



Parliamentary Procedure

Newsletter for the Mifflin County Academy of Science and Technology

March 2026

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:

- **March 9-12= Fifth Grade Tours**
- **March 13= Act 80 Day**
- **March 18= Spring OAC Meeting**
- **March 25= End of Third Marking Period**



— THE —
ACADEMY

From the Director's Office

During Career and Technical Education Month, MCAST proudly celebrates the theme CTE Forward — recognizing that Career and Technical Education is no longer viewed as simply an “option,” but as a foundation for success across every pathway. The outdated conversation of CTE *or* college, CTE *or* military, or CTE *or* workforce no longer reflects today's reality. At MCAST, CTE strengthens all futures. Our students graduate with technical expertise, academic application skills, industry-recognized credentials, and professional habits that prepare them for whatever path they pursue. Whether entering the workforce, enrolling in postsecondary education, or serving in the armed forces, students leave with clarity, confidence, and a competitive advantage. Through strong partnerships with local employers, hands-on learning environments, and real-world problem solving, we are aligning education directly with regional workforce needs. CTE gives students purpose in their learning and vision for their future. It is not a backup plan — it is a forward strategy for economic growth, community strength, and lifelong opportunity. At MCAST, CTE Forward is more than a theme — it is our mission in action.

From the Principal's Office

Dear Parents and Students,

As we head toward spring and all of the activities that are involved, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that students must have signed parental permissions to drive to the Academy (when wishing to drive to participate in these activities). In addition, students who wish to ride with another student to the Academy to participate must have their parents sign a form as well. Both sets of parents must acknowledge that one of the students is driving and transporting the other student and one of students has parental permission to ride with the student driver(both of these forms are available in the main office). Our goal is to keep all of the students safe.

Seniors will soon be taking NOCTI exams. These are an important part of their CTE education and provide valuable information to our instructors. Those exams are schedule for April (schedule below), please encourage your student to do their very best on these exams. Please be watching for an informational letter coming soon about these Exams.

- April 13-17= Written portion of NOCTI Exams
- April 23= Performance portion of the NOCTI Exams.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call my office or email me at any time.

Mr. Mark A. Crosson
Principal



Student of the Month for February

I am proud to announce the 2026 February Students of the Month for the Academy:

Ivy "Rexx" French - 10th Grade - Mifflin County High School - Early Childhood Education Program - "Ivy does an exemplary job overall in Early Childhood Education. She really thrives in class participation, engagement with PreK students, and creativity in lesson plans."

Lacey Kessler - 11th Grade - Mifflin County High School - Health Professions Program - "Lacey is a model student in Health Professions. She is attentive in class, conscientious about assignments and due dates, actively participates, and consistently shows kindness to both peers and adults. Recently, Lacey earned the highest score on a very challenging written exam – a huge accomplishment."

Callie Simonetti - 12th Grade - Mifflin County High School - Culinary Arts Program - "Callie is a dependable, motivated student who takes pride in her work and approaches each task in Culinary Arts with pride. She is a leader among her peers – modeling professionalism and setting a strong example through her work ethic and accountability. Callie is able to manage her time, communicate effectively, is reliable, and shows commitment to personal growth."



Ivy French- grade 10



Lacey Kessler- grade 11



Callie Simonetti- grade 12

From the Co-op Coordinator's Office

Hands-On Learning with Sunderland Electric

Barry Sunderland, owner of Sunderland Electric, continues to be a strong supporter of our electrical installation program by employing three of our students: **Josue Rivera, Ava Kratzer, and Amilia Coffey**. Through their co-op experience, these students are gaining valuable, real-world skills across a wide range of job sites.

Recently, the students have been working on both **commercial and residential projects**, including **new construction and remodels**. Their hands-on experience has included running large amounts of conduit and installing **three-phase circuits** in a new machine shop—tasks that require precision, teamwork, and a solid understanding of electrical systems.

Most recently, the students were on site at a local home where they cut into existing plaster walls to add **new recessed lighting and additional outlets**, helping modernize the space while learning the challenges of working in older structures.

Experiences like these give our students the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in real job settings, build confidence, and prepare for successful careers in the electrical trade. We appreciate Barry Sunderland and Sunderland Electric for their continued partnership and commitment to student success.



Josue Rivera bending conduit



Ava Kratzer & Amilia Coffey bending conduit



Amilia Coffey cutting hole for recessed lights



Ava Kratzer wiring an outdoor receptacle



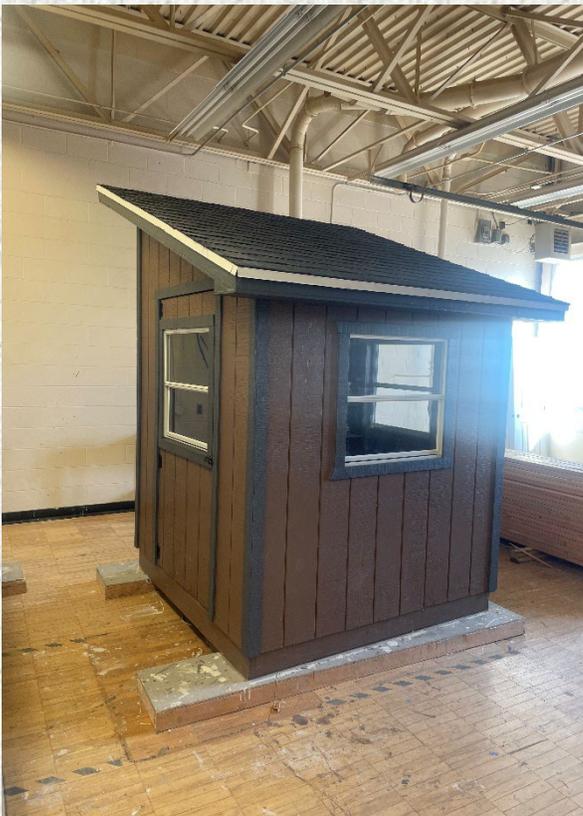
Amilia, Ava and Josue running power supply line underground

From the Construction Trades Program

Construction Trades is still in the process of wrapping up and transitioning into different projects for different seasons. The luxury chicken coop is almost complete as we work on building and installing the doors and hinges. Also, we were able to complete items off of our task list by using the planer to make and install our trim on the coop around windows and doors.

The hunting blind prototype is complete and will be leaving for its new home in Butler County, shortly after our Spring OAC. Please see attached pictures of the finished project.

Construction trades is looking to transition to masonry work and a community service project as the weather begins to warm. Stay tuned for more updates



From the Early Childhood Program

Early Childhood Education Program Update

Our Early Childhood Education program students have been actively engaged in meaningful, hands-on learning experiences that are preparing them for successful careers in the field of education.

This last month, students have been busy planning and teaching a variety of lessons in the PreK Counts classroom. Through this experience, they are strengthening their skills in lesson planning, classroom management, and developmentally appropriate practice while working directly with young learners.

In addition, our ECE students collaborated to design and lead engaging activities for both PBIS Days at Lewistown Elementary School and East Derry Elementary School. These opportunities allowed students to demonstrate leadership, creativity, and professionalism while supporting positive school-wide initiatives.

We are especially proud of two of our seniors, Leslie Vazquez and Ciara Miller, who are currently participating in their cooperative education placements. Both students are receiving excellent feedback from their placements. Their dedication, strong work ethic, and commitment are top notch!



Jyleen Smith and Heath Jabs teach a fingerprinting activity.

Early Childhood (continued)



Jenny Hess, Kendyl Wilson, Lillian Beers monitor a Valentine's Day activity.



Daniel Rivera and Allison Betancourt are supervising a gross motor ping pong ball activity.



Kaylissa Woodward and Dani Marker lead a painting activity.



Ciara Miler and Autumn Swartz are building alongside PreK students using plastic cups.

From the Health Professions Program

This month, Health Professions students proudly hosted a successful blood drive in partnership with Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank. A total of **28 units of blood** were collected, potentially helping **at least 84 people in our community**. We are grateful for the strong community support that made this event possible.

In the classroom, students have been studying the cardiovascular and respiratory systems. Level 2 students are finishing their dual enrollment coursework and preparing to take their final exam through Pennsylvania College of Technology for college credit.

In the lab, students practiced bed making, linen identification, and completed testing on occupied bed making. Level 2 students also learned denture care as part of their Patient Care Technician certification preparation. Students participated in a patient care simulation reviewing gown changes, transfers from bed to wheelchair, and height and weight measurements.

We also welcomed the United States Navy, who presented on Tactical Combat Casualty Care and led students through some hands-on activities. It has been a productive and exciting month in Health Professions!

