

Welcome to City Hall:

Mason Public Schools & City of Mason

*A true partnership between municipal government and education
that moves the Mason community forward.*



MASON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Welcome to City Hall

The City of Mason and Mason Public Schools have demonstrated true regional cooperation by entering into a unique partnership to share resources and office space. In 2018, the City of Mason invited Mason Public Schools to co-locate administrative offices within Mason City Hall. Mason City Hall, which was rebuilt in 2009 is a modern, energy efficient building located within Mason's charming downtown.

This partnership allows for both organizations to share resources including conference rooms, parking and utilities. Additionally, after Mason Public Schools successfully passed a \$69.7 million bond issue the year prior, it was apparent that removing administrative offices from the Harvey Education Center building, would allow for better utilization of the building for additional education and green space and decrease the building's overall footprint. Since then, the partnership has continued to grow in positive, unanticipated ways.



City of Mason Manager, Deb Stuart and Mason Public Schools Superintendent, Ronald Drzewicki

Leadership in Action

“There was some resistance at first, but City leadership continued to push this idea until everybody became comfortable to take the leap, because there was risk, mostly from a public relations standpoint to do this. Here we are, a year later and I have not heard a single bad thing from the school district and I know the City loves the partnership. Our City Hall is more full and it is being better utilized,” - **Mayor Russ Whipple**

“Although there were hurdles, the benefits far outweighed any possible public pushback,” - **Board President, Kurt Creamer**

“The benefit to a new person who has just moved here – they can go to one place to learn about the City and the same place to learn about the School,” - **Mayor Russ Whipple**

“The facilities in this building have worked well, we have better space for our meetings, we are able to contribute to utility costs and everybody is thrilled to be here,” - **Board President, Kurt Creamer**

“We are more connected like a family because we are right there together,” - **Mayor Russ Whipple**

“The cost benefit alone for both parties to be in one building, frees up resources to do more in the community and more for the students. That has been a great outcome,” - **Board President, Kurt Creamer**

School Safety

Mason Police supports school safety programming

- ALICE = Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate
 - Two City police officers and two District administrators were trained to be trainers
 - This small cohort is working together to train all faculty, staff and students
- Mason Capital Area Prescription Drug Taskforce
 - Prescriptions were frequently appearing within the schools
 - Police Chief formed an enforcement taskforce
 - Taskforce has evolved into a community program



School Safety

Mason Police supports school safety programming

- Multi-Agency Trainings held at Mason High School
 - 7 agencies have started partnering to prepare for active shooter scenarios
 - Trainings take place throughout the summer
- High School assistant principal is an active reserve police officer
- Police Chief and Assistant Principal meet weekly



Mason Middle School Traffic

Middle School traffic concerns lead to collaboration with City officials

- Previous drop off locations required students to cross in front of oncoming traffic
- The City of Mason supported developing a plan to re-route traffic
 - The District relocated staff parking lots to develop parent drop-off loops and created an exclusive drop off lot for buses
- City provided barricading and signage during transition time
- City painted current crosswalks and added additional crosswalks
- City removed trees to improve visibility
- City now provides crossing guards



Kosovo Sister Cities Collaboration

City of Mason and Mason Public Schools welcome delegates from Kosovo

- Mayor Sokol Haliti and educators from Kosovo visit Mason
- The delegation spent one day in Mason classrooms observing English, Physical Education and Art programming
- The delegation spent time with Mayor Russ Whipple
- Students of Albanian decent participated in a luncheon with the delegation
- A community reception was held in the delegation's honor at City hall



Joint Recognition Ceremony

- City of Mason and Mason Public Schools partner to recognize students, staff and members of the community twice per year
- Each person receives a proclamation for an upcoming date to be deemed their day



Other Notable Collaborations

- Mason Cares Day
- City employees use their volunteer hours within the schools
- Superintendent regularly visits community groups



Words from the Community

“When I walked into the offices and saw how new and modern they were, the technology that we had at hand, and the wonderful facilities, it really said to me as an employee, this is where I want to be. A town that treasures their past but also embraces the future in what we need to bring to our students,”

-Molly Williams, Instructional Support Teacher, Mason Public Schools

“What makes me proud as a community leader, I see the Superintendent with the City Administrator walking through town and having coffee together. Any time I enter the City Hall building, you see the activity. It feels like the building is getting the love that it needed,”

-Teresa Wren, Owner, Kean's Store