

# MISD News & Notes

October 2018

## Smart Sack Program a Big Success



Students choose healthy food

During the 2010-2011 school year, Running Strong for American Indian Youth® began a “Smart Sacks” program at Keshena Primary School, starting with pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students.

The idea was to provide students with a backpack full of healthy foods and snacks on a Friday, so they could take it home and have nutritious foods to eat throughout the weekend. The impact was immediate and impressive. Teachers reported that there were fewer absences on Mondays, students came to school less fatigued and ready to learn. That’s why

teachers and district leaders asked Running Strong to expand the Smart Sacks program to include students in first through third grades.

This school year, the expanded program provides more than 1,350 “Smart Sacks” each week; with a typical backpack containing cans of beans and franks, canned vegetables, oatmeal, fruit cups, fruit and grain bars, non-fat dry milk packs and chocolate pudding cups. The amount of food ensures students, and their families, don’t go hungry on non-school days.

The program also does something else: it brings in community volunteers. The volunteers come to the school every Friday to fill the Smart Sacks and to distribute them to

the students. “We’re providing food to students and families and, at the same time, making that all-important community connection,” explained MISD Business Manager Robert Ferguson. “It’s a very successful program.”

Due in part to the Smart Sacks program, MISD was the first school district serving a Native American population to receive a Silver Award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Healthier School Challenge.



Students receive a backpack full of food



**MISD VISION**  
Enriching the lives  
of our children  
through education

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## Driver's Ed Classes This Fall



Does your student want to learn to drive and get their license? If your student is at least 15 years old, they are eligible to take MISD's Driver's Education class.

MISD will offer a Driver's Ed class starting October 22, 2018.

By taking this class, students will be eligible for their temps at 15-1/2 years old and for their license at 16.

If your student is an athlete, there's no need to worry about whether the class will interfere with their practices as the ses-

sions will take place between fall and winter sports.

You must register and pay in advance for the class. The fee is \$50 per student. For more information contact Christie at MIHS at (715) 799-3846.

## Did You Forget Something?

**Impact Aid Forms** were sent home with students a few weeks ago. If you haven't already filled it out, can you take a few moments to do so?

MISD needs one form for each child you have in school. The information is very

important as it helps determine state and federal funding. The information is kept confidential.

The other item we need from parents and guardians is **contact information**. If your child's school or the district office

needs to get in touch with you, we need your current, accurate information including address, phone number and email.

We know everyone is busy these days so we thank you for taking the time to provide us with this information.

*Why does the information matter?*

## Hats Off to the MISD School Board!

Wisconsin School Board Week is October 7-13, 2018.

Please thank our school board members for the outstanding job they do serving our students and community. They put in countless hours doing their work!

Our board members include:

- David "Jonesy" Miller, Board President
- Karen Washinawatok, Board Vice President
- Nanette Corn, treasurer

- Geradette Richmond, Board Clerk
- Toni Caldwell, Board member
- Nicole Fish, Board member
- Chuck Goetsch, Board member

On behalf of everyone at MISD, thank you!

*Thank you!*

## Student Early Release Reminder

Just a reminder that students will have an early release day on October 10.

Please keep this in mind for your family's

schedule, and be sure to check with your child's school for other early release dates throughout the school year.



## How Many Absences are Too Many?

This year, MISD has a focus on improving student attendance. It's well documented and researched that if a student attends school each and every day they will not only learn more, and avoid falling behind their classmates, but they are far more likely to graduate on time.

But what is chronic absenteeism, and how

many absences are too many? In general, research shows students should not miss more than 9 days of school each year to stay on track. In fact, the fewer days missed, the better.

And, according to the Attendance Works organization, if a student misses 10 percent, or about 18 days of school, it will

drastically affect their academic success.

So why not make it a priority to have your child in school every day from the time they begin pre-school right through to graduation from high school? If they know it's important to you, it will likely be important to them as well.

***We all agree that we want students to succeed; so they need to be in school every day.***

## Welcome New Hires

- Brenda Raught: SPED @ KPS
- Analisa Bodien: 2nd grade @ KPS
- Patricia Weisensel: Reading Interventionist @ KPS
- Kelsie Kerchefske: 1st grade @ KPS
- Logan DuChac: 1st grade @ KPS
- Lucy Hess: Counselor @ KPS
- Eliza Koeller: SPED @ KPS
- Jason Gersmehl: MIMS teacher
- Miranda Hagberg: PE @ MIHS
- Mallory Gruszynski: English - MIHS
- Amanda Paar: SPED @ MIHS
- Robert Strelow Jr.: English @ MIHS
- Bonnie Mahkimetas: SPED @ MIHS
- Stacy Roe: Math @ MIHS
- Tonia Haack: Certified aide @ MIHS
- Lori Kineway: Attendance Success Mentor @ MIHS



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m..	2	3	4	5 World Teacher's Day	6
7	8	9	10 Student early release day	11	12	13
14	15 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m..	16 World Food Day	17	18	19 No School	20
21	22 No School	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Halloween			