



Parliamentary Procedure

Newsletter for the Mifflin County Academy of Science and Technology

January 2025

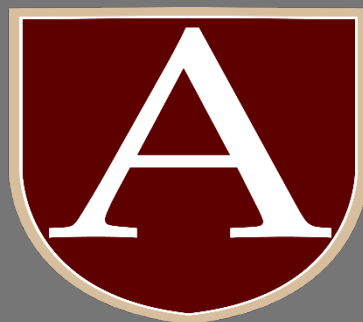
Parliamentary Procedure is a monthly newsletter for the Mifflin County Academy of Science and Technology. It is designed to keep the parents, guardians, patrons, past graduates and others informed about events and happenings at the Academy on a monthly basis. If you have any questions about events, etc. at the Academy, please call or email the following:

- Main Office 717-248-3933
- Mrs. Laura Hicks Director Ext. 5601 (ldh56@mcsdk12.org)
- Mr. Mark Crosson, Principal Ext. 5602 (mac12@mcsdk12.org)
- Mrs. Heather Haines, Director of PN Program Ext. 5611 (hhaines_pn@mcsdk12.org)

Upcoming Events/Dates to remember

Dates and Reminders

- **January 17, 2025**—Juniata County Act 80 Day (No JCSD students)
- **January 20, 2025**—School in Session (Make up for January 6 snow day)
 - No Juniata County Students
- **January 31, 2025**—Act 80 Day (No students)
- **February 12, 2025** – Academy Open House
- **February 14, 2025**—Act 80 Day (No students)
- **February 18, 2025**—President’s Day (No school)
- **March 14, 2025**—Act 80 Day (No students)
- **April 8-9, 2025**—NOCTI Written Exams
- **April 16, 2025**—NOCTI Performance Exams



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ACADEMY

From the Director's Office

As I celebrate my six-month anniversary as the Administrative Director of the Mifflin County Academy of Science and Technology, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey so far. I am truly grateful for the warm welcome I have received from the MCAST community. It has been a privilege to witness the success of our students and staff as they thrive in their pursuit of hands-on learning in Career and Technical Education.

I look forward to the many opportunities ahead to continue building on this foundation of excellence and to celebrate the achievements of our Academy family. My goal is to ensure that all students have the resources they need through MCAST to build a solid foundation for their workforce goals. Here's to even more growth and success together as you reach for the stars!

Your Humble Owl Leader,

Mrs. Laura Hicks

From the Principal's Office

My name is Mark Crosson and I am the Principal at the Academy. I am very excited and happy to be serving in this capacity. I was most recently the Principal at Mifflin County High School, serving there for 11 years and retiring in 2022. A quick note before I give some important information below. The name of our newsletter comes from the fact that our mascot is an owl and a group of owls (a flock if you will) is called a parliament. Now onto the informational items:

- **Parking passes** at the Academy are awarded but due to very limited availability, we prioritize as follows: students enrolled in a co-op program through the Academy are given top priority, students who work after school and have been able to verify, through a letter from their employer, that their start time would necessitate that they leave from the Academy are given the second priority and those students who are full time Alpha (or another online platform and don't go to their the sending high school) are given the third priority.
- When a student is issued a parking pass, it is imperative that they understand that they are not permitted to haul other students unless permission is granted by the principal and the appropriate documentation is filed with the office. Finally, students driving from Mifflin County High School to the Academy are not permitted to stop at another location (i.e. home, a restaurant, etc.), they must drive directly to the Academy.
- **Absences** are recorded both at the Academy and the sending school, therefore please remember to send excuses to the home school as well as the Academy when your student is absent.

From the Career Counselor's Office

National Technical Honor Society collected items for William Penn Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center for staff to make Christmas baskets for residents. Items included: shampoo, conditioner, devotionals, sugar-free pudding, ornaments, blankets, playing cards, suncatchers, body wash, small crafts, puzzles, and socks. (Pictured are Vice-President - Addison Hook, Secretary - Claudia Rheam, and Treasurer - Cadence Gifford).



From The Ag Program

The Agriculture Programs is happy to announce the following:

2025 Jacket Recipients:

- Aubrey Smith
- Taylor Rhoades
- Lily Goss
- Abbie Fitzgerald
- Sebastian Kauffman
- Nathan McCahren
- Miley Kohler
- Lillian Seaholtz

They had to complete an application answering the following questions:

- Describe your interest in agricultural education.
- What goal(s) do you hope to achieve throughout your time in the National FFA Organization?
- What does the FFA jacket mean to you?

Members were later matched with 8 local sponsors in the community to pay for their jackets, including OAC members, business owners, and parents of older members. They were \$75 each.

2025 Keystone Degree Recipients:

- Hayley Carson
- Olivia Fisher
- Brooke Jenkins
- Rylee Jenkins
- Claudia Rheam
- Savannah Oden
- Montana McKee
- Alivia Snook

This year, all 5 third-year seniors received their Keystone Degree, along with 3 graduated members that returned to apply a second time. Applications were due October 31 and went through an extensive review process. This year they awarded 511 Keystone Degrees, putting our Big Valley FFA members in the top 3.22% of PA FFA members that earn this honor.

To earn the Keystone Degree, members must meet the following requirements:

- Earn or productively invest \$1,000 or work 300 hours outside of class time as part of their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project
- Maintain at least 2 years (24 consecutive months) of FFA membership
- Participate in at least 5 events above chapter level events
- Participate in at least 10 chapter level events
- Participate in at least 25 hours of community service
- Hold a leadership position within their FFA chapter or serve as a committee member
- Take a parliamentary procedure exam demonstrating knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order
- Deliver a 10 minute speech or lead a 40 minute class discussion

From the Automotive Program

Our automotive students will be taking a field trip to the PA Auto Show on January 24 to see new vehicles that are being produced as well as to see some of the career paths that are available in the field.

From the Collision Repair Program



Collision Repair students, Destiny Hoffman and Maddison Reeder add art work to the Academy sign hanging in the shop.

First Session students show off their OSHA - 10 Cards. Way to go first Session!



From the Construction Trades Program

Lots of things going on in Construction Trades. We have woodsheds, deer blinds, a cabin and we are starting a prototype modular home system for a large modular home builder here in central PA!



From the Cosmetology Program

The Cosmetology program had their 2nd Annual Santa's Beauty Shop in December. This event helped the students raise money for their trip in the Spring to the Hair show in Seven Springs.

The Junior and Senior class had a special speaker from Framesi Color Company come and talk about the color wheel and how colors can be used to create beauty for the clients with confidence. Rachel Merola, education instructor for Framesi, having positive conversations with clients during their color consultation.



From the Culinary Arts Program

Spotlight on Culinary Excellence at Mifflin County Academy

The Culinary Arts classroom at Mifflin County Academy of Science and Technology has been buzzing with excitement as students' progress through their innovative curriculum. Recently, the program wrapped up its highly anticipated baking-themed "Chopped" competition, showcasing the creativity and skills of its talented participants. In the AM session, the team of Izayah Helm, Phoenix Bryan, Wyatt Mosser, and Saige Groce emerged victorious with an impressive average score of 44.3 out of 50. The PM session saw the team of Dekoda Stewart, Karolina Oden, Lacy Stringer, and Neiyeliz Mangual clinch the top spot with a commendable score of 42.5. With their baking chops thoroughly tested, students are now gearing up for the next unit, which will explore proteins, focusing on techniques for cooking steaks and seafood. The excitement continues to build, as another "Chopped" competition will follow to test their mastery of these new skills.

Meanwhile, the Culinary Competition team is hard at work preparing for the prestigious PA ProStart Culinary Competition, which will be held at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College, PA. This elite group, consisting of Caiden Criswell, Dekoda Stewart, Holly Guyer, Alexis Treaster, and Lacy Stringer, is dedicating countless hours to honing their techniques and developing innovative recipes. The competition provides these students with an opportunity to showcase their talent on a state level and gain invaluable experience in a professional setting. With a strong sense of teamwork and a passion for culinary arts, the students at Mifflin County Academy continue to demonstrate that the kitchen is not just a classroom—it's a stage for future culinary stars.

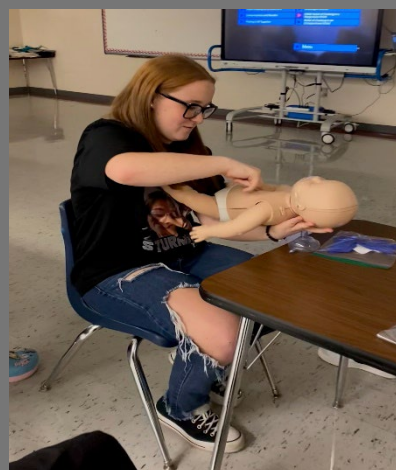


From the Early Childhood

The Early Childhood Education program has been busy! Before Christmas break, the class took a field trip to East Derry Elementary School to assist the students in preparing and packaging presents for their families during Ornament Day. We will be heading back to East Derry at the end of the month with activities we have prepared to help celebrate their PBIS day. Sophomores and juniors in the ECE program also completed a two-day training to obtain their CPR and First Aid certificate.



First student Navaeh Symmerman learning Infant CPR



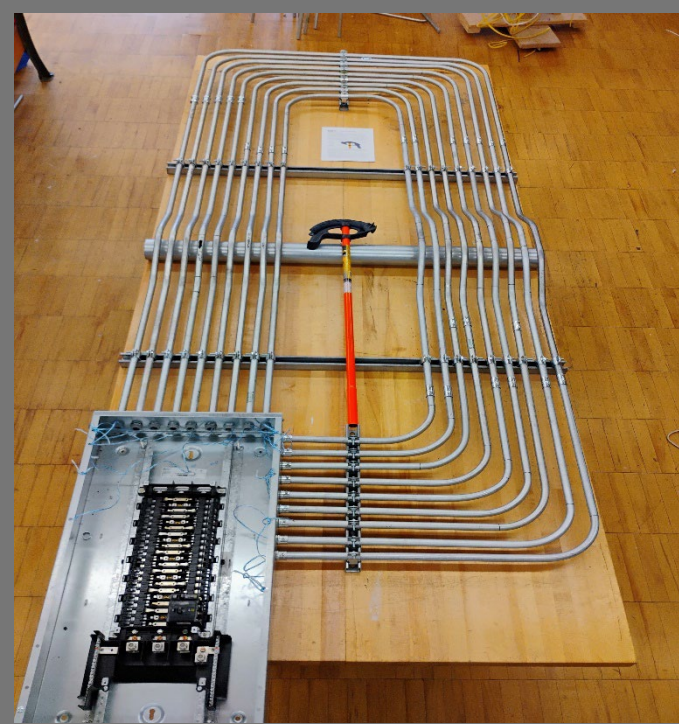
From our Electrical Installations Program

Electrical Installations Program: Skill Mastery in Action!

Our students in the Electrical Installations Program have been working diligently to master essential skills in conduit installation. From PVC and Rigid Conduit to EMT projects, their craftsmanship and precision are evident in every task.

Building on this strong foundation, we are now applying our conduit expertise to install a structured cable system. This advanced project incorporates Cat 5e and Cat 6 data cables, preparing our students to meet the demands of modern electrical and data communication systems.

We're proud of their progress and excited to showcase their achievements. Stay tuned for more updates as they continue to excel! As we continue to innovate, we're thrilled to announce that an exciting solar project is on the horizon, marking the kickoff of our Renewable Energy Program. Stay tuned for updates on this transformative initiative!



From the Health Professions Program

Nine Health Professions students attended a field trip to the Geisinger School of Nursing in Lewistown. The event, titled "Aim Hi," was sponsored by Geisinger for sophomores and juniors interested in health careers. During the event, students had the opportunity to meet professionals and explore careers in nutrition, laboratory sciences, physical therapy, nursing, and respiratory therapy. They were also introduced to the Geisinger Cooperative Education Program and the Geisinger Junior Volunteer Program. It was a great learning opportunity!



From the Practical Nursing Program

"After the New Year, senior nursing students were afforded the opportunity to tour the Pennsylvania State Capitol, to further the discussion on advocacy for the nursing profession."

