

# The Tyrian

Winter 22-23

Your Husky Link Through Screen and Ink

## Drama Club brings *Shrek* to the stage

BY: ELISE WAGNER

After a huge success in 2022 with the production of *High School Musical*, the Mifflin County Drama Club is back with *Shrek- The Musical*.

The production follows the same beloved plot from the 2001 hit film. Shrek is an ogre who was banished from his kingdom by Lord Farquaad but makes a deal with the ruler to help rescue the Lord's bride-to-be. Along the way, Shrek meets Donkey and a slew of well-known fairy tale characters who help (and hinder) his quest.

The cast has been rehearsing since the end of October, and they are working hard to make this year's show their best one yet.

Drama Club rehearses five days a week, and they have become a family. The musical this year stars senior



The Drama Club will be performing *Shrek- The Musical*, February 10-12. Tickets can be purchased on the district website.

Gunnar Wagner as Shrek, senior Kaitlyn LeFevre as Fiona, sophomore Amaris Fultz as Donkey, and sophomore Dakota Shultz as Dragon, along with a

large cast of ensemble characters and stage crew hands.

The cast and crew have spent count-

cont'd on page 2

## Water, water everywhere!

BY: ELAINA SEELEY



The guidance office was among the most damaged spaces after a sprinkler malfunction flooded the building on Dec. 24.

Spending Christmas Day in rubber boots and waders mopping up buckets and buckets of water is nobody's ideal holiday. But after an unexpected sprinkler malfunction on Christmas Eve night, that's exactly what local first responders and district maintenance workers were doing.

On December 24, 2022, a sprinkler at the Mifflin County High School became active above the third floor stairwell, spraying water throughout the area. The active sprinkler was located in the far west end of the A-wing of the building, closest to Sixth Street.

The district is unsure of how the sprinkler may have been activated, but it is believed to be due to mechanical failure.

Fortunately, when the sprinkler head activated, the sensor alarm notified 911 promptly, and

cont'd on page 14

## It's cold & flu season

BY: ANGEL FULTZ

The cold and flu season has had a significant impact on attendance at Mifflin County High School this winter. School nurses, Mrs. Moist and Mrs. Grabill offered some information and advice about how to avoid getting sick this season.

A few of the most common sicknesses the nurses have been noticing this year are the flu, common cold, rhinovirus, RSV, adenovirus, para-

cont'd on page15

# Students prepare fresh meals for teachers

BY: JAYLYN CAROLUS

MCHS's Life Skills class started a new initiative this year; it's called Soup's On!

Soup's On! is a monthly meal prepared by the Life Skills class for MCHS teachers. Their first menu, chicken corn soup, was served on Friday, January 6 to show off their skills and welcome teachers back from the long holiday break.

Life Skills teacher, Mrs. Davis said, "Based on the feedback we had, we are really feeling very confident and excited with continuing the soup sale. We really appreciate everyone's support with this venture."

Through this ongoing



Students in Mrs. Davis's class prepare chicken corn soup for their first Soup's On!



event, students learn to read recipes, identify ingredients at the grocery store, prepare food, and serve customers. These valuable skills will help students enter the workforce and participate in adult living.

Each student had a different part in the making of the soup. Mrs. Davis explained, "Parker and Haley were both responsible for measuring out all the liquid ingredients and adding them to the soup. Gabe and Parker

were responsible for making the rivels, making sure to accurately measure ingredients and combine to make a dough that was then torn into chunks and added to the soup. We bought pre-cut celery and onions for safety reasons, and Sebastian and Jewlia were able to measure these ingredients out to saute them in butter and garlic."

Sophomore Sebastian Oliver said, "I think for our first time it went really well, and I am excited to do it again."

All the teachers enjoyed their home-cooked meal and can't wait for more to come. They won't have to wait too long; the next Soup's On! will be taco soup served this Thursday.

## School musical

cont'd from page 1

less hours putting their time and effort into perfecting their roles. Wagner has been in five previous musicals and LeFevre has been in four.

This is LeFevre's first time playing the leading lady. She said, "Being a lead in the musical is super fun, but I feel that everyone is watching me, and I have to be good."

One challenge that all the members can agree on is learning to be confident on stage. Fultz added that, as with any theater company, the cast has to learn to work with and trust one another.

This year's production is likely to catch the eye of many students and community members.

Co-advisor Mrs. Campbell stated, "Audience members will recognize some characters and scenes from the movie; however, there are also a lot of fun songs and scenes that are unique to the musical version!" A cast favorite to look forward to is "What's Up, Duloc."

Some of the unique challenges that the Drama Club faced include working with a few puppets as well as new hair and makeup.

The magic on stage couldn't happen without the people behind the scenes,

and that includes the Stage Crew. This group has been working dilligently to get the flies up and in place for the show. They have also been teaching new members how to do lighting and sound. There are many ways that the stage crew contributes to the play. Their jobs are a crucial part to this year's performance with all the set changes. Stage Crew is like a backbone to the performance.

The cast members' favorite thing about Drama Club is show week because they get to share with the audience what they have been working on this whole time. It's an exciting week, especially for the audience which of-

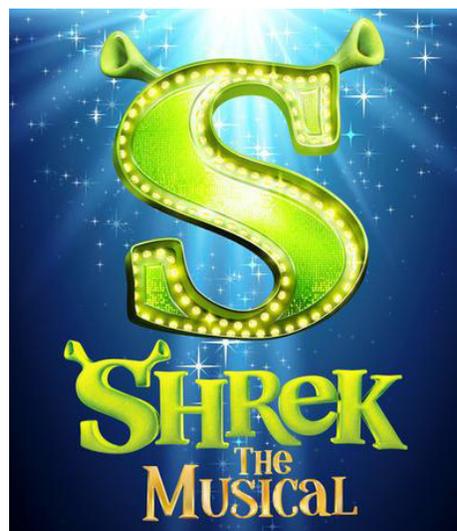


Seniors Kaitlyn LeFevre and Gunnar Wagner take on the lead roles of Fiona and Shrek in this year's musical production.

ten includes younger students and children who are excited to see their favorite stories come to life. With *Shrek*, theater-goers can expect a lot of humor, large-group dances, special effects, and an underlying message of courage.

Performances will be on Friday and Saturday, February 10-11 at 6:30 pm and the final show is on Sunday, February 12 at 1:00 pm. The cost of tickets is \$10 per person. They can be purchased through the district's website, or at the doors, or using the QR

code. Scan the QR code to order your tickets for this year's Drama Club production of *Shrek- The Musical!* Tickets are \$10 per person. The show runs February 10-12 at MCHS.



# Internships provide real-world experience

BY: MINA PHILLIPS

What is a unique learning experience Mifflin County offers to its students? Internships. Rainie Miner, Autumn Goss, and Joseph DeVecchis are MCHS's three senior interns; they work with the journalism, athletic, and technology departments.

Rainie Miner interns with English teacher, Miss Crosson.

"I'm the Journalism intern, so I make all the Instagram stories, I make sure everyone is on task, and I do whatever Crosson needs me to," explained Miner.

For Miner, who eventually would like to get into marketing, journalism teaches valuable skills for her future.

Internships come with struggles. Miner always has a lot on her plate and voiced the hardest part in her opinion. "It's very much like, spur of the moment," explained Miner. "I have to do a lot of things at the last minute to pick up people's slack," Miner admitted.

While the last-minute nature of news reporting can be stressful, Miner said it will help her be more efficient with deadlines. She also mentioned that she uses many digital design tools in her internship that will contribute to her graphic design skills in marketing.

Miss Crosson described Miner as "highly motivated, organized, and reliable" as the journalism intern.

Senior Autumn Goss is the athletic department intern.

"I am Tish and Lepley's helping hand," Goss explained. "I take care of sports schedules, packages, and anything else that needs to be taken care of." This internship includes social media management as well as helping to ensure the teams and coaches have what they need behind the scenes.

Goss previously had Lepley as a teacher and regularly helped with the athletic program. "He suggested I take the internship my senior year," Goss explained. "I enjoyed the tasks he had me complete, so I accepted the offer."

As in Miner's internship, Goss constantly faces challenges during her time working with the athletic department. She explained, "The hardest part of my internship is laminating and cutting all of the plays for the football team. It usually takes around two hours." Although that

was a struggle for Goss, she excitedly explained, "Now that the season is over, I won't have to do that anymore. Thank goodness!"

With every hardship, however, comes enjoyment. "Since working with Tish and Lepley, we have all become like family," she expressed. "I know I can count on them for anything, whether it's athletic-related or not."

Sometimes the skills learned in an internship are indirectly valuable to a student's future.

"Although I'm not planning on doing anything specifically in athletics, I am able to better practice being given a task and completing it," Goss explained. "It helps build my responsibility and time management which will help with my future career."

Joseph DeVecchis is the Print Media intern. DeVecchis explained, "I've been interested in vis comm (visual communications) since I was in junior high."

Advisor Mr. Specht described DeVecchis as a "creative, smart, and accomplished individual." Specht also explained, "Having an intern helps me by being able to pass along projects that teachers may request."

In his internship, like Miner, and Goss, DeVecchis notes there are challenges. "The hardest part is finding solutions to every problem," DeVecchis explained.

Mr. Specht is glad to have DeVecchis as a helping hand. "Joe has designed and printed many items throughout the year from posters to t-shirts, and everything in between," Specht explained.

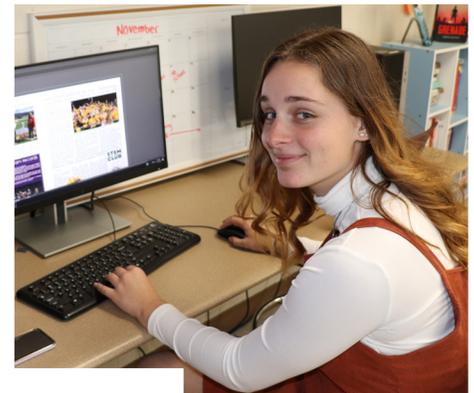
DeVecchis values the experience. "I enjoy making things and designing products that I can use," DeVecchis explained.

DeVecchis is already looking to the future with this internship. "I want to have a

career in graphic design," he said.

Every intern has different responsibilities. "One of the biggest responsibilities that the interns deal with is assisting students," advisor Specht expressed. Crosson added, "I rely on Rainie to lead our staff and carry out our production process. The student writers go to her for guidance and help sometimes before they even come to me."

The Academy, extracurriculars, and course selections all help students prepare for their futures; internships are just one more way for them to get hands-on experience in fields that interest them. These opportunities give students a look at what it's like to have a job, meet deadlines, create real-world materials, and to be able to work under all circumstances.



Seniors Rainie Miner, Joe DeVecchis, and Autumn Goss participate in MCHS's internship opportunities. Top- Miner edits The Tyrian using Adobe InDesign  
Left- DeVecchis works on a screen-print in Mr. Specht's room  
Below- Goss works on social media content for Husky sports teams. The internships provide students with opportunities to get real-world experiences in fields related to their future plans as well as learn valuable skills like project and time management. Internships are only available to seniors and are coordinated between the guidance office and advising teachers.

# Four selected for All-Eastern choir festival

BY: MINA PHILLIPS

This winter, four students officially qualified to compete in a prestigious musical experience.

Alex Garner, Emma Sheetz, Gunnar Wagner, and Emily Shank are four extremely talented individuals who have received an invite to participate in the All Eastern Choir conference. In order to qualify, however, students had to go through an application process.

"The hardest part of the application process was waiting for the results to come back," Sheetz explained, "We had to wait for three

months after we submitted our applications, and it was nerve racking to say the least."

Choir director Ms. Fensterbush explained, "These four students are all very hardworking and give 110% to everything they do. They have a positive outlook and influence on others in our choral groups and are excellent role models for younger students."

The conference takes place in April in Rochester, New York. It is hosted by the New York State School Music Association.

The conference will be an opportunity for the singers

to collaborate with other highly-talented musicians along the east coast.

"I was shocked and very excited to be sharing this experience with everyone who applied," Shank exclaimed.

"I'm excited to be with some of the most talented musicians in the North East. I'm excited to be challenged by my peers and by our conductor, and our concert is in a beautiful concert hall in Eastman." Garner said.

"I'm excited to meet a bunch of new musicians and perform with them," Wagner added.

A big congratulations and best of luck goes to all four



Gunnar Wagner, Alex Garner, Emma Sheetz, and Emily Shank were selected to participate in the prestigious All-Eastern Choir conference, held in April in Rochester, NY.

students who were accepted for this prestigious musical honor.

# Board votes this week on athletic complex

BY: EVAN NAUGLE

It's been a gradual process, but the committee responsible for bringing a new athletic complex to MCS D is still working to raise funds and secure the board's final approval for the project. After a presentation of fundraising efforts in December, the MCS D Board of Directors decided to table their vote on the project until January. They are expected to vote on whether planning can move forward at their regular meeting, Thursday, Jan. 26.

A new sports facility would go a long way not just for those who play sports here at Mifflin County High School, but for the whole student body. "The

lights, turf, and facilities will be an asset to the community," said Athletic Director Tish Maclay.

With the sports complex, the school could hold more events for the student body, host more post-season matchups and band competitions, and provide better conditions for their athletes. This would raise morale and attendance for school events all year round.

"We are hoping the multi-sports complex will provide safer facilities and playing surfaces, as well as creating greater opportunities to compete based on a turf surface," said Maclay. These improvements will help to reduce athlete injuries and improve game play so that Husky teams are on-par with other teams in their competitive leagues and conferences.

Gathering the funds necessary for this type of project has been a daunting task. The project leaders have already secured a grant of \$3 million and a loan of \$4.5 million; however, it will require \$11.5 to 15 million to fully finance the endeavor. The group has been campaigning

to gather another \$3 million in pledges. There is also a budget surplus that has been set aside of \$2 million to re-turf and maintain the facility.

For the improvements, the school would pay in increments as construction takes place until it is paid off. The goal of the group pushing for the facility is to have the complex finished by August of 2024.

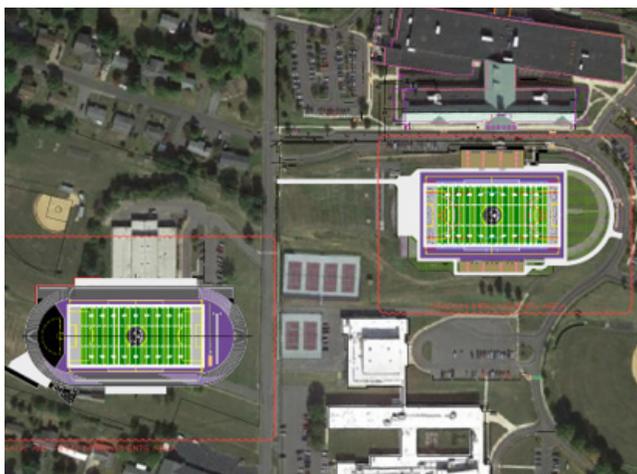
Slowly but surely, it seems the sports complex is inching from dream to reality. The next hurdle will come Thursday as the board votes "yay" or "nay" to move forward with development plans for the project.

So how can you, the student body, help with the vote if needed?

Maclay said, "I believe the community, coaches, advisors, and students need to make the school board more aware of the need and impact a multi-sport facility would have. The school board listens to the desire of the community and students."

A new athletic complex is an ambitious goal, but many parents and students believe it will be time and money well-spent considering the current state of some of the sports facilities.

Not only would it help student athletes, "it would benefit the entire community and be a source of pride for all MC Huskies," said Maclay.



An aerial rendering shows the proposed plans for new athletic fields in front of MCHS and at former Highland Park.

# Key Club keeps community service coming

BY: ALEX KOCH

The Key Club is off to a fantastic start this year, already completing a wide range of service projects for the school and community.

From the annual canned food drive, to making the MCHS staff breakfast, the Key Club is helping local causes and giving back to our staff. The club also assisted with the book fair at the Lewistown Intermediate School this year and helped run Santa's Workshop at East Derry Elementary.

Key Club advisor Mr. Fluke is excited to grow the program and encourages members to always help and

serve the community to their fullest potential. "Key Club builds leadership skills, and I always want members to get involved with helping others in need," said Fluke.

A major goal for the Key

Club next year is to have more participation from the student body in the club.

"If you want to positively impact the community, Key Club is a great way to achieve that," stated Key

Club president, Ajia Binder, "We hope to have more members participate in activities this year and in the future."

The Key Club is excited to continue through the year planning a variety of activities to help the school and community.

Key Club's next major event will be the Walk for Warmth. Members are raising money for the cause and plan to participate in the walk next month.

Key Club recruits new members every fall; students interested should plan on joining for the 23-24 school year.



Members of Key Club pose for a quick photo as they serve up faculty breakfast in December.

## STEM in the Makerspace

BY: GABRYELLA POWELL

Mifflin County High School has strengthened its STEM program by adding the Makerspace in the rear of the library. The Makerspace bears multiple uses for the students, but the overall goal of the Makerspace is to provide students with opportunities for hands-on learning and experiences.

Technology education teacher, Mrs. Conner, and librarian, Mrs. Eckenroth decided

to enhance the STEM program with the Makerspace by providing an opportunity for students to discover multiple STEM concepts and fun activities through after-school events. Thus far there have been multiple sessions held for students to work with the lego robotics kits.

Any student attending MCHS is able to attend the Makerspace events. The advisors explained, "You don't have to be available for every meeting. We understand our students have very busy lives in and out of school...we want to be a flexible addition to their school experience."

The high school is hoping to collaborate with the junior high's STEM Club for special upcoming events. The advisors added, "We are working to build a special events calendar where other teachers can sign up to host special interest sessions or where we develop special interest sessions to meet staff/student learning needs."

The club plans to work more with lego robotics kits and start to introduce students to utilizing the laser engraver and silhouette machines. Students' ideas are also encouraged to help plan for additional activities.

The upgrades and additional use of the Makerspace will expand the minds and talents of the Mifflin County High School students by providing them with hands-on and problem-based learning.



Sophomores work on Hunger Games projects in the Makerspace.

## NHS aims to serve

BY: OLIVIA NIMAN

One of the many clubs based in MCHS is National Honor Society. The advisor for National Honor Society is math teacher, Mrs Riden.

Students who qualify for membership receive notices and are invited to apply in the spring of each school year.

"Students must have at least a 93% cumulative GPA following the completion of the 1st semester of sophomore year in order to get an invitation to seek membership into the NHS," Riden explained.

"Students who wish to pursue membership will need to demonstrate they are service-minded by documenting acts of service for the year prior to their candidacy. This should be at least 10 hours, but should not be a one-time activity. Service should be on-going."

For many members, the

cont'd on page 8

# Indoor adds dance team to winter line-up



Left: The indoor guard poses for a group photo  
Below: Members of the drumline practice for their upcoming competition at Bellefonte Area High School



BY: OLIVIA NIMAN

After a successful marching band season that included setting a Mifflin County record, the MCHS indoor groups are back in full swing. Like previous years, there are two drum lines and two color guards, and this year, a competitive dance team has been added.

The dance team is instructed by Emma Walters and Jennifer Glenney. Since the program is still in its infancy, there are some challenges facing the group; many members only have a small amount of dance experience.

Walters explained, "With everyone being beginners, I anticipate needing more time to work on making it as clean as possible and working on technique, but I have faith in everyone on the team, so I don't worry too much."

Despite how new the program is, many members are looking forward to seeing how the season and each indi-

vidual progresses. Freshman Emily Banks said, "I'm looking forward to seeing both my own and other's progression throughout the season."

While the dance team's inaugural season is underway, the Mifflin County High School Indoor Color Guard program is in its eleventh year. There are two color guards, a junior high line with students from sixth through eighth grade, and a senior high line with students in grades nine through twelve. Both lines are instructed by Jennifer Glenney, and the junior high line has members from the senior high who assist with instruction.

This year, the guard programs have been faced with a unique challenge. Glenney explained, "At the beginning of this year's indoor season, I sustained some pretty bad injuries and

wasn't able to pick up a flag or even be at practice for a few weeks. One of the biggest challenges for guard has been trying to design a show and then teach my students routine without being able

to pick up a flag myself."

Along with the guard groups, there are two drumlines, a junior high line and a senior high line, both hoping to remain regional champions this year. Reflecting on past seasons,

senior Jaxon Foulk said, "My favorite part is the closeness of the group and how that contributes to how we perform together."

Members of the drumline staff include Andrew Peck, Jack Niman, and Carly Croyle. Niman, who is an MCHS band alum, said, "I'm most looking forward to seeing the kids grow throughout the season and seeing their reaction to the end of the season."

When all is said and done, the staff and students in each of the programs are looking forward to what this year's competitions will bring.

The first indoor competition is Saturday, February 4, at Bellefonte High School.

# TSA students qualify for nine state events

Mifflin County Technology Student Association (TSA) competed in its regional competition this past Saturday, January 21.

The chapter took first place in two events. Sophomores Wade Eichorn and Nathan Banks took the top spot in Animatronics, and junior Andrew Cherry earned top marks in PA Materials Process. All earn a bid to the state competition in April.

Mifflin County students also qualified for state-level competition in six additional events.

Junior Dallas Ivie placed second in Logo Design, and the Music Production team took third. Mifflin County placed fourth in Board Game Design, Dragster Design, and earned both the third and fourth places for Technology Problem Solving. Placing fifth were competitors in Essays on Technology and Debating Technical Issues.

Next up, students will review judge feedback in preparation for the state competition held at Seven Springs Resort April 19-22.



Bottom left: The animatronics team poses with their first-place winning project.

Bottom right: Dallas Ivie works on her second-place screenprinting design.



# Annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest

Created by: Gracen Haines



To kick off the holiday season, Student Council hosted its annual door decorating contest. With no specific theme assigned, teachers and students let their creativity run wild. The first place prize of cookies went to The Alpha Room with 52 votes. Mr. Specht's door came in second with 37 votes, and with 22 votes, Mrs. Hecknauer came in third.



# NHS

cont'd from page 5

service-based nature of the club is something that holds many benefits.

Senior Sarah Diehl said, "My favorite part is being able to help others and also serve our local community. Oftentimes, I'm not aware of the fun events that take place here in Mifflin County, but NHS gives me the opportunity to participate and help out with them so they can keep happening every year."

Some of the events that NHS gets involved with include Ice Fest, book fairs at the elementary schools, and the Strengthening Families Project.

Senior Emma Sheetz said, "A memorable moment from

Ice Fest would be helping the little kids play the plinko game."

There are several benefits for students that come with being a member.

Mrs. Riden explained, "Colleges looking for well-rounded individuals realize that NHS members have been screened

for character, academics, leadership, and service. Many post-secondary schools give priority to NHS members in hopes that they will be an asset to the college community, as they are to their high school and local communities, [that they will] continue to lead and serve and be academically successful."

The next big project for National Honor Society is hand-crafting greeting cards for local nursing home residents.

Mrs. Riden said, "We personally deliver the cards along with candy-filled eggs to brighten the days of these shut-ins."

If you are interested in joining National Honor Society and meet the GPA requirements, stay on the lookout for an invitation to apply this spring.



NHS members volunteer with children's games at the Ice Festival in Downtown Lewistown

## Two Huskies commit to collegiate athletics

BY: ALLETE HOCKENBERRY

Marissa Gingrich has signed her letter of intent to play DI basketball at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She plans to major in forensic science.

Gingrich has been playing basketball for a total of ten years, and she has made many sacrifices and worked extremely hard in order to get where she is today. Gingrich was recently announced as Mifflin County High School's

all time leading scorer, surpassing the previous record of 1327 points on January 10th, 2023.

Gingrich has loved basketball for a long time.

"I knew at a young age that I wanted to be the best player I could be and continue playing after high school," Gingrich said.

Gingrich chose to go to NJIT because of "the location, culture of the school/

team, and the level of education".

When in college, she plans to stay dominant in basketball and lead her team to success.

She is grateful to her parents for all the sacrifices made and support given through her basketball career.

Best of luck to Gingrich with her future academic and athletic pursuits.



Bryson Bubb has signed his letter of intent to play baseball at La Roche University. He plans to major in communication/ PR/ media.

Bubb has been playing baseball for the past four teen years. He will finish out his Mifflin County career pitching for the Huskies this spring.

Throughout his baseball career, Bubb has learned to persevere and to continue working hard.

Bubb went on many tours and talked to a lot of coaches in order to find the perfect fit in terms of the best school and team for himself.

Bubb will have to work hard in order to achieve his goals for both post secondary schooling and playing baseball at the collegiate level.

"I want to first graduate from college, and on the field I want to be a standout player that is clutch," Bubb explained.

He has had help from many different individuals throughout the years.

"I want to thank God for allowing me to play the game I love, my parents for taking me everywhere and always having my back, also my coaches, teammates and Coach Dukate for giving me a chance," Bubb stated.

Best of luck to Bubb with his future academic and athletic pursuits.



# 18 HUSKY ATHLETES EARN ALL-TEAM ACCOLADES

*Fall sports Midd-Penn conference selections*



## GIRLS SOCCER

**First Team Keystone**  
Aubrey Strohecker

**Second Team Keystone**  
Kate Bickhart  
Bailey McNitt

**Honorable Mention**  
Sarah Henry



## FIELD HOCKEY

**First Team Keystone**  
Hailee Sheetz

**Second Team Keystone**  
Monica Druckemiller  
Adria Hartzler

**Honorable Mention**  
Sophie McCurdy



## FOOTBALL

**1st Team Keystone Division**  
Brody Rishel (DB)  
Deakon Shaeffer (QB)

**2nd Team Keystone Division**  
Reagan Ettinger (LB)

**Honorable Mention**  
Elijah Osborne (OL)  
Isaac Wilson (WR, DB, Return)  
Parker Kearns (WR, LB)  
Ryan Stahl (OL)  
Landon Eichhorn (QB)  
Travis Renninger (DL)  
Josiah Sechler (Punter)  
Isaac Parks-Gill (Kicker)



**Keystone Division**  
Coach of the Year  
Shane Breon

# Boys basketball hope for strong second half

BY: GRACEN HAINES

With the season just over halfway done, the boys basketball team has fought hard and remained competitive, despite their current 1-15 record.

December was a difficult month for the team as they lost seven straight games.

The boys are hoping to add some more to their win column as they end January and begin February with a packed Mid-Penn Conference schedule.

This 22-23 season is Coach Curry's second year at the helm, and the team is rather young. With only one senior, Jonathan Hartzler, the team starts freshman Evan Strohecker and juniors Tagg Silfies, Jaylen Bowersox, Jayden Bilger, and Aidan Reed.

Their record, however, doesn't reflect the team's potential. The Huskies have



Junior Jaylen Bowersox looks to pass ball to teammate Aidan Reed against Milton Hershey.

kept scores to a single possession, losing to Shikalemy and Lower Dauphin by only 2 points each.

Silfies believes the team "need[s] to improve on confidence in intense situations," and thinks the team gets "too flustered" when the game is on the line.

This is expected with a young team; it can be intimidating playing on the court at 7 instead of 5:30, especially if

the opponent boasts a more experienced roster.

Bowersox said, "The team needs to become more comfortable handling ball pressure."

With room to improve, the team has six games left of their regular season. These matchups are mostly against teams they have already faced.

"I hope we can win some of the games we have com-

ing up; we play most teams for the second time around. I think we can get the teams that we only lost by a couple to," said Bowersox.

As with every Husky team, the boys have their eye on the post-season, too.

"I'm looking for a win in the district championship, that is always an ultimate goal," Silfies stated.

Before playing in a district championship, they would have to face either State College or Altoona in a playoff game after qualifying.

Although this season is still very much relevant, Silfies would like to "improve for next year." A season where the team will be full of healthy seniors, hungry to come out on top would be as much fun for the team as it would be for the fans.

The Huskies are back in action tomorrow, hosting Cedar Cliff in the Dawg Pound.

# MC Matmen are dominating at dual meets

BY: GABRYELLA POWELL

Although the wrestling team started this season off with a 1-2 record, excellent placement at their first four tournaments shows the team's potential and talent.

Coach Martin proudly acknowledged several of the wrestlers: Blake Aumiller, Avery Aurand, Parker Kearns, Jake Cunningham, Deakon Scheaffer, and Lucas Sheetz, all of whom placed at the Neil Turner Memorial Tournament in late December.

The boys also traveled to the Bo Wood and King of the Mountain competitions. Recently, the matmen hosted the Husky Duals, going 3-0 on the day.

Coach Martin explained, "Our athletes have had a great attitude and effort towards competition and practicing. They are improving every week which is a credit to their effort."

Coach Martin's favorite memory this season so far is beating Cedar Cliff in

early January on Senior Night. It gave the seniors a solid win at home on their recognition night.

The boys have improved this season by learning from their mistakes and working to fix them.

Sophomore, Avery Aurand has had a great start to his season placing at three of the four tournaments the team has competed in.

"I think the team and myself still have many areas to improve and if we do, we will be better," Aurand said.

So far this season, a highlight for Aurand is when he placed at the King of the Mountain tournament.

Deakon Scheaffer has also had an amazing start to his junior season. He placed at all four of the tournaments so far this season.

Always looking to improve, Scheaffer is hopeful the team will get their conditioning up and be more aggressive on the mat.

The MC MatMen are back in action this Thursday, January 26th at 6:00 pm in the Dawg Pound.



Junior Blake Aumiller goes for the pin at the Husky Duals earlier this month.

# Indoor track and field off to a strong start

## Senior Jayden King sets new Husky record for triple jump

BY: ALEX KOCH

The indoor track and field season is in full swing and is off to a great start. The team had their first meet on Saturday, January 7, and walked



Junior Mina Phillips runs a hurdle during meet at Penn State University

out with a new school record set by senior Jayden King in the triple jump with a 44'4" leap. Senior Josiah Sechler is also a returning state qualifier in long jump. Both seniors have a good chance of qualifying for the state meet in February with continued hard work and persistence, according to assistant coach Tamara Sechler.

To continue on with the season, the team has been working hard at practices. "I feel good about the season so far," said sophomore Leah Alexander, "We all have been working to our highest potential and have been performing well at practice."

Coaching has been a big benefit to the team. "The team's greatest assets are



Junior Ty Smalls pole vaults during meet at Penn State University.

the coaching staff that helps us improve everyday and pushes us to our best. The strengths of the team are the athletes that listen to the coaches and are able to push themselves forward everyday," according to King.

The team hopes to progress and see improvement as they move through the competition season.

"The coaches like to see

each athlete improve their performance from the first meet to the last meet of the indoor season. With improved times and distances, as a team we will be better prepared to score points for our outdoor season in the spring," stated Sechler.

The team is back on the track on Wednesday February 1st and 15th at Penn State University.

# Girls and boys bowling strengthen rosters

BY: OLIVIA DECKER

The Husky bowlers opened their season on December 2nd. The boys and girls traveled to Elizabethtown to face the Bears.

The bowling team lost their first match of the season; however, the girls bounced back with victories against Milton and Hazelton. The girls are now 2-5 on the season.

Senior Morgan Diven reflected, "I think this season is going really well. It is definitely better than past seasons."

The boys are still looking for their first win, but in the meantime, they're enjoying the venues of their matches.

Junior Zane Snyder explained, "The match I was looking forward to this year was Hazelton because I enjoyed bowling at their bowling alley."

The teams bowled their final match of the regular season on Tuesday; it was senior night, and the Huskies bowled against Hazelton at home.

At the home match, they recognized

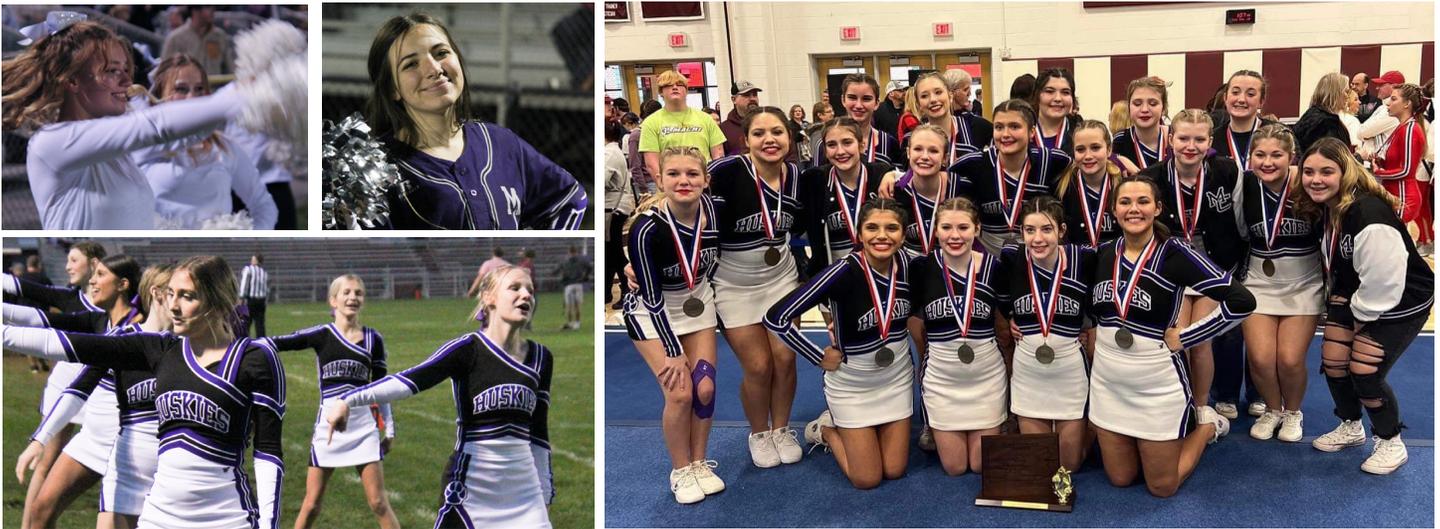
senior athletes Morgan Diven, Olivia Decker, Luke Grove, and Dylan Aultz.

While the girls team will return three of its squad members next year, their roster will be light on senior leadership. Meanwhile, the boys have four athletes returning, three of whom will be preparing for their final Husky season.

This past Saturday, the teams finished their seasons in Lancaster at the Eastern Regional Qualifier at Dutch Lanes.



Above: Junior Kristian Mace aims for a strike at a home match earlier this season at Lewistown Lanes. Left: Sophomore Andrea Ingram lines up her shot at a home match.



The Cheerleading squad rallies the team along the football sidelines this past fall and poses with their district hardware. This is the team's first district title in school history.

# Husky cheerleaders earn first district title

BY: ELLARY SCHRECK

The Husky cheerleaders made history this year by bringing home the AAA Cheerleading District Championship title for the first time in school history.

"My greatest memory this season was by far winning districts. The feeling of winning something so big is amazing, but doing it with your best friends makes it one hundred times better. I'm looking forward to competing with them again," said freshman Rylynn Patkalitsky.

Winning the championship title was a lot more challenging than it seemed, with the team facing illness and injuries the week leading up to the competition. "Going into the district competition, half of our team was medicated with the flu. Parents were in the warm up room passing out medication to their kids to get the girl's through a two and a half minute routine," stated head coach Jen Johnson.

The team faced these challenges, all with smiles on their faces, never letting sickness get in the way of their ultimate goal: coming home with that medal.

"We faced all this by relaxed practice the week before and coaches' confidence in the team. No matter what happened that day, we knew as coaches their situation, but we were so proud of them all for showing up and giving it their all," noted Johnson.

Along with bringing home their championship title, the team also had a memorable fall sideline season.

New to this sideline season was the addition of advanced junior high

cheerleaders, which is made up of eighth graders who have worked hard enough to cheer with the varsity team, but due to their age, they cannot actually be called varsity athletes.

"I think this season so far has been amazing with all of our ups and downs, and it will continue to go up from here," said eighth grader Hannah Johnson who had the opportunity to cheer with varsity after making the school's advanced junior high team.

Although the team faced hardships, they also have many assets that have

helped them face these challenges.

"Our greatest asset this year, I believe, is leadership. We have a lot of girls with solid leadership qualities," says Johnson.

Along with districts, the cheer team was also named "Rise Up" Champions, with a hit zero performance and an increased score from districts. With more competitions coming up on the schedule, the team is ready to move on and up and continue the season with the success they've already enjoyed.

## Class of '23 Defends Powderpuff Title



It was another year of close matchups during the annual Powderpuff games. The juniors topped the sophomores in a tight 12-6 game, sending them to face the reigning seniors. The seniors came out victorious, topping the juniors 24-12 under the lights at Mitchell Field. This win made the class of 2023 back to back Powderpuff champions.

# Bocceball state champs are back in action

## New coaches and players join the team

BY: OLIVIA DECKER

The reigning state champion unified bocce team opened their season on December 21. They played against Susquenita at home in the Dawg Pound and suffered a difficult 0-2 loss.

The 20220-2023 squad is led by first-year coaches, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Moore.

This year's returning athletes include seniors Malia Scyoc and Jocelyn Clark.

Scyoc explained, "I chose this sport because I want to be with my friends and win state championships again."

New on the team this season are Keason Vanrunt-Hampton, Reese Moore, Aspen Weyman, Jada Kanagy, Marley Cole, Jayden Clark, and manager Jackson Lane.

The bocceball team has also fallen to Southern Huntingdon and Halifax and has struggled a bit in the first half of the season.

They hope to improve by "taking our time, practicing how we want to play,

focusing on the target," said Coaches Lane and Moore.

Their practice is paying off; the squad won its first match last week, a 2-1 road win over West Perry. Their record is now 1-3.

Bocceball is only in its second year as a sport for Mifflin County, but it is becoming more popular and well-known amongst the students. Senior Jocelyne Clark's advice for players who want to compete in the future is "to get together with your friends and work together and do teamwork."

The squad is rounding the halfway mark in their regular season. They have five matches left before post-season play begins; three of them are home, two of them away. Their next competition is today, at home, against Central Cambria.

Top Right: Senior Marley Cole aims for the pallino at a home match.

Bottom Right: Junior Jayden Clark follows through with his roll in a match earlier this season.



# Girls basketball battles it out on the court

BY: JAYLYN CAROLUS

Coming off last year's history-making season, the girls basketball team has started strong with their season with a 10-5 record.

Senior guard and captain Marissa Gingrich said that

their record is solid considering how tough of a schedule they've played.

Gingrich said, "As the leader of the team, I am responsible for doing many things on the court such as scoring, rebounding, and distributing

the ball. However, I am also responsible for showing the younger players what it takes to be successful."

The girls will be losing three seniors this year, Gingrich, Aija Binder, and Mikayla Bodley.

Junior guard Amelia Leister said, "I think we've had a tough season, but we continue to fight in our games." Leister contributes to the team with her ball handling and shooting skills.

Coach Aaron Gingrich remarked, "Overall, the season is going well. We had to replace four starters from last year, and our December schedule was very difficult, so we knew there would be some growing pains. However, the team has responded nicely and is in a position to make a second half run to-

wards playoffs."

Leister said that she thinks they need to improve on shooting, handling the ball, cuts, and screening to finish the season strong.

Earlier this month, in a home game against Hershey, Marissa Gingrich became the leading scorer in Mifflin County history, surpassing the previous 1,327-point record.

Coach Gingrich said, "Our goal from Day 1 was to improve everyday and be playing our best basketball come playoff time. I think we have vastly improved from the start of the season, but we need to keep pushing."

The girls hope to bring home another W tomorrow evening as they face Cedar Cliff in a double-header with the boys' team.



Above: Junior Tressie Bender lines up a foul shot and Senior Aija Binder goes for a layup in the girls' victory against Milton Hershey

# Sprinkler

cont'd from page 1

multiple fire companies arrived on the scene within minutes.

Superintendent Vance Varner explained, "The alarm system and the quick response from the fire companies, Director of Building and Grounds, maintenance workers, as well as custodians from across the district, helped to limit the damage that occurred."

Due to the malfunction, water ran into some classrooms on the first, second, and third floors of the A-wing, including the guidance suite on the first floor.

Because of the damage sustained, the incident was reported and evaluated by the district's insurance company. "Any items that were damaged due to the water release will need to be inventoried and then would be covered for replacement," Varner informed.

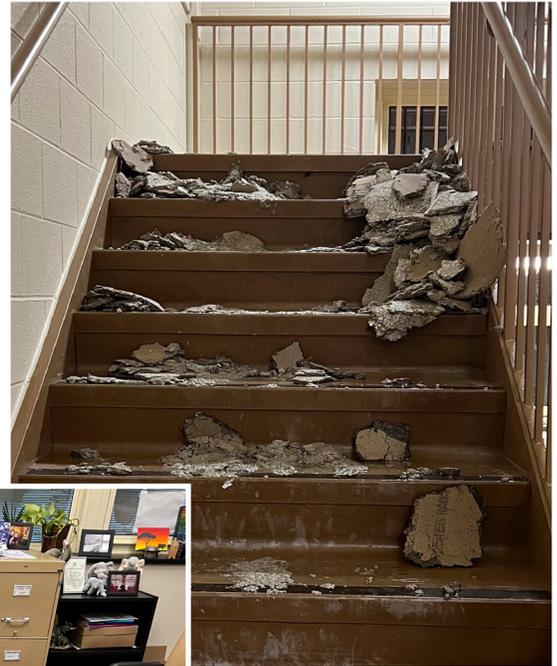
Much to everyone's surprise and relief, the building itself did not suffer major damage, and repairs are minimal. The guidance office was most impacted due to its carpeted flooring and location. Otherwise, the biggest losses were materials housed in teachers' rooms that couldn't be exposed to waterlogging. English teacher, Mrs. Mayo's classroom, located on the

third floor, suffered slight damage.

Mrs. Mayo explained, "Outside of the door closest to the stairwell, I had 1920's honors research projects which students had until Tuesday 12/21 to pick up if they wanted them. My intention was to bring them into my classroom before break, but since we had a snow day on the 23rd, I didn't get a chance to move them. They were soaked from be-

Right: Aftermath photos show water and ceiling tile debris from the sprinkler malfunction

Below: The guidance office suite sustained most of the damage, although some classrooms also require repairs. Thanks to the diligent work of the cleanup crew, school was able to resume after winter break without any interruption.



***The alarm system and the quick response from the fire companies, Director of Building and Grounds, maintenance workers, as well as custodians from across the district, helped to limit the damage that occurred.***  
***- Vance Varner, Superintendent***

and custodians from around the district offered their time over the holidays to help with the incident. They reported to MCHS on Christmas Eve to help with the water release, some staying until 3:00 am on Christmas Day. These employees also returned later on Christmas Day and again on December 26 to assist with the cleanup process.

Thankfully, because school was closed for the winter break, the cleanup did not affect student school days at all. On January 2, a water remediation company finished with the moisture removal, cleanup, and disinfection process, and the high school was ready for the return of students as normal the following day.

The insurance company is still taking the precaution to evaluate the sprinkler head to determine what could have been done and what can be done in the future to prevent any other occurrences.

Superintendent Varner personally recognized the local fire companies and the MCS D employees that volunteered their time at last week's board meeting.

ing in the hallway and then moved into my room. The problem with that was they were placed directly on graded projects/papers for all of my classes that I had intended to return on the 23rd as well."

She also added that the baseboards along the window side of her classroom had to be removed from the water damage. Mayo was happy to say her room was not as bad as it could have been and that it is now operating as normal.

Science teacher Mrs. Langs also experienced

damage to her room. The second-floor classroom included several pieces of furniture and carpeting used for alternative seating that needed to be replaced or cleaned.

More than 35 firefighters assisted in pushing water into the drains and outside exit door 1 to remove the standing water. The four fire companies that arrived on scene included Chief Logan, Yeagertown, City, and Burnham.

Tom White, Director of Building and Grounds, along with maintenance workers



Water damaged the guidance office copier

# Prom returns to campus after 2-year hiatus



BY: RAINIE MINER & LIV SUYDAM

Prom, one of the most highly anticipated events of the year for juniors and seniors, is quickly approaching, and the prom committee has already begun preparations for this popular event.

The past two years, prom has been held at Brookmere Estates. "COVID mandates were responsible for the need to move prom off-cam-

pus," said Principal, Mr. Campagna.

With COVID-19 restrictions eliminated, prom is returning to the high school this spring. Although the off-campus setting had been popular, there were several behind-the-scenes considerations that made such a venue challenging. Campagna and the rest of the MCHS administration weighed many variables, including weather and safety concerns, before coming to their decision to return the event to MCHS.

Even though prom may not have the uniqueness of the previous venue, it is still expected to be a magical night.

The prom committee is com-

prised of juniors; they are responsible for organizing and decorating the dance.

"I love watching coming of age movies because of the high school and dance experiences," said Grace Paez-Davoli when asked why she joined the group.

This year, prom will include many exciting activities, along with long time traditions, such as the crowning of King and Queen.

Despite the relocation, the prom committee is doing all it can to make the night special for all attending students.

The theme for this year is "Enchanted Forest." Food trucks and games are being added to bring some extra

sparkle to the magical night. "We are planning to make it different from other dances with more outdoor activities," said committee member Isaac Parks-Gill.

Also returning this year is promenade. "From my past experience, the promenade was very well attended and drew the largest crowd of any district event with the exception of commencement activities at Mitchell Field. The community enjoys this tradition and the opportunity to participate in the promenade activities," said Campagna.

This year's prom will be on Saturday, April 22. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

## Cold & flu

cont'd from page 1

influenza, and COVID19. Gastroenteritis, also known as the "stomach bug," has been a frequent reason for absenteeism as well. This year, the nurses are seeing flu cases last up to a week.

Viruses like the flu and the common cold are spread through contact and droplets (coughing, sneezing). Contact with the disease particles might be through sharing drinks, food, or utensils with an infected person or coming in contact with infected body fluids.

To stay well, students should wash their hands, use hand sanitizer regularly, and avoid sharing drinks, food, or utensils. Additionally, getting enough sleep and maintaining adequate nutrition will help stave off illnesses, and some students may wish to get the flu vaccine annually to help boost their immunity as well. If students have been sick, one of the easiest things to do after recovering is replace your toothbrush as toothbrushes harbor a lot of germs.

One of the hardest parts of getting sick is dealing with the pile of work that awaits when students return to school. However, students are advised to stay home if they have a fever of 100 degrees or higher, are vomiting/have diarrhea, or have a persistent cough or thick

nasal drainage as these symptoms are exhausting for the student who is sick and potentially dangerous for others.

"If you are home sick with any of these common viruses, make sure you are drinking enough fluid and eating to prevent dehydration. Take medication around the clock like Tylenol or Ibuprofen to combat a fever and other related symptoms. OTC (over the counter) cough medications may also be helpful," the nurses stated.

Students should contact their physician if symptoms last longer than expected, return, or worsen.

"Please do not come to school if you think you have pink eye and do not return until you have taken drops for at least 48 hours," the nurses added.

Should a student be dealing with an illness at school, the nurses suite is welcoming and ready to help. Students should not carry any medications with them at school (not even cough drops), as Mrs. Moist and Mrs. Grabill provide the basics in the MCHS nurse's office. They can offer temperature checks, medication, throat spray, and cough drops so long as parents have signed off on their health form at the beginning of the year. If students need to take something like Sudafed or Mucinex, they should do that at home before coming to school.



Infographic from OSF healthcare shows some of the symptoms commonly experienced during different illnesses

Cold and flu season knocks on the doors of MCHS every year, but with careful precautions and the nurses' assistance, students can stay healthy, receive treatment, and miss as little school as possible.

# Seniors: Scholarship season is underway!

Local organizations are eager to support students' future plans

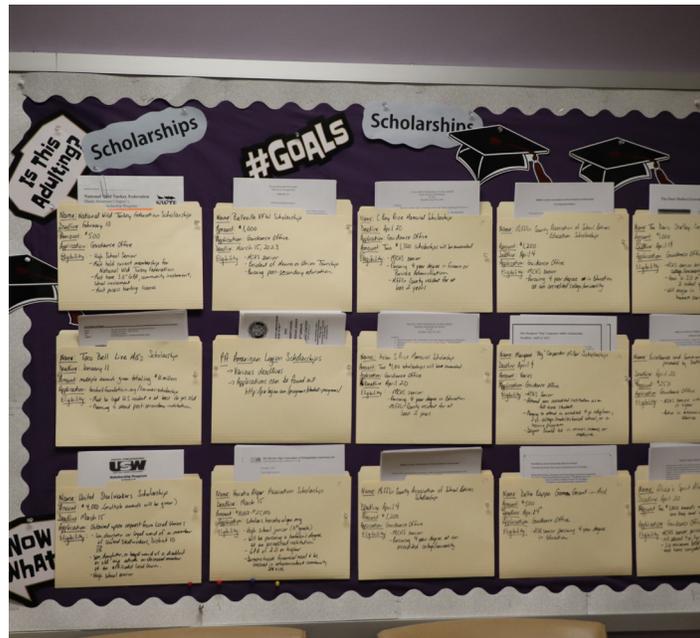
BY: ALEXIS MILLER

College is one of the most expensive endeavors young adults encounter in their lives, and the large cost can hold some people back from pursuing their dreams.

Luckily, here at MCHS, there are many scholarship opportunities for students that will help cover the cost of their further education. Scholarships are a great opportunity for students to alleviate some of the cost that comes with any post secondary education.

Thinking about filling out the scholarship application can be stressful, but the guidance counselors have made it very simple. Mrs. Kennington said, "Seniors can stop by the Guidance office to take a look at the scholarship bulletin board to see if there are scholarships for which they are eligible. Applications should be completed and be turned in by the application deadline; they need to make sure they are turning in the application to the correct person as well."

If you ever have doubts about applying, don't. Each scholarship has different requirements, but finding one that suits your plans and qualifications will be no problem. "There are scholarships available for students pursuing any type of post-



Check out the bulletin board in the guidance office for scholarships and grants available to MCHS students. Each folder includes the amount, deadline, and requirements for each award.

***There are scholarships available for students pursuing any type of postsecondary education," said Kennington, "The cost of tuition continues to rise, and scholarships are an excellent way to offset that cost.***  
***- Mrs. Kennington, guidance counselor***

secondary education," said Kennington. "The cost of tuition continues to rise, and scholarships are an excellent way to offset that cost."

Just like each scholarship has different requirements, they all have differing amounts of awarded money. "The amount of each scholarship varies; some are worth \$250, others are worth over \$5,000," Kennington said.

The amount awarded to graduating classes has var-

ied greatly over the years, but nearly all of it comes from trusts and organizations based in the area. "For the past four years, MCHS seniors have earned an average of more than \$100,000 in scholarship money. This is all because of the generous donations of the local community," added Kennington.

For those who are awarded scholarships, there are a few ways the rewards are gifted. "The money is typically sent

directly to the college or university the student plans to attend to help offset the cost of tuition. Money that is given directly to the student can be used for books and other supplies needed for a post secondary education," explained Kennington.

Completing scholarship applications can be daunting, but it's helpful to start early and stay organized. Every application is different, but oftentimes essays and resumes can be easily tweaked to fit for multiple scholarships.

One thing students need to put on their radar is recommendation letters. Whether it's a sports coach or a teacher, they should pick someone who knows them well and can provide a good word. "Be sure to ask people in advance for letters of recommendation," cautioned Kennington. "Letters of recommendation are required for most awards, and they will need to be given enough time to be written."

As the Class of 2023 prepares for graduation, scholarship applications should be high on the list of priorities. "Be sure to look at the scholarship bulletin board every couple of weeks from now until the end of the year. Awards are regularly posted as donors offer them," Kennington advised.

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