

# **Madrid – Waddington Central School**

**District Newsletter**

**December 2023**



# Board of Education

- Bruce Durant – President
- Amber Sullivan – Vice President
- Wyatt Boswell
- Charles Grant
- Ryan Hayes
- Katheryn Logan
- Christopher Pryce
- Michael Ruddy
- Robert Smith

## Members

**All meetings are at 6:30 PM in the high school library unless otherwise noted.**

- Tuesday, December 12 – Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, January 16 – Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, February 13 – Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, March 12 – Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, April 9 – Special Budget Meeting (Optional)
- Monday, April 22 – Regular Meeting, BOCES Budget Vote
- Tuesday, May 14 – Public Budget Hearing at 5:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 21 – Budget & Board Member Vote, Bus Referendum
- Tuesday, June 11 – Regular Meeting

## Meeting Dates

### District Contact Information

**Phone: 315-322-5746**

Elementary Main Office.....Ext. 35201  
High School Main Office.....Ext. 35200  
Guidance Office.....Ext. 35218  
CSE Office .....Ext. 35217  
School Lunch Manager.....Ext. 35230  
Bus Garage.....Ext. 35401  
Superintendent's Office.....Ext. 35221

Fax #: 315-322-0030  
Fax #: 315-322-4462  
Fax #: 315-322-5769  
Fax #: 315-322-5861  
Fax #: 315-322-4462  
Fax #: 315-322-4462



## From the Desk of **Mr. Burke** *Superintendent*

As we approach the end of December, it's astonishing how swiftly time has passed since the school year began here in Madrid-Waddington. This semester has been a whirlwind of enthusiasm, accomplishments, and immense student participation in a large variety of activities. The opportunities provided through the unwavering dedication of our faculty rival those of much larger schools.

Our halls have been bustling with the energy of student participation, from academic achievements to creative expressions, and sportsmanship. Whether it's in the classroom, on the field, or on the stage, our students continue to impress us with their passion, dedication, and talent. We're proud to witness their growth and success, both individually and as a collective force.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the community for your overwhelming support, particularly to the voters who endorsed our upcoming capital project. Your trust in our vision for the future of education in Madrid-Waddington is truly inspiring, and we are committed to shaping an environment that will empower our students for years to come.

With the onset of cold weather we are observing an increase in student illnesses, so we are working with students to emphasize the importance of healthy habits during the winter season such as regular handwashing, covering coughs, and staying home when unwell. Please feel free to contact the Nurses' Office to discuss any symptoms your child may be having to determine a proper course of action as our nurses have keen insight on the predominant ailments that are active across our region.

As the winter season descends upon us, we want to offer the reminder that our fitness center, ski trails, and hallway walking opportunities are open to all community members. The ski trails are groomed on a regular basis and we will be offering free ski loans for our trails on Saturdays as weather conditions allow.

We continue to be grateful for the sense of community that binds us together and look forward to the opportunities the new year will bring. We wish you all a happy, healthy, and restful holiday season.

# From the Desk of

# Mr. Binion

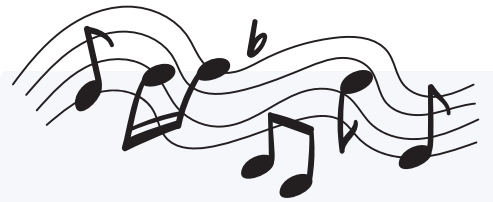
## *Middle/High School*

Seasons Greetings M-W Friends and Family,

I cannot believe that as I write this we are experiencing our first school delay of the year, but it looks like it is going to clear up quickly, and the students will be sad to have to get dressed to come to school, because this would be a great day to play in the snow.

I wanted to remind everyone of our upcoming Winter Concert Dates. We hope to see you there. When attending any of the concerts, we ask if everyone could please help us out and be courteous to our neighbors on Brady Road by not parking on their lawn? Thank you for your support and understanding.

- Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 7:00 pm  
(6th grade Chorus & Band, MS Chorus Band, & Select)
- Thursday, December 14, 2023, 7:30 pm  
(HS Chorus & Band, HS Select, & Stage Band)



During the last week before the Winter Break, Key Club will be sponsoring a Holiday Spirit Week: & Food Drive. Students are asked to bring in food items for the Madrid and Waddington Food Pantries throughout the week. The daily themes for the week are:

- Monday 12/18 - Grinch vs. Santa
- Tuesday 12/19 - Wear Christmas Sock and Hats
- Wednesday 12/20 - Wear Cozy PJs
- Thursday 12/21 - Wear Ugly Christmas Sweaters

The week of January 23rd-27th, Regents Exams will be administered for students in grades 9-12. Not all students will be taking an exam, so please remind your child(ren) to check with their teachers.

As part of the season of hope, giving, and appreciation, please once again help me thank our amazing teaching staff, counselors, psychologist, nurses, and custodial, transportation and cafeteria staff. We are very fortunate to have such great people here at Madrid-Waddington.

Happy Holidays to you all! Stay warm and safe this winter.

Sincerely,  
Joe Binion

# From the Desk of **Ms. Weakfall** *Elementary School*

Greetings Elementary Families,

It seems crazy that the month of December is already upon us and we have completed the first quarter of the school year already! It was fantastic to see so many grown ups in the building for Parent-Teacher Conferences last month!

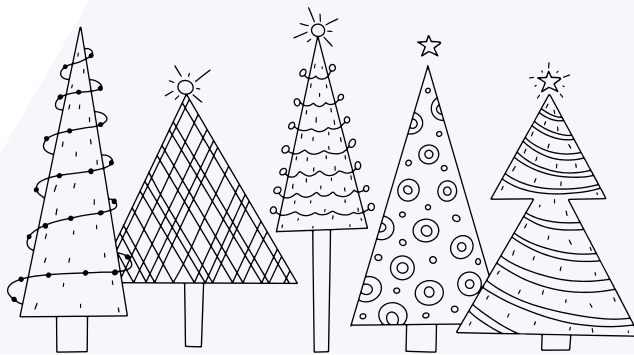
It was a joy to see our students participate in the holiday concerts last week. They worked so hard to prepare their songs (and some dances) for you! I always love seeing everyone in the hallway before they come out on the risers. Their nervous and excited energy is so contagious. A special thank you to Miss Ellie Burns and Mrs. Jill Roberts for their dedication to the music education of our elementary students.

Mrs. Miller has been working with our students to demonstrate acts of kindness this holiday season. Students have arrived each day of her kindness challenge happy and proud to be giving and doing for others. It has been a joy to watch! Our staff has gotten in on the kindness this season as well. In lieu of our Secret Santa gift exchange, more than 50 pairs of pajamas have been donated to local families.

As the weather continues to change, please be sure to send your child to school with winter clothing that is suitable for outdoor recess. We will be going outside for recess each day the “feels like” temperature is at least 20 degrees. If you are having difficulty getting winter clothing for your child, please reach out for support.

I wish you all a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!!!

Sincerely,  
Nicole





### **MWCS Athletic Hall of Fame**

The Madrid-Waddington Central School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is planning an induction ceremony next summer for all eligible Yellow Jacket athletes. The committee is looking to gradually catch up since the last induction, by initially focusing on athletes graduating between 2009-2012. Subsequent inductions will be held annually until all eligible years have been covered.

To be eligible for nomination, an athlete must have been out of school a minimum of 10 years. Coaches must have coached a minimum of 10 years in the sport for which they are nominated, and must be out of coaching a minimum of 5 years. A community member can be nominated at any time. Those athletes who were previously nominated, but not selected, will remain under consideration for up to 5 years.

All nominees for selection must meet minimal requirements developed by the Hall of Fame committee. If you would like to nominate a deserving individual who graduated between 2009-2012, a coach, or an administrator, forms can be obtained on the [Madrid-Waddington Athletic website](https://www.mwcsk12.org/Athletics.aspx).  
(<https://www.mwcsk12.org/Athletics.aspx>)

All nomination forms and required material are to be submitted by February 1st, 2024. Please send the information to Justin Richards, MWCS Po Box 67 Madrid, NY 13660. As per last year, donations will be very appreciated. Please send your donations to Marsha Watson at Po Box 53 Madrid, NY 13660.

# Guidance Department

***Ms. Pribek & Mrs. Siddon***

## SAT Changes for 2023–2024

### **SAT changes for 2023–2024**

The last administration of the traditional paper SAT will be on December 2, 2023. After that date, the SAT is going to be digital.

The **digital SAT** is composed of two sections: Reading and Writing and Math. Students have 64 minutes to complete the Reading and Writing section and 70 minutes to complete the Math section for a total of 2 hours and 14 minutes.

### **What you need to know:**

#### **Isn't this just the same test but online?**

No, the College Board isn't just going to take the paper and pencil test and put it on the computer. We're taking the opportunity to make the SAT a far better test experience for you.

#### **What's staying the same?**

- Still measuring the knowledge and skills that matter most for college and career.
- Still scoring the test on a 1600-point scale.
- Still administering the test in schools or test centers with a proctor present (not at home). Test centers will continue to be open to all students, not just those enrolled in that school.
- Still offering access to free, world-class practice resources.
- Still supporting all students, including those who need accommodations on test day.

#### **What's changing?**

- You'll take the SAT on a laptop or tablet.
- You'll take a shorter test, about 2 hours instead of 3. [Find out how adaptive testing makes this possible.](#)
- You'll have shorter reading passages instead of a few long texts.
- You'll be allowed to use your calculator on the entire Math section and there's a calculator built right into Bluebook™, the digital testing application.

#### **How do I register?**

Registration for the spring 2024 digital SAT will open this fall. If you're signed up for College Board emails, you'll hear from us. Or you can [check our website](#). You can check dates and deadlines [here](#) and find a test center close to you [here](#).

#### **Register Now**

#### **How do I practice?**

Find everything you need to start practicing and preparing for the digital SAT [here](#).  
Have more questions? We've got answers!  
Learn more about the digital SAT [here](#).



# Career Resource Information and Websites

## **Occupational Outlook Handbook: [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh)**

Prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, this website is updated annually with information on occupations that include nature of the work, working conditions, qualifications and training needed, employment, job outlook, earnings, related occupations and sources of additional information.

## **Career Info Net: [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)**

Prepared by the Department of Labor, this site is actually composed of 4 sites in one, so in addition to CareerInfoNet, you will find and be able to directly link to the Career One Stop, the Job Bank and the Service Locator. Though all the sites are job search oriented, the Career Info Net has industry and occupation information, and it is categorized as well by state. There is a Career Tools section that includes a resume tutorial among other exceptional resources, and the entire site is very easily navigable and user friendly.

## **Guidance Direct: Career Connections [www.guidancedirect.com](http://www.guidancedirect.com)**

This program is available to all students attending Madrid-Waddington. Many of our students utilized the program last spring and were able to complete an interest inventory and/or a resume. College and scholarship information is also available to students. To access Madrid-Waddington's Guidance Direct information, use the following Student Login ID and password:

**MWCS School ID: 4692095**

**MWCS School Password: TkjKHhHa6N**

For students who have already set up an account, you can retrieve information and sign onto your account to access additional information. If you have forgotten your login information, please check with the Guidance Office. For students who would like to set up an account, simply click on "Student Login" and follow the steps. Guidance Direct can be accessed from any computer with Internet capabilities.

## **GPS for Success: [mygpsforsuccess.com](http://mygpsforsuccess.com)**

GPS For Success is a multi-platform website where students and adults can watch, read and learn about career opportunities, income potential and education/training requirements in 16 career clusters outlined nationally as experiencing a shortage of skilled workers entering the workforce. GPS For Success was recently awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the New York State Economic Development Council in multi-media marketing.

## **CareerZone: [www.careerzone.ny.gov](http://www.careerzone.ny.gov)**

CareerZone is an innovative online career exploration and planning system designed especially for today's high-tech youth in New York State. CareerZone presents current and relevant occupational and labor market information in a clear and interesting way, making career exploration and planning fun and easy. CareerZone leverages the power of the web to provide: information on 800 occupations from the national Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) Database; the latest labor market information from the state Department of Labor; and interactive middle and high school career portfolios aligned with the NYS Education Department Career Plan initiative. Links to college exploration and planning resources help youth begin their life/work journey. Over 450 career videos provide a visual of the workplace and bring careers to life. Up-to-date job postings provide a glimpse into the local labor market and an ability to apply for positions. The expanded resume builder helps youth prepare one of the most important tools needed for a successful job search.

Youth in grades 6-12 most often use CareerZone to start their career exploration journey by beginning with the Interest, Work Values and Skill assessment tools to explore potential careers. A middle school and high school career portfolio are available to help.

youth create a meaningful plan for their future education and career choices.



**CEEB Code used  
for financial aid or  
for use on college  
applications:  
332970**

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE  
<http://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>  
\*This financial aid form is only used  
by some colleges & scholarship  
programs  
\*A list of those programs who use  
the PROFILE is available on the  
website  
\*The PROFILE is a fully web-based  
application system & there is an  
application fee for this form

## **Financial Aid Information**

Websites that will help you understand the financial aid process include the following:

The New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC):  
[www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov)

- This agency administers the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP).
- It also administers 25 grant, scholarship and loan programs

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):  
[www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

- This application should be completed by all college-bound students & their families.
- It is recommended that this form be completed ONLINE every year the student is in college.
- **KEEP IN MIND THAT EACH COLLEGE HAS THEIR OWN FINANCIAL AID DEADLINE: BE SURE TO FIND OUT WHEN THE DEADLINE DATE IS, SO YOU CAN GET YOUR FAFSA COMPLETED BY THAT DATE.**
- There is NO FEE for this application.

# Career and Technical Education

## Gateways to Careers @ SUNY Canton ~ March 13, 2024

The Guidance Office hosts a field trip in collaboration with Northwest Technical Center in Ogdensburg for all students in grade 10. This trip helps students experience a variety of the programs that are available to them in their junior and senior years. This year we are scheduled to visit the Tech Center on **Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at approximately 9:00 a.m.**

Juniors enrolled in English 11 and all seniors who attend a Career and Technical Educational program will participate in this program. Gateways to Careers is a college and career readiness workshop, which annually provides more than 1,200 students from component school districts, the opportunity to learn critical job seeking skills as well as the knowledge of how a well-developed resume, solid communication skills, and a positive attitude can impact their future success.

## College Application Deadlines

Each individual college has their own deadline for applications. Seniors should pay special attention to these deadlines. The Guidance Department recommends that seniors have their applications complete and sent in to the college by December 1. This allows time for transcripts and other important information regarding the application process to be gathered. More importantly, seniors should hear back from the college by early Spring if they have their applications in early, making their remaining months of high school less stressful.

### Winter Break

December 22-January 1

### Mid-Winter Break

February 19-23, 2024

## School Breaks



### Spring Break

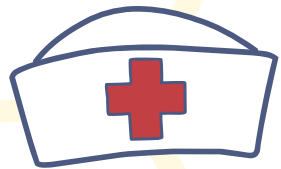
March 29-April 5, 2024

# Scholarships for Seniors – Class of 2024



If you have considered sponsoring a scholarship or award for a graduating Senior, but not sure how to go about it, here is some information for you. Scholarships will be announced at our June 2024 graduation ceremony. Scholarships may be donated by individuals, families, organizations and corporations. Donations are made for varied reasons: In memory of a loved one, in recognition of a well-deserved accomplishment, or to help a student that is continuing in a certain trade or continuing on to college.

Recipients are chosen in several different ways: by the MWCS Scholarship Committee, by the donor, or by committees organized within the donating business or charity. Our Madrid-Waddington Central School graduates always appreciate the recognition and monetary support. It's never too early to consider donating a scholarship or award for a member of this year's graduating Class of 2024. In fact, in late January, informational letters will be mailed out to past donors outlining the timeline for scholarship donations. If you would like to receive this information, please email Sabrina Pribek at [spribek@mwcsk12.org](mailto:spribek@mwcsk12.org) or call 315-322-5746, Ext. 35215.



## Injuries and School Accident Insurance

Please report all injuries immediately! We cannot stress enough the importance of prompt reporting to the School Nurse when your child is injured in a school activity. If a Student Accident Claim form is not completed on your child within 72 hours of the injury, our supplemental insurance plan (Student Accident Insurance administered by Philadelphia Insurance Company) may not be able to make payment.

*Coverage is only for school-sponsored, teacher supervised activities which are a part of the regular school program.*

**This is an excess coverage, your primary insurance comes first.** Benefits are available only after all other insurance has been utilized. Please submit to your own insurance(s) first before submitting any balances to the school Philadelphia Insurance Company will require itemized bills from all dates of services, as well as the EOB (Explanation of Benefits) from your insurance company. Submit claims as promptly as possible as there is a one year deadline for all claims. The claim must be mailed within one year from the date of injury. The Plan has a schedule of benefits, and pays according to that schedule. Please do not expect the plan to pay all of the excess medical charges.

If your medical bills are in excess of the scheduled plan payments, the difference is the responsibility of the parents. Under this policy, the school may not be held legally responsible for the remaining unpaid balance.

Your child is covered by this insurance program once he or she gets on a school bus on the way to school and until he or she gets off the bus on the way home. Students who: walk to school, drive cars, or ride bicycles are not covered until they enter the school building.

Please contact the School Nurse and Philadelphia Insurance Company with all accident/injury related questions. The Student Accident Claim form is available from the School Nurse.

# June 2024 Regents Examination Schedule

*Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.*

TUESDAY, June 4	FRIDAY, June 14	MONDAY, June 17	TUESDAY, June 18	WEDNESDAY, June 19	THURSDAY, June 20	FRIDAY, June 21	MONDAY, June 24	TUESDAY, June 25	WEDNESDAY, June 26
9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.		9:15 a.m.	Juneteenth Holiday Observed	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	
Algebra I*	English Language Arts	Eid al-Adha Observed	U.S. History & Government		Physical Setting/ Earth Science	Geometry	Algebra II	Physical Setting/ Physics	
	1:15 p.m.	Rating Day for Schools Not Closed	1:15 p.m.		1:15 p.m.		**World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint Exams	Uniform Admission Deadline  Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m.  Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.	
	Living Environment		Global History & Geography II		Physical Setting/ Chemistry				

# Upcoming Exams

## Digital SAT

\* Students must pre-register at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
Test Fee information available online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

Test Dates	Deadline for Registration, Changes, Cancellation
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024
May 4, 2024	May 16, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 16, 2024

## ACT

Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 9, 2023	August 4	August 18	September 1
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6	October 20
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17	December 1
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19	February 2
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22	April 5
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17	May 31
July 13, 2024*	June 7	June 21	July 5

## Paperless Progress Reports and Report Cards

Due to the success of schooltool's online access for parents/guardians we will continue to send electronic progress reports and report cards that help expedite the process for parents/guardians to monitor their children's progress.



E-mail and facebook notifications will be sent when progress reports and report cards are ready for viewing. You can simply log-in to your schooltool account to view.

Parents/guardians who do not have internet access may still submit a written request to our Guidance Department for progress reports and report cards to be mailed home.

If you are not yet registered in schooltool, you may access the schooltool Parent Portal by completing the registration form located on the District website under the Parent Information Page.

Specific instructions for viewing these reports will be e-mailed when reports are ready to view.



## Madrid-Waddington Fitness Center

### *Public Hours*

*5:00 – 8:00 PM*

*Monday-Friday*

Closed Holidays & Emergency School Closings

District residents may access the MWCS Fitness Center during the hours listed above.



The MWCS District utilizes mass communication (text messages/email) for District emergency closings, delay or updates. Please be sure to include the parent cell & email address(es) on the Student/Parent Contact Information sheet that will be coming home to you. Parents/Guardians of Grade 6-12 students will receive this form in a late summer mailing. Parents/Guardians of Elementary students will receive this form in early September—it will come home with your student.

The District newsletter can be obtained electronically by emailing your request to [pbogart@mwcsk12.org](mailto:pbogart@mwcsk12.org)



## State Assessments

3-8 ELA Testing will take place April 16-18.

3-8 Math Testing will take place April 30-May 2.

Grades 5 and 8 Science Testing will take place May 7-8.



# District Calendar

## MADRID-WADDINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

JULY 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July 4 - Independence Day

AUGUST 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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						1 2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Sept. 4 - Labor Day  
Sept. 5 & 6 - Staff Development Days  
Sept. 7 - First Day Classes

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Oct. 9 - Columbus Day

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Nov. 9 - Staff Development Day  
Nov. 10 - Veterans Day—Observed  
Nov. 22-24 - Thanksgiving Recess

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Dec. 22-31 - Holiday Break

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan. 1 - Holiday Break  
Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King Day  
Jan. 23-26 - Regents Exams

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Feb. 19-23 - Mid-Winter Break

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

March 15 - Staff Development Day  
March 29—Spring Break

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

April 1-5 - Spring Break  
April 10-12 - Math 3-8 Testing - paper  
April 8 - May 17 - ELA 3-8, Science 5 & 8, &  
Math 3-8 Testing - CBT

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 8-May 17 - ELA 3-8, Science 5 & 8, &  
Math 3-8 Testing - CBT  
May 7-9 - Math 3-8—paper  
May 27 - Memorial Day

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June 4 - Algebra I Regents  
June 14-25 - Regents Exams  
June 19 - Juneteenth  
June 26 - Rating Day

School Day Tally		August	0	February	16
		September	19	March	20
		October	21	April	17
		November	18	May	22
		December	15	June	17
		January	21		92
Total Number of Days - 186					

**P.O. Box 67  
2582 State Highway 345  
Madrid, New York, 13660  
<http://www.mwcsk12.org>**



# **POSTAL PATRON**