# THE MESSENGER



## **Expanded After-School Program Provides Options**

**For Students** 



If you've been in the hallways of Madison Central School after classes end, you may have noticed an uptick in student activity. Students use this time to explore their interests, and the District has taken the initiative to meet students where those interests are as part of a revamped slate of after-school programming for the 2022-23 school year.

There are a total of 264 student sign-ups across the revitalized program for grades 2-12. Many students participate on more than one day. Some of the club options are brand new, including the LEGO club and LEGO robotics club. The reboot also brought back a few popular programs from the past. The mindfulness club and intramurals club were re-launched.

"We provided after-school programming in the past with large participation," Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education Brian Latella said. "We unfortunately weren't able to continue that programming through much of the pandemic, but knew we had to find a way to restart it."

The programming is made possible by the Student Mental Health Support Grant received by the District earlier this school year. This grant provides \$1,050,054 over a five year period.

It has allowed the District to provide four days of late bus transportation per week to accommodate the additional programs, while also supporting each individual program. It also equips the District to fund program staff.

According to Latella, the current schedule of programs has been a success, but there are certainly more possibilities planned for the future. The key will be striking a balance between resources, student interest, and staff availability to provide the best program possible.

"We'd like the students' interests to drive future programming," Latella said. "This year, we implemented Lego robotics for the first time and have heard students talking about eSports (Gaming), so we are looking into that. We feel this is just the beginning of a successful after-school programming structure."





# Made

From school salutatorian to the surgical suite, Gabriel Linden '16 showcases the determination to make a difference.

in Madison

The fast pace of medical school doesn't always offer a lot of time or space for reflection. When he sat down with us on a Thursday morning to do so, Gabriel Linden made sure to use that chance to its fullest. He's not one to waste an opportunity.



As he begins to wind down his first year of medical school at Tufts University, the salutatorian of the MCS Class of 2016 is proud of where he's been, where he is and where he's going. He describes his own story in a way that reflects that pride: With confidence and clarity.

His story began right here at Madison, where he attended school from kindergarten through graduation. A very well-rounded student, Linden was an all-star athlete in multiple sports and an all-county and area all-state participant in music.

He also served as the Class of 2016's vice president, and was at the forefront of a class cohort that he described as an extremely successful group that included Harvard-bound valedictorian Brandon Buell.

One of Linden's favorite things about growing up in Madison was the spirit of the MCS community, which drove him and many of his peers towards their goals.

"When I think back, it was really the community at MCS. When you go to school with 600 people and it's K-12, that's a pretty special experience," Linden said. "A lot of people might take that for granted knowing virtually everyone in the school. Your teachers know so much about you. It speaks volumes. It creates this extremely supportive environment where people want to see you succeed."

While he enjoyed tremendous success on the athletic fields, Linden also spent a lot of time sidelined with injuries growing up. It's safe to say that he turned that time into a transformative moment for his career interests in the medical field.

"I've always been interested in pediatrics and orthopedic work," Linden said. "And a lot of that is because I had a lot of orthopedic injuries as a kid from the sports I was playing. I had ankle injuries and some wrist injuries. Experiencing that orthopedic care was a foundational experience that got me interested in medicine... I think working with the physicians and seeing them teach me about my own anatomy, take me through x-ray scans and perform tests on me was stimulating. Being a patient taught me so much about life as a physician."

After graduating from Madison, Linden took a significant next step by attending Hamilton College to study biology. By his own admission, that step was very daunting at first.

"It was a pretty rigorous curriculum," Linden said. "Although I think Madison made me a very well-rounded applicant, I struggled academically, especially relative to my peers.... Not all of my mistakes were academic, either. Some of them were technical, like the way I was scheduling classes or how I chose my professors."

(Continued on next page...)

### Made In Madison (Continued)

True to a mantra that is carved into the structure of Madison Central School, success was not a matter of chance, but of choice for Linden. When presented with that choice at a challenging time, he decided failure was not an option. Linden began talking with professors, collaborating with his peers and seeking any avenue he could find to advance academically. He also took part in a wealth of life-changing experiences. He witnessed his first surgery as a freshman, and studied abroad in Denmark where, in his own words, he got to learn more about the cultures he's lived in by seeing someone else's outside of the United States.

That chapter of his life ended with a degree, a spot on the dean's list and a lifetime of memories.

While earning his degree, Linden saw that it was important to give back to Madison students by helping them avoid the same mistakes he made to start his college education. With his academics moving in the right direction, Linden worked with MCS school counselor Mike Lee, principal Larry Nichols, and then-Superintendent of Schools Mike Davis to create a mentoring program called "Gabe's College Survival Guide." Linden met with high school students multiple times throughout the year to share best practices on how to succeed in a rigorous college setting.

After Hamilton, Linden decided to take some time away from student life and enter the workforce in preparation for medical school. He embedded himself in his chosen field by securing a position at the world-renowned Boston Children's Hospital. He spent two years conducting research in the orthopedics department while working alongside some of the nation's top surgeons. From that time period, he is the first author on four different papers that have appeared in prestigious trade publications such as the Journal of Pediatric Orthopedics.

Linden has stayed in Boston for medical school at Tufts University. He will spend the upcoming summer in a research capacity at New York City's Hospital for Special Surgery.

When asked for advice for the Madison students following in his footsteps, Linden had plenty to offer. For starters, he said that while he wouldn't trade his Madison years for anything, it's also important to get out into the world to form a well-rounded view of what's important in life. He also volunteered that while he did not grow up in a particularly wealthy family, he didn't let his financial circumstances hold him back. There are opportunities like scholarships that can get you where you want to be.

Linden also told us to pass along that he is happy to talk with current students and provide guidance to them, particularly if they are interested in pursuing medicine.

As for his own pursuit, You can rest assured that this MCS graduate will keep finding ways to turn heads while achieving his dreams in the big city.

"When I tell people that I grew up in a small town with one stoplight or when I tell people that I had 38 people in my graduating class, they're flabbergasted," Linden said. "They cannot believe that. I think having this small-town upbringing not only made me well-rounded, but also made me very fortunate. I feel like I could trust others and create a supportive community wherever I end up."

### Read Across America Day!

MCS students celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss and kicked off PARP (Pick A Reading Partner) month with the annual "Read Across America Day" celebration on March 2nd! Green Eggs and Ham and a visit from the Colgate football team were both part of the fun!



### Cori Hughes '88 Visits MCS

One of Madison's all-time great student athletes returned to Madison to visit with students and give back to her community on Thursday, March 16th.

Cori Hughes drew on her Madison experience, her time as a Division I basketball player, and her current role as head women's basketball coach at Salve Regina University to teach students life lessons, and a few hoops lessons along the way!

The day also afforded us the moments to capture some very unique images.

We were able to gather Cori, Alexis Tubbs '16, and Ethan Rivers '23 for this incredible group photo of three 1,000 point scorers!



The day wouldn't be complete without a visit from Mr. Jim Ford! Jim was Cori's coach throughout her time at Madison, and 35 years later, their friendship remains as strong as ever!



# Madison to Increase Access to Dental Services Through New Partnership



Madison, NY - The arrival of spring tends to bring a lot of smiles among students. Thanks to the Madison Central School District's new partnership with Mosaic Health, those smiles may be even brighter in the future.

The Mosaic Health Community Dentistry Program is an innovative mobile program that focuses on oral disease prevention and oral health education. It provides the convenient, accessible and affordable option to have dental care services rendered to our students.

Through this exciting program, students receive on-site dental screenings and an oral health tool kit free of charge. Additionally, Mosaic can also provide services such as cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants and dental X-rays. A student can also be referred to an outside provider if additional work is required and Mosaic is happy to cooperate with a student's existing provider as needed.

Mosaic streamlines dental health for students by providing on-site services during the school day. Their scheduling practices allow students to receive services at a time that works best for them while reducing school absences and limiting the need for parents and guardians to take valuable time off from work to bring their student to an appointment. Parents and guardians are welcome to be present during their student's appointment if they wish to be.

This optional program is offered to all students regardless of insurance coverage or status. Many major dental insurance plans are accepted to help defray or eliminate the already low out-of-pocket costs of participating in the program. In addition, students with limited or no insurance coverage may qualify for a reduced or waived fee based on income and family size. No student will be denied services because of limitations on their ability to pay.

This partnership was coordinated with the assistance of the District's valued partners at Connected Community Schools. According to Superintendent of Schools Jason Mitchell, introducing Mosaic to Madison was a logical next step toward a shared vision of creating an optimal environment for students.

"An important aspect of our partnership with Connected Community Schools is our continued effort to help provide our students and families with the services they need to thrive and to be successful in school, particularly when it comes to their health and well-being," Mitchell said. "Dental health is vitally important to achieving that goal, but is sometimes difficult for our students to access for a variety of reasons including few local dentists, lack of insurance, funds or transportation and conflicts with parent/guardian work schedules. We look forward, through our partnership with Mosaic Health, to providing our students with unprecedented access to routine dental care on-site."

Parents/guardians can enroll their students through the provided registration packets sent home from school. To obtain an additional copy of the packet, contact the District Office.

### Upgraded Safety Equipment An Exciting Addition In Technology Classroom

Students at Madison Central School will be reaping the benefits of industry-leading safety features as part of a new table saw acquired for the Agriculture and Technology Classrooms.

The new saw is manufactured by a company called SawStop. Their patented technology is designed to limit and prevent equipment-related injuries from occurring. The saw blade carries an electrical current. In the event that a human body part were to touch the blade while it's running, the conductivity of the human body will change that signal, which alerts the saw to stop immediately. An aluminum brake cartridge will seize the blade within milliseconds and the angular momentum of the blade will pull it beneath the table surface.

While there's no substitute for meticulously following strict safety procedures, agriculture and technology instructor Phil Keville says the new acquisition brings additional peace of mind to his classroom.

"The ultimate goal in a wood shop class is safety," Keville said. "This saw represents a way to elevate the safety of our students while learning these skills."

An online demonstration video is available at sawstop.com.



## STUDENT-(M) ACHIEVEMENTS

#### 70 Students Make Honor Roll, High Honor Roll For 2nd Quarter

MADISON, NY - The Madison Central School District is pleased to announce its high honor roll and honor roll award recipients for the second marking period of the 2022-23 academic year.

A total of 70 students from grades 6 to 12 are recognized on the lists below. 29 students made the high honor roll, which is earned with an average of 94 or above. An additional 41 students have had their name listed on the honor roll for holding an overall average between 88 and 93.9.

High Honor Roll

12th: Abigail Cook, Anthony Dodge, Tyler Fellows, Colby Bingel, Delaney Livermore, Caleb Lutke

11th: Grace Lutke, Mackenzie Cotter, Ayden Zbock, Kyle Peavey, Molly Eastman, Isabella

Champion, Camryn Parmon, Emily Turcotte, Michael McBride, Summer Butler

10th: Kendra Winterton, Matilyn Hackett, Janet Coleman, Xavier Jones

9th: Emma Bergeron

8th: Lillian Kazlauskas, Lucas Neff, Astrid Burkhart-Spiegel, Lewis Joslyn, Lillian Reichert

7th: Elijah Zbock

6th: Nicholas Lollman & Ryley Schenk

#### Honor Roll

12th: Brianna Usborne, Kaitlyn Maine, Carolanne Hopkins, Braxton Fleming, Katie Schultz, Mara Wasuck, Alex Hoff, Liliana Setlak, Fiona Abrams

11th: Maxwell Sykes, Emma Godfrey, Rylee Strong, Danika Curtis, Rhiley Montoya, Shawn Murray, McKenzie LaMunion, Colin Pittman, Ashley Soule, Charles Jordan, Andrew Nichols

10th: Owyn Bishop, Dylan Dougherty, Martin Murray, Tatum Rivecca, Adrianna Faber, Catherine McBride

8th: Myiajoeanne Liberatore, Hunter Williams, Blake Butler, Garrett Weaver, Carly Winn, Jeremiah Rutkowski

7th: Alyssa Braun, Zackery Kirley, Tyler Cotter

6th: Brayden Young, Lana Pisiak, Arlo Brouillette, Lily Bush, Asia DeVaul, Ryan Gallagher

#### Eight Students Represent Madison At March All-County Festival

Madison Central School had eight students attend the most recent Madison County Music Educators' Association Spring All-County Festival at Camden High School. The festival was held during the weekend of March 18th.

The All-County festivals are held throughout the year. The students come from thirteen member school districts and rank as the best student musicians from their age group in Madison County and Western Oneida County.

Representing Madison in the sixth grade honor band was Ryan Gallagher, Liam Nolan and Jacob Powers.

In vocal music, Madison was pleased to send five students to the event. Mackenzie Cotter and Grace Lutke performed in the high school choir, while Alyssa Braun, Alexis Rundle and Astrid Burkhart-Spiegel sang in the middle school choir.

All-County selection is a competitive process. To make the cut, students must prepare an audition piece for a highly qualified adjudicator and perform a sight reading exercise. If they receive a qualifying score, they may be asked to join the All-County ensembles.







# Schultz Advances in SkillsUSA Competition



VERONA, NY - Building lifelong skills does not have to be a competition, but one student at Madison Central School is reaping the rewards of competing in their chosen trade.

Madison-Oneida BOCES has announced that Madison Central School senior Katie Schultz has received a place-winner award at the SkillsUSA regional competition held on February 10th at SUNY Morrisville.

SkillsUSA is a national educationindustry partnership that allows students to compete in careerfocused contests to demonstrate technical, employment and leadership skills. Students in CTE programs compete locally and regionally to qualify for slots at the state, national and international levels.

MOBOCES sent 50 students to compete against their peers representing other area high school and BOCES CTE programs. Of that group of 50 students, sixteen students in total were named as place-winners in their chosen discipline.

Schultz received third place commendations in the cosmetology category. She is an honor student in the MOBOCES Cosmetology program, as well as an honor student at Madison Central School.

As a place-winner, Schultz will join other top CTE students from around the state to compete at the New York State SkillsUSA Competition in April. The event will be held at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse.

## Cotter, Parmon Selected For Girls State

MADISON, NY - Two students from Madison Central School have received the honor of acceptance into one of America's most prestigious civic education programs. The Madison/Morrisville American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 1556, has announced that Madison Central School juniors Mackenzie Cotter and Camryn Parmon have been chosen for participation in the Department of New York's Empire Girls State program for 2023.

Cotter, of Oriskany Falls, has been selected to represent Madison as a delegate. She is the daughter of Roxanne and William.

Parmon, also of Oriskany Falls, has been chosen as the alternate delegate for Madison. She is the daughter of Blaine and Chris.



Empire Girls State is a hands-on week-long educational/leadership workshop focusing on Americanism and the political process. It is sponsored by the New York State American Legion Auxiliary.

The goal of the program is to help students better understand democratic ideals and the part that individual citizens play in carrying out democracy. This program is accredited by the National College Credit Recommendation Service (National CCRS). It is a non-partisan endeavor to teach high school junior girls about government, politics, leadership, teamwork, and Americanism.

Over the course of the week, the students will be tasked with creating a mock state government for a fictional 51st state. While learning about their role in democracy, students have the chance to build leadership and communication skills, including how parliamentary procedure works.

Getting into the program is challenging. Less than 400 girls are selected state-wide to attend Empire Girls State, and only 9 are selected from Madison County. Successful applicants must meet the following criteria outlined by the organization.

- 1. Be a young woman completing her junior year of high school.
- 2. Be in the top 1/3 of their class ranking academically.
- 3. Be of high moral character, have leadership abilities and take pride in America.
- 4. Have an interest in government, the political process and how a democratic society works.

"The selection process is extremely competitive," Unit 1556 President Betsy Gips said in the organization's release. "There are many exceptional young women in our districts. The decision was difficult, but we are excited to empower these young women by sending them to this prestigious program."

Participation at the state level also makes attendees eligible to serve as one of two New York State representatives in the Girls Nation program held in Washington DC. Representatives will be selected at Girls State.

The Girls State program runs from July 2nd through July 8th on the campus of the State University of New York's College at Brockport.

#### Connected Community Schools A Driving Force Behind MCS Events

In their first full academic year with our District, the Madison Connected Community Schools team has been instrumental in helping our District organize a comprehensive slate of community events. The following events were made possible through their support!

On Thursday, February 9th, MCS hosted singer-songwriter Jared Campbell for an evening community dinner and concert.

Over 140 members of our MCS community of all ages enjoyed a fantastic dinner and show.



Students beat the winter blues with a special Hawaiian Luau event on Thursday, March 9th!

This event was a great way to start thinking about the warmer weather ahead!



Another winter meant another successful season on the hardwood and mat for Madison's varsity athletes.

The Madison boys basketball team, coached by Michael Strong, captured the attention of the community as they were firmly entrenched in the state rankings, won the Central Counties League championship and made their way to the Section III Class D semifinals. The Blue Devils finished the year with a record of 19-4 overall and did not lose a home game the entire season.

Leading the way for the Madison boys was dynamic senior guard Ethan Rivers. Rivers was named the CCL's Most Valuable Player. He ranked second in Section III Class D this season at 26.3 points per game and became the eleventh Blue Devil basketball player in either varsity program to reach 1,000 career points during the season. He is one of just 20 players to record 100 or more assists this season in Section III.

Senior forward Anthony Dodge was the Central Counties League's leading rebounder and earned CCL first team all-star accolades. Sophomore Jacob Burns offered a positive glimpse into the future, as he was a second team all-star. Burns averaged over 15 points a game for the Blue Devils. In addition to Rivers and Dodge, the team will miss seniors Jack Bridge, Paul Campanella and Logan Scalzo going forward.

The Madison girls basketball team saw great improvement over a difficult 2021-22 campaign, and finished with a 6-13 mark under coach Payge Miller. They placed second in the Central Counties League standings, with five of their six victories occurring during league play. Highlighting the team's season was a remarkable senior night victory over Central Counties League Champion Stockbridge Valley. The team had three seniors: Delaney Livermore, Carolanne Hopkins and Mara Wasuck. The Blue Devils recently were named a recipient of the NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team Award!

Junior Camryn Parmon was chosen as the Central Counties League MVP. Parmon averaged a league-best 10.7 points per game while being the CCL's leading rebounder and piling up an impressive 51 blocked shots. She led all Section III juniors in blocked shots this season. Junior Mackenzie Cotter was named to the Central Counties League First Team. She averaged 6.6 points per game to rank in the top ten among all scorers in the CCL. Her 43 steals tied for third in the Central Counties League. Junior Cameryn Stanfield was an honorable mention all-star selection for Madison. She was sixth in the Central Counties League with 75 rebounds and was also one of the league's top free throw shooters.

Elevating the atmosphere on game nights was the varsity cheerleading squad, led by lone senior Brianna Usborne.

Five Madison Central School student-athletes also competed in our combined programs with Morrisville-Eaton. They balanced their expanded athletic obligations with academics to find success. On the boys varsity wrestling team, juniors Kyle Peavey and Shawn Murray were both named to the Center State Conference all-star teams alongside eighth grader Daven Peck. All three attended the Section III Championships and were paced by Peavey's fourth place finish. Jayden Hafelin and Kendra Winterton competed on the girls junior varsity volleyball team as well.



2022-23

















WINTER SPORTS

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