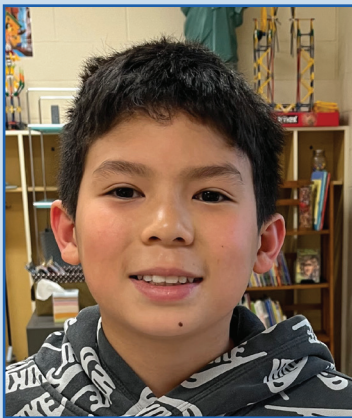


# Madeira City Schools

2024 - 2025

## Quality Profile



**Highlights in Academics, Arts,  
Student Leadership & Activities, Athletics,  
Fiscal Stewardship, Parent & Community Involvement,  
Student Services, and Staff & District Recognitions  
from the 2024-2025 school year**



Dear Friends of Madeira Schools,

Madeira City Schools are deeply rooted in our community as evidenced by the multi-generations of Madeira families who have walked our halls for over a century. Many Madeira alumni return to raise their families in the community and schools they grew up in as well.

Madeira Elementary School (Grades K-5), Madeira Middle School (Grades 6-8) and Madeira High School (Grades 9-12) house innovative curriculums and premium services. Our optional tuition-based Madeira Preschool has a staff who takes great pride in providing our youngest learners with a nurturing learning environment.

We place a high degree of importance on ensuring that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. This is our 13th annual Quality Profile (QP) - a compilation of accomplishments from the past school year that helped our children reach that potential in areas that matter most to the Madeira Schools community; Academics, Arts, Student Leadership & Activities, Athletics, Fiscal Stewardship, Parent & Community Involvement, Student Services, and Staff & District Recognitions. You'll see how our students excelled in ways will help them succeed in life outside of Madeira - ways that aren't included in mandated state tests. Past Quality Profiles are listed under 'Welcome' on our website, and I will be happy to mail you a copy of our most current issue by calling our office at 513.985.6070.

Many thanks to our Madeira City Schools Board of Education members **Steve Bernicke, Brad Cunningham, David Eberly, Ryan Lex**, and **Ann Ramos** who volunteer their time to make sure our students receive an outstanding education.

If you are viewing this document online, please click on any blue links for more information. If you have any questions about the excellent education the Madeira City School District offers, please don't hesitate to call. We are eager for this chance to show you the outstanding programs going on every day in every one of our schools. We are "MadeInMadeira and we are #MadeiraStrong!"

Go Madeira!



**Madeira Board of Education**

**Ryan Lex**, President • **Steve Bernicke**, Vice President  
**Brad Cunningham**, Member • **David Eberly**, Member • **Ann Ramos**, Member

**Board of Education Office**

7465 Loannes Drive • 513.985.6070  
**Kenji Matsudo**, Superintendent • **Emily Hauser**, Treasurer/CFO  
**Dave Bergan**, Assistant Superintendent • **Jessica Hunter**, Student Services  
**Diane Nichols**, Public Relations/Quality Profile

**Madeira Elementary School (MES)**

7840 Thomas Drive • 513.985.6080  
Grades K - 5 • Home of John F. Dumont Media Center  
**Chandley Bacher**, Principal • **Sara Gehring**, Assistant Principal

**Madeira Middle School (MMS)**

6612 Miami Avenue • 513.561.5555  
Grades 6 - 8 • Home of Sellman Media Center  
**Nicole Huelsman**, Principal • **Kyle Jepson**, Assistant Principal

**Madeira High School (MHS)**

7465 Loannes Drive • 513.891.8222  
Grades 9 - 12 • Home of Perin Learning Commons  
**David Kennedy**, Principal • **Gretchen Bloomstrom**, Assistant Principal  
**Chris O'Brien**, Athletic Director

**Madeira Preschool (MPS)**

8000 Miami Avenue 513.702.5756  
Tuition based ages 3 - 5  
**Elizabeth Styles**, Director



**Kenji Matsudo**  
Superintendent  
Madeira City Schools



With a purpose of providing the knowledge, care, and passion necessary for every child to reach their individual potential, Madeira City Schools' academic program is anchored in excellence.

• Morgan Starr, Wesley Nelson, Owen Dixon, and William Manning were named National Merit Semifinalists. Nathan Gemmel, Nina Gravlee, Nora Katz, and Sasha Pinyayev were named Commended Students.

• Fifth grader **Ethan McKenzie** received first place in the state of Ohio InvestWrite competition. His essay 'Ice Cream & The Stock Market' focused on diversification of a stock market portfolio.

• 60 members of the Madeira High School Class of 2025 were named Top Seniors and graduated with a 4.0 or above GPA.

• For their cultural comparison task and in collaboration with the AP Art classes, AP Spanish Language and Culture students learned about Cincinnati with an ArtWorks mural tour in OTR, lunch at Findlay Market, and a TQL stadium tour. French Upper-level students took a guided tour in French at the Art Museum and lunch at Lucas Bistro. AP Latin Seniors toured the Art Museum with AP Art and Myths, Legends and Folklore class.

• MES fourth-grader Joseph Burke was the first person in the nation to solve an original math problem from MathPickle.



• 4th grader **Naman Upadhayay** placed 3rd at the Ohio state chess championship.



• Ben Wetzel earned a perfect score on the ACT.



• Evan Cissel also received a perfect score on the test.

• 30 Latin students won awards on the National Latin Exam.

• High school students completed a total of 621 AP Exams.

• AP Computer Classes participated in the Women in IT Conference

• Ella Cuchra was the first Madeira student to win the Governor's Award of Excellence shown in the Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition.

• Fifth graders "travel" the globe to learn about different countries once a week at MES' Culture Club.

• MHS' Theatre Arts performed Beauty and the Beast in the fall, and Mean Girls High School Edition in the spring.

• The high school's Marching Band earned a Superior Rating of 1 at the state competition.

Driven by a passion to inspire creativity and enhance learning, Madeira City Schools is committed to providing strong visual and performing arts experiences throughout the school district.



• All 2nd graders participated in 'Bird Sanctuary Story Trail Art'. Students created tree collages based on the book *Tree* by Britta Teckentrup. Some of the work was displayed at the Madeira Bird Sanctuary.

• **Alene Otto** was selected as the State Choir Representative.

• Student art work was exhibited at the Festival of the Arts at Blue Ash Rec Center, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade music programs, an art show at the Board of Education Office, and the spring District Art Show.



• Sixteen Madeira students received Scholastic Art Awards from the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition initiative for creative students in grades 7-12.

• MHS Key Club served 6800 hours and National Honor Society served 4100 hours of community service.

• AP Spanish students were paired with Spanish-speaking MMS and MES students in our One-On-One Program to build connections and community across the district.

• **Andrew Aziz & Rylan Starr** presented the wreath from Madeira Middle School at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, DC.

• MHS Student Government held an annual blood drive, hosted the first “Disco Skate Night” at Castle Skateland, held the school’s first “in school” Volleyball tournament, created and delivered a “Teacher Appreciation Cart” for staff with snacks and hand written notes of appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week, organized Singing Grams for Valentine’s Day, greeted students with hot chocolate and hot cider, went holiday caroling, planned, created and hosted the 9th grade Orientation, assisted with the 8th Grade Shadow Day in the Fall to welcome our new students and assist with the transition to high school, hosted a winter spirit week and “Toys 4 Tots” Drive, and planned and executed a homecoming spirit week and fall dance.

• A Calligraphy Club was added to an Art Club, Chess Club, Community Service Club, Middle School Musical, Math Counts, Student Council, Girls on the Run, National Junior Honor Society, Culture Club, and Sources of Strength at Madeira Middle School

• French Club hosted its annual crêpe sale at MHS.

• Source of Strength started at the high school with three service campaigns

• Entrepreneurship Teams raised over \$26K for three non-profit organizations - Project Adam, Cancer Support Foundation, and Still Strong Foundation. The Blue & Gold Store supports these student run non-profit companies that operate each fall which donate their proceeds.

We believe that extracurricular activities and community service are a vibrant and vital part of the total Madeira educational experience and play an important role in the development of our students.



We believe our student athletes are held to a high standard; a standard of character, behavior, and respect which should never be called into question.



**State Champion Amazon Soccer Team!**

### STATE QUALIFIERS

**Girls Cross Country  
Girls Golf  
Swimming  
Track & Field  
Girls Soccer**

Teams and individuals made 20 state tournament appearances

• Bowling was added as a new team sport at Madeira High School.

• During the 2024-2025 school year, 32 new Varsity school records were set, 50 student athletes were named first team in the CHL/District, 7 coaches were named CHL/District Coach of the Year, and 5 students were named CHL/District Athletes of the Year. **Dan Brady** was named Division 5 Coach of the Year and **Anna Cornejo** was named an All American for girls soccer.

• Two MMS wrestlers qualified for the middle school state wrestling tournament

• [Madeira High School's Varsity Baseball team won their first scheduled home opener of the spring 2025 season on a brand new turf infield.](#)

• [The MHS Athletic Hall of Fame inducted six new alumni in its 2024 class making a total of 182 Hall of Fame members.](#)





Every two years, Ohio lawmakers approve a new State budget. This past June 2025, the State budget process and HB 96 resulted in significant changes in local control and allowing local Boards of Education to manage their own budget and resources. While our advocacy efforts to reach out to our legislative representatives that represent Madeira were successful, the overall result of Ohio's lawmakers' actions were a significant blow to public schools all across Ohio. To proactively safeguard the resources our Madeira community who has overwhelmingly supported and approved our school levies, the Madeira Board of Education took three important steps to bring stability to the district's finances amidst

and prior to the State lawmakers' actions. These financial moves are represented in the "materials, supplies, capital" line and the "Other costs & transfers" line of the chart. As a good steward of the district's assets, Madeira City Schools:

1. Paid off the MHS auditorium/commons renovation debt early: Approximately \$2M of principal remained outstanding. Paying off the debt early safeguarded the funds necessary to pay our debt obligations.
2. Accelerated Permanent Improvement transfers: Transferring the next two years of P.I. transfers in June safeguarded district resources necessary to meet our facility needs and achieve our long-term P.I. plans. Accelerating these transfers does not have a long-term impact on district finances but instead provides the resources needed to maintain our facilities.
3. Established a Termination Benefits Fund: Allocating district resources in a separate fund necessary to pay upcoming staff severance upon retirement helped to safeguard district resources. The transfer will cover Madeira's obligations for roughly the next 2-3 years.

If ever you have a question or concern about these decisions or anything related to the State's biennium budget process (HB 96) or the district's response, please reach out to Treasurer / CFO Emily Hauser or Superintendent Kenji Matsudo.

• [Steve Coppel from the Holocaust and Humanity Center spoke to eighth grade students in connection with ELA unit on Night \(Elie Wiesel\). Coppel shared stories from his father's survival of the Holocaust and spoke to the importance of being an upstander.](#)



• The World Language Department and the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts held a successful passport night for Madeira residents.

• 116 middle school students joined the Community Service Club in which students and their families participate in monthly service projects around the Cincinnati area.

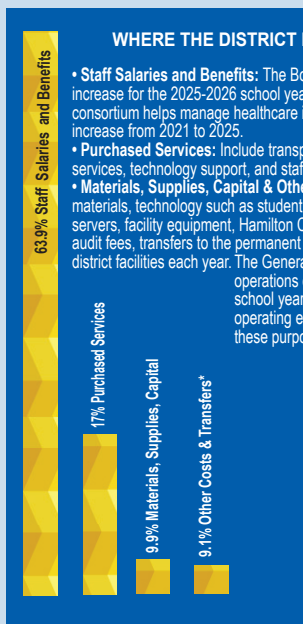
• Parents of sixth graders visited classrooms to talk about trace fossils, the use of cement and how it involved natural resources, creating new products and being on Shark Tank, and working in cells and cancer.



• [The Madeira Youth Lacrosse Association sponsored the second annual Flanny Fest to honor former MES Principal Chris Flanagan. Money raised went to the Madeira Schools Foundation Chris Flanagan Memorial Scholarship.](#)

### WHERE THE DISTRICT MONEY GOES

- **Staff Salaries and Benefits:** The Board approved a 2.5% salary increase for the 2025-2026 school year. Membership in a health consortium helps manage healthcare increases that averaged a 4.7% increase from 2021 to 2025.
- **Purchased Services:** Include transportation services, custodial services, technology support, and staff & pupil support services.
- **Materials, Supplies, Capital & Other Costs:** Includes instructional materials, technology such as student and teacher computers and servers, facility equipment, Hamilton County tax collection costs, annual audit fees, transfers to the permanent improvement fund to maintain district facilities each year. The General Fund is used for the ordinary operations of the district. In the 2024-2025 school year, Madeira's General Fund operating expenditures were \$30.9M for these purposes.

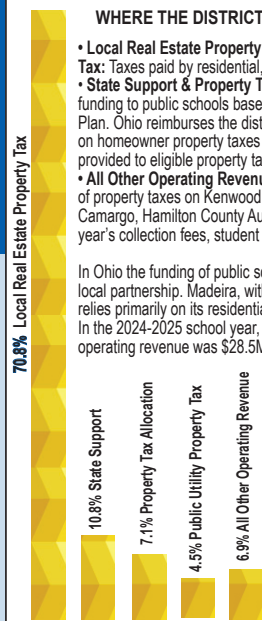


With a commitment to proactively manage district resources in a cost-efficient manner, we ensure that resources from federal, state, and local levels are aligned with district goals and that the majority of funding is spent on classroom instruction.

### WHERE THE DISTRICT MONEY COMES FROM

- **Local Real Estate Property Tax & Public Utility Property Tax:** Taxes paid by residential, businesses, and public utilities
- **State Support & Property Tax Allocation:** Ohio provides funding to public schools based on the Fair School Funding Plan. Ohio reimburses the district for the 12.5% exemption on homeowner property taxes and the homestead exemption provided to eligible property taxpayers.
- **All Other Operating Revenue:** Includes payment in lieu of property taxes on Kenwood Senior Star and Traditions on Camargo, Hamilton County Auditor reimbursement of prior year's collection fees, student fees and investment earnings

In Ohio the funding of public schools is a shared state and local partnership. Madeira, with minimal business tax base, relies primarily on its residential property owners for funding. In the 2024-2025 school year, Madeira City Schools' general operating revenue was \$28.5M from these sources.



The Madeira City School District recognizes the need for a total support system and values parent involvement, seeks community partners, and celebrates opportunities to showcase excellence.



• [Madeira City School District's Community Coffees with the Superintendent are held each fall and spring to give residents a chance to hear updates and stay connected with the schools.](#)

• High school students and staff members volunteered at 30 local businesses and organizations on their annual Day of Service.

- [1-866-LISTEN2ME](#) allowed students or parents to anonymously leave a message about an unsafe situation or circumstance within the school environment 24 hours a day.
- Each school provided school counselors to help students with academic concerns, emotional issues, crisis intervention, conflict resolution, healthy decision-making, bullying and harassment prevention, and college and career readiness.
- Sources of Strength, a positive mental health program, was in its second year at Madeira Middle and was initiated at Madeira High School. The campaigns are aimed at students in Grades 6-12, and encourage a sense of belonging, gratitude, and wellness.
- Intervention staff continued to refine their practice with implementation of Lindamood Bell (reading programs to develop the skills necessary for decoding and language comprehension).
- Childrens Hospital Partnership provided Madeira families with children in Grades K-12 access to school based mental health services - facilitated by MindPeace, a non-profit organization with the mission to improve access to high quality mental health care for all children. These optional and confidential services were offered in addition to those provided by school counselors and psychologists.

Madeira City Schools is committed to ensuring the success of each student by providing a continuum of services personalized to meet each learner's needs.



- [All Madeira Schools and the Madeira Police Department work together to build a more connected and inclusive community to help end social isolation. They participate in Start With Hello, a prevention program that addresses the fact that in every school and community, there are young people who suffer silently because they feel left out, alone, or invisible – which in turn can lead to bullying, violence, or depression. Started by the national nonprofit organization Sandy Hook Promise, the program's goal is to prevent violence in schools by teaching students to ban social isolation.](#)



We take pride in the recognition our expert staff, qualified administrators, committed board of education members, and involved parents and community members receive.



- The Madeira City School Board presented its highest honor, the I Make a Difference Award, to **Robin Gaffney** for continuing to go above and beyond for the Athletic Boosters after his children graduated, **Christine Loncaric** for her extraordinary volunteerism for the past several years serving in a variety of key roles at Madeira Elementary School, and **John DiMauro** for serving as the MSF Auctioneer for 10 years.

- [Madeira High School was named #8 in the state of Ohio and #311 in the nation by US News and World Report.](#)

• [The 5-star rating system on the state report card started four years ago. Madeira has received an overall rating of 5 stars in all four of those years. Out of 607 districts in the state of Ohio, our overall report card rating was 5th overall, higher than all districts in Hamilton County. Only 47 received an overall 5 star rating.](#)

• MHS art teacher **Jill Dulgeroff** was presented with the Live Oaks Favorite Affiliate Teacher Award. MMS staff **Kara Foley, Sarah Brossart & Mary James** attended a Holocaust fellowship through the Holocaust Humanities Center over the course of several months. **Tracy Alley**, gifted intervention specialist, was selected as the Scripps WCPO News Channel 9 Regional Spelling Bee Head Judge for the 15th year in a row.

• [Madeira Elementary School second grade teacher Nicole Prater was named Madeira's 2025 Educator of the Year and represented the district at the Hamilton County Education Foundation's Celebrate Excellence event.](#)

• [The Foundation's Distinguished Awards were presented to Scott Blackwelder '92 \(Distinguished Alumni Award\), Bob Kitchen \(Distinguished Staff Award\), and David Eberly \(Friend of the Foundation Award\). Scholarship recipients were also honored and were able to meet their donor's families.](#)