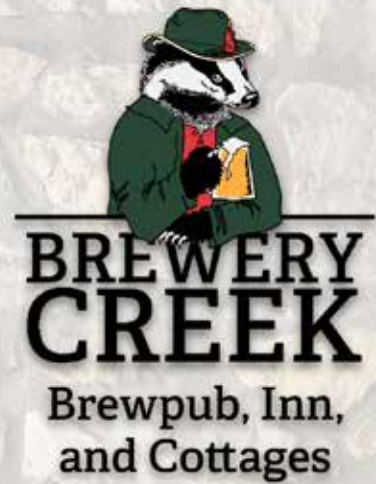


1 UPPER LEVEL
1" = 10'-0"





7th grade art students delivered their hand made monsters to Mrs. Radtke's 2nd graders. After discussing empathy, Mrs. Radtke's students carefully designed each monster and then Mrs. Macaulay's 7th grade art students recreated the monsters as pillow pets.



Mineral Point's
Favorite
Date Night Spot!



4TH GRADE - LYDIA M.



KINDERGARTEN - CALLIE L.



5TH GRADE - EMILY H.



2ND GRADE - OWEN L.

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2020 UPCOMING CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 2: Classes resume from Winter Break
- 4: SWAL Honors Band at Riverdale
- 10: Wrestling Hall of Fame Night vs. Boscobel
- 11: Basketball Hall of Fame Night vs. Richland Center
- 25: SWAL Honors Choir at Mineral Point

FEBRUARY

- 8: SWAL/SWC CLASH wrestling meet at Mineral Point
- 15: WIAA Wrestling postseason begins (Regional at MP)
- 25: WIAA Girls Basketball postseason begins
- 29: WIAA Gymnastics postseason begins (Sectional at Platteville)

MARCH

- 3: WIAA Boys Basketball postseason begins
- 17: FFA Banquet
- 18: High School Choir departs for New York City
- 20: Last day of classes before Spring Break

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



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4th grade is when students go in-depth with studies about our great state of Wisconsin. Our students visited the capitol recently. Thanks to Senator Howard Marklein and Representative Todd Novak for hosting.

