



# Mason Public Schools Keynotes

August 2024

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## SUMMER CONSTRUCTION WRAPS UP 2017 BOND PROJECTS

Since voters approved the 2017 bond, work has been ongoing to update, improve and secure our Mason Public Schools buildings and facilities.

The \$69.7 million bond provided funding to make major facility improvements at the district's elementary buildings as well as make technology and learning environment upgrades and safety and security updates to all buildings.

Most notably, Steele Elementary School underwent extensive construction adding a 55,000 square foot addition to the building. Interior and exterior improvements also took place at Alaiedon Elementary, North Aurelius Elementary and the Harvey Education Center.

In the final phase of construction this summer, work has been focused on creating a new office suite at Mason Middle School and improving the offices at Mason High School to create secure entryways at each building providing enhanced security and safety for students and staff.



**An exemplary learning community - Every student. Every day.**



Behind the scenes, buildings have received HVAC improvements and other infrastructure enhancements. Over the past seven years, we have accomplished an enormous amount of work with our construction and project management partners, we have:

- Added 99,569 square feet of new construction across elementary buildings.
- Completed extensive interior remodeling to existing spaces at elementary buildings.
- Installed new door locks, with visual indicators, on classroom doors in district buildings. Final installations will be completed during Fall 2024.
- Reconstructed and improved site circulation for bus loops and pick up/drop off areas at Alairedon, Harvey, North Aurelius and Steele.
- Added gymnasiums and improved cafeterias at all elementary buildings.
- Purchased and installed new furniture and equipment in all elementary buildings.
- Installed secure entry vestibules at buildings providing an extra layer of access control at the entrance of each building.
- Improved playgrounds and outdoor space at all elementary buildings.
- Replaced and improved mechanical, plumbing, lighting and heating and cooling systems at all elementary buildings.
- Replaced steam boilers and steam units at the high school with new hot water heating systems with air conditioning.
- Purchased and deployed new, state-of-the art IT equipment and systems across the district.
- Replaced aging buses with 15 new buses.
- Expanded the district's wireless capacity and increased the number of computers and devices available to students and staff.
- Upgraded pool lighting to LED lights.
- Updated HVAC; now under the control of the Building Management System (BMS).





## FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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

The support of Mason voters made these vast improvements possible with the 2017 bond and we are thankful for the community support that allowed us to increase safety and security, modernize learning spaces to attract staff, students, and families, and provide the best learning environment for all students, now and in the future.

We are committed to continuing to provide safe and appropriate learning environments for current and future students. The current 2023-2028 Strategic Plan includes Facilities and Infrastructure as a focus area to ensure a clear path forward to continue to modernize our current facilities and plan for future improvements, including preparing for a bond offering in 2025.





As we begin the 2024-25 school year, we are excited to welcome back our Bulldog students and families! Whether entering Harvey for the first time or celebrating the last first day of school as a senior, we wish all of our students a bright and exciting school year. Thank you to our families for partnering with us to give students a successful school year!

Our administration team is available to families and students to help as students adjust to the new school year and throughout the year. The district Chain of Communication website offers contact information for our leadership team and can be accessed at [www.masonk12.net/families/chain-of-communication](http://www.masonk12.net/families/chain-of-communication) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Let's work together to make the 2024-25 school year exciting and educational! Welcome back, Bulldogs!

Dr. Gary Kinzer, Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Mason Public Schools



## HAPPY 1ST BIRTHDAY LEWIS & SULLY!

### ADAM BRANDT NAMED HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Mason High School (MHS) is thrilled to welcome Adam Brandt as the new Assistant Principal.

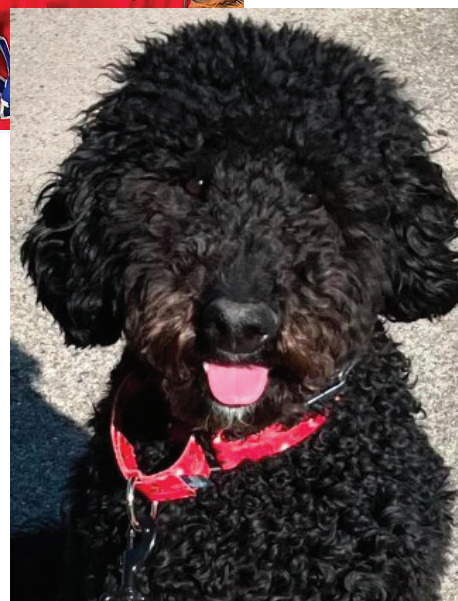
Before joining the team at MHS, he was an Assistant Principal at Eaton Rapids Middle School, a Dean of Students at Lockwood Elementary and taught eighth grade U.S. History at Warren Consolidated Schools.

He is passionate about creating relationships with students, staff, and the community as he enjoys seeing people succeed and be rewarded for their work. He believes that all skills, talents and passions that students and staff have should be highlighted as everyone is an asset to a community.

Mr. Brandt has always enjoyed working with a team, and he looks forward to working with and learning from talented and experienced staff and students at MHS and Mason Public Schools.



Our favorite pups celebrate their first birthdays on August 23! We love our Bulldog Bark Squad; happy birthday Sully and Lewis!



## STUDENTS LEVEL UP OVER SUMMER BREAK



This summer, students from Young 5s through 8th grade engaged in a dynamic and enriching STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) learning program. The program is designed to spark curiosity, foster creativity and provide hands-on experiences that ignite a passion for learning in young minds.

Week one had Level UP! up and away with the RE/MAX hot air balloon. The program welcomed guest speakers including Ms. Lindsay from the Mason Library, Steve Duane from Dart and Jeff the Magician. Other distinguished speakers included two alumni of Mason Public Schools, Chef Derick Zanger and Marine Biologist Derek Burkholder. Both inspired the students by sharing their journey from being students to pursuing successful careers in STEAM-related industries. Paul Kato, a former Mason teacher, visited the students virtually from Ghana, and Ahmed Issawi visited and shared about Egypt. Students in 4th-8th grade got the chance to visit the Dart Hangar at the Capital Region International Airport and take in the Mason Steam Engine show. The program was also fortunate enough to house Lewis, one of the district's therapy dogs, this summer, and receive a visit from Athena the Wonderful Maligator.

All summer there was a ton of hands-on learning, including learning phrases in new languages and presenting them in an art project, making marble runs and mazes, building competitions, art projects, and countless other STEAM projects! It was a journey of exploration and discovery that will surely leave a lasting impact on the young minds that participated. Thank you to our guest speakers, Level UP! staff and students for an amazing summer!







## 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The 2024-25 school year calendar includes dates of school breaks as well as half-day and late-start Wednesday schedules. Important dates for the 2024-25 school year include:

- First day of school (half-day) - Aug. 21, 2024
- Thanksgiving Break - Nov. 27-29, 2024
- Winter Break - Dec. 23, 2024 - Jan. 3, 2025
- Spring Break - Mar. 24-28, 2025
- Last day of school (half-day) Jun. 5, 2025

Check out the full calendar on the MPS website by scanning the QR code to the right.



## FALL COMMUNITY EDUCATION GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE!

The Fall Community Education Guide is now available and includes classes, aquatic offerings, and lessons open to the public for the months of September through December. To view the Community Education Guide, visit [www.masonk12.net/activities/community-education](http://www.masonk12.net/activities/community-education) or scan the QR code to the right.

To enroll for classes, visit <https://mason.revtrak.net>.



Mason Public Schools  
201 West Ash Street, Suite 2A  
Mason, MI 48854



**EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.**

Mason Public Schools  
**Keynotes**

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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