



Volume 1, Issue 2
February 2021

Special points of interest:

- STATE CHAMPIONS
- Technology Tips
- Free Meals
- Notes from the Treasurer
- Winter Sports Update
- Madison South Preschool
- Special Services
- Pandemic EBT Cards
- Maintenance Update
- Transportation Fun Fact

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Ram Nation News

Greetings from the Superintendent...Rob Peterson

Madison Ram Community,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well! We are happy to provide you with the 2nd issue of the Ram Nation News as it is our hope that through our newsletters we can provide you with valuable information regarding the exciting things that are going on across the district along with other pertinent dates and upcoming events.



Speaking of exciting, I would like to extend a special congratulations to the 2020 Division II State Champion Girls' Soccer Team, the **MADISON LADY RAMS**! I commend them for their play on the field and the state championship, but I also applaud them for their strong character and academic efforts off the field.

Once again I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all of you in the Ram Community who have worked together with us as a district to make the best of what has been a challenging first semester for everyone involved. Students and parents, your patience, flexibility, understanding, and support has been tremendous.

I also want to give a huge **SHOUT OUT** to our teachers, staff, coaches, and administration for their efforts and flexibility to educate our students and safely navigate the first semester. **THANK YOU** teachers, staff, and administration for your tremendous response throughout the first half of the 2020-21 school year!



As we have reached the halfway point of the third academic quarter, we are beginning to plan for many of the end of year events, and it is our hope and intent to go forward with those events, using the athletic safety protocols and spectator limitations that have been implemented throughout the year. I look forward to attending the many events and awards' programs in all of our schools this spring, where we can highlight our students and their many accomplishments.

I am also looking forward to the development of a strategic plan for the district, beginning in June. A team of students, parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and board of education members will work together to develop a strategic plan that will help guide the direction of our district over the next five years in areas such as student learning and success, community engagement, school safety and a positive school culture, school facilities and maintenance, fiscal responsibility and sustainable funding, and attracting/developing/and retaining high quality staff.

Like many of you I continue to look forward to a return to normalcy, and as we continue on that path, let's continue to work together in support of the children of Madison and keep ourselves and those around us safe and healthy. Thank you again, Madison Community, for all of your support for the students of the Madison Local School District. Ram Pride!

School Directory

Madison High School
600 Esley Lane
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419/589-2112

Madison Middle School
1419 Grace Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419/522-0471

Madison South Elementary
700 S. Illinois Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44907
419/522-4319

Eastview Elementary
1262 Eastview Drive
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419/589-7335

Mifflin Elementary
441 Reed Road
Mansfield, Ohio 44903
419/589-6517

Madison Early Childhood
Learning Center
1035 Grace Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419/589-7851

Madison Adult Career Center
600 Esley Lane
Mansfield, Ohio 44905
419/589-6363

Madison South Pre-School
700 S. Illinois Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44907
419/589-1115

Board of Education Members

Tim Wigton, President
Melissa Walker, Vice-President
Jane McGinty
Doug Mosier
Amy Walker

Madison Comprehensive High School

Madison Community,

I would like to take a few moments to thank you all for your patience, understanding, and efforts during our time of remote learning. While I know this was a very stressful time for all of us, I also feel this was another example of the true strength and compassion of the Madison Community. I truly believe that if we all continue to work together and put our students first, there is nothing that we cannot overcome. Students, I hope you have seen how much the entire staff here at the high school cares about you and your well-being. We will always do everything we can to help and support you, no matter what the future holds. While I cannot say exactly what 2021 will look like, I can say that we will continue to work to provide the very best high school experience for all of our students. As we begin the second semester, I want to take some time to update you on how we intend to move forward with procedures, events, and contingency plans for the near future.

We are very excited that our students have returned to the building. In order to ensure the safest environment possible for our students, we spent the first few days of face-to-face instruction reviewing new building policies and safety protocols.

Despite the fact that we were in remote learning for the entire month of December and the beginning portion of January, we are very proud that we were able to administer over 330 End of Course Exams. This is a huge accomplishment and truly shows how committed our counseling department and teaching staff are to our students' success.



Our Student Leadership Team has continued to meet via zoom meetings throughout the months of November and December. In January, we returned to face-to-face meetings. We continue to work with Renee Thompson and Phil Mazzocco from Unlimited Potential for Achievement to cover such important topics as Implicit Bias and Conflict/ Crucial Conversations. Our student leaders have embraced what they have learned in these meetings and have brought the information back to their respective groups, programs, or athletic teams.

We recently had the opportunity to acknowledge students who had All As, All As & Bs, and Scholar Athletes at our 2nd Quarter Honors Breakfast. Students received a free breakfast, certificate, and praise for their outstanding accomplishment. What made this even more impressive is that most of the second quarter was during a time of remote learning. Students with All As also received a taco bar (with Covid-19 safeguards) the following day for an extra reward.

Lastly, I just want to say that we appreciate all of your ongoing efforts and supports during this bizarre time. I hope all of you are staying safe and well. Our goal is to make the absolute most of every opportunity we have. Please remain focused, committed, determined, and hopeful.

Ram Pride!!!
Sean Conway, Principal,
Madison Comprehensive
High School



Mifflin Elementary School



Mifflin Elementary has been having a banner year as we continue many wonderful initiatives that recognize the strengths of our stakeholders. Led by the Purple Star Committee, our Veteran's Day Musical was a smash hit where each grade level was able to sing a song to honor our servicemen and service-women; students hit the right note and were able to understand the importance of these heroes. Artwork celebrating our military also lined the hallways for the month of November recognizing each branch of our military. Students and teachers successfully transitioned to remote instruction for the month of December, and the teachers even provided our families with a special musical number to wish students a happy holiday season. After welcoming back students to school in January, the second quarter leadership celebration recognized the diligence of our students during remote instruction. Students meeting or exceeding their quarterly point goal were able to have a "snowball fight" using yarn snowballs to see who could be the last student standing and receive a special prize from the Mifflin PTO; this organization also provided a special treat for all students for earning their way into the celebration. Our students are currently working hard to demonstrate our school motto "Lead, Learn, Love – Mifflin!" as we continue to recognize the positive choices students make through earning points and leadership referrals to the office.

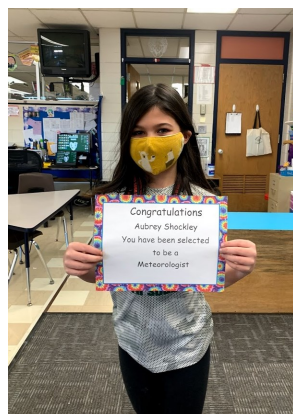
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Eastview Elementary School

We are so excited here at Eastview to have our students back in the building once again. We would like to extend a huge thank you to our parents who were so supportive during our period of remote learning. On January 11th students were welcomed back to the building and everyone was ready to get to work. On January 29th students celebrated their January PBIS celebration with a snowman painting party. The students had a great time and are looking forward to working hard to earn the February PBIS party by exemplifying positive behavior throughout the

building. In January building wide leadership roles were also awarded. Student leaders such as Flag Raisers, Meteorologists, Mission Statement Readers, Medics, and Building Pop Tab Collectors do their part to help our building run smoothly. To keep up with all of the exciting things happening here at Eastview please be sure to read our monthly newsletter. You can read it on our district website, the Madison Local School District Facebook page, or on the Eastview Facebook page. Thank you for your continued support.



Food Service News

Madison Local School District Food Service Department is continuing to provide FREE meals to ALL students through the end of the school year; courtesy of ODE and USDA. Milk or extras that your student wants, are NOT free. Please make sure funds are in your student's account for these needs. To place funds onto your student(s) account, go to the Food Service tab on the school website, and click on the PaySchools box. It will prompt you to set up and/or you can log into your PaySchools account. You can set up options for your student to have automatic payments placed in their account, track their meals, and set up notices to be sent to you when funds are low.

Through the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act, USDA authorized an extension of the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) cards. These are for the Free & Reduced students that fall into three criteria: online learning, remote learning or quarantined. The Free & Reduced students that are doing in-person instruction are not eligible because they receive their meals at the school. Additional information about this can be found online at: jfs.ohio.gov/ofam/p-ebt.stm.

Online remote students can continue to sign up to pick-up their weekly meals on Mondays. If you have any questions about this process and/or any Food Service questions, please contact the Food Service Supervisor, Kim Pfleiderer, at 419-589-1116. We look forward to assisting you in any way with your students' Food Service needs.

Communication- How Can I Find Out What IS Going On At Madison Middle School

Communication is important to us! Below are some different ways to find out more about what is occurring at the Middle School:

1. Check our website.
2. Get on the Remind building text list; send a text to 81010 and type in the following phrase: @22e9a
3. Read our monthly newsletter which is also posted on our website.
4. Check out our Twitter handle: @MadisonMidRams
5. Read the electronic sign off of McElroy Road.
6. See us on Facebook: New!



Congratulations to Allen Carver and Jaxin Stancombe who were Ohio Cardinal Conference (OCC) Middle School Wrestling Champions! Their accomplishment is a result of the OCC wrestling tournament at Ashland High School on January 23rd. Go Rams!!

Madison Middle School

Supporting students' mental health with speaker Terrance Talley

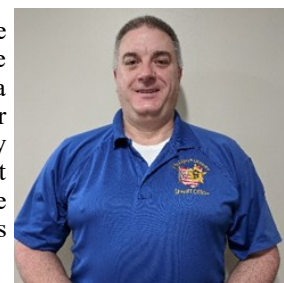


As part of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program, students had the opportunity to engage in a virtual assembly with speaker Terrance Talley! Mr. Talley has been traveling around the country for over seven years speaking to youth about facing uphill emotional battles. Even though Mr. Talley was not in person, he spoke to our building live as our students watched through a video link in their classrooms. Mr. Talley shared past experiences and stories that directly related to the challenges our students face while also teaching them that there is still hope, and better times are in the future. Mr. Talley also reminded students that

despite the emotions they face, they are not alone and that there are teachers, friends, and relatives who are available to reach out to for support!

Teaching students the danger of vaping

Deputy Gary Kiener from the Richland County Sheriff's Office recently spoke to all of our students to inform and warn them of the dangerous effects that vaping can have on the body. Vaping is a way of smoking in which electronic devices simulate cigarette or cigar smoking using aerosolized vapor instead of smoke. Deputy Kiener shared with our students the numerous toxic chemicals that are linked to lung disease and the lung injuries that can occur. We are thankful for the partnership and support of our local Sheriff's Office and Deputy Kiener!



Supporting students in resolving conflict

Due to our large gymnasium and the ability to socially distance students, students attended an assembly with music artist Beacon. This was another support for our students as part of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program. was able to engage and lift up our students in a positive way!



Raising student achievement

In the month of April we will begin administering the required state assessments in English Language Arts, Math, and Science in our building. Through the completion of state assessments it is important not only for our students to have the opportunity to perform their best on the assessments, but also for parents to have an accurate picture of how their child achieves in relation to benchmarks set for all students in the state of Ohio. To support students in achieving on the assessments we are currently teaching students to develop healthy habits of focusing their skills during test taking through achieving this "Feat" (Focus, Effort, Answer all parts, Tools). Additionally we have been measuring student growth through the school year through the use of the district's universal screener in English Language Arts and Math called STAR 360. We appreciate the support from parents in the past and look forward to continuing to work together to help our students do their best on the test!



Madison Early Childhood Learning Center

MECLC started implementing Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) in our Preschool program. Students earn leadership tickets for a weekly prize drawing. They also receive verbal praises, class awards, and other material awards when they follow the school matrix. The school matrix encompasses three rules – Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be Responsible. The school age program will begin to implement PBIS in the spring. The school age students are looking forward to earning class parties as a team reward, and helping the younger children at MECLC as school role models.

We will begin to enroll for our summer school age program on May 1st for Kindergarten – 6th grade students. This is a full time only summer program, \$110/week, and



all meals are included. School age teachers are degreed and licensed in education. Students will attend field trips and participate in the summer library reading program. The Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) provides a summer program for our school age students on bully prevention, self-esteem, and building confidence. Please watch our school age informational video at <https://www.mlscd.net/SchoolAgeProgram.aspx> to learn more about our SUTQ 5 star rated program!

If you are interested in enrolling your school age child in the summer school age program please contact Natasha Repp, Principal or Donna Atwell, Program Coordinator at 419-589-7851 for more information.

Special Services Resource and Support Center

Greetings from the Madison Special Services Resource and Support Center (SSRSC)

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, The SSRSC is here to help you navigate in the world of Special Education. We also want to make you aware that the district, with assistance from the State's Health and Wellness funding, is offering a variety of professional mental health and social emotional services for those in the school community. These services are often called "wrap around" services because they can include practices that may happen after school or in the home along with time spent with students in the school setting. In partnership with three area mental health agencies, the district is offering the following services to students:

1. Through Catalyst Life Services, the district has contracted for a licensed school social worker who spends 20 hours a week in the district's buildings. The school social worker provides a host of professional counseling services such as grief counseling and anxiety coping skills training. Lastly, she also provides professional development for staff in social emotional learning and mental health practices.
2. Through Family Life Counseling, students can be referred for professional counseling and/or the restorative practices program, including mediation. This program assists students with conflict resolution within the school setting.
3. Through Silver Linings Group, students are referred for intensive professional behavioral interventions. These interventions may include services with a licensed behavioral therapist or behavior technician.

If you feel that your child would benefit from any of the services listed above, please contact the SSRSC or the building principal or school counselor for more information.

Finally, your special education inquiries are always welcome, please don't hesitate to contact us!

Ally Schleichert
PK/Special Services K-4 Director

Dr. Patty Tresey
Special Services 5-12 Director

Ram Connections

"meeting students where they are through specially designed instruction"



Madison South Preschool

Madison South Preschool got a refresh over Winter Break! The entire preschool was painted a beautiful sage green color and it has really impacted the overall look and feel of the preschool area within the building. We look forward to the time when we can host parents in our preschool area to see the updates!

In addition to our Ohio Bird Sanctuary partnership, beginning in February the Preschool will be partnering with SNAP-Ed through Ohio State University. Every other week, students will participate in a 20 minute virtual learning experience to discuss nutrition and healthy choices that align with preschool curriculum. The short sessions will contain a lesson about healthy choices, contain a physical activity, and a read-aloud story that correlates with the lesson. This program will also provide supplemental nutrition information (handouts, recipes, magazines) to send home for the families. Hopefully, next year we will be able to provide these learning experiences in person.

For those students that will be age-ready to attend Kindergarten next school year, a preschool team member will be reaching out to discuss the transition process to ensure that our preschool students are ready and have the tools for a successful year of Kindergarten. If you have any questions regarding this process, please reach out to Ally Schleichert, Preschool Director.

Book Walk



We have created a book walk through the woods for our students! When the weather is nice enough, teachers have created a walking trail through the wooded portion of South's property with the story The Recess Queen posted at different points throughout the walk. Teachers lead their students through the trail, reading the story along the way. We are excited for the students to be able to enjoy some fresh air and nature while also learning as well!

District Maintenance Building and Grounds

As winter grinds along so do the district maintenance plow crews. We utilize five plow trucks and have spread over 40,000 pounds of rock salt this season so far! Besides the plowing and salting, the two general maintenance men and the district electrician have completed 406 work orders since the beginning of the school year. Among other things, they performed plumbing, carpentry, and electrical repairs in all seven of our district buildings. These employees work very hard to keep our district buildings and grounds in the best shape possible. Some of the bigger projects completed in the last few months were the final sale and transfer of the Jesse Beer building, which had served our district since 1935. We also had an auction of miscellaneous, obsolete school supplies and equipment. Between the two auctions the District netted about \$75,000. We also completed a big roof repair above the Work and Family labs at the High School, as well as finished the final steps to prepare for a roof replacement of the original deck (1962) above the High School offices.

Madison South Elementary School



We are extremely excited to be back in face-to-face learning to begin our second semester! We appreciate all of the hard work students, families, and staff put into going remote from Thanksgiving until after Christmas break! Although we understood the reasons why and made the best of it, we sure missed seeing our students every day in person!

We love finding students that

are making great choices in all areas of the building, along with on the busses too. The staff here at Madison South is constantly looking for ways to celebrate our leaders and students that are meeting and exceeding expectations. As part of our PBIS implementation, we hold our "Ram Rally" each month. Students who did not receive any major behavior referrals attend the Ram Rally during their typical specials' time. There, they play different themed games and activities with other students and staff members. This past month, students enjoyed playing Penguin Waddle, "Snowball" Fight, noodle tag, and climbing the rock wall. We can't wait to celebrate and reward another group of students next month!



Technology Tips from the Madison Tech Department

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States. Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information (name, social security number, credit card number, etc) without your permission, to commit a crime or obtain credit.

How does someone get your information? They use many different methods, including going through your garbage or mail, calling you, sending you an e-mail, or stealing your wallet or purse. It is important for you to know that we will never call you and attempt to obtain your personal information.

Here are a few reminders to help you protect yourself from being a victim of identity theft:

- Never respond to unsolicited correspondence (whether via mail, phone, e-mail, or text message) asking for personal information such as your social security number or bank account information.

- Never click on a link or open an attachment within an unsolicited e-mail.

- If you want to verify the legitimacy of a piece of correspondence, call the company's phone number by looking it up on your credit/debit card, or statement. **DO NOT** call the number listed or enter the web address given in the message.

For more information, visit these and other websites:

Wikipedia Identity Theft - en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Identity_theft

The Federal Trade Commission - www.identitytheft.gov

Identity Theft Information - www.usa.gov/identity-theft

Credit Bureaus - www.equifax.com www.transunion.com www.experian.com

Madison Adult Career Center

MACC students are having success through the Adult Diploma Program! Ohio residents, at least 22 years of age, can enroll, free of charge, upon meeting WorkKeys entrance requirements. WorkKeys tutoring is also available. Students can earn an Ohio Adult High School Diploma, while gaining technical skills and certification(s). Since the program's fall of 2017 inception, 71 MACC students have gained their Ohio Adult High School Diplomas through technical programs such as: State Tested Nurse Aide, Welding Technology, Automotive Lube Technician, Precision Machining/CNC Technology, and Basic Office Support Services (B.O.S.S).

Heather Mosier graduated from the Welding Technology Adult Diploma program earning her adult high school diploma and a welding certification. She continued her education, with advanced standing, in MACC's 630-hour Welding Technology program, earning three additional welding certifications, and gaining full-time employment as a certified welder.

Heather's story....



"I found out about MACC's Adult Diploma Program through a friend and employee at Madison. I have overcome several challenges including drug addiction, low employability, and felony conviction. Earning my high school diploma has impacted my life because now I have a good paying job that allows me to provide for my daughter, own my first car, and I recently moved into a house I'm renting. I pursued welding because at the time it's what was available that interested me. I love working with my hands. Advice I would give, especially to females, would be stick to it. Some people will say things to discourage you and say we females do not belong in the field. Stay strong. I have a great support system among my church, family, and God. A lot of people encouraged me through my ups and downs. I have people and family that believed in me when I didn't believe in myself. I've accomplished being 3yrs sober of drugs and having the support I need. This program has made a huge impact in my life."

MACC has several programs with upcoming 2021 start dates...

- Welding Technology - February 1
- **State Tested Nurse Aide - April 8, May 6, & June 17
- Cosmetology - March 1 & August 2
- **Auto Lube Technician - Tentatively early April
- Phlebotomy/EKG - March 15 & August 16
- Medical Assisting Technologies - April 8 & May 25
- **Indicates Adult Diploma Program option**



Heather with Instructor, Mike Wagner



District Transportation News



Thanks to our team of drivers, students and parents of Madison schools for a successful school year even with its challenges! Each day we transport approximately 1,100 students to and from school.

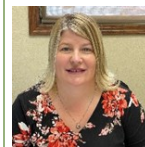
Students are encouraged to observe the school bus safety rules posted on every bus. They are essentially the same things you would observe in a classroom. We ask parents' help in encouraging their students to follow the bus rules. One way to do this for the little ones is to ask them each day one rule they should observe on the bus and then explain to them why it is important. I cannot stress enough how important and crucial your help as a parent can be.

Did you know our district encompasses 49 square miles, and every year we travel approximately 235,000 miles to take students to each of our schools as well as the other schools we service? We transport students on field trips driving about 28,000 miles annually.



FROM THE TREASURER Robin Klenk

One of the biggest changes in the Treasurer's department over the past few months has been in our staff. We said goodbye to Sandi Davis who was the Assistant Treasurer and served the Madison District for over 30 years!



Lisa Thoman-Cha was awarded the Assistant Treasurer position as she moved from the

District Payroll position. It is definitely a lot to learn but she is doing an excellent job. Wendy Carter was hired to fill Lisa's position, District Payroll. She has been a quick learner and is doing a wonderful job! The district is served well with these two employees!



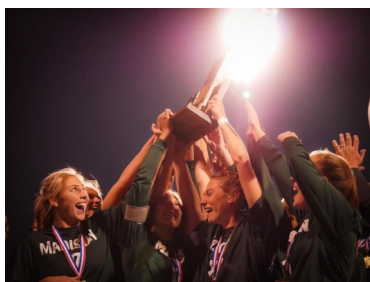
We continue our ongoing efforts to streamline, and improve our district's finances. We were able to sell an obsolete building which was the Jesse Beer Early Childhood Learning Center at public auction. We also held another online public auction for obsolete supplies and equipment, and netted just over \$75,000 with these two events. Additionally, we've been very busy researching and applying for multiple Federal grants for aid during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our goal is to utilize these funds where allowed to support our budget, and reduce the stress on the general fund. As always if you have any questions or concerns about district finances, you can contact the Treasurer's Office through the district web site at www.mlscd.com.

Madison Board of Education Office
1379 Grace Street
Mansfield, Ohio 44905



Ram Athletic News

On November 13th 2020, the Madison Girls Soccer Team brought home the State Championship trophy. It was only the second state title in the school's history and the first for the girls' soccer program. The team was led by the National Player of the Year and Ohio's Ms. Soccer Taylor Huff. Taylor will be attending the University of Tennessee on an athletic scholarship.



Phyllis Stanfield, who was also a major contributor on the defensive end, will be going on to play at Ashland University on an athletic scholarship. Trinity Tucker was also named 2nd Team All-Ohio.

Other athletes that have signed to play in college are Kami Baker (track) who is heading to Bowling Green State University, Kayden Mullins (baseball) who will be attending Shawnee State, and lastly Nate Barrett (wrestling) and Trenton Osborne (wrestling) who are both off to Ashland University.

The wrestling team is off to a great start. Senior Nate Barrett is 33-2 on the season, Senior Trenton Osborn is 30 -1,

and Hunter Hutcheson is 28-4. The season was cut short last season but hopes to make a deep tournament run this year.

The swim team continues to work hard and all the members took time off their personal best at the OCC meet. The team is small but mighty, with seven seniors this year.

The girls' basketball team continues to work hard after being quarantined three times this season. It has been tough on the girls and the coaches but they continue to work through the adversity. They have had to play a crazy schedule to make up the games they have missed.



The boys' basketball team has dealt with a lot of Covid-19 issues also. With that said they won their first game of the season at Galion. They are hoping this springboards this young team into more wins before the tournament.

I want to thank all the winter sport athletes, parents, and coaches during this tough and trying time. This has not been easy on any of us, but we will get through this.

