



MAHTOMEDI
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent Update

February 24, 2025

Experience Excellence



Overview

- **Around the District**
- **Awards & Noteworthy News**
- **Upcoming Events**



OHA ice fishing science lesson



Around the District

Wildwood and OHA Art Show

Artwork from students at Wildwood and O.H. Anderson (OHA) Elementary Schools is being displayed at the Wildwood Washington County Library during the month of February.

The Washington County Library recently held a special open house event for the community.



Around the District

Metro East Band Performance

19 Mahtomedi students recently performed at the Metro East Conference Band and Choir Festival. The students were nominated by their directors for their musicianship and character to be performers.



Around the District

OHA Ice Fishing

OHA students recently swapped their science classroom for a frozen lake and learned ice fishing. Science teacher Katie Swarthout secured the opportunity by working with Karl Erickson from Elpis Enterprises.

During the event, students could fish directly on the ice or in pop-up houses. Some of the pop-ups had fish finders so students could see the fish moving right under the houses.

[Click here to see a behind-the-scenes video of the event.](#)



Around the District

Career, Internship, and Volunteer Fair

We are seeking volunteers to support Mahtomedi High School students at the MHS Career, Internship, and Volunteer Fair on April 11, 2025.

- **Business/Organization Volunteers:** Whether you're looking to recruit dedicated interns, employees, or volunteers, this fair is your chance to build meaningful connections with MHS students.
- **Community Volunteers:** We are also seeking volunteers to share their time reviewing student resumes, providing tips, and answering student questions on interviewing or other preparation ideas.



[Volunteers can submit interest via this Google Form](#)



Around the District

Community Education

The Mahtomedi Community Education Summer 2025 Catalog is now available to view on [Eleyo](#).

Print catalogs will be mailed to Mahtomedi families and the community in early March.

Mark your calendars for March 19th at 8:00 am when summer registration opens on Mahtomedi Eleyo.



Awards & Noteworthy News

State Champions

Mahtomedi High School has won the Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) state championship for the 10th time, and this is the ninth year in a row. The Teams' next step is to compete in the RWDC National/International Championship on May 3.

The teams have been working since October to design an unmanned aerial Vehicle (UAV) that can easily transport supplies to an active wildfire location.



Team Zephyr Aerospace Products (ZAP) won the state competition, earning them a spot in the national competition. ZAP team: Tim Schussler (Captain), Luke Vipond, Benjamin Hammond, Max Newcome, John Aufderhar, Yeupheng Lee, Charlie Dehan.

Team Phoenix got second place in the state competition and was among the highest-scoring teams in the nation, earning them one of the four wildcard spaces in the national competition. Team Phoenix: Ethan Stout (Co-Captain), Jessica Aufderhar (Co-Captain), Bjorn Anderson, Arjun Chandra, Grady Severson, Emmett See, and Andrew Russell.



Awards & Noteworthy News

State Competitions

Congratulations to our students who competed in Minnesota State High School League individual winter sports athletic competitions!

- **Lucy Otto (Class of 2026, Gymnastics)**
- **Luke Vipond (Class of 2025, Nordic Skiing)**
- **Sam MacDonald and Oliver Ko (Class of 2025, Alpine)**



Awards & Noteworthy News

State Competitions (Continued)

Congratulations to **Alexander Goldfine (Class of 2027)**, the first state-qualifying debater from Mahtomedi in the category of Congressional Debate. In the Minnesota State High School League Congressional Debate category, students mimic the legislative branch of government by creating bills they will advocate for in a chamber of allies and opponents.



Awards & Noteworthy News

Honor Bands

Congratulations to **Chris Bennett (Class of 2028, trombone)** on his selection to the Minnesota Grades 9-10 Honor Jazz Band. Chris performed at the Minnesota Music Educators Conference this month.



Congratulations to **John Aufderhar (Class of 2025, trombone)** and **Anna Cosby (Class of 2026, flute)** who played in the Minnesota Music Educators All State Bands at the conference this month.



Awards & Noteworthy News

Nordic Para World Cup

Congratulations to Mahtomedi athletes Max Nelson and Zhenghong Schlechte, who recently competed in Nordic skiing at the Val do Fiemme FIS Para World Cup in Italy!

Max Nelson (Class of 2022), a member of the Team USA Development team, placed 12th in the men's visually impaired Cross Country Sprint Classic and 9th in the men's visually impaired 10km Classic. Max's Guide is August Schatzlein.

Zhenghong Schlechte (Class of 2025) placed 23rd in the men's standing Cross Country Sprint Classic and 24th in the men's standing 10km Classic.



Awards & Noteworthy News

Future City Competition

Congratulations to our Mahtomedi Middle School eighth-grade students who recently competed at the State Future City Competition. The theme this year was “Above the Current” and teams designed a floating city and provided two innovative examples of how their floating city works and how it keeps citizens healthy and safe.

The Klovers Team was a special award winner at the competition, earning the Best Land Surveying Practices award. This award recognizes the design that employs the best land surveying practices, taking into consideration the high standards used by surveyors to help protect the public’s safety and welfare.



**Klovers Team: Avary Wetzel,
Safiya Goodwin, Alyssa Horning,
and Scarlett Slagle**



Awards & Noteworthy News

916 Students of the Month

Each month, 916 celebrates and honors one student from each of their 20 programs as a Student of the Month. A Student of the Month is characterized by the professional skills of Leadership, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Engagement, and Communication.



Meyer Springborn (Class of 2026) Diesel Trucks and Engine Technology

"Meyer does a great job working with his team on their shop projects. He is very enjoyable to work with and has really good insight into problem-solving. He and his group are completing the gasoline engine and moving on to the big diesel part of the course. Thanks to Meyer, I now know how snow machines work!"

Rylee Bogren (Class of 2025) Dental Careers

"Rylee is always eager to learn and quick to offer a helping hand whenever she sees a classmate in need of help. She always comes up with great ideas to contribute to the classroom."



Upcoming Events

- **Now-March 31:** [Zephyr Gala Tickets on Sale](#)
- **February 28:** [Middle School Youth Night](#)
2:40-4:30 pm at Mahtomedi Middle School
- **February 28, March 1 & March 2:** [MMS Shrek Jr.](#)
- **March 5:** [Community Lunch](#) 12-1 pm at DEC
- **March 10-14:** Spring Break (No School)
- **March 19 at 8am:** Community Education
Summer 2025 Registration Opens on [Eleyo](#)
- **March 24:** Zephyr Learning Showcase
6:15-6:45pm
- **March 27 & April 3:** Grades 9-12 Family
Outreach

Save the Date: April 11 MHS Career, Internship, and
Volunteer Fair-[Volunteers Needed](#)

