



January 2024

Dear Prospective Family,

I want to personally thank you for your interest in the Merton Community School District and welcome the opportunity to discuss the great things we do for kids every day. You selected Merton as a possible choice for your child's school next year. We are excited about the opportunity to showcase our district and the mission of academic excellence, inspiring curiosity, and promoting personal growth. I want to highlight some characteristics of our schools that you may or may not be familiar with.

- **This past year, we were ranked the 6th Ranked School District in the state of Wisconsin according to the state's Report Card scores.** Over the past several years, we are recognized as one of the highest achieving school districts in the state according to our State Report Card and Forward Exam (state assessment) test scores.
- Focus on the Core Subject areas while infusing 21st Century teaching and learning strategies.
- Newly renovated Merton Intermediate School's "Curiosity Center" to house the district's music, art, and STEM programming. These new spaces include a new manufacturing/woods center, design/robotics lab, art room, Family Consumer Education Lab, Band room, and Choir room.
- Required and elective STEAM coursework for all students 5K-8th grade with a focus on Project Lead the Way programming, manufacturing/woods, design, computer programming, and foods.
- Focus on individualized programming and growth through standardized and district wide assessments. Our literacy and mathematics curriculums are personalized to meet kids where they are at. These programs and results are used to give us details of what your child is doing well, and areas of growth.
- Continued support of our one to one (1:1) initiative to have **every** student 2nd-8th grade with a personal technology device, and two to one (2:1) for all classrooms 4K-2nd. (Chromebooks)
- 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 instructional technology.
- Communication across all stakeholders
 - Weekly Electronic Communication from the Building Principals
 - Monthly Updates from the Superintendent including:
 - Board of Education meeting agendas and summaries
 - District updates and reminders
 - Teachers report grades, homework, and messages using Skyward
 - Continued remodeling and creation of student engaging learning environments
- Our district has common behavior expectations across all grades 4K-8 - "The Merton Way"
- Strong community partnerships with the District's Parent Teacher Organization.

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



These are just a few highlights about the Merton Community School District. More information can be found on our website at www.merton.k12.wi.us. With a focus on student achievement, our Board of Education is committed to keeping our class sizes low as a benchmark to ensure greater student engagement, teacher relationships, and continued social, emotional, and academic growth. My commitment of strong communication to our families and community will continue as we need to make sure our parents understand what is happening in all phases of our district.

If you have any questions regarding the open enrollment process, please contact Tanya Koike at (262) 538-1130, or koiket@merton.k12.wi.us. A link to the DPI's Open Enrollment page is below.

[DPI Open Enrollment Information](#)

To learn more about our district, feel free to contact:

Mrs. Maria Kurcharski - Primary School Point of Contact/Director of Curriculum and Instruction (kurcharskim@merton.k12.wi.us)

Mr. Steve Newcomer - Intermediate School Principal: 5th-8th (newcomers@merton.k12.wi.us)

Mrs. Lori Larsen - Director of Special Education/School Psychologist (viola-larsenl@merton.k12.wi.us)

Mr. Jim Binney - District Technology Coordinator (binneyj@merton.k12.wi.us)

Dr. Ron Russ - Superintendent (russr@merton.k12.wi.us)

As deadlines approach for Wisconsin's Open Enrollment process, every parent's decision about where their child should go to school is on his/her mind. Every parent has the choice to make any school district their district of choice. As you think about what next year might bring for your child, please keep the Merton Community School District as a possible choice. If you have any questions or would just like a chance to sit down and talk with me, please let me know and I will certainly be more than willing to discuss the great things we continue to do for our students. I can be reached at (262) 538-2828, or via email at russr@merton.k12.wi.us. I wish you and your family a great rest of the school year.

Sincerely,

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