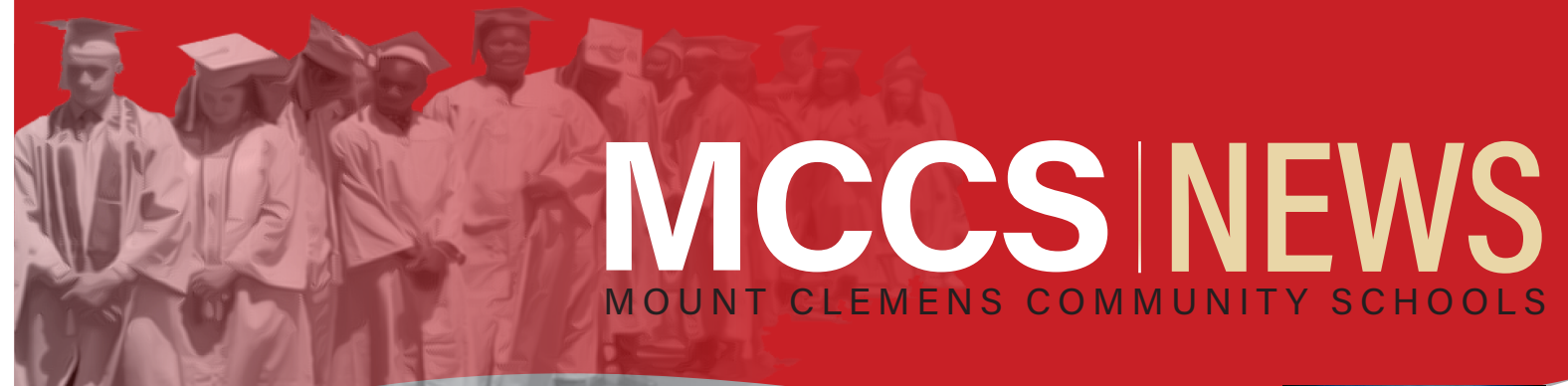


Mount Clemens Community Schools

167 Cass Avenue
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
(586) 469-6100
www.mtcps.org
Vol. 1, Issue 1

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Have You Heard of the Bath City Beat?

This is a fun and informative cable television program completely produced by Mount Clemens High School students. *If ever there was a win-win, this is it!*

Bath City Beat (BCB) will celebrate its 20th anniversary in June, a milestone that Macomb Cable Network Senior Producer Patrick Linabury finds amazing, especially since many high schools don't offer these types of programs anymore. Since 2001, BCB has produced more than 250 episodes, featuring nearly 1,000 original segments - all created by students.



For decades, The Macomb Cable Network, the local community access cable television station that is a shared service between the City of Mount Clemens and

Mount Clemens Community Schools, has been housed in the high school, providing students an inside view of how the media industry operates and what occurs behind the scenes. The high school offers two media studies courses:

- **Digital Media Studies**, where students explore image manipulation and creation. They learn about layers, color techniques, photo retouching and other aspects of the software.
- **Digital Production and Broadcasting** students produce *Bather Babble*, the daily morning announcement program for Mount Clemens High School. Students rotate through the crew positions, with everyone having the opportunity to be the director, news anchor, sports reporter, weather reporter, technical director, floor director, camera operator, audio technician and teleprompter operator.

Students in the Media Studies program can apply for jobs at the Macomb Cable Network, be hired to be BCB reporters, or they can work on the City Commission and Board of Education meeting crews as the Camera Operator or Audio Technician. While producing these meetings, students observe how government works and how the decisions of city leaders can impact residents. "It's a true community project," said Linabury.

Build A Paper Roller Coaster

The task sounds easy, but it's definitely one of those things that isn't as easy as it sounds. Just ask teacher Kristie Nickel's Mount Clemens High School physics class. They will share all the trials and tribulations they went through over the course of five weeks to build a paper roller coaster that could hold a marble as it rolled uninterrupted through the end of the ride.

The 3D project, constructed from only cardstock strips and tape, was designed to show students how the physics of motion and energy work together. When the marble starts going down a hill, for example, the potential energy is converted into kinetic energy.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, students tackled the project at home. They shared their progress weekly by taking photos and offering a critique of their work. Despite the challenges, the 10 physics students thrived during the project, said Nickel. "They had an absolute blast," she said. "I was

pleasantly surprised with what they came up with.

There were no parameters set for the roller coasters. They could be simple or as complex as a student's imagination just by folding, cutting and taping the paper strips together. They could build twists and turns and make the roller coaster as tall as they wanted.

While students worked alone, Nickel worked right along with them, constructing her own roller coaster. She would post videos as she worked on the project and share tips with them of things she learned through the process. "I wanted to experience the same frustrations they had," she said.

There definitely was a learning curve, but all students were successful at the end, showing their completed roller coaster to the class and demonstrating how the marble rolled through it from start to finish without stopping.



DISTRICT CALENDAR

April

28 Late Start K-12
Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.

May

12 Late Start K-12
19 Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.

26 Late Start K-12

28 Half Day PreK-12

31 Memorial Day - No School

June

10 Half Day PreK-12

11 Half Day K-12

26 Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.

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MCCS NEWS

MOUNT CLEMENS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Welcome to Mount Clemens Community Schools!

I am pleased to share our district newsletter with you. Inside, you'll find helpful information and stories about the staff, teachers and students that make our schools a wonderful place to learn, grow, play and dream.



There is much excitement in our classrooms as warmer weather approaches and we expand our in-person learning plans. My hope is that we continue to move forward, welcoming students back to school five days a week as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we remain focused on our academic goals and will be offering a full slate of summer school classes for those who would like to strengthen their understanding of grade-level content, work on required credits or expand their knowledge of extracurricular topics. We are also excited to introduce afterschool programming that will allow our middle and high school students to explore topics like cooking and woodworking.

As you'll see within this newsletter, Mount Clemens Community Schools is a great place with dedicated staff, creative teachers, committed students and supportive families. Together, we are making a difference.

This past year, COVID-19 has impacted all of us, but we are committed to our tradition of excellence. We continued to offer free meals and technology support for all students. If your family needs assistance with other needs, please reach out to us and we'll connect you with community resources. We are all in this together, helping families thrive and nurturing the sense of school community that makes us all proud to be Battling Bathers!

If you have additional suggestions or comments, feel free to send me an email at BeelsM@mtcps.org or call my office at (586) 461-3776.

Monique Beels

Monique Beels
Superintendent, Mount Clemens Community Schools



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mt. Clemens High School students surround High School Teacher of the Year **Revonne Martin**. Ms. Martin, a special education teacher, was nominated by her colleagues.



Early College

Thanks to the Early College program, students at Mount Clemens High School have an opportunity to attend college before they leave high school.

Principal Kirk Duncan says the program plays a crucial role in encouraging students to think about their academic future beyond their high school diploma. Students enter the program as juniors, attending required high school classes for half a day and Macomb Community College classes for the remainder of the day. What makes the program unique is students commit to grade 13, an extra year of school where upon completion, they receive an associate's degree or can transfer the credits they have earned to a bachelor's degree program.

"Early College provides a broad introduction to the college experience," he said. "Students are not locked into a lane by choosing a major at a young age. Earning an associate's degree just one year out of high school gives them a head start on their future goals."

The benefits of Early College include:

- *The freedom to explore different career pathways*
- *Being able to earn up to 60 college credits at little or no cost*
- *Exposure to college level expectations*
- *Flexibility as many of the college credits are designed to be transferable should students decide to attend a four-year university*

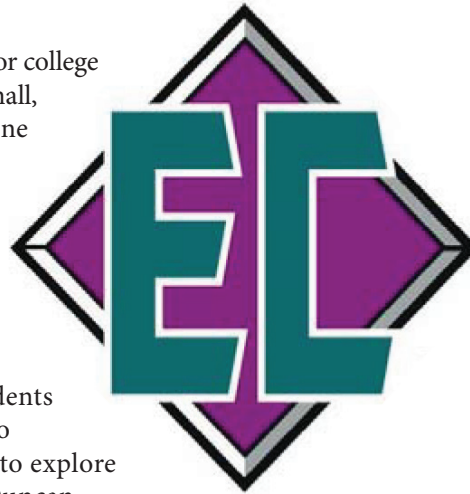
Early College is one of the many ways Mount Clemens High

School prepares students for college and career success. As a small, hometown district, everyone knows each other, he said, so students make connections with teachers and staff who are invested in their future achievements.

"We want to provide students with every opportunity to examine what they want to explore after high school," said Duncan.

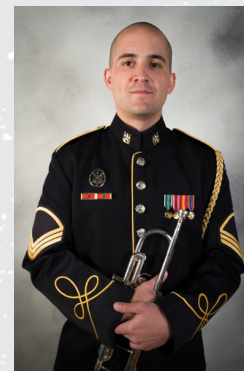
In addition to Early College, Mount Clemens High School offers dual enrollment to receive college credits through Macomb Community College and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs at L'Anse Creuse Public Schools' Pankow Center, which offers seven career pathways in areas like business, computer technology, health sciences, engineering, agri-science and more. These are hands-on classes that expose students to a specific career field so they can better determine a path they want to explore further in college, university, technical school or workplace apprenticeship or internship.

For more information, visit www.mtcps.org/schools/mount-clemens-high-school-9-12/



New High School Collaboration Center

Here is the high school second floor Collaboration Center where teachers and students can collaborate interactively using the pen, touch and palm erase. Students can also resize, drag, and move multiple windows to multitask. The interactive board has webcams built-in and allows video conferencing with apps like Zoom without requiring a computer. The board also supports several apps including educational softwares, ClassFlow and ActivInspire. These boards will be added to all the high school classrooms in the coming days. The science department will also be receiving two mobile carts.



Mount Clemens High School Graduate Performs at Inauguration

Mount Clemens High School Alumni Sergeant First Class Jeffrey Northman played with the United State Army Band at the Inauguration of President Joe Biden. Jeffrey began playing the trumpet at the age of 10, and by the time he graduated from Mount Clemens High School he knew that music would be his career.

He received his Bachelor's Degree from Grand Valley State University, an Artist's Diploma from Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles, and Master's Degree from Rice University. Jeffrey currently resides in Alexandria, Virginia with his wife Chelsea. During the summer Jeffrey can be found at the International Trumpet Seminar in Allendale, Michigan where he has been the Managing Director since 2010.

GSRP

M.L. King Academy's Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is an early childhood program that connects preschool children with their peers, allows them to explore educational concepts and lays the foundation for a solid future in learning.

Funded by the Michigan Department of Education and administered by the Macomb Intermediate School District, M.L. King Academy has four classrooms of GSRP students that meet for a full school day. Fun, multi-sensory experiences create an excitement for learning. Students meet for small group instruction and large group activities and while it may look like they are just playing, as they stack blocks, color pictures and sing songs, students are actually learning fine motor skills, how to follow instructions, eye-hand coordination and spatial concepts.

"Children absorb so much information during their preschool years," said M.L. King Academy Principal Melissa Laseck. "It's important for them to have the social interaction with their peers and understand what it's like to be in school so they are well prepared for kindergarten."

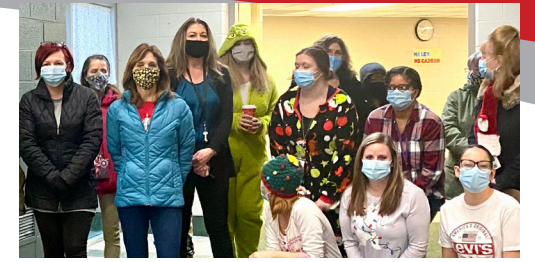
GSRP classrooms maintain an 8:1 student teacher ratio and staff members are experienced in childhood education. Most

have been with the Mount Clemens district for six years or more.

"We have a great team," said Laseck. "They go above and beyond what is required of them. They care about our students and their families."

As part of GSRP, transportation to and from school is provided and students receive breakfast, lunch and snack at the school. They go outside to play and explore during the day.

A program licensed by the State of Michigan Department of Human Services Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing, GSRP is a program for children who are four years old by December 1 of the enrollment year. M.L. King Academy uses a sliding fee tuition scale, which is determined at time of enrollment. Families who qualify can attend GSRP at no charge. Call (586) 461-3100 for more information or visit www.mtcps.org/schools/ml-king-academy-pre-k/.



Food Service



The 2020-21 school year has been a demanding one, but Southwest Foodservice Excellence has not only met the challenge, but exceeded expectations. Staff goes to great lengths to make sure every child in Mount Clemens Community Schools has food to eat. Many families depend on schools for meals – not only lunch, but breakfast as well.

When concerns arose about children not having enough to eat, Mount Clemens Community Schools employees, Southwest Foodservice Excellence staff and community volunteers came together to make sure that didn't happen.

"We put our heart into it," said Food Services Director Tynissa Harris. The program sprang into action, devising plans for each school building based on the unique needs of their schedules and following strict nutritional guidance from government agencies. In a traditional school year, Food Services provides breakfast and a hot lunch during the school day.

This year, schedules are more complex, with some students enrolled in remote learning. Remote students can order their meals online once a week. They are either picked up or delivered by Trinity Transportation on Wednesdays. Remote students receive seven breakfasts, seven lunches and 14 milks every week. Students eat breakfast and a hot lunch during

in-person days and are provided take-home meal packages for remote learning and weekends.

Menus are varied and include healthy, but kid-friendly options, like cereal, grilled cheese sandwiches, chicken nuggets and pepperoni pizza. Allergies are accommodated and Food Services makes nutrition fun by celebrating holidays such as National Pizza Week.

Last spring and summer, Administrative Assistant Paul Sheppard assisted with food delivery. Sheppard, an alumnus of Mount Clemens High School, saw a need in the community he grew up in, so he wanted to lend a helping hand.

"I was familiar with the area and knew how important it was to provide food to families during this time," he said. "It made more sense to be able to deliver it instead of having people coming here to pick it up." So, like many others, he put on his face mask and disposable gloves and made contactless food deliveries twice a week. Sheppard would make sure someone was home to receive the delivery and then leave it on a bench or front porch.

To learn more, call (586) 461-3741 or visit www.mtcps.org/services/food-services/.

