



Monroe Township School District News & Updates

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[Click here to register for The Falcon Talons Email Newsletter](#)

[Click here to view the 2022-2023 school calendar as a PDF \(revised
8/17/2022\)](#)



SCHOOL WEBSITE LINKS

**Please visit your individual school website link for more detailed information regarding school start times*

Applegarth

Mill Lake

Oak Tree

Barclay Brook

MTHS

Woodland

Brookside

MTMS

Falcon Care

Ramadan

Dear Monroe Township Community,

As Ramadan is currently underway, I would like to extend warm greetings to our Muslim friends and neighbors who are observing this sacred time of fasting, prayer, and reflection.

Ramadan is a time of spiritual renewal and connection with one another, where acts of charity and kindness are emphasized. Let us be mindful of the challenges that our Muslim community members may face and work to create an environment of inclusivity, respect, and understanding.

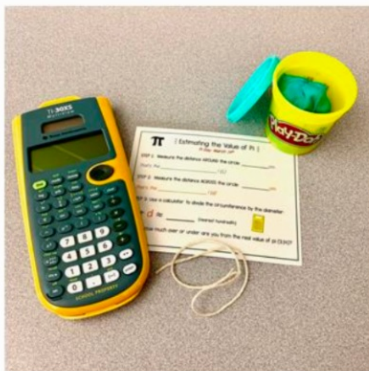
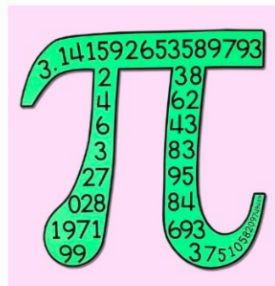
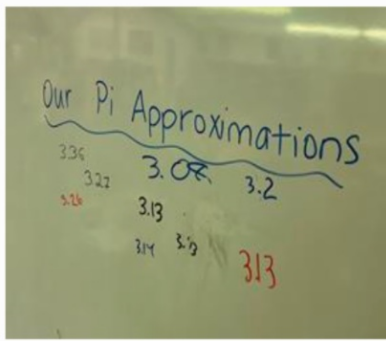


Applegarth Elementary School

PI DAY CELEBRATION!

With Mrs. Chamra's Accelerated Math Class

The 5th graders in Mrs. Chamra's accelerated math class learned all about pi in their Pi Day celebration lesson. After learning about the origin of the number and how it got its name, students used Play-Doh to make their own discoveries. They measured the circumference and diameter of Play-Doh circles and divided their measurements to see how close they got to 3.14. Their pi approximations were very close! The students finished the lesson with some Pi Day logic puzzles and special math stickers.





GRADE 4 STEAM CAROUSEL !



On Wednesday, March 15, Applegarth's fourth grade students participated in various STEAM activities throughout the day. Some of these activities included: Penny Bridges, Saving Sam, Fizzing Pots of Gold, Lucky Charm Catapults, and Gumdrop/Marshmallow Structures.

Students worked on team building strategies, critical thinking, and problem solving to successfully complete these challenges!



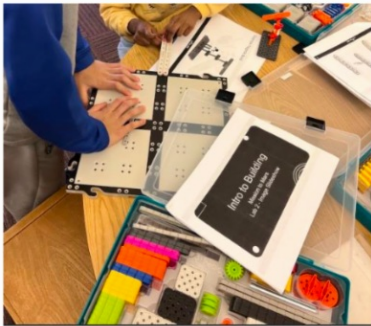
4TH GRADE VEX GO STEM CLUB!



Applegarth students in the fourth grade were given the opportunity to participate in a 6-week STEM Club!! The club consisted of exploring the VEX GO program. VEX GO is a construction system that teaches students the fundamentals of STEM through collaborative, hands-on activities.



Students built flagpoles, astronauts, a launch pad for the astronaut, and finished up by creating the Mars Rover, which was then coded using the VEX GO website!



Wizarding World of Fractions Day

in Ms. Farkas + Ms. Quinby's Class

We had a magical day in Room 23 during our "Wizarding World of Fractions" Harry Potter Day! As we finished up the three fraction topics in math, students were able to review a culmination of all topics covered: equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, unit fractions, decomposing fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers, and multiplying fractions and mixed numbers.

Students participated in three events:

1. Professor Snape's Potion Class: Students had to work through the Advanced Potion Spellbook, answering different fractions questions about the most popular potions from Harry Potter! We ended Potions Class by applying our knowledge of fractions to following a slime recipe!
2. Escape the Tri-Wizard Maze: Students had to follow through a maze, answering questions as they go, and the answers will tell them which direction to turn to escape the maze!
3. Quidditch World Cup: Students had to fly to answer different fractions word problems, and when they had the answer, they would have to throw their ball through the correct goal post to score a point for their house!



Students were even sorted into the houses that we felt they belonged in, based on their best and strongest qualities! It was a truly "magical" day with LOTS of review on fraction content!



Barclay Brook Elementary School

Barclay Brook School Kindness Week

Barclay Brook School participated in a Kindness Week during the week of March 6 – 10. All students were encouraged to show kindness, gratitude, and encouragement at school and at home. Students brought in canned goods to help others in need, and the food was donated to a local food pantry. Students also participated in a Random Act of Kindness campaign where they were challenged with recording acts of kindness they observed during the school day. Barclay Brook's GREAT Big Spot of Kindness was displayed in our Guidance Hallway. As students noticed acts of kindness, they filled the spot for all students to see. The students far exceeded their goal of observing 400 acts of kindness and we celebrated with a school wide dance party the following week!



Read Across America Week

Barclay Brook School celebrated Read Across America Week during the week of February 27 – March 3. Students and staff were invited to participate in our themed spirit days, which were aligned to specific books written by Dr Seuss.

During the week, we had a number of fun events including a schoolwide DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time where we formed a reading train in our hallways and read for 20 minutes. Kindergarten through second grade classes also participated in a Battle of the Books. All classes were assigned books in advance and during the "battle" classes competed against one another to answer questions about the books. Winning classes then came back to challenge other classes until we had one winning class from each grade. Barclay Brook also welcomed our superintendent, Mrs. Chanley, as a guest reader in three of our classrooms!



Brookside Elementary School

BROOKSIDE MARCH FALCON TALONS NEWS

Brookside celebrated Read Across America with a week of theme days and a special guest reader to read to some of our third and fourth grade students. The students enjoyed the stories that were read with such expression and excitement. They also enjoyed a question-and-answer session with our very special guest, Mrs. Chanley!



Mrs. Nagle and Ms. Hoppock's class:

Mrs. Nagle and Ms. Hoppock's class completed a STEM activity to make a rainbow using water, dye, and paper towels. The activity encouraged use of the scientific method and problem-solving skills and related to St. Patrick's Day!



Ms. Hoppock's 3rd grade ELA class completed a how-to writing piece on how to catch a Leprechaun! Students kept procedural writing elements in mind like sequencing steps, illustrating steps, and listing specific materials. Some ideas included using lucky charms to lure the leprechaun and using a doll house to trap the leprechaun! The writing pieces were proudly displayed in the hallway. Unfortunately, no Leprechauns were caught! Better luck next year!



Fourth Grade Wellness Day

On Friday, March 17, 2023 Brookside's Fourth Grade participated in a Wellness Day. Our goal for our students was to help them better understand all aspects of their wellness and make feeling well a priority. Students rotated to each fourth-grade classroom and learned how to deal with challenges in healthy ways. The students participated in a variety of activities such as coloring, dancing, directed drawings, brain breaks, yoga and mind mazes. By doing this, we hope our students have learned some methods to effectively handle future stressors.



READY, SET, VEX GO!

Brookside kicked off their fourth and fifth grade STEM Club, which lasted from February through March. The ultimate goal at the end of the six weeks was to build their very own Mars Rover. Students were first introduced to the various tools they would be using to build their rovers, and got to build an astronaut and NASA flagpole to go along with the Mars theme during the first two weeks.

Following this, students used the engineering process to build a version of a spaceship using the pieces from the VEX GO Kit. As part of the engineering process, students worked with their partners to create a blueprint of their spaceship design. After getting used to working with the various pieces and tools, students were ready to build their code base and bumper of their rover.

Once the building was complete, students were ready to code their rovers to do a sequence of events. Students used the coding website, VEXcode, to program their rovers to drive and turn among other commands. Throughout the process, students collaborated with one another to explore the world of coding. That's all for now, but we'll see you on Mars!



Mill Lake Elementary School

March Happenings at Mill Lake!

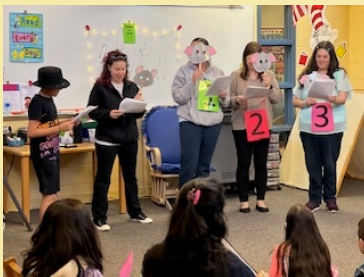
Mill Lake PALs Program is a huge success thanks to all our amazing staff and students



Unified GYM Program is still going strong! Mill Lake hosted our Monroe High School friends in early March! Thank you, friends!!!



Mill Lake had over 200 participants in our Evening of Reading. Thank you Mrs. Borquist and Mrs. Butkiewicz for bringing back our amazing traditions!



Congratulations to our two Mill Lake Students, Juliana Holland and Tvesha Upadhyay whose posters have been submitted to The State Fire Prevention Poster Contest Finals!!



Monroe Township Middle School

Congratulations to the 7th/8th grade chorus for their performance at

the Rowan University Choral Festival.

The students performed well and received scores of 9s and 10s.



Congratulations to the 28 students who represented MTMS at our CJMEA Chorus and Percussion Ensemble Concert!

After many weeks of rehearsals, they put on a phenomenal concert on

Sunday, March 12th!
We are so proud of them!





Congratulations to the students of MTMS who represented Monroe in the NJAJE region jazz auditions in Piscataway, NJ. Abhay Lingala, Jaskaran Kaler and Manvith Thavutam were accepted from a group of over 100 students that auditioned.

Congratulations to the Gold Jazz and Falcon Jazz ensembles of MTMS for performing an exciting festival on Wednesday, March 22.

An additional seven jazz ensembles from neighboring schools visited Monroe to share their music and receive a professional clinic from established music educators and performers.



MTMS Students were thrilled to have the opportunity to learn from two amazing Engineers! Scott Wasserman, a Chemical Engineer and Matt Alboum, a Civil Engineer, came to our 7th and 8th grade STEAM electives to share their career experiences...





Students and staff posed in our **Read Across America** photobooth to celebrate reading.

Students and staff donated over 250 books to the **Bridges of Books Foundation** which provides books to underserved children in New Jersey.



Students participated in the **Get Cozy with Reading** event and wore their pajamas to read in the library.

Help End Hunger by bringing in items for the food drive!

**Builders Club is supporting
the REPLENISH food drive at MTMS!**

Bring cans/boxed foods to your team bin
between Monday, 3/13 – Friday, 3/24.



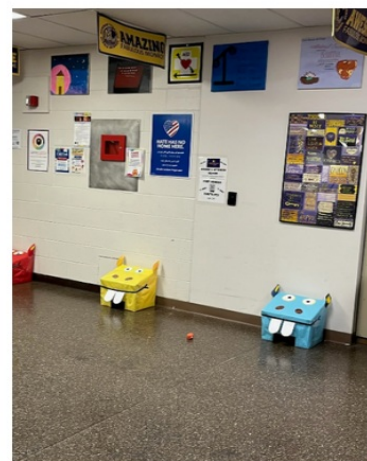
Winning team wins
a ice pop party!



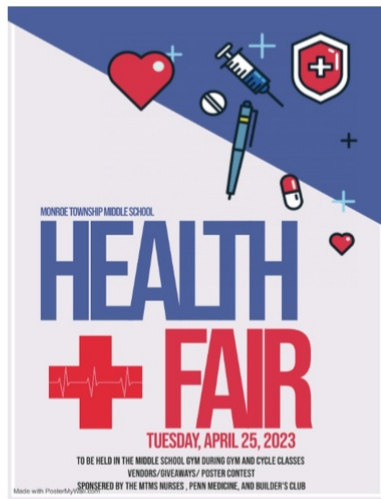
Good luck & let's conquer hunger!

MTMS helps Build School Spirit by playing some games during lunch periods.

Three hungry hippos have been placed in the lobby and every person in the school who donated a canned food item was able to take a turn trying to feed it, students include



The nurses, along with builder's club and Penn Medicine are hosting a health fair and poster contest on April 25th. See the attached flyer.



MTMS 7th Grade Students in Mrs. Hawxhurst's class Designed Magazine Covers in Digital Photography Class. Students used their knowledge of photography, lighting, typography, negative and positive space in Adobe Photoshop to create a compelling faux magazine cover design that interested them



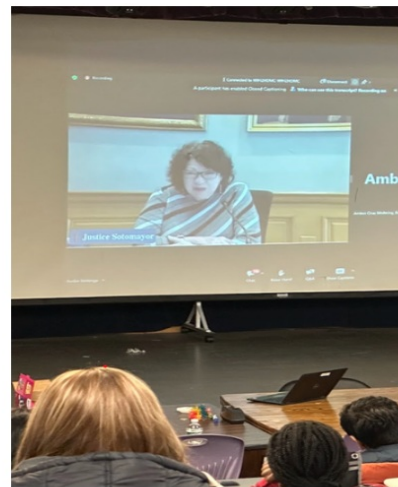
On February 4, MTMS Team Phoenix student, Saanvi Srinivasan, received The President's Volunteer Service Award, along with a gold medal, for completing 100 hours of community service in 2022 (<https://presidentalserviceawards.gov/>).

Saanvi mainly works toward recycling batteries at Recycle My Battery, where she is a member (<https://recyclemybattery.org/>). A recycling container can be found in our school cafeteria. Additionally, she has volunteered at her temple as well as cleaning up our beaches.

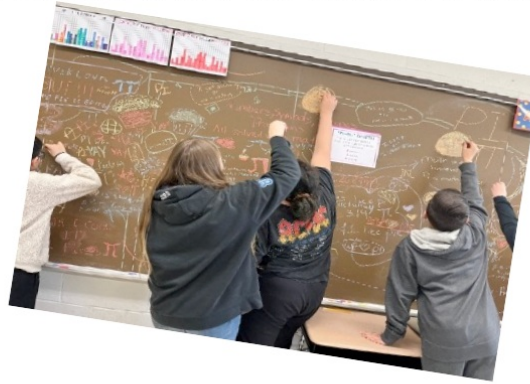
Congratulations on a job well done!



On Friday March 10, a group of 23 civics students, representing all the civics sections for the spring semester, participated in a Zoom webinar with US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor as part of the first national Civic Learning Week. **MTMS was one of many schools participating in the program**, where the Justice explained her career, vision for justice, and how young people can participate in government.



Mrs. Horoszewski's 6th grade Team Vista math classes celebrated 3/14 by learning about pi. Students found the area of circles, did pi sudoku, graphed pi cityscapes, rolled to get the first 10 digits of pi, created "pi-ku's" (like a haiku, but with a



pattern of 3 words/1 word/4 words) on a graffiti board and made a paper chain representing the first 200 digits in pi! What a sweet way to learn math!



Mrs. DiLorenzo's 7th grade class celebrated Pi Day on March 14th. Students measured various circular objects such as hula hoops, plates, frisbees and more. Students then compared the circumference measurements to the diameter measurements to discover pi!



MTMS had an amazing turnout for the Hoops for Hearts event. A big Thank You to Misty Drake, MTMS Phys Ed Teacher for once again heading this event. MTMS raise \$28,188.84 for the American Heart Association.

The students had a great time, and we are so proud of them and so thankful to the PE staff for all their help and cooperation with our Hoops for Hearts event.

James Barton, Frank Bonich, Katy Elias, Katy Echevarria, George Meyers, Pat Nortz, Gary Snyder, and Cheryl Whinna. **You are amazing!!!!**





St. Patty's Day Potluck Lunch – Great Day for Faculty & Staff to come together! Lots of Fun for All!







Ms. Imparato's, MTMS 6th grade social studies classes participated in a mummification stimulation as part of their Ancient Egypt unit. The Evolution Embalmers successfully mummified Cleopatra and sent her to the afterlife to have her heart weighed by Anubis and her fate decided. They then participated in a debate to defend their opinion of whether Cleopatra would be granted eternal life in the underworld.



Oak Tree Elementary School

Black History Month Museum

featuring Mrs. Dowe's class

Over the course of a month, Mrs. Dowe's class spent time learning about prominent Black figures in American history in honor of Black History Month. After spending time learning about the triumphs and struggles of Black Americans throughout U.S history, each student was assigned a prominent figure to research.

This project is one of Oak Tree's favorites because it showcases a variety of student skills. Students are tasked with finding credible sources, researching their figure, creating their posters & trifolds, and practicing their public speaking skills by presenting this project to a variety of groups!

On March 10th, the project concluded with a live museum! Students "wore" their projects and presented their information as their historical figures. All students did an AMAZING job presenting their information to fellow students, teachers and parents!



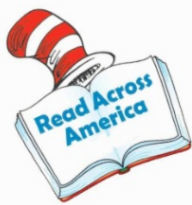
OAK TREE MAKERSPACE

Problem solving, creative thinking, collaborating, inventing, experimenting, designing.....these are just some of the ways Oak Tree students explore the Makerspace located in our Media Center!

On March 2nd and 9th, grade 2 and grade 3 students were able to show their parents exactly how it's done at our annual Makerspace Nights. This year we were able to expand our night to include six stations for students to rotate to! These stations included: Osmos, Snap Circuits, Dash & Dots, 3Dux, Sphero and Ozobots.

For one hour, parents rotated to six different stations where they were invited to play, construct, tinker and interact with our amazing technology. Our students were able to showcase how we work together to learn, collaborate and share at our Oak Tree Makerspace!





READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

FEBRUARY 27TH- MARCH 3RD



Oak Tree had a week-long celebration to recognize Read Across America in 2022! Students were invited to participate in Spirit Week activities (i.e., Animal Day, Silly Outfit Day, Pajama Day) in which each theme day was tied to a famous Dr. Seuss book.

Morning announcements included fun facts and a trivia contest that every class could participate in each day led by our reading specialist, Mrs. Kappus.

On Thursday, we had our pajama day where our traditional Reading Train took place! Every student sat in the hallways of Oak Tree reading and reciting their pledge to being a reader for life.

Lastly, on Friday we had guest speakers from all over the district come to read to our students! Some of our special guests included our mayor, council president, district administrators, teachers, parents and other volunteers!



Woodland Elementary School

Woodland School News

As a classroom reward, Mrs. Cote/Mrs. Hoskins fourth grade class used the LEGO wall. This gave the students fun and engaging practice with math and science.



Ms. Hyer, set up students' artwork at the Monroe Township Library which was proudly displayed in the children's section during the month of March.



Mr. Schultz, PE teacher, coordinated basketball games with the fifth-grade classrooms in celebration of March madness.





Mr. Dale, student council advisor, and the student council students coordinated March madness events with spirit days and classroom tournament selections. The class that picks the most winning teams will win a secret prize.

In honor of Women's History month, students highlighted contributions and events of women during morning announcements.

MTHS Unified students visited Woodland School and participated with their Unified partners. Students engaged in fun and exciting physical fitness activities. All of the students are developing skills and friendships!



IN THE COMMUNITY



MONROE TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

HEALTH



FAIR

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023

TO BE HELD IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM DURING GYM AND CYCLE CLASSES

VENDORS/GIVEAWAYS/ POSTER CONTEST

SPONSORED BY THE MTMS NURSES , PENN MEDICINE, AND BUILDER'S CLUB

Made with PosterMyWall.com

MONROE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

MTMS & MTHS CLASS OF 2023

GRADUATION LAWN SIGNS

PERSONALIZED with your child's name

A perfect way to celebrate your child's achievement!

\$25 each *price includes tax and personalization



GRADUATION BANNERS

PERSONALIZED with your child's name

For your porch or graduation celebration!

\$50 each *price includes tax and personalization



Completed signs/banners will be available for pick-up at MTHS on the following dates:

MTHS Signs/Banners Pick Up: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 - 2:30pm-6:00pm

MTMS Signs/Banners Pick Up: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 - 2:30pm-6:00pm

Proceeds to benefit MTHS Economics & Finance Team and Senior Options Program.

Both programs operate under the Department for the Applied Arts and Careers Technology.

Questions? Please contact Mr. Mark Pearce, mark.pearce@monroe.k12.nj.us or Ms. Deanna Dale, deanna.dale@monroe.k12.nj.us



Om Foundation Accomplishments

Support Pediatric Cancer Research

- Pledged \$150,000 to support Pediatric Cancer Research at Rutgers RWH Cancer Institute Of New Jersey (CINJ).
- Donated \$120,000 over installments in November 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022
- Rutgers Foundation Press Release: <https://tinyurl.com/omfdnpledge>

Promote Pediatric Cancer Education & Awareness

- Conducted Oncology Poster Contest at MTHS Green/Science Fair
- Donated Oncology Posters to Pediatric Cancer Patients at RWJ Cancer Hospital
- Sponsored 25 MTHS students to participate in Rutgers Oncology Olympiad
- Sponsoring 40 students from MTHS to attend Rutgers CINJ's BOLD Camp
- Pediatric Cancer awareness banner at Municipal Plaza

Bring smiles, positive attitudes, and power of perseverance to children

- Annual 'Month of Optimism' events at MTMS in February involving 2000 students
- Sponsored 'Kindness Matters' event for 587 sixth grade students
- Annual Optimism awards at MTHS and MTMS totaling \$7000
- Donated Lego table and Optimistic Om Mural at Monroe Twp Library
- Annual Makerfest table at Monroe Twp Library in March

Strengthen our community by supporting those in need

- Provided \$15,000 in financial support to NJ families impacted by cancer

Contact Information:
Prakash Parab 732-610-5173, pparab@aol.com
Ketul Parikh 908-267-2275, ketul@smilesforom.org

Sm Foundation 6TH ANNUAL Om Memorial 5K RUN & WALK

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Thompson Park, Monroe, NJ
7:30 am onsite registration (walk only)
8:00 am event begins
8:15 am onsite parking closes
9:00 am 1 mile walk
9:30 am 5K run

REGISTER ONLINE! SMILESFOROM.ORG



Run:	Walk:
ages 5-18 \$12	ages 5-18 \$5
ages 18+ \$25	ages 18+ \$10
prices increase \$5 on May 1	

Organized by
**Monroe Indians for Civic Action
(MICA)**

supported by Agraj Seva Kendra, Indian Cultural Association of Monroe, Rotary Interact Club of Monroe/Jamesburg, Guru Nanak Sikh Heritage, & Sewa International - Central NJ

follow us



Om Foundation



@smilesforom



smilesforom.org

MARK THE DATES

April 3 - 10

Schools Closed - Spring Recess

April 5

Passover

April 9

Easter

April 20



Ramadan Ends

April 21

Schools Closed - Eid al-Fitr



**Monroe Township School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATES**

[Click here to view the full list of 2023 Board of Education meeting dates](#)

For more information about the Monroe Township Board of Education, click here: <https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/domain/13>

2022 Board Members

Ms. Chrissy Skurbe, Board President
Ms. Karen Bierman, Board Vice President
Ms. Carmen Alvarez
Ms. Kathleen Belko
Ms. Gazala Bohra
Ms. Gail DiPane
Ms. Katie Fabiano
Ms. Kate Rattner
Mr. Peter Tufano

Jamesburg Representative

Ms. Michelle Scott

Student Board Members

Ms. Hetvi Thakker
Mr. Shivank Lattupally

Upcoming Board of Education Meeting :

April 17, 2023 - 6:00 PM

Legislative Action & Community Engagement

April 17, 2023 – 7:00 PM

Buildings, Grounds, & Transportation Committee Meeting

April 17, 2023 - 8:00 PM

Personnel Committee Meeting

April 18, 2023 – 5:45 PM

Curriculum Committee Meeting

April 18, 2023 – 7:00 PM

Finance Committee Meeting

April 18, 2023 – 8:00 PM

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Board of Education Meeting 6:30 High School Media Center

Meetings are held in the High School Media Center and will be live-streamed. See district website for meeting links. <https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/>

STAY CONNECTED WITH ATHLETICS

Get the latest information on the Monroe Township School District Sports Programs
Click below to follow us on Twitter



MTHS ATHLETICS

View the MTHS Athletics website <https://monroetownship.rschoolteams.com/> to keep current with upcoming athletic events at Monroe Township High School!



FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ADVERTISING WITH MTSD
[\(CLICK HERE\)](#)

**STUDENT REGISTRATION &
DOCUMENTS**

Click here
for Information



MONROE TOWNSHIP PEG CHANNEL



Stay up to date on township/district concerts, sports & special events!

Check out the Monroe Township PEG Channel with videos on demand!

<https://monroetv.viebit.com/>



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