



MARINER CHRONICLE



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MANISTEE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

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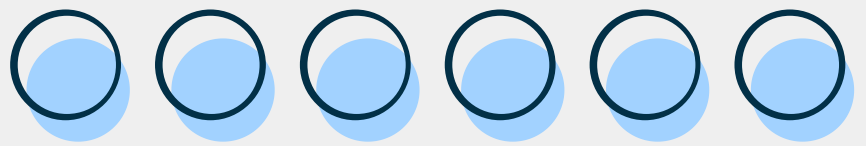
KENNEDY RENOVATION UPDATE!

Written by Piper Eskridge

Manistee Area Public Schools (MAPS) is progressing with its **\$30.855 million bond project**, focusing on the renovation of **Kennedy Elementary School** and the demolition of the former Kennedy Elementary building in Manistee Township.



The renovation of Kennedy Elementary School began in early November 2023. As of **December 13**, significant interior demolition and asbestos abatement have been completed. Current activities include installing hydronic piping and overhead ductwork, reinforcing joists in the auxiliary gym, and performing electrical work. The project aims to consolidate all elementary grades into the renovated building, with completion expected by the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year.



KENNEDY CONTINUED...

In April 2024, the former Kennedy Elementary School in Manistee Township was demolished by Swidorski Bros Excavating. The site is being prepared for future housing development, contributing to the community's growth and addressing local housing needs.

These developments are part of MAPS' broader vision to enhance educational facilities and support community development in Manistee.

View the links below to learn more about Kennedy Elementary's Renovation!

[Manistee News Advocate](#)
[Manistee Area Public Schools](#)
[Manistee News Advocate](#)



END OF SEMESTER!!

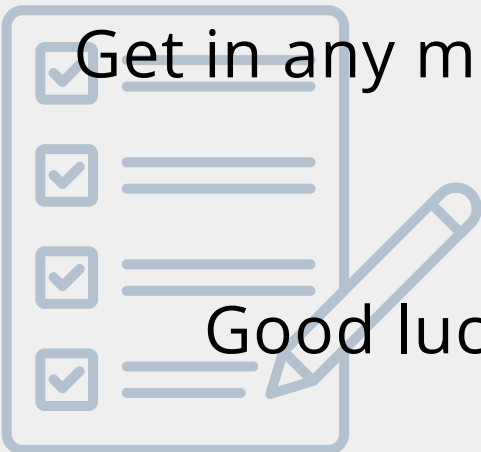
Written by Kate Somsel

The first semester is coming to an end!

The final day is January 17th!

Get in any missing assignments, work, or tests!

Good luck with exams, Mariners!



Written by Mr. Q

How many times a year do you see something so beautiful you are rendered speechless? Two, maybe three times a year? How many times are you left in silence by the awe and beauty of a landscape or overlook? Humanity's



capacity for wonder is a function that we often take for granted. I have seen the depths of the Grand Canyon, the lush meadows and valleys of Yosemite and Zion, and the impossibility of the Arches of Utah. These are the big moments and scenes that compel silence, wonder, and awe. But what about the times in between? We are still the same person we were in those big moments, with the same capacity for awe and wonder.



Practicing the art of engaging “awe” in our world is one simple way to increase your mindfulness and help develop healthy mental health habits. UC Berkeley psychologist **Dacher Keltner** writes, “That awe, wonder and beauty promote healthier levels of cytokines suggests that the things we do to experience these emotions—a walk in nature, losing oneself in music, beholding art—has a direct influence upon health and life expectancy.” The earth around us is beautiful and complex and worthy of the appreciation for the small and large details it provides us with.



The next time you go to the beach, stare into the waters of Lake Michigan. Admire the complexity of each wave. Notice the beauty of the way the waves splash against the pier. Leave your car and walk on the beach. Pick up some sand and notice all the colors and shapes in that little handful of sand. Find a tree and notice how intricate the patterns of the bark are, how complex the twisting of the branches are, and how numerous the leaves are. The world around us does not lack beauty, it is our attention that is lacking. Stop the world around you and focus on beauty. Practice awe.

Oftentimes during my free hour or during lunch, you can find me staring out of the downstairs west window. This view is no grand vista, hardly comparable to the Grand Canyon, but complex all the same. The way the snow is falling makes me pause, the birds in flight, the trees bending slightly under the light wind. This is a moment for me to unplug from the hustle and bustle of work and school and spend dedicated time to seek awe in the environment around me. Even if the environment might not be the Grand Canyon, there is beauty in the mundane and ordinary. So go take a walk, leave the phone in your pocket, and find awe in the beautiful world around you.



STAFF OF THE WEEK:

MRS. BUSH Written by Alayna Edmondson

Staff spotlight is an easy way to learn more about the new and old faces around the school. For each one, we share a few facts about one staff member. This week it is Mrs. Bush. Mrs. Bush teaches middle school ELA interventionist and Special Education. We are happy to have her here at MMHS!

Question 1: Where are you from?

- Long story, I grew up in the UP and lived in Saginaw and GR. I just moved to Manistee 2 years ago.

Question 2: How long have you been teaching?

- 29 years, but this is my last year.



Question 3: What is your favorite part about being a teacher?

- When a student is struggling with a concept and they start to understand it!

Question 4: What is your favorite season, and why?

- Summer because I like to be outside!

Question 5: What is your favorite meal?

- Seafood

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: MEGAN ROCHMAN

Written by Aubrey Rischel

Each week, we select a boy and a girl in the senior class to answer some questions about themselves so that we can all get to know them just a little bit better. This week, we selected Megan Rochman and Louis Mosher!

How have you grown as a person over your high school years?

- I have grown a lot as a person. I've branched out and made a lot of new friends and have done a lot of activities this year.

What do you think you'll miss most about high school?

- It will be exciting to leave and graduate, but I will miss seeing my friends and teachers.



What's your favorite high school tradition or event(s)?

- Homecoming week is my favorite time of the school year!

What are your plans after graduation? College, work, gap year, or something else?

- In the fall, I am going to cosmetology school in Holland, MI. I also plan to take some business classes. I hope to own a salon in the future.

What excites you most about the future?

- I'm very excited to live on my own and start a family. I also look forward to being a business owner.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: LOUIS MOSHER

Written by Aubrey Rischel



Do you have any extracurricular activities or hobbies you'd like to share?

- I love to cook, go boating, and ride dirt bikes throughout the summer

If you could give advice to incoming freshmen, what would it be?

- Do your schoolwork at school and have fun afterward.

What are your plans after graduation? College, work, gap year, or something else?

- I am planning on continuing my passion for cooking, working at the Golden Stag, and completing culinary school.

What excites you most about the future?

- Working towards my goals and completing them.

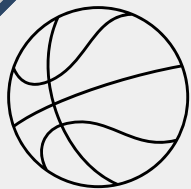
What's your favorite high school tradition or event(s)?

- I always had the most fun going to football games and going out with friends after.

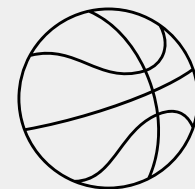
How have you grown as a person over your high school years?

- One way I have grown is by branching out and making new friends and connections.





MARINER BASKETBALL!



Written by Alayna Edmondson



Over the past month, we have seen many basketball games for both boys and girls. Starting with both JV teams, the boys have had a great year so far. They have a current record of 8-2. Captain, **Adam Olson (9)**, said "we've been playing good, but we have to keep up the good intensity!" Moving onto the girls side, their record is 1-7. **Natalie Mannon (9)**, said, "I feel like the season is going good even though we don't have many wins we still work hard and push ourselves."

Varsity boys are currently 3-7. Over their past game against Hesperia, they won 54-41. **Landin Sowa (11)** led the team in points with 14 and steals, coming out with 6. Also, adding in a block. **Chaos Davis (10)** trailed with 1 point, led in assists with 4, and also contributed one block.

Varsity girls are 4-4 in the season this far. Their last game was against Whitehall, who they fell short to with a final score of 27-37. **Alayna Edmondson (11)** led the team with 12 points, 2 assists, 7 rebounds, and 6 steals. Followed by **Lindsey Gardner (11)** who contributed 9 points, 1 assist, 5 rebounds, and 3 steals. The girls next play Fremont, Friday at 7!



SPRING SPORTS CONDITIONING!

Written by Kate Somsel

Are you interested in playing a spring sport? If so, there is voluntary conditioning for girls on Tuesdays and Thursdays! They are hosted by Coach Adamski, Coach Bohle, and Coach Smith!



Conditioning is a great way to get in shape for spring sports. At MHS we offer baseball, softball, girls tennis, girls soccer, boys golf, and track and field. If you aren't currently playing a sport, it is important to do what you can to get in shape now! These conditionings are welcoming, encouraging, and challenging. Show up, bring a friend, and challenge yourself! Your spring sport will thank you!

You can expect to improve your attitude, endurance, and overall strength. They are Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00-5:00 PM. Meet in the commons at 3:45! If you have any questions, please contact any of the coaches previously listed.



Written by Audrey Huizinga

Since **January 7th**, three major wildfires have been burning in **Los Angeles County**. The fire has been going on for over a week, and the end is still in the unknown. With California beginning its dry season and the Santa Ana winds spreading the embers of the flames with wind gusts up to 70 mph, the fires are huge and out of control. Residents in LA County who are in the path of the fires are being evacuated. Homes and businesses are burning to the ground, and people are losing everything to their name. A few days ago, the firefighters lost access to water from fire hydrants and are looking to resolve this issue.



Since the fires are so large, other states, Canada, and Mexico have sent firefighters to help fight the fire. They will greatly help because the LA firefighters are spread thin throughout the city. Interestingly enough, about 900 inmates are out fighting the fire alongside the LA, US, Mexico, and Canada fire departments. The cause of the fire is still unknown and is still being discovered. The fire department still does not know when it will end, but with twenty-four fatalities, hopefully the end is in sight.



STAFF



Alayna Edmondson (11)
Writer



Kate Somsel (12)
Editor/Writer



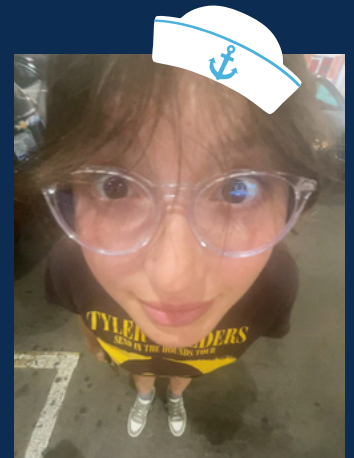
Audrey Huizinga (12)
Writer



Mr. Quakkelaar
Advisor
"You've got to be kind!"



Aubrey Rischel (12)
Writer



Piper Eskridge (12)
Writer