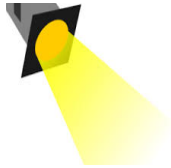




The Mid-State Messenger

January 2022



Employee Spotlight:

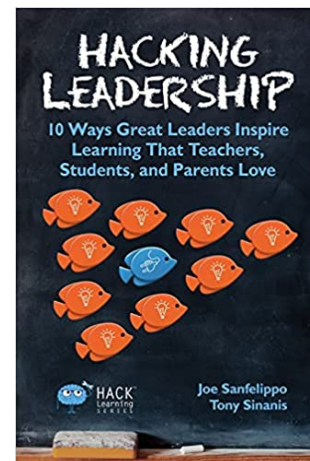


Maddie Williams-Kane

We would like to welcome Maddie to our Deaf & Hard of Hearing team and MSSE family. A Carlinville native, Maddie completed her DHH teacher education degree from ISU in December 2021. Maddie believes that the classroom should be an equitable environment where all students feel welcome and wanted. Classrooms should be about relationships, kindness, and learning from mistakes. She believes that it is her job to meet students where they are and to support them through their educational journey. Maddie will be working closely with Michaela Hartley to meet the needs of our deaf and hard of hearing population. She will serve Carlinville, Litchfield, Panhandle, and Bond schools. Please take a moment to welcome Maddie if you see her in your building. MSSE is so fortunate to now have two DHH teachers!!

February Book Study

Were you impressed with the keynote speaker at the ROE Institute Day? If the answer is yes, plan to enroll in this book study! “Hacking Leadership” by Joe Sanfello focuses on building relationships, creating a culture within your building, and opening doors for communication and collaboration. This book study will continue with the activity menu and Zoom meeting dates (attendance optional) on Wednesdays, February 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and March 2 from 3:15-3:30pm. 10 professional development units will be offered for completion of the study. To register go to <http://www.midstatespec.org/professional-development/>



Bombers Bakery

Trinity Belcher, Junior at Brownstown High School, works at the Brownstown Bakery. She has made cookies, caramel apples, and candy corn mix that she sells to staff and students.



Lucas Houser, a Greenville High School student from Mrs. Levad's class, helped decorate the classroom door. Lucas plans to work in maintenance at a factory after high school.



Festive Doors

During the month of December, Vandalia High School, Shirley Kolakowski and Mariah Durbin-Flack worked hard on decorating staff doors. They also strung popcorn for the unit office Christmas tree. Shirley's future plans are to become a health occupational therapist working in homes. Maria's future plans are to become a therapist.



Employee of the Month

Landon Wilhour, Junior at St. Elmo High School, was awarded Employee of the Month at Culver's in Effingham. Landon is in the STEP program and works as a cook at Culver's. Landon's future plans are to become a chef. Landon said that he loves his job and the special parking space he gets to park in for the month.

