MADEIRA
CITY SCHOOLS

2025 - 2026

Madeira City Schools

Quality Profile

Highlights in Academics, Arts,
Student Leadership & Activities, Athletics,
Fiscal Stewardship, Parent & Community Involvement,
Student Services, and Staff & District Recognitions
from the 2025-2026 school year

7465 Loannes Drive • Madeira, OH 45243 • www.madeiracityschools.org

Dear Friends of Madeira Schools,

Kenji Matsudo
Superintendent,
Madeira City 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 14th 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

@KenjiMatsudo

Academics

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.

• A fifth grade field trip to the Cincinnati Zoo on America Recycles Day was funded through the district's relationship with Hamilton County Resource.

• High School Forensic classes partnered with the FBI to learn real world examples of fingerprint analysis and ballistics.

• The Madeira High School Academic team qualified for the state tournament where they placed fourth.

• On 3rd grade Biography Day each student researched a famous person, then presented in front of their class 'as' their person. They created a wax museum for other MES students, families, and community members.

• The Top Seniors of the Class of 2026, who graduated with a 4.0 or above GPA, were announced at the Academic Day of Signing May 5.

• An ESFC Stem grant was awarded to the fifth grade to fund an iSpace field trip during the 2026 - 27 school year.

• Owen Donovan, Evan Cissell, and were named National Merit Semifinalists in the 71st annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

• Seven students were named National Merit Commended Scholars.

• Junior Luke Pease achieved a perfect composite score of 36 on the American College Testing (ACT) test.

• Every member of the Class of 2026 who attended a college, university, career training program, or entered the military received a monetary scholarship of $325 - the Made in Madeira Scholarship.

• The Latin Club, consisting of students in grades 8-12, achieved first place in the 75th OCJL Convention.

• AP Statistics took field trips to the data analytics programs at Xavier University, FC Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Reds.

Arts

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.

• The PTO sponsored Got Art? activities throughout the school year including Meet the Artist Days, Cincinnati Art Museum field trips, Green Acres concerts, Cincinnati Playhouse improvisation classes, and Dayton Ballet.

• Fifth graders Edith Blessing, Natalia Encinger, Audrey Goldman, and Julianne Simpson were selected by audition to participate in the OMEA All-State Children's choir.

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

• Lifelong migraines became a source of purpose for Isabella Sammut whose artwork was selected for the cover of *Practical Neurology*, a magazine based in Washington, D.C.

• Seventh grade language arts, social studies, and art classes worked together to present the annual Empty Bowls Dinner Event; a student service-learning project centered on fighting poverty, hunger and homelessness. Every guest took home a bowl hand made by a student.

• Poet and teacher Abby Rudibaugh helped a third-grade classroom produce "I am from Madeira" poems that focused on all aspects of their community.

• The high school Marching Mustangs band qualified for the Ohio Music Education Association state finals. They received straight Superior ratings for an overall (1) Superior.

• A community-wide read of the New York Times bestseller, *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt, was held at the Madeira Public Library in conjunction with Madeira Schools.

• Liam Garza, Sam Redlinger, Ben Reed, and Blake Torggler earned second place at the Junior Achievement National Stock Market Challenge in Boston.

• Alessandro Caggioni, Ryan Prus, Boden Starr, and Cameron Starr represented Ohio at the National Personal Finance Challenge in Atlanta.

• Third grade social studies classes visited with the city manager at the Madeira Municipal Building to learn more about the function of our local government.

• On February 13, 2026, 250 cards were hand delivered to veterans at The Cincinnati VA Medical Center thanks to the Madeira High School Key Club.The oldest and largest student-led service organization for high schoolers, Key Club focuses on leadership through community service and volunteering.

• Madeira's entrepreneurship students made a difference with their three non-profit companies: Four Leaf Futures, FurEver Friends, and Playbook Project.

Student Leadership & Activities

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.

• 5th Graders blasted off with an iSpace field trip and built bottle rockets with the help of parent volunteers. They also focused on giving back, distributing 'Pay It Forward' flowers to MES teachers and surrounding neighbors.

• With songs, dances, science experiments, sign language, karate, and instruments, Madeira Elementary School students performed for the school and then for the community in their first talent show.

• At Madeira High School's 40th annual Circle Prom students met at the high school, boarded charter buses, and traveled together to an off-site location for dinner and dancing. They returned to the high school via buses to a themed After Prom "wonderland" with food, games, entertainment, and prizes. Students were encouraged to lay down their phones during dinner to be fully present with their classmates.

Athletics

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.

• The Madeira High School Athletic Hall of Fame inducted five new MHS alumni making a total of 187 Hall of Fame members. New inductees were Kristen Barnhill ('06), Joe Bodnar ('12), John Cardoza ('00), Chris Eberle ('06), and Bonnie Patten ('69).

• The Varsity Baseball team played at Great American Ball Park in the Skyline Reds Futures Showcase during the 15th Annual Big League Weekend in May. Each ticket included admission to the future Cincinnati Reds "Madeira Day" game in June.

For the second year in a row, the Girls Soccer team won the State Championship

State Qualifiers

• The Athletic Boosters conducted fundraising activities, sponsored programs, and provided a forum though which the administration, faculty, coaches, parents, students and community worked in cooperation for the betterment of the athletic program. They provided over $150k to support over 400 MMS and MHS athletes and sponsored Booster Palooza, Kids Club, Spirit Wear, and the Hall of Fame.

• MES had 160 runners in the Flying Pig 26 Mile Race this year making them the second largest team in the entire race.

• Boys Volleyball was added as a varsity sport

Fiscal Stewardship $

With a commitment to pro actively 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.

Our district has long been recognized for providing an exceptional education while being a careful steward of the resources entrusted to us by our community. Every financial decision is guided by a commitment to preserve outstanding opportunities for students while managing taxpayer dollars responsibly.

It has been five years since voters approved the district's last operating levy in November 2021. Since then the Board of Education has continued to follow its adopted Financial Guidelines and Parameters, emphasizing conservative budgeting, long-term planning, and fiscal responsibility. As a result, Madeira has maintained financial stability while continuing to invest in the people, programs, and facilities that make our schools exceptional.

The Board has also remained committed to its long-range Permanent Improvement Plan, which provides dedicated funding for maintaining and improving district facilities without seeking additional operating dollars. Through thoughtful planning, the district has completed projects such as the Madeira High School locker room renovation, replacement of the high school gymnasium floor, baseball field turf installation, and numerous other facility improvements while protecting the community's investment in our schools.

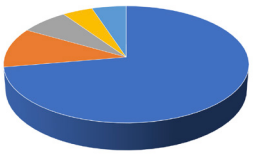
Like nearly every public school district in Ohio, Madeira faces a changing financial landscape. Local taxpayers in every community provide a larger share of school funding as state support has become less predictable and has not kept pace with the increasing costs of operating schools. As revenues and expenses continue to be closely monitored, the Board anticipates that additional operating support from the community will likely be needed in the coming years to sustain the high-quality educational experience our students deserve. Ohio districts continue to rely heavily on local voters to maintain operations amid changing state funding policies and rising costs.

We are grateful for the continued trust and partnership of the Madeira community. Your investment in our schools makes a lasting difference not only for today's students, but for the strength and vitality of our entire community. Together, we will continue to plan responsibly, spend wisely, and ensure that Madeira City Schools remains an exceptional place for every child to learn and grow.

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 Traditions on Camargo, Swingline Grill, 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 and minimal state funding, relies primarily on its residential property owners for funding. In the 2025-2026 school year, Madeira City Schools' general operating revenue was $28.7M from these sources.

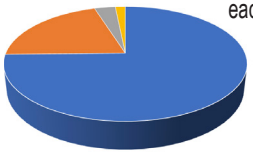


Local Real Estate Property Tax 72.3%
State Support 11%
Property Tax Allocation 7.1%
Public Utility Property Tax 4.5%
All Other Operating Revenue 5.1%

Where the District Money Goes

- **Staff Salaries and Benefits:** The Board approved a 3% salary increase for the 2026-2027 school year. Membership in a health consortium helps manage healthcare increases that averaged a 5.9% increase from 2022 to 2026.
- **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.

Staff Salaries & Benefits 74.7%
Purchased Services 20.4%
Property Tax Materials, Supplies, Capital 3.3%
Other Costs & Transfers 1.6%



The General Fund is used for the ordinary operations of the district. In the 2025-2026 school year, Madeira's General Fund operating expenditures were $27.5M for these purposes.

If you have questions or concerns about the district's finances, please reach out to Treasurer / CFO Emily Hauser or Superintendent Kenji Matsudo.

Parent & Community Involvement

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.

- For 75 years, the Madeira Planning Commission has studied and identified needs for the school district to focus on and made recommendations to the Board. 2025-26 studies were Specials and Elective Offerings in K-8, Capturing Student Voice, Salary & Benefits Study, and School to Home Communication Strategies. All members are volunteers.

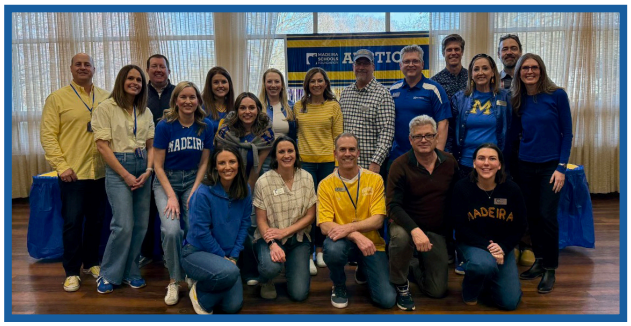
- The Madeira Police Department partnered with MES to teach students about internet safety.

- The City of Madeira collaborated with MHS art students to paint barrels holding temporary crossing signs and light poles on Miami and Dawson.

- Madeira Family Fun Nights are intentional in pausing homework four times a year to make space for special family memories to be made and to find balance. See all of our Family Fun Night videos at Making Room Families to Have Fun.

- Twice a year District Superintendent Kenji Matsudo holds a Senior Citizen Community Coffees to give senior residents a chance to stay connected with the schools.

- Architect Emma Pevoar and Madeira parent Abby Anastasio collaborated with second grade classes for "Design Lab: Learn + Build"; a non-profit organization that introduces architecture, engineering, construction, and design to students K-8. This program has reached over 2,000 kids each year. One class project, "Squirrel Paradise," won the 2026 Juror's Choice award for grades K-2.



- The all volunteer Madeira Schools Foundation (MSF) sponsors an annual fundraising auction which has become a premier social event that has raised $2+ million over the past 20 years. Proceeds from the auction, an annual golf outing, and Bourbon & Barbeque event have been used to fund computer hardware and software, athletic facilities, new seats for the high school's auditorium, theatre arts program, and a new science lab building. The MSF annually recognizes distinguished staff, alumni, and friends of the Foundation and also donates upwards of $25,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors and alumni to continue their education.

• Worksites were developed at Hampton Inn, Madeira Preschool, Silver Spring House, and Central Bark which students attend weekly. Tours were scheduled for informational interviews at Fifth-Third Bank and Central Bark, along with assisting students with completing reflection forms.

• 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.

Student Services

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.

• 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.

• 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.

• 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.

Staff & District Recognitions

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

• Madeira High School was named #8 in the state of Ohio and #311 in the nation by US News and World Report.

• Pam Brasey was nominated as Favorite Affiliate Teacher from Live Oaks Vocational School

• Madeira Middle School Science teacher Kirby Slater was named the Madeira School District's 2026 Educator of the Year. He represented the district at the Hamilton County Education Foundation's Celebrate Excellence event, hosted by Anthony Munoz.

• The Madeira City School Board awarded the I Make a Difference Award to Scarlet & Gray owner **Mark Cappell** for our nearly 32 year partnership and dedication to serving our schools; **Julia Hess** - an amazing person with a servant's heart as she cleans at MMS; and **Megan Lowe and Jen Bracken** who worked together to organize our first ever Madeira Unified Track Invitational for students with and without disabilities together.

• Alison (Dewitt) Huber, Mary Ann McPherson, and Steve Soper (represented by his son Ian) were the Madeira Schools Foundation's 2026 Distinguished Award recipients.

• The newest state report card showed Madeira is still one of Ohio's best. Out of 607 school districts, Madeira was one of only 47 districts in the state to receive an overall rating of 5 stars.