

EAGLE EYE

Mason Consolidated Schools
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January 2023

Young Leaders Represent Mason at YIG

This fall, thirty-nine Mason Middle School students participated in Michigan's YMCA Youth in Government program (YIG). The Youth in Government program aims to provide leadership training to students to meet the needs of a democratic society, and to develop an understanding and awareness of Michigan state government and national issues.

Students from sixth to eighth grade at Mason Middle School applied to be part of this prestigious program. Thirty-nine students were chosen based on their leadership qualities, academic and citizenship abilities, and alignment with program goals and requirements.

Led by faculty advisors Miss Blackburn, Mrs. Stubbleski, Mr. Riley, Miss Gerber, and Ms. DuRocher, students met twice a week to learn how to write legislative bills, learn parliamentary procedure,

and practice mock debates to prepare for a three-day conference in Lansing. Middle school students from all over the state of Michigan met November 20th-22nd at the state capitol building and participated in debating bills on a variety of topics that affect students and citizens of Michigan.



The full Youth in Government delegation in front of the Michigan State Capitol building.

Mason Middle was honored to be the only school representing Monroe County, and one of the few schools representing Southeastern Michigan.

Their months of preparation and hard work paid off, winning two out of the six available presiding officer positions: Zayla Brown as the Lieutenant Governor, and Bella Parent as Speaker of the House. Ava Belair and Emalyn Hammond were appointed clerks. Cole Cousino and Kaylee Wright stepped up to be Inspirational Speakers. Thirteen bills were signed by the Youth Governor throughout the conference and four of them were authored by Erie-Mason Delegates. Authors included:

Emalyn Hammond, Owen Neely, Ava Belair, Bella Parent, Addie Homrich, and Zoie Stubbleski.



Zayla Brown speaking as Lieutenant Governor.



Mason Eagles in the Michigan State Capitol building.

All delegates represented Mason exceptionally well through thoughtful debate, leadership, and kindness. The future is bright for these young leaders, and we are honored to have them representing Erie Mason at a state level! -N. Blackburn

SPOTLIGHT

SUPERINTENDENT

Happy New Year from Eagle Nation!

Here at Mason Consolidated Schools, we have reflected on the abundance of good experienced during 2022 and look forward to an even better 2023. MCS remains committed to our vision of becoming the leading district centered on students, staff, and community and we continue to align our work around the strategic goal areas set during the 2022 school year. These goals can be found within the MCS Strategic Plan located on our website under the DISTRICT tab.

As we embark on the journey through the new year, I ask that we come together as one. The MCS administrative team, along with our community municipalities, have committed to engaging in collective efforts to make 2023 the year of collaboration, support, and change for making for a better tomorrow. We know strong communities make for strong schools, and strong schools make for strong communities, but we are neither without each other.

I am excited about our future; the best is yet to come!

Educationally yours,

Kelli A. Tuller

Kelli Tuller
Superintendent



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Needed at Mason
Consolidated Schools!**



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to apply
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New Coaches for Spring

This spring we welcome two new varsity coaches. Blain Moore will lead the baseball program, and Angie Gerber will lead the softball program.

Coach Moore resides within our community and his children attend Mason Senior High. He has years of experience coaching in our athletic programs at the middle school, as well as Junior Varsity and Varsity level in multiple sports. Coach Moore has already begun working on the field and installing an indoor batting cage to begin off-season workouts with his players. Coach Moore said "I am very excited to lead the Erie Mason Baseball program and help produce talented and respectful young men. The hard work my team will put in on the baseball diamond and in the classroom will set them up for a lifetime of success."



Top photo: Coach Blain Moore. Bottom photo: Coach Gerber and Assistant Coach Cooley.

Coach Gerber is a Mason graduate who excelled at softball, and earned a Division 1 scholarship. In college, she continued to excel and earned All-Mac Conference recognition multiple times, leading to her induction into the Mason Consolidated Schools Hall of Fame! In addition to coaching, she serves as the Physical Education teacher at Mason Middle School and weightlifting at Mason Senior High School. Coach Gerber says "I know this is where I'm supposed to be. I want to build a program that gets girls involved. Softball is such a fun sport, and builds character. We can, and we will, have a successful program at Mason. I'm excited to get to work!" Coach Gerber will be assisted by Kari Cooley, who recently joined the Mason Middle School teaching staff.

-D. Pollard



Winter Season Recap

The winter season is a busy time for Erie Mason athletics. Currently, our middle and high school basketball, swim, wrestling and cheer teams are well into their season.



Coach Kevin Skaggs (left) earned his 150th victory as the Eagles Head Coach on January 10th. That night the team defeated Morenci High School 89-53. Coach Skaggs has the boys playing well with a 3-0 start in conference play as they look

to win their fifth straight conference championship.

On February 18th, the Erie Mason Swimming and Diving Alumni Association will bring back their "Blue and Gold" alumni swim meet after a 2-year break due to Covid and pool repairs. This will be the 20th year the alumni association has hosted this event. Besides an opportunity for Alumni to reminisce, the meet also serves as a fundraiser for the John C. Michael swim and dive scholarship.

Mark your calendars for some upcoming exciting MHSAA tournament action! We will host this year's Boys Team Wrestling Districts on February 8th, and Boys Basketball District Playoffs on March 6th, 8th and 10th.

Erie-Ida Swim Boosters

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Suggested Donation:
\$10 per adult
\$5 kids 10 & under

**FEBRUARY 8, 2023
5PM - 7:30PM
ERIE-MASON HIGH
SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

Meal includes pasta with
sauce, roll, salad,
dessert and drink

**50-50
and
Gift Basket
raffle!**

The Erie-Ida Swim Boosters are raising money for a new scoreboard!

ATHLETICS

Student Council Donates to Local Food Bank



Knights of Columbus members, Deputy Rollins, Mrs. and Mrs. Ixta helped Jacob Tunison, Carter Gordy, Dominic Ixta, and Aiden Healey deliver over 1000 items for the KofC Food Bank this Thanksgiving.

The Mason Central Elementary student council sponsored a food drive during the Thanksgiving holiday. The top two classrooms collecting the most items won an ice-cream party. (Mrs. Kaufman and Mrs. Pagel's class were the top-class winners!)

Over 1000 items were collected and donated to the Erie Knights of Columbus food bank. To help our Eagles deliver the massive load, Deputy Rollins and Mr. and Mrs. Ixta, as well as Knights of Columbus members, pitched in carrying the heavy boxes on December 1st. Great work, Eagles, and many thanks to all that donated!

-D. McCain

PTA Updates

Hello Erie-Mason families and friends! We are happy to be starting the 2023 part of the school year after a successful fall of fundraising and activities! Remember that we have monthly meetings during the school year starting at 6:00 p.m., with free babysitting provided. Check our Facebook page (scan the QR code below) or the school website for upcoming meeting dates. We would love to see you all there!


We wanted to say "thank you" to all who participated in our many fundraisers including Fall Flower Sales, Penny Wars, Goodies Factory fundraiser, Movie Night, Five Below Shopping fundraiser, Dine to Donate fundraiser, Book Fair, the Grinch and Santa event, and our Santa Shop. With all of these fundraisers, we were able to raise more than \$6000 to put back towards students' and

teacher's needs! We provided teachers with Amazon gift cards to use towards classroom needs; hosted a successful Trunk or Treat with lots of candy, fun and games; and paid transportation costs for upcoming field trips for all students. We were also able to provide the bus drivers with a gift and a breakfast to thank them for their service to our community. Thanks to donations from generous families, we also provided feminine hygiene products for each school to be distributed to students in need and available to all students in the bathrooms.

If you would like to be part of the Mason Eagles PTA, please reach out to us at mason eaglesPTA@gmail.com or our Facebook page. We are always looking for volunteers, behind-the-scenes help, and donations! -K. DeSloover

Be sure to like our Facebook page for detail on these upcoming events!

Daddy-Daughter Dance
Goodies with Grandparents
Carnation Sale
Scholastic Book Fair
Easter Event

Lego Robotics Begins at Middle School

This year, Mason Middle School launched a FIRST Lego League team under the mentorship of 6th Grade Science Teacher, Ms. Sophia Ostrosky. The Lego League is one of FIRST Robotics' competitive programs that engages students in a meaningful way to discover the fun in technology and science.

The theme for this year was "Super-Powered", concentrating on areas of sustainable energy and creating an energy-wise future.

Ms. Ostrosky's passion for science was shown firsthand as she led the team at a competition event held on December 3rd at Milan High School. Ms. Ostrosky and Mr. Gabe Moore

(team co-mentor) worked with the students in making on-the-fly changes as they geared up between matches to improve before the next round. Members of the team worked hard on coding their robot to perform tasks while scoring points with various field challenges.

Now that the Eagles have experienced their first event, they are "charged up" for future seasons. The team learned a lot about the competition and what to focus on during matches. Additionally, they absorbed even more knowledge in the field of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). The students all had a great time and enjoyed working together as a team. -J. Burt



MASON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Music Boosters Hold First Annual Madrigal Dinner

On December 22nd, the Mason Music Boosters presented the first annual Mason Senior High School Madrigal Dinner. This variety show dinner featured several performances from the middle school choir, a recorder ensemble, and singers from the elementary school. Solo and group performances entertained throughout the evening, as well. "King" Rusty Raymer and "Queen" Rayann DuRocher ruled over their "Medieval Royal Court", comprised of high

school choir members.

A delicious catered buffet-style chicken dinner was hosted and served to the audience by the middle school and elementary students. Dinner was highlighted by comedic interaction with the members of the Royal Court.

This is an event you won't want to miss next year!

-B. Bates

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY SESSION

**JANUARY 31
6:00-7:00PM**

**Mason Senior High School
Room 300 (enter at door B)**

Join us for a student-led training session on **Mobile Device Security and Safe Browsing!**

Our Career & Technology Education (CTE) students will be going through an introductory session on using mobile devices safely.

Open invitation, no signup required!

#IMatter Youth Summit

On December 6th, Mrs. Radant and Mr. Traviss took 22 of our high school students to Monroe County Community College for the fourth annual #IMatter Youth Summit. There were approximately 250 total students from the Monroe County area in attendance.

The goal of the day was for students to gain knowledge about positive coping strategies for an ongoing healthy lifestyle. While at the summit, student networked with other students in the area, learned "Real-Refusal Skills", and were introduced to different types of wellness activities such as art therapy and yoga. Other breakout topics included discussions on anxiety, stress, and healthy relationships. Guest speakers included Steve McNew, superintendent of Monroe County Intermediate School District and Kojo Quartey, president of MCCC.

The students had a great experience and we look forward taking more interested students to the #IMatter Youth Summit next year!

-B. Bates



A great way to start the day:

School Breakfast!

\$1.25
\$0.30 reduced

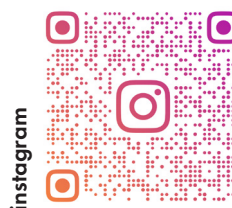
MASON
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Elementary: 7:55-8:15
cafeteria

Middle School: 7:10-7:30
main entrance hallway

High School: 7:15-7:35
cafeteria

Want more Eagle Nation? Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram! Scan the QR codes for our official social media pages and website for all the latest news and events!



Eagle Wellness Resource Center

By Mr. Don Traviss, LBSW, Restorative Justice Coordinator

New Year's Resolutions

Happy New Year!

With the New Year comes a sense of renewal and optimism. We have all heard or even said ourselves, "New Year, new me." Many set out to follow a New Year's resolution like "I want to be a better person," or "I will exercise more," or "I'm going to stop drinking pop." In reality, a lot of people struggle to stick to their resolution even for a few weeks. So, what is the barrier to achieving these goals that we set for ourselves? Is it that the resolution is not realistic? Is it too vague? Do we lose motivation?

Using SMART goals may help you increase your chance of accomplishing your New Year's Resolution in 2023.

SMART is an acronym for: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound.

Example: If we re-word the common "I will exercise more" New Year's Resolution by using the SMART goals acronym, it would end up more like "For 2023, starting today, I will run on the treadmill 3 days a week for at least 30 minutes at a speed of 4 or higher."

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- Specific. Making goals as detailed and clear as possible. In our example, we've put the number of days per week, the time we would be running, speed at which we would run, where we would be running, and the duration of the goal.


- Measurable. Goals must be objective and data-driven, rather than subjective and based on feelings/emotions. This will help us know if/when the goal has been achieved. (Did I run 3 days for 30 minutes this week?)

- Attainable. Goals are meant to be challenging but must be realistic. Start small and work up to something bigger. Running for 3 days a week may be easy for some or challenging for others. (Starting with running 7 days a week may be unrealistic.)

- Relevant. Your goal should matter to you. Motivation is easily lost if your goal does not align with your current values. (In our example, we want to be healthier and less stressed, and running aligns with those values!)


- Time-bound. Your goal should have a realistic timeline. If there is not a start and end date, there is no motivation or pressure to get things done. For a New Year's resolution, the timeline is typically for the duration of 2023!







Mason Consolidated Schools is looking for Substitute Aides to start immediately!

If you are looking for part-time work, have a flexible schedule, and enjoy working with children, send us your application!







All employees of Mason Consolidated Schools are fingerprinted for a Michigan and FBI criminal history check. The processing fee of \$43.25 is the responsibility of the employee.

2022-2023 School Year Calendar

For full calendar, please see our website: eriemason.k12.mi.us

February		May	
Half Day, All Students 3hr Staff PD	February 10	Half Day, All Students	May 26
No School President's Day	February 20	No School Memorial Day	May 29
March		June	
Half Day, All Students 3hr Staff PD	March 17	Graduation Commencement	June 4
No School Spring Break Begins	March 25	Graduation Rain Date	June 5
		Half Day, All Students	June 6
		Half Day, All Students	June 7
		Last Day of School	
April			
Classes Resume	April 3		
Half Day, All Students 3hr PD, MS & HS Staff	April 28		