



# BRIDGES

*At Mount Morris Central School District we are building the future, laying the foundation of lifelong learning, opening minds to explore, to create, and to achieve excellence.*

**2021 Wallethub Best High Schools in NYS: Ranked #1 in Livingston County**

**2020 National Support Music Merit Award**

**2019 National PTA School of Excellence**

**2018 Fastest Growing Districts: New York State**

**2017 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools**

**2016 TOP 10 WNY SAT Math Performance**



Leah Gehrig  
Class of 2023

## Students in the Spotlight



Ethan Provino  
Class of 2023

In 10th grade, Leah received the Livingston County Teen Recognition Award, she was the recipient of the 2021-2022 Livingston County Sheriff's Office School Resource Deputy Student of the Year Award and currently holds the MMCSD Junior Cup for excelling in athletics. Among her athletic accomplishments, Leah set records for the Girls Top 5 All-Time Track Records in the 55 Hurdles, 1500 Race Walk and High Jump. Leah is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Drama Club, Key Club, Spanish Club, Yearbook Club and is on the Varsity Indoor Track Team, Outdoor Track Team and Varsity Soccer Team. She does all of this while holding down a job that takes up most of her free time! "The most important message I want to relay to other students is to take school seriously," said Leah. She has already taken college classes including Sports Management, Public Policy, Practices of Academic Writing and will complete Calculus, Practices of Academic Writing and Gender and Literary Text prior to graduation. Leah is planning to attend Gannon University where she will study to become a Physician's Assistant.

Ethan is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Spanish Club and Bowling Club. He plays Varsity Golf, Varsity Soccer and will be participating in Varsity Indoor Track and Varsity Basketball this school year. Ethan's favorite sport is Golf and he has never lost a high school match! He even set a school record as the 2022 Class D Section 5 Golf Champion. Ethan won the WNY PGA Tour 3 years in a row, is a 2020 LCAA Soccer All-Star, 2021 LCAA Golf Champion, 2021 Livingston County Teen Recognition Award recipient and played in the World Teen Championship in NC over the summer. "If there's something you want, go work for it and never give up," said Ethan. By the time Ethan graduates, he will have already taken several college courses including Sports Management, Public Policy, Calculus, Practices of Academic Writing, Introduction to Renewable Energy and Gender and Literary Text. Some of Ethan's favorite things to do include golf, running, tubing on the St. Lawrence River and spending time with family and his two dogs. Following graduation, Ethan would like to move south and attend a college where he is able to play D2 Golf.



**WWW.MTMORRISCSD.ORG**

**Fall 2022**



# Mount Morris Central School District

30 Bonadonna Avenue ♦ Mount Morris, NY 14510

*From Greg Bump, District Superintendent*

## You Have to See it to Believe It

Some things can only be experienced by being there, and that is where our college visit program comes into place. Throughout the year, our high school students get an opportunity for an on-site campus visit. Some visits are scheduled in the summer months and other visits are scheduled during our Staff Development Days so the students can spend extended time on campus without missing their classes. Students who are exploring their college options have so many decisions to make and these visits help them understand what is available in the area. During the official visits, the students explore the campus, dorms, dining hall and get to learn about the various academic programs. Our previous visits have included Roberts Wesleyan University, Buffalo State College, Elmira College, SUNY Brockport, University at Buffalo, University of Rochester, RIT, Nazareth College, Alfred State, Finger Lakes Community College, Monroe Community College, Genesee Community College, SUNY Geneseo, and Keuka College as part of our district-sponsored college visit program.

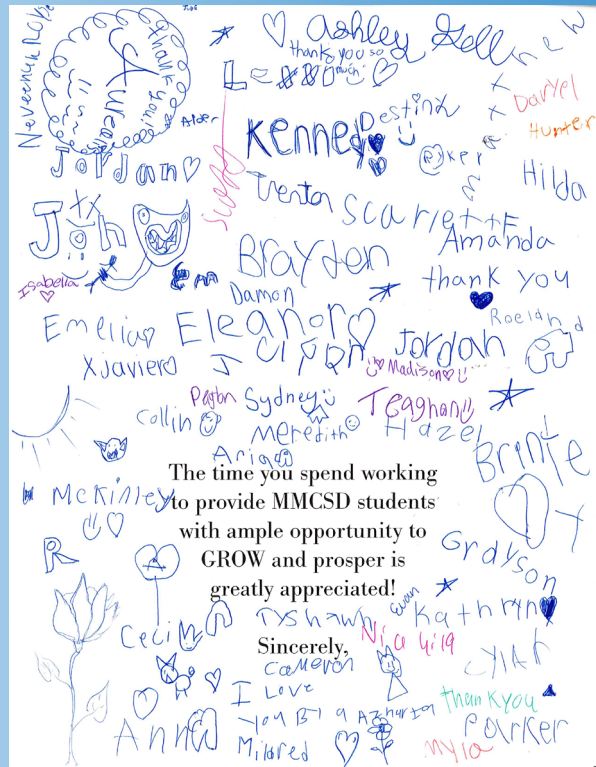




## Supporting Success for ALL Students

# THANK YOU SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS!

**School Board Appreciation Week  
October 17-22, 2022**



## Mount Morris CSD Honors Distinguished Alumni

The Mount Morris Central School District held a special ceremony to recognize the 2022 Distinguished Alumni. Established in 2016, this annual award recognizes Alumni whose accomplishments, affiliations, career and educational achievements have brought honor to the MMCS D legacy and within the community. A selection committee, which included representatives from the District and the community, reviewed each of the nominations and selected this year's inductees.

As pictured below, left to right: Mike Tantillo served as the District Attorney for Ontario County for 27 years, is the author of U.S. Supreme Court brief *New York v. Belton* and received the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018. Jane Ann (Masonis) Petti is the founder and director of The Dance Center of Performing Arts, an adjudicator for the Stars of Tomorrow and serves on the Board for Dance Masters of America. Mike Donovan has worked at Corning Incorporated for 37 years, holds 6 U.S. patents and 13 Invention Disclosures. You can visit the school's website to learn about each inductee's many other achievements and also see a listing of past inductees.

Following the ceremony, our high school students enjoyed attending breakout sessions with each Alumnus where they could ask questions. The Distinguished Alumni serve as role models for today's students so they may have a better understanding of the power of learning!

Each year, nominations are due by May 1st. Information and nomination forms for the 2023-2024 school year can be found on the school's website:

<http://www.mtmorriscsd.org/>.

Click on menu, school pride and then Distinguished Alumni.



## *Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in the Artroom!*



5th and 6th graders are designing their own images based on traditional Mexican Hojalata, or tin art. Embossing thin sheets of aluminum results in many decorative products that are still commonly sold in Mexico.



3rd grade students learned about the process of making Amate paper from bark and the beautiful folk paintings done by artists in Puebla, Mexico.



2nd graders will be learning about Papel Picado, a popular decoration created in Mexico, by cutting or hole punching through sheets of thin, colorful paper.

4th grade students will learn about the Taíno people, indigenous to Puerto Rico, and symbols they carved into rocks hundreds of years ago. Students will carve their own symbols in "rocks" made from clay.



## MMCS D Introduces a Foster Grandparent Program

We are excited to share that MMCS D has partnered with a Foster Grandparent Program! Foster Grandparents work in the classroom helping students grow and gain confidence! Right now, the District hosts two Foster Grandparents: Ms. Marilyn Aberth and Mr. Marion Bloom.

The Foster Grandparent Program is federally funded and administered locally by Finger Lakes Community Action, based in Lyons NY. "This program pairs seniors ages 55 and over with schools, Head Starts and Day Care Centers. Volunteers must commit 15 hours a week to the program in helping children succeed academically, stay on task and give individual attention. Seniors benefit from becoming engaged in the community, decreasing isolation and having a sense of purpose in their retirement years," said Mr. Gregory Peck, Foster Grandparent Director.

Fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Willey, who is new to the District this year, introduced the District to this wonderful program! She said, "Grandma Marilyn and I are beginning our seventh year working together. She is such a wonderful resource to have in our classroom as she loves to help kids one at a time or in small groups with just about anything! Grandma Marilyn reads with students, helps the kids when they are stuck trying to write an answer, keeps them organized, and adores spending time with them. Who wouldn't love having a grandparent in their classroom?!" So, of course when Mrs. Willey joined our team Ms. Aberth agreed to come too!



Mr. Bloom has a background in carpentry and worked preparing Disney World for their grand opening in the 1970's! He spends his time helping students in Mr. King's Technology class, Ms. Mocciano's Spanish class and with our Student Support Specialist, Ms. Mychalishyn. "Mr. Bloom has been an excellent addition to our classroom. He is very kind to everyone around him and lets the kids know that they are cared for. Mr. Bloom has told me that every day he wakes up with one question on his mind, 'How can I make a difference today?' Whether it be saying hello to students or being their partner during an activity, he makes sure to accomplish this goal each day," said Ms. Mocciano.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about how to apply for the Foster Grandparent Program, contact Gregory Peck at 315-333-4155 ext. 3316 or email [gregory.peck@waynecap.org](mailto:gregory.peck@waynecap.org).



*Our Elementary Scholastic Book Fair is taking place Monday, November 14th through November 28th during school hours. Information will be going home with students. For every item sold, MMCS D receives 25% of the proceeds which goes to benefit our student council!*



## GLOW with Your Hands

MMCS D tenth grade students had the opportunity to get hands-on career experience at the 4th annual GLOW with Your Hands event! Exhibits and workplace simulations included demonstrations of mechatronics, welding, brick laying, electrical lineman work and more. Students were able to learn about careers in food packaging, veterinary sciences, animal nutrition and commercial trucking. Major employers in the GLOW (Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming) region and various construction trade unions attended the event to simulate the functions and skills of the various jobs that are in demand!

Part of what makes this event so great is that it is solely volunteer based and averaging roughly 100 volunteers! Genesee Construction, LandPro Equipment, and National Grid were platinum sponsors for this year's GLOW with Your Hands event. Sponsorship was also received from more than 20 manufacturing, skilled trades, agriculture, and food and beverage companies across the GLOW region and that list can be found at [glowwithYourHands.com/sponsors](http://glowwithYourHands.com/sponsors).



Our Drama Club students were able to go see the hit Broadway musical, *Tootsie*! The Rochester Broadway Theatre League (RBTL) has developed several nationally recognized and award-winning arts education programs for students in the Greater Rochester area. Through one of these programs, our students have been given the opportunity to recruit patrons to support the educational programs at the RBTL, and in return, receive the chance to see hit Broadway musicals throughout the 2022-2023 season. "This is an amazing program for our students to take advantage of!" said Mrs. Coniglio, MMCS D Drama Club Advisor.





## Fun in the Classroom!

MMCSD offers “Push-In” Response To Intervention (RTI) services that we are very excited about! These RTI services are school based services designed to benefit the entire classroom. They are district level services provided when students are participating in their natural environments. These environments include areas where students may spend time regularly, such as the classroom and any other setting that a student accesses during the school day. This provides them with greater opportunities to generalize and apply different developmental skills in a natural setting!

Occupational Therapy (OT) addresses the physical, cognitive, psychosocial and sensory components of performance. In schools, occupational therapy practitioners focus on academics, play and leisure, social participation, self-care skills and transition/work skills. Our preschoolers, kindergarteners, and 1st graders are able to participate in whole group RTI services multiple times a week!

Some specific skills our Occupational Therapist, Ms. Schledorn addresses in whole group RTI are writing, cutting, hand strength, coordination, the ability to use both hands together, and visual motor skills. Classroom expectations are also addressed such as listening, following directions, and participation.



Our Music Therapist, Mrs. Hubbard, is able to offer whole group RTI in classrooms for preschool through first grade twice a week. Music therapy helps students meet physical, emotional, social, cognitive and academic goals. In music therapy, each individual is provided support and encouragement in the acquisition of new skills and abilities. Because music touches each person in so many different ways, participation in music therapy offers opportunities for learning, creativity and expression! Music Therapy can help in improving motor function, social skills, emotional control, coordination and aims to promote self-expression and growth.



# Groceries for Families

With the support of Foodlink, we are able to provide families with groceries year-round! Families are able to sign up for this program by contacting their child's teacher or by leaving a message on our School Support Message Line: (585) 658-5010.

## A little about Foodlink and the Backpack Program:

Foodlink is a Rochester-based nonprofit, dedicated to ending hunger and building healthier communities. This organization serves as the hub of the emergency food system across 10 counties. As a leading public health organization, Foodlink administers many programs and initiatives that aim to build the health and wealth of communities.

When school is closed during weekends and planned breaks, Foodlink is able to provide meals to families who have signed up for the Backpack Program. This program is part of a Feeding America-wide initiative and provides children with bags of nutritious food they can take home.

In a typical year, Foodlink reports that the Backpack Program serves more than 3,000 children at more than 80 schools. There are many ways individuals can help support Foodlink programs. To learn more about the programs and how to help visit: <https://foodlinkny.org/about/>.

**SAFETY is Everyone's Responsibility**

**THE SAFE SCHOOL HELPLINE®**  
**It's free and confidential 24/7**

**web: [safeschoolhelpline.com](https://safeschoolhelpline.com)**  
**text: 614-426-0240,**  
**then type TIPS**

**800-4-1-VOICE EXT. 359**  
**800-418-6423 EXT. 359**



The Safe School Helpline is a convenient, confidential way for anyone to report information about situations that might affect safety at our school. You can call the number any time of the day or night to report concerns about unsafe or potentially disruptive activities or situations including drug or alcohol abuse, weapons, harassment, bullying or threats. There are also 24/7 mental health crisis counselors available to help troubled students who are suicidal, bullied, or simply having a tough time. All calls are confidential.

## Pesticide Notification

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2002, requires all public and non-public elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Mount Morris Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;

- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;

The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in our school, please complete the form below and return to: Mount Morris School District pesticide representative, 30 Bonadonna Avenue, Mount Morris, NY 14510 (telephone (585) 658-3331).

Mount Morris Central School District Request for Pesticide Application Notification (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to contact the Mount Morris School District pesticide representative at: 30 Bonadonna Avenue, Mount Morris, NY 14510 (telephone (585) 658-3331)



## THE LIFE CYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY



Each year, our kindergarten students learn about the life cycle of a butterfly. Did you know that it can take up to two weeks for the butterflies to emerge from their chrysalises? At the end of this lesson, students are able to identify the main topic of a text, retell key details and identify the sequence of a butterfly's life cycle.

## Students Show School Spirit!

Here are some pictures of our annual outing to paint bridges in the community!



## **Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the date the Mount Morris Central School District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the Mount Morris Central School District to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Mount Morris Central School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

See the list below of the disclosures that elementary and secondary schools may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures



## **Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools (continued)**

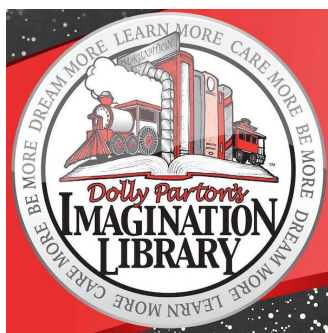
to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, §99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –

- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in §99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(I) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of §99.34. (§99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency in the parent or eligible student's State (SEA). Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§99.31(a)(4))
- To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to §99.38. (§99.31(a)(5))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to §99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11))

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## **AHERA Management Plan**

The annual Mount Morris Central School District Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Management Plan is available for review by contacting the Facilities Manager. While all friable asbestos has been removed from the district, ongoing maintenance and inspection activities will be conducted to ensure non-friable asbestos-containing materials (i.e. floor tiles) remain in safe condition.



**ATTENTION:**  
*Mount Morris Central School District Residents  
with a child under the age of 5!!*

Our PTSA's partnership with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program benefits our community by allowing all Mount Morris Central School District residents to register their child/children under the age of five (5) to receive a FREE book in the mail EVERY month!

To enroll your child in the Imagination Library, please send an email to [freebooks@mtmorriscsd.org](mailto:freebooks@mtmorriscsd.org) with the information listed below, complete an enrollment form which is available in our visitor entrance, or call Sarah Williams at 585-658-5036. The information required to register for this program is as follows: Parent Name(s), Child's Name, Child's Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year), Child's Gender, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Parent's Email Address (Optional). We hope to hear from you soon!

According to the National Commission on Reading, the single most significant factor influencing a child's early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school.

If you know a Mount Morris Central School District resident with a child under the age of 5, please share this information with them. Please note that not all Mount Morris residents are in the Mount Morris Central School District.



THE MISSION OF THE MOUNT MORRIS PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
(MMPTSA) IS THREE-FOLD:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
  - To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children;
  - To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.
- The MMPTSA is affiliated with both the New York State and National PTAs.

Come help us make a difference!  
Have a question? Want to get involved?  
E-mail: [mountmorrisptsa@gmail.com](mailto:mountmorrisptsa@gmail.com)  
For up-to-date announcements, photos, videos and more,  
please follow us on Facebook/[mountmorrisptsa](https://www.facebook.com/mountmorrisptsa)



MOUNT MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Board of Education:** • Peter Privitera, President • Stephanie Gehrig, Vice-President •  
Connie Dennison, Trustee • Ann Hunt, Trustee • Pamela Martin, Trustee  
• Deborah Schmidt, Trustee • Jennifer Young, Trustee

**Administration:** Greg Bump, Superintendent • Jesse Hamilton, 7-12 Principal  
• Danielle Dean, Elementary Principal • Mike Cox, Business Administrator  
• Krystal Vanvalkenburg, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
• Brandon Zingaro, Director of Facilities