Medina City Schools Minute

September 28, 2025

To keep our community informed, here is the latest update about things happening around the District, including important dates to remember.

Your Voice Matters: Strategic Planning Focus Group October 2

The district is continuing its work on the next strategic plan and your voice matters. There are still opportunities to provide your input.

Focus Group

- **In-person session:** Thursday, October 2, from 5:30–7:00 PM at the Medina High School Media Center (777 E. Union Street). Please park in the B Lot and enter through the B1 doors.

Online Survey

- In early October, the district will launch a survey to collect feedback. This will allow participants to share their experiences, priorities, and hopes for the future of Medina City Schools.

The feedback gathered from focus groups, surveys, interviews, and research will guide the development of the next strategic goals. This new plan will ensure that Medina City Schools' mission, vision, and goals continue to foster growth, innovation, and improvement while effectively serving students, families, and the broader community.

Travel Opportunity: Dublin, London & Paris

Medina High School is excited to share that students will have the opportunity to travel to **Ireland, England, and France** with **Mrs. Sisamis** in **Summer 2027.**

This unique experience will give students the chance to:

- Explore world-famous cities and landmarks
- Experience diverse cultures and traditions
- Build independence, confidence, and lifelong skills
- Participate in hands-on learning and academic activities that bring history and culture to life

From the Eiffel Tower in Paris to the historic streets of Dublin and the iconic sites of London, this trip promises to be an unforgettable adventure filled with learning and discovery.

Informational Meeting
📅 **Date:** September 30
🕒 **Time:** 6:00 PM
📍 **Location:** Medina High School, Room 1215 (Mrs. Sisamis's classroom)
👉 **RSVP here to reserve a spot:** https://rsvp.eftours.com/mkf7tux

Families are encouraged to attend this informational session to learn more about the itinerary, educational opportunities, trip details, and how students can join this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

Medina City Schools Hosts 19th Annual Community Spirit Night

Medina City Schools once again brought the community together for its 19th Annual Community Spirit Night, an evening filled with excitement, tradition, and school pride.

One of the most heartwarming moments came when the district welcomed its incoming kindergarten Class of 2038. The young Bees, proudly wearing their Battling Bees t-shirts, received a big round of applause from the crowd as they were officially introduced to the Medina City Schools family. Their enthusiasm and smiles set the tone for the rest of the evening.

The event was made possible thanks to the generous support of community sponsors, including Acme Fresh Market, Armstrong Cable, Jennifer Campanella Realtor® – The Incorvaia Team, Cups Café, Fechko Excavating, Huntington Private Bank, MC Real Estate, Medina Centerpointe Chiropractic, Medina City Teachers Association, Scouting America - Great Trail Council, Serpentini Chevrolet, Special Olympics Medina County, SportsWorld, Trillium Creek Dermatology, and Upbeat Orthodontics.

Beyond the sponsorships, the evening thrived because of the many organizations, businesses, and school groups that participated. Their presence created a vibrant atmosphere where families, students, and staff could come together to celebrate what makes Medina City Schools special.

Community Spirit Night has become more than just an event; it's a tradition that highlights the strength of the Medina community and its ongoing support for students.

Explore Greece: Travel Opportunity for Medina Students in 2027

Attention all current 8th graders, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors—an unforgettable adventure awaits. Students are invited to travel the Greek Isles in June 2027, experiencing the rich history, culture, and breathtaking beauty of Greece.

To learn more about this exciting travel opportunity, an **informational meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 2103**. Students are encouraged to bring their parents to the session to hear details about the itinerary, costs, and educational experiences included in the trip.

If you have questions or are unable to attend the meeting, please contact **Ms. Shaffer at shafferk@medinabees.org.** Don't miss your chance to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime journey.

Medina City Schools Foundation Awards Professional Teacher Mini Grants

The Medina City School District Foundation, in collaboration with an anonymous donor, has awarded two $1,250 Professional Teacher Mini Grants for the 2025–2026 school year. These

grants were designed to cover costs or offset expenses for innovative educational projects, with priority given to those that directly impact student learning.

This year's grant recipients are Judy Nightingale and Andrea Risenhoover, both teachers at Blake Elementary School.

Judy Nightingale's project will provide all first-grade students with the opportunity to attend a field trip to the McKinley Museum in February 2026. The visit will connect directly with the *Portrait of A Bee* as well as the CKLA Knowledge of Astronomy unit through a planetarium experience. Students will also tour the Discover World, where they will explore exhibits focused on dinosaurs, Ice Age animals and people, and rocks and minerals. These experiences will further enhance their understanding of habitats in the CKLA Animals Unit.

Andrea Risenhoover's project will transform Blake Elementary into an art-inspired environment through the Oberlin Allen Art Museum in-school program. Students will learn about three-dimensional art and contribute to a rotating "Gallery Wall" display featuring picture frames with spotlights to showcase student artwork. Each week, one homeroom will be highlighted, giving students a platform to share their creativity, talents, and future aspirations.

The district congratulates Judy Nightingale and Andrea Risenhoover on receiving these grants and extends appreciation to the Foundation and the anonymous donor for making these opportunities possible. Their generosity ensures that students have access to meaningful and inspiring educational experiences.

Homecoming 2025: "World of Imagination"

Medina High School is gearing up to celebrate Homecoming 2025.

The festivities kick off on Thursday, October 9, with the themed parade, "World of Imagination and America 250", beginning at 6:00 PM. The parade will start at Garfield, travel down Broadway to Union Street, and end at Medina High School, giving the community a chance to line the streets and celebrate with the students.

Following the parade, the Junior vs. Senior Powderpuff Football game will take place at Ken Dukes Stadium. Advanced tickets will be available online at www.medinabees.org, for $5 (plus a small processing fee). Additional tickets can be purchased the night of the event for $5 (cash only). All proceeds benefit the MHS Link Crew, which supports incoming students and builds school spirit.

Homecoming continues on Friday, October 10, with the varsity football game against Brunswick at 7:00 PM. During the pre-game show, the Homecoming Queen and Escorts will be introduced. The evening will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display, generously sponsored by the MHS Student Council, following the game (at approximately 10 PM).

Homecoming at Medina High School is a highlight of the school year, bringing students, families, and the community together to celebrate school pride and tradition.

Pickleball Ambassador Visits Root Middle School

On September 5, Root Middle School welcomed a special guest, Carol Erickson, Ambassador for the USA Pickleball Association from Medina, Ohio. Erickson spent the day with students, sharing her expertise and enthusiasm for the sport of pickleball.

Throughout the day, Erickson taught lessons to six classes led by physical educations teacher Melanie Condosta, as well as five of physical education teacher Cory Reisner's classes. During the sessions, she introduced students to key skills, including volleying, serving, and scoring.

Students enjoyed engaging in the activities and the opportunity to learn from an experienced ambassador of the sport. The visit provided a fun and educational experience, sparking interest in one of the fastest-growing sports in the country.

Medina Athletic Boosters Update

Improvements are happening all around the Medina athletic facilities and the Boosters are happy to help assist in sprucing up our home fields. From new signage at Ken Dukes stadium on the opponent's coaches press box to under the Bees track records board on the concession stand as well as new paint & stone facing at Memorial Stadium, the Hive looks great. And there is more to come….

Here is your 2025-26 Medina Athletic Boosters Executive Board
President: Solange Burch, boosterpresident@medinabees.org
Vice President, Sponsorship: Ken Dworznik, boostervpsponsor@medinabees.org
Vice President, Secretary: Dave Rohlen, boostersecretary@medinabees.org
Vice President, Treasurer: Kristen Kollar, boosterbills@medinabees.org
Vice President, Communications/Alumni: Ron Glasenapp '87, boostercommunications@medinabees.org
Vice President, Membership: TBD
Booster Executive at large: Jim Smigel, boosteratlarge@medinabees.org

You can sign up now to join or extend your Medina Athletic Boosters membership on our Boosters website at www.medinaboosters.org. For each membership, 80% of the membership fee will be allocated to the team or teams you designate. Select "Join Our Hive" at the top of the website to begin.Follow the Medina Boosters on Facebook, X (@medinaboosters), and Instagram (@mhsbeesboosters) for updates throughout the school year on Boosters events, athletic updates, and valuable information on our Battling Bees athletic achievements.