

**ENROLL
NOW!**
517-264-6640

THE MAPLE MESSENGER

Adrian Public Schools ... Showing Maple PRIDE before, during and after school

SPRING 2022



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Dear Adrian Public Schools Community:

I want to invite you to review the spring edition of the Maple Messenger and check out all of the great activities taking place across the district.

In my time working in Adrian, I have had the blessing of experiencing the passion and dedication the Adrian community has for their children and their schools.

This community support is one of the reasons that Adrian is such an outstanding district. During this time, I have also come to admire, and been inspired by, the tireless work and commitment to students by the entire staff in this district. We have great people working for our kids. As a parent whose kids experience this dedication every day, I want to thank all of the individuals that make APS a great place to work and learn.

I am excited to get to work with this incredible team and to collaborate with the community to continue Adrian's Tradition of Opportunities and ensure a Future of Possibilities. I am also looking forward to meeting many of







you and hearing your dreams and ideas for your children and our school district.

Look for more details very soon and visit our website to learn about opportunities for community input and the transition plan for the district. In March and April, I will dedicate a large portion of time to "Learn and Lead" activities that will give me an even greater understanding of the District's schools and the community. I would like to thank Superintendent Bob Behnke for his service to the Adrian community. I wish him well in his retirement and salute him for the work he has done.

Thank you again for this opportunity and for all that you do to support your children and Adrian Public Schools. I sincerely appreciate the support and well wishes from so many people in this great community. I can't wait to work alongside all of you to create incredible opportunities for the students in our District as we aspire together to ensure a Future of Possibilities for all of the children in Adrian Public Schools.

Go Maples.
Nate Parker

Connect with APS

-  www.adrianmaples.org
-  www.facebook.com/maplepride
-  www.twitter.com/APSMaPlePride
-  www.youtube.com/user/APSpodcasts



Mark your calendars for kindergarten registration

Adrian Public Schools is currently enrolling for the 2022-2023 school year.

Registration packets are now available for pick up at Alexander, Lincoln, Michener and Prairie elementary schools from 8AM-4PM daily. Once the registration packet is completed and returned to your school office, a tour of the building and kindergarten screening will be scheduled.

To be eligible for kindergarten, children must be 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2022. Unsure which school your child should attend? Call (517) 264-6640 or visit adrianmaples.org for more information.

ENROLL NOW!

Relief funds benefit students

Over the past two years, the District has received additional federal funding through the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). These funds have afforded the District the necessary tools and resources to increase student interventions and supports across all levels. According to Michener Elementary principal, Ann Lacasse, the additional intervention teachers have had a positive impact on students at Michener. “The number of students that are now able to receive additional instructional support is fantastic. Being able to service more students is an important component in reducing the learning gap caused by COVID-19 disruptions.” She added, “It’s important that we continue in the future to provide additional instructional support to ensure students can be successful to meet their learning needs.”

Furthermore, the ESSER funds supported the District in purchasing PPE, additional cleaning throughout the District, increasing the number of technology devices,



and improving HVAC filtration systems. According to the Director of State and Federal Programs, Derrick Richards, these funds will continue to impact the District in the future. “The funds are important to Adrian Public Schools as we move forward with not only the rest of this school year but also in the coming school years with long term benefit to our students.”

Maple Blues Blast returns to APS

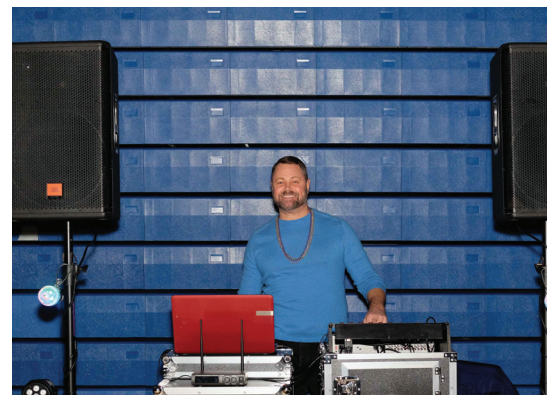
In 2021, Maple Blues Blast hosted a virtual event, but this year the event returned to an in person fundraiser. With over 150 attendees, the event brought in over \$27,000. The money will be split between Maple Fans Club and the Adrian Educational Foundation.

The Adrian Educational Foundation provides grants to classrooms throughout the district every year. Grants allow teachers to provide additional supports for students. The Maple Fans Club supports all athletic teams throughout the district, and helps teams by providing the money needed to continue to provide excellence in athletics.

Gold Sponsors: Jody Rhames, MD.; County National Bank

Blue Sponsors: Adrian Steel; AHS Class of 2001; Bell Automotive; Steve & Connie Benz; Cliff Buick GMC; Dempsey & Dempsey PC CPA's; Anne & Michael Diment; The Engle Family; Dan & Sharronn Etter; John & Terri Johnston; Lenco Credit Union; Living in Lenawee Realty; Maple City Chiropractic; Mission Sports Performance; Dane & Kristen Nelson; Premier Bank; Jill Roberts, Allicyn Fischer '10, Sam Fischer '14

White Sponsors: Adrian Insurance Agency; Devils Lake Water Sports; Dick & Karla Holmes; Lincoln Elementary Staff & PTO; Love Family Dental; Lisa & Kevin Neuman; Shea Tax Consulting; Josephine Weeden DDS, MS, PC



DISTRICT NEWS

Adrian Rec Department provides programs for students of all ages

The Adrian Recreation Department recently hired Sam Hotopp as the new Director of Recreation for Adrian Public Schools. The recreation department currently has programs up and running and a number of others coming soon! To register for any of our programs please follow these steps:

1. Visit <https://maplerecreation.recdesk.com/Community/Home>
2. Click on "Programs"
3. Find the program that interests you and click "Register"
4. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to Sam Hotopp at Shotopp@adrian.k12.mi.us

Programs that are currently running: Cross Country Run Club, Maple Pride Swim Lessons & Maple Pride Swim Club/Stroke Development. Reach out to Sam Hotopp if you would like to be a late sign up for any of these programs.

Programs to be on the lookout for in the coming months:

- Track Camp
- Softball Summer Nights
- Soccer Camp
- Basketball Camp
- Wrestling Camp
- Gymnastics Camp
- Volleyball Camp
- Maple Family Fitness Nights
- And Much More!



Please visit our website <https://maplerecreation.recdesk.com/Community/Home> and follow us on Facebook (Adrian Public Schools Community Recreation Department) for the most up to date information on all of our recreation programs.

APS IN THE NEWS

"APS approved more than \$4 million in summer work, improvements"

(Daily Telegram, Dec. 29, 2021)

"APS Supt Behnke announces retirement effective March 31, 2022"

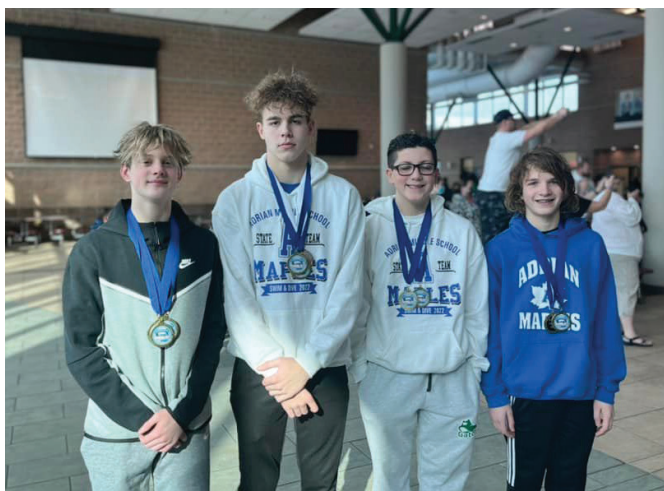
(Daily Telegram, Oct. 12, 2021)

"Adrian High School Honors Outstanding Alumni"

(WLEN, Sept. 21, 2021)

"Nate Parker signs contract to be next superintendent of APS"

(Daily Telegram, Feb. 11, 2022)



Springbrook swimmers travel to state finals

Springbrook Middle School was able to send a large number of swimmers to the State Meet in Battle Creek.

Boys Top Results:

- **200 Free Relay - 1st Place STATE CHAMPS;** Kade Opsal, Maddox Betz, Noah Judson, London Rising
- **400 Free Relay - 1st Place STATE CHAMPS;** Kade Opsal, Maddox Betz, Noah Judson, London Rising
- **1st Place STATE CHAMPION in 50 Free and 100 Free;** London Rising
- **3rd Place in 100 IM and 3rd Place in 100 Back;** Kade Opsal



Girls Top Results:

- **200 Medley Relay - 8th Place;** Madison Betz, Kirsten Hess, Lexi Fox, Allison Marks
- **200 Free Relay - 2nd Place;** Taylor Robinson, Kirsten Hess, Emma Pino, Ella Salenbien
- **400 Free Relay - 2nd Place;** Taylor Robinson, Lexi Fox, Emma Pino, Ella Salenbien
- **1st Place STATE CHAMPION in 50 Free and 1st Place STATE CHAMPION in 100 Free;** Ella Salenbien
- **3rd Place in 200 Free and 5th in 50 Fly;** Emma Pino

Maple coaches honored

Adrian High School is pleased to announce that several Adrian High School coaches were awarded Coach of the Year honors.

Adrian Cross Country coach Tom MacNaughton was named SEC Coach of the Year and Lenawee County Coach of the Year after an impressive season which ended with 9 runners (Braylon Petty, Aiden Smith, Ben Schefka, Bryce Soule, Jake Eagling, Matt Canales and Riley Smith) qualifying for the State Meet at MIS. The boys placed 6th in the state for Division 2. Two female runners, Sophy Skeels and Yoselin Fermin-Campos, qualified for the State Meet as individuals.

Adrian boys tennis coach Tom Allor was also chosen as SEC Coach of the Year. Coach Allor helped bring the tennis program back to Adrian High School three years ago. During the 2021 fall season, the team placed third at regionals. When asked how he felt about being selected, Allor said, "I was so surprised. With so many other more seasoned tennis coaches whose programs are more developed, it was an honor to be acknowledged by my

peers for this award. It's a credit to the young men who really have made my job easy. They love going out to the courts daily and they just want to play tennis. I am blessed to have so many students who love the game as much as I do."

Adrian wrestling coach Nick Conklin was named Lenawee County Coach of the Year after an outstanding season on the mats for the boys team. *Top performers for the team were:*

Joey Spagnoli- 135lbs. It is his second straight year making it to state. He went 29-15 on the year.

Caden Holt- 140lbs. It is his second straight year making it to state and he went 37-7.

Connor Krueger- 152lbs. It is his second straight year making it to state and he went 38-9 and placed 6th in the State.



ELEMENTARY

Student Council provides community support

Alexander's Student Council has been busy this year doing community service projects. Under the leadership of Erin Snead the group has made decorations and decorated a tree at Comstock Park and in February they planned and hosted a Valentine's breakfast for Alexander teachers and staff. Snead said, "The kids took the responsibility of serving their teachers breakfast very seriously, and they had a great time doing it!" The students planned the menu, made decorations, and served food. Student Council members are examples of Maple PRIDE in their classrooms, in the halls, and at recess.



Lincoln celebrates diversity

Two major highlights at Lincoln during the first half of the school year were celebrations of Hispanic Heritage and Black History months. After a year of limited community involvement at school due to the pandemic, we were thrilled to have the privilege of hosting over 40 guest readers and speakers who shared their knowledge, experience, strength, and hope with our students.

Thanks to the NAACP and Kiwanis Club's donations of books to our library, our librarian, Ann VanStaveren, was able to provide over 100 books that align with our curriculum for readers to choose from. Our guests brought a myriad of experiences and stories, all of which provided the students and staff of Lincoln real life heroes to look up to. "We are confident that our efforts helped raise awareness of social issues that impact our community," said principal Sam Skeels.

NWEA growth celebrated at Alexander

Shoot for Success is our PBIS school-wide incentive this school year and Alexander held our first annual NWEA growth parade on Friday, January 28, 2022. All students participated in the parade to cheer each other on. Principal Shanah Henline said, "students were so excited about their progress this school year on their NWEA test."

Each student received an NWEA growth certificate and created signs that showcased the success of their academic progress this school year. This incredible event will be continued as a tradition for our students to celebrate their growth.



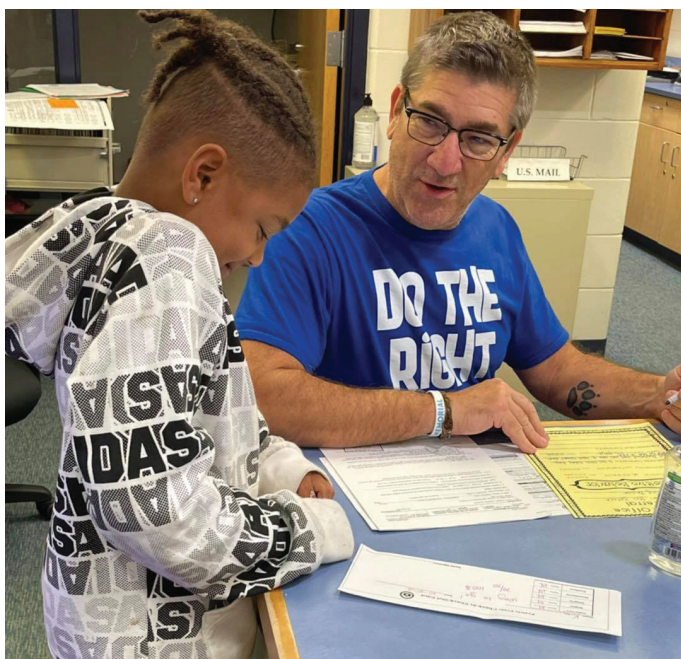
Prairie focusing on improved instruction and PBIS supports

At Prairie, we have focused much of our professional development on advancing our skills for how we deliver instruction. Prairie has added several new faces to our staff and we know these past two years the pandemic has had an impact on teaching and learning.

We have dedicated time to our PBIS programming this year, and focused on helping our new staff become more familiar with what PBIS is and how it helps us to identify and help students that may need more support socially while in the classroom learning.

We continue to look for strategies that can help students to be more focused and stay on task. Yoga and meditation are two such strategies we continue to focus on school wide. We recently added 6 garden boxes and these will be put to good use throughout the school year allowing students to get their minds off of some of the more difficult learning activities throughout the school day.

We have also spent much time focusing on providing an extra layer of instruction in reading and math. We have spent more time being intentional on identifying skill deficits, finding interventions to help and monitoring closely how these interventions are helping students strengthen their skill deficits.



TLC donates to provide Girl Scouts experience at Michener

Michener Elementary, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan and TLC Community Credit Union have partnered to provide a scouting experience for the girls at Michener. With a generous donation from TLC of \$1,500, the Girl Scouts have been able to run a troop at the school. What makes this troop unique is that they meet at lunch time during the school day. This allows any girls who want to participate in Scouts the opportunity to be in a troop.

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan are dedicated to delivering meaningful, high quality programming for all girls. This noon troop has allowed more than 35 girls to be part of the scouting experience.

Girls have worked toward badges in leadership, science exploration and career literacy, as well as selling the ever popular Girl Scout cookies. Miss LaRae and Miss Alyssa, the troop leaders, say the girls have learned about Friendship Circles and done several art projects to increase their creative thinking. "The girls love scouting and are always disappointed when the lunch hour is over." Michener is glad to have this positive experience available to our students.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL



Springbrook student opportunities

In addition to a diverse and rigorous academic curriculum, Springbrook Middle School students are excited for the opportunities they have to participate in a wide selection of extracurricular activities.

In the Arts, students are thrilled to once again provide the community with live performances. 6th grade band and orchestra recently enjoyed a joint lock in where they were able to interact with peers and learn new music. Guest Clinician Rodney Page visited Springbrook Middle School and helped orchestra students better understand their craft and stretch their skills.

On the stage, Springbrook Thespians are working diligently and creatively to perfect their roles in this year's Middle School Musical, "Music Man."

Winter sports wrapped up with excellent participation from students. As we head into the spring sports season, Springbrook Middle School is excited to announce the addition of Baseball and Softball. These sports were offered last year as a club experience for students and due to the level of participation and interest from students they will soon move to full Inter-scholastic status joining the already strong track program as options for our students. Soccer will continue as a club sport this year and then move to inter-scholastic status next year. Students interested in participating can sign up at Springbrook Middle School.

Springbrook Middle School student wins county robotics competition

Through a cooperative program with Hudson Area School's Center for Science and Industry program, several Springbrook Middle School students are able to travel to Hudson every afternoon to take classes in Mechatronics and Robotics. These hands on, inquiry based courses offer students a real world experience opportunity to learn valuable job related skills and enables them to apply what they have learned in the classroom.

Recently, students in the Robotics class competed against other schools from across Lenawee County with robots they designed and built. Springbrook students performed extremely well and 8th grader Dawson Richardson brought the first place trophy back to Adrian. For this competition, teams are tasked with designing and building a robot to play against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) concepts are put to the test as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, communication, and more.



ENROLL NOW!



Perez set to retire after 32 years of service

At the conclusion of this school year, high school principal Michael Perez will retire after a 32 year career with Adrian Public Schools. Perez started as a middle school English teacher in 1990 and in 1995 was hired as the assistant principal at Drager Middle School. From there, Perez served in many principal positions throughout the district including time spent at McKinley Elementary School, Springbrook Middle School, Adrian High School, Prairie Elementary and Alexander Elementary. He was hired as Adrian High School principal in 2019. "I feel tremendously blessed to have been employed by Adrian Public Schools and to be able to give back to the community. I am forever grateful to staff, administrators, students, support staff and community members who entrusted me with educating their children."

The search for a replacement has begun and is expected to be completed by June of 2022.



Lunch & Listen programs celebrate African American community leaders

Throughout February, to celebrate Black History Month, the Adrian High School library has organized a speaker event called "Lunch & Listen". Students and staff have been invited to get their lunch and eat in the library while listening to an African American leader from our community. This year we scheduled Tamaris Henagan, Jeanette Henagan, Ryan Dukes, and Shannah Mutatu.

This event was created with the intention of celebrating several different stories from influential African American individuals that will educate and engage our students. From hearing about the history of the NAACP, to personal stories of overcoming barriers to success, our hope is that these speakers will leave our students feeling inspired, more open-minded, and united with each other.

Library staff created displays that allowed students to easily find a book by an African American author.





AHS musicians qualify for state competition

Members of the Adrian High School Band and Orchestra participated in Solo & Ensemble on February 5th. Students who earned a One Rating qualified for the State Competition.

State Qualifiers

Adrian High School Orchestra:

- Gabriel Venerable, violin, freshman
- Nicholas Schefka, cello, freshman
- Eden Palmani, cello, junior
- Nicky Jacobson, cello, senior

Adrian High School Band:

- Meredith Baughey, freshman, & Elaine Gordon, sophomore, Alto Saxophone Duet
- Gabriel Wood, sophomore, Snare Drum Solo
- Zoe Sanchez & Kaylee Barber, juniors, Euphonium Duet
- Drew Price, junior, Marimba Solo
- Natalie Ost & Eleanora Andre, sophomores, Clarinet Duet
- Galataya Orozco, junior, Flute Solo
- Alaysha Larson & Aaron Miller, freshmen, Trumpet and Tuba Duet
- Drew Price, junior, Talon Brown, junior, William Mackey, sophomore, Snare Drum Trio

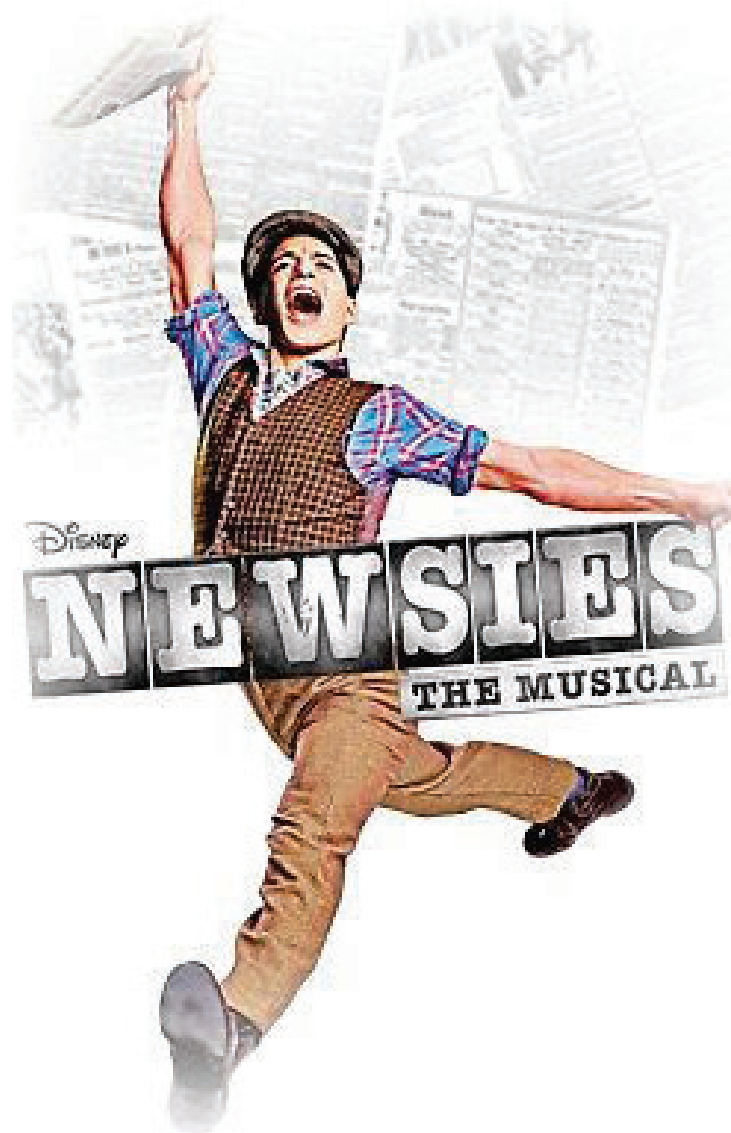
“Newsies” coming to AHS

This spring, Adrian High School will be presenting “Newsies the Musical”. “Newsies the Musical” is based on a 1992 film, “Newsies,” which was inspired by the real-life newsboys strike of 1899 in New York City. An Adrian connection to this musical is that Adrian Alum Tobin Ost was the original Broadway scenic designer for the show. Every production of the show bases their scenery on his original designs.

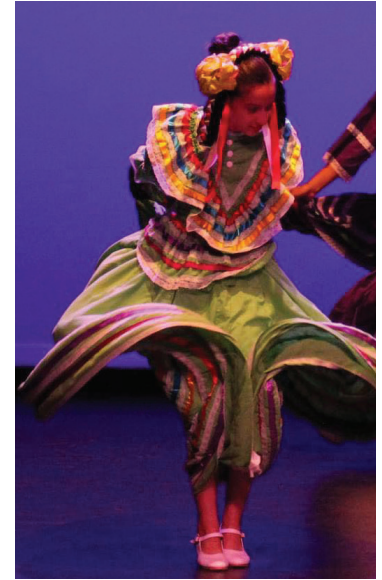
Show dates are May 5th-8th.

7:30 pm on the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 2:30 on the 8th.

Tickets will be \$5 for students, \$10 for adults.



¡CELEBRAMOS!



Mes de celebración de la Herencia Hispana

Las Escuelas Públicas de Adrian iniciaron el Mes de la Herencia Hispana en el Centro de Artes Escénicas de Adrian High School el 25 de septiembre de 2021 con una actuación especial de la comunidad del Ballet Folklórico De Detroit. Los miembros de la comunidad fueron recibidos en español por el director de la escuela secundaria Springbrook y quien ahora es superintendente entrante, Nate Parker. Lo más destacado del evento fue la belleza visual de los coloridos atuendos y la magistral actuación de muchas danzas folclóricas tradicionales. ¡¡¡Bravo!!!



Reconociendo la Cultura Hispana

Los estudiantes de las Escuelas Públicas de Adrian celebraron el Mes de la Herencia Hispana. Los líderes hispanos leyeron libros a los estudiantes de las escuelas primarias en español y destacaron las ricas e importantes contribuciones culturales realizadas por los hispanos a lo largo de nuestra historia, a nivel local en el condado de Lenawee y en el extranjero. Los estudiantes de Adrian High School izaron la bandera mexicana para honrar el Mes de la Herencia Hispana y reconocer las importantes contribuciones a nuestra cultura.



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THE MAPLE MESSENGER

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SPRING 2022

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2022-2023 School Year
Registration Going On Now!

M A P L E P R I D E . . .
I T ' S C O N T A G I O U S !

