



Mason Public Schools

Keynotes

Fall 2023

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Welcome Back, Bulldogs!



The entire Mason Public Schools administrative and leadership team welcome students and staff back to school for the 2023-24 school year!

WELCOME OFFICER DEMO

In cooperation with the Mason Police Department and the City of Mason, Mason Public Schools (MPS) is excited to announce that Officer Justin Demo has begun his role as the MPS School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Demo is an experienced law enforcement officer who completed specialized SRO training prior to taking on this role.

Officer Demo will be working alongside our district administrators and teachers to ensure a safe, supportive, and secure learning environment for all students. He will be engaging with students, families, and community members to support learning, foster student well-being, build trust, and open lines of communication between everyone in our school community.



Every student. Every day.



Every student. Every day.

2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

We are excited to share the new Mason Public Schools' Strategic Plan. Alongside MPS staff, students, teachers, administrators, and community and board members, we have worked to create the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan which was presented to, and approved by, the Board of Education over the summer.

The new strategic plan is rooted by the simple, but impactful, mission to serve “Every student. Every day.” The new strategic plan will serve as a roadmap to guide the district’s commitment to the Plan’s four areas of focus: Instructional Improvement and Innovation; Student Supports; Staff Recruitment; Retention, and Development; and Facilities and Infrastructure.

Interdepartmental district teams developed goals, objectives, and implementation strategies for each of the four focus areas that will guide the work we do over the next three to five years. With the plan in place, our teams will be actively working toward measurable goals and tracking accomplishments in the focus areas as we put this plan into action.

Rooted in a vision of excellence, equity, inclusivity, and innovation, this plan represents the collective aspirations of the community. By focusing on enhancing student outcomes, fostering inclusivity, and engaging the community, MPS is on a path to become a model for educational excellence. As this strategic plan unfolds, MPS can look forward to a future filled with educated, empowered, and successful citizens who are well-prepared for the challenges of tomorrow.

The strategic plan for Mason Public Schools is not just a document; it's a commitment to the future of education in our community. Please join me, engaging with our teachers, administrators, and students as we move forward together.

- Dr. Gary Kinzer, Superintendent

Scan the QR code or visit the
MPS website to review the
entire Strategic Plan.



2023-2028 AREAS OF FOCUS



INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

Mason Public Schools will cultivate an innovative teaching and learning community to improve educational outcomes for all students and prepare them to become active and engaged citizens.



STUDENT SUPPORTS

Mason Public Schools will proactively focus on robust and bold practices that connect students to their learning in order to prioritize and provide a barrier-free, successful education.



STAFF RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND DEVELOPMENT

Mason Public Schools will attract a larger and more diverse candidate pool for positions at Mason Public Schools, develop staff to better serve students and improve the employee experience, and retain talent through efforts to build a system of staff supports.



FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mason Public Schools will continue to modernize our current facilities and plan for future improvements.

Staff Recognition

Congratulations and a huge "thank you" to our teachers and staff celebrating milestone years of service with Mason Public Schools. Service awardees were honored during the 2023-24 Opening Day event. Thank you to our teachers and staff, both long standing and new to the district, for your commitment to our students!

THANK YOU!

35 Years

Mari Hill

30 Years

Carolyn Hyde
Eric Haynie

25 Years

Andy Vondra
Casei Marlan
Amy Kelly
Penny Kaiser
Marcy Dekett
Traci Casali

20 Years

Jeanne Day
Heather Bosman
Kim Clark
Andrew Chapin
Peggy Wassner
Kristin Higgins
Nathan Johnson
Jake Lator
Kathleen Oakes

15 Years

Rick Schramm
Brittany Catalano
Addy Hamilton
Jennifer Bauer
Marty Frew
Michelle Kirkpatrick
Nilufa Husain
Kelly Aimery
Tracey Jewitt

10 Years

Amy Fredericks
Tammie Way
Mike Mckay
Bonnie Gierke
Dean Thompson
Patty Neisinger
Angie Thompson





SILVER AWARD PROJECT

As part of her Girls Scout Silver Award Project, Mason Middle School student Veronica Preston committed her time and energy to fundraising and coordinating a project to install menstrual supply dispensers, stocked with free products, in district bathrooms.

She started her projects in 2020 by spearheading a community fundraiser for emergency period packs that contained free products for students that started their period unexpectedly at school. In 2021, when she was in 6th grade, she presented another idea to have a shelf in Student Services to provide the emergency packs and coordinated another community fundraiser to pay for the shelf and free products which are now available in the Student Services office.

In 2022, she asked the district to supply feminine hygiene product machines in all district bathrooms and was on-hand when dispensers were installed in middle school bathrooms in September.

"I'm happy that I have been able, with the help of my school, to have the products that students need available where they need them," said Preston. "I hope this project continues to help students and my community for a long time."

The organization Girls Helping Girls Period www.girlshelpinggirlsperiod.org provided statistics and information that were instrumental to Preston as she presented her ideas and requests to district leaders.

The machines have been installed throughout Mason Middle School and Mason High School and will be stocked with free products.

Those who would like to support the emergency period product project in Student Services can do so by donating the items below at Mason Middle School.

- Ipsy bags (or similar small pouches or bags)
- Various sizes girls' underwear
- Teen pads and tampons
- Black leggings
- Feminine hygiene wipes

In addition, the community can help by educating their students on proper use and disposal of products to ensure the products are available for their intended purpose.



1 in 5 girls have reported missing school due to lack of period products
2018 ALWAYS BRAND SURVEY



A Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn in sixth through eighth grade. The goal of the award is for scouts to help their community and use skills learned through Girl Scouts.

Athletic Hall of Fame Honorees

The Mason High School Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2023 was recognized on Friday, September 22, during halftime of the varsity football game. This year's honorees include:

- **1989 Girls' Golf Team**
- **Craig Webster**, Class of 1969- Football, Basketball, Baseball, and Track and Field
- **Dave Hinkle**, Class of 1981- Cross Country and Track and Field
- **Randy Foss**, Class of 1974- Track and Field and Football, Mason High School's first individual State Champion in Shotput
- **Tanner Hinkle**, Class of 2013- Cross Country and Track and Field



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Whether you're looking to learn a new skill or get more active this fall or winter, MPS Community Education has something for everyone. Scan the QR code for current offerings and registration.

Classes include:

- Cardio Drumming
- Adult and Child Yoga
- Cartooning, Drawing and Painting
- Swimming, Water Fitness and Lifeguarding





INGHAM COUNTY PARKS VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Mason High School Senior Class Advisors Jen Harrington and Staci Carl were honored as 2022 Ingham County Parks and Recreation Commission Volunteers of the Year!

Since 2003, the high school senior class has taken part in volunteer activities with the Ingham County Parks under their leadership and guidance.

In addition, Harrington and Carl have volunteered countless hours on their own each spring and fall helping to plant, landscape, and improve community and park facilities.

Thank you for your guidance of our seniors and your commitment to our community.



DETROIT LIONS COACH OF THE WEEK



Mason High School Football Coach Gary Houghton was selected by the Detroit Lions as their High School Football Coach of the Week for Week 2 of the fall football season.

The Detroit Lions and NFL Foundation recognize one coach each week during the season and awards a \$1,000 donation to the school's football program.

At the conclusion of the 2023 Michigan High School Football season, the Lions will also select the High School Football Coach of the Year from the Coach of the Week winners. Good luck Coach Houghton and thanks for all you do!

Mason Public Schools
201 West Ash Street, Suite 2A
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Every student. Every day.

Mason Public Schools is committed to academic excellence in a safe environment where students develop critical thinking skills, are empowered to succeed, and are encouraged to serve their community.

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