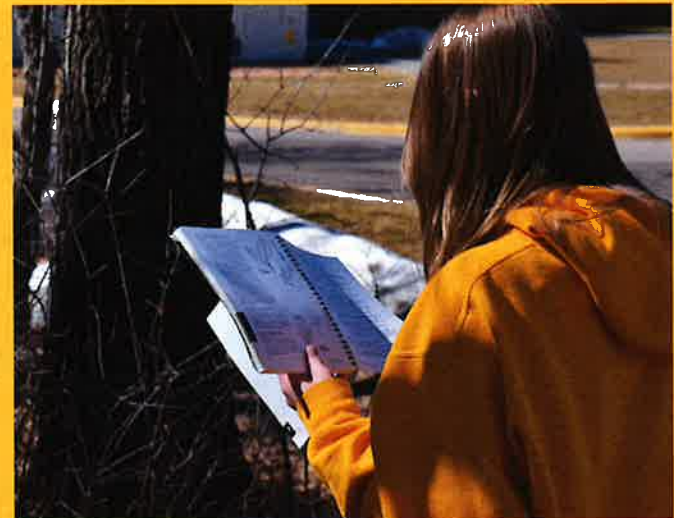




**Strategic Plan  
Spotlight:  
Mahtomedi High  
School  
May 27, 2021**



# Overview

## Strategic Plan Spotlight: Mahtomedi High School

### Building Strategic Plan Elements

- Desire and ability to explore passions
- Dynamic educational experiences for varied interests
- A culture that seeks out and honors diverse and global perspectives





## Mahtomedi High School Mission

Our mission statement is the declaration of our intent! This includes what we aspire to be, our purpose (why), and the environments we must have to support the mission.

**The mission of Mahtomedi High School, a driven and supportive family of Zephyrs whose individual growth enriches the community as a whole, is to ensure a transformational experience in which students are life-long learners and empathetic community members equipped with the desire and ability to explore their passions through a vital system distinguished by:**

- **inclusive and safe environments where all Zephyrs belong and advocate for one another through authentic relationships**
- **a culture that seeks out and honors diverse and global perspectives**
- **dynamic educational experiences for varied interests**
- **embracing the discomfort of setbacks as an important part of the learning process**
- **a community that recognizes that success comes in many forms**

# Mahtomedi High School: French

## French Program Living the Mahtomedi High School Strategic Plan

- Teacher or text-book-centered
- Grammar-Focused

### Typical/Status Quo French Program

- **Content-Based Instruction (Combined Grammar and Communication Skills-Focused)**  
Students have strong grammar base AND strong communication skills.
- **Exceptional and Dynamic Learning Opportunities**  
Use of devices for feedback and exploration of culture and interpersonal speaking). Exploring French beyond France.
- **Student Agency** Student voice and choice in units/ownership of learning.
- **Curiosity & Reflection**  
Students are curious and engaged in material. Students connect French with their own lives and are reflective learners.

# Mahtomedi High School: French

## **Desire and ability to explore passions**

(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Purpose)

## **Dynamic educational experiences for varied interests**

(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Critical Attribute)

## **A culture that seeks out and honors diverse and global perspectives**

(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Critical Attribute)

### **Combined Grammar and Communication Skills-Focused**

- In addition to studying core grammar skills, students are using their language skills to communicate through reading, writing, and speaking. Students use their language skills to communicate.
- Inclusion of interpersonal speaking skills (understanding feelings of others and active listening)
- Penpals and Pet Projects

### **Exceptional and Dynamic Learning Opportunities**

- Expanding studies beyond textbooks and using tools like EdPuzzle and Flip Grid. With the device for every learner program, students can use the tools in the classroom (not just as an at-home/homework activity) and teachers can provide faster feedback.
- Edpuzzle allows teachers to use videos from around the world, embed questions, and use it interactively in the classroom to create authentic listening experiences.
- Expanding students' experiences and information beyond a Franco-Euro/France-focus. Using vocabulary from around the world, exploring different French-speaking locations, as well as topics like refugees and housing.

### **Student Agency**

- Ms. Kratzke surveyed students about their interest in language and built units around interest areas.
- Students identified travel, pets, and environment (the world around them) as areas that they would like to include in their French studies.
- Students also expressed interest in incorporating more diverse materials, experiences, and perspectives into their units.

### **Curiosity & Reflection**

- Interpretative Tests: Making space for students to express more than one way of answering test questions. Allowing reflection versus arbitrary answers.
- Allowing students to reflect about the similarities and differences with other cultures and reflect on their current experience.

**Mahtomedi High School French Video**

*Mahtomedi High School French teacher, Ms. Libby kratzke talks with two of her students about their experience during the 2021-22 school year.*



# Mahtomedi High School: Band

- Teacher-centered music selection
- Rehearsal-focused classes

## Typical/Status Quo Band Program

## Band Program Living the Mahtomedi High School Strategic Plan

- **Exceptional and dynamic learning opportunities** for band experiences (meeting composers, performing in new ways)
- **Student Agency & Leadership** (Student voice and choice in music selection and expression)
- **Curiosity & Reflection**  
Students are curious and reflective learners about exploring and discovering their music passion (explore what the passion of band means to them)

# Mahtomedi High School: Band

**Desire and ability to explore passions**  
(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Purpose)

**Dynamic educational experiences for varied interests**  
(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Critical Attribute)

## Exceptional and Dynamic Learning Opportunities

- Composer interviews with a focus on composers who are underrepresented (BIPOC, women, and LGBTQ+)
- Let's Get Creative project
- Three different performance styles this year (virtual, taped in-person, and in-person with an audience)

## Student Agency & Leadership

- Students are leading and performing in sectional groups
- Students are putting their voice into music selection

## Curiosity & Reflection

- Students are researching composers and reflecting with teacher on the music choices
- After a composer interview with Cait Nishimura: One student wrote in response to the experience of meeting Ms. Nishimura: "OMG it was SO INSPIRING !!! Sometimes I wonder if band is really the right thing for me because maybe I won't be able to do it after HS so then what's the point? But now I realize that it doesn't matter, if I love it then I should keep doing it!!"





**Mahtomedi High School Band Video**

*Mahtomedi High School Band Director, Ms. Laura Goucher talks with several of her band students about their experience during the 2021-22 school year.*



## Mahtomedi High School: Student-Led Land Acknowledgement Project

### **Dynamic educational experiences for varied interests**

(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Critical Attribute)

### **A culture that seeks out and honors diverse and global perspectives**

(MHS Strategic Plan Mission-Critical Attribute)

### **Each student is a bold agent of learning who successfully pursues their passions while advancing the greater good**

(District Strategic Plan Mission-Purpose)

### **Collaborative Across Buildings and Academic Areas**

- Cross-School Buildings (Mahtomedi High School and Wildwood students worked together on tree ring study)
- Cross-Curricular Project (MHS S1 English 11 and S2 Field Ecology)
  - Students in S1 English 11 conducted research on Dakota history in Minnesota to pass on to S2 Field Ecology Students
  - Field Ecology used English reports to develop research questions to extend their learning
  - Students co-enrolled in both classes could finish the Land Acknowledgement project to meet the S2 research standards

### **Student Agency & Transfer of Learning**

- Students were offered multiple options for ways to achieve the unit learning targets
- Students picked topics and approaches that fit their passions and academic needs
- Surface, Deep, and Transfer Learning (the ability to take one aspect of learning in one area and transfer it to another)

### **Student-Led Land Acknowledgement Project Overview**

- Student speakers: Lydia Holslin and Dominik McCollough