



District Updates

Spotlight on Women's History Month

Madison Public Schools is celebrating Women's History Month throughout March. Here is a sampling of the many activities taking place in recognition of the contributions and achievements of women throughout history.

- At MHS, a wide variety of inquiries have been ongoing across all disciplines. For example, in US History II, students completed a project that involved looking at primary sources through document-based questions (DBQ's) that highlight the contributions of women during WWII and the impact the war had on the modern women's rights movement. In World History, students are researching impactful women and are composing a tweet from that person's perspective reflecting on her contributions in history. English classes are spotlighting female authors and English 10 students are working on a women's reading unit and examining texts through the lens of gender.
- At MJS, science classes are exploring the Smithsonian "Picturing Women Inventors Poster Exhibition," which is a series of eight posters that examines the inventions of 19 highly-accomplished American women. Astronauts, computer pioneers, and business women join athletes, engineers, and even teenagers in this remarkable group of inventors. ESL students investigated the incredible story of Bessie Coleman, America's first Black and Native American female pilot. Throughout the other disciplines, the lives and work of many female mathematicians, writers, and other prominent historical figures are being examined.
- In grades K-5, the stories of famous women throughout history have been shared through morning announcements, meaningful readalouds, student exploration during the biography units, art, music, and other subjects. A wide range of sources has been examined in order to provide students with background on women's contributions in the fields of science, literature, history, and the arts.

Madison Environmental Commission's Green Vision Forum

All Madison schools will participate in the Madison Environmental Commission's Green Vision Forum, scheduled for Thursday, March 31, 2022. Members of each school's "Green Team" will present on the school-based project along with members of environmental clubs from Drew University and Fairleigh Dickinson University. Special thanks to the MEC leadership for including the schools and the students in this incredible event!

NJCGTP Workshop on the Arts

- 10 elementary students were selected to participate in the first ever New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented Programs (NJCGTP) Workshop on the Arts for grades 3-5 on March 17th and 18th. Congratulations to the following students:
 - **Miya Behrmann** (3rd grade, CAS), Vocal Music
 - **Ella Hall** (4th grade, KRS), Visual Art
 - **Sophia Klein** (5th grade, TJS), Drama
 - **Derek Knoll** (5th grade, CAS), Instrumental Music
 - **Emily Russell** (5th grade, TJS), Dance
 - **Nola Schmid** (5th grade, KRS), Vocal Music
 - **Scarlett Sellwood** (4th grade, CAS), Vocal Music
 - **Madeline Snider** (4th grade, CAS), Vocal Music
 - **Tara Zielinski** (5th grade, KRS), Vocal Music
 - **Jonathan Wang** (5th grade, TJS), Instrumental Music

School Updates

Madison High School

- Congratulations to seniors **Artha Abeysinghe** and **Skylar Walters** who were officially named National Merit Finalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The selection of 7500 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of approximately 15,000 Finalists (less than 1% of US high school seniors) is now in progress. Good luck Artha and Skylar!
- Congratulations to **Skylar Walters** (12th grade) who was officially named a Coca-Cola Scholar. Skylar is 1 of 150 seniors across the country who earned the award and was selected from over 68,000 applicants. Skylar was selected for her academic excellence, leadership, and service demonstrated in school and community activities. She has earned a \$20,000 scholarship and will participate in the Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Development Institute facilitated by program alumni.
- **Elise Hart** (11th grade) has been selected as a Finalist for the 2022 New Jersey Scholars Program (NJSP), *Into the Borderlands - Exploring the Space Between Big Ideas*. This five-week summer program provides rising seniors of extraordinary academic potential with a free, ungraded, diverse, inclusive, and residential interdisciplinary learning environment that sharpens critical thinking, writing, and research skills, stimulates a desire for life-long learning, and fosters lasting interpersonal connections.
- On February 24th, 32 MHS students departed for Boston to take part in Harvard Model Congress, a premier government simulation. Students were assigned roles in Senate or House committees, special committees, or the Supreme Court. **Karen Wu** (11th grade) received honors as best delegate in the Senate Education Labor and Pension Committee and three other students, **Nina Tadano** (9th grade), **Erin Sullivan** (10th grade) and **Lily Barisonek** (12th grade), received honorable mention from their committees. **Caelon Shugrue** (12th grade) and **Jessie Rhodes** (12th grade) also had their bill pass both the Senate and House and had the honor of presenting in front of the Presidential Cabinet. Congratulations to all 32 students that participated.
- A representative from [Generation SOS](#) spoke with 9th and 10th grade students on March 2nd about the risks of substance abuse, making smarter choices, and getting help if they are struggling.
- MHS had a strong contingent for the State DECA competition in Atlantic City on March 1st. 14 of the 21 school qualifiers attended the conference on behalf of the district.
- On March 7th, the MHS Consumer Bowl Team competed in the Morris County High School Consumer Bowl and took home a bronze medal.
- On March 8th, Computer Science Professor Barry Burd from Drew University spoke to MHS Computer Science students about different career pathways related to the subject.
- The MHS Robotics team under the leadership of **Mr. Garrera** and **Mr. Fennell** reached the semifinals and finished in eighth place at their conference championship meet.
- Congratulations to the MHS Winter Guard who won 1st place with a score of 60.08 at the Main Pegasus Competition.
- Congratulations to the cast & crew of "Sweet Charity" on four wonderful performances at MHS the weekend of March 11th.
- MHS Guidance
 - 11th graders sat for the New Jersey Graduation Performance Assessment (NJGPA) March 14th through March 17th. This new assessment for 11th grade students is part of the updated graduation assessment requirements for students in the classes of 2023-2025. The assessment is aligned to New Jersey State Learning Standards from tenth grade English, Algebra I and Geometry. This test was mandatory and students could not opt out. Testing consisted of four, 90-minute units (2 English/2 Math) with one unit completed each day.
- MHS Athletics
 - Congratulations to junior **Bryan Hill** (11th grade) for earning a gold medal at the Special Olympics Bowling Competition the weekend of March 5th.

- Congratulations to basketball player **Andrew Stack** (12th grade) who scored his 1000th career point versus Newark Academy on February 19th!
- Congratulations to **Ella Tucker** (10th grade) who won the North II Group II 55-meter dash on February 19th with a time of 7.62 seconds!
- Congratulations to the girls 200-meter medley swim relay team of **Karen Wu** (11th grade), **Erin Barisonek** (10th grade), **Isabella Guarino** (11th grade), and **Lily Barisonek** (12th grade) for setting a school record on February 14th and earning a trip to the Meet of Champions with a time of 1:54:44.
- Congratulations to wrestlers **Indio Pluchino** (12th grade), **Beckett Cheddar** (11th grade), **Anthony Collins** (11th grade), and **Julian Moszcynski** (12th grade) for placing in the top three at the District 12 state wrestling tournament and competing in the Region 3 tournament.
- Congratulations to the MHS Girls Basketball team for winning the North II Group II State Championship by beating Hackettstown 48-32. This is the first Section championship at Madison in Girls Basketball since 1997. The team also set a school record with 22 wins this year. The following players earned All-Division honors within the Northwest Jersey Athletic Conference Liberty Division:
 - **Charlotte Tuhy** (9th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference & All County
 - **Beau Braverman** (10th Grade) - 2nd Team All-Conference
 - **Alex Reigle** (11th grade) - Honorable Mention All-Conference
- The MHS Boys Basketball team finished the season with a 17-11 record. The following players earned All-Division honors within the Northwest Jersey Athletic Conference Liberty Division:
 - **Drew Stack** (12th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference & All County
 - **Daniel Oyediran** (12th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference
 - **Tommaso Maher** (12th grade) - 2nd Team All-Conference
 - **Sean Mariani** (11th grade) - Honorable Mention All-Conference
- The MHS Boys Swim team finished the season with a 5-5 record. The following swimmers earned individual All-Division honors within the Northwest Jersey Athletic Conference Southern II Division:
 - **Owen Weller** (11th grade) - Honorable Mention All-Conference
 - **Justin Lee** (12th grade) - Honorable Mention All-Conference
- The MHS Girls Swim team finished the season with an 8-3 record. The following swimmers earned individual All-Division honors within the Northwest Jersey Athletic Conference Southern II Division:
 - **Lily Barisonek** (12th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference - 200-meter Individual Medley
 - **Karen Wu** (11th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference - 100-meter Freestyle
 - **Isabelle Guarino** (11th grade) - Honorable Mention All-Conference
- The MHS Boys Ice Hockey team finished the season with a 5-12-1 record. The following players earned individual All-Division honors within the MCSSIHL Mennen Division:
 - **Liam O’Hearen** (12th grade) - 1st Team All-Conference
 - **Cormac McNamara** (12th grade) - 2nd Team All-Conference
 - **Luke Wirth** (12th grade) - Honor Mention All-Conference

Madison Junior School

- On February 17th, the MJS student council hosted the annual Spike for the Cure volleyball tournament, raising over \$1500. Students and staff played in a single elimination bracket until one champion was crowned. Thank you to student council advisor **Ms. Siso** for organizing this annual tradition.
- Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Into The Woods Jr.* for two successful productions of the Spring musical. A special thanks to director/producer **Ms. Layman**, music director/lighting design **Ms. Jordan**, and set design manager **Ms. Fiedler**.

- The Student/Staff Basketball Game returned March 17th and pitted two faculty/student teams against each other as a fund raiser to benefit The American Cancer Society. An exciting part of the night was the halftime shootout competition where spectators could join the fun! Thank you to student council advisor **Ms. Siso** for working with our student council members to organize and run the event.
- MJS is looking forward to its upcoming partnership with the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts this spring. Sixth grade students will get an opportunity to watch an assembly and work alongside METC staff on exciting learning projects related to voting rights and the electoral system.
- Students from MJS and CAS participated in the New Jersey Center for Gifted and Talented Pupils (NJCGTP) SuperHero design challenge by creating superheroes of their own and comics-styled posters to share their ideas with others!
- Female students from MJS were able to participate in a Women in STEM event hosted by the AAUW at the Madison Community House to learn about STEM career opportunities and meet with local professional women working in the STEM fields.
- Congratulations to our Boys and Girls Volleyball teams on a fantastic 2022 season. Led by Coach **Mr. Martinez**, the Boys team earned the Morris County Championship trophy this year. And the Girls team made it through to the quarter finals of the county tournament. Congratulations on a well-played season!

Central Avenue School

- The CAS PTO Winterfest took place on March 11th! This family-centered event featured blacktop games, a hot chocolate bar, festive photo booth, music, and puzzle challenges! Thank you to our PTO!
- Read Across America took place and Media Specialist **Mr. Paradiso** planned school and at-home activities outlined within [this document](#). Some of the activities planned included student-athletes from FDU reading to our classes, an author visit, reading challenges, One School/One Book, and much more!
- Part of the 3rd Grade Social Studies Curriculum is learning about the Lenape Native Americans. The 3rd graders took part in an [assembly](#) that shared information about the Lenape way of life and made artifacts available for viewing.
- CAS teachers enjoyed a productive day of professional learning and conversations, on the district inservice day on February 22nd. Activities included Foundations training, the elementary school teachers from all 3 schools discussing tier 1 interventions together, Crisis Prevention Intervention training, dyslexia training, and many other sessions.
- Students and staff completed reading and classroom lessons on the CAS One School, One Book initiative, which was *Happy Dreamer* by Peter Reynolds!
- The CAS Author Visit was March 10th and 11th and featured Peter Reynolds. Thank you to the MEF for this wonderful grant!
- On February 23rd, the PTO presented about the CAS STEAM Fair! The CAS STEAM Fair will take place on April 28th. Students are currently deciding on experiments/projects and conducting preliminary research on a topic of choice.
- The CAS Green Team will take part in the Madison Green Forum on March 31st. The Green Team is focusing on the Drew Forest and has also developed a schedule to pick up litter each week at CAS!
- Students from MJS and CAS participated in the New Jersey Center for Gifted and Talented Pupils (NJCGTP) SuperHero design challenge by creating superheroes of their own and comics-styled posters to share their ideas with others!
- The second trimester closed on March 9th and report cards will be available for parents to view in Genesis on March 18th.

Kings Road School

- March 11th was Social/Emotional Learning (SEL) Day. Students and staff recognized the day by participating in community circles, guidance lessons, and a special morning announcement.
- Read Across America Week was celebrated from February 28th to March 4th. Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** planned school and at-home activities that are outlined within [this document](#). Ms. Thomas also coordinated a “Read Across the Diverse Regions of America” initiative, which included teachers and students reading books with diverse characters and authors.
- KRS is anxiously awaiting the arrival of its books for the One School, One Book program. Reading Specialist **Ms. Sims** is preparing for what will be another exciting community reading event.
- KRS teachers enjoyed a productive day of professional learning and conversations, on the district inservice day on February 22nd. Activities included Foundations training, the elementary school teachers from all 3 schools discussing tier 1 interventions together, Crisis Prevention Intervention training, dyslexia training, and many other sessions.
- KRS ESL Teacher **Ms. Bihuniak** is planning an International Day for the Spring at KRS. We are excited about holding this event in person this year.
- KRS took part in the Madison Green Forum on March 31st.
- The second trimester closed on March 9th and report cards will be available for parents to view in Genesis on March 18th.

Torey J. Sabatini

- Read Across America Week was celebrated from February 28th to March 4, 2022. Media Specialist **Ms. Thomas** planned school and at home activities that are outlined within [this document](#).
- TJS teachers enjoyed a productive day of professional learning and conversations, on the district inservice day on February 22nd. Activities included Foundations training, the elementary school teachers from all 3 schools discussing tier 1 interventions together, Crisis Prevention Intervention training, dyslexia training, and many other sessions.
- Mindfulness practices continue to be implemented at TJS. This month, teachers **Ms. Madden** and **Ms. D’Amico** created a Family Mindful March menu for parents and guardians to implement at home with their children. To view the menu, [click here](#).
- The PTO sponsored Enrichment Assemblies for students in grades 2 and 5 this month. Kit’s Interactive Theater provided grade 2 with an assembly about fairy tales, which tied in nicely to their ELA units of study. Grade 5 students participated in an American Revolution assembly. Students and staff truly enjoyed Kit’s interactive show!
- The second trimester closed on March 9th and report cards will be available for parents to view in Genesis on March 18th.