



Mason Public Schools Keynotes

Summer 2025

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BOARD APPROVES ZERO-TAX-RATE INCREASE BOND FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2025, VOTE

Mason Public Schools (MPS) is committed to creating safe, modern learning spaces that match the high-quality education our students receive. On June 26, 2025, the MPS Board of Education (BOE) voted to place a bond proposal on the November 4, 2025, ballot. If approved, the bond would generate an estimated \$66 million without raising the current tax rate for Mason homeowners.

This proposal reflects months of community engagement including work from the Bond Steering Committee and feedback from more than 1,000 community members through a survey conducted in January 2025. Based on that input and assessments of our current facilities, the bond would fund priority needs projects including:

- Extensive renovations at Mason Middle School
- High School renovations
- A new transportation facility

These updates build on the extensive renovations completed at our elementary schools during the 2017 bond and align with the district's long-term vision and our Strategic Plan goals to continuously improve and update school facilities.

"Mason is a place where families choose to live, and stay, because of our outstanding schools and this bond proposal thoughtfully outlines the priority needs of our district facilities in order to match the high-quality education our staff delivers every day," said MPS BOE President Liz Evans.

More information, including full survey results and project details, is available on the Mason Bond website www.masonk12.net/district/bond or by scanning the QR code.

For questions, please contact Superintendent Dr. Gary Kinzer at kinzerg@masonk12.net.

**Scan the QR code to learn more
about the bond!**



An exemplary learning community - Every student. Every day.

Congratulations Class of 2025!

Owen Adaway
Jakob Adolphson
Shelby Algate
Hannah Anderson
Jayson Anderson
Maddox Armour
Antonio Arnett
Matthew Ausel
Kristine Backus
Emma Bailey
Lucy Baker
Rylee Balaker
Reese Ball
Wyatt Ball
McKenzie Ballard
Daniel Barth
Jonathan Batdorff
Avery Beach
Hailey Blackshear
Johnathan Bolton
Novah Bowen
Megan Bozung
Liam Bradford
Aiden Bradsher
Ella Branch
Karlie Brandt
Brayden Braughton
Nathaniel Brooks
Kendall Brown
Skyler Buck
Jayci Burkhart
Cooper Byrum
Mathew Caltrider
Jackson Cargill
Teagan Carl

Cason Carswell
Mckayla Chaney
Benjamin Chouinard
Ashley Corbett
Nicolas Cordano
Sam Corey
Rowyn Cortez
Aidan Coulter
Laine Crawford
Cooper Cross
Caylin Cutter
Aidan Daenzer
Sophia Davis
Gabriel De La Fuente
Colin Denny
Aimee Depew
Logan Doerr
Macy Domrase
Alexander Doneth
Joshua Dys
Hunter Fanslau
Kayleigh Fiszer
Alaina Flanders
Dane Floyd
Alethea Foster
Avery Fraga
Evelyn Fry
Samuel Furton
Talan Gardner
Madalyn Gleason
Christopher Goins
Jenna Goins
Jillian Gould
Collin Grant
Jolee Graves

Ryan Greathouse
Ava Greenlee
Kaelin Griffin
Colton Grimwood
Owen Gustafson
Chellis Hall
Kyler Hamel
Gabriella Hanover
Ava Hauser
Isabel Hauser
Travis Hayhoe
Jaydin Haynes
Colin Haynie
Sarah Hebert
Max Hendrickson
Ava Hensley
Cassidy Henson
Landon Hoffman
Kaleb Hollenbeck
Madison Hon
Darius Horne
Brooklyn Houser-Stanton
Mariah Howard
Jalan Howell
Bryce Huguelet
Amelia Jackett
Breslin Jacob-Croley
Kobe Jacquart
Blendi Jahiri
Samuel Jaskowski
Abigail Johanson
Lindsey Jolley
Marissa Jones
Gavin Kellogg
Riley Kerschke

Anthony Kilgore
Devlin King
Avery Kirschensteiner
Jared Kline
Aubrey Kolberg
Elizabeth Koppin
Anthony Kouzmanov
Kyler Kowalski
Leah Kruger
Jennifer Laclear
Emme LaLonde
Evie Ducker Lamb
Benjamin Lanford-Swain
Eh Ter Lar
Lucas Latimer
Tori Lator
Jennah Lattig
Kaidance LaVigne
Elizabeth Leibrand
Sabrina Leifker
Valton Limani
Josiah Linsley
McKenzie Lockwood
Colin Lomax
Landon Lucas
Taylor Lukavsky
Tate Lyons
Chaase Makley
Britt Marshall
Aubrey Martin
Isabel Martinez
Katelyn McCann
Brooke McClure
Conner McCormick
Brody McDonald
Erin Mehan
Elizabeth Meninga
Amelia Messier
Abigail Meyers
Vance Miller
Donavon Minnaar
Izabelle Mitchell
Wyatt Molnar
Caden Moore
Derek Moran
Desimis Morgan
Charlotte Motcheck
Layla Mulka
Lumine Mumby
Isabel Muschong
Riley Ngubeni
Joan Nguyen
Grace O'Berry
Tyler Oberlin





Lucas Orlando
 Kortney Osborn
 Nolan Osbun
 Jackson Page
 Alexander Palmer
 Noah Parrish
 Isabella Patterson
 Aryana Peterson
 Toby Pickering
 Sarah Pluff
 Gessica Portice
 Gavin Prelesnik
 Skyler Prosser
 Keira Redman
 Scot Reinecke
 Teagan Remale
 Eliana Richardson
 Luke Richmond
 Jayden Roach
 Sydney Roche
 Dominic Rodriguez
 Jaden Rodriguez
 Chandler Rogers
 Taylor Rowe
 Clara Rue
 Mariana Ruiz
 Ava Ruster
 Hannah Sanders
 Jake Sanders
 Lilian Sawyers
 Hunter Schaeffer
 Audrey Schmidt
 Neilah Sellen
 DeKoda Shaft
 Jocelyn Shattuck
 Jenna Sheldon
 Jacob Shell
 Matthew Shoemaker
 Tyler Short
 Bryce Smith
 Keating Smith
 Andrew Stahle
 Levi Stambaugh
 Grayer Stowers

Grace Surato
 Teagan Taylor
 Jesse Taylor II
 Michael Thomas
 Ethan Thompson
 Kaelyn Tindall
 Isabelle Tostevin
 Landen Truax
 Jackson Truman
 Daniel Tuttle
 Zachary Tyler
 Walker Van Halst
 Kendall VanderGiessen
 Gavin VanKirk
 Caleb Vaughn
 Landon Veach
 Caleb Vincent
 Reece Vincent
 David Ward
 Joshua Welling
 Rory Wendt
 Joshua Wenzel
 Dominick Wetmore
 Emma Wilkinson
 Collin Winters
 Adam Wiseman
 Blake Wojen
 Kyleigh Woll
 Tyler Wood
 Connor Worden
 Aaron Yergler
 Vienna Pastuszka Zechar
 Ava Ziegenhagen

STAFF RETIREMENTS

Along with our 2025 graduates, Mason Public Schools wishes good luck to our teachers and staff on their retirements. Thank you for your years of service! Congratulations!

Rebecca Doxtater-Wright

Inger Hammond

Lisa Harless

Penny Kaiser

Laura Lange

Laura Lewis

Julie Tackaberry

Ruth Tatara



WHAT'S NEW WITH THE BULLDOG BARK SQUAD?



The Bulldog Bark Squad finished off the school year with lots of events, activities and special visits! Lewis, Sully, Coco and Willow continue to support students and staff across the district.

This spring Mason High School (MHS) launched a Student Handler program. Student handlers received training from Canines for Change and were able to share responsibility for Lewis throughout the school day taking him from class to class, giving him bathroom breaks and helping with his general wellbeing. The student handlers can also take Lewis to class with them when his (very busy) schedule allows.

The Bark Squad also attended MHS Prom, ran the Commercial Bank Mason 5K Run/Walk, helped students log miles in their schools' Mileage Clubs and so much more! Keep up with the Bark Squad on their Facebook page! www.facebook.com/bulldogbarksquad



2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The 2025-26 School Year calendar is available on the website and includes dates and events for elementary, middle and high schools and includes open houses, scheduled breaks, parent-teacher conferences, half-days and late-start Wednesdays.

The first day of school for the 2025-26 school year will be **Wednesday, August 20** which will be a half day for all students. The first full day of school is Thursday, August 21. View the full calendar at www.masonk12.net/district/calendars/

Check the MPS website
for Back-to-School
information in August!

- School supply lists
- Open house dates
- Important forms
- Picture Day dates

Elementary teacher
assignments will be
shared via Skyward in
mid-August.

August 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14*	15	16
17	18**	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Elementary Schools	
1	Full Day of School 8:40am-3:47pm
1	Half Day of School 8:40am-12:07pm
1	Student Late Start 9:40am-3:47pm

Middle School	
1	Full Day of School 7:40am-2:35pm
1	Half Day of School 7:40am-11:00am
1	Student Late Start 8:40am-2:35pm

High School	
1	Full Day of School 7:40am-2:40pm
1	Half Day of School 7:40am-11:00am
1	Student Late Start 8:40am-2:40pm

All Schools	
1	No School
1	No School, Teacher Professional Dev. (*8/14 New Teachers, only)
1	No School, **Teacher workday

Trimester end dates: Nov. 14, March 6, June 4

Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 11 (evening), November 13 (afternoon & evening)
March 3 (evening), March 5 (afternoon & evening)

Middle/High School Parent-Teacher Office Hours:
24-25 Pilot to be continued for 25-26

CLASS OF 2025 TOP 10%

Congratulations to the members of the Mason High School Class of 2025 who have placed in the Top 10% of graduates for academics.

This year's Top 10% students are Shelby Algate, Jayson Anderson, Maddox Armour, Reese Ball, Wyatt Ball, Megan Bozung, Jackson Cargill, Alexander Doneth, Alethea Foster, Avery Fraga, Ava Hensley, Avery Kirschensteiner, Lucas Latimer, Conner McCormick, Riley Ngubeni, Sarah Pluff, Gessica Portice, Skyler Prosser, Keira Redman, Hannah Sanders, Jocelyn Shattuck, Matthew Shoemaker, Grace Surato, Kendall VanderGiessen, Blake Wojen and Connor Worden.



CONGRATULATIONS SGT. DEMO



Mason Public Schools School Resource Officer (SRO) Justin Demo was promoted to Sergeant with the Mason Police Department earlier this year. Sgt. Demo has served as the district's SRO since 2023 when the program was reinstated through a partnership with the Mason Police Department.

The Mason Police Department and the district will work this summer to hire a new SRO who will continue to support students across the district.

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

The South parking lot at Mason High School will be renovated over the summer. The project is expected to begin July 14 and be completed by August 16. There will be no access to the South parking lot during construction.



UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The Mason Public Schools Board of Education holds regular board meetings the second Thursday of each month. Special meetings are scheduled as needed. Regular meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. at Mason City Hall, unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

- Thursday, July 10, 2025
- Thursday, August 14, 2025
- Thursday, September 11, 2025
- Thursday, October 9, 2025

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Thank you to our Mason community sponsors who continue to support graduates with scholarship awards and funding. Congratulations to all of this year's scholarship winners.

MPS Foundation Scholarship, Frank Guerriero Scholarship:

Alexander Doneth

Mason Rotary Community Hero Scholarship:

Riley Kerschke

Mason Rotary Memorial Scholarship:

Sarah Hebert

Masonic Foundation Mason Lodge #70 Scholarship:

Aidan Daenzer, Keira Redman

Orthopaedic Rehab Specialists Scholarship:

Kendall VanderGiessen

Richard C. Leonard Memorial College Scholarship:

Alethea Foster

Scott R. Judd Memorial Scholarship:

Lucas Latimer, Kortney Osborn

Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Sponsored by Dart Bank:

Cason Carswell, Jocelyn Shattuck

Virginia Elliott Scholarship:

Avery Kirschensteiner, Abigail Meyers, Lumine Mumby, Riley Ngubeni, Grace O'Berry, Taylor Rowe, Kendall VanderGiessen

Vision Real Estate Scholarship:

Logan Doerr, Grace Surato

Amanda's Be The Change Legacy Scholarship:

Shelby Algate, Alethea Foster, Gabriella Hanover, Avery Kirschensteiner, Reese Ball, Avery Fraga, Ava Hauser, Sydney Roche, Avery Beach, Madalyn Gleason, Isabel Hauser, Grace Surato, Aidan Daenzer, Jenna Goins, Sarah Hebert, Vienna Zechar

American Legion Browne/Cavender Post #148 Scholarships:

Aidan Daenzer, Riley Kerschke

Ava Michelle Saade Memorial Scholarship (Ava's Heart, LLC):

Kortney Osborn

Don Fackler Basketball Memorial Scholarship:

Jocelyn Shattuck, Levi Stambaugh

Helen F. & Arthur B. Ziegler Scholarship:

Riley Ngubeni, Kendall VanderGiessen

Jean Howlett Byron Memorial Scholarship:

Megan Bozung, Isabelle Tostevin

Jonathon D. Strouse Memorial Art Scholarship:

Aidan Daenzer

Mark Bartlett Memorial Scholarships:

Logan Doerr, Riley Kerschke

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce (MACC) Scholarships

MACC Scholarship:

Alethea Foster, Conner McCormick

Shirley Grieve Memorial Scholarship:

Eliana Richardson

Hometown Champion Fund:

Avery Beach, Riley Kerschke, Conner McCormick

Mason Athletic Boosters Scholarship:

Alexander Doneth, Avery Fraga, Gabriella Hanover, Grace Surato

Mason Boys Soccer - The Rich Madery Memorial Scholarship:

Collin Winters

Mason Band Boosters Scholarships

Kathleen Dickerson Memorial Scholarship: **Isabella Patterson**

Luke Granger Memorial Scholarship: **Avery Kirschensteiner**

Mason Band Boosters Scholarships:

Reese Ball, Clara Rue, Elizabeth Koppin, Hannah Sanders, Gavin Prelesnik, Emma Wilkinson

Mason College Club Scholarships

Mason College Club Scholarships:

Nathaniel Brooks, Riley Ngubeni, Jackson Cargill, Gavin Prelesnik, McKayla Chaney, Scot Reinecke, Isabel Hauser

Laurence Hart Memorial Scholarship: **Vienna Zechar**

Carma Philip Memorial Scholarship: **Evelyn Fry**

Mason District MEA Memorial Scholarship:

Avery Beach, McKayla Chaney

Mason Firefighters Association Scholarship:

Owen Adaway

Mason FIRST Robotics Scholarship:

Isabella Patterson

Mason High School Bulldog Bowling Scholarships

Terry Dormer Memorial Scholarship:

Daniel Barth

Art Kieselbach Bowling Scholarship:

Avery Beach

Dick & Rheda Ried Bowling Scholarship:

Clara Rue

Mason Kiwanis Club Scholarships

Kiwanis Club of Mason Frank Guerriero Service Award:

Evelyn Fry

Kiwanis Club of Mason Scholarship:

Emma Wilkinson

Kiwanis Foundation & Mason BIG INK Scholarship:

Hannah Sanders

Mason Lions Club Scholarships

Ray Collar Scholarship:

Gabriella Hanover

Ralph "Bud" Swinehart Memorial Scholarship:

Jackson Cargill

Stanley Jordan Scholarship:

Skyler Prosser

Mason Optimist Club Scholarships

Mason Optimist Club Scholarships:

Reese Ball, Isabel Hauser, Nathaniel Brooks, Sarah Hebert,

Jackson Cargill, Riley Kerschke, McKayla Chaney, Avery

Kirschensteiner, Aidan Daenzer, Josiah Linsley, Logan Doerr,

Mckenzie Lockwood, Alexander Doneth, Conner McCormick,

Alethea Foster, Keira Redman, Avery Fraga, Hannah Sanders,

Gabriella Hanover, Vienna Zechar

Mike and Sandra O'Malley Memorial Scholarship:

Jayci Burkhart



TEAM MASON- YOU'D HAVE TO EXPERIENCE IT TO BELIEVE IT!

Team Mason articles shine a spotlight on students, teachers, programs and projects in all buildings and grades in the district. Team Mason articles are written by Dr. Janet Alleman, MPS Instructional Consultant and Professor Emeritus at Michigan State University. Read all of the Team Mason articles at www.masonk12.net/district/team-mason



The hallways of Mason Middle School were jam-packed with people admiring student art displayed on tables and walls while the glow room and digital display spaces were overflowing with visitors of all ages during the annual Evening of the Arts. I heard many admirers say things such as, "I'd love to purchase this piece to hang above my fireplace," "I wonder how much this piece costs?" and "How do I contact this artist?"

Of course, I'd be remiss if I didn't describe the happenings in the gym and café where families and friends were "gaga" over the 7th and 8th grade band members' performances with the jazz band and three individuals performing stunning solos. Would you believe those students committed to arriving at practice at 6:30 a.m. two mornings a week to prepare? What motivation!

The choral and drama performers created quite a stir in Café A as they showed-off their beautiful voices and their creative expression. I overheard several adults making laudatory remarks and reminding each other these performers are only 7th and 8th grade students! Wow! What talent!

Can you imagine the thought, time, effort and commitment their teachers have invested to bring this night to fruition? How lucky are our students? As I observed the audience in each of the venues, I was struck by the number of siblings and peers who were there supporting their friends in their passions! Very impressive!

In the book entitled, *10-25: The Science of Motivating Young People*, David Yeager reveals compelling research indicating our new generation wants status and wants to be heard.



How do we accept this challenge to ensure it spreads throughout their educational and personal journey? Without question, this evening gave students a heavy dose of what they want.

If you were an attendee, I can almost guarantee you had a joyful experience and believe the arts at Mason Middle School are alive and well. If you missed the event, put it on your calendar for 2025-26; you'll be glad you did!



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.

SUPERINTENDENT

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