



Volume 3, Issue 2
January 2023

Special points of interest:

- Winterfest
- Merry Madison Christmas
- Class DOJO
- National Recognition for Mifflin
- Transportation News
- Maintenance Highlights
- SORA
- PBIS
- Adult Programming
- Food Service News

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Ram Nation News

Greetings from the Superintendent...Rob Peterson

Madison Ram Community,

As the calendar flips to 2023, I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family well and that you rang in a Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that we are already at the midpoint of the school year.

I am excited to report that the district performed quite well on its 2021-22 Local Report Card, highlighted by Meeting or Exceeding the State Standards in the following categories: Graduation Rates, Academic Achievement, Student Academic Growth, and Closing Educational Gaps for Student Subgroups. Additionally, I am proud to announce that Mifflin Elementary was 1 of only 2 schools in the entire state of Ohio to be recognized as a Nationally Distinguished School for its exceptional student performance on the state standardized tests over the past two school years. What a tremendous honor for the students, families, staff, and administration at Mifflin!

As we look forward to the spring, the district will have a levy on the ballot in May, requesting additional operating funds for the district. Please see the facts bulleted below for additional information.

Finally, I would like to thank the Madison Staff, Madison Families, and the Madison Community for all of your support and for all that you do for the students of the Madison Local School District. Go Rams!

MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS' LEVY FAST FACTS

- Upon Board Approval, Madison Local Schools will be placing a new 8-mill levy for current operating expenses on the May 2, 2023 ballot.
- The last time the district had a levy on the ballot to seek additional operating funds was in 1997, 25 years ago.
- 8 mills will generate a little over \$3 million per year in additional operating funds for the district.
- The additional operating funds will be used to address the current deficit; to cover the increasing costs of current day-to-day operations; to continue to offer our students quality educational and extra-curricular opportunities; to recruit and retain highly-skilled teachers, non-teaching staff, and administrators; to provide our students with up-to-date, rigorous curriculum materials, technology, and other resources; and to maintain and care for all of our buildings, facilities, grounds and transportation fleet.
- 8 mills will cost the owner of a home with a tax valuation of \$100,000 approximately \$23.33 per month.
- The tax valuation of a home is not necessarily what it can be sold for at its current market value. Homeowners can access the tax valuation of their home by doing a search on the Richland County Auditor's website.
- Since the 2000-01 school year the Madison Local School District has reduced the number of district employees by 20%.
- Based on the most recent data (FY21) from the Ohio Department of Education, Madison Local Schools receives \$4,211.18 of Total Property Tax Per Student, while the average Total Property Tax Per Student among all Richland County School Districts is \$6,989.73.

Transportation News

Thank you to our team of drivers and to the students and parents of Madison schools for a successful school year. We are halfway through the year already! Seems hard to believe, but it is going fast.

Just a reminder to parents who live in the rural areas, with it being as dark as it is in the mornings it is sometimes very difficult to see the students. If they have a cell phone or small flashlight, allow them to turn on the light and move it around as the bus approaches. This would assist all drivers, but especially our substitutes. The time this would be most helpful would be during the high school/middle school runs when it is very dark outside. I would also request your address be clearly marked, possibly by adding some reflective numbers that could be easily seen by our drivers on your mailbox.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of transporting your students each and every day and please feel free to call our office with any concerns 419-589-3473.



Madison Comprehensive High School

Hello Ram Nation!

It is extremely hard to believe that we have reached the halfway mark of the school year! This year has flown by and before we know it the Class of 2023 will be walking across the graduation stage!

I would like to begin by thanking Spherion Staffing and School Specialty for their extremely generous donation to Madison Local Schools. This fall leaders from Spherion and School Specialty joined the HS students and staff in a celebration of our partnership, donating \$20,000 in school supplies, which were put to immediate use and have assisted our teachers in providing the best possible instruction to our students.

Continuing with the theme of generosity, our high school students and staff have recently led several campaigns to provide for those less fortunate during the holiday season. Merry Madison Christmas is an annual tradition where high school student groups, clubs, and staff members adopt community families and provide them with a special Christmas. This includes purchasing Christmas gifts and items that are needed to make the holidays special. Our Key Club has spearheaded the "Class Penny War" to raise additional funds for the families. OCC Leadership collected personal hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and soap for families. National Honor Society led a canned food drive. Mr. Boliantz's classes sorted items and readied them for delivery. Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Baker, and Mrs. Ohl have organized outside community donations. Lastly, Mrs. Kasberg's Family and Consumer Science classes made trays of cookies for these adopted families.

Additionally, our Key Club led a very successful promotion where they donated socks, coats, scarves, and hats to Harmony House. Over 500 items were donated. These items helped many families stay warm during the holidays.

There were many other exciting events that occurred in the last few months.

Recently, Spanish classes studied facts about all of the countries for Hispanic Heritage Month. At the end of the month, all classes met in the library to play Jeopardy against each other to demonstrate their knowledge. They did an impressive job!

The MCHS Drama Club presented *Stealing Shakespeare* November 18th and 19th at 7pm. The play is set in a modern day school and involves a group of students that want to put on a more modern version of a Shakespearean Drama. The play centers on the themes of young love, jealousy and betrayal. The students confront the modern day problems of cyberbullying and the consequences of the improper use of social media.

On November 16th the Madison Student Initiative Team went to the Regional Leadership Conference at the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center. Students learned about setting goals, resilience, and building positive relationships. This event was co-sponsored by OHSAA and BW3's.

And we cannot forget "Winterfest." On December 10th community members were treated to performances featuring all bands and choirs from grades 5-12, as well as an art show from all grades. All students did an impressive job. I would like to send a special thank you to all art and music education teachers that helped organize the event.

All things said, we are very lucky to have the opportunity to spend time with our amazing students. Their intelligence, personality, and caring nature create a warm, positive environment at MCHS.

Ram Pride! Sean Conway, Principal



Eastview Elementary School

Happy 2023! We are having a great year here at Eastview. Our teachers are working really hard to maximize learning for all students. Right before break our students finished up taking their mid-year diagnostics. We are very pleased about the academic growth that our students have shown so far!

Our session two student leadership roles were filled with new applicants. We are super proud of all of these students who have stepped up to help in various roles in our building. Our new flag team consists of Eleanor Sidwell, Colton Kimes, Ethan Hicks, and Amiyah Jones. Our new medics are Harley Kindinger and Lincoln Bays. Our meteorologist is Sawyer Howell. Our mission statement reader is Joseph Reddy. Our playground team is Braylynn Brown and Keylan Brown. Finally, our menu reader is Klayton Hayes.



We are continuing to use Class Dojo to promote positive behavior in our building. Mr. Deiotte, our new school counselor, is also helping with this endeavor.



or. He is providing guidance lessons to help students build knowledge, skills and mind-sets in order to set goals and solve problems.

Students who earned 80% of their DOJO points and avoided any major discipline referrals enjoyed our two PBIS events. Our quarter one PBIS event was with Jungle Terry, and the quarter two event was a magic show called the Magic of Science. The students had a great time at each program and are looking forward to what quarter three and quarter four have to offer.

To see what is happening at Eastview on a regular basis, follow us on Facebook. We thank you for your continued support.

Mifflin Elementary School

The second quarter is always a busy time at Mifflin Elementary, and this quarter proved to be one of our most successful of all time. Mifflin is humbled to announce that we have been recognized as a National ESEA Distinguished School by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). As one of two schools in the state and one of only 100 schools to be given this honor throughout the entire nation, Mifflin is being recognized for outstanding student achievement as demonstrated through the Ohio State Test in English language arts and mathematics. Mifflin was named as one of 11 statewide finalists in late October and received notification from ODE in early November that our outstanding achievement had merited this recognition. A sincere and hearty congratulations to all Mifflin students, staff, and families! Mr. Stump will be headed to Columbus in a few months to speak at a statewide conference about what makes Mifflin so special.

The office of Gov. DeWine has released the final round of safety grant funds that were made available for public and private schools throughout the state where Mifflin has been named as one of these recipients. Some of this funding will go towards new, solid doors for classrooms needing it, additional cameras for added visual support, locking devices for classroom doors, and more. We are very excited and grateful for this opportunity!



Students were also able to participate in Mifflin's Not-So-Scary Harvest Parade where they dressed up in costume and showcased their outfits around the school. It was also during this time of the month when the Mifflin Student Council presented all things Mifflin to the Madison Board of Educa-

Mifflin continued...

tion. All student council members did a great job showing what makes Mifflin such a wonderful place to lead and learn! Prior to winter break, students earning enough behavior points through ClassDojo participated in a Mifflin tradition of a directed paint. Here, students were able to paint a winter scene to take home to their families as a gift of appreciation for all that they do for Mifflin.

During this past quarter, students were also able to participate in a variety of field trips thanks to our annual Read-a-thon fundraiser that takes place in May of each year. Grade levels were able to visit the Little Buckeye Museum, Mifflin Fire Station, Gorman Nature Center, Apple Hill Orchard, and The Farm at Walnut Creek.



The Purple Star Committee also hosted our annual Veterans Day Program in November where second grade students provided a stellar musical program honoring Mifflin veterans. A special thank you goes out to all veterans for their service to our country!

As we head into the third quarter, we will have a schoolwide in-house field trip where the Barn Hill Preserve will visit bringing in exotic animals, a grandparents' luncheon hosted by our Literacy Committee, a second presentation by the Mifflin Student Council for the senior citizens' luncheon, and our annual health fair in conjunction with students from Ashland University. Mifflin sincerely thanks the community for all of its support!

2022 NATIONAL ESEA

**DISTINGUISHED
SCHOOL**





Sora

From the makers of Libby is SORA, a resource that provides students with access to over 400 ebooks and audiobooks on any device. There are three ways that students can access SORA:

1. Download the SORA app on a phone or tablet. Our district's setup code is: madisonoh
2. Visit: <https://soraapp.com/library/madisonoh>
3. Find SORA linked on the Clever homepage.

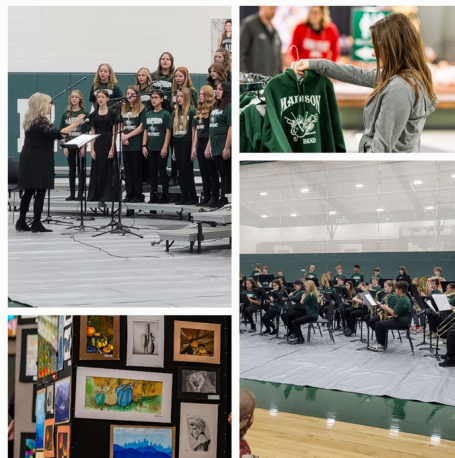
All three methods of access require students to sign in using their school google account information.

Once students are logged into SORA, they can add the Richland County Public Library to their account. By connecting to the public library, students will have access to age-appropriate titles from the library's digital collection. No library card is necessary—titles are borrowed using the student's google credentials! One benefit to using SORA is that there are no overdue fines or lost/damaged book fees!

Madison Middle School

Building our Community!

On Saturday, December 10th the Art and Music Departments presented their annual Winterfest presentation. This event showcases art work from all five school buildings at Madison as well as presents performances from our band and choir ensembles at the Middle School and High School. Additionally there was a craft sale with vendors from the community, a raffle, and concession stand sales. All proceeds go towards benefiting the music programs at Madison Local Schools. Thank you to everyone who attended this large community event!



Creating Endless Opportunities!

Students in 7th and 8th grade STEM classes heard about the opportunity to join a local Robotics Competition team! Dale Norwood, Lead Mentor for the Stellar Robotics Competition Team from the Kehoe Center in Shelby, shared the program offerings available for students. Students who elect to join the after school robotics program will have the opportunity to learn programming, machining, electrical and mechanical engineering, as well as many other skills while working as a team to create robots for competition. Their efforts are funded through donations and fundraising. Any students in grades 7-12 who are interested in learning more or joining the program can find information at: www.firstroboticsmansfield.com



Ram Pride!

In the spirit of the holiday season, the Middle School Builder's Club organized a "Thankful Gram" drive. Students and staff had the opportunity to purchase a Thankful Gram for 50 cents to send to another student or staff member at the Middle School. The recipient received a treat and a note written from the sender thanking them for what they do at the Middle School!



Maintenance Highlights

As winter is here once again, the custodians and maintenance team members switch gears and work toward providing the safest conditions possible for our students and staff. Throughout the winter we will spread more than 3,000 pounds of ice melt over our sidewalks, most done by hand or with small broadcast spreaders. Our three district plow trucks will also be laying down rock salt on our parking lots throughout the snow and ice seasons. We typically spread between 20,000-25,000 pounds of this product via our hitch-mounted spreaders. Aside from treating the surfaces, we'll also be doing lots of plowing, snow blowing, and good old fashioned shoveling of the white stuff to try to keep kids in school as much as possible. During the winter we constantly monitor the weather forecasts on multiple sites, and whenever the threat of a snow or ice event is present we start planning a day or sometimes several days before the actual event. This can mean the 4-5 employees we have plowing coming in between 3-4:00 in the morning to start clearing the lots at the five district school sites, the Early Childhood Learning Center, and Board of Education Office. During these early morning hours Operations Supervisor Steve Crist, Superintendent Peterson, and Transportation Director Mike Yost will be on the roads by 4:30am driving the various routes throughout the district to determine if a delay, or a school closing is needed. The district's 1st shift custodians come in at 6am, and immediately put their full attention on clearing and salting the sidewalks. It's definitely a team effort of 15-20 people that allows us to get prepared before the buses drop of their precious cargo at the beginning a snowy school day! Of course this is in addition to the yearlong work these dedicated employees provide our district. The 27 people who make up the district custodial, seasonal, and maintenance staffs, clean, care for, and maintain over 592,000 sq. ft. of buildings, and over 158 acres of land. That's cleaning, fixing, painting, mowing, trimming, and yes at this time of the year, plowing, salting, and shoveling! They are great people who work hard for our kids, and I am grateful to be able to work with them. So, the next time you see the snowflakes falling, know your Ram Team is ready to go!



Madison Early Childhood Learning Center



MECLC has been working on increasing the safety of our building for our families and staff over the past six months. We recently upgraded our security system, added additional cameras, and revised our lockdown procedures. Currently, we are in the process of raising money to add more locking mechanisms for all of our internal doors to provide additional safety in our building. We had a basket raffle fundraiser in

October to raise the funding, and we will have another fundraiser in the spring. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 and we hope to finish raising the funding in the spring. Congratulations again to Rhonda our basket raffle winner during our fall fundraiser!



Our family events are very important to us because these allow us more time to spend with our families. During the month of November the preschool students prepared for the annual Preschool Thanksgiving Luncheon. They made table and cafeteria decorations for the event. Students spent time enjoying a delicious lunch prepared by our cooks Ms. Aubrey and Ms. Patty. The career tech



Child Development students and their instructor, Mrs. Brandt, helped serve all of the meals to our students and families. Everyone had a wonderful time. We look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving again next year with our families.

Our annual Holiday Festival event was widely attended by over 140 families this year. Children were able to participate in games, ornament making, cookie decorating, playing in the bouncy house and visiting with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Families also enjoyed a dinner prepared by our kitchen staff. Community resources Anne Vermillion from Catalyst, Robyn McNulty from Madison Adult Education, and Brindi Ford from the Madison Public Library were here to meet with families as needed. The MECLC staff and the career tech Child Development students helped create and oversee the activities for our families. This event is our favorite family event of the year, and we have already been planning for next year!



We also had our Preschool Winter Fest event in which preschool students and an adult participated in crafts, cookie decorating, games and got to talk with Santa. At this event Santa was portrayed by our Madison School Board president, Tim Wigton. We are thankful for his time and willingness to participate in our event. Winter Fest was a great engagement activity between students, parents and preschool staff.



Finally, our last day of preschool before Winter Break was themed "Polar Express" day where we watched a movie, had hot chocolate, popcorn and a variety of activities going on, including one final visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. In preschool play is an important part of our day because children learn through play by interacting with peers around them and discovering new and different things.

Madison South Preschool

Greetings! Here's to hoping this newsletter finds everyone happy and healthy in the Madison Community. We've been pretty busy at Madison South Preschool over the last couple of months.

The fall and early winter seasons, while busy, have been a fun time at the preschool. We learned about autumn, Thanksgiving, turkeys, Christmas, nursery rhymes, letters, numbers, patterning and many other things. In December we enjoyed our Preschool Christmas day where we had our Christmas parties and gift exchanges, plus a visit from Santa (Rob Peterson, Madison Local Schools' Superintendent), Mrs. Claus (Nikki Cox, Madison South Elementary Principal), Rudolph (Sean Conway, Madison High School Principal), and elves, Eric Turlo (Student Services Director) and Kyle Gordon (Madison South Elementary Assistant Principal). Santa read "The Night Before Christmas" to preschool students and handed out candy canes. The kids LOVED having Santa and his crew come for a visit!! We are thankful that our administrators in the district are willing to take time out of their busy schedules to do fun things for our students. What a great day this was!!



In the new year we are excited for some snow (maybe some snow days!) and learning about winter, bears/winter animals and many winter-related activities. On behalf of Madison South Preschool, we hope you have a blessed holiday season with your loved ones!! Happy Holidays!!



Nurse's Note

Happy Holidays! I hope you all have a safe, happy, and healthy break! Please remember that we do have sickness going around. A reminder our policy is fever free for 24 hours without the use of medicine, no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. We want to keep everyone healthy, so we can keep them on the learning train. Healthy kiddos = successful learners! If there are any questions you can reach any of the nurses here in the district so that we can answer any questions or concerns you may have!



Madison South Counselor's Corner

Currently at Madison South, we are busy helping our families in as many ways as possible during the holiday season! It is very important to us here at South to support and give back to our students and their families. After break, we will start fresh with reviewing school expectations while focusing on Respect and Kindness as our Character Traits for January and February. Classroom guidance lessons will reflect our building focus while also addressing individual classroom needs. If you are interested in setting your student up for counseling services with Family Life or Catalyst, please feel free to contact me for more information. If you have any concerns about your child or have any questions about outside counseling services, please feel free to contact me at ktripp@madisonrams.net.

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Madison South Elementary School

Principal's Post

It is hard to imagine we are halfway through the year! The students and staff have been working extremely hard all year, and we're very proud of them. As a staff, each year we like to have a saying or mantra to keep in mind as we work through the school year. This year, we wanted "inspire" to be our staff focus. We're constantly talking about ways each staff member can inspire students by caring for each student, being passionate about their job, demonstrating what working hard and talking through problems looks like. We focus on being empathetic with each other as well as showing what it looks like to never give up when faced with challenges. We hope that the students see this and apply it as well. There are plenty of instances as well where the students inspire us to keep striving to do our best too!



Events

We've been busy here at South holding different events for students and families. At the end of October, we held our annual Pumpkin Glow, where students submitted carved pumpkins to be judged in different categories. Families were invited to come take part in games, face painting, snacks, and enjoy some food from Wicky's Smokin BBQ. Next, we held a Gratitude Gathering. 2nd-4th grade students performed songs and poems in front of friends and family before Thanksgiving



break, and attendees brought and took canned foods as needed. We then held our Literacy Night here at the school. Students and families attended the event and moved between different literacy games through the night while also grabbing cookies, hot chocolate, and getting some pictures with Mr. and Mrs. Claus! Finally, our kindergarten and 1st grade students held their winter concert here at the school before break! We love having the families in the building to help enjoy and celebrate our students!

Character Kids

Every month, as a school, we focus on a specific character trait. Each morning we discuss what this specific trait might look like on a day-to-day basis. This past month we focused on responsibility. The following students were selected by staff for showing great responsibility every day. In preschool, Jaxsyn Comisford, Chasen Cunningham, Chase Long, Sawyer Hubert, Gunnar Jaranowski, and Zoiee Borders. Kindergarten students, Remedee Rachel, Avery Fissel, Asher Hill, Zoe Gibson, and Pasilee Kennedy. In first grade, Mason Enix, Konnor Jessee, Kaylie Stevens, Max King, Jase Shiera, and Kinsley Sexton. For second grade, Lillian Hay, Bryson Holloway, Zoey Griswold, and Ernest Sanders. In third grade, Myla Lewis, Quinton Davis, Aubree Baugh, and James Lang. Finally, in fourth grade, Elijah Holt, Annaleah Hill, Robert Pipes, Jaevion Endicott, and Josh Naus. Keep up the great work!



Madison Adult Career Center



What was your New Year's Resolution?

*To increase your technical skills?
To earn certification or licensure?
To earn your Adult High School Diploma?
To improve a skill or learn a new hobby?*

If so, MACC has programs and classes starting soon!

Career Development/Adult Diploma Programs (scan the below QR code to access MACC's Enrollment Portal)...

1/30/23 – Welding Technology
1/30/23 – MIG Welding*
2/1/23 – Customer Office & Support Technology*
3/6/23 – Cosmetology/Advanced Cosmetology
3/20/23 – State Tested Nurse Aide*
5/1/23 – Phlebotomy/EKG
5/8/23 – MIG Welding*
5/15/23 – Nail Technician*

**Approved Adult Diploma Program*

Workforce and Personal Interest Classes (access MACC's Enrollment Portal for additional course offerings)...

2/7/23 – Communicable Disease Recertification
2/7/23 – Chunky Knit Blanket Workshop
2/21/23 – Fix Your Mower
2/27/23 – Cake Decorating
2/28/23 – Photoshop
3/2/23 – Landscape Design/Care
3/2/23 – Self-Publishing with Self Esteem
3/6/23 – Sign Language (Beginning)
3/7/23 – QuickBooks
3/7/23 – Basic Blueprint Reading

**ACCESS OUR STUDENT ENROLLMENT PORTAL
FOR A FULL LIST OF AVAILABLE COURSES**
<https://macc.axstudent.com>



Food Service News



It is hard to believe that the year is going by so quickly, and the 2nd semester is right around the corner. Thank you to all parents/guardians who have completed the online application on the link in the Free & Reduced Meals section in Final Forms. Parents can complete and/or update the Free & Reduced application at any time during the year. The Free & Reduced online application makes it easy for parents to see their child's meal account balance, as well as set up notifications when their child(ren) reach a certain balance as a reminder to add funds. Parents, if you have not already done so, please be sure to submit your application by December 16th so that if you qualify for free status, a portion of your child's school fees can be waived. It is also important for parents/guardians to have a Free & Reduced application submitted if there is ever a need for P-EBT cards to be distributed again in the future. The Food Service Department looks forward to assisting parents/guardians in any way with your child's food service needs. If you have any questions or concerns with the Free & Reduced application process and/or general Food Service issues, please contact the Food Service Supervisor, Kim Pfeleiderer, at 419-589-1116 or email kpfeleider-



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



Ram Athletic News

I want to start by thanking everyone for their help so far this winter. Our winter sports are off and running and our crowds have been excellent! I want to thank the Madison community and their support of our athletes and coaches.

The wrestling team is off to a nice start. They finished fourth at the Tom Ellis classic hosted here at Madison. Senior Hunter Hutcheson finished first in the tournament. They then traveled to the Paul Hackett tournament in Hamilton Township. The team finished first overall! Finishing in first place were Jase Braden, Hunter Hutcheson, Drayston Martin, Mike Thomas, and Dominick Whitesel. Finishing second were Gavin Cupp, Evan Davis, and Ashton Meglasson. The Rams have some big time tournaments coming up on their schedule, including the Top Gun and the Gorman.



The boys' basketball team got off to a great start, defeating Shelby and Clear Fork. The Rams then lost two tough ones in the same week, to Wooster on a shot with .6 seconds left and an overtime thriller the next night at Oregon Clay.

However, the Rams did something we may never see again, as they came from a 23 point deficit in the third quarter to defeat

Ashland 70-66. Jayden Jeffries scored a career high 39 points to lead the comeback! The Rams have been led by Jayden Jeffries 22.6 PPG, 7.6 RPG, Seven Allen 18.6 PPG, Owen Wigton 5.4 PPG, Tatum Turcott 4.4 PPG, 5.7 RPG, and Will Kepple 4.0 PPG, 3.0 RPG.



The swim team continues to do very well. They finished first at the Mansfield relays, defeating, Mansfield Senior, Galion, New Philadelphia, Willard, and Galion. Some of our top swimmers on the girls side are Cielo Jacobus and

Olivia Lord. On the boys side the top swimmers have been Brayden Rogers, Jacc Leo and Mason Jacobus.

The girls' basketball team picked up their first win of the season at Ashland. The girls have had some tough games and continue to battle every night. The Rams are led by Chloe Ebeling 8.7 PPG, 10 RPG, and Natalie Back 7.7PPG, and 3 assists per game.



In other athletic news we were recently informed that Mt. Vernon will be leaving the conference after the 2023-24 school year. The hunt for a new team has been under way and we hope to find a competitive conference affiliate in the near future to replace them. Mt. Vernon is a great member of our league, and we hope to continue to play them in non-league matches in the future.

Go Rams! Doug Rickert, Athletic Director