



TRACKS & TALES

instilling pride & achieving excellence

Reminders

Thursday, March 25

End of Quarter 3

Friday, March 26

Teacher Workshop Day

No School for Students

April 2 - 5

Spring Break

No School for

Students & Staff

Tuesday, April 20

Don't Be Mean,

Wear Green!

Wear green to promote

bullying awareness

Tuesday, May 18

Don't Be Mean,

Wear Green!

Wear green to promote

bullying awareness

Friday, May 21

Graduation

Friday, May 28

Last Day of School

They're BAAAAACK!

Things are starting to feel normal at Milaca Public Schools, as normal as this school year can feel! Of course, today's normal include social distancing, wearing masks, and other measures to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID. The health of our students, staff, and community is our top priority! Over 150 of our staff and bus drivers have received both doses of the COVID vaccine!

In November, students transitioned to Distance Learning in response to an increase in local COVID cases. Due to a decline in local cases, on January 19, PreK-grade 2 returned to In-Person Learning, and grades 3-12 returned to Hybrid Learning. On February 1, grades 7-9 returned for In-Person Learning four days and one day of distance learning per week, as did grades 10-12 on February 16. The excitement and energy level of having students back in the building is refreshing!

Also, in January, the MSHSL authorized the return of activities and sports while following safety protocols. Our students and athletes were excited to return to the stage, courts, and mats! In February, many of the youth sports offered through Community Education also resumed or opened for registration. For the students and athletes, the opportunity to return to school, sports, and socialize with their peers is as important to their mental health as it is for their physical health.

Now that students are back, the staff at Milaca Public Schools will continue to monitor the health of our students, staff, and community. Our goal is to finish the school year In-Person. Students and their families have remained flexible and strong throughout the learning model shifts, but now ***the Pack is BETTER TOGETHER!***



It's A Bird! It's a Plane! It's an MES Super Reader!

In February, students and staff celebrated "I Love to Read" month at Milaca Elementary! The theme was **READING IS OUR SUPERPOWER!** We kicked off the month with a virtual pep fest which included a visit from Spider-man and Superman (Mr. Voshell and Mr. Meyer)!



Students from preschool - sixth grade did cheers and band performances. Superintendent Wedin gave a talk on the importance of reading and doing good for our community. The principals introduced the plan for the month. As a school, we celebrated with a read-a-thon that challenged students to read every day. Students asked family and friends to sponsor their reading calendars, and the money collected will be donated to the Milaca Food Pantry. During the month, we celebrated reading through author trivia, Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) time, 100 days smarter, and other reading activities. During the first week of March, we collected the reading calendars and fundraising money. At the time of this writing, we had collected approximately \$4,500. Thank you to our generous families and the Milaca community for helping us support the Milaca Food Pantry! Our reading incentive program wrapped-up with a virtual pep fest and reading bingo. It was a fun-filled month of celebrating reading at Milaca Elementary!

Small Business Class: Dine & Donate

Students develop a non-profit project to support a local small business and the food shelf

The Small Business students are thankful for the community support of the Dine and Donate project they organized and collaborated with Pizza Central and The Milaca Food Shelf! This project was a brainstorm of a group of students in the Small Business Class. As part of the curriculum, students must develop a non-profit project. The students coordinated and partnered with Pizza Central to host Dine and Donate on February 23. Ten percent of the day's sales were donated to the Milaca Food Shelf from dine-in, delivery, or carry-out orders.

The revenue generated from the one-day event was approximately \$3,000, leading to a \$300 donation to the food shelf. In addition, there were \$70 in cash donations from patrons and \$130 from Pizza Central,

totaling \$500 for the Food Shelf. Patrons also donated 100 food items.

The Dine and Donation event was a massive boost for a small business in our town and our local food shelf.

The students did a great job of promoting the event and coordinating it from start to finish. Thank you to students Kamal Bhakta, Tyler Pearson, and Tyler Rensenbrink for coordinating and organizing the event. Also, thank you Pizza Central for hosting the event and to the community members who came out to support a local business and the food shelf!

