

# Montrose Elementary School of Innovation

*Preparing a Community of Leaders  
Today for Tomorrow*



**Visit Us**  
To find out more  
information, tour the  
school and register—  
contact us at  
763.682.8345.

## Welcome to Montrose Elementary School of Innovation A STEAM Magnet School

Montrose Elementary School of Innovation (MESI) engages students with new and innovative ways of learning to best prepare them for a rapidly changing world. Problem- and inquiry-based experiences infuse technology, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking into our everyday STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) learning environment. Each day, our talented and caring teachers engage students in hands-on activities that encourage them to problem solve, work collaboratively and understand the relevancy of what they are learning.

**“Montrose is special for so many reasons. The staff, teachers, and principal care about the kids from their core. This sets the ground work for successful learning and innovation. I love MESI and all they have done for my children.”**

—Carrie, parent



**Montrose  
Elementary  
School of Innovation**  
BHM SCHOOLS

# What Makes Montrose Elementary School of Innovation Unique

## Magnet School

MESI is a STEAM magnet school – a public school with a specialized curriculum. There is no fee to attend and transportation is provided. Students living in the MESI neighborhood boundary are automatically enrolled in the school. In addition, anyone within the district (and from a member district within the Northwest Suburban Integration School District – NWSISD) can apply for one of the open seats available at each grade level. Those families who open enroll apply through a lottery process with NWSISD.

## Technology Infused Learning Environment

Technology enhances the learning experience at MESI. All classrooms have a 2:1 student/device ratio. In addition, our Innovation Center offers a student broadcasting studio and editing center, 3D graphic design and printing station with computer-aided design software, Robotic Kits, computer science tools, and 1:1 Mac computers, Chromebooks and iPads. All teachers provide meaningful, engaging and relevant experiences for all students in grades K-5. Teaching staff also regularly utilize social media and other resources to share student learning with our families.



## Problem-Based Learning

Problem-based learning (PBL) is a framework for learning while solving real-world challenges. Collaborative and hands-on, PBL asks students to identify big ideas, ask good questions, discover and solve challenges, gain in-depth subject area knowledge, develop 21st century skills and share their thoughts with the world. At MESI, we intentionally provide students opportunities to participate in PBL through our Innovation Programming.



## Performing Arts

Students have the opportunity to engage in vocal, instrumental and theatrical experiences as part of our performing arts programming. They will interact with piano, world drums, ukuleles and more. Students have additional opportunities to participate in whole group and individual lessons for cello, violin, and viola through



## AVID Showcase School

MESI was selected to showcase its college and career readiness culture for educators around the Midwest.

our Bravo Strings Program. Theatrical performances such as plays and musicals also complement the student learning experience.



## Project Lead the Way

Project Lead the Way empowers students to adopt a design-thinking mindset through compelling activities, projects, and problems that build upon each other and relate to the world around them. As students engage in hands-on activities in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, they become creative, collaborative problem solvers ready to take on any challenge.

## Strong Parent Involvement

MESI's parents support the school by planning family events, volunteering in classrooms, arranging conference meals for teachers and much more.

## Other Important Information

**Transportation:** Vision Transportation of Buffalo provides bus service for BHM Schools. Families get free busing from anywhere within the district to Montrose Elementary and can designate up to one alternate location, such as daycare or a relative's house, for pick-up and drop-off. Contact Vision of Buffalo at 763.682.3232 for routing and other information.

**KidKare:** On-site KidKare extends your child's learning day while providing high-quality care in a safe and fun environment. KidKare is offered before and after school, full days on most non-school days, and during the summer. All-day preschool programming is also available for children ages 3-5. Call 763.682.8787 for more information.



## Montrose Elementary School of Innovation

100 2nd Street S Montrose, MN 55363  
763.682.8345 | bhmschools.org/montrose  
Grades: K-5 | Enrollment: 350 | Hours: 7:00 a.m.-300 p.m.  
Principal: Tony Steffes | tsteffes@bhmschools.org

