

MM BRIDGES

2024 "Best College Prep Public High Schools in NY" NICHE Rankings
2023 Best Communities for Music Education
2022 & 2021 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals
2021 Wallethub Best High Schools in NYS: Ranked #1 in Livingston County
2020 National Support Music Merit Award
2019 National PTA School of Excellence
2018 Fastest Growing Districts: New York State
2017 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools

Bowling Team Added to MMCS D Athletic Program in 2023

We are excited to announce the addition of a bowling team to our Athletic Program for the 2023-2024 school year! Being avid bowlers already, Chad and Jennifer LaPiana gladly



accepted the coaching positions for the team. Both are graduates of MMCS D and have been a part of our community their entire lives. The team is currently made up of eight players from both Mount Morris CSD and Geneseo CSD: Ayden Jones, Dominic LaPiana, Gianna LaPiana, Riley Mantegna, Daniel Neus, Matthew Neus, Ava Tortorice and Sean White. "We have an amazing group of

kids that are just so much fun to be around," said Jennifer. Practices started in November and the season will run through February. The team plays many larger city schools in the PPL (Private Propriated League) because not many local schools have bowling teams. As more local schools add bowling to their athletic program, there is potential to create our own league where we could play at local bowling alleys against other local schools. High school students that are interested in joining the Bowling Team should contact Mr. Swede.

Mount Morris Central School District

30 Bonadonna Avenue ♦ Mount Morris, NY 14510

From Greg Bump, District Superintendent

“Best College Prep Public High Schools in New York” NICHE’s 2024 Rankings

This year MMCS D has been recognized by NICHE’s 2024 rankings of the “Best College Prep Public High Schools in New York.” The NICHE Best College Prep Public High Schools rankings are based on a rigorous analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education along with test scores, college data, and ratings collected from millions of Niche users. Mount Morris is the only school district in our region to receive this special recognition. Throughout the year, our high school students get an opportunity for on-site campus visits. Some visits are scheduled in the summer months and other visits are scheduled during our Staff Developments Days so the students can spend an extended time on campus without missing their classes. Students who are exploring their college options have so many decisions to make and these visits help them understand what is available in the area. During the official visits, the students explore the campus, the dorms, the dining hall and they get to learn about the various academic programs. Our visits have included Roberts Wesleyan University, Buffalo State College, Elmira College, SUNY Brockport, University at Buffalo, University of Rochester, RIT, Nazareth College, Alfred State, FLCC, MCC, GCC, Geneseo, and Keuka as part of our district-sponsored college visitation program. In addition, several of our teachers have been credentialed through Syracuse University, Alfred University, and SUNY ESF to teach specific college classes at our school. The content, workload, and exams of these classes mirror those taken at the sponsoring institution. Our students have the opportunity to enroll in these college classes and earn official college credit. We all know how expensive college can be and we are proud the tuition costs for these classes are covered by the district.

“Best College Prep Public High Schools in New York” NICHE’s 2024 Rankings



Students in the Spotlight



Bryson Constantino is the Captain of the basketball team and is on both soccer and golf teams as well. He has been named Athlete of the Week, and holds the school records for most career 3-pointers

and most 3-pointers in a single game. He also has 66 3-pointers in a single season. Bryson has already completed a college-level Sports Management course through our partnership with Syracuse University. During his high school career, Bryson's favorite memories have been going to Disney World for the Junior/Senior Trip, winning basketball sectionals at the Blue Cross Arena and being chosen to be on the Section V All-tournament team for basketball. In his free time, Bryson enjoys playing basketball, golf and most of all spending time with his Grandpa. "When I was in 9th grade, I remember telling myself I have 4 years left, but that 4 years has gone by in a blink of an eye," said Bryson.



Jolee Manthey has been on the High Honor Roll since the first quarter of 9th grade. She received recognition for the highest overall average in math for both her sophomore and junior years. Highlights for

Jolee during her high school career were going on the Junior/Senior trip to Disney World and being selected to go on the Close Up trip to Washington D.C. She enjoys going to the varsity games to cheer on friends, hanging with family, and looks forward to going on a family vacation each year with her extended family. Jolee is in her second year attending BOCES for Health Dimensions and will become CNA certified following an exam at the end of the school year. Following graduation, Jolee will attend the nursing program at GCC. "Advice that I want to relay to the underclassman is always remember that self-motivation is key. Also, make up your gym classes," said Jolee.

Mount Morris Alumni Class of 1988 Donate Memorial Bench in Honor of Connie (Leone) Dennison



Connie graduated from MMCS D in 1963, served as Secretary to the Superintendent for 45 years and was a School Board Member.

MasterMinds

MasterMinds is a quiz bowl style academic competition for high school students and consists of four NYS Leagues: Albany, Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse. Mount Morris is one of nine schools participating in the Rochester league. MasterMinds is similar to a traveling Jeopardy team. Four students play at a time and answer questions regarding a little bit of everything such as movies, music, art, TV, science, math, english, geography, history, current events, etc. When the game is being played, the students have to buzz in individually to answer a toss-up question. If the student gets the question correct, they move on to a bonus question where the whole team can discuss it in order to come up with the answer. Each question is worth ten points. There are 16 toss-up questions



Back Row: Eliza Lonsberry, Julia Willey, Gadge Savastano, Robbie Lonsberry, Lily Morris, Troy Johnson, Front Row: Abby Provo, Alexis Roberts

in a game. The Team is Coached by Treva Walker. "MasterMinds is so much fun! It is a group of amazing young thinkers who were meant to be friends! In our first competition, our varsity team won the first round in a nail-biting tiebreaker each month! We also created an impromptu JV team of one (Robbie Lonsberry) who won both rounds! We meet for trivia and laughs on two Mondays each month. We have monthly competitions throughout April that are both intellectual and fun," said Coach Walker. These quiz bowl style academic competitions are for high school students and meets consist of matches between our team and teams from other schools with a regular season running from October through April, followed by playoffs. Students that are interested in joining the team should see Coach Walker.

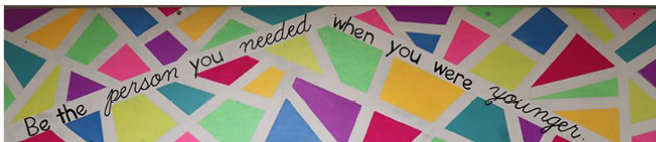
Egg Drop Challenge

Students in Mr. King's class participated in a fun Egg vs Gravity activity! Students were challenged to design a device that would safely deliver an egg to the ground from a 20' drop. The device itself could not exceed 12 square inches and each student had to provide instructions on a regular size sheet of paper that would allow a third party to easily load the device.



Inspirational Art Pieces

Each year, students at Mount Morris High School create amazing inspirational art pieces that are displayed throughout the school hallways. This project is an independent study in Mrs. Zawacki's Art Class. Students are required to come up with a design concept while meeting the criteria that the pieces be inspiring or motivational. "Each group of students spent time deliberating over what quote would work best to inspire their fellow classmates. Many of the groups selected quotes they felt a personal connection to, which I believe elevates the meaning behind the art pieces," said Mrs. Zawacki. These pieces are exceptionally large, measuring 8ft by 2ft, and they hang above student lockers. Our students take great pride in sharing these important messages through their unique art work with as many people as possible. "The inspirational art pieces are a great tradition here at Mount Morris Central School. Mrs. Zawacki does an amazing job collaborating with students in coming up with themes that inspire all of our students and staff. Our students did a wonderful job creating beautiful art pieces," said Mr. Hamilton.



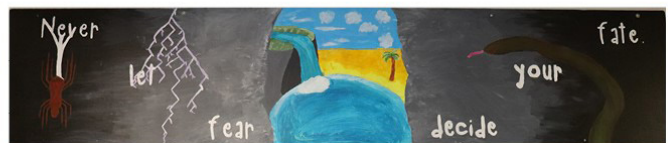
Jordan Grover and Nikoal Tidd



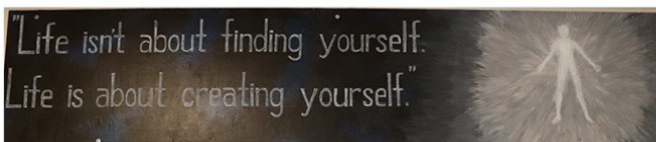
Edward Colon, Chloe Gilg and Lily Johnson



Chantel Lopez and Tatyana Rodriguez



Will Beardslee, Alannah McQuoid, Sam Martin and Abby Provo



Emelia Clester



Gary Ferge and Cameron Hustings

Coaches vs Cancer Event

Join us on Saturday, February 10th, for our 14th annual Coaches vs Cancer Fundraising Event! 100% of the proceeds from the event sales will go to local families battling cancer and the regional American Cancer Society. This event is a full-day of basketball, Mount Morris versus Perry. Both communities put forth a great deal of heartfelt energy and time into organizing this charitable fundraising event. The on-court action opens with Girls JV at 1:30, followed by Boys JV at 3:00, Girls Varsity at 4:30, and closes with the Boys Varsity game at 6:00. There will be tables set up with gift baskets and other items to be raffled off during our Varsity games. We will also have a limited number of special event shirts for sale. We will be asking for a \$2.00 donation upon entry to the event. Thank you for your continued support!

For inquiries about the event contact:
Jenille Thomas at jthomas@mtmorriscsd.org
Nick Schneider at nschneider@mtmorriscsd.org
Or call MMCSD at (585) 658-5037

*Thank you for your
continued support!*

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION REMINDER

If your child will be age 5 prior to December 1, they are eligible for Kindergarten. Registration packets are due to the registrar's office by April 23, 2024. You can pick up a registration packet in our visitor entrance or call (585) 658-5047 and we will mail the registration packet to you. If your child is already attending our PreK program, you will receive information from our registrar regarding what will be needed for your child to attend Kindergarten.

Kindergarten Orientation

This year, orientation will take place on April 30, 2024. There will be more details to follow. Please turn in completed registration packets, along with a copy of the child's birth certificate, immunization records, and any applicable documentation such as preschool records to Mrs. Howe in our registration office.

Kindergarten Screening

We will contact families to make screening appointments.



PRE-K REGISTRATION REMINDER

If your child will be age 4 prior to December 1, they are eligible for our free, full day Pre-K program. You can pick up a registration packet in our visitor entrance or call (585) 658-5047 and we will mail the registration packet to you.

Registration Packets are due by noon on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

There are a limited number of spots for the Pre-K program. Only students with completed and re-turned registration documents will be eligible for the program. Completed registration packets must be submitted no later than noon on March 19, 2024. There will be a random lottery drawing on March 19, 2024. Students selected in the drawing will have a reserved place in the Pre-K program for the 2024-2025 school year.

TRANSPORTATION TO NONPUBLIC SCHOOL REQUEST DEADLINE - APRIL 1st

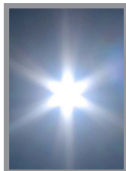
Requests of MMCS D residents for transportation to an eligible non-public school for the 2024-25 school year are due to the District Clerk no later than April 1st. Transportation Request Forms are provided by the nonpublic school.

If you have a child currently receiving transportation to a non-public school and will need transportation again for the 2024-25 school year, or if you have a child who will need transportation to an eligible non-public school beginning in the 2024-25 school year, you will need to submit your request to the MMCS D District Clerk no later than April 1st.

Please note that transportation requests must be submitted annually and are due April 1st each year for transportation to be provided the following school year. The transportation request form is provided by the non-public school your child is enrolled in and can be emailed to our District Clerk at swilliams@mtmorriscsd.org or mailed to: Mount Morris Central School District

**Attn: District Clerk
30 Bonadonna Avenue
Mount Morris, NY 14510**





A special thank you to Blattner Energy, Mount Morris Kiwanis, and our faculty for supporting our students in need during this holiday season. Without your support, our efforts would not be possible.

Response To Intervention (RTI) services

MMCSO is very excited to offer "Push-In" Response to Intervention (RTI) services! These RTI services are school based services designed to benefit the entire classroom. They are district level services provided when students are participating in their natural environments. These environments include areas where students may spend time regularly, such as the classroom and any other setting that a student accesses during the school day. These resources provide them with greater opportunities to generalize and apply different developmental skills in a natural setting!

Occupational Therapy (OT) addresses the physical, cognitive, psychosocial and sensory components of performance. In schools, occupational therapy practitioners focus on academics, play and leisure, social participation, self-care skills and transition/work skills. Some specific skills our Occupational Therapist, Ms. Schledorn, addresses in whole group RTI are writing, cutting, hand strength, coordination, the ability to use both hands together, and visual motor skills. Our preschoolers, kindergarteners, and 1st graders are able to participate in whole group RTI services multiple times a week! Classroom expectations are also addressed such as listening, following directions, and participation.

Our Music Therapist, Mrs. Hubbard, is able to offer whole group RTI in classrooms for pre-K through first grade twice a week. Music Therapy helps students meet physical, emotional, social, cognitive and academic goals. In Music Therapy, each individual is provided support and encouragement in the acquisition of new skills and abilities. Because music touches each person in so many different ways, participation in music therapy offers opportunities for learning, creativity and expression! Music Therapy can help in improving motor function, social skills, emotional control, coordination and aims to promote self-expression and growth.



MMCS D Students Propose Bills in Albany

Mount Morris Central School District eighth grade students (Addyson Barnhardt, Jessimar Carrasquillo Moctezuma, Addison Coniglio, Nayshawn Hightower, Monica Lin, Willow Palermo, Tammy Schmieder and Derick Seiwel) participated in the annual New York State



YMCA Youth and Government Conference in Albany. Following three months of preparation, hundreds of high school students from across the state attended this 3-day experiential learning program held in November. The students serve as part of a model state government, taking over the chambers of the New York State Senate and Assembly to debate bills they and their peers have written. Our student representatives went prepared with two bills to propose. One bill was to allow

for more job opportunities and the other was to offer equal academic opportunities among schools. "It was really fun because we got to meet new people and debate. My favorite part of the process was debating each other's bill. I would recommend students do this because it really helps with stage fright and/or social anxiety," said Nayshawn. Throughout

the 3 days in Albany, students learn about a wide variety of issues, develop critical thinking skills, and articulate their beliefs while engaging constructively with their peers from around New York State. The program is dedicated to teaching students to use the democratic process to affect change with the primary goal being to build socially responsible, civic-minded citizens with strong academic and social interpersonal skills that further theirs, and our future.



Derick shared that he enjoyed the challenge of writing a bill, and his time spent in Albany was a nice experience. His favorite part of the trip was meeting new people. "This conference is a scaffold for leadership. Students travel to the Capital and formally debate throughout the morning and into the early evening. This is done in the State Assembly, State Senate and committee chambers. It's a very rewarding experience for the members who attend," said Mr. Gardner, YMCA Youth and Government Club Advisor, who accompanied the students on the trip.

SAFETY is Everyone's Responsibility

THE SAFE SCHOOL HELPLINE®
It's free and confidential 24/7

web: safeschoolhelpline.com
text: 614-426-0240,
then type TIPS

800-4-1-VOICE EXT. 359
800-418-6423 EXT. 359



The Safe School Helpline is a confidential and convenient way for anyone to report information about situations that might affect safety at our school. You can call the number any time of the day or night to report concerns about unsafe or potentially disruptive activities or situations including drug or alcohol abuse, weapons, harassment, bullying or threats. There are also 24/7 mental health crisis counselors available to help troubled students who are suicidal, bullied, or simply having a tough time. All calls are confidential.

Students Enjoyed Time Spent at Livingston County Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation

Over 35 MMCS D high school students from Key Club, National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, and Jazz Band Lab volunteered to spend time with the residents at the Livingston County Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation to share holiday cheer! They sang Christmas carols, made Christmas cards, and the Jazz Band provided residents with a special performance. It went very well and we couldn't be more proud of our students!



Congratulations to our 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Each year, the Mount Morris Blue Devils Athletic Department holds a special event to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators, and individuals who made a significant contribution to Blue Devil Athletics. The Hall of Fame Event brings awareness to the history of Blue Devil Athletics and their many amazing accomplishments. In January, we celebrated our 2023 Inductees: Bridgett Buchanan from the Class of 2008, Russ Genco from the class of 1939 and Josh Harter from the Class of 1993. Special plaques for all of our inductees hang in our gymnasium hallway and can be viewed on our website (www.mtmorriscsd.org) in the Athletic Hall of Fame section by clicking: "menu" and then the "school pride" option. Congratulations to this year's inductees!



MOUNT MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Distinguished Alumni Nomination Form

The Mount Morris Central School District wishes to recognize some of our many distinguished alumni. We believe these distinguished alumni can serve as role models for today's students so they may have a better understanding of the power of learning.

Nominations are due May 1st. The Induction Ceremony is scheduled for the Friday of Homecoming weekend. All nominations will be retained for consideration in future years.

The nomination form and any substantiating materials should be emailed, delivered, mailed or faxed to:

swilliams@mtmorriscsd.org
Mount Morris Central School District
Attention: Sarah Williams
30 Bonadonna Avenue
Mount Morris, New York 14510
Fax Number: (585) 658-4814



All nominees must have graduated from Mount Morris High School at least ten years prior to nomination. Selection criteria are outlined on the nomination form.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE MAY 1ST.

A selection committee, which includes representatives from the District and the community, will review all nominations and select the inductees. The inductees will be notified during the summer and are invited to attend the ceremony to be held on the Friday of Homecoming weekend. Please note: Any supporting information/materials submitted with the nomination form WILL NOT be returned.

Additional sheets may be used and supporting information/materials are encouraged. Include the maiden name of the nominee, if applicable.

Nominee _____ Class Year _____

Address of Nominee _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Nominated by _____ Relationship to Nominee _____

Address of Nominator _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Please provide a description of the nominee's achievements since graduating from Mount Morris. These achievements may be included in one or more of the following areas:

Community or Civic Involvement:

Job-related and Entrepreneurial Achievements:

Honors, Awards and Affiliations:

Personal Achievements/Accomplishments:

Educational Achievements:

Other Additional Qualifications:

Stay up-to-date by visiting
www.mtmorriscsd.org and check
us out on Facebook and Twitter!



Kindergarten / Senior Elf Day

We had a lot of fun celebrating our 2nd annual Kindergarten/Senior Elf Day! For this event, members of our senior class were paired with kindergarten students for an afternoon filled with holiday cheer! Everyone enjoyed games including Snowball Toss, Don't Let the Balloon Hit the Ground and Fishing for Candy Canes; crafts like making ornaments, Christmas coloring and decorating a craft bag. They also ate snacks and visited with Santa!



BOARD CANDIDATE PETITION

If you are interested in running for a seat on the Mount Morris Central School District Board of Education, please request a petition by contacting our District Clerk.

Email: swilliams@mtmorriscsd.org
Direct Line: 585-658-5036

Candidate Petition forms are due to the office of the District Clerk no later than Monday, April 22, 2024 by 5 p.m. Please contact our District Clerk (see contact info above) to schedule an appointment to drop off this petition before the deadline.

Requirements/Qualifications:

- Must be able to read and write
- Must be a qualified voter of the district; that is, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age or older, and not adjudged to be an incompetent
- Must be and have been a resident (but need not be a taxpayer) of the district for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one year immediately before the election
- May not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year
- May not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family
- May not be a current employee of the school board
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office



ATTENTION:

Mount Morris Central School District Residents with a child under the age of 5!!

Our PTSA's partnership with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program benefits our community by allowing all Mount Morris Central School District residents to register their child/children under the age of five (5) to receive a FREE book in the mail EVERY month!

To enroll your child in the Imagination Library, please send an email to freebooks@mtmorriscsd.org with the information listed below, complete an enrollment form which is available in our visitor entrance, or call Sarah Williams at 585-658-5036. The information required to register for this program is as follows: Parent Name(s), Child's Name, Child's Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year), Child's Gender, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Parent's Email Address (Optional). We hope to hear from you soon!

According to the National Commission on Reading the single most significant factor influencing a child's early education-al success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school.

If you know a Mount Morris Central School District resident with a child under the age of 5, please share this information with them. Please note that not all Mount Morris residents are in the Mount Morris Central School District.



THE MISSION OF THE MOUNT MORRIS PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION (MMPTSA) IS THREE-FOLD:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
 - To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children;
 - To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.
- The MMPTSA is affiliated with both the New York State and National PTAs.

Come help us make a difference!
Have a question? Want to get involved?
E-mail: mountmorrisptsa@gmail.com
For up-to-date announcements, photos, videos and more,
please follow us on Facebook/[mountmorrisptsa](https://www.facebook.com/mountmorrisptsa)



MOUNT MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education: • Peter Privitera, President • Stephanie Gehrig, Vice-President • Ann Hunt, Trustee
• Pamela Martin, Trustee • Deborah Schmidt, Trustee • Donna Todd, Trustee • Jennifer Young, Trustee

Administration: Greg Bump, Superintendent • Jesse Hamilton, 7-12 Principal
• Danielle Dean, Elementary Principal • Mike Cox, Business Administrator
• Krystal Vanvalkenburg, Director of Pupil Personnel Services • Brandon Zingaro, Director of Facilities

*At Mount Morris Central School District we are building the future, laying the foundation
of lifelong learning, opening minds to explore, to create, and to achieve excellence.*