



**Strategic Plan
Spotlight:
Mahtomedi Middle
School
April 22, 2021**



Overview

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Mahtomedi Middle School**

Building Strategic Plan Elements

- We will ensure opportunities for students to find their passions.
- We will create opportunities to build trusting relationships and an inclusive community.





Mahtomedi Middle 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 Middle School, an authentically connected community of Zephyrs dedicated to the fearless pursuit of personal growth is to ensure all students possess the academic, social, and emotional foundation for individual success while exploring passions and enhancing their joy of learning, through a vital system distinguished by:

- **A culture that fosters trusting relationships and belonging**
- **An inclusive community that embraces and celebrates each individual**
- **Exceptional learning experiences and diverse opportunities that inspire and challenge students inside and outside of the classroom**
- **A culture that encourages curiosity and risk-taking and recognizes failure as a part of the learning process**
- **A dynamic learning environment that is flexible and responsive**

Mahtomedi Middle School Book Club

We will ensure opportunities for students to find their passions.
(Strategic Plan Tactic)

- Staff-initiated-Research shows reading motivation through increased engagement, effort, and commitment greatly improved as a result of students selecting books of their choice.
- New Books featuring BIPOC authors and stories and collaboration with Media Center. This has enabled students to engage in books and book club discussions focused on passions and interests that impact student life and the community
- Clubs formed around student passions and interests. Book clubs are small in size (4-7 students) the opportunity to hear individual voices and perspectives is optimized.
- These clubs allow for student flexibility when discussing topics and builds upon communication skills taught in class

Book Discussions: Shift from Elementary to Middle School

Identifying the plot of a story

Elementary



Focus on conversations about how books might transform us.

Students examine character traits and explore those they may choose to emulate as well as those they prefer to reject.

They analyze the different perspectives of characters in an attempt to build understanding and empathy for characters.

These skills can be transferred to everyday life, empowering our students to positively impact the community.

Middle School



Mahtomedi Middle School Book Club Video
Sixth-grade students share their experience and Mahtomedi Middle School English teacher, Ms. Mancini talks with two of her seventh-grade students about their experience.

Counseling Office Google Classrooms

We will create opportunities to build trusting relationships and an inclusive community.
(Strategic Plan Tactic)

- Staff-initiated: Developed in response to different learning models and to parallel teacher Google classrooms.
- Created grade-level Google Classrooms with grade-specific messages and lessons.
- Wellness Wednesdays: School-Produced Videos with Social-Emotional Learning Messages based on American School Counselors Association SEL competencies shown during the school day.
- Immediate Connection with Counselors
- Google Forms for Real-Time Student Wellness Data and Counseling Follow Up
- Format allowed students to build relationships with Counseling Office staff throughout learning models and employ the skills learned once they returned to in-person learning.

Sixth-Grade Teacher Comments

“It opens the door to talk about important topics regarding the things that kids are dealing with right now.”

“It has been important for the students to get information that was appropriate for them as new to the Middle School and to have this delivered by the person who leads their support system.”

“The kids are learning real life personal skills without realizing it because they are having fun.”

“The counselors having a Google Classroom with the tools to get help and the video lesson available to play again was really beneficial.”



Mahtomedi Middle School Counseling Office Google Classroom Video
Mahtomedi Middle School's sixth-grade counselor and social worker, Paul Beggin, discusses the Counseling Center's use of Google Classroom during the 2020-21 school year and three sixth-grade students share their experience.

Overview

- Both of these are examples of ways where staff saw a real need to be able to reach students and engage them in the school
- These are just two examples of the great work our staff has done, especially during this year of COVID, that is student-centered and works to meet the mission of our strategic plan.

Any Questions?