

Mark Schwarz, Superintendent Daniel J. Ross, Esq., Asst. Superintendent Dr. Frank Santora, Asst. Superintendent



# EDUCATION UPDATE

May 24, 2022

## **District Updates**

#### Educators of the Year for 2021-22

• The MPS community has selected its Teacher of the Year and Educational Support Professional of the Year for each school. The selection process involved nominations and stakeholder input. We are extremely proud of the following recipients and all of our educators who were nominated for 2022!!

School	Teacher	<b>Educational Support Professional</b>
CAS	Mr. Anthony Cyrana, 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ms. Wendy DeCaro, Teacher Assistant
KRS	Ms. Jessica Yurecko, 1st Grade	Ms. Joanne Sims, Reading Specialist
MHS	Mr. Douglas Oswin, English	Mr. Michael Moore, Athletic Trainer
MJS	Mr. Richard Newbery, Social Studies	Mr. Richard Hagens, Teacher Assistant
TJS	Ms. Colleen Kennedy, 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ms. Tina Smith, Instructional Coach

#### District Art Show

• The MPS District Art Show will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> at Saint Elizabeth University. The event opens at 6 pm and will feature over 600 pieces of art work from students in grades K-12. The District Art Show was held on May 25th at St. Elizabeth University. Thank you to the many staff members from throughout the district who helped prepared in setting up the event and special thanks to **Ms. Snider**, K-8 Instructional Coach, for spearheading the planning!

## Math Olympiad Recognition

- On May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Madison Board of Education recognized a number of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who excelled in the Math Olympiad competitions during the 2021-22 school year. The presentation was kicked off by **Ms. Smith**, Instructional Coach, and students were presented with a prize for their impressive results. **Oliver Brown** (KRS) earned a perfect score on all of the 5 assessments, which placed him in the top 1% of scorers nationally!
- The full list of recognitions is below:
  - MJS: Noah Hsu and Kellen Reddy (Co-Top Scorers), Oliver Boghian, Julie Fu,
    William Wu, Jimmy Kilman, Mathias Osorio, Juliana Ozol, and Emma Rickli.
  - O CAS: Noah Shaughnessy (Top Scorer), Lily Polke, Mokun Shi, Mason Porter, Aarav Malhotra, Alexandrea Currie, and Derek Knoll.
  - o KRS: Oliver Brown (Top and Perfect Scorer), Nathaniel Chen, Clarissa Kong, Ryan Lee, Zoe Parnther, Shonith Rajput, Trevor Rodin, and Chase Witz.
  - TJS: CJ Weller (Top Scorer), Atharva Aiyer, August Doehner, Finley Frieder, Alexa Haviland, Daniel Torell, Matthew Tabish, and Johnathan Wang.

## **School Updates**

## Madison High School

• On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Skylar Walters (12<sup>th</sup> grade) received a letter from the US Secretary of Education, Dr. Miguel Cardona, naming her a 2022 US Presidential Scholar. This is one of the highest awards that is bestowed on a graduating high school senior across the nation. Skylar was one of 161 students from across the country, and 3 from New Jersey, to earn this prestigious recognition. She was selected based on her scholastic achievement, artistic excellence, career preparation, demonstrated leadership ability, community service, strong character, and commitment to high ideals. She will be honored during a National Recognition Program in June and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion

MHS earned high National and metro-area rankings in 2022 Best High Schools listing from U.S. News and World Report. The school's updated U.S. News profile page, with details about its rankings, can be <u>found here</u>. By earning a national ranking in the top 40%, MHS achieved status as a U.S. News Best High School for 2022. <u>Detailed information</u> can be viewed for more information on the list and rankings metrics used.



• The Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards for Excellence in High School Musical Theatre for 2022 have been announced and MHS is proud to have a number of award winners. Director Blake Spence will be recognized with the Outstanding Educator Award and the district will also receive the Rising Star Theatre for Everyone Inclusion and Access Award. The 2022 Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards ceremony will take place at Paper Mill Playhouse on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and will be livestreamed on Paper Mill's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

#### MHS Athletics

- Congratulations to **Rachel Bear** (12<sup>th</sup> grade) and **Michael McGuire** (12<sup>th</sup> grade) who are this year's recipients of the Morris County Scholar-Athlete Award.
- On May 19<sup>th</sup>, the MHS Athletic Department hosted a Spring National Signing Day for 12<sup>th</sup> graders who intend to play a sport at the collegiate level. Congratulations to the following students:
  - Lily Barisonek Women's Swimming Bates College
  - Pierce Bateson Men's Soccer University of Connecticut
  - Victoria Brosie Field Hockey Colgate University
  - Luke Denison Football Gettysburg College
  - Michael Lekas Baseball Dominican College
  - Daniel Oyediran Men's Basketball Hartwick College
  - Juan Pineda Men's Soccer Fairleigh Dickinson University
  - Savannah Rinaldi Field Hockey Southern Connecticut State University
- o The MHS Boys Golf Team of **Devan Patel** (11<sup>th</sup> grade), **Alex Patel** (9<sup>th</sup> grade), **Nathan Tallinder** (10<sup>th</sup> grade), **Jackson Koehler** (11<sup>th</sup> grade), and **Eric Selquist** (11<sup>th</sup> grade) won the North II Group II State Section Title. Devan Patel was also crowned the individual champion, shooting a 2-over 74.
- Adam Angelone (12<sup>th</sup> grade) won the 1600-meter (4 minutes and 23 seconds) and 3200-meter (9 minutes and 41 seconds) races and **Ella Tucker** (10<sup>th</sup> grade) won the 100-meter dash (12.60 seconds) at the NJAC Small School Championships on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Madison Junior School

- MJS hosted a 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade parent/guardian orientation on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to Team Leaders Ms. Brennan and Ms. DeRosa, Counselors Ms. Marotta and Ms. Siso, School Nurse Ms. Bliss, Child Study Team member Mr. Lopez, and MJSAO Coordinator Mr. Rossi for providing families with an overview of all that MJS has to offer. Dr. Santora and Dr. Seminerio also joined a panel to share information about the special services department. Principal Ms. Phillips and Assistant Principal Mr. Perrone hosted tours for families to cap off this annual event for incoming families.
- MJS hosted its annual cycles and electives assembly with current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Students learned about the different electives and cycle programs they can pick from for the 2022-23 school year. The following week, MJS hosted a scheduling webinar for families on May 2<sup>nd</sup> that introduced the community to these new cycle choices and the improved process for course registration. Families participated in a walkthrough of Genesis led by Assistant Principal Mr. Perrone and signups for next year's courses is going well!
- On May 4<sup>th</sup>, MJS was excited to host MHS music staff members **Mr. Batsch**, **Ms. Jordan**, and **Mr. Silvestri** to adjudicate performances from the MJS music programs. MJS 8<sup>th</sup> grade band, jazz band, orchestra, and chorus ensembles performed beautifully and received great feedback from their future directors at the high school. MJS music classes then got to celebrate their hard work

- with a field trip to Six Flags Great Adventure on May  $6^{th}$ . Even though it was a rainy day, a good time was had by all!
- A big thank you to the MJS PTO, which hosted a delicious Teacher Appreciation week from May 2-6. Daily acts of appreciation included a Candy Bar, Bagel Breakfast, Milkshake Raffles, Cookie Trolley, and a delicious buffet luncheon.

## Central Avenue School

- The CAS musical *Willy Wonka* was presented to students and families on May 13<sup>th</sup> in 3 separate performances. Under the direction of **Ms. Chiarino** and **Ms. Jackson**, the student performers and crew members were fabulous!
- The CAS band, orchestra, and chorus musicians will be performing 2 concerts on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Both performances (1 concert for students and 1 concert for families) will be directed by **Ms. Quinlan** (orchestra), **Ms. Chiarino** (chorus), and **Ms. Adkins** (band)! Thank you to MJS for allowing CAS to hold the evening concert for families in the MJS auditorium.
- CAS Family Reading Night will be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is an evening to celebrate reading and the teachers have the opportunity to share some of their favorite children's literature.
- The CAS STEAM fair was held on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Students presented their research and projects about STEAM topics of their choice. Thank you to **Mr. Cyrana**, **Ms. Jackson**, and **Mr. Erdreich** for serving as the resident science experts and rewarding each team with a medal! The CAS STEAM students did a fantastic job!
- The CAS Field Day will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to Physical Education teachers **Mr. Izsa** and **Mr. Yendrick** for planning and facilitating a series of courses and activities that engage K-5 students in physical fitness!
- During the weeks of May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 3-5 completed the NJSLA English Language Arts and Mathematics testing. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will complete the NJSLA Science testing from May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>.
- CAS 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will present their More Than Madison projects to families and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The three elementary schools (CAS 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Poets, KRS Chorus, and TJS Band) were featured at the Madison Arbor Day ceremony on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Madison Train Station.
- Nurse's Day was celebrated on May 6<sup>th</sup> for the fabulous CAS nurse **Ms. Young!**
- Kindergarten orientation for 2022-23 will be held for new kindergarten parents at CAS on May 26<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to welcome the new families to the CAS community!
- The CAS 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wax Museum took place on May 5<sup>th</sup>. This project was the culmination of students' research on biography. Parents and staff were able to listen and watch the students present their biographies!
- Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade took a field trip to Waterloo Village on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> as part of a curriculum-based trip to learn about New Jersey's rich history.
- The CAS Funfest took place on May 20<sup>th</sup>, with CAS families brought in to engage in games, bouncy houses, and various other activities that brought the community together!
- Students in Pre-School, kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade had an assembly on May 18<sup>th</sup> titled Penguin Pointers. The assembly, presented by Jenkinson's, taught students about aquariums.

## Kings Road School

- The KRS musical *Frozen* was presented to students and families on May 5<sup>th</sup> in 3 separate performances. Under the direction of **Ms. McEachern** and **Mr. Thompson**, the student performers and crew members were fabulous!
- Congratulations to the KRS band, orchestra, and chorus for performing in two excellent concerts under the direction of **Ms. Quinlan** (orchestra), **Ms. McEachern** (chorus), and **Mr. Rossi** (band)! Thank you to MJS for allowing us to hold the evening concert for families in the MJS auditorium.
- The KRS Reading Night was held on May 19<sup>th</sup> and was a great success! Highlights were teachers, Mayor Conley, and Captain Nunn reading some of their favorite books to KRS families.

- The KRS STEAM fair was held on May 23rd. Students presented their research and projects about self-selected STEAM topics. Congratulations to our KRS scientists! Thank you to STEAM teacher **Ms. Berger** and parent Mrs. Madugula for planning and facilitating the STEAM event for the participating KRS students!
- The KRS Field Days were May 18<sup>th</sup> for students in grades K-2 and May 19<sup>th</sup> for students in grades 3-5. Thank you to Physical Education teacher **Mr. Abbondandolo** for planning and facilitating two fun days for the students.
- During the weeks of May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 3-5 completed the NJSLA English Language Arts and Mathematics testing. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will complete the NJSLA Science testing from May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will present their More Than Madison projects to families and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The three elementary schools (CAS 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Poets, KRS Chorus, and TJS Band) were featured at the Madison Arbor Day ceremony on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Madison Train Station.
- Nurse's Day was celebrated on May 6<sup>th</sup> for the fabulous KRS nurse **Ms. Moran!**
- Kindergarten orientation for 2022-23 was held at KRS on May 13<sup>th</sup>. KRS was excited to welcome the incoming kindergarten families and some new 1<sup>st</sup> grade families to the event, which was full of information and fun!
- 3rd grade students took a field trip to Waterloo Village on May 12<sup>th</sup> to learn about topics aligned to their social studies curriculum and New Jersey's rich history.

#### Torey J. Sabatini

- Congratulations to the TJS band, orchestra, and chorus musicians for performing in two spring concerts. Both performances (one concert for students and one concert for families) were directed by Ms. Quinlan (orchestra), Ms. McEachern (chorus), and Ms. Adkins (band) and weere excellent! Thank you to MJS for allowing us to hold the nighttime concert for families in the MJS auditorium
- Students are busy creating their projects for the PTO sponsored Science Fair and will convene together on May 18<sup>th</sup> to share their research and experiments with peers and families.
- On May 20<sup>th</sup>, students engaged in a fun day of activities and events to celebrate and recognize the school's amazing accomplishment of being named a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the NJ Department of Education.
- The first TJS family reading night will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to a fun reading night in jammies with TJS families!
- During the weeks of May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 3-5 completed the NJSLA English Language Arts and Mathematics testing. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will complete the NJSLA Science testing from May 25<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The TJS fifth grade students will present their More Than Madison projects to their families on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The three elementary schools (CAS 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Poets, KRS Chorus, and TJS Band) were featured at the Madison Arbor Day ceremony on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Madison Train Station.
- Nurse's Day was celebrated on May 6<sup>th</sup> for TJS nurse Ms. Crescas!
- Kindergarten orientation for new 2022-23 students will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to welcome the incoming kindergarten families and some new first grade families to the event full of information and fun!
- This month TJS is participating in a two-week-long gratitude campaign from May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup> called the *Look for the Good Project*. This is the second year TJS is participating in this valuable and fun school-wide campaign. There are numerous benefits to demonstrating gratitude!