

Moving to a

Different

Beat

It's common to see a group of Madison students on a basketball court at this time of year. Whether it's the Optimist program, our successful school-sponsored programs or a friendly game during physical education class or recess, basketball is entrenched in the fabric of our community.

This fall, a group of 33 students in grades 2-6 took that love of the game and set out to do something uncommon. Something new. That group formed an ensemble you might now know as the MCS Dribble to the Beat Group.

This new group has been putting on high-energy performances during halftime of varsity basketball contests. While the familiar refrain of "Let's Get it Started" by the Black Eyed Peas roars through the gymnasium, the participants combine dribbling fundamentals, ball tricks, musical knowledge and choreography into a crowd-pleasing collaboration of sport, music and art.

The club is one of the latest additions to the District's revamped after-school programming, which has been funded through grants from the state. That funding has provided a canvas for new organizations such as Intramurals Club, the Dungeons and Dragons/Chess Club, Mindfulness Club and LEGO Club to flourish.

It also set first grade teacher Bridget Idzi into motion on a long-held vision she's had to bring this program to our students. Inspired by videos from across the country, and assisted by MCS colleague Steve Drake, the pieces fell into place to get started.

"As soon as I saw this, I knew it would be a fun way to engage young students in learning ball handling skills," Idzi said. "I have wanted to do this for a few years now, and after working with Steve Drake in my classroom last year, I knew I had the perfect person to help me execute the vision!"

That vision began in mid-October with the group's first one-hour rehearsal. With a wide range of experience from novice to competitive basketball players, every student rose to the challenges set before them in some fashion. The less experienced players developed new skills, while the more experienced players were counted on to provide mentorship, guidance and peer leadership.

The results have been on full display through two halftime performances and an additional in-school performance for their fellow students before break. According to the advisors, the difference from beginning to end is a vast one.

"Steve was actually just saying after our last performance that he wished we had a video recording of our FIRST practice," Idzi said. "Some of these kids are doing things they swore they could not do at the beginning! And other more experienced players have set the tone for hard work, perseverance and showing what it means to do hard things. This is why I love sports. Every single participant in Dribbling to the Beat came every Wednesday ready to have fun and work."

The on-and-off court lessons will give students a starting point to be champions on the court and moreso, champions in life.

"Well, if I'm being totally honest, I'm hoping to build a foundation for future state champions," Idzi said with a laugh. "We really want to build good character, friendship and positive self-esteem."



Bergeron Receives NHS Induction

MADISON, NY - The Madison Central School chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed a new member to its ranks on December 19th. Sophomore Emma Bergeron became the latest inductee, which was made official in an afternoon ceremony.

Membership in the National Honor Society ranks among the highest honors a high school student can achieve. NHS is a nationwide organization founded in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

The society serves to recognize students who exhibit high levels of achievement, while also exemplifying the society's core values of scholarship, leadership, service and character. Students must hold an average of 90 or above for consideration. The application process at Madison includes evaluations by a faculty committee.

The society performs a multitude of activities and functions throughout the year, including a vitally important community service component.

At the ceremony, the current membership performed the candle lighting, with each candle representing one of the core values of the society. After a brief testimonial speech, Bergeron took the Society's oath to affirm her commitment to its ideals.

In addition to being a strong student with consistent high honor roll appearances, Bergeron also stands out for her active involvement in a school community that has been a major part of her life in all aspects. Her mother, Tina, has taught at Madison since 1999 and Emma can be spotted routinely lending a hand in her mom's second grade classroom when time allows. She is also a fixture in Madison's choral ensembles and in drama and musical productions. In recent years, she has been a prominent part of the National Junior Honor Society.

With that all combined, advisor Joe Burdick said the choice to admit Emma was an easy one.

"Everything stood out on her application," Burdick said. "She does a lot of service work, community work, she's smart and she's incredibly hard working. She will be a great addition to our group."

With the addition of Bergeron, the chapter now has 20 members in grades 10-12.

NHS Hosts Veterans Day Breakfast

On Thursday, November 9th, we continued our tradition of serving those who served with our Veterans Day breakfast. Nearly 50 local veterans and their family members were our honored guests as they enjoyed a complimentary breakfast served by our National Honor Society students, along with some special surprises from the student body.

It always fills us with pride to see the MCS graduates, parents and grandparents who join us for breakfast that day.

Whether you have served, or are serving now, you are always welcome at our table.



ACADEMIC HONORS

MCS Students Receive MOBOCES Honors For 1st Marking Period

Madison-Oneida BOCES recently released its honor roll for the first marking period of the 2023-24 school year. A total of 29 Madison students were named to the quarterly lists, which recognize high levels of achievement in the Career and Technical Education programs available through BOCES. Twelve students landed top honors as high honor roll students. The full list of Madison honorees is included below.

High Honor Roll

Mackenzie Cotter-New Visions Allied Health Partnership PM; Hunter Day-Heavy Equipment Operation I; Adrianna Faber-Health Related Careers I; Grace Fleming-Foundations of CTE GR10 PM; Matilyn Hackett-Health Related Careers I; McKenzie LaMunion-Equine and Animal Science II; Martin Murray-Heavy Equipment Operation I; Shawn Murray-Conservation II; Tatum Rivecca-Early Childhood Education I; Simarah Samson-Davall-Automotive Collision Repair Tech II; Maxwell Sykes-Conservation II; Lauren Zehr-Cosmetology II

Honor Roll

Paige Burton-CBOE AM; Zachary Canning-Heavy Equipment Operation II; Olivia Crane-New Visions Advanced Health Science AM; Dylan Dougherty-Carpentry I; Charles Jordan-Conservation II; Zachary Leuenberger-Carpentry I; Rylee Loucks-Equine and Animal Science II; Brady Morang-Vocational Technical Preparation I PM; Hannah Neidhart-Conservation II; Gavin Nelson-Advanced Culinary Arts Experience; Gage Saltern-Electrical/HVAC I

Honorable Mention

Malloy Brouillette-Electrical/HVAC II; Alex Downen-Conservation I; Logan Forward-Heavy Equipment Operation II; Brett Piersma-Outdoor Power Equipment II; Landyn Smith-Electrical/HVAC I; Justin Vedder-Electrical/HVAC II

Madison releases 1st Marking Period Honor Roll

MADISON, NY - Madison Central School is pleased to announce that 70 students in grades 6-12 have earned academic honors for the first marking period of the 2023-24 school year.

27 students received the High Honor Roll designation for carrying an overall average of 94 or above for the marking period. An additional 43 students were eligible for the Honor Roll distinction, which requires an overall average between 88.0 and 93.9 for the marking period.

The Class of 2023 led the way among all classes with an impressive 25 honorees.

The full lists are below.

High Honor Roll - 94.0 Average or Above

12th: Mackenzie Cotter, Grace Lutke, Camryn Parmon, Molly Eastman, Ayden Zbock, Emily Turcotte, Michael McBride, Isabella Champion, Andrew Nichols, Summer Butler, Kylee Cucci, Kyle Peavey & Daniel Kazlauskas
 11th: Janet Coleman, Kendra Winterton, Xavier Jones, Matilyn Hackett & Catherine McBride
 10th: Emma Bergeron
 9th: Madelyn Hill, Lillian Reichert, Myia Liberatore & Lillian Kazlauskas
 8th: Elijah Zbock & Alyssa Braun
 7th: Nicholas Lollman & Lana Pisiak

Honor Roll - Average between 88.0 and 93.9

12th: Emma Godfrey, Jaden Vedder, Simarah Samson-Davall, Colin Pittman, Maxwell Sykes, McKenzie LaMunion, Danika Cutris, Rosemary Dye, Shawn Murray, Luke Brayman, Hannah Neidhart & Mackenzie Moyer
 11th: Adrianna Faber, Tatum Rivecca & Alex Downen
 10th: Matthew Post, Kyra King, Alexandra Parmon, Jayson Millis, Myah Leuenberger, Samantha Soule & Gibeli Jimenez-Ramirez
 9th: Lucas Neff, Andrew Cameron, Lewis Joslyn, Shelden Strong, Blake Butler, Zoey Last, Carly Winn, Jeremiah Rutkowski, Garrett Weaver & Alfred Nolan
 8th: Alexis Rundle
 7th: Liam Nolan, Ryan Gallagher, Cooper Kitchen, Arlo Brouillette, Jacob Powers, Ryley Schenk & Nicole Gage
 6th: Austin Croniser, Kenleigh Winterton & Miranda Liebel

On Tuesday, December 5th, we recognized the hard work of our MCS honor roll students with our first marking period honor roll celebrations. Hot cocoa, cookies and some quality time with friends were on the menu.





Some of our staff members came dressed in their Elven Best during spirit week!

Mr. Keville's classes teamed up with our first grade classes to create these wonderful plank snowmen! Our first graders got to decorate and dress their new friends, and brought them home to their families as a little holiday gift!

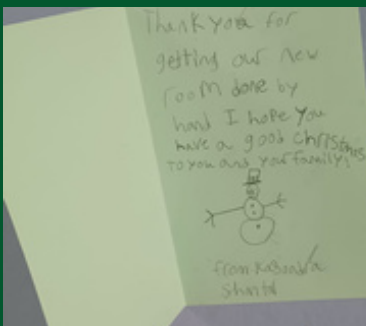


Borax crystal ornaments in Mr. Burdick's class are a tradition. It's a cool way to demonstrate how a dissolved substance can change back into solid form under the right conditions.

Monday of our MS/HS holiday spirit week was America Day, and it featured a friendly life-size game of the classic board game, Hungry Hungry Hippos.



The holiday concert season is a thrilling time for the MCS music department. Across three exciting performances, our students got to exhibit what they've been working on since the start of the year!



The holidays are a time to give thanks. Our elementary students offered some holiday greetings to the contractors working on their classrooms!

Holidays



Hill Places 4th at Grow-NY Competition

Congratulations to Madison Central School ninth grade student Madelyn Hill on placing fourth in the recent Grow-NY youth competition! This statewide competition is operated by Cornell Cooperative Extension, New York State 4-H, New York State Agriculture in the Classroom and the New York State FFA.

The Grow-NY initiative is an agriculture and food business competition that attracts innovative startups for a chance to win a share of a prize pool that can be used to fund their endeavors. The adult competition features start-up companies from around the world competing for a chance to win \$1 million.

The youth contest functions in a similar fashion. It incorporates the connected worlds of agriculture and entrepreneurship for a unique opportunity for students across the state to receive a share of \$10,000 toward their vision.

Youth contestants presented their business ideas to a distinguished panel of judges from agriculture, education and business. That panel included the Assistant Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Damali Wynter, Binghamton-area Spiedie magnate Rob Salamida, New York FFA President Ella Underberg and Cornell Cooperative Extension director Andy Turner.

Hill presented her handmade cold-process soap business concept to the judges and an excited panel responded to her passion and initiative by offering her the \$500 fourth prize out of ten state-level participants.

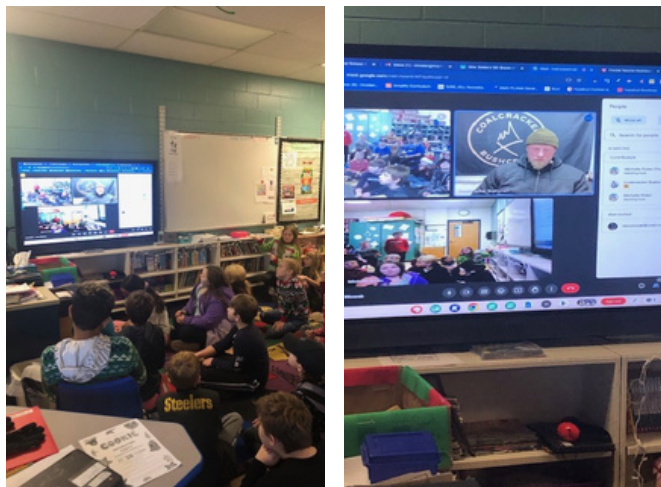
As part of the experience, she also had the opportunity to participate in workshops with Salamida and Cornell student Jonah Gershon, who was featured on the Food Network. She also got to take in presentations from the adult competitors who brought their startups to life on stage, and take advantage of networking opportunities.

Fifth Graders Show Love for the Great Outdoors

MCS fifth graders spent time learning about survival skills from one of the best in the business on Friday, December 15th. The classes enjoyed a virtual visit with survival expert Dan Wowak.

Wowak runs the CoalCracker Bushcraft School in Pennsylvania, where he teaches outdoor enthusiasts about ways to survive in the wild when typical resources are scarce. Mrs. Nolan took one of the cooking classes with Dan's group and her family has taken classes that they've enjoyed as well. Her students started to show interest and began corresponding with Dan via letter and the class was very excited to set up a meeting and learn more. Dan also took the time to send an autographed book and some survival items to students.

If you don't know, Dan also had a few minutes of fame on television. He was on the third season of the History Channel show "Alone" back in 2016. He lasted 51 days in the wild.



Madison Central School is pleased to announce that fifth grade students Mason Diehl and Lauren Dvorak have won local awards in the National Smokey The Bear Poster Contest presented by the National Garden Clubs and the US Forest Service.

The contest challenges students from across the country in grades 1-5 to use their creativity and create posters starring the iconic Smokey the Bear character. Teacher Lauryn Blake had her class submit posters for the local competition hosted by the Sherrill Garden Club, which picks two winners per grade level. Lauren and Mason were able to sweep the fifth grade category while representing MCS.

Entries were graded on the appearance of Smokey and its conformity to the copyrighted image many of us know today. They were also judged on how they incorporated the famed slogan "Only you can prevent wildfires."

As local winners, Lauren and Mason will have their work advance to the district level, which will be decided among students in District VI of the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State.





MADISON CENTRAL SCHOOL

ATHLETICS NEWS

Six Boys Soccer Players Named CCL All-Stars

Six members of the Madison Central School boys' varsity soccer team have been selected as Central Counties League All-Stars, while head coach Michael Strong has been chosen as the league's Co-Coach of the Year for the 2023 season. The honors were chosen following a survey of league coaches.

Headlining the player honors were four first team selections for the Blue Devils. Senior defender Luke Brayman, senior defender Zach Canning, junior forward/midfielder Jacob Burns and sophomore goalkeeper Spencer Clark were honored as part of the top squad.

A glimpse into the Blue Devils' long-term plans was evident with two young second team selections. Sophomore forward/midfielder Thatcher Bugbee and freshman utility player Lucas Neff were picked as part of the second team.

Strong was chosen as the league's Co-Coach of the Year after guiding the Blue Devils to a third place finish in the league standings, up from sixth in 2022.



Six Blue Devils Earn Nods on CCL Girls All-Stars

Six student-athletes from the Madison Girls' Soccer program have received All-League honors from the Central Counties League. The honors were announced in late October.

The Blue Devils received two first team selections: Senior Mackenzie Cotter and sophomore Keyara Nichols. Cotter was chosen for her work on the defensive side, while Nichols had a team-best four goals.

Senior goalkeeper Cameryn Stanfield and senior defender Lauren Zehr were picked to the second team. Stanfield had 134 saves and stopped nearly 80 percent of shots this year, while Zehr was an impactful defender.

Honorable mention selections included Delaney Karn and Faith Marshall. Both student-athletes were terrific additions to the squad from Brookfield and each contributed a goal this season.

Congratulations!



Blue Devils Earn Scholar-Athlete Honors

23 student-athletes and one team representing Madison Central School have qualified to be Fall 2023 Scholar-Athlete Award recipients through the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Awards Program.

To be eligible for the team award, a varsity team must have at least 75 percent of its roster carry an academic average of 90 or higher during the season. The combined Madison/Brookfield girls' soccer team earned this distinction, with the following student-athletes achieving the required average in the classroom: Sydney Bonafield, Stephenie Breaun, Mackenzie Bugbee, Summer Butler, Janet Coleman, Mackenzie Cotter, Kylee Cucci, Corrine Eldred, Delaney Karn, Lillian Kazlauskas, Kyra King, Grace Lutke, Catherine McBride, Kristine Plows, Kendra Winterton and Lauren Zehr.

To earn individual honors, a student-athlete must also hold a 90 average or better during the playing season. Six student-athletes competing for the Madison/Brookfield boys' varsity soccer team achieved this to earn the individual award: Luke Brayman, Thatcher Bugbee, Michael McBride, Lucas Neff, Andrew Nichols, and Kyle Peavey.

In addition, one Madison student competing for Morrisville Eaton's varsity football team earned the award: Shawn Murray.

Section III All-Star Football Players

First Team: Shawn Murray

Second Team: Landyn Smith

Morrisville-Eaton Football

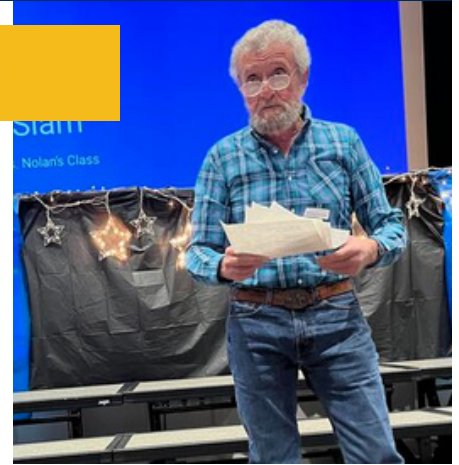
CCL Tipoff Tournament Champions!



MADE IN MADISON



Carl Stone '67



As part of the recent fifth grade poetry slam, it was only fitting that we brought back MCS alumnus Carl Stone '67 to share one of our favorite pieces of poetry and inspire our young poets to keep growing as they explore this powerful art form. Carl has been part of our community throughout his life and has had countless family members pass through our hallways since the mid-1940s. He wrote the following poem in 2003 for a building dedication ceremony. It details what our school has meant to him, his family and the community. We are pleased to feature it here.

“Good Ol’ MCS”

In the little town of Madison
Back in nineteen thirty-two.
The work they'd started, finally done,
They had a brand new school.

The people came from all around
To get a look inside.
It was the center of the town,
A source of immense pride.

So large that it cannot be filled,
The people then would say,
But those ole farmers on the hills
Set out to fill it anyway.

So additions were put on it
As the years went by.
And the people looked upon it,
With a prideful caring eye.

But it's a struggle for a small town
To keep up in this great race,
'Cause progress goes in leaps and bounds
at such a frightening pace.

So a merger then was talked about
With schools just down the road.
The people answered with a shout
In a resounding NO!

Sure, learning was what it's about
But it was even more
Like the kids that played their hearts out
Right there on that gym floor.

All the hot night graduations
All the concerts, all the plays
All a part of education
Back in their ole school days.

And what about those ole school dances
While they listened to the band
When some shy boy took his chances
And tried to hold her hand.

For some it was the big events,
For others just the small
But even if it made no sense,
That ole buildin' touched 'em all

See, to them that school was so much more
Than just concrete and lumber,
'Cause it held memories for sure
Too numerous to number.

It was a measure of their strength
And of their pride I guess.
'Cause they would go to any length
to save ole MCS.

That brings us right to where we are,
At a building dedication.
What do we think we've gained thus far
With this massive renovation.

Exactly what was our main goal
When we fixed up this ole school?
The truth of it should now be told
Lest some of us be fooled.

Will our kids all now be smarter?
I can't imagine so.
Will they all study harder?
The Good Lord only knows.

Now will our staff achieve perfection
As they go about their tasks?
Flawless in their direction?
That would be a lot to ask.

NO, There is no guaranteed success,
Just an opportunity,
For those that come to MCS
To be the best that they can be.

This building shows the faith we have,
And we will boast of it,
In our great children and our staff
To make the most of it.

And now a tribute we should pay,
To those back in thirty-two,
For where we've been, and are today
And what we've yet to do.

Cause it's a building that we dedicate,
And it's fitting that we do it.

**Just remember what
will make it great,
Are the PEOPLE that
pass through it.**

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High Schoolers Organize Pet Supply Drive

Madison Central School students Reagan Kitchen and Kasandra Kenyon were hard at work ensuring that local animal shelters had what they needed this holiday season.

The duo organized a pet supply drive that ran throughout October and November.

Through the generosity of the MCS community, they have raised over 300 dollars and a van load of other supplies that were delivered to the Rome Humane Society.

Well done!



SCHOOL ADDRESS

7303 US-20, MADISON, NY 13402

SCHOOL WEBSITE

WWW.MADISONCENTRALNY.ORG

ON FACEBOOK

MADISON CENTRAL SCHOOL - MADISON, NY

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

TO REACH MADISON CENTRAL SCHOOL BY PHONE, YOU SHOULD FIRST DIAL 315-893-1878, OR 315-893-1879. WHEN PROMPTED, DIAL THE EXTENSION OF THE PARTY YOU ARE TRYING TO REACH.

DISTRICT OFFICE: EXTENSION 201
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