



# Schools in Action

## New Agricultural Land Lab to Enhance Student Learning

Jefferson County School District 509J acquired 35 acres for an Agricultural Science and Technology Land Lab, with plans for hands-on student learning. MHS Agriculture Teacher, Lee Hofman, is excited to start getting students on the land in Spring. The district is collaborating with Pratum Co-op and the sublessee for development.

Students will explore agriculture firsthand, learning about soil, weeds, and pests. Future plans involve student-managed plots and improving accessibility with ADA restrooms and parking. Located near Madras High School, the lab hosted a District FFA Soil Judging Competition in the Fall of 2023 (Pictured Below), demonstrating its potential. Learn more about our district's plans for the land lab and CTE programs on our website.



"We're eager to see our vision come to life as we get kids out onto the land, engaging directly with the sublessee, witnessing their practices, exploring their plans, and actively supporting their needs"

Lee Hofman  
MHS Agriculture Teacher



## MHS Construction Students Build Sheds to Benefit Local Seniors

Construction students at Madras High School are undertaking a meaningful project, crafting 25 storage sheds for Madras Senior Housing tenants. Divided into teams, students are learning every step of the process, from measuring to workplace safety. The project fosters an understanding of design/build processes, team work, and potential careers. It bridges academic learning with real-world work, requiring the application of classroom knowledge like reading and math.



With broader goals of instilling confidence and job skills, this initiative exemplifies the value of Career and Technical Education in shaping futures. Learn more about the project and our CTE programs on our website.

## MHS Advanced Manufacturing Class Takes on Legacy Project

Students in advanced manufacturing at MHS are currently engaged in an exciting project. This initiative not only serves to improve the classroom environment with new stools for the students but also provides students with the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy through their work. Each stool will be engraved with the school's manufacturing logo, along with the last name and graduation year of the student who made it.



Through teamwork, time management, and attention to detail, students are honing critical skills that will serve them well in the workplace, college, or trade school settings. This hands-on experience is a testament to MHS's commitment to helping students flourish here. Learn more about the project on our website.

"I think it give those graduates a bit of a legacy to leave behind and allows students to come and enjoy the work for years."

Jason Van Nice  
MHS Manufacturing Teacher

## MHS Offers Early Childhood Education Certificate Program

MHS students can earn the Developmentally Appropriate Learning Environments (DALE) certificate as part of our Early Childhood Education program. This is for students pursuing careers in early learning environments.

Students who take the necessary courses to earn this certificate are setting themselves up on a successful path to seek opportunities in early-learning settings.

Upon completing the program, students will be able to support early learning by understanding primary theories used in early childhood education, better understand children's behavior, and more. Learn more about this on our website.

## WSK8 and JCMS to Launch Hands-On College & Career Labs for Career Readiness

Exciting news for JCMS and WSK8! Starting next school year, our district is launching College & Career Ready Labs at both schools, offering hands-on integrated learning in a variety of subjects. These labs aim to ignite students' passion for real-world problem-solving and career exploration, providing a head start for them to flourish in high school CTE programs. There are diverse options like computer science, robotics, cosmetology, and more. Students will rotate through different labs during a flexible 10-day schedule. Learn more by going to our website.