



Dear Families,

On behalf of our entire staff and Board of Education, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Merton Community School District! I truly hope that you are as excited about the upcoming school year as we are. Our staff has been preparing for a wonderful year and are very excited very excited to see your child(ren) walk into our doors. It is going to be a great year of learning for both students and staff. We have a tremendous amount of new ideas, curriculums, instructional approaches, and spaces for all of our children to be exposed to. Here are a few highlights of our District:

- Commitment to small class sizes
  - 4K-3rd Grade - Under 20
  - 4th-8th Grade - Math/Literacy under 25
- Our district has common behavior expectations across all grades 4K-8 (Positive Behavior Intervention Support, PBIS) - “The Merton Way”
- Continued support of our one to one (1:1) initiative to have every student 3rd-8th grade with a personal technology device (Chromebook)
- A 2:1 ratio of student to technology device (Netbooks, iPads, iPods, Google Nexus Tablets, Desktop Computers) in the Primary School (4K-2)
- Focus on the Core Subject areas while infusing 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching and learning strategies. The District has recently adopted new Literacy and Science Curriculums.
- Utilization of Google Applications (Apps) by our students and staff. By using Google Apps, we continue to allow our students ways to collaborate and create together. As our staff capacity and learning grows, so will our students knowledge of using Google Apps. All of our teaching staff is Level 1 Google Certified.
- Strong commitment to Response to Intervention (RtI). Every grade level (4K-8) has time devoted to meeting the individual needs of our diverse learners. This gives grade levels and resource teachers opportunities to remediate and extend our students in the areas of math and literacy.
- Required STEM coursework for all students 5K-8th grade with a heavy focus on Project Lead the Way programming.
- Focus on individualized programming and growth. Our district uses Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments to showcase your child’s growth in math and reading. The district also uses a common reading benchmark (Fountas and Pinnell) to see progress on the College and Career spectrum. Our literacy and mathematics



curriculums are personalized to meet kids where they are at. Our district uses Everyday Mathematics in conjunction with the personalized learning of TenMarks and Dreambox to ensure students access concepts they are ready for beyond our rigorous curriculum. Our literacy program is built around Columbia University's and Lucy Calkin's Units of Study. These programs and results are used to give us details of what your child is doing well, and areas of growth. We use these results to differentiate instruction as part of our Rtl commitment.

As you can see, our district continues to adapt to the ever changing landscape of education, students, and society. We do our best every day to individually meet the needs of ALL learners knowing the diverse interests, skills, and experiences they all have. Please trust that your children are in great hands. I know they are as my three (3) children join yours together in our school district.

Again, I want to want to welcome you to our district! I cannot emphasize enough to stay involved and communicate with your child's teachers and administrators. We cannot educate your child alone, it is a community effort so thank you for your persistence and support of the Merton Community School District. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Russ, Ph.D  
Superintendent, Merton Community School District

---

**Merton District Offices**

N68 W28460 Sussex Road  
P.O. Box 15  
Merton, WI 53056-0015  
262-538-2227 Fax 262-538-3937

**Merton Primary School**

N68 W28460 Sussex Road  
P.O. Box 15  
Merton, WI 53056-0015  
262-538-2227 Fax 262-538-3937

**Merton Intermediate School**

N68 W28320 Sussex Road  
P.O. Box 15  
Merton, WI 53056-0015  
262-538-1130 Fax 262-538-4978

[www.merton.k12.wi.us](http://www.merton.k12.wi.us)