

M ANSON MONTHLY

CONTINUOUS STUDENT LEARNING

NOVEMBER 2023



SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

As we approach the season of giving thanks, I want to take a moment to reflect on the profound impact that gratitude can have on all of us. In a world that often feels fast-paced and demanding, it is essential that we pause and acknowledge the blessings that surround us. Research consistently shows that practicing gratitude can lead to improved mental health, increased resilience, and enhanced relationships. When we express appreciation for the people, opportunities, and experiences that enrich our lives, we not only feel happier and more connected but we also create a more positive environment for all students and staff.

Gratitude is a powerful tool that can shape our school community into a place where kindness and appreciation flourish. It helps us cultivate empathy, reduce stress, and boost self-esteem. I encourage everyone at Manson School District to take a moment each day to reflect on the things we are thankful for. I hope we can instill in our students the value of gratitude. I am immensely thankful for the dedicated educators, supportive families, and outstanding students who make our school district exceptional.

Wishing you a November filled with gratitude and the many blessings that it brings.

-Tabatha

HAPPY
Thanksgiving

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT



Eighth grader Alex Nuñez has been chosen as our Student of the Month for November. Alex has shown incredible growth towards high academic standards. In class he is focused on his learning and asks inquiry-based questions to ensure his understanding. He is showing high growth in both math and reading. Alex shows his leadership outside the classroom by noticing things that need to be done and will do so without being asked. Not only does he work hard in school and with his basketball team, he supports his family in their growing business on the weekends and throughout the summer. What an honor to have Alex as part of our middle school!

HOPE SQUAD LEADS UNITY DAY

During Unity Week, Manson Hope Squad organized Unity Day on October 31, to raise awareness about bullying prevention in the middle and high school. During Strong Time, Hope Squad student leaders presented strategies for creating an inclusive school culture and being positive bystanders. Hope Squad students also engaged with their peers at lunch to create an interactive Unity Day banner (in exchange for writing an act of kindness on a sticky note, students received an orange piece of candy) and a rubber duck hunt (when a student found an orange rubber duck, they could turn it in for a prize). These activities have already made a positive impact on staff and students, and we anticipate continued momentum toward a more welcoming and inclusive school culture.



ZAMUDIO TO ATTEND CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA



Michelle Zamudio, a Manson senior, has been accepted to the Culinary Institute of America in New York City. During the Institute's eight-month program, which begins in July, she will travel abroad and learn about cuisine from around the world. When asked if she was ready to move to New York City she enthusiastically replied, "Yes, because it is the culinary capital of the US!" Congratulations, Michelle!

OPT IN FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION

Is your family signed up to receive Bright Arrow notifications?

We use Bright Arrow to notify school families via text and email about weather-related closures, emergency information, and other critical school related messaging. To be added to the notification list, please contact Kari Desser at kdesser@manson.org or (509) 687-3140.

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION A TOP PRIORITY AS DISTRICT CUTS SPENDING

Dear Community Members,

As we begin the 2023-2024 school year, I must address a challenging issue regarding our school budget. We are facing a significant shortfall that necessitates some difficult decisions at Manson School District.

This shortfall is the result of increasing costs and economic challenges as well as unsustainable spending during the past few school years. To address this deficit, Manson will need to significantly decrease spending immediately and carefully monitor the budget for additional cuts and adjustments throughout this school year and as we plan a sustainable budget for the following year. This will be a challenging time for our school community, but I assure you I will work hard to communicate with transparency and honesty.

As we carefully analyze and project for the school year with financial experts throughout our region, our budget shortfall is currently projected to be over one million dollars without reductions in spending. I have already made cuts in spending including reducing travel, reducing extra staff time, reducing spending in all areas, and delaying some projects and spending. At the October board meeting, our school board passed a Declaration of Financial Emergency and directed me to bring a plan for reducing spending to them for their consideration. I am working collaboratively and thoughtfully to plan for reductions that will have the least impact on classroom learning for our students.

I want to reassure you that, in making these decisions, our top priority is the well-being of our students and the district's essential needs, including safety. We are committed to safeguarding the core educational programs and services that directly impact our students and continuing the work toward our goals and priorities while increasing academic outcomes for every student at Manson.

We understand the gravity of the situation and will keep you informed as we navigate through these challenges. Your continued support is invaluable, and together, we will overcome these obstacles while providing an exceptional education for our students.

Sincerely,
Tabatha Mires, Superintendent

LA RAZA CLUB BRINGS AWARENESS TO DIA DE LOS MUERTOS HOLIDAY



Manson High School's La Raza Latina Club, along with their advisor, Ms. Grageda, created a beautiful ofrenda, the Spanish word for "offering" that colloquially is used to mean "altar" for Día de los Muertos. All Manson students were invited to bring a picture of a loved one who had passed and place it on the altar. It was a special way to bring awareness to, and commemorate, the holiday which is traditionally celebrated every year on November 1 and 2.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 10 - No School, Veterans Day
NOV 13 - Winter Sports Practice Begins
NOV 15 - Community Thanksgiving Lunch, ES/MS/HS Cafeterias
NOV 17- Coffee with the 'Supe, 10 - 11 am, Blueberry Hills Restaurant
NOV 20 - HS Music Concert 6:00 pm
NOV 23- Early Release, 11:55 am
NOV 24 & 25 - Thanksgiving Break
NOV 27 - School Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, ES Library

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NEW STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD



We're proud to introduce our Superintendent Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 school year! Members include Alexis Villasenor, Addison Richmond, Camille Hutton, Genesis Torres, Isabella Aburto, Jordan Castro, Kaiden Zener, Maggie Gosvener, Natalee Reyna, William Hutchinson, and Zahyr Sanchez. The committee serves as a platform to voice ideas, engage in meaningful discussions, and collaborate with peers. Student input is crucial in shaping our school's policies and initiatives, and their dedication will foster friendships, develop leadership skills, and make a real impact on the district.



CELEBRATIONS

- Congratulations to our girls' cross country team who not only placed seventh at state, but was also named 2B Academic champions for WA state with a 3.996 cumulative GPA!
- Well done to our girls' volleyball team on another district win! The Trojans will face Kalama on Nov 8 in Yakima's Sundome. Good luck, ladies!

