

# Montowese Elementary School

Kathryn Russo, Principal

September 7, 2018  
Volume 1, Issue 1

145 Fitch Street, North Haven  
Office: (203)-239-2564

School Hours: 8:30-3:02 pm

## Montowese News- Welcome Back!

I hope the first week of school has been amazing for you and your child! It certainly has been for us. We have had a great start to the school year despite the hot temperatures. The buses have been coming in on schedule, and we are working on speeding up the dismissal procedures in the afternoon. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we are getting back into a schedule. The students are transitioning nicely into their school routine. Kuddos to our new kindergartners who have been amazing during morning drop-off and positive throughout the day.

I have visited each classroom to meet all of the students. We had our first Montowese assembly last Friday to welcome everyone back and review our school expectations. Our students also met Officer Iannone, our SRO, who is working with Montowese and Clintonville over the next couple of weeks. We are very excited to have Officer Iannone in the building. Please join me in welcoming him to our school! Next week students will participate in our PBIS lessons to reinforce positive behaviors in different location in the school. We look forward to continuing our monthly assemblies to celebrate all of our students hard work and successes.

### Staffing updates:

We would like to welcome our new special education teacher Ms. Cantrell to Montowese. Ms. Cantrell joins us from New Haven and previously was a long-term fifth grade teacher in our building. She will be working with grades 3-5. We would also like to welcome our Quinnipiac intern Alexandra D'Orsi who will completing her student teaching this year. In addition to our new staff, Mrs. Jackie Jamilkowski, will be filling in as our reading interventionist while Mrs. Iacovo is out on maternity leave.

We wish all the best to Mrs. Rogers, our special education teacher, who has accepted a position in another district. We will miss Mrs. Rogers very much. Ms. Makowski is our long-term substitute who will be filling in for Mrs. Rogers as we continue to interview for a full-time replacement. As always, we will keep families updated with more information to come.

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MAC



Gd. 3 Teachers:

Mrs. Termine Ms. Bengivengo

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Sept. 10**

No School: Rosh Hashanah

#### **Sept. 11-28th**

iReady benchmark testing-  
gds 1-5

#### **Sept. 17**

Open House, 6-7:30pm.  
Doors open at 5:30pm.

#### **Sept. 19**

No School: Yom Kippur

#### **Sept. 20**

Picture Day

#### **Sept. 25**

PTA meeting- 7:00pm

#### **Sept. 28**

Fun Friday:

Super Hero Day- wear your  
favorite super hero attire



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We are very fortunate to have a wonderful, dedicated staff at Montowese whose first priority is to help ALL students become successful, active learners and secondly, create a school environment where children enjoy coming to school. I am very excited to start another year and work collaboratively together with you. My door is always open. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kathryn Russo  
Principal

*“You are capable of amazing things!”*

### **MAC WANTS YOU TO KNOW...**

- MAC stands for: Montowese Always Cares.
- Our school’s mascot is the Macaroni Penguin.

Our school follows the 3R’s:

**Respect school**  
**Respect self**  
**Respect others**

### **JUST A FEW REMINDERS...**

- If your child’s transportation needs change, please send him/her in with a note for our office staff that morning. We understand that emergencies occur but if you know beforehand, please be sure to contact the main office as soon as possible. Early pick-ups prior to 3:00 are discouraged as this can disrupt instruction.
- The first week of each month, the Montowese School newsletter will be posted on our school’s website informing you of various events, activities and general school information. In addition, you will receive an email or phone call to inform you of the events in the weeks ahead.
- Breakfast is served in the morning. Information about the program can be found on the district and school website. Students can purchase a “to go” breakfast and bring it to their classroom. Breakfast cannot be brought in from home.
- Chartwells: Our daily lunch menus are available on the district’s website. Parents can upload funds into their child’s account if they would like to purchase lunch and/or breakfast during the school year.
- Birthday celebrations: Every child will be recognized on their birthday by having their name announced over the intercom system and will receive a prize that day. To eliminate loss of instructional time throughout the month, each classroom will celebrate students’ birthdays the last school day of each month. A calendar with specific dates will be sent home by classroom teachers. Only store-purchased, labeled food will be allowed in the classrooms (per student allergies). Please be mindful of nut-free classrooms.
- Open House will be Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 p.m. All parents are invited to come 5:30-6:00 to meet with the PTA and learn about the many events they host throughout the year. We will also have a table for the Lions Club for vision screening (K-5). We will gather in the gym for our welcome back speech from 6:00-6:30. The first session with teachers will be 6:35-7:00, and the second session will be 7:05-7:30.



## **SEPTEMBER NURSE'S NEWS**

### **Welcome back!**

If your child is going to be absent from school please remember to call the school to report the absence as well as the reason your child will be absent.

In the next couple of weeks we will begin the hearing screening for each child. If your child does not pass the screening a referral will be sent home. We request the child follow up with the pediatrician at that time. The pediatrician needs to fill out the referral then it needs to be returned to the health office.

Please remember to send in all medication order forms to the health office if your child needs to have medications kept at school. Please remember that medications must be dropped off at the nurse's office.

Thank you,

Cheryl Rapuano, RN

## **PTA– Kindergarten Playground**

Our Kindergarten playground is well underway! We are excited for the final project to be revealed. The estimated completion date is Monday, September 10th. A big thanks to the PTA for coordinating this project for our students. As you pull in the main entrance of the school, you will also notice the beautiful Montowese school sign that was purchased by the PTA this summer. We are so grateful for all of your dedication and hard work! Thank you!

Please check out the PTA website on the Montowese webpage for up-to-date information regarding events, projects and more! Our first PTA meeting this school year will be Tuesday, Sept 25th at 7:00pm in the cafeteria. We would love to see you there!

## **Technology Update**

We are excited to announce that all students in grades 3-5 will have their own chrome books to utilize throughout the school year. Students in grades K-2 will have a cart of 30 chrome books for each grade level to be shared throughout the day. The chrome books will travel with the students to their computer class each week and teachers will use them for their daily instruction. Students will keep the chrome books at school each night.



## **New! Makerspace**

Our computer lab has been transformed into a Makerspace. A “Makerspace” is an area for students to design and build concepts they have designed. Students will continue to use this space during computer time with their chrome books. More information about Makerspace and our technology classes to come!