



# FOCUS on Mad River Local Schools

## BETTER SCHOOLS - BETTER CITIZENS

Volume 21, Number 1  
Fall 2010

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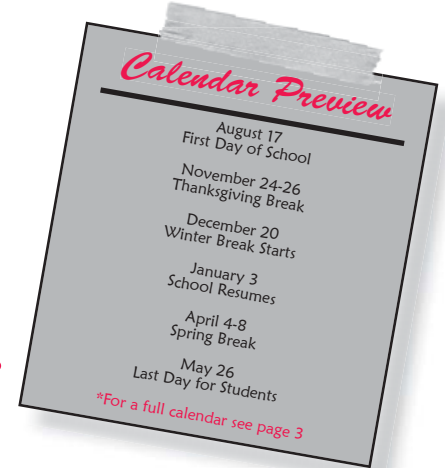
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### MAD RIVER LOCAL SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Mad River Local Schools, a district committed to excellence, is to provide quality educational programs to ensure the development of knowledgeable, productive, responsible citizens able to adapt to a changing society.

## Welcome Back Students and

The Mad River School District wishes to extend a happy welcome to all students, teachers and support staff. We look forward to another successful school year and look ahead to continuing partnerships with parents and the school community to provide safe learning environments for all students.



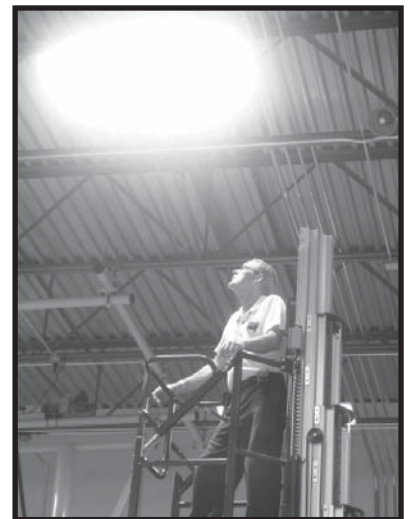
## Summer Season for Cleaning District makes improvements, looks ahead to new school year

While students have been enjoying their break from school, maintenance crews in the District have been eagerly preparing for their arrival. The District's crew of 27 custodians and nine maintenance workers have been busy all summer organizing all seven school buildings and the Board of Education/Preschool for students this fall.

This summer has featured major cleaning and facility upgrades to Mad River buildings. Every classroom has been cleaned from top to bottom. Walls have been painted, floors are being waxed and broken things are being fixed. The outside of the District's buildings are also being spruced up. Bushes have been trimmed, weeds sprayed, mulch installed and the grass has been mowed all summer long.

Other renovation projects are also getting tackled over the summer, including new lighting fixtures in the music rooms and the Student Activity Center multipurpose room at Stebbins. The new fixtures are more energy efficient

and qualify for a rebate from DP&L; new sod for the practice soccer field has been installed; crews have also put in a 450 foot water line



*Mad River Electrician Keith Frasure cranks up the district's lift apparatus to install new light fixtures in the SAC.*

at the practice field from the well system; new stair coverings were mounted inside Mad River Middle's west staircase. These treads will be safer and require less maintenance; fence has been added at Virginia Stevenson to secure the playground; fencing was also

(Continued on Page 7)



A LETTER FROM MIKE EAGLOWSKI,  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome back to a new school year. I am very confident the 2010-2011 school year will be highly successful for the Mad River Local School District. We will continue to strive to improve student achievement. Our goal is to provide the best possible education for our students in a caring and safe environment.

I would like to thank our Maintenance, Custodial, and Transportation Departments for their hard work this summer preparing our buildings, grounds, and buses for the start of a new year. As always, they do a tremendous job. I sincerely believe that Mad River's school buildings are the most beautiful in the Dayton area.

There will be many changes in public education in Ohio this year. In addition to the numerous academic and financial changes, one change may stand out over the rest. If you recall, Ohio legislators reduced the number of allowable calamity days from five to three. That means we will be required to make up days after school is closed three times. This is my 15th year as a superintendent, and I cannot remember school ever being cancelled less than three times during a school year.

Good luck to our athletic teams, marching band, cheerleaders, and all other extra-curricular activities as the 2010 fall season begins. All of the students, coaches, and advisors have worked hard during the summer months to prepare. Every one of you represents Mad River well, and we wish you success.

I hope that all of our students and staff have an outstanding year. It is you that make Mad River a great place to be. Good luck in 2010-2011.

Thank you for your continued support,

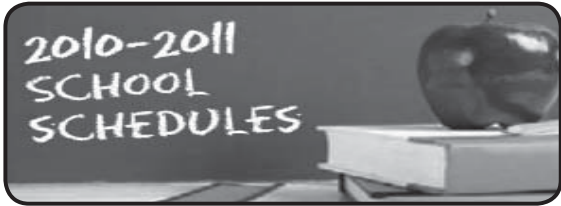
Mike Eaglowski

Superintendent

Mad River Local Schools  
Board of Education

Michael Eaglowski, Superintendent  
Gerald Ellender, Treasurer/CFO  
Necia Nicholas, Asst. Superintendent  
Brent Speas, Dir. of Student Services  
Louis Kramer, Dir. of Curriculum

Marilyn Steiner, President  
Connie Cole, Vice President  
Scott Huddle, Member  
Ruth Newhouse, Member  
Cristina Pickle, Member



August	12	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation
	17	K-12 First Day of School Kindergarten Assessment
	18	Kindergarten Assessment
	19	½ Kindergarten Full Day
	20	½ Kindergarten Full Day
	22	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade - No School All Kindergarten in Session
.....		
September	05	Labor Day – No School
	15	2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
	23	9-12 P/T Conferences
.....		
October	4-8	Ohio Achievement Testing
	15	No School
	19	End of 1st Grading Period 1 Hr Early Release K-12
.....		
November	02	Prof Dev/Waiver Day No School
	04	K-8 P/T Conferences
	06	No School Grades K-8 Grades 9-12 In Session
	11	K-6 P/T Conferences
	24-26	No School – Thanksgiving
.....		
December	2	9-12 P/T Conferences
	20-Jan. 02	No School – Winter Break
.....		
January	03	Students Return to School
	07	End of 2nd Grading Period 2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
	17	ML King Day – No School
	26	2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
.....		
February	09	Grades 9-12 P/T Conferences
	10	Grades 7-8 P/T Conferences
	18	No School Grades 9-12
	21	President's Day – No School
	23	2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
.....		
March	11	End of 3rd Grading Period 1 Hr Early Release K-12
	14-18	Ohio Graduation Testing
.....		
April	4-8	No School – Spring Recess
	11	Students Return to School
	22	No School
	28	9-12 P/T Conferences
.....		
May	11	2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
	26	Last Day of School 2 Hr/25 Min Early Release K-12
	27	Last Day Faculty

For a full district calendar, visit the Mad River School District web site:  
[www.madriver.schools.org](http://www.madriver.schools.org).

**\*All dates subject to change**

## How to Reach Us

### BOARD OF EDUCATION – SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

801 Old Harshman Rd.

Phone: 259-6606.....FAX: 259-6607

### FOOD SERVICES

Phone: 259-6601

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Phone: 259-6602

### STUDENT SERVICES

Phone: 259-6603

### TREASURER'S OFFICE

Phone: 259-6610

### CURRICULUM OFFICE

Phone: 259-6600

### TRANSPORTATION

Phone: 237-4280.....FAX: 237-4282

### PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

Phone: 259-6609

### BUILDING & GROUNDS

Phone: 237-4275

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER *Located at Board of Education*

Phone: 259-6603

### BEVERLY GARDENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5555 Enright Ave.

Phone: 259-6620 .....FAX: 259-6614

### BRANTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4350 Schwinn Dr.

Phone: 237-4270 .....FAX: 237-4277

### SAVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5800 Burkhardt Rd.

Phone: 259-6625 .....FAX: 259-6648

### VIRGINIA STEVENSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

805 Old Harshman Rd.

Phone: 259-6630 .....FAX: 259-6628

### SPINNING HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

5001 Eastman Ave.

Phone: 259-6635.....FAX: 259-6644

### MAD RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

1801 Harshman Rd.

Phone: 237-4265.....FAX: 237-4273

### STEBBINS HIGH SCHOOL

1900 Harshman Rd.

Phone: 237-4250 .....FAX: 237-4262

Guidance: 237-4257

Athletics: 237-4260

## Better Schools, Better Citizens

# School District Financial Update

I'm excited to write my first newsletter article since joining the Mad River Local School District June 7<sup>th</sup>. My name is Jerry Ellender and I am the new Treasurer/CFO for the school district. I was previously Treasurer for Carlisle Local Schools. I am a Certified Public Accountant and have over 25 years experience in business, finance and local government. I wanted to let you know that I plan to improve the communication of financial information about the school district to the citizens of the community. I will place our monthly financial statements and forecasts on our District website along with other informative information about school funding. My door is always open, if you have questions about the District's finances you can call my office at 259-6610.

The District's General Fund came in \$3.5 million under budget for school year 2009-10 thanks to restrained spending in light of growing concerns over declining State and Federal support for the District. The State and Federal governments provide approximately 70% of the financial support for the District and the local taxpayers provide the rest. The State and Federal governments reduced their funding for the District this year and will reduce it again next year.

Mad River Local Schools has an annual General Fund budget of about \$35 million. The revenue sources for the General Fund are approximately \$23 million in State funding, \$1 million in Federal funding, \$9 million property taxes, and the rest is made up of student fees and miscellaneous revenue.

The big concern now is what will happen in the next biennium State budget when the Federal stimulus dollars run out. This year and next school years' state budgets were propped up by Federal stimulus dollars, and there will be a big hole in the State budget for the next biennium without that Federal support. This could translate into school funding cuts in the State budget which will hurt our District since we rely on the State for a large share of our support. The local taxpayers have been doing their part in supporting the District, but now the State is reducing their share, and this places more needs for funding the District on the local taxpayer.

For the 2009-10 school year, the General Fund had revenues of \$35.3 million and expenditures of \$35.8 million, and ended the year with a \$12.5 million carryover. The problem the District is experiencing now is that expenses continue to rise with inflation while revenues are flat to declining. This means that even though we have money right now, it will run out within the next couple of years. And without the Federal Stimulus dollars Ohio received to prop up this biennium's budget, it appears that Ohio will be faced with substantial cuts to the State budget including education funding for the 2010-11 school year.

The School Board and the Administration are currently working on long-term financial funding plans for the District in light of these impending financial challenges. As always our priority is to provide a high quality education to our students while being as efficient as possible with the public funds we receive.

Gerald Ellender



Treasurer/CFO

## Meal Prices 2010-2011

	Breakfast	Lunch	Extra Milk
Elementary	No Cost	\$1.75	50 cents
Spinning Hills	No Cost	\$1.85	50 cents
Mad River Middle	No Cost	\$1.90	50 cents
Stebbins	*\$1.25	\$2.00	50 cents



*\*30 cents for reduced students / no cost for free students*

## Food Service Information

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! We are looking forward to providing your child(ren) with healthy meals and a positive lunch experience. Good nutrition plays an important role in helping students reach their maximum potential.

Anyone receiving lunch benefits through our district at the end of last school year will start the school year with the same lunch benefit until September 7, 2010 or until your new lunch application is approved. Lunch applications will come home with your children on the first day of school. Fill out one application per household and return the application to school with your most responsible student as soon as possible. Remember to fill out all necessary information on the application, incomplete applications will be returned. An application must be approved and on file to continue receiving lunch benefits for the 2010-11 school year.

A no-cost breakfast is offered at the following schools: Beverly Gardens, Virginia Stevenson, Brantwood, Saville, Spinning Hills and Mad River Middle. Breakfast service will begin on August 23, 2010. Breakfast will be available at Stebbins High School for \$1.25 for full paid students / 30 cents for reduced students / no cost for free students.

We are confident that we are providing your child with variety and nutrition. We welcome you to come and enjoy a meal with us anytime!

## Pay for School Meals Online



The Mad River Food Service Department offers an online payment processing system called PaySchools, that allows parents easy and convenient online access to purchase and pay for items 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Parents can now make payments on the school's website: <http://lunch.madriver.k12.oh.us/> with an e-check or credit card. To

ensure your security, PaySchools does not store personal bank or credit card information. Items that may currently be purchased online include: (Lunch). **YOU MUST HAVE A USER ID AND PASSWORD OBTAINED FROM THE FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT BEFORE YOU CAN PROCEED WITH ANY TRANSACTIONS.**

Please call the Food Service office at 259-6601 to obtain this information or you may e-mail Tom Zsembik, Food Service Supervisor at: [tom.zsembik@madriverschools.org](mailto:tom.zsembik@madriverschools.org) to help walk you through the process or answer any questions.

## School District Receives Perfect Audit

The tax payers of the Mad River School District have even more reason to trust the job that the school district is doing. The Ohio Auditor of State's Office has given the District a clean audit for the Fiscal Year 2009 (2008-2009 school year).



The Annual Financial Report is a highly regarded, detailed report on the accounting practices and financial statements of the school district. The report came in as "unqualified, which is the best opinion you can get.

## Better Schools, Better Citizens

### Classes Resume August 17<sup>th</sup> Grades 1-12

Stebbins	7:40 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.
Mad River Middle School	8:40 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.
Spinning Hills Middle School	9:10 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.
Elementary Schools	8:10 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.
Early Childhood Center	
<b>MORNING SESSION:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.</b>
<b>AFTERNOON SESSION:</b>	<b>12:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.</b>

### Bus Stop Information



Families whose children ride a bus to school will receive a postcard in the mail notifying them of their child's bus stop location and pick-up time for the 2010-11 school year. If you have not received the postcard by August 10<sup>th</sup>, please call 237-4280.

The school bus information provided on the postcard is based on current school records; ***if a student's address information has changed, please contact the student's school to update their records.***

### Telephone Notification System

The Mad River School District will once again utilize a telephone notification system to alert parents and employees of important school system news. The One Call Now system provides direct automatic phone communications to parents and guardians in the event of an unexpected early dismissal, weather delays and cancellations, notifications of school emergencies and specific community outreach messages.

The telephone service will store up to four numbers per child, so parents/guardians are urged to keep contact numbers updated for the "One Call Now" system to be most effective.

Parents/guardians should contact their child's school office if they are not receiving telephone calls or if they are receiving calls in error.

### E-Mail Alerts

Register your email address so that you can receive instant access to our student accomplishments, district news, and educational decisions that may affect your children.

[www.madriverschools.org](http://www.madriverschools.org)

### Emergency Closing Procedures

If inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances cause schools to be delayed or closed, announcements will be made on the following local media outlets:

**WHIO Channel 7**

**WDTN Channel 2**

**WKEF Channel 22/Fox 45**

Parents will also receive a telephone call through One Call Now, the district's school-to-parent telephone notification system.

### City of Riverside Update Clean Water

We all take clean water for granted. Although there is a considerable amount of processing technology utilized to bring clean water into our homes, it is important to keep in mind that our whole environment is directly impacted by the quality of water.

This is why it is important to take measures so that our day-to-day activities do not adversely affect the ecosystem. One way to assure this is through the Proper Disposal of Yard Waste: Leaf collection and grass cutting disposal is tremendously important to prevent water pollution problems. It is not acceptable to place any waste, be it yard or other waste materials on the street, in drainage ditches or catch basins.

Many grass clippings contain high concentrations of fertilizer, nitrates and phosphates, in addition to high concentrations of herbicides and insecticides. Placing leaves/grass clippings or debris on stream banks kills all of the soil holding vegetation and causes the soil to maintain excessive moisture. This may precipitate mud slides resulting in the loss of topsoil and opening up the ground for further erosion. Collected leaves and grass clippings may be disposed of with your regular trash. This requires that all leaves/grass clippings be placed in either containers or bags for regular garbage pickup. Please don't rake the grass or other yard waste out into the street or into catch basins. This will present a roadway safety hazard and clog the storm drains, increasing the potential for flooding problems during high rain periods.

To learn more about some of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act Storm Water regulations, please go to the Ohio EPA's Web Site at [www.epa.state.oh.us](http://www.epa.state.oh.us). Please contact the City of Riverside Service Department, if you observe storm water pollution problems.

## New School Year - New Administrators

The Mad River School District is proud to announce three new principal/assistant principal appointments effective this fall. Laurie Plank has been tapped to lead Mad River Middle School, while Jay Borchers will assume assistant principal duties at the school. At Stebbins High School, Jesse Maxfield will be the school's new Dean of Students.

"I am thrilled to serve as principal of Mad River Middle School," said Plank. "I am extremely excited about the opportunity to lead such a terrific school. I am truly looking forward to the challenging and exciting new school year."



Laurie Plank

Plank has been with the Mad River School District for 25 years. For the past 16 years, she has served as the assistant principal at Mad River Middle. Both her undergraduate and graduate degrees are from The University of Dayton where she was a member of the Lady Flyers Basketball Team. She replaces Don Kuntz who has retired from the district.

Jay Borchers has been with the Mad River School District for all of his six years in teaching. He has served as a math teacher at Mad River Middle. He is a graduate of Miami University.



Jay Borchers

Jesse Maxfield is completing his second year in the Mad River School District. A graduate of Wright State University, Maxfield has served as an intervention specialist at Stebbins High School. Jesse is also a 2001 graduate of Stebbins High School where he was the Student Body President and Captain of the football and wrestling teams.



Jesse Maxfield

## Spinning Hills Recognized Again Redesignated an Ohio School to Watch



Congratulations to the staff and students of Spinning Hills Middle School for being redesignated as an Ohio School to Watch

through 2012.

Originally designated in 2006, Spinning Hills was reviewed by a site visitation team this year. As a redesignated school, schools throughout the state will have the opportunity to visit Spinning Hills to observe what a high performing middle school is like.

Spinning Hills Middle School received its Redesignation Award in Washington, D.C. on June 26<sup>th</sup> at the National Schools to Watch Conference.

## Summer Cleaning

(Continued from page 1)

added to enlarge the kindergarten playground at Beverly Gardens; repairs were completed to the high school track. The track's high spot was ground down, coatings were made and two coats of finish were applied. New lane stripes will also be installed.

"Maintaining our new buildings is important to our students and our tax payers," said Mad River Facilities Supervisor Stan Bochenek. "Our employees take pride in our buildings. When we built our new schools several years ago, we promised to maintain them and keep them in good shape for years to come. It's also critical that we provide a clean, safe environment for our staff and students."

As always, this year's repairs and improvements were thoroughly planned and investigated so that tax payer monies were used wisely – thus, maintaining and maximizing the life expectancy of our buildings.



Mad River Local Schools  
801 Old Harshman Road  
Riverside, Ohio 45431-1286

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## Better Schools, Better Citizens

### Open House Dates

#### Beverly Gardens

8/16 6:00-7:00 p.m. Open House/Gr. 1-4  
8/18 6:00-7:30 p.m. Kdg. Open House

#### Brantwood

8/13 6:00-7:00 p.m. Open House/Gr. 1-4  
8/18 6:00-7:00 p.m. Kdg. Open House

#### Saville

8/13 2:00-3:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social  
8/31 Parent Pop-In

#### Stevenson

8/16 5:30-6:45 p.m. Open House

#### Spinning Hills

8/12 7:00-7:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social  
8/26 6:00-7:30 p.m. Open House

#### MRMS

8/23 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Open House

#### Stebbins

8/24 7:00 p.m. Open House

### District to Hold Chili Supper



Residents, community members and fans of Stebbins football will get a chance to warm up their bellies with a chili supper cooked by Superintendent Mike Eaglowski. A chili supper will be served during the football game vs. Tipp City on Friday, October 15. The district will serve dinner from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Stebbins cafeteria.

The supper will include homemade chili and all the trimmings, drink and dessert are included.

The cost of the supper is \$4.<sup>00</sup>.