

MISD News & Notes

October 2021

Your Input Is Needed!



There's good news for Menominee Indian School District: The District is receiving \$6 million in funding through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, the third federal COVID-19 relief law passed in March 2021. These one time funds come through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III grant program.

Now, MISD needs your thoughts and input about how that money will be used within the guidelines of the grant. A [virtual Zoom meeting](#) will be held from 5–6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 29 and everyone is welcome to participate.

"The funds are to be

used to support our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, helping us safely reopen and continue to safely operate our schools, as well as addressing the impacts the pandemic has had on our students," explains MISD Superintendent Wendell Waukau. "It's important for us to hear from our parents, teachers and community as we decide how to use the funds."

During the meeting, MISD leadership will present an overview of the funding, then have attendees go into virtual breakout rooms to share their thoughts about the needs of MISD students and grant funding priorities.

At least 20% of the funding must be used to implement evidence-based interventions to address learning losses that occurred

because of the pandemic's impact.

Attendees who log on for the entire meeting will be entered into a drawing at the end of the meeting for a chance to win one of 10 gift card packages valued at \$50 each. Gift cards will be for local businesses.

"We all know COVID has impacted learning, but this funding gives us an opportunity to work together as a community to do something about that," added Waukau. "This is a great opportunity to provide feedback and I am hoping for a strong turnout and lots of great ideas."



MISD VISION
Enriching the lives
of our children
through education

**ESSER III Grant
Program:
September 29
Virtual Zoom meeting
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.**

**If you would like the
meeting link emailed
or texted to you,
please contact the
District Office at
(715) 799-3824.**

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Back to School at MIHS

Classes are back in session! Even with masking, you could tell there were smiles all the way around at MIHS as students, teachers and staff gathered together again for the start of the 2021-22 school year in September.



Two Days Makes a Difference

With school now underway for about a month, most students and families are falling into a routine once again.

Here's an important question to ask: Does your routine include talking about the importance of being in school each and every day? Studies show that missing as little as two days of school per month puts a student at an increased risk of not graduating high school. If you think

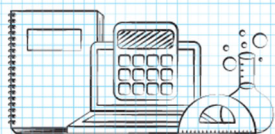
about it, it makes sense. Most class lessons build upon the previous lesson. If you miss too many days, it can be very difficult to catch up again. Once that cycle begins, it becomes frustrating for students, parents and teachers alike.

If your teen doesn't see the harm in missing a day or two, here's something that might get their attention: According to Attendance Works, chronic absence can affect your ability to

earn a living. Drop-outs are less likely to succeed in a career. In fact, a high school graduate makes, on average, \$1 million more than a dropout over a lifetime.

Finally, if your child has to miss multiple days of school due to a health issue or family situation, meet with your child's teacher to map out a plan of action to keep your student on track.

**BACK
TO
SCHOOL**



Making the Menominee Lanugae Accessible to All

Ron Corn Jr. (Muqsahkwat) was recently the focus of a Gannett newspaper story carried across the state, about his efforts to preserve and teach the Menominee Language.

Journalist Frank Vaisvilas shared the journey Corn Jr. has been on throughout his life, and why he feels it is important for all Menominee to learn the language. Corn Jr. is one of less than 29 fluent speakers of the Menominee Language.

During the pandemic, Corn Jr. and his

childhood friend Burton Warrington (Kcheyonkote) created an online Menominee Language learning platform: Menomini yoU.

With an online program, all tribal members now have an opportunity to learn the language, whether it's 10 minutes a day or though comprehensive, multi-week online courses. The approach includes recorded videos, worksheets and live, virtual group sessions.

In the article, Corn Jr. says he hopes most Menominee people

will be able to speak their language in the next few years.

He told the reporter: "We've got really big dreams here. If we're successful, our next struggle is to renormalize the language. Now, it's considered cool to speak Menominee, but hopefully one day it'll be expected."

Thank you Ron for not just preserving the Menominee Language, but for sharing it and encouraging others to learn as well.



Ron Corn, Jr.

**To learn more
about
Menomini yoU,
go to:
menominiyou.org**

Welcome New Teachers & Staff

Join us in welcoming new teachers and staff to MISD!

KPS

- Jordynne Waupekenay, Teacher Gr. 2
- Joseph Ferrero, Teacher Gr. 4
- Tracy Martin, Teacher Gr. 5
- Lena Johnson, Title I Reading Teacher

- Michelle Oss, Title I Reading Teacher
- Jane Williams, Title I Reading Teacher
- Halle Reiter, Paraprofessional

MIMS

- James Stankevitz, Teacher Gr. 1-8

MIHS

- Kerry Kafura, Broad Field Science Teacher
- Deborah Lyons, Paraprofessional
- Keso-Kookie Oshkosh, Paraprofessional

District

- Wendell Pamaska, Bus Monitor





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October 2021

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-----|
| | | | | | 1 No school | 2 |
| 3 | 4 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m. | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 No school | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |