



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023

# MASON MINUTE

*Weekly District News*

## **Bulldog Bright Spot**

Nearly 200 Mason students and their families will have a brighter holiday season this year thanks to the generosity of Mason students, staff, community organizations, City of Mason departments, private corporations, faith communities, scout troops, school clubs, and local individuals and families who donated gifts and funds to adopt families this holiday.

Spearheaded by Mason Public Schools' Jodi Somerville, the Adopt-a-Family program saw an increase in requests for assistance this year, with 99 families receiving support.

"Everyone who asked for help was adopted and will get gifts this year," said Somerville. "This program doesn't work without all of the people and groups who donate and support it, so thank you!"

Gifts and food will be delivered or picked up this week leading up to the Winter Break. Thank you to everyone who contributed!



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Every student. Every day.



Mason High School Youth in Government (YIG) and the high school law classes hosted Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel last week. AG Nessel shared the scope and responsibility of her office as well as major successes and challenges during her term thus far.

The students had the unique opportunity to spend most of the visit asking questions, including how to be a persuasive and convincing lawyer.

The State of Michigan supports YIG by providing grant funds that pay for 90% of each student's YIG expenses, reducing the cost per year from \$650 to \$65 per

student. As part of the grant, each group must meet with a government official during the school year. The advisors for Mason YIG submitted nearly 20 schedule requests for speakers this year and knocked it out of the park by securing the visit from AG Nessel.

## December Holiday Celebrations

The month of December is full of holiday celebrations all around the world.

This month classes have explored the history, traditions, and celebrations surrounding some of these holidays which include Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, National Youth Day in Albania, Day of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Mexico, Santa Lucia Day in Sweden, Finland, and Norway, Feast Day of Saint Barbara or Barbaratag in Germany, and Boxing Day.



## Winter Break



Remember- Winter Break is Monday, December 25- Friday, January 5, 2024! Enjoy the time off with family and friends, and we'll see you all back at school in the new year!



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## It is Red Carpet Gala Time!



Join us at the Mason Public Schools Foundation Commercial Bank Red Carpet Gala on March 9, 2024!

[Tickets are now on sale](#), use promo code EARLYBIRD24 for a \$10 discount through January 7, 2024. Secure your spot for a night of glamour and support our Mason Public Schools!

The Community Education [Winter Enrichment Guide](#) is now available, and [registration](#) is open for all classes and events! Check out the great offerings and stay active this winter!

## Winter Enrichment Events

Join us over Winter Break for fun in the pool! Payment for all Aquatic Center winter break events can be made at the door using correct cash or check.

### Open Swim:

December 26: 1-3 p.m.

January 2-4: 1-3 p.m.

January 5: 6-8 p.m.

\$3/adult, \$2/students or senior citizens, \$8/family of four.

### Adult Lap Swim (18+):

December 26: 6-7:30 a.m.

January 2-5: 6-7:30 a.m.

\$5/person or \$35/10-punch card

**MASON AQUATIC CENTER  
WINTER BREAK EVENTS**  
DECEMBER 23, 2023 - JANUARY 6, 2024

## New Year's Swim Party

Saturday 12/30/23

6:00-8:00pm at Mason Aquatic Center

### New Year's Swim Party!

Saturday, December 30, 2023

6-8 p.m.

\$5/adult, \$4/student or senior citizen,  
\$15/family of four, \$1/additional family member  
in the same household.

Ring in the new year with a family-friendly open swim and movie. Gift bags are available for the first 50 swimmers. All regular Open Swim rules will apply, and swimmers must pass a swim test to use the deep end of the pool.



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There will be no Water Fitness classes during winter break and the pool will be completely closed December 27-29 for cleaning and maintenance.

## **Enroll Early for the Elementary School Dances!**

Don't wait to sign up for the spring elementary school dances! All events will take place at Mason Middle School on Saturday, March 16, 2024.

Please be sure to enroll in the appropriate event for your child's elementary dance and enroll your child and one adult to attend with them. Search the registration codes below to register for the correct dance for students and adults.



- 3-4:15pm - Alaidon Elementary Dance, 5000-W24 (child), 5001-W24 (adult)
- 5-6:15pm - North Aurelius Elementary Dance, 5002-W24 (child), 5003-W24 (adult)
- 7-8:15pm - Steele Elementary Dance, 5004-W24 (child), 5005-W24 (adult)

Harvey Kindergarten students should attend the same dance as an older sibling. If the student does not have an older sibling, please sign up for either the 3 or 5 pm dance!

Dances are open to Mason students currently enrolled in kindergarten-5th grade. Tickets are non-transferable and there will be no refunds after tickets are purchased. Enrollment closes March 4, 2024, or when the event is full.

## **Stay Healthy this Winter**

Mason Public Schools has had reports of multiple illnesses this fall including Hand Foot and Mouth, Strep, and COVID-19. If you are feeling unwell, please stay home when you have any of the following symptoms:

- A fever greater than 100 degrees; A person MUST be fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning.
- Vomited or had diarrhea in the past 24 hours.
- Severe eye drainage or red swollen eyes.
- A severe or croup sounding cough.
- Severe cold symptoms or constant thick nose drainage.
- Rash of unknown origin.

Always report any absences to your student's school. If you have questions or concerns about a student or staff illness or exposure, please contact the Health Team at [bulldogrn@masonk12.net](mailto:bulldogrn@masonk12.net).



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