

RAISING THE BAR AND CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP FOR ALL STUDENTS

CAREER PATHWAYS: CONNECTING CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE WITH FUTURE EDUCATION AND CAREER GOALS

Career pathways help students discover their passion and identify career fields through early exposure and hands-on learning. Moline High School is pleased to offer a variety of career pathways for all students.



MHS Welding Lab

The **CNC Manufacturing** and **Welding program pathway** both offer Department of Labor registered apprenticeships. This provides an opportunity for students to earn as they learn, gain certification and college credit, and invest their time in hands-on education and industry training, preparing them for a bright future in the Quad Cities community. The high school's CNC manufacturing lab is complete and operational. The welding lab has updated curriculum and new equipment has been purchased. Upgrades to the welding lab are next on the list. Students also have the opportunity to participate in an **Engineering pathway**, as well.

The District is continuing to expand the **"Grow Your Own Teacher" education career pathway**. This career pathway is designed to identify, train, and nurture students who are interested in becoming a teacher. The hope is to have these students return to our district to teach upon college graduation. There will be three elective courses offered for students

starting in the sophomore year. Students will receive important field experiences where they will visit classrooms, work with a mentor teacher, and use what they have learned in their courses first-hand. As students complete the program and graduate college with an education degree, those students will receive a guaranteed interview with the District, among other incentives. The program is currently in year two with preparation for year three taking place now.

New for the 2022-2023 school year is a **Cyber Security pathway** that utilizes **Project Lead the Way** and **Project STEM** programming to guide students. This pathway, while new, is being well received by students. Components of this program are also offered to middle school students so that they can gain early exposure to this career field prior to entering high school.

Through our partner, Black Hawk College, a work-based intermediary works with our district to connect students to career opportunities in a variety of ways. This position has been vital in guiding students into internships, such as the partnership with the **City of Moline Public Works**, and other career exploration opportunities with various businesses and universities.



JDMS students love coding and are doing an excellent job

Board President Message



It's hard to believe the first quarter has come to an end! Our students and staff have worked hard to be successful.

It was great to see the community turn out and support Moline during our Homecoming Week. Moline High School student leadership did a fantastic job planning and coordinating all of the events. Our schools, staff, and students across the district continue to show why being a Maroon is something to be proud of!

Erin Waldron-Smith
Board President



Moline High School was once again voted "**Best Public High School**" in the 2022 Quad-City Times Best of the Quad-Cities contest!

We are honored to receive this recognition two years in a row!

Thank you all for voting.

ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN ACADEMIC GROWTH

Educators in our District have been laser-focused on supporting students' needs as we transition out of the pandemic and all of the impacts it has had on teaching and learning.

Through the use of federal emergency funding, the District was able to hire over thirty academic recovery teachers for a period of two years, to provide targeted interventions and individualized supports, lower some class sizes, and assist with assessments for the purpose of meeting students where they are at and coaching their academic progress from there. The investment has paid dividends in terms of the student academic recovery process. Last spring the District saw strong signs of academic growth and the trajectory continues to move positively.



Hamilton students work on kindergarten readiness skills with School Counselor Sarah Teed

According to the Measures of Academic Progress Assessment (MAP), students in grades K-8 grew tremendously in both Math and Reading last spring, making huge gains. Approximately 70% of elementary students met their growth goals in math and approximately 63% met their growth goals in Reading. These numbers are significant for a nationally-normed assessment. At the high school level, a strategic focus on recovering lost credits toward graduation also proved to yield excellent results. This summer alone, out of 280 students who attended one day or more of summer school, 181 students earned a combined total of 258 semesters of credit. To frame that data another way, 65% of students attending earned an average of 1.4 semesters of credit toward the traditional 21.5 credits required for graduation. Academic growth, credit recovery, and supporting students' social-emotional needs along the way have proven to be a recipe for success.

The District is incredibly grateful for the diligent commitment of our teachers and staff. We are proud of our determined students and families, and our supportive community for being with us every step.

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How MPSF SUPPORTS TEACHERS

This year, the Moline Public Schools Foundation (MPSF) will award nearly \$40,000 in grants to teachers, reaching 23 classrooms from preschool to high school in 10 different schools. MPSF grants are used for creative projects and extra classroom materials that are not typically funded by the district. For teachers with big ideas, the grants can be a game changer.

At Bicentennial Elementary, a MPSF grant was used in 2018 to purchase a 3D printer and start a 3D Print Club for 4th and 5th graders. Now, a grant is being used to purchase another printer and expand the club to 2nd and 3rd graders. Teacher Christine Watts encourages students to think about problems they see in the community and how the 3D creations they make can help solve them. At the school's "Maker Fest", the projects go on display so students can show off their creativity and problem-solving skills. Watts says the foundation has allowed her to dream big.

Other grant projects this year range from flexible seating options and mariachi guitars to pickleball nets and language, literacy, and math tools. The full list of recipients can be found at www.molinepsf.org/news.php.

To make a year-end gift to the foundation, scan the QR code or visit www.molinepsf.org. Your dollars will go right into the classroom, funding projects that support creative 21st century teaching and learning.



Bicentennial students use their Chromebooks to design 3D projects



FOCUSED ON SUPPORTING STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

In addition to targeted academic intervention and supports, the District has tuned in specifically to the mental health needs of our students as the pandemic has impacted many in a variety of different ways.

The District has hired seven additional counselors in the last three years. A full time Dean of Students at each middle school has been hired to provide additional student support, and a therapy dog program has been launched in three schools so far to date. We partner with a number of agencies in the community to provide services to our students such as Robert Young, Youth Services Bureau, and Tele-psychiatry services, to name a few. The School Health Link, a school-based health clinic formerly located in Rock Island, is now located at Moline High School for ease of access and additional supports for our students and families. All student ID cards in grades 6-12 have Crisis Hotline/Suicide Prevention phone numbers on the back of them.

This fall, all counselors have been certified in the nationally renowned program Youth Mental Health First Aid, and are now able to bring that training back to the staff in their schools second semester. This training helps teachers and staff to better recognize the signs of student struggles and help serve as a conduit to ensure the student is directed to the proper help they need. Schools now have dedicated time for social-emotional learning during the instructional day for all students.

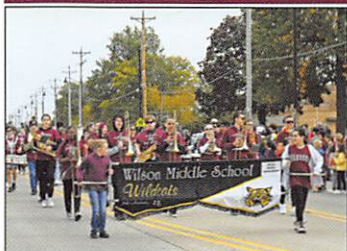


A group of school counselors, instructional coaches and administrators participate in Youth Mental Health First Aid training

The highly anticipated transition of the Coolidge Alternative program to the newly renovated A-wing of Moline High School is now complete. This school within a school model allows students that attended the former Coolidge program, rebranded as the Aspire Program, to have far greater access to school counselors, academic advising, a greater selection of courses, and a vastly improved learning environment.

Lastly, we have a number of reporting mechanisms for students to report concerns such as the P3 anonymous reporting app, Safe2Help Illinois, and the Bullying reporting form on the District website.

HOMEcoming 2022



Wilson Middle School Band



MHS "Grow Your Own Teacher" Program float



MHS Girls Freshman Volleyball



John Deere Middle School Band

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DIEGO DAVILA



Diego Davila

MHS senior Diego Davila received the National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA) from the College Board. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.5, a qualifying score in either the PSAT or at least two Advanced Placement exams, and be a member of the Hispanic community. About **7000 students nationally are awarded** the NHRA out of 250,000 applicants.

COMMENDED STUDENTS



Simra Babu

Moline High School announces that two students have received recognition in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program. Seniors Simra Babu and Graham Crippen have been named as Commended Students.



Graham Crippen

Commended students in the National Merit Scholarship Program are recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the 2021 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). **Commended students place among the top 50,000 students who took the 2021 PSAT/NMSQT.**

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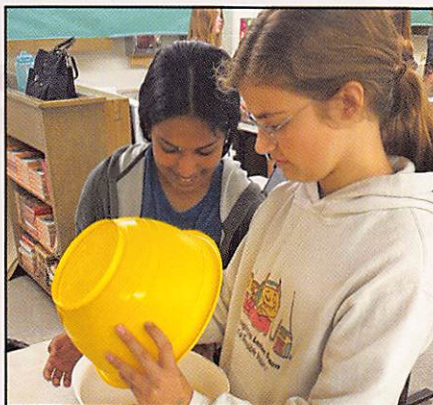
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



*Striking a pose at Lincoln-Irving's
Wax Museum*



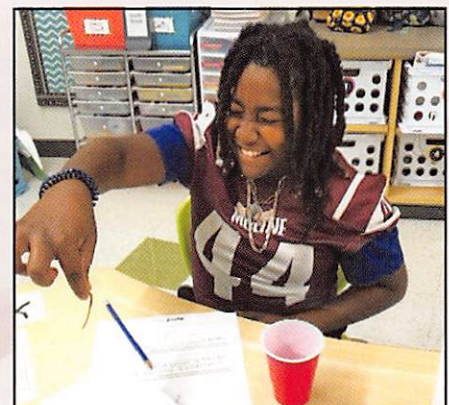
*Students cut the ribbon for the new ASPIRE program
at Moline High School*



*Wilson students engage in hands-on-
learning during health class*



*The MHS Special Olympics basketball
team hosted the "Fall Classic"
tournament. Special Olympics teams from
area high schools competed in this fun
event and everyone was a winner!*



*A Hamilton student conducts a science
experiment to determine what kinds of
conditions worms prefer*