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MADEIRA STUDENTS LEARN TO SERVE

On Friday, October 4, over 400 Madeira High School (MHS) students and staff took part in the school's 12th annual Day of Service, sponsored by the Madeira Schools Foundation.

Day of Service shows that kindness through service is an important part of the curriculum at Madeira. Every student in Grades 9 through 12 is given the opportunity to sign up at one of over 30 locations to serve. This year, a few of the ways students helped were assisting CityLink Center prepare for their annual "MashUp" fundraising event, cleaning out debris and overgrowth in vacant lots and constructing privacy fences for Working in Neighborhoods (WIN), and sorting donations at Project Connect CPS, The Healing Center, and Crayons to Computers. Each group of students had at least one Madeira staff member accompanying it. This year several parents also accompanied some of the groups as chaperones, and to be exposed first hand to how the students serve.

To kick off the day all students gathered in the school's Medert Auditorium where they were greeted with the MHS Marching Band Drum Line performing the school's anthem 'On Madeira.' Madeira Varsity football coach and Madeira Elementary School Physical Education teacher Chris Stewart shared the value of service and challenged students to stand for others. The 430 students then boarded 11 school busses where they were taken to their service destinations.

Madeira High School staff members Kim Homer and Kelly Wing organize the Day of Service. "One of the most gratifying parts of it for me is to hear students say it's their favorite day of the school year," MHS counselor Kim Homer commented. "It has definitely increased our district's reputation in the community."

Madeira's Day of Service began as a way to showcase student service, which is a graduation requirement at MHS. 40 hours of documented community service are required by each student before they receive their diploma - at least 20 involving meaningful experiences that the student must write about. To date, almost 4,500 Madeira High School students have performed close to 15,000 hours of assistance to others on the MHS Day of Service.



Pictured (l to r): Aiden Mitchell, Naomi Simmons, Cannon Shafer, Sarah Hicks, and Sophia Davenport clearing brush at Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford.