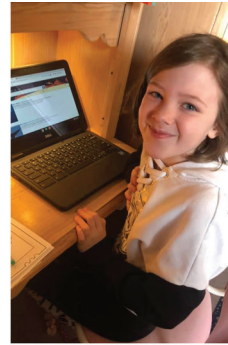


# WE ARE MONROE

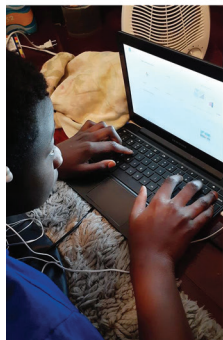
Stay Home, Stay Safe  
Special Edition  
April 10, 2020



• The Monroe Public Schools Newsletter •



## #StayHome



## MISSION

Monroe Public Schools is committed to being the premier education organization in the region.

We are devoted to promoting high expectations for all in a state-of-the-art 21st century curriculum.

We recognize that all of the students and communities that we serve are our customers, and we promise to make all decisions in their best interest.

## CORE VALUES

Cultivate Strong *RELATIONSHIPS*

*RESPECT* Differences and Act in *SERVICE* for All

Advocate for *EQUITY*

Enrich our *COMMUNITY*

Uphold *INTEGRITY*

Crave *INNOVATION*

Strive to *ENGAGE* Every Learner

*CELEBRATE* and be *JOYFUL*

# Monroe Public Schools' Bond Proposal on May 5 Ballot



Absentee ballot applications for the May 5 Election will be mailed to **ALL** registered voters in Michigan.

The Executive Order signed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer on March 27th encourages Michigan residents to vote absentee to ensure they practice social distancing while allowing them to safely exercise their right to vote in local elections.

Online registration, for those not yet registered, is available until April 20 at:

[Michigan.gov/vote](https://www.michigan.gov/vote)

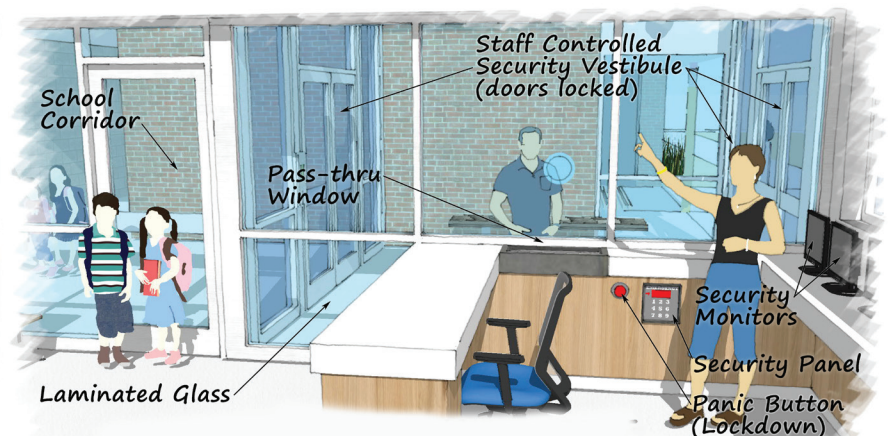
## Bond Cost to Homeowner

Market Value of Home	Cost per Month
\$100,000	\$6.25
\$157,000*	\$9.81
\$200,000	\$12.50

\*The cost to the median MPS homeowner would be \$9.81/month.

## Bond 2020 Proposal

### Safe. Warm. Functional.



### The MPS bond would fund capital projects focused on **aging facilities** and **enhanced school security**.

- Funds from the bond would address facility upgrades, including boiler replacements, HVAC, restrooms, and playgrounds. The average age of the district's schools is 64 years.
- Bond funds would also provide secure entries through offices at every school and fire alarm updates with PA systems and security tie-ins.
- The bond proposal was developed by community surveys, facility assessments, and public board meetings over 2.5 years.
- Only items ranked as high priorities by both facility studies and the community were included.

**New secure vestibule entries** will ensure visitors enter the office before gaining access to the rest of the building, offering an additional layer of protection.



When completed, the projects will result in more than **\$300,000 annual savings** from energy savings and reduced operational costs.

**Stay Home  
Stay Safe**



## Stay Connected MPS Communications

Official communications from Monroe Public Schools are being shared with school families via School Messenger. They are also being posted to our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#).

### MPS COVID-19 UPDATES

Coronavirus Disease-19 Information & Plans

Official Communications  
from Monroe Public Schools



The graphic (*above*) is a hyperlink and is also on the home page of our website : [www.monroe.k12.mi.us](http://www.monroe.k12.mi.us)

You are also encouraged to like/follow the district and your school on [Facebook](#).

### Phone Appointment Directory

The safety and health of our students and families are of the utmost importance to us. To support social distancing efforts, we are available to help you at any time. If you need assistance, please use the directory to schedule a phone or virtual appointment.



## MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS PHONE APPOINTMENT DIRECTORY

**\*\* Please call to schedule an appointment. \*\***

**Technology** ..... **734-265-3150**  
Chromebooks • Log In • Tech Support

**Student Services** ..... **734-265-3080**  
Curriculum • Social Emotional Support • Attendance  
• Online Instruction

**Transportation** ..... **734-265-3300**  
Meal Distribution • Bus Routes

**Pupil Accounting** ..... **734-265-3110**  
Registration • Attendance Verification • DHHS Paperwork

**Business Office** ..... **734-265-3050**  
Accounting • Payments to Vendors

**Payroll Services** ..... **734-265-3040**  
Paycheck Questions • W-2 Information

**Human Resources** ..... **734-265-3020**  
Hiring • Insurance • Benefits

**Community Education** .. **734-265-3170**  
Community Classes • Workshops • Recreation

**Superintendent** ..... **734-265-3070**  
District Operations and Oversight • Board of Education

[www.monroe.k12.mi.us](http://www.monroe.k12.mi.us)

# MPS Buses Deliver Student Meals

**MPS distributed more than 20,000 meals to students during the first week of the closure of Michigan schools**



Monroe Public Schools Food Service and Transportation staff prepared and delivered nearly 1,800 student meals on March 16th, the first day of the state-ordered school closures to slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease-19 (COVID-19). Response has grown steadily, and more than 20,000 meals were distributed to students the first week.

To assist with the common goal of social distancing, MPS shifted to a Monday-Wednesday-Friday distribution schedule on March 25th. Students now receive 4 meals on Mondays (2 breakfasts, 2 lunches), 4 meals on Wednesdays, and 6 meals on Fridays.

**Monroe bus drivers make mornings stops (M/W/F) throughout the district to drop off boxed meals for students and children 18 and under. Meals are also passed out at Monroe Middle School, from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. (M/W/F).**

**MPS is continuing to distribute meals during Spring Break (April 6-13). Thanks to all who are making this possible!**



Families do not need to sign up ahead of time, and no ID is required. Any child, or any adult representing children, may pick up the meals. Distribution routes are posted on the district's website on the COVID-19 resource page.

**The buses are stocked with charging cords for those who need them.**

**If a Chromebook malfunctions, parents can send it on the bus with a repair slip to MPS Technology staff. After being repaired, it can also be returned to the family via the bus.**

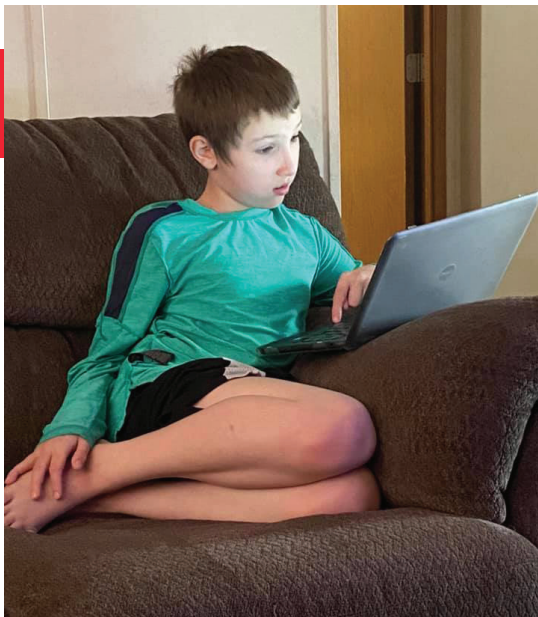
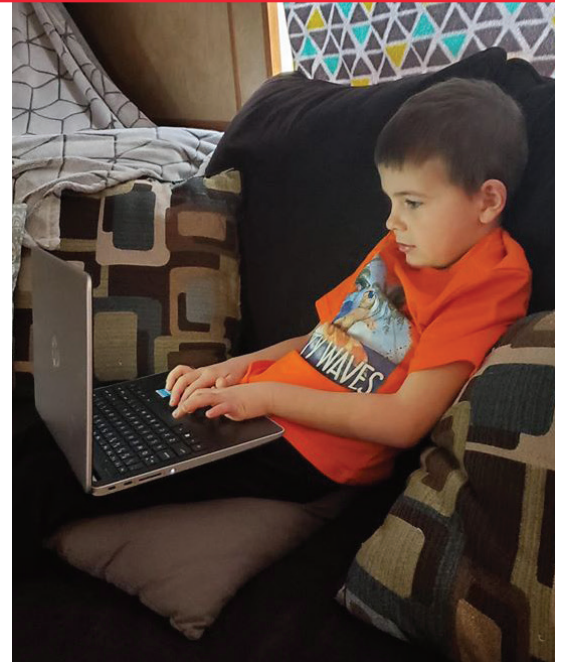


# 900 Chromebooks Prepped for Closure

## Home Use Expanded to Grades 3/4

In preparation for a possible school closure, more than 900 Chromebooks were prepped for at-home use and secured for a safe internet experience.

All MPS K-12 students are assigned a mobile device, but until now, only students in grades 5-12 students were able to take their Chromebooks home. The morning after Governor Whitmer announced school closure plans, MPS sent Chromebooks home with ALL of the district's 3rd and 4th grade students.



## Online Learning



Check our **COVID-19** page for the newest updates to our At-Home Learning resources.

Recent additions include portal access for Scholastic Bookflix and parent webinars for Dreambox.

## Sharing Internet Access

We encourage those with personal internet routers to consider sharing your internet access with those in our community in need. These devices, when enabled, can provide a separate network for guest users, keeping your personal information protected. If you are interested in doing this we recommend looking up the instructions for your particular model router and following the steps provided by the manufacturer. This is usually just a few clicks, and you are on your way to helping a child next door access their online learning. Thank you!



# Study Tips During Closure

**These tips are also helpful for adults working from home.**

## 1. Set Up a Learning Space

Create an area in the house for your child to be able to focus on learning. Experiment with different learning places — lying on the ground or sitting at a table — whatever works best for your child.

## 2. Gather Needed Supplies

Place items needed for learning (paper, pens, books, etc.) in a container that will hold them for easy set-up / clean-up. This is especially helpful if the dining room table or kitchen counter is used for both studying and meals.

## 3. Consistent Schedule / Routine Bedtime

Structure will help students understand weekdays are for learning. The school closure does not mean an extended vacation. Children should ideally sleep and wake up at the same time every day.

## 4. Meal and Snack Breaks

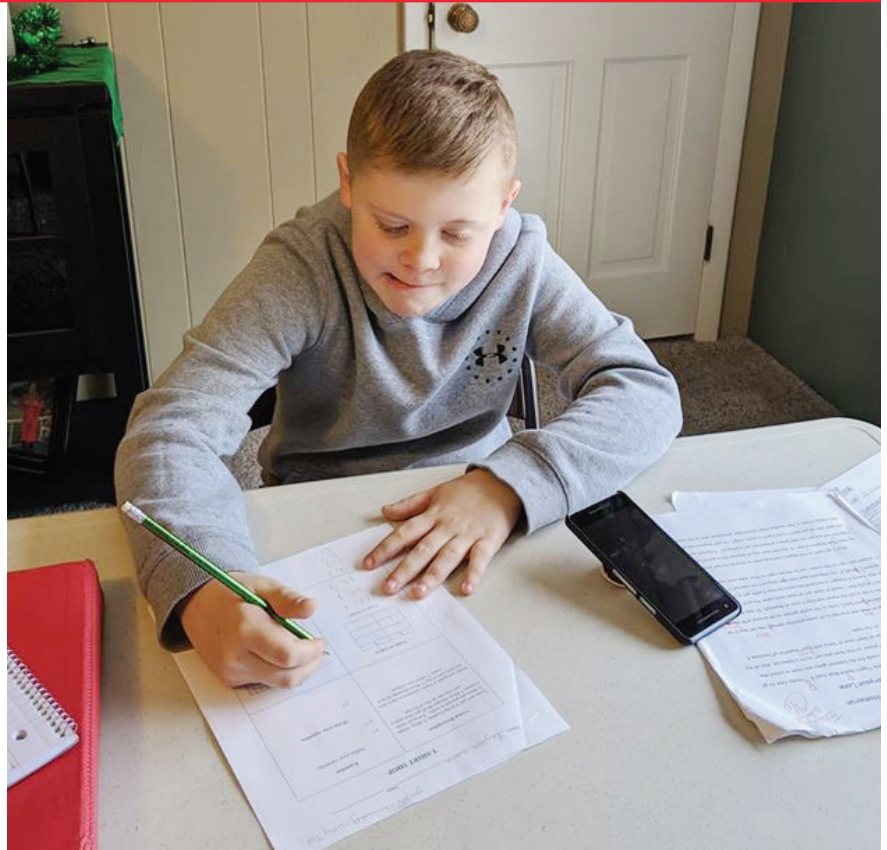
Schedule breaks for meals and snacks to keep energy levels up. Return to learning after breaks.

## 5. Stretching / Activity

Alternate technology work and reading with activities that get your child moving.

## 6. Limit Distractions

## 7. Charge Devices Overnight



# Michigan K-12 Closures

## Face-to-Face Learning Suspended

An executive order by Governor Gretchen Whitmer closed K-12 schools in Michigan beginning March 16. On April 2, the governor announced face-to-face learning was suspended for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Students will continue their education at home through learning plans provided by individual school districts.

## Assessments Canceled for Remaining School Year

Students will NOT be taking the annual M-STEP tests that were scheduled in Michigan April 13-28. The Third Grade Reading Law will not be enforced this year.



# Take-at-Home AP Tests

## FREE AP Review Classes Available Now

College Board is developing a new at-home testing option for the 2019-2020 Advanced Placement exams. Students will be able to take their exams on any device they have access to — computer, tablet, or phone. They will also have the option to write responses by hand and submit a photo. The full exam schedule, make-up test dates, and additional testing information were posted on the CollegeBoard website on April 3:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates>

Optional free, online AP classes are available now through exam day to help students prepare. The AP course schedule and details are available at the website above.

# SAT / ACT

## May SAT Canceled

College Board canceled its national administration of the May 2, 2020 SAT. Governor Whitmer announced the SAT and PSAT will be offered in the fall for students who missed taking it in the spring.

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/collegeboard-covid-19-updates>

To help students keep their college readiness skills sharp, College Board and Khan Academy are providing free resources online, including full-length practice tests and personalized learning tools.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

## April ACT Rescheduled

ACT has rescheduled its April 4 national test date to June 13 across the U.S.

All students registered for the April 4 test date will receive an email from ACT informing them of the postponement and instructions for free rescheduling to June 13 or a future national test date.

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

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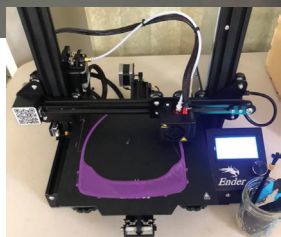
# Printing Face Shields for Hospitals

## 3D Printers Create Protective Gear for Healthcare Workers



Monroe Public Schools is sharing its resources to help medical professionals in the fight against COVID-19. We have sent our local hospital more than 500 sets of protective eyewear, hundreds of hospital gowns, and over 10,000 medical gloves.

Now face shields for healthcare workers are being printed on the district's fleet of forty 3D printers. Kyle Reed, Monroe High School's electro-mechanical design teacher, has taken the lead on this endeavor and is running printers in the high school lab. He is being supported by Andrew Hoppert (MMS STEM teacher) who is printing at home, Jake Kinsland (machine shop teacher) who made a jig punch, and physics teacher Josh Webb who is punching holes. Board Secretary Larry Zimmerman and retired principal Lisa McLaughlin are sourcing plastic sheeting, and Steve Pollzzie, Director of Career and Technical Education, is coordinating efforts.



"These healthcare professionals are on the front lines. They are our alumni, our families, and our fellow citizens," Dr. Julie Everly said. "Whatever we can do to support our partners at ProMedica, the Monroe County Health Department, and all other local healthcare agencies will be done. It is who we are everyday, and it is who we are during this time of great community need."

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# Hospitals, State Share Ways to Help

## Volunteers Needed to Donate Blood, Sew Masks, and More

### PROMEDICA

The ProMedica Health System, which includes ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital, is welcoming donations of handsewn face masks for medical teams. The local drop-off site is the Monroe Cancer Center, 800 Stewart Rd. More details are online at:

<https://promedicahealthconnect.org/news-and-community/help-the-shortage-volunteers-needed-to-sew-fabric-face-masks/>

Additional ways to help including donating blood and supplies:

<https://www.promedica.org/Pages/covid-19-ways-to-help.aspx>



### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT of HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS)

Governor Whitmer and MDHHS launched a new volunteer website, [www.michigan.gov/fightcovid19](http://www.michigan.gov/fightcovid19), where trained medical professionals can register to serve their fellow Michiganders by assisting hospitals in fighting COVID-19. Other state residents also can use the site to find out how they can help in their local communities, give blood, donate money or needed medical supplies, or assist public health officials in tracking infections.



# Spreading Hope, Lifting Spirits

## Art and Hearts Decorate Sidewalks, Drives, Windows

Students are sharing joy in their neighborhoods by creating chalk drawings and window decorations featuring positive, uplifting messages. MPS invites families to post messages in their windows to thank those in the community making a difference.



The Webb Family at Raisinville Elementary was featured on [CNN.com](https://www.cnn.com) for their decorated window. They were inspired by #AWorldofHearts.



# MPS Honors Alumni in Healthcare

## Facebook Album Celebrates Those on the Frontlines

**Monroe Public Schools Alumni**  
**SPOTLIGHT**

We will be creating a Facebook photo album recognizing Monroe Public Schools' alumni who work in healthcare.

Please share in the comments below:

- ~ alumnus name
- ~ photo
- ~ job/position
- ~ employer
- ~ graduation year

**HONORING our ALUMNI  
HEALTHCARE WORKERS**

**#MONROESTRONG**

Monroe Public Schools thanks everyone who works in healthcare for your dedication, courage, and service.

Your work is saving lives and making a difference in our community and around the world. **Thank you!**

We are creating a special Facebook photo album to recognize Monroe Public Schools' alumni who work in healthcare. The announcement (*at the left*) was posted on our Facebook page on April 6th.

Please share this post and spread the word to the alumni you know, so we can honor them and celebrate the important work they are doing.

**We Are #MonroeStrong!**

# Keeping in Touch with Technology

## Teachers and Staff Stay Connected to Students and Families

Teachers and staff across the district are using technology to stay connected to students and families. Staff are using email, Remind 101, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, Facebook, and other platforms to review, answer questions, and provide encouragement.

As we discover new and innovative ways to communicate, it is heart-warming to witness the strong bonds between our staff and students. **#WeAreFamily #WeAreMonroe**



# Manor Parade Celebrates Students

## Teachers & Staff Create Caravan of Cars to Show They Care



Manor Elementary School held a parade on March 23rd in celebration of all of the students who have been greatly missed during Michigan's mandatory school closure. Teachers and staff formed a caravan of cars, honking horns and waving, as students and parents watched and waved back. The Bobcat Pride Parade wound throughout the school's neighborhoods for approximately 30 minutes.

The parade took place hours before the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order went into effect. Participants were careful to follow social distancing precautions. Manor staff remained in their individual vehicles and returned to their homes after the parade. The directions to the school community also stressed safety, asking families to stand away from the road and at least six feet from each other, in accordance with current safety orders.

The Manor staff loved the opportunity to reach out to their students with some real facetime, and they were met with a warm and emotional reception. Students jumped and cheered with excitement, waving wildly at the teachers they hadn't seen since March 13th. Some held signs of their own. "We have a wonderful staff that is truly dedicated to our students," Principal Emily Bundon said. "Everyone came together to make this happen because it is important to all of us to support our students and our families."

Although no one is certain how long everything will remain closed, Manor students and families know this: their teachers and staff care about them and will be there to welcome them back when schools reopen.



Monroe Public Schools  
 1275 N. Macomb St.  
 Monroe, MI 48162

Non Profit  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit #40

District Resident  
 or  
 Postal Patron

## Superintendent's Remarks

This special "Stay Home, Stay Safe" edition of our newsletter shares information and updates about our programs and services during the state-mandated school closure.

This is an unprecedented time for our nation. I am incredibly proud of the work of our MPS team as we respond to the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. I also appreciate all of the families and community members who are supporting our efforts.

As we navigate circumstances that are new to all of us, author Jamie Tworkowski reminds us:

**CONVERSATIONS** will not be cancelled.  
**RELATIONSHIPS** will not be cancelled.  
**LOVE** will not be cancelled.  
**SONGS** will not be cancelled.  
**READING** will not be cancelled.  
**HOPE** will not be cancelled.

I'd like to add to the list: **EDUCATION** will not be cancelled, and **COMMUNITY** will not be cancelled. The work you have done and the support you have shown during the past two weeks is testament to the commitment and strength of our Monroe Public Schools community.

Last week MPS celebrated a virtual Spirit Week, and this week we are honoring our alumni working in healthcare. I encourage you to keep sharing photos until we can all be together again. Please continue following the recommended precautions to keep your family and our community healthy.

**Stay safe. Stay strong. We are MONROE!**

As always,

Dr. Julie M. Everly  
 Superintendent



## Monroe Public Schools

### Board of Education

Robert Nichols	President
Matthew Bunkelman	Vice President
Larry Zimmerman	Secretary
Cathleen Netter	Parliamentarian
Heather Boone	Trustee
Rosalie Pasko	Trustee
Lawrence VanWashenova	Trustee

### Central Administration

Dr. Julie Everly	Superintendent
Katherine Eighmey	Executive Director of Business and Finance
Cindy Flynn	Executive Director of Human Resources
Terry Joseph	Executive Director of Student Services
Jerry Oley	Executive Director of Operations
David Payne	Executive Director of Technology

### Connect to Monroe Public Schools!

 **District Website**  
<https://www.monroe.k12.mi.us>

 **District Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/MonroePublicSchools>

 **District Twitter**  
<https://www.twitter.com/MonroeSchoolsMI>

