

THE DISTRICT CORRESPONDENT

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



ALL IN. ALL ALIGNED. ALL FORWARD.

Celebrating IREAD Success!

In a press release dated August 13, 2025, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) released the 2024-2025 Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD) scores, which show an unprecedented increase in third-grade literacy statewide.

An excerpt from the release states:

"As we work to make Indiana a beacon of freedom and opportunity, helping every Hoosier to live out their American dream starts with the ability to read," said Governor Mike Braun. "From 2024 to 2025, Indiana's literacy rate jumped by nearly five percentage points, surpassing the record set the previous year eight times over. The number of Indiana students learning to read is growing at an unprecedented pace and is yet another example of how we are leading the nation in education. We will continue to raise the bar and set the model for what is possible when we prioritize educational outcomes and get back to the basics, focusing on the foundations that unlock a lifetime of learning and success."

"We couldn't be more proud of the work being done within our district," shares Dr. Teresa Brown, Superintendent. "Our teachers have committed to a more intentional instructional format, coupled with individualized interventions based on each student's needs, and our students have embraced the learning opportunities provided to them. We believe this is just the beginning of the positive results we will see from a number of areas moving forward."

The IDOE set a goal that all schools in the state are at a 95% passing rate by 2027. As a district, MCS has already achieved this goal. "We are very pleased with the student learning growth, but this is just the beginning. We will continue to utilize best instructional practices and work together to identify student needs and address them with intentional interventions. As a district, we are prioritizing aligning our work across the district and are relentless in providing our students with the best possible education," shared Brown.

MCS COMPARISONS HOW HAVE WE IMPROVED?

2024 to 2025 Scores

**Pass
Rates**

2024 - 83.8%

2025 - 95%

Overall State Scores

2024 - 82.5% 2025 - 87.3%

Growth Comparison

Indiana 2025 Growth
4.8%

MCS 2025 Growth
11.2%



MCS State Ranking Comparison

2024 206/367: 45th Percentile

2025 59/360: 16th Percentile



By School State Ranking

Lydia Middleton Elementary

Tied for **FIRST** with 177 schools statewide with 100%

Rykers' Ridge Elementary - 275/1257

Deputy Elementary - 355/1257

Anderson Elementary - 683/1257

IREAD Success! *continued...*

For the last two years, MCS has refocused and re-aligned its practices around instructional delivery. The district has streamlined student/teacher resources, aligned curriculum vertically, brought together teachers across the district to collaborate on effective teaching and learning methods, identifying best practices, while digging into individual student data to determine what resources are necessary to drive student success one-on-one. "The Wednesday early dismissal (PLCs) we implemented last year is a large component of this improvement, we believe," shared Janet McCreary, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. "We have weekly time where our teachers, coaches, counselors, administrators, and other support staff come together with a well-focused agenda to guide better instruction. They develop, implement, and assess together as a team, learn from each other, have a deeper understanding of what works well and what needs to be revisited with a much quicker turnaround time. This ability to be flexible and nimble, yet keep a district pace across grade levels, has proven very effective with deeper levels of learning, retention, and better instructional practices."

Three years ago, the district invested in creating the Madison Literacy Cadre, a team of three literacy coaches who work closely with elementary teachers across the district. This specialized team has over 40 years of combined teaching combined and specializes in elementary grade level literacy support through the use and implementation of the Science of Reading program. They provide lesson support, co-teach units, and work with teachers on engaging lesson plans and activities across curriculum areas to set higher standards and achievement for students in reading. Visit their website for more information on the Science of Reading and resources families can use at home. As we enter year three, our coaches will continue their work with teachers and students partnering with Marian University. This partnership will allow our coaches to track data and participate in professional development that they can then bring back to our teachers and students.

In addition to the PLCs, each building has a monthly Multi-Tiered System Support (MTSS) meeting with each teacher during their prep period. "These meetings are a way for teachers and administrators to see the data behind the work they are doing in PLCs," shared McCreary. "The team takes the plan from the weekly PLC time and they implement, fine-tune, and assess the learning from week to week. During the monthly MTSS, we are reviewing student-specific data to ensure they are on track and identify and initiate any early interventions or supports that may be necessary based on academic data points tied to state standards. Using MTSS, we are able to bring the right people to the table to better understand the whole student, celebrate learning achievements, identify gaps, and discuss any behavior, emotional, or other trauma-related concerns that may arise. All of this leads to a deeper partnership and better communication with families to let them know we have a team that supports them and is here to help their students succeed."

[The full IDOE press release can be found here.](#)



Follow us!

MCS_Indiana





MCS Receives \$20,000 Grant

Madison Consolidated Schools is very thankful for the continued support of the WHAS Crusade for Children. Recently, the organization hosted its 72nd annual campaign, which was another huge success. Donations from the people of Kentuckiana make life better for children with diverse abilities.

"The district has received a sizeable grant for several years from the WHAS Crusade for Children organization," shared Tara McKay, Assistant Superintendent. "In the past, it has helped to fund buses, equipment, and programs. This year, our \$20,000 grant will be used to fund Multisensory and Developmental Equipment & Materials and Supplies for our classroom." With the assistance of grant funding and the partnership with MCS and WHAS Crusade for Children, we can further empower children with unique abilities to discover their full potential and enjoy lives of abundant possibilities.



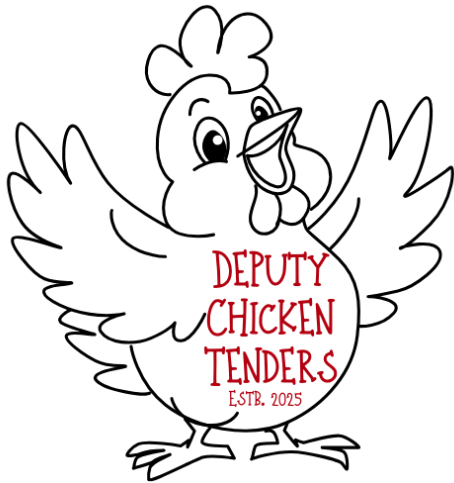
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THEIR WEBSITE AND CLICK
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**Click here to review information from our
2024 program launch.**



Coop Incoming!

Earlier this month, students at Deputy Elementary watched eagerly as friends from Big Creek Metalworks delivered their chicken coop.

Students worked last year with Jacob and Sara Dart of Big Creek Metalworks to design their coop that will house chickens hatched on campus by Mrs. Katie Sowers' PreK4/now Kindergarten class.

In a special turn of events, Mrs. Sowers, who has raised the chickens over the summer, also moved to Kindergarten with her students. The chickens have arrived and are settling into their new home nicely!

Also a part of the project were Madison Community Grocery Project, Laura Arico, Growing Minds Farm Stop, and Nutrien Ag Solutions - Jason Huff.

Be sure to follow their socials for more to come!



MCHS Anglers Season Underway

On July 12th the Madison Consolidated Bass Fishing team competed in the second 2025 tournament of the summer, and the team of Brayden Perry and Clayton Ross dominated the rough fishing conditions to place third in the 56-boat field.

Conditions yielded subpar fishing overall. The wind, heat, and recreational boat traffic made catching fish after 9 am near impossible. The event was originally planned for Lake Monroe but was moved at the last minute due to water levels. The hosting venue, Patoka Lake, was also five feet plus over flood stage. Results from the event tell the story: in a field of 51 high school teams, only 18 teams weighed even one fish.

Madison fielded 6 high school teams in the Patoka event. Boat captains included- Chris Cammack, Randy Spry (Ross/Perry), Randy Spry Jr, Larry Hostetler, Brad Comer, and Quinton Featherstone.

Madison fielded 2 junior high teams in the Patoka event. Boat captains included- Connor Weiderhoeft and Mason Mix.

On Saturday August 9th the Indiana Bass Federation Youth South division held its third event of the 2025 season on Rocky Point (Ohio River) near Cannelton, IN. The MCHS Bass Fishing team sent 7 teams to compete in the event. A total of 61 teams registered for the event, 11 junior division and 50 high school. MCHS Anglers Brayden Perry and Clayton Ross finished .01 oz out of third place.



**3rd Place Catch - Clayton Ross & Brayden Perry
Patoka Lake - July 12, 2025**

Finishes for Madison's High School team included: Brayden Perry/Clayton Ross- 4th, 8.95 pds (3.31 big bass), Gabe Wall-Polly/Kohen Smith- 7th, 5.90 pds, Grant Comer/Owain Kelsey- 20th, 2.36 pds, Jackson Dean/Brantley Conover- 24th, 1.52 pds, Ayden Liter/Braxton Bray- 32nd, 0, Carson Cammack/Brezden Leahigh- DNS.

The new season point standings have the following Madison teams as follows: Wall-Polley/Smith-10th, Perry/Ross-11th, Comer/Kelsey- 9th, Dean/Conover-23rd, Featherstone/Lamb-34th, Cammack/Leahigh-34th, Liter/Bray-42nd.

The next scheduled tournament is September 6th, right back at Rocky Point, to finish off the 2025 portion of the schedule.

THANK YOU to our 2025 Sponsors

Title Sponsor: Arvin Sango

Big Bass: Ace Excavators, Yoder Construction, Little Golden Fox, Amp Construction, Morgan Nay Funeral Center, Red Pepperoni, Sam House Enterprises

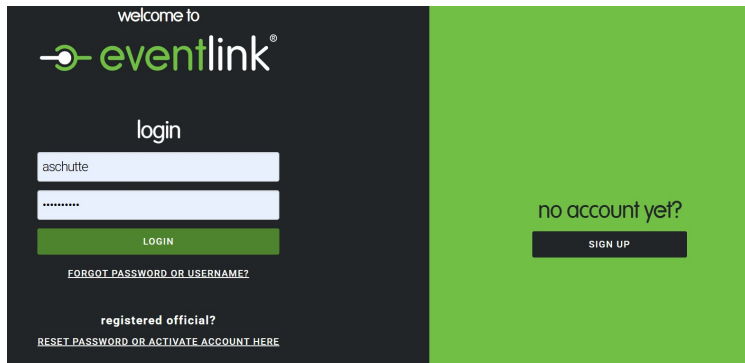
Smallmouth Bass: Hills Historic Painting/Restoration, Clubb Equipment Solutions, Scoops Ice Cream Shoppe, Morris Hardwoods, Coldwell Banker Realtors, West/Sixth Law Office

Bluegill: Greenview Stables, Sweetwater Lambs, Dempler Marine, Chelsea Bassmasters, Shawn Wehner

In-kind sponsors: Whitewater Fishing, Vicious Fishing, Southern Indiana Bait Co., Bass Nut Lures



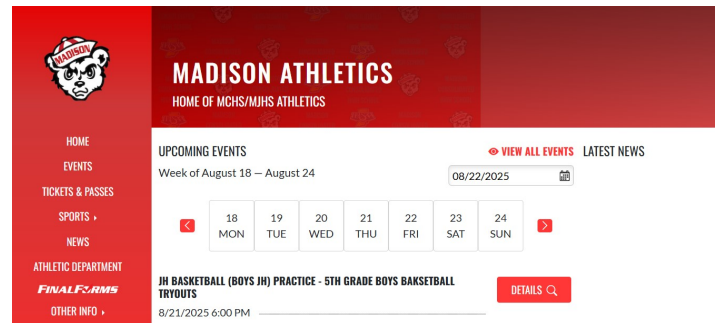
Stay up to date with Athletics



eventlink also integrates with and powers the Madison Athletics website. Here, you will find everything your athlete needs to stay on top of things. For both the Bears and the Cubs, the site has all things sports related for our junior high and high school programs.

eventlink is a FREE app that has all of Madison Athletics in one place! From practice schedules to game dates, and alert updates for last-minute changes - this is a must-have.

Check your app store, download the app, create your account, subscribe to your teams/calendars, and you are on your way!



HELP US PACK THE STANDS WITH STUDENT FANS OF ALL AGES!



Your generosity is overwhelming!

We have already received numerous donations and only need \$3,500 to reach our goal for EVERY STUDENT!

We believe every student in Madison Consolidated Schools should be able to attend as many athletic events as they want — to cheer on their heroes, role models, and friends — without worrying about the cost of admission.

For the 2025–2026 school year, we want to make that a reality... but we can't do it without YOU!

We're **seeking community sponsors** to help cover the cost so that every MCS student can attend every home event for FREE.

Your support will:

- Remove financial barriers for students
- Build school spirit & community pride
- Fill our stands with loud, passionate support for our athletes

If you or your business would like to partner with us to make this happen, contact:

Call: 812.274.8002 ext. 8

Email: dbrierly@madison.k12.in.us

Every donation helps! Let's come together to give our students the chance to experience the excitement of Madison Athletics — at no cost!

MCHS FFA Taking the State by Storm!

Our MCHS Madison FFA Chapter students spent four days in June attending and competing at the State FFA Convention and WOW, did they REPRESENT!! So many amazing accomplishments for our Chapter!

Here is a recap:

1st place Drew Zuckschwerdt - Specialty Animal Production

2nd place - Michael Briggs - Diversified Ag Production

2nd place - Michael Briggs - Forage Production

2nd place - Abby Ferguson - Ag Processing

2nd place - Ag Repair and Fabrication

3rd place - Beckham Cornelius - Turf and Landscape Maintenance

3rd place - Junior High Forestry CDE

4th place Lilly Waller - Extemporaneous Public Speaking

4th place - Caden Vaught - Forest Management and Products

4th place Forest Management

Michael Briggs elected to District XII Officer

8 students competed in the State Vet Science Career Development Event

6 students earned their State FFA Degree

12 students competed in State Leadership events

**Madison was named as a Silver Superior chapter (just missed the top 10)



Pictured at top are State FFA Degree recipients: Abby Ferguson, Sydney Huff, Lainie Alexander, Addy Colen, Lilly Waller, and Brenten Wright.
Bottom left - Lilly Waller
Bottom right - Abby Ferguson & Michael Briggs

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FREE Bike Helmets for children from the Pilot Club of Madison!

Old Court Days, sponsored by the Pilot Club of Madison for over 30 years, will be held on Friday, **September 26, through Sunday, September 28, 2025**, around the Madison Courthouse on Main Street.

New this year is a Pilot Club informational booth at the corner of Second & Jefferson Streets, where you can learn more about things the Pilot Club and its members do in our community, as well as the larger organization, Pilot International.

Part of the mission of the Pilots is to improve and maintain brain safety. The club received a grant and will be **handing out FREE bike helmets** beginning at 10:00 a.m. at their booth on Saturday, the 27th. The child must be present to receive a helmet and will be measured to ensure the correct fit. Helmets are available on a first-come basis while supplies last.



MARKET HOURS!

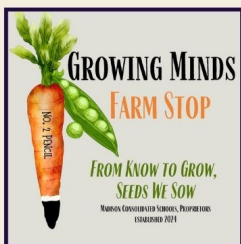
COME FOR A VISIT, FRESH FOOD, & COFFEE!

REMEMBER: WE ARE A STUDENT-RUN BUSINESS AND OUR HOURS WILL FLUCTUATE BASED ON OUR EMPLOYEES' CLASS SCHEDULES.

IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR, HOURS MAY BE IMPACTED. BE SURE TO FOLLOW OUR SOCIALS TO STAY UP TO DATE!

MONDAY - FRIDAY
1 - 7 PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
1 - 4 PM



BE SURE TO FOLLOW OUR SOCIALS FOR UPDATES!

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I AM FRANKENSTEIN

Adapted by John Heman From the novel by Mary Shelley

OCT. 17 - 19, 2025

Presented by special arrangement with Stage Partners
www.yourstagepartners.com

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER JR.

Based on the animated television special "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" adapted from the story by Robert L. May and the song by Johnny Marks

DEC. 5 - 7, 2025

Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) www.mtishows.com

FROZEN THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez
Book by Jennifer Lee. Originally Directed on Broadway by Michael Grandage
Based on the Disney film written by Jennifer Lee & Directed by Chris Buck & Jennifer Lee
Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical Group

MAR. 6 - 8, 2026

Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) www.mtishows.com

MEAN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL VERSION

Based on the Paramount Pictures film Mean Girls
Book by Tina Fey, Music by Jeff Richmond, & Music by Nell Benjamin

NOV. 21 - 23, 2025

Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) www.mtishows.com

Disney PIXAR FINDING NEMO JR.

Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez
Book Adapted by Lindsay Anderson, Music & Orchestrations Adapted & Arranged by Myrta Conn
Based on the 2003 Disney Pixar film Finding Nemo written by Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson, David Reynolds and directed by Andrew Stanton

FEB. 20 - 22, 2026

Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) www.mtishows.com

BRIGHT STAR

MUSIC, BOOK AND STORY BY STEVE MARTIN

MUSIC, LYRICS AND STORY BY EDIE BUCKELL

APR. 10 - 12, 2026

Presented by special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW) www.theatricalrights.com