



# Bobcat News



## A Note From Our Principal

Dec. 2021/Jan. 2022

Dear Families,

Happy December. Wow, this year is going quickly!

Thank you for all your help with keeping our kids and other families safe. We had a very busy November with many positive cases and many excluded students. Having students out is hard on everyone and we appreciate your support and patience. We are so happy that we are getting much closer to normal numbers! Please continue to be vigilant about the health of your children. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our school office.

We are in the process of our winter round of MAPs (Measures of Academic Progress) testing for Reading and Math. At Manchester, all students in Kindergarten through 4th grade take the winter benchmark. This test is used as an instructional tool, not a grade. We use the results from this test for instructional support in the classroom. The information provided to us helps us to group students to teach at their specific ready-to-learn levels for the standards and skills that are a part of the curriculum. As your child takes the test, there will be many questions on the test your child will know and many questions that your child will not know. This is normal for this test as the test adapts to each student's knowledge level. Just as we will be working with your children to understand the process of the test, we ask that you also stress the importance to your child of taking his/her time and answering each question as well as he/she can. If you have any further questions about this assessment, please reach out to either your child's teacher or myself.

I would like to wish all Manchester Families a happy and safe winter break.

Respectfully,

*Mrs. Lilja*

### Upcoming Events:

- ✓ Dec. 21—Classroom Holiday Parties
- ✓ Dec. 22—PTO fundraiser-Chipotle, Machesney Park 4-8pm
- ✓ Dec. 22-Jan. 4—Winter Break-NO SCHOOL
- ✓ Jan. 5—School Resumes
- ✓ Jan. 13—Virtual Assembly-NED's Mindset Mission
- ✓ Jan. 14—Progress Reports go home
- ✓ Jan. 17—MLK Day-NO SCHOOL
- ✓ Jan. 19—Late Start, 9:25am bell

## School Hours

Daily school hours are 8:00am—2:45pm. Our first morning bell rings at 7:55am; our tardy bell rings at 8:00am. We ask that car riders do not get to school before 7:45am. Afternoon car riders can be picked up at 2:45pm at Door F. Thank you!



## Lunch Balances

Please remember to pay your account balances for school milk purchases. Overdue balance letters are sent home weekly, so please check those backpacks often! You also have the option of paying online by following the E-Funds link on [www.nbcusd.org](http://www.nbcusd.org). Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

## Student of the Month

Manchester Elementary honors one student from each class as Student of the Month. These students are nominated by teachers and staff for his/her outstanding achievement in citizenship, academics, leadership, and for being caring students who are role models for others. Our recent recipients are:

**October:** Della S., Mackenzie W., Jeremiah K., Maria G., Irelyn O., Jack L., Lucas M., Autumn B., Camden M., Radamel H., Stanley S., and Bella T.

**November:** Damien K., Gianna C., Josie B., Lillian T., Oliver T., Eli W., Brynlee B., Sofia R., Alani B., Elias D., Genesis M., Leonard S., and Shelby G. **Congratulations to all!**

## Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found Counter is filling up! All lost and found items are in our Lobby area near the office. Please take a look when you are in the building, and take any items belonging to your child. Also, please remind your child to bring home his/her lunchbox on a daily basis. Lunchboxes will be moved to the Lost and Found if left in the cafeteria at the end of the day. Thank you!



## Cold Weather

**Winter is here—Please remember that your children are still going outside for recess!** The School District's Policy is that children will be outside for recess as long as the wind chill is above 10 degrees. Please be sure your child comes to school each day prepared for outdoor recess, as well as in the morning as buses arrive. They should have a winter coat, as well as hats and gloves.



## Absences

Please report your child's absence by 9:00am by either calling 815-765-2826 or emailing Mrs. Jones at [jjones@nbcusd.org](mailto:jjones@nbcusd.org). Pre-Arranged Absence forms are available in the office, and also on the district website—[www.nbcusd.org](http://www.nbcusd.org). **Also, if your student is arriving to school late, please accompany him/her into the office to sign them in.**

## PTO News

### **Final Climbing Wall Fundraiser**

Mark your calendars to enjoy delicious Chipotle food and support the last Manchester Climbing Wall fundraiser!

Manchester PTO Chipotle Night @ 1570 W Lane Rd. Machesney Park

**December 22 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Our online ordering code is: ZWJWMMJ

### **Holiday gifts for AMAZING Manchester Teachers and Staff**

There are over 30 people who work everyday to ensure that Manchester is a GREAT place to go to school! We'd like to send them all home for the holidays with a special gift. PTO needs monetary donations (\$2) and gift cards to assorted retailers/gas stations/grocery stores/restaurants in small (\$5-\$10) denominations. Please send these to the school as soon as possible.

### **January PTO Meeting - virtual - Thursday, 1/13/22 @ 6:00 p.m.**

PTO Meeting Attendance = Hot Chocolate Party

Congratulations to Mrs. Ribovich's kindergarten class - because of your class's parent attendance at the December PTO meeting, your class will be having a hot chocolate party this month!

### **Box Tops for Education**

Start the new year right by adding the Box-Tops for Education app to your phone. Then, everytime you purchase a Box Top for Education product, you can use the app to take a picture of your receipt and earn money for the Manchester PTO. You can even submit digital receipts from your online shopping grocery pick up order! Go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information.