

# PĪTĀCEMOW

*"He or she who brings stories/news"*

## Your Attendance is Needed

The Menominee Indian School District Board of Education is hosting a special meeting, Wednesday, March 6 and you're encouraged to attend. The Board is considering an election to authorize a leasehold interest in real estate that is needed for school district purposes. The parcel of land is adjacent to the current Menominee Indian High School and will be for sports fields and other related educational purposes.

### Special Meeting

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Soup, appetizers & refreshments from 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.**

**Menominee Nation Casino Resort – Five Clans Ballroom**

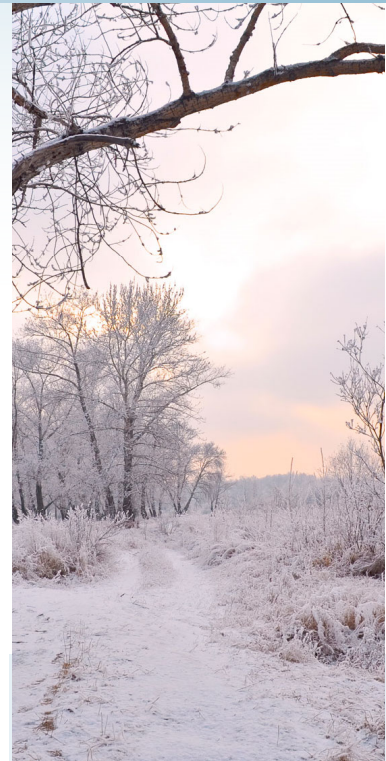
"You may remember that MISD had to move the location of the new high school to what had been the baseball and softball diamonds in order to pave the way for all of our schools on one campus, in close proximity to each other," explained School Board President David "Jonesy" Miller. "We are now working with MITW to lease property next to the existing high school so we can develop new sports fields on the campus. As part of the lease, it includes an agreement to sell Menominee Indian Middle School in Neopit to the Tribe. Then, after our new high school opens, the current high school will be redeveloped into our middle school." In order to do this, MISD needs voter approval to lease the property.

The meeting will include a short presentation on the transaction and lease agreement, detailing how this will benefit both MISD and MITW. There will be a question-and-answer period before a vote is taken.

"We encourage all eligible voters in the Menominee Community to attend this meeting and learn about the need," added MISD Superintendent Wendell Waukau. "We hope when our residents understand the need, and how important it is to our students and community, they will be supportive."

### MISD VISION

Enriching the lives of our children through education



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### Talk About It!

Saying "no" to peer pressure isn't easy, but talking to your child can help give them the confidence to stand up for what is right, especially when it comes to drugs. Here are a few tips they can use:

- Be direct and firm when saying "NO" to the offer
- Repeat yourself and insist on your decision
- Change the topic or come up with something else to do
- Walk away from the situation

## Construction Update



Gymnasium entrance



Common space



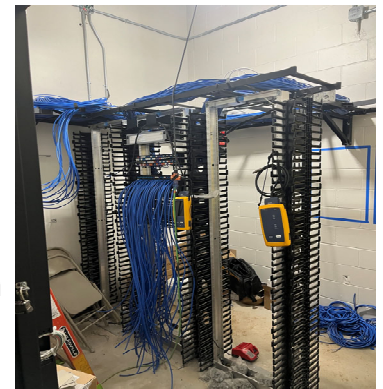
Decorative ceramic tile

Step by step, brick by brick, our vision for a new high school is steadily coming to life, evoking an excitement and pride with our students, staff and community. As we eagerly anticipate the start of the 2024-25 school year, we're thrilled to share the latest updates on the construction progress. As the building continues to take shape, we can see our designs come to life and are excited that our new high will be a beacon of cultural pride and educational excellence. Designed to honor our heritage, bring the natural world into our learning spaces and foster creativity; this project embodies the spirit of our community. Here are a couple areas of focus:

**Gymnasium:** The final painting of the gym ceiling and walls has been completed. Permanent lights have been installed to illuminate the area and the installation of entrance glass for the gym is underway, which will not only enhance the aesthetic but also provide natural light, fostering an inviting atmosphere.

**Kitchen & Commons:** Significant progress has been made in the commons area, with drywall installation and painting currently underway. Simultaneously, the glass curtain wall is nearing completion; this feature not only enhances aesthetics but also maximizes natural light, creating a bright and inviting environment. A glass curtain wall is a non-structural outer covering of a building's façade made of glass panels, used to allow natural light into the building while providing insulation and weather resistance. Adjacent to the commons is the kitchen area, where the epoxy flooring installation is in progress, ensuring a durable and easy-to-maintain surface. This area will serve as the heart of the school and a gathering place for everyone.

**Building Systems:** Above the ceiling, essential building systems are undergoing meticulous installation to guarantee optimal functionality and comfort. Mechanical overhead rough-ins are being laid to establish the foundation for efficient HVAC systems, while exposed walls and piping are being painted to blend utility with aesthetic appeal. The data room is also nearing completion laying the foundation for robust technological infrastructure to support modern educational needs and enhanced security.



Data room

**Interior Building:** Attention to interior finishes includes the installation of decorative ceramic tile in high-traffic areas like hallways and restrooms, combining visual appeal with durability and ease of maintenance.

The construction of the new MISD High School is progressing steadily, with significant milestones achieved across various areas of the project. As we move forward, our commitment to safety, quality and craftsmanship remains our top-priority.

## MISD Superintendent Wendell Waukau to Retire



After serving the Menominee Indian School District (MISD) for 34 years, MISD Superintendent Wendell Waukau has announced he'll retire on June 20, 2024. Starting as a teacher with the district, Waukau has also been a coach, athletic director, dean of students and principal before becoming Superintendent in 2003.

During his tenure as Superintendent, Waukau has helped implement a number of reforms and changes to address the academic and social/emotional challenges and needs that students face. Some of these successful reforms have received state and national recognition and are still being sustained today.

Also during Waukau's tenure, his dedication to improving and incorporating Menominee language, culture and traditions within the district schools did not go unnoticed. He recognized the importance of preserving Menominee ways and ensured that future generations are proud of who they are.

Waukau will be recognized on April 24, 2024 at the Wisconsin Association of School District's (WASDA) Annual Educational Conference at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay for his 20 years of service as chief school district administrator and his upcoming retirement. Thank you for your commitment to our school district, our students and our community!

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## MIHS Human Rights Club Hits the Road

The MIHS Human Rights Club took its mascot presentation on the road! Traveling to the Wisconsin State capitol in Madison, the students shed light on the issues surrounding mascots and how they can have a negative psychological affect on Native populations. Students encouraged their audiences to consider how these names, images and interpretations of particular mascots can be harmful and offensive.

The club has also shared the Mascot Exhibit at the Menominee Casino, a Back-to-School night for the community, learning lab activities at MIHS, a classroom of students attending UWGB and the Community Engagement Workshop. Thank you for your efforts and keep up the great work!



## Ralph Lyons Retires

Congratulations to Ralph Lyons on his retirement from the Busing Department.



Ralph started driving buses for the District in April of 2013 and has been a committed and reliable driver, earning the respect of his co-workers, students and staff over the past 10 years. He remained connective and supportive of students as they advanced through their academic lives.

Ralph will be missed by all of us. We wish you well in as you drive into your next adventure (pun intended).  
Thank you, Ralph!



**Menominee Indian  
School District**

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# March 2024

STAMP

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 Bd. Mtg. @ 5 PM	5	6 Special Board Mtg. @ 6 p.m.	7	8	9
10	11 Spring Break	12 Spring Break	13 Spring Break	14 Spring Break	15 Spring Break	16
17	18 Bd. Mtg. @ 5 PM	19	20 2-hour delay; teacher PD time	21	22	23
24	25	26	27		29 No School	30
31						