



School Updates

Madison High School

- Madison Public Schools has been named to the 10th Annual **AP District Honor Roll** in the Advanced Placement District Awards for expanding opportunity and improving performance for AP students. This award “recognizes school districts committed to increasing access to AP for underrepresented students while simultaneously maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. AP District Honor Roll recipients are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.”
- Members of the **MHS Key Club** board are participating in the Students Change Hunger food drive, which is a challenge from the NJ Federation of Food Banks to collect food and donations to help the hungry and food insecure in our community. Last year, MHS won the Division 5 award for donating 1,400 lbs. of food plus \$1,600. This year, the goal is to double last year’s efforts. Students and staff can bring food donations to room A1 and community members can use the town drop-off location at Coldwell Banker. You can also click the following link to make a tax-deductible donation:
http://support.cfbnj.org/site/TR/VirtualFoodDrive/General?px=1198901&pg=personal&fr_id=1220
- **Andrew Haralampoudis** (10th grade) has set up a drop off box to collect “gently used” coats to support the Jersey Cares Coat Drive.
- The MHS Chapter of the **National Honor Society** inducted 74 seniors and juniors as new members at a ceremony held on 11/26.
- **Connor Wasik** (11th grade) won 1st place in the VFW’s Voice of Democracy Essay Contest on the theme “What Makes America Great.” Established in 1947, the Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves through a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Connor’s essay will next be entered in the county competition.
- **Anna McCarthy** (12th grade), **Henry Marinovic** (11th grade), **Arhan Menon** (10th grade), **Sterling Hart** (10th grade), and **Doyle Keane** (10th grade) were selected to participate in the TCNJ High School Honors Festival on 11/23. The students were selected for their high level of musicianship and represented Madison in the festival chorus. They performed music in a variety of styles and languages including French, Latin, English, and Sesotho/Zulu. The concert was prepared in two days of rehearsal at TCNJ and the students were guided by TCNJ choral faculty members Dr. John Leonard and Dr. Nicholas McBride.
- **Mr. Bernich, Mr. Cecala, Ms. Wagner, and Mr. Grundfest** attended the New Jersey Council for History Education Conference in Princeton, NJ. There they were able to learn from some of the top professors from Columbia and heard an address from former CIA Director General David Petraeus.
- On 10/31, **Mr. Oswin** swapped his school attire for workout clothes as a guest instructor in Coach Rad’s Wellness class. Mr. Oswin shared his new passion in the world of Crossfit and everyone in the class was impressed to hear about his morning routine, which consists of 5:00 am workouts.
- **MHS Guidance**
 - **Jeremy Gann** (12th grade) has been selected among a group of high school seniors across the nation who will continue in the 2020 competition for a corporate-sponsored Special Scholarship administered by National Merit® Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).
- **MHS Athletics – Winter Edition**
 - **Boys Ice Hockey** had a successful scrimmage against Westfield on 11/17 with a 6-3 win. Their first regular season game was a tie against Chatham on 11/30 at Mennen Sports Arena.
 - **Girls Ice Hockey** has been practicing in Bridgewater and won their first league game against Dunellen by a score of 10/3 on 12/6.
 - The **Boys and Girls Swim** teams have been practicing at Drew University. Both teams beat Hanover Park in their openers on 12/2 (boys and 12/9 (girls).
 - The **Bowling** team started its season with a match against Delbarton on 12/3.

Madison Junior School

- MJS had six students who received recognition as part of the Patriot's Pen essay contest on the theme "What Makes America Great." The contest allows students in grades 6-8 an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on a patriotic theme. Students **Ethan Simms** and **Xi Xuan Yin** won first place prizes and each took home \$50. **Claire Rickli** and **Owen Armstrong** received second place recognition and **Celia Tombalakian** and **Liam Johansen** took home third honors.
- 14 MJS students will be attending the **Workshop on the Arts** on 1/8 and 1/9. Sponsored by the NJ Consortium for Gifted and Talented Programs, this two-day seminar in art, vocal and instrumental music, dance, drama and creative writing allows students to interact with professionals from the entertainment community and to work collaboratively with students from other schools to develop an original play.
- MJS students had an opportunity to synergize and sharpen the saw through **Team Building Day**. **Peer Group Connection** leaders from MHS worked with 6th grade students in team building activities. Seventh grade students traveled to the YMCA to participate in activities. Eighth grade students went bowling together as a class. Thank you to all who coordinated activities and assisted throughout the day!
- The **PTO** and **Mrs. Bessin** coordinated this year's **MJS Book Fair**, which had a theme of arctic exploration. Thank you to all who helped make it a special event!
- MJS students tested their entrepreneurial skills in this year's **TREPS Marketplace**. Thank you to **Mrs. Siso** for working with the students in building and refining their products and business strategies.
- MJS students successfully presented **Midsummer Night's Dream** for the school play. Thank you to **Ms. Ward** and **Ms. Goodstein** for working with our students in preparation for the play.
- Students in Orchestra and Chorus performed their concerts for the community. Thank you to **Mrs. McCormick** and **Ms. Goodstein** for preparing our students for their performance.

Central Avenue School

- Traffic Town-Transoptions taught our 4th graders on traffic and pedestrian safety.
- The **CAS Book Fair** took place over 2 days on 11/20 and 11/21.
- Students in Pre K-5 learned about Hot Air Balloons on 11/25 in an assembly titled **Up and Away**.
- CAS Student Council raised and donated over 70 pounds of food for the **Interfaith Food Pantry**.
- The **CAS Winter Concert** took place on 12/10.
- The **CAS Kindergarten Sing** will take place on 12/16.

Kings Road School

- The **KRS Book Fair** took place on the conference days and was a big hit! Students engaged with new and exciting books and shared their experiences with friends throughout the school.
- **KRS PTO** will be hosting meeting on 12/5 at 7 pm with a speaker who will discuss digital citizenship.
- To support the **Moms Helping Moms Foundation**, the leadership council is collecting diapers and gently worn winter coats. Donations will be collected from 12/2 to 12/19.
- The **KRS Student Council** is creating a cookbook! The goal is to feature at least one recipe from every KRS family in the book entitled *Kings Road School Cooking Delights*.
- The **Chorus, Band, Orchestra Holiday Concerts** were held on 12/9 and 12/10.
- The **Holiday Sing-A-Long** will be held on 12/17.

Torey J. Sabatini

- The **Book Fair** was held during parent/teacher conferences along with the TJS Turkey Trot. Both events were successful!
- The **Gingerbread Holiday Workshop** was held on 12/7.
- The band, chorus, and orchestra **holiday concert** was held on 12/12.
- The annual **holiday sing-a-long** will be held on 12/20.
- STEM and Media Center spaces are making progress. Thank you to Ms. D'Amico and Mr. Paradiso for their efforts in transforming these spaces after the summer construction.
- Auditions for the annual spring musical, "**Alice in Wonderland**," are currently being held.