MINOOKA COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Community Relations Report to the Board of Education
Aubrey Knight – November 18, 2026

A. Processed FOIA Requests

- Mark Johnson (received 10/28/26 I pending) "The most current employee directory or staff list, as of the date of this request, for all Minooka Community High School District 111 employees, covering both district-level and school-based staff. This includes, but is not limited to, the Superintendent and executive leadership, assistant/deputy superintendents, chiefs, department directors and administrators, curriculum and instruction staff, central-office staff in all departments, principals and assistant principals, teachers, and all other school-based and support employees. For each employee, please include: full name; current job title; assigned school, department, or office; work telephone number and extension, if maintained; and district-issued work email address."
- Barbara Biasi, Yale School of Management Professor (received 10/28/26 I responded 11/5/26) "1. Each collective bargaining agreements between Minooka Community High School District 111 and Minooka Education Association, IEA-NEA, covering the certificated (teacher) bargaining unit and in effect at any time between 2003 and 2019. These may also be called master agreements, negotiated agreements, professional agreements, or contracts. I have located some agreements but am missing those covering 2003-2015 and 2018-2019."
- Anne Butler (received 11/5/26 I responded 11/13/26) "I request copies of records showing the amounts of money Minooka Community High School District #111 has expended on legal fees, attorney costs, and related expenses in connection with the following matters:
  1. Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board (IELRB) Case No. 2026-CA-0064-C (unfair labor practice / retaliation claim involving my termination as a bus driver), and
  2. Any related proceedings before the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), including the Board of Review and any subsequent administrative review (unemployment benefits denial).

  - Please provide the following records (from January 1, 2026, to the present, or the full relevant time period of these matters):
    - All invoices, bills, statements, and payment records from attorneys or law firms for services related to these cases.
    - Specifically include records involving attorney Paulette Petretti (Scariano, Himes and Petrarca or any other firm) including Bushe HR Inc. PO Box 89, Effingham. and any prior law firm or lawyer such as John Troy that may have been retained that handled these matters.
    - Any retainer agreements, engagement letters, or contracts with outside counsel for these specific cases.
    - Summaries, ledgers, or accounting records showing total amounts paid (or owed) to outside counsel for these matters.

- Any board meeting minutes, resolutions, or internal memos that approve or discuss payment of legal fees for these cases.
- I request electronic copies if available. Please notify me of any copying fees before producing records beyond the first 50 pages."

B. Recognitions

- Rotary Student of the Month – Tyler Firlit
- GAVC Student Award Winners – Adelai Archer, Payton Barnes, Noah Naser, Benjamin Dvorak, Alexandria Guerrero, Stephanie Canty, and Maya Decker

C. Communication/Social Media

- **Top Facebook Post:** (October 30, 2026) We are proud to announce that MCHS has earned, for the first time, the prestigious "Exemplary" designation on the annual Illinois School Report Card released by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Exemplary designation is the highest performance rating awarded by the state, recognizing schools that perform in the top 27% statewide. Read more at https://bit.ly/4BEC0ss.
- **Top Instagram Post:** (October 22, 2026) Biology students in Ms. Tancil's class were able to take part in a Calorimetry Lab using safety equipment and techniques while learning about their metabolism and Cellular Respiration where food is broken down to get ATP energy to live. They burned different foods and measured the temperature change in the water as well as mass change to use a formula and conversions to calculate how many calories/serving their lab measurements gave compared to the actual calories/serving on the food labels. Students always enjoy this lab!
- **Top Twitter Post:** (November 9, 2026) Fire Science I students immersed themselves in the core principles of fire behavior, building construction, and smoke reading that culminated in our inaugural "Fireology 101" project, a hands-on challenge where students transformed theory into practice. Working in teams, or "companies," students were given specific floor plans and construction parameters to build highly detailed model houses—complete with subfloors, framed walls, simulated insulation, individual rooms, and roof structures. Each company was assigned a specific "ignition area" within their home and tasked with predicting the fire's flow path and thermal transfer. When the models were safely ignited, students stepped into real-world fireground roles—including Incident Commander, Support Officer, Operations Officer, Safety Officer, and Fire Investigator—to manage and execute specific tasks. Using thermal imaging cameras, they monitored real-time temperature shifts and documented the progression of the fire for their lab reports. This phenomenal, multi-tiered project successfully brought fire behavior and building construction to life. To celebrate their hard work and mastery of the material, every student earned a "Certificate of Achievement" as an official "Fireologist" alongside a custom "Fireology 101" decal!
- **Reach:**
  - Facebook: 221,500
  - Instagram: 245,200
  - Twitter/X – 10,300
  - Messages to Parents (via Thrillshare) 26

- **Press Releases**
  - "Minooka Community High School Celebrates First Time `Exemplary' Rating on the Illinois School Report Card" (October 30)

- "Minooka Community High School Will Host 30th Annual Madrigal Dinner" (November 9)
- "Minooka Community High School Senior Named Rotary Club `Student of the Month' for November" (November 10)
- "Minooka Community High School Students Earn Director Awards from the Grundy Area Vocational Center" (November 12)

D. Events/Activities Promoted

- Fall Play "Almost Maine" (October 22 & 24)
- Early Release (October 28)
- FAFSA ID Workshop (October 29)
- Haunted House of Hoops (October 29)
- MCHS Achieves `Exemplary' Rating (October 30)
- Native American Heritage Month (November)
- Daylight Savings Time Ends (November 2)
- Election Day No School (November 3)
- STUCO Blood Drive (November 4)
- Senior Class of 2027 T-shirt Sale (November 6)
- Fall Craft Fair (November 7-8)
- Athletic Booster Club Meeting (November 9)
- Toy Drive (November 9-December 7)
- 12-Week Progress Report (November 10)
- Veterans Day Breakfast & Assembly (November 11)
- Turkey Trot & Food Drive (November 23-24)
- Thanksgiving Break No School (November 25-27)
- Jostens Cap & Gown, Ring Order Due (December 1)
- Dodgeball Tournament (December 2)
- Early Release (December 9)
- 30th Annual Madrigal Dinner (December 12-13)
- Athletic Booster Club Meeting (December 14)
- Final Exams (December 16-18)
- Winter Break (December 21-January 4)
- Incoming Freshmen Night (January 13)
- MLK Jr. Day – No School (January 18)
- Ealy Release (January 27)
- Coffee & Connection w/Superintendent (January 29)
- Presidents Day – No School (February 15)
- Early Release (February 24)
- Teacher Institute – No School (February 26)
- Winter Formal (February 26)
- Career Exploration Fair (March 4)
- Spring Musical "Big Fish" (March 11-13)
- 50th Anniversary Musical Alumni Banquet (March 19)
- 50th Anniversary Alumni Musical Show (March 20)
- Brick Paver Sales (ongoing)
- MCHS Academic Calendar 2026-27 (ongoing)
- Minooka Hockey Game Schedule (ongoing)
- Yearbook Sales (ongoing)
- Winter Athletic Registration (ongoing)