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## **District Updates**

### **Veterans Day Activities**

- Veterans Day is celebrated annually on November 11<sup>th</sup> in recognition of the signing of the Armistice that officially ended World War 1. In 1954, the holiday was renamed from “Armistice Day” to “Veterans Day” to honor veterans from all wars. Madison Public Schools respects and honors those who have served and recognized Veterans Day at each school as outlined below.
- At MHS, the Student Council an America’s White Table display. The white table is one that has been set in the dining halls of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps since the end of the Vietnam War. The table is set to honor those who have served in America’s Armed Forces, especially those missing in action (MIA’s) and those held prisoner of war (POW’s). In addition, students will be encouraged to write a letter to a Veteran thanking them for their service. The letters will be mailed to local Veterans or dropped off at local Veterans’ hospitals
- At MJS, social studies and English classes engaged with their peers and teachers using various texts and videos to learn more about Veterans Day. In world language classes students compared Veterans Day with other holidays around the world. During the advisory classes on 11/3 students learned more about this important holiday and the value and impact of our Veterans.
- At CAS, students made cards and thank you notes for our Veterans. In addition, students were encouraged to wear red, white, and blue to honor the day. Morning announcements focused on the importance of Veterans Day were also shared with students.
- At KRS, Counselor **Mr. Levine** arranged for Veterans to speak to the fourth and fifth grade students. The veterans were KRS father Mr. Morgan Hock, KRS grandfather Mr. Frank Hock, and Madison community member and former MPS substitute Mr. Bob Jennings. KRS/TJS Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** also taught students a lesson about Veterans Day.
- At TJS, all students in grades K-5 participated in an outdoor assembly to honor Veterans in the Madison community. From reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, to singing the National Anthem, reading poems, viewing presentations, and participating a Flag Folding Ceremony, it was a very special event. Veterans of TJS students were invited to the event and were honored at the ceremony. Students and staff were also encouraged to wear red, white, and blue to honor the day.

### **Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington, DC**

- On November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, **TJS Principal Ms. Sing, Superintendent Mr. Schwarz**, and TJS teacher representative **Ms. D’Amico** attended the 2021 National Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Washington, DC. It was a memorable event that included an introduction by Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, roundtable discussions with other Blue Ribbon schools from across the country, several keynote speakers, and a ceremony where TJS received its official recognition as a 2021 Exemplary Performing National Blue Ribbon School.
- As a follow up to the national event, the New Jersey State Board of Education and the New Jersey Department of Education will be honoring TJS virtually at the December 1st New Jersey State Board of Education meeting.

### **Technology, Engineering, and Design Department Update**

- The Technology, Engineering, and Design (TED) department has been working to keep our schools safe using the resources and real-world problem solving skills in our classes! Teachers in all five schools used 3D printers to create fountain caps to promote the use of reusable water bottles for both health and safety and sustainability. TED also teamed up with the MEF to provide thousands of adjustable mask strap ear guards to the Madison community at Bottle Hill day!

- Students in the MHS Digital Design II class are being challenged by **Mr. Erdreich** to redesign the TED logo and graphics! In this real-world challenge, students will apply their advanced design skills to create media to represent the department's mission and goals in countless ways!
- Madison Makers is underway at MJS with over 50 students creating unique projects in the MJS makerspace! Madison Makers has monthly club meetings, as well as "open lab" that allows students to use the resources at MJS everyday through passion projects and personal interests
- The MJS and MHS robotics seasons have begun! Students interested in computer science and technology can join the robotics clubs to experience real-world problem solving and programming experiences through international student competitions!

## School Updates

### Madison High School

- 8th Grade Parent Night was held on 11/15 and families from Madison and Harding were invited to learn about MHS, meet the administration, listen to students discuss their experiences, and see the facilities. An information session was also held for the **Academy of Government & Leadership**, which is a new partnership between MHS and the Morris County Vocational School District. The Academy, which will be housed at MHS, will educate students on all aspects of governance including public policy, public administration, ethics, and international relations. This is a unique opportunity available to all incoming ninth graders for the 2022-23 school year.
- On 11/10, the Social Studies department staff participated in their annual professional development with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. This year's first session focused on the history of Japanese Internment. This is the first of three professional development opportunities that Gilder Lehrman will provide MHS teachers this year.
- The AMC 10/12 B Math contest was held virtually this year for interested students. The contest took place 11/16 and contained 25 questions. Students had 75 minutes to complete the contest.
- On 10/24, the MHS Marching Band was named the Tournament of Bands Champions in the New York Metropolitan Region!
- Physical Education/Health teachers from MHS and MJS and the MHS Athletic Trainer were CPR certified on 10/25. The training allows certificated staff to certify other teachers and coaches throughout the district as well as MPS students.
- The Photo Club is leading a [#WhyYouMatter](#) campaign to highlight the importance of emotional wellness and positive self-esteem. Staff and students are asked to have their pictures taken with the words "why you matter." The final project will be displayed in the lobby upon completion.
- The MHS Fall Play *Murder on the Orient Express* runs from 11/18-11/20. Tickets are available at the [MPS Box office](#).
- MHS Athletics
  - MHS Athletics hosted a Division I National Signing Day on 11/11 and two students signed their National Letters of Intent to play at the next level. Congratulations to **Victoria Brosie** (Field Hockey - Colgate) and **Pierce Bateson** (Soccer - Connecticut)!
  - Congratulations to **Adam Angelone** (12<sup>th</sup> grade) won his third straight North II Group II State Section Cross Country Championship with a new school record and time of 15:25!
  - Congratulations to **Michael McGuire** (12<sup>th</sup> grade) who was honored by the Super Football Conference as the Steve DiGregorio Young Man of the Year Award Winner for his selfless commitment to his community, school, and teammates!
  - With a victory over Dover on 10/27, the MHS Girls Volleyball team finished the regular season as Liberty Division Champions.

### Madison Junior School

- Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade engaged with speaker Stephen Hill to learn about his captivating story of substance abuse and recovery. A big thank you to the MJS PTO and the Madison Alliance Addressing Substance Abuse (MAASA) for hosting this meaningful event.

- Sixth grade students participated in the Jets Play 60 flag football tournament on 11/9 with fellow Morris County schools and the Jets organization. Play 60 encourages healthy habits and promotes active engagement. Thanks to **Ms. Tyburczy** and the entire PE Department for coordinating.
- MJS Student Council elections were held in all grades this month. Congratulations to all returning and new members, including the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade advisory representatives, Co-Presidents **Claire Rickli** (8<sup>th</sup> grade) & **Owen Seifried** (8<sup>th</sup> grade), and Vice President **Modi Shi** (8<sup>th</sup> grade).
- Captain Nunn of the Madison Fire Department visited MJS during grade-level assemblies on 10/19 and discussed the theme of “knowing two ways out” and fire safety precautions
- World Kindness Day was recognized during the week of 11/8. Conflict Resolution advisors **Ms. Marotta** and **Ms. Nering** worked with club participants to plan activities for the special day to include a culminating wall of kindness at the end of the week.
- The MJS Fall Play “Head Elf” will run from December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent/teacher conferences will be conducted the afternoon of 11/22 and the evening of 11/23.
- **Ms. Phillips** held a Coffee & Conversation with the Principal event via Zoom on 11/11. The session served as an opportunity to discuss school initiatives, celebrate successes, and share ideas.

#### Central Avenue School

- During School Safety Week, the Madison Fire Department visited CAS to discuss fire safety, TransOptions taught about bike safety, Halloween Safety, and pedestrian safety through their Walk and Roll Program, and **Mr. Shugrue** provided instruction about Stranger Danger.
- Corey the Dribbler presented an interactive, motivational assembly on 10/29. Corey inspires youth with his 4R’s 4 Success! Respect, Responsibility, Ready to Learn, and Reading is Power.
- Buddy Classes met recently and had their first reading celebrations. Older students met with younger students to share writing pieces and to read books to one another.
- Randy Shine the Magician visited CAS on 11/12 for an assembly focused on diversity and inclusion and what it is like to be an African-American magician.
- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) from Riverside was administered to students in grades 2-5 during the week of 10/25.
- CAS PTO is running the 2nd Annual Turkey Trot from 11/25-11/28. Signup can be [found here!](#)
- During National School Psychology Week, CAS School Psychologists shared resources on topics including: the 3 prongs of special education; interventions and accommodations; how to support social-emotional development through journal prompts and read aloud discussions; and position statements on a wide range of topics such as ADHD, academic and behavioral support, and disproportionality in special education. They also created a fun scavenger hunt activity that the students could complete for a chance to win a prize and provided treats for staff.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be conducted the evening of 11/22 and the afternoon of 11/23.
- The CAS Book Fair will be held on 11/22 and 11/23.
- The Holiday Band, Chorus, and Orchestra concerts have been planned and will comprise fun video recordings of the student groups playing.
- World Kindness Day was recognized at CAS on 11/12.
- The first trimester ends on 12/1 and elementary report cards will be available to parents and guardians in the Genesis portal on 12/10.
- The CAS Student Council is running a Food Drive for the Interfaith Food Pantry throughout the month of November!
- The Madison Rotary Club met with the 3rd graders via Zoom to teach about the dictionary and each student received their own dictionary to take home.
- CAS took part in a One School, One Book program. The book was *Only One You* by Linda Kranz. Staff and students completed a series of activities centered on the theme of this book that directly connected to the CAS character pillars!
- During the week of 11/15, fifth grade students have the opportunity to participate in the first round of the Elementary Math Olympiad Contest.

Kings Road School

- As part of School Safety Week, the Madison Fire Department presented on home safety, school safety, and how the Fire Department supports Madison families and schools. Mayor Conley also created a Halloween Safety video that was shared with the KRS students and families.
- The Halloween Parade was a wonderful event that featured students, teachers, and staff in incredible costumes. Clifford the Big Red Dog (a KRS parent) was also spotted! The parade concluded with outdoor photo opportunities for KRS families and classroom Halloween parties. The KRS PTO sponsored a KRS PTO Boo Bash week which included Mystery Monday, Guess the Ghost, Witchy Wednesday, and Spooky Spirit Day. To elevate the excitement and fun of the week, KRS parents dressed in costumes and greeted the students at arrival time each day.
- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) from Riverside was administered to students in grades 2-5 during the week of 10/25.
- The Holiday Band, Chorus, and Orchestra concerts have been planned and will comprise fun video recordings of the student groups playing.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be conducted the evening of 11/22 and the afternoon of 11/23.
- The KRS Book Fair will be held on 11/22 and 11/23.
- World Kindness Day was recognized at KRS on 11/12. Counselor **Mr. Levine** planned various activities for the special day including a KRS community Pajama Drive.
- KRS Student Council met 11/2 to discuss community service and projects to support the school.
- The first trimester ends on 12/1 and elementary report cards will be available to parents and guardians in the Genesis portal on 12/10.
- The Madison Rotary Club donated and presented a dictionary to every KRS third grade student.
- During the week of 11/15, fifth grade students have the opportunity to participate in the first round of the Elementary Math Olympiad Contest.

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- For School Safety Week, Captain Ed. Nunn and members of the Madison Fire Department presented on home safety, school safety, and how the Fire Department supports Madison families and schools. Kindergarten and first graders also saw the fire truck outdoors! Mayor Conley shared a Halloween Safety video with TJS students and families and School Resource Officer Tom Downs visited each class to discuss his job and Halloween Safety. Officer Downs even ate lunch with our fourth and fifth graders in the multi-purpose room!
- The TJS Halloween Parade was a great success and we had beautiful weather! **Principal Sing** dressed up as Cruella and the TJS staff dressed as dalmatians. It was a wonderful event filled with spooky Halloween music, a student costume parade and opportunities to take memorable photos.
- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) from Riverside was administered to students in grades 2-5 during the week of 10/25.
- The first TJS Family Trivia Night of the year was held on 10/28! This event began during the pandemic and is continuing thanks to **Ms. D'Amico, Mrs. Bletcher**, and the PTO!
- On 11/1, TJS staff members shared information about mindfulness with their colleagues. **Ms. D'Amico, Ms. Madden, Ms. Sala, and Ms. Schiller** planned an engaging session practicing mindfulness and sharing ideas for classroom implementation. All teachers were also provided with readalouds and tools to include in a class calm kit thanks to a grant fulfilled by the MEF.
- The Holiday Band, Chorus, and Orchestra concerts have been planned and will comprise fun video recordings of the student groups playing.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be conducted the evening of 11/22 and the afternoon of 11/23.
- The Madison Rotary Club donated and presented a dictionary to every TJS third grade student. An outdoor assembly for the third graders is planned for the end of this month!
- During the week of 11/15, fifth grade students have the opportunity to participate in the first round of the Elementary Math Olympiad Contest.
- The first trimester ends on 12/1 and elementary report cards will be available to parents and guardians in the Genesis portal on 12/10.