

Madison Middle School  
Class of 2032



WELCOME  
TO

MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL!

Principal, Dr. Douglas Jones

6th Grade Principal, Mr. Drew Wardlaw  
6th Grade Counselor, Mrs. Lindsay Bouchillon

Questions? Call or email anytime!  
Lbouchillon@madison-schools.com  
601-605-4171

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## A NOTE FROM MR. WARDLAW

UPCOMING 6TH GRADERS,

WE ARE EXCITED TO HOST YOU FOR THE UPCOMING TOUR MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL TO SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW AWESOME BEING A MIDDLE SCHOOLER WILL BE. AS THE 6TH GRADE PRINCIPAL MY JOB IS TO SERVE EACH OF OUR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS TO HELP MAKE THE FIRST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESSFUL FOR ALL OF OUR STUDENTS. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING EACH OF YOU AND YOUR PARENTS AT THE UPCOMING TOUR AND OPEN HOUSE!

MR. WARDLAW  
6TH GRADE PRINCIPAL

## A note from Mrs. Bouchillon

Hi 5th grade Jags!

I cannot wait to meet all my new 6th graders! My only job is help students at Madison Middle. If you need something please ask me! I may always look busy, but that's just my personality (and I'm making sure my boss sees me working, lol!). My first priority is always to help students.

Everything I do is to help you achieve two goals:

1. Build a Jaguar Class of 2032 Community - I want you to meet friends from all three elementary schools and and really build a Class of 2032 community! I want you to have great memories of 6th grade when you met so many new classmates!
2. GRADUATION - My ultimate goal is to prepare you for graduation from Madison Central. It may seem early to think about graduation, but graduation prep starts NOW!

Lastly, I am "your person" at school. If i don't know the answer, then I'll find someone that does know the answer. Middle School is totally different from elementary and can be scary, but I want to reassure you that we will help you every step of the way!

Let's go Jags!  
Mrs. Bouchillon



# **5TH GRADE JAGUAR 2025 EVENTS**

**FEB**

**COUNSELOR VISITS**

**FEB 25 - STATION**

**FEB 26 - EAST FLORA**

**FEB 27 - AVENUE**

**MARCH**

**ALL 5TH GRADERS**

**TOUR MMS @ 9AM**

**3**

**MARCH**

**3**

**MMS 5TH GRADE PARENT**

**ORIENTATION @ 6PM @ MMS**

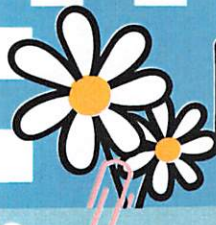
**CHOICE SHEETS DUE  
TO HOMEROOM**

**MARCH**

**7**

**YOU ARE GOING TO DO GREAT THINGS  
AT MADISON MIDDLE!**





# WELCOME TO MMS!

## HERE'S TO 2025

### AND THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY AHEAD

DO YOUR SUMMER READING. THE TEACHERS ARE NICE AND FUNNY. YOU HAVE FUN THINGS TO DO OVER HERE. WE ARE ALL NICE AND WE HOPE YOU FEEL WELCOMED.

**DEMARIO GIBSON**

YOU MIGHT WANT TO HAVE TWO BINDERS. ONE FOR A-DAY AND B-DAY.

**CATE STOLTZFUS**

SWITCHING CLASSES IS MY FAVORITE PART OF 6TH GRADE. YOU GET TO SWITCH SO MUCH AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT IN THE SAME CLASS FOR HOURS.

**FINN HEGI**

Be yourself, you will make so many friends and you don't need to change your personality to "fit in".  
Hartley Strain

DON'T WORRY! THE CAFETERIA FOOD IS BETTER THAN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOOD.

**KAITLYN SCHOPMEYER**

ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF YOUR FIRST YEAR AT MADISON MIDDLE  
**JAYLA COTTEN**



THE TEACHERS ARE NICE, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT A SUPER HARD TEACHER OR A REALLY STRICT TEACHER.

MAKE SURE TO BE KIND AND HAVE RESPECT FOR OTHERS. OH, AND BY THE WAY, 6TH GRADE GOES BY SUPER FAST SO MAKE SURE TO HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!

**HARPER HIGGINS**

WHEN YOU GET TO MMS, YOU NEED TO BE ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOR. THIS IS A GREAT SCHOOL!

**DORRIEN TATE**

MY GREATEST WORRIES WERE JUST THE AMOUNT OF RESPONSIBILITIES HANDED TO YOU, BUT IT GETS REALLY EASY OVERTIME. I LIKE STUDYING WITH BLOOKET. IT REALLY HELPS ME STAY FOCUSED WHILE STUDYING, MY FAVORITE TEACHER IS MRS. SMITH, SHE'S REALLY COOL, AND REALLY HELPS YOU WHEN YOU NEED IT, DON'T TRY TO BE ON YOUR PHONE. ITS NOT WORTH GETTING IT TAKEN JUST GO WITHOUT IT.

**SAM HOUCK**

6TH GRADE AT MADISON MIDDLE IS ALL ABOUT TRYING NEW THINGS AND FINDING YOUR WAY. DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS. AND JOIN AT LEAST ONE CLUB OR ACTIVITY-ITS A GREAT WAY TO MAKE FRIENDS. DON'T STRESS UP TOO MUCH. EVERY ONE IS FIGURING OUT THINGS TOGETHER.

**AMELIA DAVIS**

MY FAVORITE PART ABOUT 6TH GRADE IS THE NEW FRIENDS YOU GET TO MAKE AND THE OPPORTUNITIES TO TRY NEW THINGS.

**-ARIEL MCLAURIN**

**Advice from the Class of 2031**



**DON'T GET YOUR PHONE  
OUT IN THE HALLS OR  
BATHROOM.  
DR. JONES WILL GET YOU.**

**HUTT BRADSHAW**

DON'T LET OTHER STUDENTS TELL  
YOU WHAT TEACHERS ARE NICE  
AND MEAN YOU CAN HAVE YOUR  
OWN OPINIONS.  
PS: GET A CALCULATOR!

**HOLLAND MCKAY**

**BE CONFIDENT IN YOURSELF.  
DO THE ELECTIVES YOU  
PREFER. DON'T LET OTHERS  
CONVINCE/CHOOSE YOUR  
ELECTIVES. IT'S YOUR  
DECISION AFTER ALL.**

**RYAN ATHIBAN**

5TH GRADERS ARE YALL  
READY FOR YOUR 2025  
6TH GRADE YEAR? Y'ALL  
ARE GOING TO HAVE SO  
MUCH FUN. MY FAVORITE  
PART WAS CHRISTMAS  
CHAOS BECAUSE YOU GET  
TO PLAY GAMES AND  
COMPETE AGAINST THE  
OTHER CLASSES

**-CAM SMITH**

DON'T WORRY, I KNOW THE  
BOOKS AND MOVIES MAKE  
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCARY, BUT IN  
REALITY, IT IS AMAZING. SO,  
DON'T WORRY, YOU WILL DO  
GREAT.

**SHELBY KATE TYRONE**

**MADISON MIDDLE  
6TH GRADE**

**COMING  
SOON**

**07.31.2025**

**WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU!**

I KNOW THAT ALL YOUR TEACHERS SAY 6TH  
GRADE IS SO HARD, BUT THE TRUTH IS ITS NOT.  
I MEAN THEY ARE VERY STRICT ABOUT KEEPING  
YOUR HANDS TO YOUR SELF AND THEY DON'T  
WONT TO SEE A PHONE. ONE THING YOU HAVE  
TO WATCH OUT FOR IS ELA THEY STEP IT UP A  
LOT IN ELA.

**GRAY ANDERSON**

MY GREATEST WORRY  
ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
WAS LEARNING MY  
SCHEDULE. LITTLE DID I  
KNOW I LEARNED MY  
SCHEDULE IN 2 DAYS. I  
CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER MY  
AGE SOMETIMES.  
OH, LAST THING NO MORE  
LINES!!!

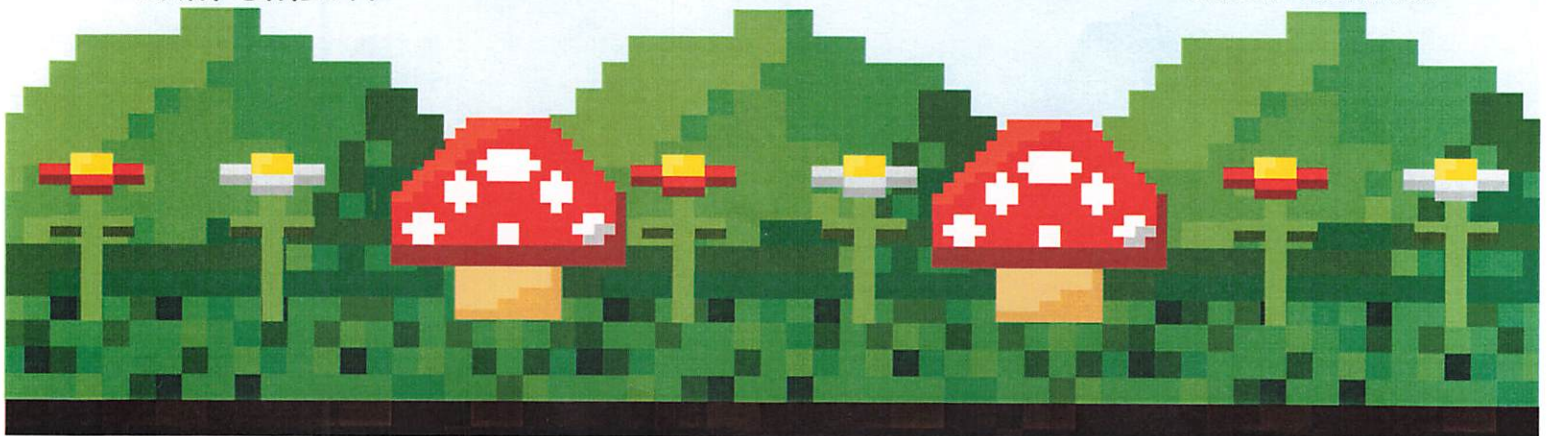
**DIYA TIRUMALAREDDY**

AT FIRST, I WANTED TO DO  
ART BECAUSE I THOUGHT  
CHOIR WOULDN'T BE FUN. BUT  
MRS.KETTLER WENT OUT OF  
HER WAY TO FIND MY MOM'S  
NUMBER AND TEXT HER  
SAYING SHE REALLY WANTS ME  
TO BE IN HER CHOIR CLASS.  
WELL, I TRIED IT AND CHOIR  
IS THE BEST ELECTIVE.

**NICHOLAS ESPY**

WELL FIRST, IT MIGHT SEEM  
SCARY BECAUSE YOU KNOW  
YOU'RE GOING TO A NEW  
SCHOOL, BUT ITS REALLY NOT.  
AS SOON YOU ENTER THE  
SCHOOL YOU'RE ALREADY  
COMFORTABLE. PEOPLE  
AROUND THE SCHOOL WILL  
HELP YOU FIND YOUR CLASS  
AND SCHEDULE. ALSO,  
EVERYONE IS REALLY NICE.

**-LAILYN THOMPSON**



## EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

### WELCOME TO 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE @ MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL!!!!

What is Block Schedule? Block schedule means that you go to 4 classes per day. 4 classes on A-Day and 4 classes on B-day, each class is 94 minutes long. The days just rotate...if Friday was an A-Day, then Monday is a B-day.

What is Split Block? Split block means that we split ONE of those blocks into 45-minute sessions. You will go to Math for 45 minutes and language for 45 minutes.

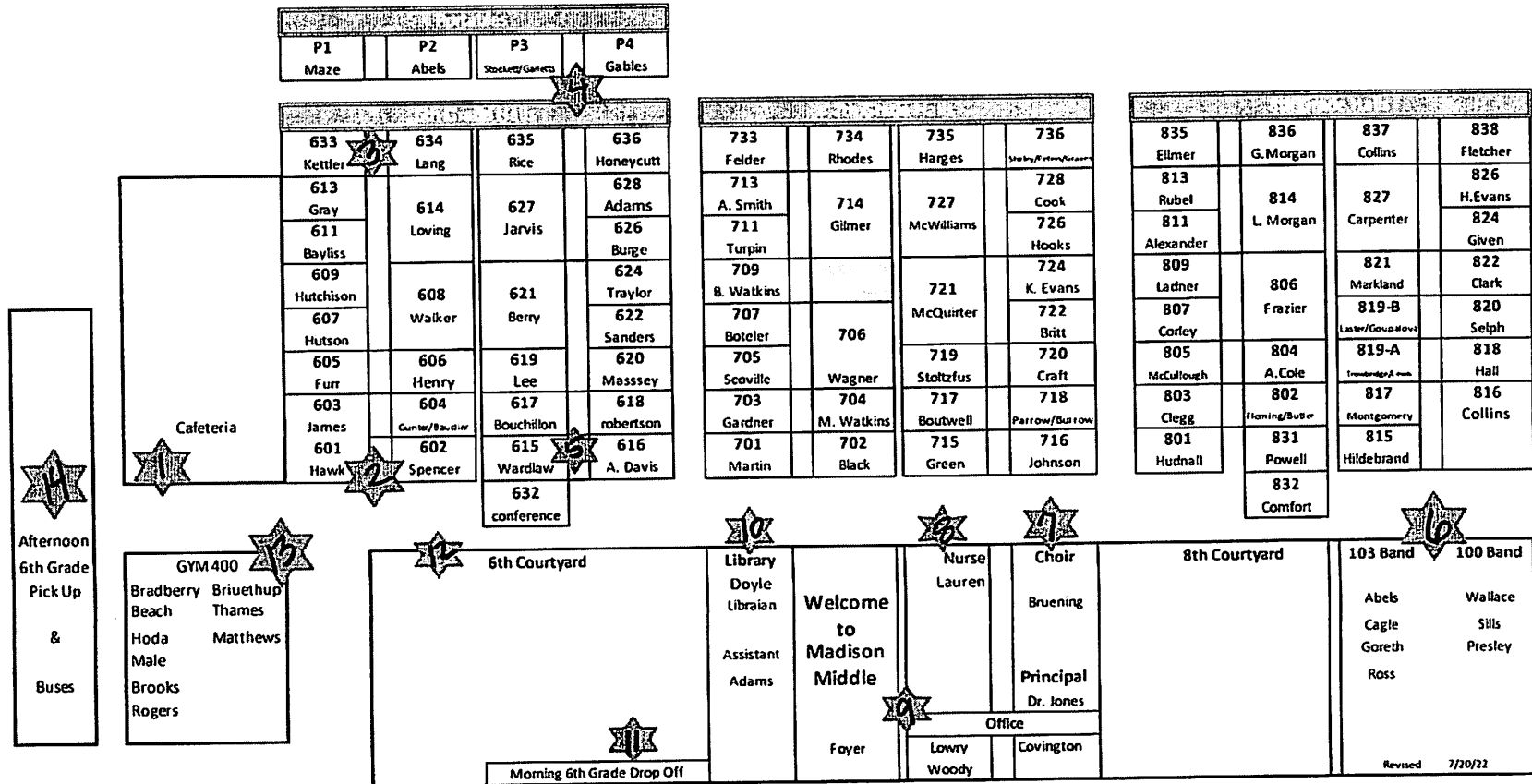
#### A-DAY

Time	Block	Class	Teacher	Room #
8:20-9:49	1	PE		
9:53-10:38	2.1	Math		
10:38-11:53	2.2	Language		
11:57-1:26	3	Science		
1:30-3:00	4	World History		

#### B-DAY

Time	Block	Class	Teacher	Room #
8:20-9:49	5	Math		
9:53-11:53	6	Art		
11:57-1:26	7	Language		
1:30-3:00	8	Cyber Foundations		

# MMS Floor Plan



## Tour Stops

1. Cafeteria
2. 6th Grade South Hall
3. 6th Grade Choir Hall
4. Portables - Gifted and Drama
5. Bouchillon and Hammett
6. Band Hall
7. Main Choir Hall
8. Nurse Girod
9. Front Office
10. Library
11. Morning 6th Grade Drop Off
12. 6th Grade Courtyard
13. Gym
14. Afternoon Pick up and Buses



# Madison Middle School

## F.A.Q.

- **How will my child receive his/her schedule of classes?**
  - Early Schedule Pick-Up Fundraiser- About a week before school starts, PTO will have a fundraiser for parents to join PTO and with that membership they can pick up their child's schedule early.
  - Regular Schedule Pick-up- About 2 days before school starts, no fee to pick up.
  - First Day of School Schedule Pick-Up- just in case anyone did not pick up or forgot their schedule. These dates will be posted on the website and all social medias.
- **How will my child know if he/she qualified for Advanced courses?**
  - Students will be placed into advanced courses based on the criteria listed on the choice sheet. Students will find out if they have been placed in advanced courses when they pick-up their schedule.
- **How will my child know where to go on his or her first day of school?**
  - Administrators, counselors, and teachers will all be in the halls to assist your child in finding their classes. Signs will be posted throughout the school with directions to all classrooms.
- **Do I come in with my child on the first day of school?**
  - Please drop them off at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade courtyard and we will help them get to the correct class.
- **Can I eat lunch with my child?**
  - YES! 6<sup>th</sup> grade lunches are 11:00 and 11:30 a.m.
- **Where will I drop off and pick up my child?**
  - 6<sup>th</sup> graders are dropped off in the front circle in the mornings. In the afternoon, 6<sup>th</sup> grade car riders will be on the South side of MMS.
- **What if we carpool with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders?**
  - Students who carpool with an older sibling need to communicate with the 7/8<sup>th</sup> grader and make sure all kids go to the same carpool line.
- **How will I know which bus my child will ride and the pickup time?**
  - Durham will mail a postcard to your home with bus information. For additional questions, please contact Durham School Services at 601-859-0077.
- **Will there be a supply list for my child?**
  - Yes, a supply list will be sent home with final 5<sup>th</sup> grade report cards and posted on our website.
- **Does my child have a summer reading list?**
  - Yes, it is included in this packet and will be sent home with final 5<sup>th</sup> grade report cards.
- **What time does school start and end?**
  - The tardy bell rings at 8:20 a.m. and the school day ends at 3:20 p.m.
- **How early can I drop my child off at MMS?**
  - Madison Middle School officially opens at 7:50 a.m. (Secret... Mr. Cook is on duty in the gym beginning around 7:20 a.m. if parents need an early drop off)



# MMS Parent Resources

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ALL OF OUR UPCOMING NEWS AND DATES, PLEASE FOLLOW US ON ALL SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**TWITTER: @MMSJAGUARS**

**INSTAGRAM: @MADISONMIDDLEJAGUARS**

**FACEBOOK PAGE: MADISON MIDDLE JAGUARS PTO**

**WEBSITE: MADISON-SCHOOLS.COM**

## Helpful Resources for Parents

**Canvas** - Canvas is the online teaching portal where teachers will post assignments, notes and information. I recommend parents create a Parent Observer account, please see the "Canvas for Parents" handout. Very helpful to see what assignments are complete, need to be completed, and other notes or games that can be helpful for tests and assignments.

**Active Parent** - Parents can check student grades. Instruction flyer included in packet.

**My School Bucks**- pay fees online and cafeteria

**Excused Absences** - Please email either a parent note or doctor excuse for each absence.

-Email absentee info to [mmsattendance@madison-schools.com](mailto:mmsattendance@madison-schools.com)

-Please include date of absence, reason for absence and parent contact information.

-Please submit within the month of the absence to make sure the absence will be excused.

## CAR RIDER LINES

**We have 3 car rider lines...one for each grade level.**

### 8th grade

Once on MMS campus, turn RIGHT immediately and follow the traffic around to the north side of the school.

### 7th grade

Veer slight RIGHT to the front circle of school by the white pillars.

### 6th grade

Stay straight and you will see a double line of cars and cars will take turns to form one line once kids are dismissed @ 3:20. The sixth grade car rider line is on the south side of the school.

At 3:30 - The remaining 6th graders, usually about 25 or so, will move to the front car rider line.

**The first time through car rider is always a little stressful, but we will have teachers, coaches, and administrators out to help guide you!**

**WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP ANYTIME!**



# Canvas for Parents

You will need to go to [www.madison-schools.com](http://www.madison-schools.com) and go to Madison Middle home page and locate Canvas in the top right section of the webpage.



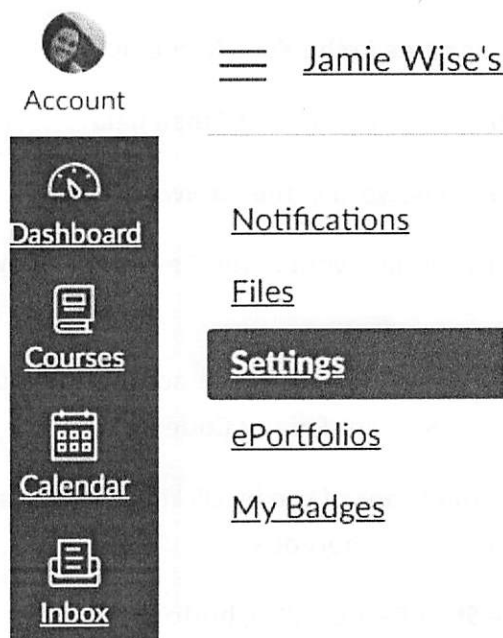
Once you have clicked on the Canvas link, it will bring you to this screen. You will need to get your child/student to sign into their account by using their Username (MSIS #) and Password (letter/number combo)

## Parent Observer Account Creation and Pairing

You can generate a pairing code to link an observer to your Canvas account. An observer can enter the pairing code in their User Settings Observing tab. You must create a separate pairing code for each observer who wants to link to your account.

An observer may be your parent, guardian, mentor, counselor, or another individual who needs to view your Canvas courses. Linked observers can view and participate in certain elements of your Canvas courses.

1. Login to Canvas as a student user. In Global Navigation, click the Account link, then click the Settings link.



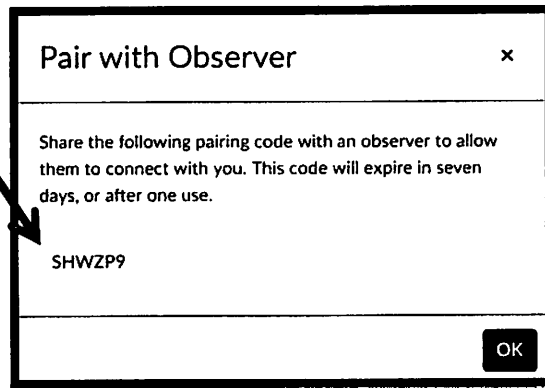
You will then need to locate **Pair with Observer** on the right hand side of the page.

Download Submissions

Pair with Observer

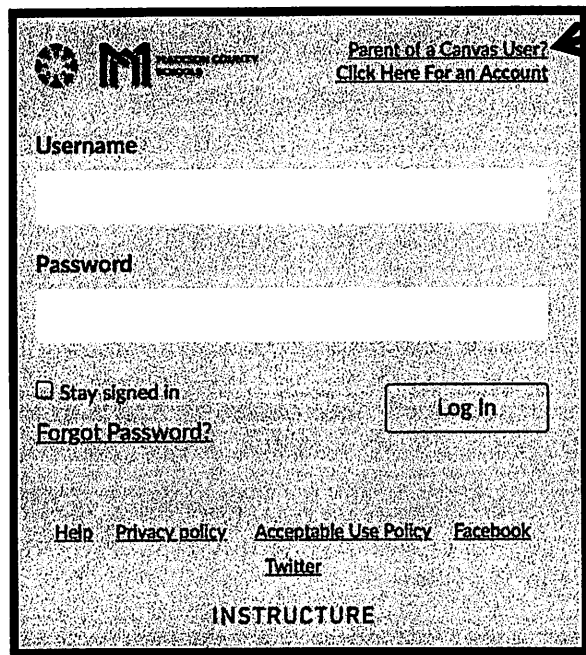
Download Course Content

You will get a six digit code. Copy the six-digit alphanumeric pairing code. You will need to share the code with the observer who will link to your account. The pairing code will expire after 24 hours or its first use.

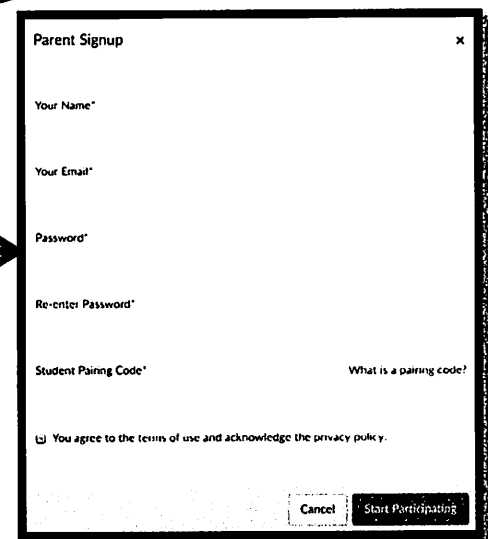


A dialog box titled "Pair with Observer" with a close button (x) in the top right corner. The text inside says: "Share the following pairing code with an observer to allow them to connect with you. This code will expire in seven days, or after one use." Below the text, the pairing code "SHWZP9" is displayed. At the bottom right, there is an "OK" button.

In a separate browser or session, go to [www.madison-schools.com](http://www.madison-schools.com) Click "[Parent of a Canvas User?](#)"



The main sign-up page for Madison Schools. It features the Madison Schools logo at the top left. The heading is "Parent of a Canvas User?" with a link "Click Here For an Account". Below this are input fields for "Username" and "Password". There is a checkbox for "Stay signed in" and a "Log In" button. A link for "Forgot Password?" is also present. At the bottom, there are links for "Help", "Privacy policy", "Acceptable Use Policy", "Facebook", and "Twitter". The word "INSTRUCTURE" is at the very bottom.



A form titled "Parent Signup" with a close button (x) in the top right corner. It contains the following fields: "Your Name\*", "Your Email\*", "Password\*", "Re-enter Password\*", and "Student Pairing Code\*" with a placeholder text "What is a pairing code?". At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled "You agree to the terms of use and acknowledge the privacy policy.". At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Start Participating".

### Enter Signup Details

1. Enter your name in the Your Name field.
2. Enter your email in the Your Email field.
3. Enter your password in the Password field.
4. Re-enter your password in the Re-enter Password field.
5. Enter a pairing code to link your account to your student in the Student Pairing Code field.
6. Agree to the terms of use by clicking the You agree to the terms of use checkbox.
7. Click the Start Participating button.

You now have access to your students Canvas Class. You can view all their assignments, grades, due dates, etc. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child/students teacher to get help with signing up for an account.

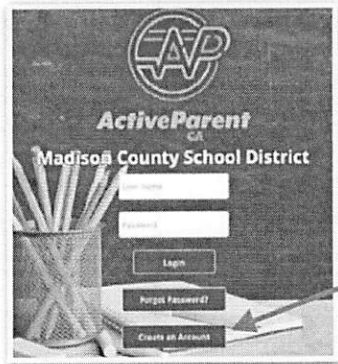


## Sign up for Active Parent

This guide outlines the steps to create an Active Parent account. If you already have an account and know your login details, proceed to the section '**Existing ActiveParent Users**' to add more children.

### Create an account:

- Navigate to [madison.activeparent.net](http://madison.activeparent.net) in a web browser.
- Click Create an Account.

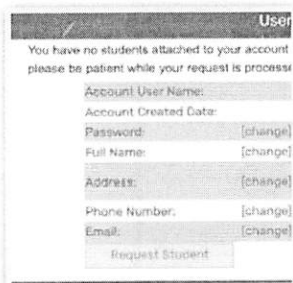


- Enter the required information and click Create User.
- Please use your email address as your User Name.

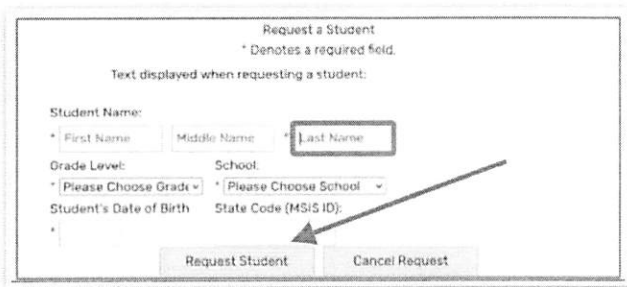


### Request connection to your student:

- Click Login Now. If prompted, enter your username and password.
- Click Request Student under your account information.



- Enter the required information.
- Click Request Student.



Request a Student  
\* Denotes a required field.

Text displayed when requesting a student:

Student Name:  
\* First Name Middle Name \* Last Name

Grade Level: School:  
\* Please Choose Grade \* Please Choose School

Student's Date of Birth State Code (MSIS ID):

Request Student Cancel Request

When your student is connected, you should receive a confirmation email from [noreply@activeschool.net](mailto:noreply@activeschool.net).

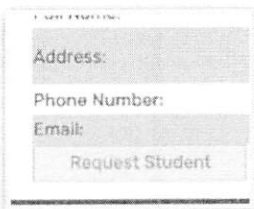
### Existing ActiveParent Users:

- Navigate to [madison.activeschool.net](http://madison.activeschool.net) in a web browser.
- Enter your user name and password and click login.
- Click the gear icon in the upper left.



### Request connection to your student:

- Click Request Student under your account information.



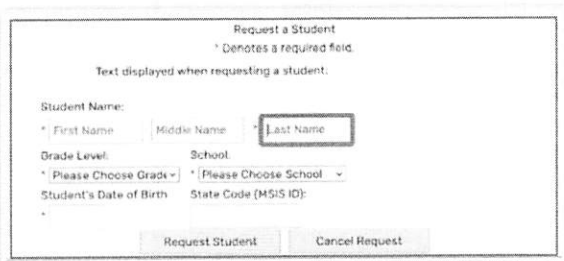
Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Request Student

- Enter the required information.



Request a Student  
\* Denotes a required field.

Text displayed when requesting a student:

Student Name:  
\* First Name Middle Name \* Last Name

Grade Level: School:  
\* Please Choose Grade \* Please Choose School

Student's Date of Birth State Code (MSIS ID):

Request Student Cancel Request

- Click Request Student.
- When your student is connected, you should receive a confirmation email from [noreply@activeschool.net](mailto:noreply@activeschool.net).



## Tryouts and Activities

- MMS Robotics
  - Parent Interest Meeting
    - Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 5:30 p.m. @ MMS
  - Applications DUE: April 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - [mrice@madison-schools.com](mailto:mrice@madison-schools.com)
- Math Counts Test
  - March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 4:00 p.m. @ MMS
  - [Jselph@madison-schools.com](mailto:Jselph@madison-schools.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Missed the Band or Choir Tryout? No worries!

- Make-up Band Auditions
  - [Leigh.ross@madison-schools.com](mailto:Leigh.ross@madison-schools.com)
- Make-up Choir Auditions
  - E-MAIL- [jbruening@madison-schools.com](mailto:jbruening@madison-schools.com)
  - E-MAIL- [kkettler@madison-schools.com](mailto:kkettler@madison-schools.com)

# MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS & ACTIVITIES TRYOUT INFO 2025

## GIRLS

ARCHERY	NOVEMBER 2025	CURRENT 7TH AND 8TH
GIRLS BASKETBALL	END OF MARCH	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
CHEER	INTEREST MEETING: MARCH 3-6, 2025	CURRENT 7TH GRADERS
CROSS COUNTRY	BOYS- MARCH 26, 2025 GIRLS - MARCH 27, 2025	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
DANCE TEAM	INTEREST MEETING: MARCH 18-21, 2025	CURRENT 7TH GRADERS
GIRLS GOLF	APRIL	CURRENT 6TH ,7TH & 8TH
MATHCOUNTS	MARCH 31, 2025	CURRENT 5, 6, AND 7TH
ROBOTICS	APRIL	CURRENT 5, 6, AND 7TH
SHOW CHOIR	MAY 1, 2025 - CLINIC MAY 2, 2025 - AUDITIONS	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
SOFTBALL	MID MAY	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
SPIRIT TEAM	SIGN UP IN APRIL	CURRENT 6TH GRADERS
TENNIS	FIRST WEEK OF MAY	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
TRACK & FIELD	MAY	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
VOLLEYBALL	APRIL	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
YEARBOOK	LATE APRIL	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH



JAGUARS

SCAN LINK FOR MORE INFO

## BOYS

ARCHERY	NOVEMBER 2025	CURRENT 7TH AND 8TH
BOYS BASKETBALL	MARCH	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
CROSS COUNTRY	BOYS- MARCH 26, 2025 GIRLS - MARCH 27, 2025	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
FOOTBALL	SIGN UP BY CHOOSING FOOTBALL AS AN ELECTIVE ON YOUR CHOICE SHEET IN APRIL	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
BOYS GOLF	APRIL	CURRENT 6TH ,7TH & 8TH
MATHCOUNTS	MARCH 31, 2025	CURRENT 5, 6, AND 7TH
ROBOTICS	APRIL	CURRENT 5, 6, AND 7TH
SHOW CHOIR	MAY 1, 2025 - CLINIC MAY 2, 2025 - AUDITIONS	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
TENNIS	FIRST WEEK OF MAY	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
TRACK & FIELD	MAY	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH
YEARBOOK	LATE APRIL	CURRENT 6TH AND 7TH



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH ACTIVITY.



Madison Middle School  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Supply List  
2025-2026

**Homeroom Class Supplies to turn in:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Kleenex** (1 box)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Paper Towels** (2 rolls)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Clorox Wipes** (1 container)

**Backpack Supplies** (*Required for class each day*):

- \_\_\_\_\_ **2 Three-Ring Binders** (1-inch)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Dividers** with pockets (4 packs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Highlighters** (multi-color pack)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Colored Pencils** (1 pack)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Pencils** (optional: pencil pouch)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Ear buds or Headphones**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Calculator** (Basic 4-function...NOT Scientific)

**Subject Area Supplies:**

History

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Markers** (1 pack skinny tip)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Sharpies** (2 black skinny tip)

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

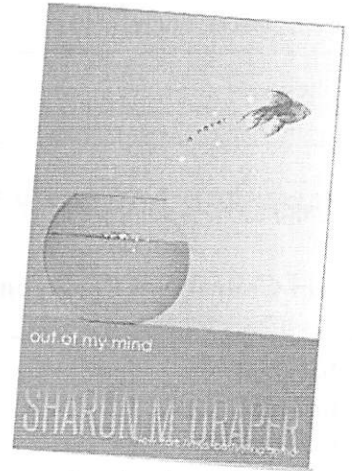
## Madison Middle 2025-2026

### *Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper

(Available at Barnes & Noble or Amazon)

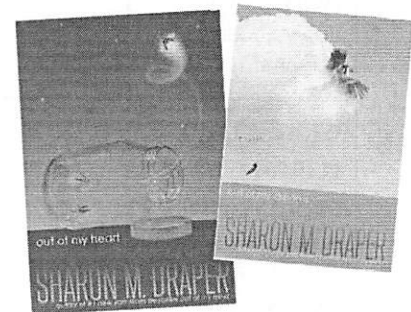
Dear Upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders and Parents:

We have chosen one required reading book, *Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper, for our upcoming sixth graders in English Language Arts. This book is on Madison County's approved book list with caveat that uses the word retarded. We will discuss how words and actions can impact each other, and why it's important to be kind. All students should complete the activity **prior** to the beginning of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. This will be turned in the first full week school starts back. Students should also be prepared to participate in a class discussion about *Out of My Mind*. We encourage students to read and complete the activity throughout the summer rather than waiting until the week prior to school. The assignment is designed to ease the transition from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and to practice writing skills.



If you enjoyed the book *Out of My Mind*, there is also *Out of My Heart* and *Out of My Dreams*. These are not a requirement.

Parents, please encourage your child to make reading a part of his or her daily activity this summer. We appreciate the efforts you make to foster a love of reading.



Sincerely,  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teachers

### *Out of My Mind* Activity

Please see the attached chart to fill out over the summer reading book. Be sure to write in complete sentences and pay attention to capitalization and punctuation.

## Due Wednesday, August 6, 2025



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Notes

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper

Due Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## SETTING:

Time (past, present, future)	
Place	

**CHARACTER DESCRIPTION & GROWTH:** As you read, take notes about the main characters.

**Main Character (Protagonist):** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Physical description:</b> (Ex: What does she look like? How does she dress?)	
<b>Character traits:</b> (What do you know about her personality?)	
<b>Character relationships or interactions with others:</b> (friends, family, helpers, teachers, enemies, etc.)	
How does the character change, grow, learn lessons?	
Other important things you noticed:	

**Opposing Character (Antagonist):** \_\_\_\_\_ (Who causes the most problems for the main character?)

<b>Physical description:</b> (Ex: What does he/she look like? How does he/she dress?)	
<b>Character traits:</b> (What do you know about his/her personality?)	
<b>Character relationships or interactions with others:</b> (friends, family, helpers, teachers, enemies, etc.)	
How does the character change, grow, learn lessons?	

**CONFLICT/RESOLUTION:** Take notes about the **conflicts or problems** the main character faces.

How are these problems resolved?

Problem(s)	
Solution(s)	

**THEME:** Take notes about the message or lesson about life the author wants the reader to learn from the characters.

What is a theme (message/lesson) of the story?	
What did the characters do to show the reader this lesson?	