

Focus ON THE Fine Arts

The Arts Help MPSD Students Express Themselves and Connect with Each Other



Manitowoc Public Schools believe music and arts education contribute to our students' success in academics and in life. Some scientific studies have linked musical performance to improvements in mathematics. Arts education has been shown to improve dropout rates, motor skills and self-esteem and build creative and cognitive thinking.

MPSD is proud of our K-12 fine arts programs. Consider some recent accomplishments:

- MPSD was named a 2017 "Best Community for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation, among just 4 percent of districts across the nation to receive this honor.



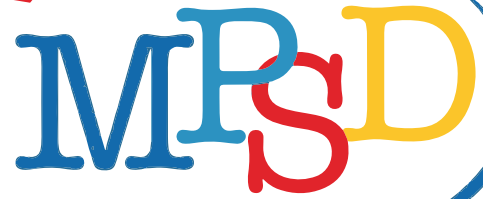
- Five Lincoln High student actors and one Lincoln graduate performed with a Manitowoc Treehouse Theater group that won awards at the Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta, GA. The 21-member Treehouse group won a Freddie G. Excellence in Dance award. Two Lincoln students also were named Festival All-Stars and one student won a choreographer award.
- MPSD elementary schools were the first in the Midwest to offer an Angklung music program, using 18 donated bamboo instrument sets.
- A Wilson Jr. High ninth grader was selected to sing at Carnegie Hall in New York.
- Lincoln High choirs have sung at the United Nations in New York, Disney World, Old North Church and Faneuil Hall in Boston. LHS choirs also have appeared at the Wisconsin Association of School Board Officials Conference and performed with the Manitowoc Symphony and the Milwaukee Symphony.

March is National Youth Art Month

Music in Our Schools Month and Theater in Our Schools Month. We always welcome community members to attend our concerts, theater performances and art shows. Find our events at manitowocpublicschools.org/calendar.

The Manitowoc Public School District weaves music and fine arts in both elementary and secondary schools in the following ways:

PROUD OF OUR PAST, PRESERVING OUR FUTURE



VOTE APRIL 3!

On Tuesday April 3, 2018, residents in the Manitowoc Public School District will vote on an operating referendum seeking up to \$3.5 million annually, for three years, to maintain existing programs, fund capital and technology needs and retain quality staff. If approved, the referendum would help all schools and students with little to no tax impact.

»» THE NEED

Referendum would help ALL schools, ALL students

If successful, the referendum funds will be used to:

Maintain current programs and educational opportunities

- Offer a wide range of academic courses, programs and services
- Provide our graduates 21st Century workforce development skills
- Offer youth apprenticeships and other on-the-job training in partnership with local businesses and post-secondary educational institutions
- Protect class sizes

Maintain and update district facilities and technology

- \$10 million in capital improvements needs in next five years
- \$1.2 million in technology needs, including classroom Internet

Continue to attract and retain highly qualified staff

- Provide employee training and development, and competitive wages and benefits

»» LITTLE TO NO TAX IMPACT

Mill rate would increase 21 cents in first year, then decrease to 10-year low

The referendum question calls for a decrease in school property taxes over the three year period, with the first year seeing a 2.65% increase followed by -2.01% and -1.63% in years two and three.

Manitowoc's school property tax rate will drop to historically low levels – to \$7.95 per \$1,000 of equalized value – the lowest in 10 years. The last time the school tax rate was under \$8.00 was in 2009–10 when it was \$7.52.

ANNUAL SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX IMPACT

School Year	Tax Rate*	Tax Rate Change	\$100,000 home**	\$150,000 home	\$200,000 home
2017-18	\$8.04				
2018-19	\$8.25	+ 21 cents	+ \$21	+ \$31.50	+ \$42
2019-20	\$8.09	- 16 cents	- \$16	- \$24	- \$32
2020-21	\$7.95	- 14 cents	- \$14	- \$21	- \$28

* School Property Tax Levy Rate is per \$1,000 of equalized value

** City of Manitowoc average home value is \$108,000

The MPSD takes pride in being fiscally responsible as a low spending school district for the past 24 years. Manitowoc's 2017 property tax rate of \$8.04 per \$1,000 of equalized tax value remains the lowest in Manitowoc County and is in the bottom 10% in the state of WI. The county average is \$9.55 and the state average for K-12 districts is \$9.79. MPSD's \$9.198 per pupil cost ranks 417 out of 422 districts in Wisconsin.

If the referendum passes, the district still will have a projected \$1.2 million shortfall, for which budget adjustments will be made. However, if the referendum fails, that deficit will rise to \$4.7 million and require the district to make significant cuts to staff and programs. About 80% of the district's budget is staff salary and benefits. A \$4.7 million deficit would translate to a reduction of 30 full-time staff members – administrators, teachers, support staff, custodians and food service.

»» **QUESTIONS:** Contact Supt. Mark Holzman at holzmanm@mpsd.k12.wi.us or 920-686-4781

MORE INFORMATION: manitowocpublicschools.org/referendum

VOTE APRIL 3!

Art

Art class is offered from Kindergarten through 12th grade, culminating with diverse high school elective courses in numerous media, photography, art history and graphic design. Student artwork is displayed annually at the Rahr-West Art Museum "Youth Art Series" (this year's exhibit runs through March 21). MPSD teachers choose hundreds of art pieces, and three student art pieces are displayed on local billboards. Student creations also are displayed at MPSD's Spring Art Show at the Manitowoc Public Library. This year the art show will run from April 26 to May 23.



Art also is proudly displayed year-round in the MPSD District Administration Building. Every year the School Board purchases, frames and hangs student artwork in the Board room. Students attend a Board ceremony to describe their pieces and receive their checks and certificates from the Superintendent. Some elementary schools, such as Stangel, host student art auctions.

Music

Students can start band in 5th grade and orchestra in 6th. Secondary band, choir and orchestra students participate in Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) Solo & Ensemble. Students perform in front of an adjudicator, receive feedback and earn ratings and/or medals. Lincoln High School offers numerous choirs, orchestras and bands (pep,



concert, jazz, marching), as well as advanced music theory courses. Every third year, all band students in fifth to 12th grades perform a Band-o-Rama concert.

Lincoln also hosts Bandapalooza and Jazz Tracs concerts and invites music alumni to return to perform. Lincoln's marching band performs at each elementary school in fall, and MPSD choirs sing throughout the community during the holidays. Last summer, Washington and Wilson Junior High choirs traveled to London to perform at the Langley School for Boys and Royal Albert Hall. MPSD has an active Music Parents Association (MPA) with a Facebook page.

Theater

Washington and Wilson Jr. High Schools perform school plays, create and paint sets, design costumes and apply make-up. In February, Washington eighth grader Joey O'Connor served as student director for "Hoodie," a school play about teenagers and the pressures they face to fit in and stick with a group.

Lincoln High has a vibrant theater program featuring fall, winter and spring play offerings. High school students can take elective courses in acting, directing, playwriting, theatrical design and production and stagecraft. This year Lincoln High theater performed "The Perfect Ending" and the musical "Starmites." On April 12-14 Lincoln will perform the mystery/comedy "Bloody Murder" by Ed Sala with special arrangement by The Dramatic Publishing Company.



ATHLETICS CELEBRATIONS



Gymnastics Three-Peat Conference Champions

Lincoln's Varsity Gymnastics won its Conference Championship for the third consecutive years and hosted the WIAA Sectionals where they placed third. Junior Brynn Tackett represented Lincoln at the WIAA State Gymnastics Championship.



Six Inducted into Athletic Wall of Fame

Lincoln High inducted six new members into its Class of 2018 Athletic Wall of Fame at halftime of the Feb. 2 boys basketball game. Congratulations to Ron Fandrick (1967), Bob Hablewitz (1967), Rick Fischer (1972), BJ Rubick (1984), Jeff Ploederl (1991) and Damon Ryan Cattani, voice of Manty Ships Football and Basketball for 40 years. Learn more about the inductees on Lincoln's school website under Athletics & Activities.

Citrus Bowl

Three MPSD athletes auditioned and were chosen to perform the Jan. 1 Citrus Bowl in Orlando, Fla. They performed in the "All American Halftime Show" with fellow high school cheer, dance, color guard and baton athletes from 43 other states.



Manitowoc Public School District
2902 Lindbergh Drive
Manitowoc, WI 54220

VOTE APRIL 3!

OUR vision

- Inspiring Education
- Empowering Community
- Unleashing Potential

VOTE APRIL 3

MPSD's operating referendum is on the April 3 election ballot. Out of town? Vote early by absentee ballot at the City Clerk's office.

DISABILITY RESOURCE FAIR APRIL 17

Get special needs resources on April 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Madison Elementary School.

JOIN THE MANITOWOC NATION

Connect with alumni and the community at manitowocnation.nationbuilder.com

GRADUATION TRADITION JUNE 8

Congratulations, Class of 2018! Graduation is June 8, 1-3 p.m., as always in the Lincoln High bowl.

Improving Our Students' Mental Wellness

The Manitowoc Public School District focuses on supporting the whole child, including students' social-emotional health. To bolster this effort, MPSD created a new full-time position of Mental Wellness Coordinator starting in the 2017-18 school year, and hired an additional full-time school counselor.



MPSD's School Nurse Team

Wellness Coordinator Michael Morgan champions student mental health efforts, matches students and their families to resources in the community, and provides professional development to all staff members so they can serve students with mental wellness needs. Morgan can be reached via email at morgenm@mpsd.k12.wi.us or 920-663-9803.

He works with MPSD's 15 school counselors, four school psychologists, three school nurses, building administrators and other school faculty to provide identification and referral services for students having emotional, health and/or learning problems which are beyond the resources of the local school. He serves as the liaison between school and community providers and will be sharing mental health related topics with parents via the district website and at parent information meetings.

Each MPSD school K-12 has at least one assigned counselor who helps students with academic, learning and social-emotional needs, as well as college and career readiness. We are grateful for each member of our outstanding team of School Counselors! **Thank you counselors!**

Alumni Donate Funds to Repair Lincoln Tower Bells

Lincoln High School has received an incredibly kind and generous donation



from **Charles Rohrer** (Class of 1968) and his wife **Julie Wester Rohrer** (Class of 1970) to repair the Carillon Bells system that reside in the Historic Lincoln High School tower.

The repair by Phil Henrickson Sound allows for the carillon bells to be played again for our community - before school, after school and during special occasions. The bells originally were played by members of the student body but were digitized in 2012. The bells haven't played since 2013 because of damage to the speakers.

A tremendous thank you to the Rohrers for their generosity and passion for Lincoln High School and its traditions.



STAY CONNECTED - #ShipsPride



@ManitowocPublicSchools



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CONTACT OUR SCHOOLS: manitowocpublicschools.org/schools

The Manitowoc Public School District does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability.