

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

THE MAPLE MESSENGER

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

SPRING 2023



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Welcome to the spring edition of the Maple Messenger. This publication of the Messenger is full of stories highlighting the excellence of our students and staff. As a District, we are focusing on increasing rigor for all of our students and providing real world opportunities for students to use what they are learning in the classroom, as we ask, "What are students doing, with what they are learning?" You will find in these pages multiple examples of our students engaged in competitions and experiences that allow them to work collaboratively and apply what they are learning in the classroom to a real world context.



As a District, we will focus on rigorous and relevant education in a positive learning environment where students can learn, and teachers can teach. Every day our incredible staff goes above and beyond to ensure a first class education for all our students. This cannot happen without the support of a community that cares and is invested in our schools. See page 3 for details on the generosity of the Adrian community in partnering

with their schools to provide updated and cutting edge learning spaces and facilities for the children in Adrian. You can also follow this link <https://youtu.be/mq4-QW81so8> to view a video thanking the community for this tremendous support.





In addition to highlighting our students' academic achievements, you will see a small sampling of our fine arts students' success and preview the wide range of offerings provided by our Recreation Department for students through a partnership with the City of Adrian. The alignment of our Youth Recreation Department with our varsity programs is a key component in our commitment to building championship athletic programs with student athletes of class and character.

Enjoy this edition of the Maple Messenger. We are extremely grateful for your support and collaboration as we work together to ensure that Adrian Public Schools and our students continue to be leaders in academics, the arts and athletics. Thank you for helping us as we work to launch every student on their path to post secondary success.

Nate Parker

Superintendent of Adrian Public Schools

Connect with APS

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



Registration for 2023-24 school year going on now at all buildings

Adrian Public Schools is enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year. APS brought back Kindergarten Round-Up to our elementary schools this year, but if you missed the event, you can still pick up registration packets. They are available for pick up daily at Alexander, Lincoln, Michener and Prairie elementary schools from 8AM-4PM. If you need to enroll a middle or high school student for next school year please call (517) 264-6640.

To be eligible for kindergarten or young fives, children must be 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2023. Unsure which school your child should attend? Call (517) 264-6640 ext. 4108 or visit adrianmaples.org for more information.

ENROLL NOW!

APS thanks the community for support throughout the years

Since its founding in 1848, Adrian Public Schools has always benefited from the support and contributions of a community that values education. There is no better evidence of this community's belief in education than the excellent facilities maintained, improved, built, and updated with the successful passage of bond proposals in 2004 and 2016.

"We are blessed to be a part of a community that supports its schools and students," said Nate Parker, Superintendent of Adrian Public Schools. "This support has enabled us to provide our students with the tools and spaces to have an excellent education and helped us realize cost efficiencies by right-sizing the District."

We have completed the projects approved by voters during these bond campaigns and have used this money as promised: to ensure this community's investment in education and school facilities that give our students a first-class educational experience and the opportunity to be leaders in academics, the arts and athletics.

The funds allocated have allowed APS to provide students with new and updated buildings: media centers in all four neighborhood elementary schools, Springbrook Middle School, and Adrian High School. New classrooms were added at Michener, Alexander, and Prairie, as well as safety and technology upgrades at all buildings. Using bond funds, new gyms have been built at Springbrook Middle School and Adrian High School, and Maple Stadium has been updated and maintained. We strengthened our commitment to the arts with the construction of the George and Julianne Argyros Performing Arts Center and state of the art music classrooms for students.

Cutting edge STEM labs at Springbrook Middle School and Adrian High School, and instructional technology infrastructure at the elementary buildings, give APS students an experience that will launch them on their path to post-secondary success. Thank you for your help in ensuring an outstanding academic experience for our students. You can follow this link <https://youtu.be/mq4-QW81so8> to view a video thanking the community for this tremendous support.



Maple Blues Blast brings the 1980s back to APS gymnasium

The Adrian High School gym was transformed into a 1980's party in late February for the annual Maple Blues Blast event. Community members along with Adrian Public Schools staff gathered together to raise funds to benefit the Adrian Schools Educational Foundation and Maple Fans Club. The event raised \$30,000; which will be

split between the two groups. The ASEF directly supports APS students by funding classroom grants to enhance the education of all APS students. Maple Fans Club plays a large role in supporting APS sports programs in various ways.

Blast Underwriter: Farver Foundation; HB Steele Interactive Financial Planning; Kapnick Insurance, Jay Van Buren & Marne Davies

Gold Sponsors: County National Bank; Rima Manufacturing Company

Blue Sponsors: Adrian Insurance Agency & Auto Owners Insurance; Adrian Mechanical Services; Bell Automotive; Steve & Connie Benz; Cliff Buick GMC; Dempsey & Dempsey, PC CPAs; Lenco Credit Union; Maple City Chiropractic; Dane & Kristin Nelson; Primetime Chiropractic; Jody Rhames, MD; TLC Community Credit Union

White Sponsors: Gurdjian Insurance Group; Love Family Dental; Jim & Mary Martin; McGowan Electric Supply, Inc.; Jill Roberts, Alicyn Fischer '10, Sam Fischer '14; Josephine Weeden, DDS, MS

Adrian Recreation Department offers a variety of programs

The Adrian Public Schools Recreation Department provides programs for students of all ages. The APS Rec Department recently hired Adrian Maples alum Toby Ernst as the new Coordinator of Strength Development & Recreation for Adrian Public Schools.

To register for any of our programs:

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 Toby Ernst at ternst@adrian.k12.mi.us

Programs that are currently running: Cross Country Run Club and Maple Pride Swim Club/Stroke Development.

We are also bringing back the spring Youth Soccer program and adding a spring Flag Football and a spring Volleyball program. The biggest news leading into the 2023/2024 school year is the addition of a "GrassRoots" based program for K-1st graders that will teach the basic skills of various sports through fun and engaging activities. Please reach out to Toby Ernst for more information on these programs.

Programs to be on the lookout for in the coming months: Maple Youth Basketball Camp; Maple Youth Cheer Camp; Maple Youth Football Camp; Maple Youth Gymnastics Camp; Maple Youth Powerlifting Camp; Maple Youth Soccer Camp; Maple Youth Softball Summer Nights; Maple Youth Tennis Camp; Maple Youth Track Camp; Maple Youth Volleyball Camp; Maple Youth Wrestling Camp.

Please visit our website <https://maplerecreation.recdesk.com/Community/Home> and follow us on Facebook (Adrian Public Schools Community Recreation Department) up to date information and schedules.



AHS swim team sees success in part due to partnership with Recreation Department

The Adrian High School Girls and Boys Varsity Swim Teams turned in record-setting performances throughout their seasons. The girls team placed 4th overall in the state, thanks to the incredible performance of their state champion-winning 400-meter freestyle relay of Eleanora Andre, Ella Salenbien, Emily Hess and Francesca Scarabottolo and two swimmers who finished in the top 5 in the 50-meter freestyle. Similarly, the Boys team had notable achievements and success during their winter season, with several top 10 finishes and multiple state records broken. The boys also finished 4th in the state, propelled by individual state champion London Rising in the 200-meter freestyle.

Athletic Director Chad O'Brien noted that the success of the swim program is no coincidence. "The close alignment of the youth swimming program with the Varsity Program is intentional and planned." The Adrian Public School District's "Athletic Game Plan" has, as one of its main goals the alignment of youth recreation programs with its 26 varsity sports. "The swim programs and coaches have embraced the recreation feeder system and we're starting to see the results of this partnership."

The success of the youth programs is evident not just in increased participation across all of the AHS programs, but also in the success of those programs. APS Coordinator of Recreation and Strength Development Toby Ernst stated, "As we work together and build aligned programs, we will continue to see positive results in all programs."



Elementary students compete in District-wide spelling bee

Students from Alexander, Lincoln, Michener and Prairie Elementary schools competed in a District-wide spelling bee for a chance to move on to represent Adrian Public Schools at the Lenawee County Spelling bee.

Students in third, fourth and fifth grade first participated in a school-wide spelling bee within their buildings to earn the trip to the district spelling bee. The top two spellers from each grade from each building came together in late January to compete to represent Adrian Public Schools at the Lenawee County spelling bee. Only the top speller from each grade moved on, with the runner up being an alternate.

The third grade winner was John Dillard from Michener with runner up Lorelai Knorr from Prairie. The fourth grade winner was Aubrie Guerra from Prairie with runner up Oliver Baker from Lincoln. The fifth grade winner was Liam Plato from Alexander with runner up Alexis Richards from Alexander.

The top spellers competed at the County Wide Spelling bee on March 16th.



John Dillard and Lorelai Knorr



Liam Plato and Alexis Richards



Aubrie Guerra and Oliver Baker



Academic competitions for elementary school students

Students at Alexander, Michener, Lincoln and Prairie had opportunities to participate in many academic after school programs this year. Two of those programs were the Math Pentathlon and the Science Olympiad.

Math Pentathlon is for second and third grade students. These students met after school for several months. During practices, they played games and strengthened math facts. On March 13, all four elementary schools met together for their first competition.



Science Olympiad is offered for students in grades 3-5. All four elementary schools sent teams to the Tri-County Science Olympiad competition at Siena Heights on March 7. Teams from 14 area schools showed up to compete. Students competed in events such as; STEM Build, Ping Pong Propulsion and Describe It, Do It.

The third grade team from Alexander Elementary School earned first place overall, while the third grade team from Lincoln Elementary School placed third overall. Lincoln's fourth grade team placed 7th overall. The fifth grade team from Michener Elementary School brought home the Sportsmanship Award. Many APS students earned ribbons in their categories.

ELEMENTARY

Michener experiences learning that is out of this world

Michener Elementary is excited to experience some stellar learning this year! Our third, fourth and fifth graders had an opportunity to join our new Astronomy Club. Approximately 20 students attended the meetings held after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays for five weeks. Mrs. Wallich, Miss Roesch and Mrs. Fischer were thrilled to see such excitement about this new offering. During our time together, students have learned about our solar system, constellations, and even made paper mache planets and models of their favorite constellations out of pretzels and marshmallows! The students have been so excited to expand their horizons and learn more about what is beyond our own atmosphere. When the weather cooperates, we will also have a night viewing of the sky with our telescope.

In addition to our Astronomy Club, our fourth and fifth graders will be traveling to PlaneWave here in Adrian to learn how telescopes are made! We are so excited to partner with the wonderful people at PlaneWave to allow our students to see first hand all of the processes involved in manufacturing telescopes. Mrs. Wallich and Miss Roesch were able to attend an "educators' day" at PlaneWave this past summer and wanted to bring that learning to our students. It will be an exciting opportunity to visit a company that works with NASA and is located right here in Adrian.



Alexander A-Team takes on responsibilities around the school

There is a program at Alexander Elementary that empowers the students to be active and helpful in the building on a daily basis. It is called the A-Team. Approximately 45 of our fifth grade students have volunteered to help and assist in a variety of ways at Alexander to make everyday a better day. We have jobs that range from putting up and taking down our flag to assisting kindergarten teachers at the end of the day with the students and dismissal. The A-Team also assists as helpers in the office at the end of the day, as well as standing and welcoming our students every morning as they enter the building. The students rotate jobs that last for two weeks at a time, and then get another job somewhere down the line to help in another area. This is a great program to help students foster their skills in the area of responsibility, empathy for others and it allows them to grow and mature into a well-rounded young adult before leaving for middle school.



Lincoln Ambassadors serve the community

The Lincoln Ambassadors have set their sights on serving and making a difference in our community. The Ambassadors, a multi-grade level leadership group, are representatives of the student body who model and lead empathy, kindness, and community thinking at

Prairie uses gardening to have students teach students

It has been a very special time this school year at Prairie! We have started an outdoor classroom and currently it includes six raised vegetable garden boxes and a chicken house that is home to five hens. We have plans to add a green house and native perennial flowering plants that will attract butterflies and other pollinators to help our vegetable garden. We want to provide more hands-on learning activities here at Prairie and doing this through a school garden is our first step towards using an outdoor classroom concept to accomplish this!

We grasped onto the idea of students teaching students to help get our entire student body involved. This has helped us begin the work of planting our school garden. We came up with a format to help figure out how to structure the cross-grade garden program. It's simple, big kids read and share information to the little kids through fictional and non-fictional text before doing something in the garden. Next, we work together in the garden before going back in and writing about it together. We also spend time taking care of the hens! With their teachers, students read and studied and learned about how to raise hens.

Whether it's in the garden, or taking care of the chickens or reading together, we see a sense of purpose and empowerment growing and we see the little ones seeking out their friends throughout the day. A random getting out

Lincoln. This student-led leadership group has choice and voice as to where, who, and when the initiatives take action. The excitement fuels the student body resulting in successful, and at times, overwhelming results. This year the Ambassadors chose to complete one service project a month. They also chose to have \$1.00 sponsored pajama days with proceeds donated to various organizations in Adrian.

Projects over the year have included: canned food drive, packing weekend snacks at I-92 ministries, collecting and creating care packages for service men and women, making and distributing lasagna for Lasagna Love, and collecting books for a book drive. Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Gallant are the teacher sponsors and provide assistance to the initiatives. Mrs. Roberts exclaims, "Being one of the teacher sponsors that I find especially rewarding is watching these incredible young people become so enthused about our work. Their spirits become contagious! They LIVE with community service as part of their lives." Fourth grader, Isaiyah Al-Mohammed states, "I get to help people all the time and it's really fun."



of line to hug each other, or a visit to the lunch table they are sitting at to say "hi" is building a sense of community here.

There is something special going on that's for sure and research is clear that sometimes kids learn best from other kids, that's also an added benefit of the "lil-biggy" partnerships!

MIDDLE SCHOOL

The sky's the limit for Springbrook students

A select group of eighth grade students have been flexing their scientific muscles in a class that lets them dive deeper into content and get involved in many different extra curricular activities centered around science. Mrs. Truax teaches the course and is already impressed by the work students have put into it this year. She says, "It's a great fit for students who enjoy learning science and are looking for an extra challenge, moving at a quicker pace than traditional science classes."

Students are participating in the first You Be the Chemist Regional Challenge in Lenawee County. Several chemical companies in southeast Michigan, along with the organization Lenawee Now, are collaborating to host this challenge in our area. Students have been studying chemistry and competed against other's teams in a quiz-bowl type event in early March. They are also creating a video that addresses a real world problem by using chemistry to form a solution. Some of the chemistry problems that groups are addressing for their YBTC video include making deodorant that's natural and cruelty free, properly and effectively transporting nuclear waste, designing a sports drink that helps prevent cramps and dehydration and even preventing black ice on roads. These types of ideas are very theoretical which allows students to be creative in offering solutions to some very real problems that are not easily solved by chemistry. Their performance at the Regional Challenge event and their success on their video submissions will be factored into the state and national You Be the Chemist Challenge.

Four students from the class recently attended the Go for Launch event hosted at the LISD Tech Center. At the event they were "Developing Teamwork, Communication & Leadership Through Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)." Students were super excited to have the privilege of meeting a NASA astronaut Don Thomas and work with him and other space professionals to compete to have their ideas launched to the International Space Station! They worked as a team to develop a project on how Tiger Moths can adapt in space conditions. Our Springbrook Middle School team's project and mission patch design won this regional event, beating other student groups composed of 8-12th grade students from other Southeast Michigan schools. Their project is now being sent to a board to be judged against projects from other events, and if they win, it will be launched into space.

With this type of success already being accomplished by our talented students, we can certainly expect great things in the future. After all, the sky's the limit!





9th grade academy at AHS

After several years of research and planning, the 2023-2024 school year will feature an enhanced model to ensure student success with the 9th Grade Academy. The academy will include all ninth grade students. The mission is to provide all ninth grade students with the foundation and opportunities to achieve academic and social emotional success in high school and beyond.

We will create a positive learning community through:

- Building strong relationships.
- Life skills curriculum.
- Creating academic accountability to foster work habits and resilience.

Our goal is for every ninth grade student to:

- Create habits of success.
- Build Confidence.
- Show MAPLE P.R.I.D.E. (Productivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination, Excellence).

Ultimately, we will provide the foundation for success through high school and beyond through transitional support at this pivotal time for students to increase success. The delivery of the 9th Grade Academy will provide the foundation for building life and employability skills that will serve students in post high school pathways for college and career.

The expectation is for excellence for all students who graduate from AHS. Students will graduate not only with a high school diploma, but also other certificates and skills to start a career, and/or college credit to continue onto institutes of higher education.

Go Maples!!!

A bunch of independent Maple Leaves make up the Strong, Diverse, Evolving, and Collaborative tree of Maple Pride at Adrian High School. Put into Twitter Stories (140 characters or less), take a look at Maple Pride through the lens of these amazing opportunities at AHS!



@ Classroom Environment. Diversity! High levels of engagement and energy, bringing students together from vast socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds, makes the best real world learning.



@Academics. With unmatched academic offerings in Lenawee County, we provide rigorous traditional and project based learning matched with differentiation to positively impact all learners.



@National Honors Society. Serving the school and the community through yearly canned food drive. International holiday door decorating. Elementary support.



@International Baccalaureate. College level courses. Field experiences. Field trips. Writing, researching, relationship building. Teachers who want to see you succeed.



@Robotics Team. AHS Robotics combines the excitement of sports with science & engineering. Robots are fabricated based on strict rules to compete against other teams.



@Art. AHS visual arts on fire! We've had student work in 12 shows this year so far, started an Art Club and National Art Honor Society, and have 19 class offerings for our students. We've nearly completed our new furniture replacement in all 3 art rooms. Our rooms look amazing!



@FCA. This club is a Bible based club that focuses on leading every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 7:15am and invite anyone to come and do a devotional with us.

HIGH SCHOOL

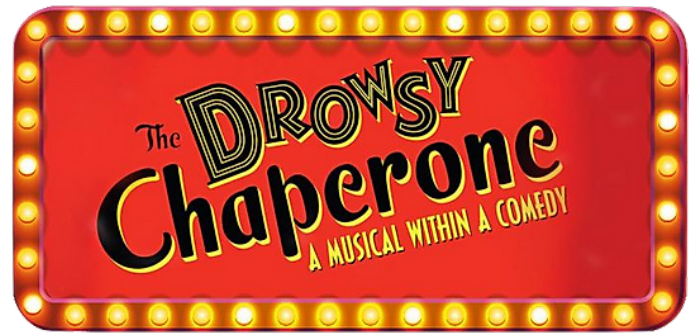
Adrian High School presents “The Drowsy Chaperone” opening in May

This spring, students from Adrian High School will be performing the hit musical, “The Drowsy Chaperone”.

When: May 4-7 (7:30PM Thursday, Friday and Saturday and a 2:30PM show on Sunday)

Where: Julianne & George Argyros Performing Arts Center at Adrian High School

Tickets will be available to purchase on GoFan.



Adrian High School musicians qualify for state competition

Members of the Adrian High School Band and Orchestra participated in District Solo & Ensemble. Students who earned a “One Rating” qualified for the State Solo & Ensemble Competition. 57 Maple musicians from our band and orchestra earned medals at MSBOA Solo & Ensemble District Festival, with 33 students qualifying for State Solo & Ensemble Festival.

State Qualifiers:

Cello Solo: Eden Palmani

Cello Solo: Nicholas Schefka

Violin Solo: Gabriel Venerable

Saxophone Ensemble: Elaine Gordon, Meredith Baughey, Caden Robison, Chase Nyack, Aryana Seeburger, Nicholas Stoddard

Clarinet Quartet: Milleena Davis, Jackson Nyack, Damian Santiago, Ethan Medley

Marimba Solo: Gabe Wood

Snare Solo: James Yoder

Oboe Solo: Madelyn Ketola

Tuba Solo: Jacob Hunter

Trumpet Solo: Everett Kominek

Percussion Ensemble: Drew Price, Will Mackey, Talon Brown, Milleena Davis, Chance Allen, Nate Lunnam

Flute/ Violin Duet: Nancy Gordon, Caroline Hofflander

Drum Duet: Drew Price, Akhya Campbell

Marimba Solo: Drew Price

Trio: Zoe Sanchez, Erin Mehan, Riley Brown

Brass Ensemble: Claire Rhames, Vincent Vargas, Riley Brown, Luke Bowen, Jacob Hunter



¡CELEBRAMOS!



La Cucarachita Mandinga en Alexander Elementary School

En septiembre, mes de la Herencia Hispana, los alumnos del programa de EL de la escuela Alexander presentaron a toda la escuela la obra de teatro “La Cucarachita Mandinga”, una adaptación del cuento popular panameño de Rogelio Sinan. La obra trata sobre una hermosa cucaracha que busca un esposo tranquilo y no ruidoso para casarse. La hermosa cucaracha tiene que decidir entre 5 pretendientes: Fancy Gallo, Funny Sapo, Mysterious Gato, Loyal Perro y Ratón Pérez.

El elenco contó con estudiantes del programa EL. La audiencia, compuesta en su totalidad por estudiantes, pudo aprender las palabras en español de personajes específicos de la obra.



INSCRIBA A SU HIJO HOY!

Las inscripciones para el año escolar 2023-2024 están abiertas. Para ayuda con el registro en español contacte a:

Andrea Perez en Adrian High School (517-263-2181)

Steve Gonzalez en Springbrook (517-263-0543)

Tania Justavino en Alexander (517-263-9533) y Prairie (517-265-5082)

Maria Arellano en Michener (517-263-9002) y Lincoln (517-265-8544)



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THE MAPLE MESSENGER

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SPRING 2023

**ENROLL
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**2023-2024 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 !**

