

# MISD News & Notes

January 2019

## Report Out on State Report Cards

This year's State of Wisconsin School District Report Cards are out, but what do the results really mean? "When the state report card comes out, so much is reported without any context or background," explained MISD Superintendent Wendell Waukau. "We want to provide a more comprehensive overview." Here's a brief look at what the report card showed for each school:

### MIHS

#### Gains included:

- ACT English Language Arts (ELA) score increased
- ACT Mathematics score increased
- Gaps are being closed in all areas including ELA (English Language Arts), math and the graduation rate

#### Areas in need of improvement:

- Chronic absenteeism

- Many non-graduates are credit deficient as early as the 10<sup>th</sup> grade

Despite an improvement in the graduation rate gap, the overall graduation rate decreased for the year. "This is based on a four-year completion rate," explained Waukau. "The reality is, some students who have challenges in their lives often need more time. If you look at our five, six- and seven-year graduation completion rate, the numbers go up dramatically. By the seven-year mark, 90% of our students have earned a diploma."

"We need to focus on attendance and that's something we identified early last year," stated MISD School Board President David "Jonesy" Miller. "That effort includes newly created at-

tendance success mentors for each school to identify issues early and help resolve challenges that prevent students from attending school.

#### Other MIHS goals include:

- Increasing ELA and Mathematics ACT scores by one point each year
- Determining the best way to serve credit deficient students, while building resiliency to deal with high ACE scores (Adverse Childhood Experience)

### MIMS

#### Gains included:

- The gap in math improved significantly
- The gap is closing between students with disabilities and their non-disabled peers in both ELA and math

(Continued on pg. 2)



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

Save the Date!

MISD's annual Scholarship Gala will take place on March 29, 2019 at the Menominee Resort & Conference Center. This is MISD's largest single fundraiser for scholarships. It is a LOT of FUN. More details in the coming months.

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## When is sick too sick for school?

### Send your child to school if.....

They have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.

They haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours and they haven't had a fever during that time.

They haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.

### Keep your child at home if....

They have a temperature higher than 100 degrees, even after taking medicine.

They are throwing up or have diarrhea.

Their eyes are pink and crusty.

### Call the doctor if....

Your child has a temperature higher than 100 degrees for more than two days.

They've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.

They've had the sniffles for more than a week and they aren't getting better.

Used with permission from Attendance Works, Not intended as a medical diagnosis.  
Children with chronic health conditions may require immediate medical attention.

## Report Out on Report Cards (con't. from page 1)

- The gap is closing between economically disadvantaged students and their peer group in math. "We attribute the gap closings to small group instruction in both regular and special education classes," stated principal Nell Strebel.

### Areas for improvement:

- Both ELA and math scores
- Continuing to close all gap areas
- Reducing absenteeism to less than 13%

"We'll be introducing new curriculum for ELA and providing additional teacher training," added Strebel.

### **KPS**

### Gains included:

A 10-point gain moved KPS from "fails to meet expectations" to "meets few expectations." "It's not where we want to be long-term, but it does show we are moving the needle and that is something that takes time," stated Waukau. Other gains included:

- Growth in ELA is above the State of Wisconsin average
- Growth in math was significant compared to the previous year
- Gaps are closing in both ELA and math

"We believe new curriculum, training and coaching were primary factors in the gains, along with teaching and practicing skills needed for the test," stated KPS

principal Laura Duggan.

"Going forward, we want to see even more growth; especially in math."

### Areas for improvement:

- Additional gap closing in ELA and math
- Attendance improvement (20% for each grade)

"It's important for the public and our parents to understand what the findings mean and what we're doing to improve," said Waukau. "That's what it is all about; helping our students continuously improve their learning so they can be successful in school and in life. We appreciate everyone's support as we move forward."

## Aquaponics Center & Green House Nears Completion

It's official: MISD now has "the keys" to the Aquaponics Center & Green House. That means construction is completed and a grand opening is in the works for sometime in January.

The greenhouse and aquaponics building,

located next to MIHS, is 35 x 90 feet and will be equipped with two fish tanks and six grow beds; along with room to expand. Most of the interior equipment (tanks and grow beds) was purchased with a \$25,000 donation from the Menominee Tribal Clinic. Thank you!



*Photo, left to right: MISD Building & Grounds Manager Jerry Chapman, MISD Business & Food Service Manager Rob Ferguson and Kenny Verbeek of V3 Construction. Verbeek and his crew worked evenings and weekends and put in 10 hours of work on Thanksgiving to finish the project. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!*

## Student Health Center News

**Healing Garden:** A garden has been started to help students learn more about food sovereignty, how to grow their own food and how to connect more with nature. Students and staff have planted a variety of vegetables, medicinal plants and Wisconsin Native flowers donated to them by the College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute; Jonsey Miller; Menominee Tribal Clinic; Carol Fish; and MIHS. Thank you for your donations. This garden is a good place to feel connected, learn about food sovereignty and enjoy the beauty of nature!

**Talking Circles:** Students start their day by smudging off and checking in with themselves and others in a morning talking circle. They share how they are feeling and what challenges they may have as well as sharing different techniques to handle their emotions and stress. It's an important part of their day and it helps teach kindness, communication and resiliency.

## Final 4 Hardwood Dedicated at MIHS



Dedication photo courtesy WLUK Fox 11 TV

Hardwood for the 2019 NCAA Final Four Courts was recently dedicated & blessed in a special Tribal ceremony at MIHS. The courts will be made with hardwood harvested and processed by Menominee Tribal Enterprises. The dedication event featured traditional dancers and drum group; comments

from MTE, MIHS boys' and girls' basketball coaches and team captains and Connor Sports; a traditional Menominee blessing and a ceremonial presentation of the wood to an NCAA official.

Thank you to all who participated; and congratulations to MTE!



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# January 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 New Year's Day. No School. Bldgs. Closed.	2	3	4	5
6	7 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m.	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 School Bd. Mtg. @ 5 p.m.	22	23	24	25 No School. Students Only.	26
27	28	29	30	31		