

Mason County Schools Family Resource & Youth Service Centers

To enhance students' ability to succeed in school by developing and sustaining partnerships that promote early learning and successful transition into school, academic achievement and well-being; graduation and transition into adult life.



Straub Family Resource Center
387 Chenault Drive - Straub Elem.
Maysville, KY 41056
(606) 564-5683 Fax (606) 564-5320
Mary Robinson-Griffey, FRC Coord.

MCIS Family Resource Center
720 Clark's Run Road - MCIS
Maysville, KY 41056
(606) 564-5683 Fax (606) 759-2001
Lu Anne Bellingham, FRC Coord.

Mason County Youth Service Center
1320 US 68 - MCHS
Maysville, KY 41056
(606) 564-5683 Fax (606) 564-9040
Ashley Kirk, YSC Coord.

Opportunities for Involvement

The goal of Mason County Schools FRYSC is to enhance our students' ability to succeed in school by developing and sustaining partnerships to promote:

- Early learning and successful transition to school;
- Academic achievement and well-being; and,
- Graduation and transition into adult life.

Without the support of our local community businesses and caring individuals, many of our student/family needs would go unmet. Through the donation of money, goods, services and time, we are changing the lives of our students and their families and increasing their chances for academic success. Donations are accepted and can be made for a specific purpose, or on a generalized basis to provide for any and all needs of our students and their families. A few of our programming opportunities are listed below:

[Weekend Backpack Program](#) –

This program provides each student participating with a bag of healthy snacks to take home with them each Friday (Thursday for preschoolers). For many of our students, the snacks in these bags may be the only food they receive over the weekend. Each bag costs approximately \$3.00 and includes individually wrapped items, such as: applesauce/fruit cups; granola bars; pudding; cereal cups; fruit roll-ups; Ramen noodles/Ravioli; pop-tarts; Jell-O; Chex mix; etc. On average, this program serves anywhere from 150-175 students weekly.

Contributions may be made through monetary or food donations to the program. These funds and foods will be utilized to ensure sustainability of the program. Additionally, sponsorship of a student on the waiting list (above and beyond the 170 currently being served) through a monetary donation which will cover the student's snack bag for the remainder of the school year is an option. **For more information, please call: 606-564-5683.**

Mason County Schools do not discriminate on the basis of sex in admission to or employment in the education programs or activities it operates.

Any recipients concerned with the application of Title IX and its implemented regulations should contact:

Title IX Coordinator, Greta Stanfield, 504 Coordinator – Mason County Board of Education Office – (606) 564-5563

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Clothing/Shoes/Coats for Students –

Throughout the school year, there is always a need for clothing, shoes and coats for our students. Some of these items are provided to families on an individual basis who need a little extra assistance due to their economic circumstances. Other clothing items are needed throughout the school year for emergency/accident situations at the schools.

- **Back-to-School Clothing** – Prior to this school year, Mason County Schools FRYSC in collaboration with the City of Maysville has been able to provide back-to-school clothes for approximately 100 students at \$50 each. Due to economic cutbacks, these funds were not received since the 2019-2020 school year.

Donations for sponsorship of a student with back-to-school clothing are accepted.

- **Coats** – each year, Mason County Schools FRYSC receive requests for assistance providing coats for students. Donations of coats and/or monetary donations for purchasing coats for students are greatly appreciated.
- **Shoes** – throughout the year, Mason County Schools FRYSC receive numerous requests for shoes. Donations of new shoes and/or monetary donations for purchasing shoes for students are greatly appreciated.
- **School Clothing Closet Items** – throughout the school year, students often have accidents at school. As you can imagine, tears to clothing on the playground, or spills in the cafeteria are an everyday occurrence. Not always, but sometimes, this requires a change of clothing for our students. Each school tries to keep a few items on hand to provide for these needs. Donations of new and **gently used** clothing items are accepted throughout the school year and are greatly appreciated.

For more information, please call: 606-564-5683.

School Supplies –

Each year, Mason County Schools FRYSC hosts a “Back-to-School Fair” the week prior to the start of school. This event offers our families/students the opportunity to visit local agency booths to receive information on available resources in our community. Additionally, students are provided with a bag of school supplies appropriate to their grade-level. Due to COVID - this event has been cancelled the past two (2) years; however, school supplies have been provided to students throughout the district.

School supplies are provided on an as-needed basis while they last to students throughout the school year. If available, backpacks are provided on an “as-needed” basis. Donations of school supplies (i.e.: crayons, pencils, paper, folders, etc.) and backpack are always

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Holiday Assistance Program –

In collaboration with the community, Mason County Schools FRYSC provides an annual Holiday Assistance Program for Mason County School students and their siblings, birth to 18 years of age. Applications for this program are accepted yearly beginning the middle of October through the Friday before Thanksgiving. Options to provide assistance to this program include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Angel Gifts** – Angel Trees are set up at various businesses in the community (i.e., Kroger, Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, etc.). These “Angels” provide the gender and age of a child in need of a gift for Christmas. Participants are asked to purchase one (1) gift with the approximate value of \$25.00 per “Angel” and return it to the location where they got the “Angel” tag, or to one of the centers, for distribution to our families.
- **Monetary Donations** – Mason County FRYSC will accept monetary donations to purchase gifts for students to receive during the Annual Community Christmas Event.
- **Adopt a Family** – Many local churches and businesses opt to “adopt” a family for Christmas and provide gifts, clothing and sometimes food for the holiday season. Options are available to do this anonymously or to have contact with the family on an individualized basis.
- **Holiday Party** – Some local businesses (i.e. Hutchison’s Grocery), have opted to host a party for students. This option usually has the FRYSC select from the list of applicants a specific number of students specified by the business. The FRYSC staff will contact the families and obtain information such as toy interests/clothing sizes (whatever the businesses need to provide for the students), and provide the families with the information regarding the date/time of the party event.
- **Christmas with Cops** – Mason County FRYSC staff work with the local police department to provide students for their annual Christmas with Cops events from the applicants for holiday assistance.

Plant the Dream –

The Mason County Youth Service Center, in collaboration with Mason County High School and local businesses, offers the “**Plant the Dream**” Program at MCHS. Students are provided the opportunity to “**visualize and realize**” their dreams by being placed with a local business in a field which interests them for mentorship training. Upon recommendation to

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the program, students are placed with a business in their field of interest for which they will mentor for the entire current school year.

Local businesses interested in partnering with MCHS to provide placements for students should contact YSC Coordinator, Ashley Kirk @ (606) 564-5683.

WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) –

The Straub Family Resource Center and Mason County Community Education, in collaboration with Straub Elementary School, offers the “**WATCH D.O.G.S.**” Program at Straub. Fathers and father figures are encouraged to volunteer a day at Straub Elementary serving as the school “WATCH DOG.” Volunteers spend their day volunteering in the school performing various activities such as greeting students, reading with students, eating with students, assisting with drop-offs and pick-ups and/or bus duty. Students have positive interactions with a male role model and are provided with an extra level of security as the “Watch Dog” makes his rounds throughout the day.

Volunteer Program –

The goal of the Mason County Schools Volunteer Program is to enable citizens from the community to assist administrators, teachers, and other school personnel in helping young people succeed in school. By signing on as a volunteer, you become a member of our team of professionals that proudly provides educational services to approximately 2,800 students in Mason County.

Anyone can be a school volunteer! The requirements? Just enjoy working with children and believe in the importance of education. Students benefit immensely from the encouragement and attention volunteers are able to give. When young people see that their community cares about education, they tend to adopt that same value.

Checklist for Applying:

- ✓ Complete Application Form (yearly)
- ✓ Agree to Criminal Records and CAN (Child Abuse/Neglect) Check [*applicant required to pay a \$20 fee (\$10 each) associated with this background check*]
(*Background checks are good for 3 years*).
- ✓ Sign Participation / Confidentiality Statement
- ✓ Complete front and back of Central Registry Check
- ✓ Sign-in each time you volunteer
- ✓ Wear volunteer badge while working in the school

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Volunteers are needed in academic, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities. The following are just a few of the areas available for volunteers in our school system:

- **Student Mentor:** listen to a student read, help with sight words, etc.
- **Truth or Consequences:** MCMS Program for 8th grade students, sign-up to serve as a “foster” parent to walk students through a “truth or consequences” scenario where they learn about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.
- **College Application Week:** Sign-up to assist MCHS seniors as they complete their college applications.
- **Operation Preparation:** Sign-up to serve as a mentor to MCMS 8th grade and MCHS 10th grade students as they explore possible college and career goals. Business people, elected officials, college/university students & employees, government employees, parents, retirees and concerned community members assist our students to “realize their potential, maximize their academic preparation and stay on track for success.”
- **Miscellaneous:** Field trips; athletic events; school programs; greeter; FRYSC events; etc.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more about the Volunteer Program, please contact:

Dawn Mains, *Community Education & Volunteer Coordinator, (606) 564-7755.*