



# EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



## A Family Guide To Student Success



Mad River Local Schools support academic excellence through teaming, exploration, and developing relationships. Our schools' respectful environments promote high achievement, personal responsibility and life-long learning while attending to the unique needs of all students.

We are proud of our students' achievement and the outstanding quality of our staff. We emphasize the need for continued improvement for the benefit of our students - our number one priority.

**Preschool | K-12 | Career-Tech | STEM**



### HOME OF THE INDIANS

## YOUR CHILD DESERVES THE BEST EDUCATION



Our Mission Is to create successful educational experiences for all the students we serve through diverse opportunities.

The schools that make up the Mad River Local School District are located in Riverside, Ohio - next to the City of Dayton and Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The Mad River School District serves over 3,800 students in preschool through twelfth grade. In addition to providing STEM and career-technical education, we offer numerous educational, extracurricular, and enrichment programs to meet the needs of our students.

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# OUR Schools

## **PRESCHOOL**

Our Early Childhood Development Center provides a loving, safe, and nurturing child-centered educational experience for children ages 3-4. Our licensed teachers provide meaningful and developmentally appropriate educational experiences for your child's intellectual, social, emotional, creative, and physical development. We prepare students for kindergarten with a strong foundation of early literacy, social-emotional, and math skills. Our program implements a developmentally appropriate curriculum that is aligned with the Ohio Department of Education's Early Learning and Developmental Standards.

## **ELEMENTARY K-4**

Across our elementary schools, we celebrate the many ways our teachers craft their instruction to best serve their students' learning journeys. The schools offer a safe and inviting environment for learning to students in kindergarten through fourth grade, with before- and after-school programs available at some of our schools. Students participate in physical education, art, music, and the library. In our elementary school programs, STEM education can start early. With a comprehensive curriculum, educational media, and professional learning modules, students can start gaining confidence in the basics of STEM, alongside the social and fine motor skills they are already learning in the classroom.

Our model for teacher professional learning provides our educators with access to curriculum-specific experts in the field, in-class coaching, and plenty of opportunities for teachers to learn from one another. Elementary school staff is actively engaged in Professional Learning Communities (PLC), Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and PAX (positive classroom behaviors). These initiatives work in conjunction with one another to ensure that all students can learn. The school's common master schedule provides for weekly staff collaboration time and daily intervention/enrichment opportunities for students.



Students may also participate in many school-sponsored clubs and activities. Opportunities vary by school.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## SPINNING HILLS 5-6

The years between the Fifth and Eighth grades represent a period of profound growth in the academic and social development of children. The Middle School years transition students from the self-contained classroom experience of the lower school years to the subject-driven, independent nature of the upper school years.

Spinning Hills Middle School serves a diverse population of students in grades 5-6 in a safe and supportive environment. Our dedicated and caring staff functions in a team setting and strives to help equip every child with the necessary academic, emotional, and social skills to lead a productive and healthy life.

Students participate in rigorous academics, developmentally appropriate social and emotional learning, creative expression, and STEM activities. The middle school provides a variety of co-curricular activities that allow students to participate at levels of their abilities, skills, and interests, such as student council, art club, music programs, and after-school intramurals. Spinning Hills uses positive behavior intervention supports to promote self-discipline.

Amid a friendly and family atmosphere, students are made to feel at home in a diverse school. Our commitment is always to prepare our students for future success. Spinning Hills truly is a safe community where respect and education are top priorities.

## MAD RIVER MIDDLE 7-8

With a focus on hands-on learning, Mad River Middle School enables your child to be an active participant in his or her education. We strive to support our students to receive the support and guidance needed to grow socially, emotionally, and academically so that they can achieve their full potential.

An Ohio Department of Education STEM-designated school, we focus on providing an engaging and empowering education that incorporates essential middle school-level skills and character development, with rigorous real-world education. All of this is then rooted in STEM-based problem-solving and fueled by constant exploration, inquiry, and discovery.

Mad River Middle is proud to offer Project Lead the Way (PLTW) to our students and give them an advantage over their peers in college and their careers. PLTW has a long history of successfully engaging students in STEM subjects, and we believe our community will also see the benefits of PLTW as these students turn into the next generation of highly skilled employees for our local businesses.

Academic programs focus on creativity and innovation while a range of clubs, sports, and activities allow students to excel in numerous ways. Our teachers foster the exploration of new ideas, independent thinking, and responsibility as they prepare our Middle School students for the next step in their education.

We work tirelessly to provide an exciting and engaging education that unlocks the unlimited potential of every student while fostering the character and confidence needed to succeed in an exponentially changing world.





# HIGH SCHOOL



Stebbins High School teachers and staff encourage and support all students in their efforts to achieve excellence in both academics and extracurricular activities. Walter E. Stebbins offers a varied and comprehensive program that includes outstanding arts programs, competitive athletics, and rigorous academic programs that meet the educational needs of students and have been recognized nationwide.

The school's partnership with Sinclair Community College allows

students to earn dual credit in courses and graduate with an associate degree. Students enjoy the support of a strong



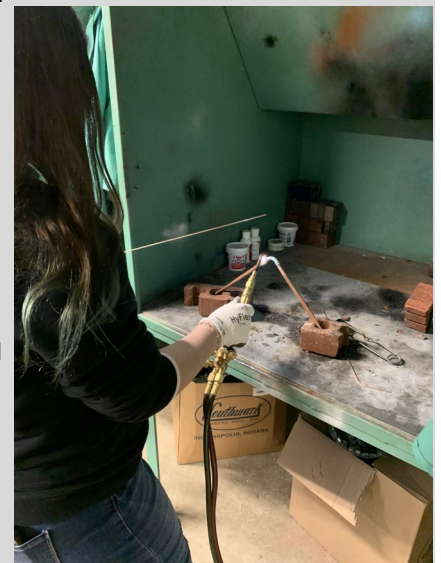
community of parents, families, business leaders, teachers, staff, and administration that work collaboratively to ensure they are tomorrow's leaders.

Stebbins High School offers many sports and clubs to meet all interests. The Air Force JROTC program consistently wins state and national accolades, as well. Mad River Local Schools embraces the concept of career and technical education for all students

and provides counseling, highly-qualified teachers, technology-rich labs, an expansive curriculum, and many support services for students in K12. Through classroom instruction, laboratory experience, and cooperative work experience, students are prepared with job entry skills or the necessary prerequisites for additional technical or academic training beyond high school. Students can choose Career and Technical Education in manufacturing and engineering, graphic design, accounting, and nursing to name a few. These classes provide training in job skills, including collaboration, communication, and problem-solving.

An Ohio Department of Education STEM-designated school, Stebbins offers STEM courses rooted in Project-Based Learning principals. Our STEM courses engage students in a challenging STEM curriculum, giving them the chance to take courses that are not found at other, traditional high schools.

## STEBBINS 9-12





# CAREER TECH

Stebbins High School is not only an award-winning high school – but it also offers its students a unique opportunity to stay at their home school and attend state and national esteemed career technical programs at its Career Technology School. Career and Technical Education (CTE) prepares Stebbins students for high-demand careers, from nurses to engineers, and hundreds of careers in between. Our programs are located centrally in our state-of-the-art high school (why leave your home school when we have it all right here?) and serve students in grades 9 through 12. There are 10 programs of study at SHS, including STEM courses.

In addition to STEM-based learning, our career-technical programs give students the chance to participate in all of the traditional academic and extracurricular opportunities offered at typical high schools. Our programs offer college credits, industry certifications, and scholarship opportunities. Student Involvement options include Skills USA and Business Professionals of America.

The Stebbins Career Technology Program has a unique partnership with Sinclair Community College to lead students to a college degree or certification and high-wage employment. The partnership allows students to earn free college credit while in high school and a \$3000 scholarship upon meeting all program and graduation requirements.

## Stebbins Career & Technical Programs

- Accounting & Finance
- Advanced Manufacturing & Machining
- Construction
- Criminal Justice
- Engineering & Robotics
- Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
- Graphic Design & Digital Media
- Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Nursing & Healthcare
- Teacher Academy



# COLLEGE PROMISE

The dream of attending college has become a reality for many Mad River students thanks to a promise by local educators and business leaders. Mad River Local Schools is pleased to partner with the College Promise program.

- College Promise provides a life-changing opportunity for up to 50 Montgomery County students a year.
- These students, whose lives have been impacted by poverty, will be identified and selected during their eighth-grade year.
- Each student will be supported through high school by a caring adult mentor who will meet with them weekly for 30 to 50 minutes at their school and through programming offered by the College Promise Program and college and university partners.
- The selected students, upon the successful completion of high school and the meeting of the entrance requirements to Sinclair, Wright State, Denison University, Kettering College, Central State, Miami, the University of Dayton, and other four-year university partners, will be awarded scholarships that allow them to attend college at little to no cost to them or their families.



# STEM

Mad River Schools are proud to offer a strong STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education for all of our students. From preschool to high school our students are engaged in hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math. Whether it is a stream study for preschoolers or launching homemade rockets in middle school, Mad River Schools believes in its vision to improve teaching and learning through STEM education. Most importantly, we are confident that we are providing high levels of engagement and an array of learning opportunities for our students to develop critical problem-solving skills and prepare them to succeed in a global marketplace.

We utilize the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force to participate in projects that develop an understanding of the science and mathematics of flight beginning with the study of mechanics developed in the Wright Brothers' Bicycle Shop. Students in fifth and sixth grades have an opportunity to participate in a STEM-focused STARBASE program by having a variety of inquiry-based learning experiences designed to increase interest and knowledge of math, science, and technology. Mad River Middle School implemented our newest STEM-based class, Project Lead the Way (PLTW which allows students to explore engineering).



## PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

We offer STEM support through Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a nationally recognized program that emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and real-world problem-solving. The PLTW belief is that "curiosity rules", and every classroom is an innovation zone. Classrooms are equipped with the latest design software, advanced materials, and cutting-edge equipment to equip students to do projects ranging from programming robots to analyzing DNA samples.

Our elementary schools use STEM approaches to analyze the knowledge base of what already exists (science, math, and technology) to create new ideas and products (engineering). The inquiry-based instructional program nurtures students' spirit of curiosity, questioning, reflection, openness to new ideas, and respect for evidence. In both of our middle schools, students can enroll in PLTW's Gateway to Technology units

## COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

College Credit Plus is a program that allows high school students to be enrolled in both high school and college coursework at the same time. College Credit Plus replaces Ohio's Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program (PSEO) and all dual enrollment programs. Students must qualify academically and, as required by law, Mad River Local Schools will bear all tuition costs.



A College Credit Plus student enjoys the opportunity to pursue more challenging classes and explore college interests sooner. Your child can earn anywhere from a few college credits to an Associate's Degree while still in high school. College Credit Plus can reduce your child's time in college and greatly reduce your family's higher education costs.

that explore STEM topics such as energy, the environment, modeling, robotics, and technology. Our staff



participates in rigorous training in STEM principles and has ongoing support in the courses they teach. PLTW's hands-on, project-based program engages students on multiple levels, exposes them to subjects that they typically would not pursue, provides them with a strong foundation for achieving their academic goals in any chosen field of study and, if pursued, establishes a proven path to college and career success in STEM-related industries.



# ATHLETICS

The school district, home of the Indians, has a rich history of athletic success. The district's administration, staff, and community at large are committed to building upon that history and maintaining a high level of integrity among all of our athletic programs.

The Athletic Department's mission is to provide opportunities for participation in competitive sports, where students learn the importance of sportsmanship, work ethic, priority setting, and teamwork. These values enable students to be better prepared for academic, physical, and social challenges.

## Athletics in Mad River Local Schools

### Elementary School & Spinning Hills (5-6)

There are no organized athletic programs provided by the district at the Elementary school level and Spinning Hills Middle School. Enrichment classes may be offered after school in some buildings and some of them may be an athletic or game-type class (e.g. dance, yoga, running club, etc.). These classes vary and are decided by the building principal.

### Middle School (7-8)

The district offers sports programs to all students in grades 7-8. Emphasis is placed on skill development, sportsmanship, and team play. Before participation, a student must have a current physical form and a signed parent permission slip on file in the office; and the required activity fee must be paid. Students participating in middle school athletics are expected to display exemplary citizenship at all times. Failure to display appropriate citizenship and sportsmanship may

result in loss of playing time and/or expulsion from the athletic program. Students are also expected to maintain defined academic standards. Teachers will monitor student grades and will communicate with the coaches regarding academic difficulties. The coaching staff will develop plans to aid students in their efforts to meet acceptable standards.

### Fall Season

Cheerleading\*  
Football\*  
Golf  
Soccer  
Women's Tennis  
Volleyball\*

### Winter Season

Basketball\*  
Bowling  
Cheerleading\*  
Wrestling\*

### Spring Season

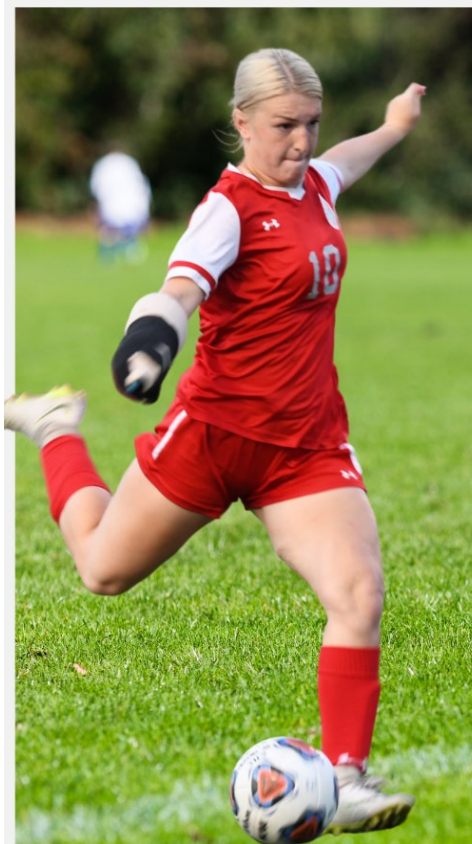
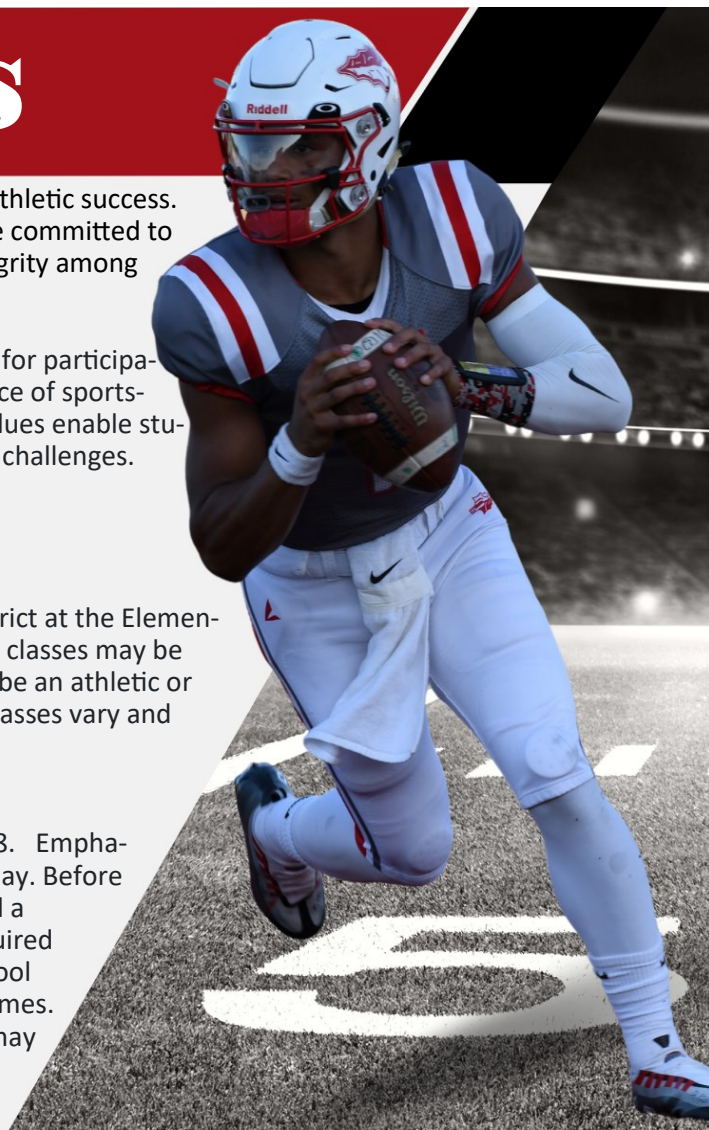
Baseball\*  
Softball\*  
Men's Tennis  
Track\*

*\*Also offered at Mad River Middle*

## STEBBINS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

- Began athletic competition in 1957 as an independent school
- Formed the Western Ohio League with four other schools in 1964
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- Returned to independent status in 1989
- Joined Southwest Rivers Conference in 1994
- Member of Mid Miami League 1997-98 school year
- Member of Central Buckeye Conference 2007-2016
- Member of Greater Western Ohio Conference 2016-2019

**Athletic District:** Southwest – as established by the OHSAA  
**League Affiliation:** **Miami Valley League**  
**Colors:** Scarlet and Gray  
**Nickname:** Indians



# HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

While home involvement is most important, your involvement with the school is also critical to your child's success. How can you get more involved with your child's school life?

**There are several ways:**

- Join the parent-teacher association
- Attend open houses and back-to-school nights
- Read school newsletters
- Participate in after-school events
- Get to know your child's teachers
- Support your child in school activities
- Volunteer to assist with school functions and extracurricular activities



### Why get involved in your child's learning?

Research proves that the more parents engage in their child's learning, the more likely children are to grow, develop and achieve more. "What parents do with their children at home and throughout their education is much more significant than any other factor..."

*Desforges 2003*



Parents and families have the most influence on their child's attitudes, behavior, and achievement outcomes. A child spends less than 20% of their time at school and over 80% with parents, family, and others in their community - that is why parents, school, and community all need to work together

**Getting involved also means actively engaging in your child's learning at home. This means you can make a positive difference by:**

- Encouraging your children to be positive and curious about learning everywhere; at home, school, and in the community.
- Make sure your children are going to school regularly, are on time, and have good routines .
- Working together with the school to make sure your child's health and well-being and progress are going well.
- Encouraging your children to have wider interests such as hobbies, after-school clubs, or community activities.
- Getting involved in the school in as many ways as possible - sharing your skills, time, and interests.
- Asking for information for yourself or your child's learning so you can be supportive.
- Talking to your child about their future, hopes, and dreams.

