



MAHTOMEDI

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Experience Excellence



James Fisette



In honor of National Community Education Day this week, we will be recognizing James Fisette as an Outstanding Community Education Partner.

James has been an invaluable collaborator and advocate for community education across our district.

James has been with the district for 10 years. Currently, the Night Middle School Lead, supervising a crew of three. These are our colleagues whose contributions go unnoticed because their work happens after school hours. He will step up and cover in other buildings as needed without hesitation.

He plays a key role in supporting evening and weekend facility use rentals, often working early mornings, late night and long hours to ensure our programs and community partners have access to the space and support they need.

Middle School Stats

Mahtomedi Middle School is 142,000 Sq ft. building

**2 Gyms with 5 Courts
1 Cafeteria (commons)
2 Locker Rooms
Approx. 50 Classroom Spaces
7 Bathrooms**

Many software programs to manage the building from doors to HVAC

Countless hours spent setting up and tearing down events, not to mention all the cleaning that goes along with that.

Number of hours: 6,827

Participants: approx. 3,000 (not including all the spectators)

Weekends: 21

Users groups: 11 (including CE and HS Activities)

Tournaments: 5 (Basketball, Volleyball, etc)



Pictured left to right: James Fisette, Luke Jochum, Peter Wagner, Laurie Schumacher, Leroy Metz



Without his support...

Learning is not limited to what happens during the school day, it can happen anytime, anywhere, and for anyone. Community Education extends learning beyond the traditional classroom, offering meaningful experiences for people of all ages, from our youngest learners to older adults.

These opportunities wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our custodial team, who work evenings and weekends to support programs, events, and facility use. Their commitment ensures our buildings remain open, welcoming, and ready for the community to learn and grow together.

James embodies the spirit of our mission by providing exceptional support for our Community Education programs along with High School athletic teams while ensuring access to district facilities for our sports association. His dedication, flexibility, and willingness to go above and beyond makes a lasting difference in the success of our programs and in the experiences of those we serve.

James never shies away from problem-solving, often coming up with creative solutions to keep things running smoothly. His knowledge of the building history has been invaluable, especially when it comes to maximizing our storage space.

We want to thank James for all of his hard work, dedication, and commitment to our district and community. His efforts truly reflect the heart of Community Education.

Special Messages

“Community Education programs are wrapped around the school day and whenever school is not in session. James goes above and beyond to make sure all our special events run without a hitch: gathering extra tables for our Sweetheart Dance, assists in setting up concession stand items for our Knowledge Bowl and Youth Nights, managing all the facility needs during a theater performance, and of course juggling all the equipment shuffling back and forth for all the athletic events. Thank you James for being a consistent and collaborative partner. “

Kate Andersen

“From my days coaching basketball for many years at the middle school, and my 8 years on the Mahtomedi Basketball Board all I can say is James is AWESOME!

He would always check in with me when I arrived in the building to see if I needed anything and if he had any questions about the evening or any upcoming weekend games held at the middle school, he would always touch base on those things with me. Anytime you ask him for help, he always goes the extra mile to make sure everything is done right. He was always a huge help in our MBA tournament setups as well!

We have always appreciated James and his great demeanor and personality in going about his job. Congrats on a well-deserved honor James!!!”

Todd Feustal, past Basketball Assoc. President

"He is always positive, caring, and enthusiastic in his interactions with students and staff."

"He sets the carts out for things for the ski club, secures them overnight, and supports the staff when we return from skiing." P. Beggin

"James brings heart, reliability, and a genuine commitment to our program. He always has the gyms ready and jumps in wherever needed, ensuring our practices and tournaments run smoothly. We are truly grateful for all he does for our community" M. Bethke

"Best attribute besides being reliable is his communication with staff, students and the general public that are in his building." A. Gemuenden

"I would like to say that James is a very willing helper and we are grateful for his consistent desire to serve, support, and problem solve at the Middle School!" R. Bolte

