

THE DISTRICT CORRESPONDENT

Connecting our community



Toys for Tots Book Donation

In May, the Toys for Tots Literacy Program donated over 5,000 books to the district. This meant that every student in grades PK - 8 was given a free book of their choice to take home just in time for summer break!

As part of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, the Toys for Tots Literacy Program partners with Title 1 schools to promote literacy. Each school was provided with an assortment of books and titles that were grade-level appropriate so students could select something of interest to them. It was a special 'book fair' in May for our students as they were able to peruse the titles and find something fun.



A special thanks to Mrs. Jennifer Cornelius, district Media Specialist, for her time in sorting all of the books and readying them for deliver to the schools. Pictured are students from MJHS and Lydia Middleton Elementary School enjoying their selections.



Our Briner Buddies

Earlier in the school year, Rykers' Ridge Elementary 4th grade students launched a community-wide service project to honor classmates lyla, Leland, and Adelia Briner who lost their lives in a tragic accident in December 2023.

The goal was simple. . .collect 200 pounds of plastic lids. Students and fourth-grade teachers Ann Motenko and Gretchen Manaugh, along with PTO President, Mary Mehl created a plan, partnered with Green Tree Plastics, LLC, and reached out to friends and neighbors to ask them to help by collecting various types of plastic lids. Students collected, promoted, sorted, cleaned, and packaged lids for several weeks with a deadline of May 1, 2024. Not knowing exactly what to expect, they worked diligently to reach their goal. . .200 pounds of plastic lids to get a Buddy Bench to place on their campus to honor their classmates.

Following summer school later this month, Mr. Mahoney will deliver 650 POUNDS OF LIDS to be recycled and traded in for THREE BUDDY BENCHES!

Thank you to our students, staff, families, neighbors, friends, area businesses, and other schools - EVERYONE who contributed to this amazing project. Our students learned so many things, one of which is how much love and support we have in our amazing community. "To work through and process so many big emotions since December has brought our school community together," shared Principal Kenton Mahoney. "I am so thankful for the love and support of our hometown, our friends and neighbors who poured into us at a very difficult time, and our teachers and staff who showed up every single day for our kids and continue to help them realize the power of support, grace, kindness, and love."

Stay tuned for more updates as plans come together for a dedication ceremony when school resumes!



Deputy Elementary Not only a Family Friendly School - but Excelling!

In May, Deputy Elementary School received some very exciting news from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) - they had once again been recognized as a Family Friendly School.

The renewal process approval was confirmed in a press release from the office of the IDOE Student, School, and Family Engagement Team. In an excerpt from the congratulatory letter, Deputy Elementary was not only renewed but also improved its designation within the process.

May 3, 2024
Congratulations, your school has completed the 2024-2025 Family Friendly School Designation Renewal Process. Your school has demonstrated renewed efforts through various initiatives during the current school year to engage families, students, staff, and leadership within your building. Your commitment to fostering strong family-school partnerships is truly commendable and plays a vital role in promoting student success. By prioritizing family engagement, you are not only enriching the educational experience but also strengthening the community as a whole. The IDOE presents your school with the improved designation of EXCELLING. The IDOE commends you for your continued work within your school community.



Congratulations to the students, families, and staff of Deputy Elementary School on this incredible achievement. It truly is a partnership built on trust and strong relationships that make a school and its students successful!

Revisiting the Instructional Model

Learning is a constant process for students and staff at MCS. The needs of our students are constantly changing. Therefore, MCS has chosen to allow a 45-minute early release time each week during the 24-25 school year to provide our staff with an opportunity to work together to plan and implement programs to best meet the needs of our students.

“As we consult with other highly successful school districts and study the research on school improvement, we recognize that providing our staff with a structured, consistent, and focused time allows our team to develop common expectations for curriculum and assessment and respond quickly to students needing additional help or activities to extend their learning and achievement,” shared Superintendent Dr. Teresa Brown. “It is important for us to align our work in each cohort level, subject matter area, classroom setting, and ultimately down to each individual student. Every student needs to have teachers responding to their specific needs. In addition, we believe that with early interventions we can change the trajectory of life for some students.”

Solution-focused

As a district, we know that we can achieve higher achievement for every student by working together with one another and our families. Our teachers and staff work tirelessly each day to provide a quality education for all students. However, they need more time to learn from and support each other. By utilizing a weekly team meeting time to review student data and ensure a common curriculum and assessment across grade levels, departments, and schools, we will be able to respond more effectively to student needs as a system.

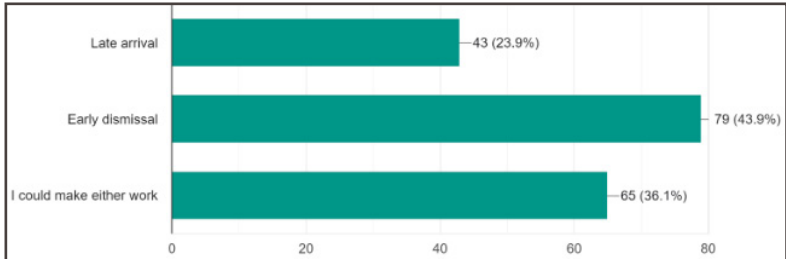
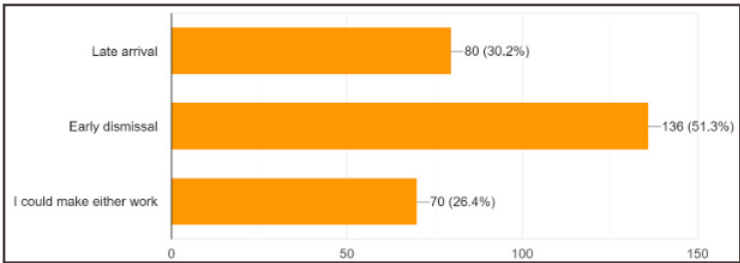
GOALS moving forward beginning in the 2024-2025 school year:

- 1. Streamline the standards and objectives to reflect what is essential to each grade level’s learning throughout the year. We believe this will provide more opportunities for a deeper understanding of materials for all students.
- 2. Move to a vertically aligned curriculum, so every student at each grade level across the district receives similar instruction, on the same topic, on a standardized timeline, regardless of their school location.
- 3. Create focused, data-driven common planning time for our staff to work together to address needs, celebrate growth and achievement, and design, implement, and re-assess any necessary plans to ensure we are addressing all aspects of learning for all students.

We will do this by implementing district-wide collaborative teams. These teams will work together to discuss and monitor student engagement, attendance, academic performance data, student workload, behaviors, health, and wellness, and explore best practices to positively impact all areas.

Survey Results

Earlier this spring, we surveyed our families and staff to determine if they would prefer early dismissal or late arrival one day per week. We conducted two (nearly identical) surveys with staff and families. The only difference was we gave our staff the opportunity to weigh in on the day of the week they would hold their meetings. The results were very, very similar. Below are summaries from both surveys; the parent survey is in orange, and the staff survey is in teal.



What does this mean for families:

Beginning in August for the 2024 - 2025 school year, Madison Consolidated Schools will dismiss 45 minutes early every Wednesday. The **exceptions** to this will be the first and last days of school - August 7, 2024, and May 28, 2025.

MCS is exploring after-school programming with both the Boys & Girls Club and Girls, Inc. Both partners have expressed they will be open and ready to host any family who may need after-school care for their students on Wednesdays.

Logistics:

Elementary schools will dismiss at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays, see exception dates above.

Madison Junior High School will dismiss at 2:25 p.m. on Wednesdays, see exception dates above.

Madison Consolidated High School will dismiss at 2:35 p.m. on Wednesdays, see exception dates above.

Employees Honored in Annual Celebration

It is always a great day to celebrate the amazing employees who make our district a great place to work and learn! Annual service anniversaries, milestones, and retirees were honored on the last teacher day of the year with a breakfast and program.

In prior years, the district has honored the Teacher of the Year and a classified Employee of the Year (non-teaching position). This year, the district wanted to open it up in an effort to recognize more of the work done by employees. The Employee of the Year category was divided into two categories: Student Support Employee and Operational Employee of the Year to capture more of the tremendous effort that goes on within the district in addition to those in the classroom daily.

Executive Administrative Assistant Pamela J. Smith, was recognized for her support of our district as the Student Support Employee of the Year. “In her 41 years with the district, Pam has done incredible things for our schools, staff, students, and families,” shared Superintendent Dr. Teresa Brown. “Somehow, we have been able to keep this a surprise, which is no small feat since she writes the script for this program!” Smith has worked in several capacities across the district beginning at the junior high school (6 years), high school, (9 years), and central office receptionist (1 year), and continues to support the Office of the Superintendent with efficiency, grace, and excellent customer service. “Pam is one of the most supportive and loyal Madison Cubs fans there is,” shared Brown. In addition to her work responsibilities, Smith was also the Varsity Cheer Coach for Madison for 28 years, retiring from coaching in 2019.

Also recognized was bus driver, Allen Watson, an eleven-year veteran who is infamous for making the most of holidays for the students on his bus route. “Allen is a student-centered driver,” shared Transportation Director Jill Deputy. “He goes above the JOB to help students. If he has concerns about the student, he will call the school and check on the kids. He has been known to show up along his route as Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. He laughs with them, talks with them as they come and go, and wants to keep them happy and ready to learn. We appreciate his smiling face and the joy he brings to our staff.”



Pamela J. Smith, Allen Watson, and Meghan McVey.

Art Collaboration!

Art students from Anderson Elementary class partnered with MCHS 3D Art students to create one-of-a-kind pieces and memories for a lifetime! Elementary students in Mrs. Cherese Manns’s art class drew original monsters this spring in art class. In a unique ‘collab’ (as the kids call it) students in Ms. Melanie Torline’s 3D Art class took the original drawings and created three-dimensional plush replicas to match. Using felt and their sewing skills, high school students created and then gifted the students with their creations. “The high schoolers gifted the plush monsters and brought extra smiles to the kids,” shared Mrs. Manns. “This was one of our best projects ever!”



An Enchanted Prom



Karson Couch, Brooke Everage, Jack Heckler, Sage Kindle, Jenna Martin.

MCHS held the annual Jr/Sr Prom in May when the Connor K. Salm Gymnasium was transformed by Mr. Kelsey and his team into a magical enchanted woods where the students enjoyed an evening of dancing and later lots of fun at the after-prom festivities hosted by MCHS PTO.

As in recent years, students could volunteer for Prom Queen and King by raising money for their favorite charitable organization. Prom Queen, Brooke Everage, raised funds for Bree’s Blessings: Pediatric Cancer Resources, and Prom King, Jack Heckler, raised funds for the MCHS Bee Corps Environmental Club. Other candidates included: Jenna Martin (Citizens of Jefferson County Suicide Awareness), Sage Kindle (Family Passes for Crystal Beach), and Karson Couch (MCS School Lunch Negative Balance Account).

Teacher of the Year!

Each year, MCS honors one educator from the district as Teacher of the Year. “This year we began something new in order to honor more of our amazing teachers,” shared Shannon Allman, HR Director. “Nominations were gathered and each building had a teacher representative who then had the opportunity to participate in an interview process to be selected as the overall district teacher of the year and compete at the state level.”

Mrs. Meghan McVey was selected as the MCS District Teacher of the Year at a banquet held for all nominees and their families. “We wanted to truly celebrate the work these and all of our teachers do each day to make our district special,” Allman continued. “We know that behind every hard-working teacher are families who support them along the way and they deserve to be recognized as well.” Teachers, their families, and administrators were invited to share an evening of fellowship and hear about why each teacher was nominated. At the end of the evening, a surprise announcement of the overall winner was made by Superintendent Dr. Teresa Brown to end the lovely evening.

Mrs. McVey has been a teacher for 10 years, six of those years have been at Deputy Elementary. “Meghan is our first and second-grade teacher for math, science, and social studies.” shared principal Kathy Stoner. “In addition to teaching, Meghan is also our House Council sponsor, math bowl coach, running club coach, after-school tutor, PTO secretary, mentor teacher, and a student teacher adviser. She does all of this, I might add, while raising 3 young girls.”

As part of her introduction, Stoner continued to describe Mrs. McVey’s career to date. I am confident in speaking about Meghan and what an effective teacher she is from a couple of different perspectives. From the perspective of a fellow teacher, I had the privilege of team teaching with Meghan. We worked closely together planning and implementing units of instruction around a theme that engaged the students in a positive, interesting environment. I joke and say I had to become a principal because she wore me out. She is so energetic and enthusiastic about what she does and is always coming up with fun ways to get the students involved in their learning.

From my perspective as a principal, Meghan is one of the teachers I know who is always prepared, willing to learn (in fact she has just started her master’s in Educational Leadership), volunteers when help is needed, implements initiatives with confidence and fidelity and is a positive role model for others.

And finally, I can speak of Meghan’s effectiveness as a teacher from the perspective of being a friend. We have spent countless hours outside of the school day talking. We always start the conversation about family happenings, prayer needs, or sharing a short story. However, the conversation usually turned to school. Her focus would often turn to concerns she had for specific students and what she needed to do to meet their needs. She loved to brainstorm ideas on how she would transform her classroom, upcoming holiday activities, and new behavior incentives. She is always trying to improve her instruction and classroom environment to be a place where students want to be.

As part of the nomination process, co-workers and parents were invited to share thoughts on what they felt made an individual a good candidate for this award. Below are some of the things Deputy Elementary staff shared about Mrs. McVey.

“Megan is an amazing mentor, co-worker, example, and friend! I am thankful to have her by my side each day as we work together to help our students grow!” - Camille Crim

“Meghan’s passion for student wellbeing and teaching is infectious. She works diligently to provide the best learning environment for our students at Deputy. Meghan is an outstanding role model and mentor for all of us at Deputy. Meghan, you are so deserving of this recognition. Congratulations!” - Karissha Righthouse

“I love that Meghan is so flexible with her teaching. If I need to pull a student for testing or if we work longer than expected, she makes adjustments in her teaching to make things work and it’s no big deal!” - Lori Palmer

And perhaps most moving was what her students and parents shared about their experiences:

- We do fun things like science projects and LEGOs.
- She teaches me to be polite. We have to say please and thank you.
- I like our station time and the fidgets. She lets us use fidgets when we are sad or mad.
- You know when we have to get regulated.

“Mrs. McVey is a great teacher I have had 3 children go through her class and they have all had a positive experience. She is a great leader and role model and a good asset to the Deputy team!”

“Meghan always goes above and beyond to make education fun and inspiring for my kids. I’m always able to get in touch with her if need be for my kids. You can tell she is a great leader and proud to be a teacher for Deputy. A good education can change anyone but a good teacher can change everything.”

“She has always been willing to work with us and to find the best learning path for our kids! She is an amazing teacher and we feel as though she has always had a positive impact on our kid’s life!”



Meghan is pictured with Dr. Teresa Brown, her husband Officer Jacob McVey, her daughter Maecy, and her twin daughters McKenna, and Miriam.

Allumni Hall of Fame Induction



Dr. Mary Stewart-Pellegrini
Class of 1966

MCHS Hall of Fame Induction 2024

Dr. Mary Stewart-Pellegrini embodies the spirit and values of MCHS. Growing up, her family taught her to value education, hard work, self-reliance, and service to others. Mary attended the Broadway School from age five where her teacher, Mrs. Anna O'Banion, helped cultivate her life-long love for learning. At MCHS, Mary actively participated in extracurricular activities where she learned critical thinking, teamwork, and an appreciation for the arts. Her favorites included playing clarinet in the band, writing for the Madisonian, and performing with the Thespian Club.

During her first year at Indiana University, Mary took a creative writing class where she discovered the value of self-reflection and non-judgmentally listening to classmates' stories. These skills helped ease her sense of responsibility for the accidental drowning of her 7-year-old brother, Paul Steven, in 1960. Reflection on that loss and other difficult memories of segregation became the catalyst for deeper self-understanding, helping her view challenging life experiences as growth and personal development opportunities.

While at IU, she earned a BS in English Literature and an MS in Adult Literacy Education. Following graduation, she moved to Boston and worked for two years at Boston University, and was later appointed the Director of Harvard's Graduate School of Education's Committee on Degrees where she supervised dissertation completions. Harvard proved to be a transformative experience, allowing her to interact with and learn from a worldwide network of visiting scholars.

As a student in Boston College's Ph.D. program, she took business and higher education administration courses to learn about the differences between managing a business and leading an academic institution. In addition, she took leadership and organizational development courses at the National Training Laboratories Institute for Applied Behavioral Science. While completing her degree, she simultaneously volunteered at Boston's Charles Street Jail, helping white-collar criminals create recidivism reduction plans to initiate their transition back into civilian life, accepted the Associate Dean of Students position at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and was appointed to the Human Rights Commission by the Governor of Maine. She completed her dissertation, graduating with distinction from Boston College with a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration.

Returning to the Midwest, Mary blazed a trail embarking on a very successful and fulfilling career. Growing up surrounded by generations of African American farmers and self-made small business owners who had relevant skills but rarely obtained jobs outside of their community, she always had a deep appreciation for entrepreneurship and hard work. As the Director of Equal Employment Opportunities for Bell Laboratory's research facility, she attended an event in honor of Bishop Desmond Tutu where he spoke about his role in the non-violent campaign against apartheid in South Africa. She was inspired to volunteer with the United Methodist Global Ministries in England, Thailand, Japan, China, and the Philippines.

As a Senior Management Consultant with Bell Laboratories' Organizational Effectiveness Consulting Group, Mary learned the art of consulting. While there were few models for female-owned business consulting firms at the time, Mary incorporated her own company, Stewart Management Group, LLC in 1987. Believing business growth is linked to the owner's relationship building, excellent customer service, and continuous learning she led her team for 32 years, providing management training, executive leadership coaching, teamwork assessments, and strategic business development services to numerous high-profile clients from government, academic, corporate, and non-profit sectors. Her experiences with these influential organizations and ability to study their formal and informal cultures - peoples' beliefs, customs, and attitudes attributed to her book 'Assume Nothing, Think Again' which introduces Equity Checking®, a novel critical thinking model that teaches individuals to identity and challenge their assumptions and biases held about others.

Her commitment to excellence in education, civic engagement, and to social justice for all people has been and remains the bedrock of her life. She is a World Trade Center survivor. Given the gift of her life, while so many lost theirs on September 11, 2001, she remains the author of her ever-changing story, supporting others in discovering how their thinking affects their choices and encouraging them to be their best selves.



Carla Eades-Krebs
Class of 1980

MCHS Hall of Fame Induction 2024

Carla Eades-Krebs has proven that a small-town kid from Indiana can go on to do amazing things academically and athletically at the collegiate level and beyond. She inspires young people today to realize that if they are willing to work hard and persevere, then dreams can come true!

Carla took a deep love for the sport of basketball and turned it into a free college education and a career in teaching and coaching. She encourages young people to set their goals high and then teaches them the work ethic to go out and make those dreams come true. After 40 years of inspiring young people in the Kansas City, MO area, she has returned home to Madison to share her passion and encourage her hometown kids to do great things.

Carla has been a volunteer coach and teacher for 45 years. She began coaching at age 16 through the Madison Parks Department coaching various teams and sports and continues that service today. She has volunteered in a number of other community capacities through her church, various sports camps as a counselor, Fellowship of Christian Athletes camp counselor, and many more.

Many of her achievements were earned throughout her stellar basketball career. She is the only girls' basketball Indiana All-Star to come from MCHS. She was first-team All-State in 1980, is a three-time Kodak All-American, won an NCAA National Championship at Central Missouri State University in 1984, and was named Division II Player of the Year. She is in the CMSU Hall of Fame, Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, and Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as a Silver Anniversary Team member, as well as an individual. She was honored as teacher of the month twice in two different school districts in Missouri and nominated for a Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award in Missouri twice.

Carla is currently the President of the Madison Parks Commission and City Council. She is the secretary of the Jefferson County Preservation Council and is helping to restore Pearl Park. She is an active volunteer with the Out of Darkness Walk in the fight against suicide.

Carla has returned to her hometown to help create opportunities for Madison youth to be excited about their community, realize that hard work pays off, seek out and embrace leadership opportunities and that big things can happen when you believe in yourself and are a great team player.



Dr. Wayne M. Detmer
Class of 1985

MCHS Hall of Fame Induction 2024

Dr. Wayne Detmer was born and raised in Madison where he graduated from MCHS in 1985. At Madison, he was a three-sport athlete and top academic student participating in football, basketball, and track and field. He still holds MCHS school records in the 110-meter high hurdles and 1600-meter relay, was all Hoosier Hills Conference in basketball, an indoor state qualifier in the 1600-meter relay, and a two-time state qualifier in the outdoor 110-meter hurdles.

Following high school, Dr. Detmer graduated from Yale University where he was also a student-athlete participating in football and track and field. He continued his education at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine along with his wife, Gina, and trained in family medicine at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Detmer is a board-certified family medicine physician living in the Lawndale neighborhood in Chicago, IL, where he and Gina have raised four amazing children.

Since 2001, Detmer has been the Chief Clinical Officer of Operations at Lawndale Christian Health. The health center's Family Medicine Residency is one of only three Illinois Teaching Health Centers and the only independently sponsored health center in the state. Detmer helped start this relatively new physician training model, where family medicine residents learn in community-based outpatient settings in underserved communities.

Outside the exam room, Dr. Detmer worked to create a partnership between the Chicago Botanic Garden and Lawndale Christian Health Center, which together built the Farm on Ogden. The Farm provides the community with locally-grown produce at affordable prices, as well as job training programs for people involved with the criminal justice system and a summer training program for local high school students. VeggieRx, a program initiated by Detmer and Angie Mason, enables medical providers to write prescriptions for boxes of locally-grown produce and includes access to nutrition counseling and cooking demonstrations. The program serves over 2,800 patients annually with over 80,000 pounds of produce. VeggieRx has received local and national attention as a model for providing locally grown, healthy, and affordable produce to urban communities.

In early 2020, during the COVID-19 outbreak, Dr. Detmer and his team worked with the Chicago Department of Public Health to temporarily house 259 high-risk people experiencing homelessness in a boutique hotel just off of Michigan Avenue. In December 2021, the health center published a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association which demonstrated that project participants were far less likely than people living in shelters to contract COVID-19, individual health markers significantly improved and more than half of the residents were able to achieve permanent supportive housing.

Dr. Wayne Detmer is an excellent role model and example of the power of healthy choices. While he still holds numerous top 10 finishes at both MCHS and Yale University in track and field, his early experiences in Madison, paved the way for a lifelong passion for health and wellness, which have impacted the lives of many people through his career. His ingenuity, passion, and grace will continue to make a mark in his community and beyond.

A Tradition Since 1911

A sure sign of Spring is the annual Custer Oratory Contest. Established in 1911, with the first contest taking place in 1912, this is an honor bestowed upon a very elite group of students. Each year an invitation is extended to five seniors with the highest, weighted, GPAs who, upon graduation, will have completed all 8 semesters at MCHS. If any of the top five seniors decline, for any reason, the invitation is then extended to the student with the next highest GPA who also meets the enrollment requirement. College entrance exam scores in English language arts will be used in any instance of a tie. This process is followed until five participants are secured.

Each student is given the contest guidelines upon acceptance of the invitation early in the final high school semester. The funding and original guidelines were established by Mr. A. S. Custer in 1911 and were based on the model of an oratorical contest that has been held at Wabash College since 1875. In part, the students’ oral selection must be an oration of a notable piece of literature, can be edited, and must be approved by the student’s Custer coach. Each presentation is required to be 12 minutes long at a minimum and no longer than 15 minutes when presented. Each piece should be oratorical in nature, without extensive theatrical acting, no props are allowed, and penalties are assessed for being over or under the time limit. Over the years, guidelines have adapted to a degree. Today the judges are anonymous, enjoy the recitations for the first time just as other audience members, and base each presentation against a standardized rubric to determine scores and overall placement.

Awards

In 1911, A.S. Custer established the annual contest through the investment of a \$1,000 gift. Traditionally, based on Custer’s wishes, students have been awarded a cash prize based on rank with the winner taking a larger portion of the award, second place slightly less, and the remaining three participants finishing in equal rank with a lesser award. Up until a few years ago, the winner received \$750, second place \$500, and equal rank placement received \$250. Today, with the help of the Custer Oratory Contest Scholarship Endowment, participants may qualify for significantly more scholarship awards.

Lily Callis

Parents: Hadley Nighbert and Kyle Callis
Coach: Mrs. Krista Lee
College: Franklin
Intended Major: Biomedical Sciences
High School Activities: Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band
Title of Literature: Anne of Green Gables
Author: Lucy Maud Montgomery
Set in the late 19th century, the novel recounts the adventures of 11-year-old orphan girl Anne Shirley sent by mistake to two middle-aged siblings, Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, who had originally intended to adopt a boy to help them on their farm in the fictional town of Avonlea in Prince Edward Island, Canada.



Milap Patel

Parents: Zamir Patel and Jayna Patel
Coach: Mr. Emeka Koren
College: Purdue University Indianapolis
Intended Major: Computer Science
High School Activities: NHS, Quizbowl, Science Olympiad, Bee Corps / Future Problem Solvers
Title of Literature: A Perfect Day for Bananafish
Author: J.D. Salinger
The story centers on a young New York City couple, Seymour and Muriel Glass, as they visit a Florida resort and the bizarre, life-changing experiences they have there. The author critiques the materialistic consumer society of postwar America, which reveled in excess and gluttony. The country's economic boom prompted people to buy things that they or their parents had never before been able to acquire.



In 2019, the Community Foundation of Madison Jefferson County announced the creation of the Custer Oratory Contest Scholarship Endowment to assist with the long-term funding of the contest. At that time the school district and the Community Foundation partnered to raise over \$78,000 for the new endowment. These funds are invested and depending upon market performance and new donations, the amount available will vary from year to year. While times have changed since the original gift, this was a way to better maintain the intent and integrity of the well-documented wishes of A.S. Custer. Through the establishment of this endowment, community members, as well as past participants, will have an opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation to financially support the contest for future generations. Grants from the endowment will provide scholarship awards for contestants in the annual contest.

For more information, on the Community Foundation, Custer Oratory Contest Scholarship Endowment, or to make a donation, please contact President & CEO, Bill Barnes at 812-265-3327, email bill@cfmjc.org, or visit the Foundation’s website at www.cfmjc.org.

Nathan Wu

Parents: Xiaolong and Mandy Wu
Coach: Mrs. Jill Koren
College: Purdue
Intended Major: Engineering
High School Activities: Quizbowl, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, Bee Corps, NHS, Track, Soccer, and Volleyball
Title of Literature: The Joy Luck Club
Author: Amy Tan
The story focuses on four Chinese immigrant families in San Francisco who start a club known as The Joy Luck Club, playing the Chinese game of mahjong for money while feasting on a variety of foods.
Placed 2nd



Jack Heckler

Parents: Casey and Kevin Heckler
Coach: Mr. Aaron Kelsey
College: DePauw University
Major: Environmental Biochemistry
High School Activities: Varsity Soccer, Quiz Bowl, Theatre, and Bee Corps
Title of Literature: The Laramie Project
Author: Moises Kaufman
The Laramie Project’s plot follows a chronological structure. It starts with interviews conducted immediately after Matthew Shepard’s death and carries on through the subsequent trials of the two young men accused of his murder, concluding a year after his death.
Placed 1st



Alex Wang

Parents: Wei Wu, Hao Wang
Coach: Mrs. LeAnne Blackerby
College Choice: Purdue
Intended Major: Actuarial Science
High School Activities: NHS Secretary, Quiz Bowl Member, MCHS Swim Team, and MCHS Tennis Team
Title of Literature: The Book
Author: H.P. Lovecraft
The Book is an unfinished short story by American horror fiction writer H. P. Lovecraft, believed to have been written in late 1933.



A New Tradition

By: Natalie Powell, Class of ’24
Mrs. Arrowood has started a new tradition this year for the senior’s last school day. In addition to the traditional senior cookout, Arrowood has founded a kickball tournament for the seniors to participate in! The seniors craft a co-ed team with a maximum of 10 players and a coach selected from MCHS staff. These teams then compete in a shortened version of kickball until a champion is found victorious. This year’s tournament brought in 8 teams, totaling about 70 seniors. The staff who coached this year were Ricketts, O’Brien, Arrowood, Stotts, Grill, Lee, Boekeloo, and Bowyer. Each team also decided to theme themselves in different ways. Some of those included: bananas, dice, pink shirts, hula skirts, and many more. The winner was Mrs. Ricketts’ team with a close score of 3-2! The primary inspiration for this tournament was the rivalry between Mrs. Arrowood and Mr. O’Brien. Both teachers would give their students a break from their stressful AP classes by taking them out for a class period of kickball. After finding enjoyment in having a kickball rivalry, they extended their competition to include the entire senior class. Funnily enough, O’Brien nearly didn’t participate as Mr. O’Brien was dropped as a prospective coach from many teams. Thankfully, a smaller team picked him up last second, which allowed the two of them to continue their clash. Overall, this first installment of the senior kickball tournament was a huge success. Almost half the senior class participated in the competition and it brought a lot of interest from other students. As the junior, Donavon Rush, said, “I need to figure out who the best teacher is, so I can build the best team next year.” The kickball tournament is a nice addition for the things MCHS does for the seniors and will hopefully become a long-standing tradition.



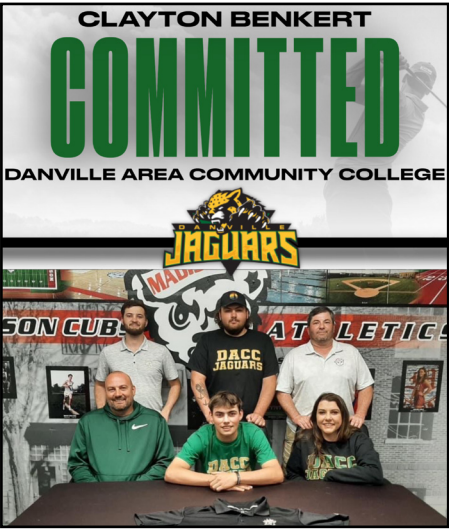
Jayce Sharp, James Seel, and Alexis Ricketts.

Athlete Signees Playing at Next Level

In the last several years, many MCHS athletes have gone on to play their sport at the collegiate level. These students are very talented at each of their different sports, and they will fit into their different colleges. This year Cub alum will be represented at Anderson University, Depauw University, Manchester University, and Danville Area Community College.



Logan Ferris, former Cub Cross Country runner and Track and Field athlete will be taking his distance talents to Manchester University. Logan steadily climbed his way to individual PRs and relay team all-time best performances throughout his high school career. Logan was also selected as the Madison Consolidated High School Male Athlete of the Year. Logan was a member of the first-ever Cubs Track and Field 2024 Sectional Championship team. Best of luck, Logan, we look forward to seeing you compete next fall and following your success! Go Spartans!



Clayton Benkert, a four-year member of a very successful Cub Golf team, will take his talents to the next level at Danville Area Community College in Danville, IL. Clayton was a member of the Sectional Championship team who helped to clinch the program's 26th Sectional title in school history. He finished his career as a State Qualifier with his team. We look forward to watching Clayton on the links next year! Go Jaguars!



Eli Dodge, former Cub Soccer player and Track and Field athlete will continue to run at Depauw University in the fall. Eli shared that the best advice he had ever received from a coach, came from Coach Scott Holcroft, "he taught me that I don't have to be alone on a team. We all work together for one goal, and we will lift each other up whenever needed." He advises younger athletes that qualifying to compete at the collegiate level isn't impossible, If you want it bad enough, you can go for it. Eli was a member of the first-ever Cubs Track and Field 2024 Sectional Championship team. Eli was also recently named IATCCC Academic All-State Honorable Mention. Best of luck, Eli, we will be watching your success and cheering you on from Madison! Go Tigers!



Ilyana Phelps, former Lady Cub Soccer athletic and academic standout and basketball player, has signed with Anderson University to continue her soccer career. Ilyanna has had a wildly successful career on the pitch and contributed greatly as a senior to the basketball team. Ilyana was also selected as the 2024 Madison Consolidated High School Female Athlete of the Year. Best of luck, Ilyana, we will be cheering you on from home! Go Ravens!

2023-2024 Scholarship Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following recipients of the many, many generous scholarships available to students through various community members and organizations. As Madison Consolidated Schools, we appreciate your investment in our very deserving students. We know they will be responsible stewards of your generosity!

Vernon Gudkese Memorial Engineering Scholarship

Nicholas Biallas- \$250

Madison FFA Scholarship

Isabelle Clevenger- \$100
Tucker Whitaker- \$200
Chloe Graham- \$400
Shelby Morton- \$400
Emma Richey \$400

Molly Dattilo Follow Your Dreams Scholarship

Eli Dodge- \$500

Jefferson County Farm Bureau, INC Scholarship

Logan Ferris- \$2,000
Leanne Graham- \$2,000

Marshall and Norma Banks Nursing Scholarship

Marisol Maya-Zapata- \$500

Shannon Thomas Memorial Scholarship

Liam Murphy- \$300

Knights of Columbus of Jefferson County

Bryce Miller- \$400

Indiana Wesleyan University Dean's Scholarship

Emma Richey- \$44,000/4 years

National Merit Scholarship from Purdue University

Alex Wang- \$2,000/ 4 years

Norma A. Cull Memorial Scholarship

Andre Howard- \$5,950

John Paul Chapter, DAR Scholarship

Ilyana Phelps- \$300

Shawn Barnes Memorial Scholarship

Storm Poling- \$300

Madison Lions Club Scholarship

Storm Poling- \$1,000

Bill Cole Memorial Scholarship from Lide White Memorial Boys & Girls Club

Claire Slygh- \$1,000

Rotary Club: Al Carter Scholarship

Lauren Conner- \$1,500
Claire Slygh- \$1,500

Rotary Club: Charles O'Banion Memorial Scholarship

Ilyana Phelps- \$1,500

Danville Area Community College Scholarship

Clayton Benkert- \$16,800/2 years

Pat Aikman Character & Leadership Award

Hannah Dart- \$500

Morehead State Eagle Leaders Scholarship

Tucker Whitaker- \$44,000/4 years

Marion Crawley Scholarship

Bailey Owens- \$500

Ball State Presidential Scholarship

Garret Gatke- \$22,000/4 years

MCHS Class of 1966 Scholarship

Hannah Dart- \$2,500

Purdue University Trustee Scholarship

Nicholas Biallas- \$40,000/4 years

Purdue University Presidential Scholarship

Don Chen- \$16,000/4 years
Alex Wang- \$16,000/4 years
Nathan Wu- \$16,000/4 years

Northern Kentucky University Founder's Scholarship

Brynna Brandon- \$3,000

Franklin College Academic and Director Scholarships

Lily Callis- \$100,000/4 years

Hanover College Founder's Scholarship & Campus Experience Award

Colin Foy- \$120,000/4 years

Hanover College Presidential Scholarship, Campus Experience & Legacy Awards

Carter Morris- \$120,000/4 years

Riverfront Run Car Show Scholarship

Claire Slygh- \$1,000

Anderson University Edwards Merit, Honors Program & Church of God Scholarships

Ilyana Phelps- \$94,000/4 years

Anderson University Raven Merit Award

Joy Atkins- \$32,000/4 years

Mayor's Eagles Community Service Scholarship

Ava Spencer- \$350

Indiana University Southeast Grenadier Gold Scholarship

Bailey Owens- \$10,000 /4 years
Karson Couch- \$8,000/4 years

Marion Crawley Scholarship

Bailey Owens- \$500

DePauw University Tuition Exchange Scholarship

Eli Dodge- \$168,000/4 years

DePauw University Presidential Award of Excellence & Asbury Award

Jack Heckler- \$176,000/4 years

Savannah College of Art & Design Achievement Honors Scholarship

Julette Frieske- \$12,000/4 years

Savannah College of Art & Design Academic Honors Scholarship

Julette Frieske- \$28,000/4 years

Sparks Foundation Post-Secondary Scholarship

Kailee Lock- \$1,000

Nucor Educational Disbursement

Shelby Morton- \$16,000/4 years

Miami University RedHawk Excellence Scholarship

Liam Murphy- \$136,000/4 years

S & O Farmers Mutual Insurance Company Scholarship

Emma Richey- \$250

Xavier University Alumni Scholarship

Ava Spencer- \$8,000/4 years

2023-2024 Scholarship Award Recipients Cont.

John & Maureen Galvin / Historic Madison, INC Scholarship Claire Slygh- \$1,000	Bonnie & Printis Shelton Scholarship Hannah Dart- \$3,900	Glenn G. & Dorothy Ebel Huntington Scholarship Brynna Brandon- \$1,000/2 years	Carolyn Brucer Spicer and Gene E. Spicer Nursing Scholarship Nicholas Colson- \$1,050
Dianna Risk Peer Counseling Scholarship Claire Slygh- \$1,000 Brynna Brandon- \$1,000 Nicholas Biallas- \$1,000	Mountjoy Family Memorial Scholarship Tyler Ayler- \$5,705.76 Saba Chabukashvili- \$5,705.76 Karson Couch- \$5,705.76 Camila Madrid- \$5,705.76 Bryce Miller- \$5,705.76 Hannah Dart- \$4,759.80 Storm Poling- \$4,759.80 Lauren Conner- \$2,852.88 Marisol Maya Zapata- \$2,852.88 Mallory Castor- \$1,901.92 Bailey Owens- \$1,901.92	Custer Oratory Contest Scholarship Endowment Lily Callis- \$550 Milap Patel- \$550 Alex Wang- \$550 Nathan Wu- \$1,610 Jack Heckler- \$2,140	Wood Memorial Scholarship Nicholas Biallas- \$1,000
Sharon Thom Alcorn Memorial Scholarship Andre Howard- \$1,700		Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship & Butler University Room and Meals Awards Brooke Hay- \$259,560/4 years	Gary Chapman Memorial Scholarship Bella Heath- \$900
Farmers Bank of Milton Liam Murphy- \$1,000			Tiffany Lee Carter Memorial Scholarship Saba Chabukashvili- \$1,100
German American AIM Nicholas Biallas- \$1,000	George and June Miller Scholarship Shelby Morton- \$4,000	Jefferson County Extension Homemakers Scholarship Bryce Miller- \$800 Emma Richey- \$800 Owen Schmidt- \$800	Thomas D. Craft, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Kailee Lock- \$1,100
Dallas Lamb Visual Arts and Arts & Crafts Scholarship Taylor Owen- \$800	American Legion Major Samuel Woodfill, Post 9 Nicholas Colson- \$500 Claire Slygh- \$500 Iyana Phelps- \$500 Hunter Richards- \$500 Emma Richey- \$500	Jefferson County Retired Educators Scholarship Brynna Brandon- \$200	Terri Nighbert Memorial Scholarship Bailey Owens- \$1,200
George and June Kirk Scholarship Karson Couch- \$34,400/4 years	Indiana Kentucky Electric Corp. Scholarship Nicholas Colson- \$1,000 Milap Patel- \$1,000	German American Bank Pigmania Scholarship Eli Dodge- \$500 Storm Poling- \$1,000	Mabel Green Memorial Scholarship Nicholas Biallas- \$1,350 Jack Heckler- \$1,350
Ralph and Robyn Jones Family Memorial Scholarship Camila Madrid- \$730	Education Foundation Academic Team Scholarship Nicholas Biallas- \$250 Milap Patel- \$250 Natalie Powell- \$250 Alex Wang- \$250 Jack Heckler- \$500 Nathan Wu- \$500 Owen Schmidt- \$1,000 Jackson Schwartz- \$1,000	Ivy Tech Madison Scholarship Brayden Edwards- \$1,000 Shelby Morton- \$500	MCHS Bowling Team Scholarship Kallie Eder- \$500 Bryce Miller- \$500
SEI Communications Scholarship Emma Richey- \$500	Carl J. & Mary M. Hoefling Memorial Scholarship Marisol Maya-Zapata- \$4,775	Jobs for America’s Graduates Scholarships Elaine Adams- \$250 Brianna Ball- \$250 Nina Ellis- \$250 Colin Foy- \$250 Olivia Glasgow- \$250 Andre Howard- \$250 Sage Kindle- \$250 Joseph Long- \$250 Roman Lytle- \$250 Camila Madrid- \$250 Marisol Maya-Zapata- \$250 Bryce Miller- \$250 Jasmine Mireles-Nunez- \$250 Dalton Mitchell- \$250 Myles Moon- \$250 Shelby Morton- \$250 Callum Neal- \$250 Gracie Nolan- \$250 Iyana Phelps- \$250 Isabella Rhyne- \$250 Claire Slygh- \$250 Marshall Spancer- \$250 Blake Stephan- \$250 Lillian Trader- \$250 Landen Vonch- \$250	National Honor Society Scholarship Bryce Miller- \$700 Ava Spencer- \$1,000
Trevor Woodward Art Scholarship Owen Schmidt- \$500	VFW Commander’s Scholarship Brooke Everage- \$1,000		LaVon Cartwright Gudkese & Ann Gudkese Offerman Nursing Scholarship Torrance Bailey- \$250
Cheatham Family Scholarship Kallie Eder- \$1,000	Mayor Damon Welch Memorial Scholarship Claire Slygh- \$1,400		Dorothy B. Lotz Scholarship Nicholas Biallas- \$2,000 Jackson Schwartz- \$2,000
Friendship State Bank Wilkie S. & James W. Lemon Scholarship Emma Richey- \$3,000	Dupont Alumni Scholarship Tyler Ayler- \$500 Emma Richey- \$500 Tucker Whitaker- \$500		Class of ‘84 & Frances K. Eisan Memorial Scholarship Hannah Dart- \$1,300
Canaan Community Unsung Heroes Scholarship Roman Lytle- \$500	Indiana 4-H Foundation Scholarship Emma Richey- \$500	Joseph V. Cline Scholarship Lauren Conner- \$19,450/4 years Kallie Eder- \$19,450/4 years	Chan Chilton Memorial Scholarship Eli Dodge- \$1,400
Kayde Sue Foundation Scholarship Emma Richey- \$5,000	Elks Most Valuable Student, State Scholarship Saba Chabukashvili- \$1,000 Bryce Miller- \$1,000	Tri Kappa Beta Scholarship, Beta Omega Chapter Nicholas Biallas- \$1,000 Iyana Phelps- \$1,500	Community Foundation Scholar Nicholas Biallas- \$1,500 Jack Heckler- \$1,500
Rainbow Youth Scholarship Bella Heath- \$1,000	Broadway Alumni Scholarship Andre Howard- \$450	MCHS Archery Scholarship Emma Richey- \$500	Troy Allen Pyles Memorial Scholarship Lily Callis- \$3,100
Curtis Wright Memorial Scholarship Ava Spencer- \$1,400	Brad O’Leary Scholarship Gracie Nolan- \$600	Deputy Alumni Scholarship Emma Richey- \$3,900	Nathan Wilson Memorial Mathematics Scholarship Nicholas Biallas- \$3,400
Mary Louise Eisenhardt Scholarship Lauren Conner- \$3,526.40 Hannah Dart- \$3,526.40 Kailee Lock- \$3,526.40 Bryce Miller- \$3,526.40 Liam Murphy- \$3,526.40	Ralph and Margaret Seifert Rotary Club Scholarship Alex Wang- \$1,500	Madison Teachers Association Scholarship Kallie Eder- \$500	Dr. Fred S. Henderson Family Scholarship Tyler Ayler- \$1,600
Charles H. and C. Chris Keller Scholarship Shelby Morton- \$400	Anderson University Visit Scholarship Iyana Phelps- \$1,000	2024 Honor Graduate Jack Heckler	Helyn Bishop Scholarship Kailee Lock- \$1,200
Jefferson County 4-H Scholarship Shelby Morton- \$2,200 Emma Richey- \$2,200			M. W. Anderson Scholarship Lily Callis- \$1,280
Phi Beta Psi Sorority Scholarship Iyana Phelps- \$500			Madison Pilots Club Scholarship Iyana Phelps- \$500
Dennis Holt Memorial Scholarship Hannah Dart- \$1,400			DAR Good Citizenship Award Kallie Eder

Congratulations Madison Consolidated High School Class of 2024



Elaine Adams



Gwendolyn Andres



Joy Atkins



Trenton Austin



Tyler Ayler



Colson Backus



Torrance Bailey



Brianna Ball



Kiarra Bauer



Cole Bechman



Clayton Benkert



Nicholas Biallas



Elijah Boggs



Brynna Brandon



Libby Bronkella



Joshua Brooks



Alexandria Cable



Nathaniel Calhoun



Lily Callis



Nathan Campbell



Mallory Castor



Saba Chabukashvili



Josey Chapin



Don Chen



Sammi Clark



Isabelle Clevenger



Bridget Cline



Nicholas Colson



Lauren Connor



Trenton Cook



Colton Copeland



Diana Corral



Karson Couch



Sammantha Cox



Caitlyn Dailey



Hannah Dart



Jackson Dew



Eli Dodge



Kallie Eder



Brayden Edwards



Ian Eiriksson



Eden Ellis



Nina Ellis



Jacob Evans



Brooke Everage



Logan Ferris



Peyton Feutz



Colin Foy



Haley Frazier



Charlie Furlow



Lillian Gard



Garrett Gatke



Ayden Gibson



Jenna Ginn



Olivia Glasgow



Dayton Goins



Chloe Graham



Leanne Graham



Landon Gregory



Grant Grossen



Haden Hall



Brooke Hay



Bella Heath



Jack Heckler



Jessica Henderson



Andre Howard



Owen Humiston



Madalyn James



Logan Jester



Gunner Jones



Ryder Jones



Abrielle Joseph



Elizabeth Jung



Keenan Kelso



Sydney Kendall



Sebastian Kietzman



Sage Kindle



Emilee Kostin-Tibbits



Kory Land



Dorrian Law



Kailee Lock



Joseph Long



Boyd Long



Nickolas Lyons



Roman Lytle



Landon Mack



Cambria Maddox



Camila Madrid-Castillo



Marisol Maya Zapata



Samuel McGillan



Bryce Miller



Jasmine Mireles Nunez



Dalton Mitchell



Myles Moon



Carter Morris



Shelby Morton



Daisy Mullins



Christian Mundt



Liam Murphy



Gracie Nolan



Serenity Overton



Taylor Owen



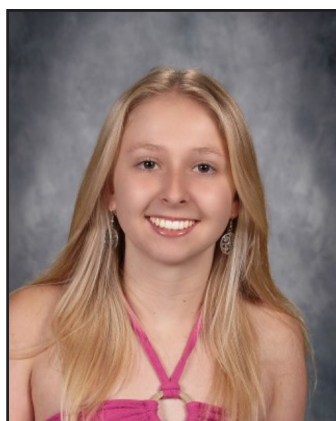
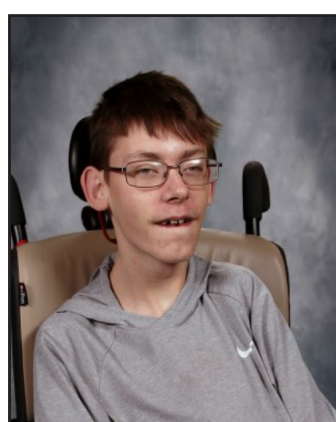
Bailey Owens



David Pate



Milap Patel

**Eder Paz-Coto****Joseph Pennington****Jamea Perry****Iyana Phelps****Storm Poling****Natalie Powell****Travon Resendiz****Isabella Rhyne****Hunter Richards****Emma Richey****Kristina Robbins****Emma Sauer****Isabella Schatzman****Owen Schmidt****Jackson Schwartz****James Seel****Lucias Sever****Jayce Sharp****Amelia Shaw****Claire Slygh****Joshua Smith****Ava Spencer****Blake Stephan****David Stewart****Ryan Stoner****Cadence Sullivan****Christopher Sullivan****Michael Thomas****Lillian Trader****Nathaniel Trier****Nolan Vanliew****Landen Vonch****Cameron Wall****Jace Walls****Hannah Walters**



Alex Wang



Tucker Whitaker



Gavin Williams



Tyler Wolf



Nathan Wu

Graduating seniors not pictured include Luke Barron, Conner Delgado, Steven Delgado, Julette Frieske, Brandon Lawson, Jada Livingston, Keiley Martin, Jordan Morris, Jasmine Neal, Chloe Norton, Tanner Roberts, Carson Rutherford, Bryce Shelton, Gerrit Trapp, and Sebastian Wahl.

What matters most to you?

extra-curriculars
JAG FINE ARTS ACADEMY
Culinary Welding
Experiences S.T.E.A.M.
Dual Credit ESPORTS
Engineering Leadership Internships
DIESEL ServSafe Certification ARCHERY AGRICULTURE ATHLETICS
bowling Academic Teams Robotics Preschool curriculum variety bass fishing
EDUCATION PROFESSIONS Critical Thinking OSHA CERTIFICATION
Innovation

When selecting an educational partner
CHOICE MATTERS!



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