

MONTICELLO SEMINARY

GODFREY, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

TO PARENTS:

The correspondence which comes to the office, and some of the requests made, reveal the need of a more detailed statement of school regulations than can be made in the catalogue. This, together with the ever present desire for the cordial co-operation of every parent, leads us to send you this letter.

Dress.

We are convinced that girls are writing home that they have nothing in their wardrobes elaborate enough for our parties. We wish to repeat that no social event at Monticello requires more than a simply made muslin dress. The girls who wear elaborate dresses are committing a social error. It must be evident that at parties given by the Seniors where the guests are faculty and under class girls, "evening" dresses are *not* needed. So far we have not forbidden girls to wear the dresses they have brought with them. We prefer, however, that all dresses be made with nothing lower than Dutch neck and that *all* sleeves cover the elbow. While Seniors might be allowed somewhat more latitude, we consider trains and elaborate, low-necked gowns entirely out of place for any girl still in school. If every mother will comply with our wishes our problem will disappear. The space allotted to each student at Monticello is much beyond that provided by most schools, even those whose tuition is double ours. But some girls bring so much that they crowd the available space.

Spending Money.

We earnestly request that spending money be limited to a small monthly allowance. The demands of life at Monticello do not require a large amount. Now and then we as a school are charged with extravagance. If a girl spends exorbitant sums it is not because conditions demand it. Spending money should be deposited in the school bank that we may know what is being spent, that loss may be prevented, and that the girl herself may have training in the use of bank and check book. Check and bank books of the "Monticello Bank" are provided. If additional money is needed for a special occasion an extra check may be sent.

Expenditures.

Money may be legitimately spent for:

1. Extra laundry beyond the 12 plain pieces done by the school. This expense depends on the sort of wardrobe you have provided. Peter Thompson suits—dark blue serge for school and white serge for Sunday and dinner—will reduce this item.

2. Eatables between meals will have to be included as a concession to school girl ideas, though one of the serious problems of boarding schools is the prevention of munching at irregular times. This should be a small item, for our table is varied and abundant. You can help by limiting your daughter's spending money.

3. Kodak pictures, pennants in limited numbers and a memory book to last during the whole course are natural school girl wants. If you wish to furnish extra money for these it will meet with our approval. Such things may be given as birthday or Christmas gifts or a girl may be expected to save for several months out of her allowance. This is good training. The present day young woman is too much accustomed to having every desire satisfied on the moment. Power to deny oneself a present, for a future, greater good is essential to character.

4. Two school interests, and two only, ask for financial support from *every* student: the student paper, THE ECHO, and the Athletic Association. THE ECHO subscription is \$1.00 and the Athletic dues \$1.00 per year. Those who join the Dramatic Club also pay a fee of 25 cents.

5. The custom of having a special birthday cake with candles for each girl entails a small expense. The girls at the table provide this, and they all enjoy it together. The expense, about \$1.50, is borne by the table. These are the only items of expense due to school life. Any other expenditures are purely personal and a matter for adjustment between parents and daughter.

Flowers.

The sending of flowers is another boarding school evil which has to be vigorously combatted. We expect all orders for flowers to be made through the office that we may be able to regulate this expense. When parents order expensive bouquets for their daughters to present to other girls they thwart our purpose and support their daughter in disregard of school regulations.

Boxes.

We wish to refer you to the statement on page 45 of catalogue and explain the reasons for this position. If no ban were put on reception of boxes, an extra person would have to be employed to handle express; what is more important, another nurse would be needed to care for the sick. Most of our illness, beyond inevitable chronic ailments, can be traced to chocolates and cake between meals. In one day two large boxes of candy came for the occupants of one room. It must be evident that candy in such quantity cannot be delivered. The policy of most schools is to confiscate such packages. We do not wish to adopt so extreme a policy. If relatives and friends will co-operate we may be able to keep to the middle course. Otherwise extreme measures will be necessary. If you wish to send fresh fruit and will write us in advance we will do our best to deliver it in good condition. Even this is not necessary, since the girls have free access to a store where fruit is for sale. Confiscation is the easy course for school authorities, but, recognizing the legitimacy of the natural desire for a package from home, we are pursuing the difficult course—one involving expenditure of time and energy. Please do not send eatables in boxes of clothing without informing us.

Visitors.

Visits of relatives and friends should be made on Saturday afternoon. Before calling for any member of the school, visitors should in all cases send their names to the Principal. Pupils should receive visitors in the parlor. No visitor is admitted to pupils' rooms without permission of Principal. No visitor not a member of the immediate family of the student should expect to be received without an introduction from the parents.

Students' Visits.

Students are not allowed to leave the school unchaperoned. If a student is to spend a vacation with friends, a statement to that effect should be in our hands 10 days before the vacation begins. Students whose conduct and class standing warrant it, and who live near enough to the school to make it practicable, may spend Saturday and Sunday at home not oftener than twice during the Fall and Winter terms and once during the Spring term. Please do not ask that your daughter be excused on Friday or that she return later than Sunday evening. The Friday evening appointments are an important factor of school life. Then we have learned by a trial of the plan that not only the girl but the school itself is demoralized by the excitement

incident to leaving on a school day. As it is, she misses all her study time for Monday's lessons, not to mention the fact that she frequently brings sick headache and indigestion back with her from too great indulgence in the "fatted calf" during her visit. A day in bed from this, with its attendant dullness, results in at least two days' loss. No girl ought to *miss* work. All requests must be sent directly to the Principal and not through the student. When possible, requests should be in our hands in time for us to correspond with you in case it is necessary. This applies particularly when it involves other than home visits.

Telephone.

The telephone is for the business of the school. The office force will take and deliver necessary messages. One day in the office would convince you of the necessity of this course.

Vacations.

Notice of the exact date of vacations will be sent parents in due time. All arrangements for tickets, etc., for the journey home are made by the school. If you have any information bearing on this we should have it ten days in advance. On the day of departure teachers see every girl passing through St. Louis on her train. A teacher also accompanies the Chicago contingent. Parents who cannot meet their daughters may arrange to have them chaperoned till they leave the city.

We perfectly well understand that to parents (whose problem is to deal with a community of not more than six) many of our regulations seem useless if not inexcusably arbitrary. It is hardly possible for you to have our point of view, but we beg you to believe that we have the good of your daughter at heart and that toward that end, and no other, has every regulation been made. Only by the heartiest co-operation between parents and school can the best results be secured for your daughter. Requests for exemption from regulations, for absence during term time and for other special favors interfere not only with the student's work but with her contentment. In a community of two hundred the liberty of the individual is necessarily limited and it is exactly this training which girls need to fit them for membership in the larger life of the world.

The frankest sort of correspondence concerning your daughter is invited. We sometimes work in the dark because facts relating to health or previous school record have been withheld.

(Miss) MARTINA C. ERICKSON, Principal.

Monticello Seminary

Godfrey, Illinois

Report of Miss H. Brown

Classified as _____

For 1st Quarter beginning 9/25/12; ending 11/12/12

Department B

STUDIES	Number of Recitations	No. Times Absent	Average Standing of Class for Quarter	Student's Standing for Quarter	REMARKS
Bible					
Elocution	6		87	90	
Physical Train'g	13		85	90	
English					
Latin					
German I	33		82	94	
French II	33	1	81	82	
History VI	14	1	72	80	
Algebra					
Geometry					
Composition	6		77	79	
Cooking	10	2	8+	8+	
Piano	13			8	

(MISS) MARTINA C. ERICKSON, Principal.

NOTE.

Parents and guardians are requested to give special attention to the items of attendance and deportment.

The letters used to mark standing are to be translated as follows:

- E**—Excellent. 90 per cent to 100 per cent.
- G**—Good. 80 per cent to 90 per cent.
- F**—Fair. 70 per cent to 80 per cent.
- P**—Poor. 65 per cent to 70 per cent.
- D**—Deficient or failed. Below 65 per cent.

A student must attain a standing as high as "Fair" to justify her discontinuing any study as completed.

The quarter's standing is an average of daily standings and written tests.