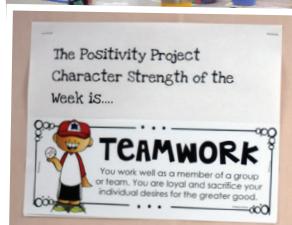


Madison's Positivity Project: Building Strengths and Community

Last year, Madison piloted the Positivity Project (P2), a program that teaches students the *Other People Matter Mindset* and 24 character strengths such as creativity, gratitude, curiosity, kindness, and teamwork. The pilot was a success, leading the District to adopt P2 school-wide this year.

Over the summer, a P2 Leadership Committee (right) planned monthly pep rallies, school-wide service projects and supports for teachers. With full implementation now underway, students are showing stronger relationships, improved social-emotional skills, increased confidence and better academic engagement. Staff report a shared language and unified culture, increased positivity and morale, stronger relationships with students and meaningful professional growth.



PreK–12 lessons include stories, quotes and activities related to the character strength of the week. "These lessons lend themselves to thoughtful conversations and often connect naturally within our ELA or math lessons. For example, students may recognize character strengths in a book's character or notice that they need to use perseverance to work through a challenging math problem. These strengths become part of their everyday vocabulary and a source of growth as learners," said Amanda Rotach, Coordinator of Curriculum. Key strengths that stand out this year include self-control, teamwork and kindness, all of which are showing up in classroom discussions and academic work. "The most rewarding part of this journey has been watching students discover their own strengths and use them to overcome challenges. The Positivity Project is truly helping our school grow—and reminding us every day that *Other People Matter*," said Project Coordinator and fourth-grade teacher Sabrina Denton.



"The most rewarding part of this journey has been watching students discover their own strengths and use them to overcome challenges."

- Sabrina Denton

December P2 Pep Rally Celebration



Gratitude Tree

Positivity Project Committee

LeeAnn Cucci
Amanda Rotach
Michele Bowen
Sabrina Denton,
Project Coordinator
Steven Drake
Jenny Buckley
Lauryn Blake
Melissa Ruane
Lindsay Murphy

Four Students Inducted into the National Honor Society



On January 7th, the Madison Central School Chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed four new members with a formal induction ceremony held in the Madison Central School Auditorium.

Congratulations to juniors, Blake Butler, Jeremiah Rutkowski and sophomores, Natalie Hill and Elijah Zbock (top photo). Current members of the NHS and new inductees pictured below.

Congratulations to our newest National Honor Society members:

Blake Butler

Jeremiah Rutkowski

Natalie Hill

Elijah Zbock



NHS recognizes students who exhibit high levels of academic 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.

At the ceremony, current members of NHS and NJHS described each of the five core values and read a brief introduction for each new inductee before they came onto the stage to be robed.

NHS Advisor Joe Burdick and High School Principal Larry Nichols presented the students with certificates and led them in reciting the NHS Pledge.

Following the induction ceremony, students and families were invited to a reception in the cafeteria.

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 2025-26 school year. A total of 38 Madison students were named to the quarterly list which recognizes high levels of achievement in the Career and Technical Education programs available through BOCES. Nineteen students landed top honors as high honor roll students. The full list of Madison honorees is included below.

High Honor Roll

Jacoby Backer-Outdoor Power Equipment I; Madelyn Broedel-Heavy Equipment Operation II; Andrew Cameron-Heavy Equipment Operation I; Garrett Crane-Automotive Technology I; Grace Fleming-Livestock Mgt and Agriculture II; Kasandra Kenyon-Livestock Mgt and Agriculture I; Kyra King-Information Technology Systems/CISCO II; Myah Leuenberger-Early Childhood Education II; Lexie Lollman-Cosmetology II; Ronan Mancuso-Outdoor Power Equipment I; Jayson Millis-Advanced Culinary Arts Experience; Brookelynn Paradis-Cosmetology II; Alexis Peck-Equine and Animal Science I; Taylor Phillips-Equine and Animal Science II; Alanna Szewczyk-Livestock Mgt and Agriculture II; Garrett Weaver-Carpentry I; Alexis Werner-Cosmetology II; Hunter Williams-Automotive Technology I; Carly Winn-Equine and Animal Science.

Honor Roll

Darin Buchanan-Heavy Equipment Operation I; Jacob Campanella-Conservation II; Jasmine Confer-Health Related Careers II; John Grant-Automotive Technology I; Justin LaMunion-Heavy Equipment Operation II; Nicholas Last-Graphic Design II; Devere Livermore-Cosmetology II; Anthony Mancuso-Early Childhood Education II; Ariella Morgan-Cosmetology I; Christian Olney-Criminal Justice I; Davin Peck-Carpentry I; Connor Samson Davall-Outdoor Power Equipment II; James Scalzo-Carpentry

Honorable Mention

Justin Burns-Criminal Justice I; Bruce Cudak-Livestock Mgt and Agriculture II; Zoey Last-Culinary Arts I; Wesley Leuenberger-Career Exploration II AM; Wyatt Sitts-HVAC II; Aaden Wier-CBOE AM.

Madison releases 1st Marking Period Honor Roll



Madison Central School is pleased to announce that 89 students in grades 6-12 have earned academic honors for the first marking period of the 2025-26 school year.

30 students received the High Honor Roll designation for carrying an overall average of 94 or above for the marking period. An additional 59 students were eligible for the Honor Roll distinction, which requires an overall average between 88.0 and 93.9 for the marking period.

High Honor Roll - 94.0+ Average

- 12th: Emma Bergeron, Matthew Post, Kyra King, Jayson Millis and Lexi Lollman
- 11th: Lillian Reichert, Madelyn Hill, Lillian Kazlauskas, Blake Butler, Shelden Strong and Myia Liberatore
- 10th: Natalie Hill, Elijah Zbock, Cooper Williams and Sophia Wajda
- 9th: Nicholas Lollman
- 8th: Kenleigh Winterton, Miranda Liebel, Andilynn Staring and Avery Gallagher
- 7th: Jackson Yerkie, Anna Zbock, Gracie Zbock, Lauren Dvorak, Sadie Cusack, Joel Yerkie, Phoebe Squadrito, Jovie Nichols and Abbey Schenk
- 6th: Brianna Nower

Honor Roll - 88.0+ Average

- 12th: Taylor Phillips, Grace Fleming, Myah Leuenberger, Alanna Szewczyk, Alexis Werner, Keyara Nichols, Reagan Kitchen, Brookelynn Paradis, Madelyn Broedel, Devere Livermore, Justin LaMunion, Samantha Soule, Jasmine Confer and Nick Last
- 11th: Lucas Neff, Lewis Joslyn, Anthony Cucci, Ronan Mancuso, Alexis Peck, Hunter Williams, Bianca DeFazio, Jeremiah Rutkowski and Carly Winn
- 10th: Novalee Foster, Bella DeFazio, Phillip Williams, Alyssa Braun, Alexis Rundle and Khloie Paradis
- 9th: Ryan Gallagher, Liam Nolan, Cooper Kitchen, Alexis Stanfield, Lana Pisiak, Jacob Powers and Jenna Burns
- 8th: Alayna Brock, Molly Tehan and Nataleigh Godfrey
- 7th: Millicent Paul, Rosileen Suydam, Aria Buchanan, Mason Diehl, Miley Oleksik, Gracie Stone, Madilyn Peck, Mary Idzi, Asher Anken, Anson Nichols, Kaylea Coir, Matthew Jipson, Kade Ford and Stanely Zombek
- 6th: Colby Dvorak, Case Staring, Marguerite Schuster, Reese Masker, Isabella Billings and Hadyn Powers

FFA Students Attend National Convention



Three Madison FFA students had the opportunity this fall to participate in the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Garrett Weaver, Ryan Gallagher, and Harris Staring, along with FFA advisor Phillip Keville, traveled to Indianapolis to attend the event, where they connected with thousands of other FFA members from across the country. During the convention, students participated in workshops focused on leadership, engagement, and recruitment.

The National FFA Convention offers students hands-on learning experiences that strengthen skills in communication, leadership, agriculture, animal and environmental sciences and community service.



Mrs. Nolan's 5th Grade Classroom

As part of their Chemistry in Our World unit—where students explore how chemistry connects to everyday life—students tested how different substances can be identified by their observable physical properties.

Students loved seeing how chemistry shows up all around them, from mixing ingredients in cooking to dissolving sugar in water. Lots of curiosity, discovery and fun filled the room!



Three & Me Program

You're invited to join us for the Madison Central School District Three and Me program, a monthly educational program which allows 3 year old's and their guardian to ease into the transition between home to pre-kindergarten by creating familiarity with the school setting.

To be eligible, your child must be three years old on or before December 1, 2025.

Third Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:15 pm in the MCS cafeteria

February 19, 2026

March 19, 2026

April 16, 2026

May 21, 2026

June 18, 2026



Sign up on the District website by clicking on the community link located at the bottom of our homepage: <https://www.madisoncentralny.org>

Elementary Students Shine with Colgate Reads!



Thanks to the Colgate Reads program, Madison's second- and third-grade students receive weekly one-on-one reading support from Colgate University mentors. Run through Colgate's COVE and based on the America Reads model, the program has grown from a pilot into a lasting tradition that builds reading skills, confidence and a love of learning. Teachers say students view their tutors as mentors and role models, helping them take risks and grow as readers.

"Our students look up to their Colgate tutors as big brothers, sisters and mentors — someone they're excited to spend time with," said second-grade teacher Tina

Bergeron. "The program builds confidence so that readers are more willing to take risks when reading and decoding multisyllabic words."

This partnership not only boosts literacy but also fosters meaningful connections between Madison's elementary students and their college mentors — a true example of the power of community and collaboration.



Counting Cars in Kindergarten Math



Students in Miss Rotach's kindergarten class practiced counting with Mr. Hill, our math specialist, who supports learning in the classroom. During a fun center activity, students counted along a number path using five cubes. The cubes became "cars" that students touched to start their engines before driving them to their parking spots, making math engaging and hands-on.

All-Star and Scholar-Athlete Recognitions

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized as individual scholar athletes by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA). To earn the NYSPHSAA honor, a student-athlete must maintain an overall average of 90 or higher during the sports season:

GIRLS SOCCER:

Alyssa Braun
Grace Fleming
Madelyn Hill
Natalie Hill
Lillian Kazlauskas
Keyara Nichols
Khloï Paradis
Lillian Reichert
Alexis Stanfield
Andilynn Staring
Alexis Werner

BOYS SOCCER:

Anthony Cucci
Cooper Kitchen
Nicholas Lollman
Ronan Mancuso
Lucas Neff
Hunter Williams

FOOTBALL:

Lewis Joslyn



The following athletes were awarded league honors by the Central Counties League coaches:

GIRLS SOCCER:

First Team All Star
Alexis Geiger
Keyara Nichols

Second Team All Star
Alyssa Braun
Josie Cusack

Honorable Mention All Star
Grace Fleming

BOYS SOCCER:

First Team All Star
Darin Buchanan
Lucas Neff

Second Team All Star
Spencer Clark
Garrett Weaver

Honorable Mention All Star
Arlo Brouillette



Left to Right, Wesley D'Imperio, Noah Mudge, Lewis Joslyn and Gabe Geiger. - Photo credit Tracie McLain

The following football players received Section 3 8 Man Football honors:

First Team All Star - Wesley D'Imperio
Second Team All Star - Gabe Geiger, Noah Mudge.



MADISON CENTRAL SCHOOL CLASS OF 1999

From Blue Devil to lawyer and business owner—proof that perseverance, support and belief can take you far.

Let's Go Blue Devils!



ACTIVITIES, CLUBS AND PROGRAMS IN HIGH SCHOOL

I was active in soccer, softball, basketball, cheerleading my senior year, band, marching band, chamber music, jazz band, FFA, SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) and ski club.

LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

After graduating, I immediately left the U.S. as a Rotary Foreign Exchange Student in Brazil. When I returned, I attended Mohawk Valley Community College, where I earned an associate's degree in Human Services. My journey then took me just outside Oslo, Norway, where I lived for two years before eventually returning to Utica.

In 2012, I completed my bachelor's degree at SUNY IT (now SUNY Poly) in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in History, Technology and Globalization. In December 2024, I fulfilled a lifelong dream by earning my Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School—officially adding "lawyer" to my toolbox.

CHALLENGES THAT SHAPED ME

High school was a very challenging time for me. I really struggled with ADHD in standardized education. I grew up in a single-parent household. I was truly raised by a village—friends, teammates' families and educators who stepped in when I needed support. A few teachers took the time to hold me accountable while also reminding me of my potential, and those moments stayed with me long after graduation.

CAREER & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Today, I wear two hats. In 2017, I created Unstoppable You LLC, where I work as an emotional intelligence coach supporting individuals, families and corporate teams across the country. After graduating law school, I accepted a position with the Oneida County Public Defender's Office as a law associate while awaiting admission to the New York State Bar.

One of my proudest accomplishments was commuting 90 miles each way to Albany Law School for three years while balancing family life. Walking across that stage was a moment I'll never forget. I'm also incredibly proud of the people my children are becoming and the values of service and community we share.

MADE IN MADISON

Heather Beebe '99

MADISON MEMORIES

Several Madison educators had a meaningful impact on my life. Mr. Carvell recognized how I learned best and helped me build confidence. Mr. DelMedico gave me the accountability I needed my senior year and Mr. Moses had a way of reminding me—often with humor—that I could do better. Their belief in me made a lasting difference.

Some of my favorite memories include Mrs. McCredy's imaginative fourth grade "trip to Florida," traveling with band and FFA and the unforgettable pep rally when we learned the proposed merger with Stockbridge had been voted down. The pride of being Blue Devils filled the gym.

SKILLS OR HABITS THAT HELPED YOU SUCCEED

I was always a go getter. Even though I may have had some hurdles that others did not have, I did not let that stop me. There may have been times that I took the long way around, but I always got to where I wanted to get. Being from Madison helped me recognize the importance of my community and sticking together when you needed to. When you can't do it alone, ask someone for support. That's how I survived! Oh, and I can back up a boat down a ramp in 10 seconds. My husband can't even do that! Thanks to Mr. Osterhout and our FFA tractor driving backwards lessons.

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE UNSURE OF NEXT STEPS

High School can be very hard. It's a time in life when you are measuring yourself up against your peers and no one else may even understand what's going on in your life at home. Hang in there and believe in yourself. You do not need to have all the answers about life yet. Start with things you enjoy. There IS something that YOU are really good at even when you struggle in other areas. Start with the win. Feel great and then start to test yourself in the areas you'd like to improve. Don't worry about how long your process takes to get to where you want to be. All that matters is that you're on your way. I never, ever imagined that I would be where I am now. But here I am. A lawyer with a business on the side. It took me a non-traditional path to get here but my seat at the table is as good as anyone else's. I wish that kind of success for you. Oh, and take time with your mentors. Once you find yourself in a place you are enjoying, pay attention to who seems really, really good at it. Hang with them! Challenge yourself by paying attention to the greats. Not the ones who "talk" about being great. The ones who are out there getting their hands dirty in the work you're trying to learn. Those will be the most important people in your career. Know about them and care about them.



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Madison Veterans Day Breakfast

The Madison National Honor Society hosted its annual Veterans Day Breakfast on November 10, welcoming more than 40 local veterans for a complimentary meal served by students. Elementary students shared handmade cards and the morning included a choral performance led by Miss Tehan.

Thank you to Mrs. Schokker and the MCS Cafeteria Team, as well as all staff and organizations who donated food and beverages. Most importantly, we thank our local veterans for their service and dedication to our country.



Website
www.madisoncentralny.org

Facebook
Madison Central School - Madison, NY

Phone
Call 315-893-1878 and, when prompted, dial the extension of the party you are trying to reach.

District Office: Extension 1020

Principals' Office: Extension 1363

Guidance & Athletics Office: Extension 2100

CSE Office: Extension 1360

Health Office: Extension 1910

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