



# ★ The Purple Post ★ NEWSLETTER

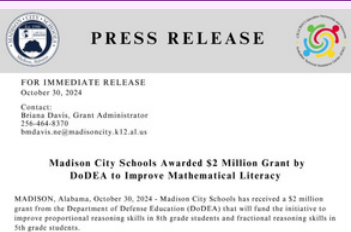


WINTER 2024 ISSUE

**WELCOME** to the Winter 2024 Issue of The Purple Post Newsletter! Over the past few months, many exciting things have taken place. A new DoDEA grant was awarded to Madison City Schools, the Impact Aid survey was sent out to parents, the 2024 DoDEA Grant Community of Practice Meeting took place, Bob Jones hosted Madison City School's Military Appreciation football game, and each school held Veteran's Day celebrations. In this issue, you will get insight about these events and more!

## PRISM

Proportional Reasoning in STEM Missions



The beginning of the press release for the new PRISM DoDEA grant.

## HEALTH SCIENCE

Developing the Future Health Science/Biomedical Workforce



Congratulations to our newest group of Certified Patient Care Technicians! We are so proud of you & can't wait to see all your future holds!

## SPARK

Creating a Spark for STEM Career Pathways



STEM students participate in STEM Day activities.

- **Madison City Schools has been awarded a \$2 million grant by DoDEA.**
- **The new grant has two main goals:**
  - **Goal 1: Eighth grade students will improve proportional reasoning skills for STEM careers, as evidenced by qualitative and quantitative measures by May 31, 2029.**
  - **Goal 2: Fifth grade students will improve fractional reasoning skills for STEM careers, as evidenced by qualitative and quantitative measures by May 31, 2029.**
- **With grant funds:**
  - **The district will hire two elementary math coaches and three middle school math coaches starting 2025-2026 school year.**
  - **The district's Elementary and Secondary Math Specialists will attend a mathematics program facilitator training, which they will bring back to train teachers.**
  - **Math manipulatives will be purchased for elementary and middle schools in the district.**

**The Health Science grant includes provisions for continuous professional development.**

**This 1.5 million dollar grant will be closing in May of 2025.**

- **Year 4 Reflections in middle school:**
  - **Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) group became an initiative at the middle school level.**
  - **One MCS student advanced to the 2nd round at HOSA's International Leadership Conference—a proud day for Madison City Schools, and a milestone for the Health Science Pathway.**
- **Year 4 Reflections in high school:**
  - **In the 2023-2024 school year, Madison City high school students had a >92% pass rate on the following certifications: Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA), Certified Patient Care Technician (CPCT-A), Certified EKG Technician (CET) and Certified Pharmacy Technician (Ex CPT).**
  - **Over 50% of these students earned more than one certification. These pass rates far exceed the national average.**

- **The \$2 million STEM Grant is in year 3 of implementation**
- **Year 2 Reflection:**
  - **All elementary students attended a STEM class weekly**
  - **Project-based lessons were planned and implemented in preK-5th grade**
  - **Teachers received STEM professional development**
  - **STEM supplies were purchased and incorporated in innovative lessons**
  - **STEM Careers were embedded in lessons**
  - **STEM Community Engagement increased through participation in STEM Nights and through invited guest speakers**
  - **Elementary STEM Extracurricular offerings increased 21% district wide**
- **Goals: Military-connected students will increase their STEM literacy/content knowledge and will increase their STEM career awareness as evidenced by quantitative and/or qualitative measures.**
- **SPARK Grant period of performance is fall 2022-spring 2027**

## DODEA ANNUAL COP MEETING



The DoDEA Grants Team at the DoDEA CoP Meeting in Norfolk, VA.

The 2024 DoDEA Annual Conference took place in Norfolk, VA on November 13-15. This year's CoP, themed "Pioneering Progress," provided grantees with valuable resources, showcased successful practices, and inspired forward-thinking strategies to enhance student learning and achievement. Attendees were placed in groups that visited local schools, a museum, or a childhood center that offered grantees practical insight and guidance for promising practices.

## MILITARY APPRECIATION FOOTBALL GAME

On Friday, October 25, Bob Jones High School hosted Madison City Schools' Annual Military Appreciation Night at their football game. We had the honor of having Harold Hueholt, a World War II veteran, who recently turned 100 years old, complete the coin toss for the game. Hueholt served in France with the 66th Infantry Division during World War II.

During half time, the Bob Jones Band played the Salute to the Armed Forces, honoring and recognizing those who have served or are currently serving by standing when their military branch song played.



Superintendent Dr. Ed Nichols pictured with Harold Hueholt, World War II veteran.

## VETERANS DAY CELEBRATIONS



All Madison City Schools celebrated Veterans Day to honor military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Observances included patriotic assemblies, flag ceremonies, and moments of silence to recognize the sacrifices of veterans. Students learned about the history and significance of the holiday, and many schools invited local veterans to speak, share their experiences, and engage with students. These celebrations aim to foster respect, gratitude, and a deeper understanding of military service among young people.

## ★ IMPACT AID REMINDER ★

The online response form has closed.

- Paper forms are available. Please contact your child's school if you need to complete a form.
- If your student brings home a blue paper form, please complete and return the form.
- Choose only one student survey to fill out for all of your students.
- Complete the Impact Aid Paper Form making sure you add all other household students names to this form. You only need to complete one form for the entire household.

The DOD Impact Aid Supplemental Program provides financial assistance to local school systems that are heavily impacted by the presence of military dependent students.

By filling out this form, you are helping Madison City Schools receive funding and grants that support all students in the district.

**As of December 16, 61% of the district have submitted their Impact Aid form.**

