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## School Updates

### Madison High School

- On May 6<sup>th</sup>, MHS hosted “Senior Decision Day” and all 12<sup>th</sup> graders were invited to attend school in-person, regardless of cohort. The school celebrated the Class of 2021 and all of the exciting plans students have made or will make for next year. Whether that decision is the military, the workforce, vocational training, or a two or four year college, the MHS team is excited for what their futures hold. Seniors attending school next year were encouraged to wear apparel representing their decision and fully remote students were encouraged to participate from home.
- **Anne Bolt** has been named valedictorian of the Class of 2021 and **Adam Sher** was recognized as the class salutatorian. Anne will be attending the University of Pennsylvania and plans to study biochemistry or biophysics and Italian on the pre-med track. Adam will be attending Rice University and plans to major in Computer Science.
- On April 27<sup>th</sup>, Anatomy & Physiology students dissected sheep plucks. These specimens included the 4-chambered sheep heart with aorta and lungs with a portion of the trachea.
- AP Biology students participated in a virtual science symposium on April 29<sup>th</sup> alongside a neuroscience class from Drew University.
- MHS orchestra and guitar students performed on May 5<sup>th</sup> in the MHS auditorium. MHS chorus and band students will perform together on May 12<sup>th</sup> outside in front of the high school. Two guests per student performing are permitted to attend each event.
- Students eligible for induction into the National Art Honor Society will be recognized prior to the chorus and band concert on May 12<sup>th</sup> and art students will have their work on display in the auxiliary gymnasium. Two guests per student with art on display will be permitted to attend.
- MHS Athletics
  - The Athletics Department hosted a Spring National Letter of Intent Signing Day Ceremony on May 6<sup>th</sup> to honor the following 12<sup>th</sup> grade student-athletes who plan on continuing their athletic careers at the next level:
    - **Shea Baggett**, Girls Lacrosse (George Washington Univ.)
    - **Kate Christos**, Girls Lacrosse (San Diego State Univ.)
    - **Jamie Habib**, Cross County/Track & Field (Harvey Mudd College)
    - **Jack O’Hearen**, Football (Franklin & Marshall College)
    - **Kiley Selquist**, Girls Lacrosse (Elon Univ.)
    - **Emma Torkelson**, Girls Lacrosse (Vassar College)
    - **Christian Williams**, Boys Soccer (Susquehanna Univ.)

### Madison Junior School

- MJS hosted its heartwarming spring musical Peter Pan, Jr. in person and outdoors on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Directed by **Ms. Chiarino** and **Ms. Goodstein** and with support from stage designers **Mr. Erdreich** and **Ms. St. Jacques**, the MJS actors and crew gave audiences an evening of laughter and joy. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this outdoor performance a success.
- MJS Student Council visited all 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms in the district during the week of April 17<sup>th</sup> to share information about the school. On the evening of April 26<sup>th</sup>, the MJS administration, counseling team, 6<sup>th</sup>-grade team leaders, school nurse, and MJSAO sports director hosted a virtual meet and greet to introduce 5<sup>th</sup>-grade families to MJS and answer any questions.
- The MJS PTO hosted a delicious Teacher Appreciation luncheon on May 5<sup>th</sup> for the school staff. While the rain kept everyone inside, the great lunch boxes and treats were enjoyed by all.
- MJS hosted a team-building event on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Staff could walk, run, or cheer on participants in the MEF 5k virtual events. The MJS PTO and Stop & Shop provided cold drinks, protein snacks,

and a festive finish line. A Madison community course map created by avid runner and MJS counselor **Mrs. Marotta** was provided to staff.

- The MJS PTO hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Luau on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Students played games, danced to music, had relay races, played basketball and knockout contests, snapped shots at a photo station, and enjoyed ice cream from the ice cream truck. Many thanks to the PTO and the Luau Chairperson, Mrs. Notaro, for hosting this event.
- The Madison Education Foundation hosted a health fair on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to promote their annual 5k race. The MJS Orchestra Nonet Ensemble, under the direction of **Mrs. McCormick**, performed three pieces showcasing beautiful music for those in attendance.
- Congratulations to all of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math Olympiad participants. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Education will recognize the accomplishments of the top 6 scorers from MJS: **Advai Aiyer, Georgia Mock, Kayla Morrison, Sharon Park, Maya Popova, and Christopher Wu**

### Central Avenue School

- **Kate Saraceni** (Kindergarten) was selected as the 2021 May Day Art Contest Winner. Her art will be displayed proudly on the shirts this year and she will receive a \$100 Madison Gift Check from Provident Bank. Thank you to **Ms. Radke** for supporting this project!
- Madison May Day was held on May 1<sup>st</sup> and CAS parent Mrs. Gennaro organized a group of parent and student volunteers to weed, trim, and mulch the CAS gardens! Many staff, including **Mrs. Spelker, Mr. Izsa, Mr. Liss, Mrs. Natale, and Ms. Jackson** also contributed their time!
- Shanna Truffini is doing workshops for students in grades 3-5 entitled "You Are a Gardener." The program is being made possible thanks to a grant from the MEF! The workshops focus on social emotional learning as related to gardening. See a [brief clip](#) about the book and workshop.
- Jenkinson's Aquarium will be presenting a program on penguins to students in grades PreK-2. Thank you to the PTO for providing support for this assembly!
- Congratulations to all of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math Olympiad participants. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Education will recognize the accomplishments of the top 6 scorers from CAS: **Sadie Chase, Dylan Dacey, Noah Hsu, Jacob Lee, Juliana Ozol, and Grace Porio!**
- During the week of May 10<sup>th</sup>, classes will be reading and doing activities on the book, *Be You*, by Peter Reynolds, as part of the One School, One Book program.
- Teacher Appreciation Week was held from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>. Throughout the week the amazing teachers at CAS were celebrated and the CAS PTO recognized staff by providing them with delicious food, gifts, and other amazing treats!
- The CAS International Day has been each May for over 10 years. In the past, students visited different countries (stations) to learn about the culture through authentic presentations that demonstrated the diversity of CAS. This year, families will upload a video of their country to highlight music, dance, food, traditions, and much more. These videos will be shared with classes throughout the week of May 17<sup>th</sup> so that students can learn about many different countries!
- On May 27<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 3-5 will share their STEAM projects as part of the STEAM Fair!
- Over the last two years, the CAS Green Team collected over 1,027 pounds of caps! These caps will be transformed into benches for the school!
- Library Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** collaborated with MHS Nurse **Ms. Fastiggi** on a story time for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The initiative was made possible through a grant from the NJEA to provide a copy of the book to each 1<sup>st</sup> grader in conjunction with an evening story time. A similar grant for kindergarten students is being planned, with the book potentially being read by Mayor Conley at a later date.

### Kings Road School

- KRS will be hosting a Virtual Steam Fair for 2021! Please follow [this link](#) to find important information about the event.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade English language learners (ELLs) across the district worked tirelessly to publish their own bilingual book. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, a virtual author's night was held to celebrate the

student authors! The published authors were joined by their families, ESL teachers **Ms. Stockdale** and **Ms. Bihuniak**, principals **Dr. Koop** and **Ms. Sing**, and Assistant Superintendent **Mr. Ross**. Students shared what languages they wrote their books in and a little bit about their topic. These books will be displayed in the KRS library for other students to read.

- KRS was thrilled to begin a new extended day schedule beginning on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Changes included in-person Social/Studies/Science instruction, additional literacy instruction, special subject teachers providing instruction in person, and zones of outdoor activities.
- Madison May Day was held on May 1<sup>st</sup> and KRS parent Mr. Then graciously agreed to be the KRS May Day leader. KRS families and **Dr. Koop** worked together to plant and beautify the KRS school grounds.
- On April 21<sup>st</sup>, KRS hosted the “Cereal Cup” challenge, which resulted in over 325 boxes of cereal donated on that day alone by the school community. Congratulations to **Ms. Fine**’s third grade class, for winning the Cereal Cup Challenge! In total, the school collected almost 600 boxes, which will be lined up and knocked down domino style before being donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry in Morristown. The knockdown is scheduled for the week of May 24<sup>th</sup> and donations are still being accepted at KRS any time before that date.
- Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>. What a great week it was to celebrate the wonderful KRS teachers! The KRS PTO recognized the fabulous teachers by providing them with delicious food and holding daily gift card raffles.
- One of the guidance lessons in April was about gratitude for the “Unsung Heroes” of daily life. For the lesson, students were asked to write letters of appreciation to **Ms. Joan Finelli**. “Ms. Joan” is the wonderful crossing guard in front of KRS. She enjoys hamburgers and the Jersey Shore. Before working at KRS, she worked in retail at Fortunoff’s in Wayne for 23 years.
- The MEF hosted a health fair on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to promote its annual 5k. The KRS/TJS combined choruses performed to an enthusiastic crowd during the event.
- Congratulations to all of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math Olympiad participants. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Education will recognize the accomplishments of the top 6 scorers from KRS: **Oliver Berg, Oliver Boghian, Ruhaan Mody, Akiva Reddy, Kellan Reddy, and William Wu**.
- The KRS committee convened and selected the Teacher of the Year and Educational Services Professional of the Year from many impressive nominations. The winners will be announced later this month.
- School counselor **Mr. Levine** and **Dr. Koop** conducted Hidden Figures of Madison lessons in all 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms.
- Library Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** collaborated MHS Nurse **Ms. Fastiggi** on a story time for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The initiative was made possible through a grant from the NJEA to provide a copy of the book to each 1<sup>st</sup> grader in conjunction with an evening story time. A similar grant for kindergarten students is being planned, with the book potentially being read by Mayor Conley at a later date.

#### Torey J. Sabatini

- **Charlotte Huang** (5<sup>th</sup> grade), won the TJS Green Week Poster Contest! Her amazing poster was printed and hanged around the school for all to see. Congratulations to all of the students who submitted a poster for the contest.
- The TJS library received several new books, written and illustrated by our very own bilingual students! Mrs. Stockdale’s third, fourth, and fifth graders published books in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese. Thanks to a generous MEF grant, these books are now available for all to check out. The books introduce students to a new language while celebrating the diversity of our school community. One TJS student, **Ellen Kupper** (5<sup>th</sup> grade), was featured on the publisher’s website, scribblitt.com. Congratulations to all of the student authors! Thank you to **Mrs. Stockdale** for organizing this event and **Mrs. Thomas** for helping to place barcodes on each and every publication.

- TJS was thrilled to have a new extended day schedule began on April 26<sup>th</sup> at all of the elementary buildings. Changes included in-person Social Studies/Science instruction, additional literacy instruction, in-person special area subjects, and two designated snack periods.
- The annual Madison May Day was held on May 1<sup>st</sup>. This year, TJS parent Mr. Alcorn graciously agreed to be the May Day organizer. TJS families, alongside Principal **Ms. Sing**, worked together to mulch and beautify the school grounds.
- TJS Teacher Appreciation Week occurred during the week of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a great week it was to celebrate TJS's dedicated educators! The PTO recognized staff by providing a delicious luncheon, stocking the teacher's room pantry with snacks, creating a thoughtful string of index card notes from each student, chalking the walkway, and providing gift cards for special area teachers!
- Congratulations to all of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math Olympiad participants. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Education will recognize the accomplishments of the top 6 scorers from TJS: **Will Guarino, Charlotte Huang, Augie Juliano, Helena Mattia, Julia Roffelsen, and Carter Smith.**
- The MEF hosted a health fair on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to promote its annual 5k. The TJS/KRS combined choruses performed to an enthusiastic crowd during the event! Thank you to **Ms. Ward** for helping to coordinate this performance.
- The schoolwide "Only One You" art installation project is well underway! During the week of April 26<sup>th</sup>, students painted their river rocks during art class, and the rocks will be displayed in the river rock stream by the entrance to Torey J. Staff also had a special painting event one afternoon so that their rocks can be included as well. This special project brought unity to the TJS school community and is sure to be a fun event for years to come! Thank you to PTO parent volunteer Mrs. Driscoll and Art teacher, **Mr. Thompson**, for helping to coordinate this meaningful project.
- Several TJS staff members continue to engage in book club meetings alongside **Ms. Sing** around the topic of emotional resilience. Utilizing the text *Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators*, the book club discussions have focused on planning professional development for faculty meetings to turnkey the critical topics from the text.
- Thank you to the PTO for organizing a cultural arts assembly on May 4<sup>th</sup> for all K-5 students. Mark Kister's Live Webcast Assembly taught students to Draw! Draw! Draw! Mr. Kister taught the TJS students from his studio through a live, personalized broadcast. He answered questions and talked with students while showing them how to draw with his award-winning, zany technique. TJS students were able to use their imaginations during this interactive presentation!
- Library Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** collaborated MHS Nurse **Ms. Fastiggi** on a story time for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The initiative was made possible through a grant from the NJEA to provide a copy of the book to each 1<sup>st</sup> grader in conjunction with an evening story time. A similar grant for kindergarten students is being planned, with the book potentially being read by Mayor Conley at a later date.