

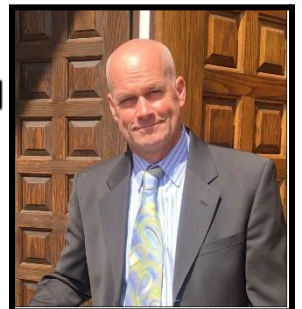
Harmony Middle School

2024-25 Annual Report



From The Principal's Desk

It is always a pleasure to feature our school's successes. This year, as in the past, there are many. Please know how thankful the staff and I are that we get to be at this school and in this community. We know it is a special place with an amazing community. We will continue to give full efforts to your kids. We will continue to love what we do. We will continue to be on your team. Enjoy the highlights and enjoy the summer!





The Arts at Harmony

This year our students did a tremendous job with 66 cast and crew members in the play titled, "Newsies Jr." It was led by Director Meghann Donohue, Production Assistant Alysia Brown, Choreographer Anastasia Kim, and Music Director Amanda Miller. Our students performed to over 1500 people in three days. They did a remarkable job, and we are proud of their hard work.



MUSIC

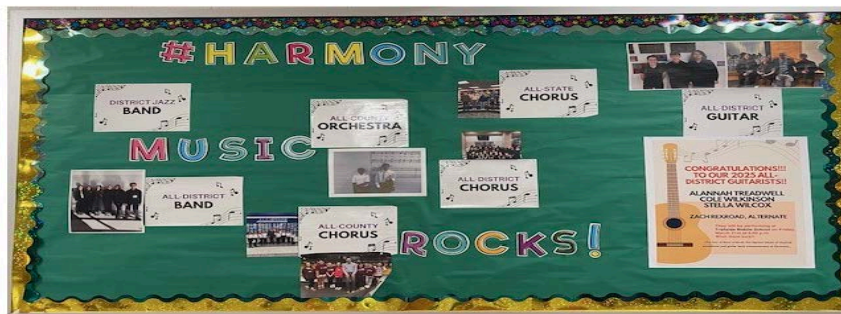
Our music program which includes chorus, band, strings, and guitar is top quality. This year, students were chosen for All District, received superior ratings, and grew under the talented leadership of Ms. Washington, Mr. Wells, Mr. Fairchild and Mr. Schear.



6th grade Choir



7th grade Choir



Music



7th and 8th grade Bass Choir at District Choral Assessment.

Harmonetts - 8th grade Choir



Band

All County Chorus-6th Grade

Sopranos-Noelle Bourke, Teagan Crosby, Kyleigh Fuller, and Abbie Kate Sparks

Alternates-Addison Araiza and Jasmine Walters

Altos-Georgia Kakouras, Sofia Metallo, and ella Woolwine

Alternates-Kate Arnold and Makenna Alford



All-VA Chorus Results

The 2025 All-Virginia Middle School Honor Choir has been determined after a record 1,364 submissions from 131 teachers.

TWENTY of the Harmony singers submitted auditions and **over half were selected** or are alternates.

Soprano 1 - Aurelia Buhler

Soprano 1 - Faith Hartley

Soprano - Sammie Nickerson

Tenor 1st Alternate - William Kamakawiwoole

Bass 1 - Ben Verhey

Bass 2 - Jose Castillo

Bass 1 - 2nd Alternate - Will Porta

Treble Choir

Soprano 1 - Emma Washam

Soprano 2 - Evan Owen

Soprano 2 - Trystan Schaeffer

Alto 1 - Atticus Pacheco

Alto 2 - Georgia Kakouras



Harmony Singers
Selected for
All-District Chorus!

Addisyn Arnett	Ben Verhey
Gioia Metallo	Cooper Gaeckle
Will Porta	Manny Schwartz Spain
Atticus Pacheco	William Kamakawiwoole
Reece Lesko	Molly Morrison
Lilly Podolak	Lola Butterbaugh
Annabelle Snow	Anna Brown
Aurelia Buhler	Iris Olden
Juliette McIntosh	Amelia Whelband
Jose Castillo	Ella Edwards
Cole Miller	Faith Hartley
Robel Debussu	Booklyn Casteneda
Nathalie Lima	Audie Wilmot
Henrietta Thompson	Alternates
Tristan Gessner	Elise Orbinal
Joey Burke	Rylee Goyne
Caden Vanno	
Esther Hunter	

Band and Guitar

Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Schear have been busy teaching our students in band and guitar. The students have succeeded in many ways. Congratulations!

All-District Band

Congratulations to the following students that auditioned for and were selected for All-District Band: Bridget Miles, Nora Campbell, Lilyan Rodgers, Freyja Lesink, and Cameron Clarke. Amelia Roberts was selected as an alternate.



All District Guitar Ensemble Congratulations to The following students as they were chosen to Represent harmony Middle School at the 2025 LCPS Middle School All-District Guitar Ensemble. Alannah Treadwell, Stella Wilcox, and Cole Wilkinson and Alternate, Zach Rexroad.

Aguado Guitar Competition of Loudoun County

Congratulations go to the Harmony Guitar Quintet as they placed **2nd** over-all in the middle school ensemble division of this year's Aguado Guitar Competition of Loudoun County. Stella Wilcox, Alannah Treadwell, Ka'alo Kamakawiwoole, Aohdan McCartan, and Cole Wilkinson were outstanding in their performance.

SUPERIOR RATINGS

Guitar assessments.

JAZZ Ensemble

Orchestra



SPORTS AT HARMONY

Harmony students participated in many intramural sports this year. Under the direction of Joshua Young, we walked away with some great achievements.



Intramural Flag Football CHAMPS

Members of the winning team include Jax Boehner, Colson Comienski, Kingston Carter, Stefan Gerlach, Braeden Feeney, Matt Hill, Ben Hill, and Brayden Ransbotham.



Volleyball Intramural CHAMPS

Team Members: Aubrey Thompson, Emma Swank, Rylee Goynes, Caroline Mangione, Parker Scott, Natalie Lima, and Connor Malone



Travel Softball

Team Members: Addie Pratt, Allie Eicholtz, Brynnly Thomson, Chloe Sparks, Claire Ridgeway, Gianna Saprito, Mia Jones, Maddie Petrella, Mackenzie Shull, Nia Monnet, Kamryn Peacock, Liv Dietz, Rylee Sleutsky, Jules Robles, Kendyl Dabkowski, and Mary Pearson



Girls JV Basketball Team

Impressive Season with a record of 9-1

Team Members: Amara Horton, Arianna Sieczkowski, Ellie McCullers, Emery Clegg, Harper Albu, Julie Robles, London Soto, Maeve Walker, Makenna Alford, and Mary Pearson



Travel Basketball Champs

Team members: Ben Gorlaski, Liam Lynch, Porter Kight, Chance Sly, Jackie Lucas, Beckett Barlow, Ben Hill, Tyler Burgoyne, Stewart Morrison, Kye Berg, John Marsh, and Owen Oliver



WLBL Champions (5th and 6th Grade Team)

Congrats to our Harmony girls for winning the 5th/6th grade WLBL Championship Game! Go Seahawks!!! Proud to represent the hive! Team members: Kate Arnold, Presley Wilcox, Caroline McDaniels, Charlotte Cornely



WLBL Champions (7th and 8th Grade Team)

The Hoyas, made up of Harmony 7th/8th grade girls, came together to win the western Loudoun recreation basketball league championship. Team members: Sabine Curiel, Rylie Smith, Mackenzie Branham, Teagan Tucker, Emma McLaughlin, Stella Haley, Kennedy Gillingham, Faith Hartley, and Annika Larsen



Congratulations to our teachers

Melanie Condon was nominated for Teacher of the Year through The Washington Post.

Steve Weitlich was nominated for Teacher of the Year through VMSA (Virginia Middle School Association).

Gretchen Hatch and Brenda Dowdy won the SEAC Outstanding Inclusive Educator Award.

PBIS at Work

The students and Staff participated in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports.

H - Honor and Respect
M-Model Responsibility
S - Show Safety



Students were nominated by their teachers and earned points for their respective houses. Winners participated in Staff vs. 8th grade volleyball and basketball games. Students also received tokens and were able to use the prize machines in House offices or the video game and claw machine designed by our Tech Education students. Deans recognized these students by bringing the "Woot Woot" cart around, and students could choose prizes.

DEAN DOZEN

This year, the Dean Dozen winners did many activities to celebrate their nominations from staff. Students received a donut, certificate, and participated in games.



Our Harmony students are the best!

Building Climate

Throughout the year staff have participated in activities together to show support and have a sense of community.



Pickleball was not challenge with this group as they met after school to have fun.

The Administrative Team cooked a pancake breakfast complete with pancakes, sausage, and eggs for the staff.



Our staff participated in all the fun as band students played a song on our staff's head (hard hats required).



CHILI COOK OFF WINNER

We had over 15 participants in our Annual Chilli Cookoff. There was a lot of great chilli to taste but Karen Grubb walked away with the votes.

Harmony Participated in the LCPS Photo Contest



Student Vs. Staff

Staff played in basketball and volleyball games this year against our 8th grade students. The Houses that had the most points were able to go to the gym and watch the games. Congratulations to 6th and 7th grade for having top nominations.



Classroom Magic

The classroom is where the "magic" happens. Our PBL model is exciting and a rewarding experience for our students.

Social Studies 7 Relives Land Grab



Our 7th grade Social Studies teachers simulated this event from the late 1800's famous "Land Rush" Students rode their horses to claim their land.



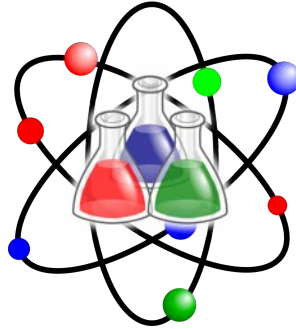
Social Studies - 6th grade transforming their classrooms

Sixth graders transformed their classrooms into Independence Hall, Philadelphia, 1787, as they tackled the monumental task of crafting a Constitution! With George Washington at the helm, they stepped into the shoes of historical delegates such as James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, and Roger Sherman. Once the necessary quorum was reached, debates about crucial issues such as representation and the balance of executive power began. Students experienced firsthand the challenges and triumphs of the Constitutional Convention as they defended proposals including the Virginia and New Jersey Plans. They had the opportunity to present their delegates' arguments. It was an immersive and powerful way to learn about American history and civic engagement.



Classrooms

7th grade Science completed cell models



Mrs. Hatch's students learned about the Arctic as they collected snow from outside and determined which animal didn't belong.



Mr. Cassutto's class Covers Global Economics



The US trades with many nations around the world. Students learn how nations work together to meet their needs.



English



NANOWRIMO
8th grade students learn tips
for writing from our staff on
editing and brainstorming.



7th grade English

Mr. Morrison, dad of 7th grader, Molly, and husband of 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Morrison, presented to Block 7 English classes, sharing about his experiences with natural disaster rescue. Mr. Damon Schaefer (Talula's father) presented on his extensive experience as a former Tier 1 Special Operations Operative and also helped in the NC disaster, Afghan recovery, and more. Kind of like a real-life Captain America. He is also well-versed in ham radio and emergency operations.



Zero-G Aqua Dragons Experiment

Two 7th grade science classes are participating in a hands-on science project involving [Aqua Dragons](#) (Brine Shrimp) and microgravity, in collaboration with [Space for Teachers](#), a non-profit in the US, and the founder/CEO of Aqua Dragons in Barcelona, Spain.



New Bulletin Board

Thank you students and teachers for putting up a new bulletin board outside of the cafeteria.

Ms. Blemle's students: Davis, Crosby, Henry, and Joshua.



OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

Latin Class participated in Virginia Junior Classical League State Convention. Harmony placed in 14 Categories including: costume, black pencil, Watercolor, Roman Life 1, Quotes, Traditional Photo, Small Model, Grammar Intermediate, Reading comp. Interim. Mixed Media, and Reading Comp. Elementary 1.



Equity Ambassadors

Students were chosen to represent Harmony at the LCPS Equity Council. These students worked together to create quarterly activities for students emphasizing our values of kindness, respect, and understanding.



Partnership with Simpson Middle School

This year we shared a program to give our EL students experiences meeting new people. All year they have worked together even going around the DC area.



Peterson Young Naturalist Awards 2025

Zoe Schutte (7th Grade) has won the 2025 Peterson Young Naturalist Award. She won from Harmony MS and was sponsored by teacher, Ms. Lynne Gianelos..



Spelling Bee Champion

Sara Pessima (8th grader) again wins After 29 rounds. She also won as a 6th grader. Ben Verhey runner up.



POSTER DESIGN

One of our 7th grade students, Cullen Parks, won the Wegmeyer Farms poster design contest. Cullen won over 180 other western Loudoun students' entries including MANY from the high school level. Along with winning the poster design, he will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

STEAM

Students engaged in panel discussions and STEAM related interactive activities. Amazon Web Services is a Girls' Tech Day to promote and encourage girls and women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, arts and math.



Harmony Has Published Authors!

The ELKS CLUB held a PATRIOTISM ESSAY CONTEST from Veteran's Day in November called, "What Does Patriotism Mean to Me?" Harmony had two winners! They won in Loudoun County: 1st place: Ryleigh Schoefield. 2nd place Claire Hubbard. They won at Regionals: 1st place: Ryleigh Schoefield. 2nd place Claire Hubbard. They went to STATES: 2nd place: Ryleigh Schoefield. 3rd place Claire Hubbard. WOW. Congratulations, ladies!

Odyssey of the Mind

Harmony did great during their tournament. Problem 2 team placed 3rd and its members were: Ethan Fricano, Sione Gebhardt, Vivian Lavin, Logan Hoffman, and Lola Buterbaugh

Problem 3 team placed 1st in Division 2 and its members were: Ella Burbagr Sabine Curiel, Sebastian Curiel, Penelope Dimino, Sophia Han, Tess Hendrickson, and Claire Hubbard.



Odyssey of the Mind Team Advanced to World Finals!

Congratulations to the 7th grade Odyssey team- Ella Burbage, Sabine Curiel, Sebastian Curiel, Penelope Dimino, Sophie Han, Tess Hendrickson, and Claire Hubbard— **for finishing 2nd place at the Virginia State Championship on April 26!** They qualified to go to the World competition!



Spectrum

Elliot Gilchrist, Sarah Pessima, Kailey Hoffman, and Alannah Treadwell competed in the FOXCROFT STEM competition beating out over 14 schools. They earned 1st place overall, 2nd place in the math challenge, and 3rd place in the AI challenge.



CLUBS

Each year staff volunteer to conduct clubs. This year we had 45 clubs. Students chose and attended before or after school. Clubs popped up all year long. Even near the end of school, new clubs were forming based on the requests of students.

Spread the Love Club



Juggling Club



Chess Club



Board Game Club



Pickleball Club



Basketball Club



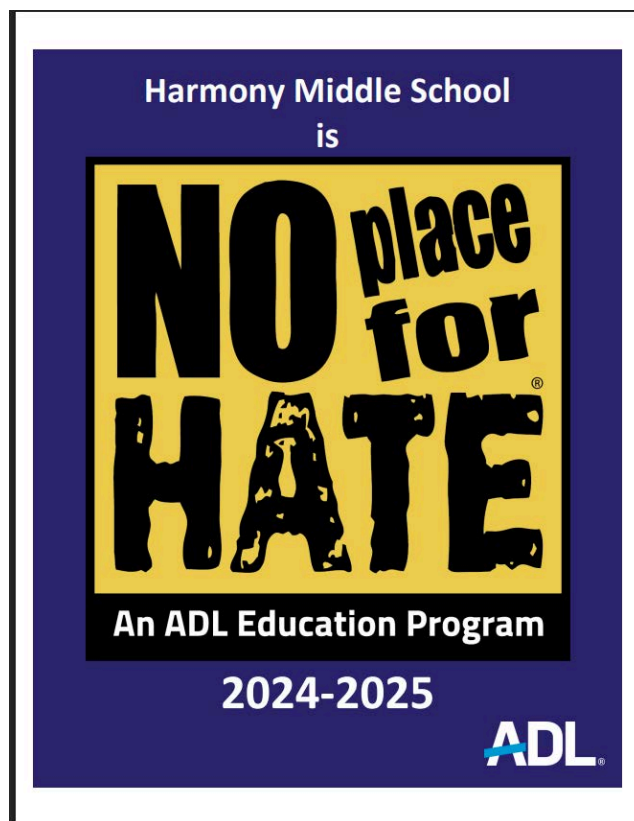
Clubs this year:

Anatomy, Anime, Basketball, Board Game, Book, Beginning Breakers, Card, Chamber Carolers, Chess, Color Guard, Content Creators, Crafting, Diamond Painting, Dungeons & Dragons, FCA, Family Book, Fishing, Football FANactics, Gardening & Wellness, Jazz Band, Juggling, Latin, Lego, LIAM, Mad Science, Math, Minecraft, Model Building, National Novel Writing, Newspaper, Paperdoll, Pickleball, Pokemon, Project Lit, Public Speaking/Leadership, Running, Rubik's Cube, Spread the Love, Social Squad, Student Council Association, STEM, Volleyball, WEB, Yearbook

NO PLACE FOR HATE

Congratulations to all of Harmony's community on earning a designation for this year as "No Place for Hate." We earned this distinction by focusing on several areas:

- Creating a school where all students can thrive.
- Accessing tools to respond to bias and bullying incidents.
- Increasing students' sense of safety and belonging.
- Helping students feel heard and understood at school by teachers and classmates.
- Connecting with friends and classmates in an engaging way.



Family Arts Night



This year, during Youth Art Month we celebrated our 17th annual Family Arts Night Event on March 19th. We hosted 12 local artisans along with Woodgrove High School Art students, who shared their art and demonstrated their techniques. Activities included our school wide art show that displays hundreds of artworks by 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students; Spin Art, Shrink Art, Miniature Art with Easels, Master Artist Coloring Pages, Model Magic Sculptures, Scratch Art, Stained Glass Art display by Pre-Algebra classes, Guitar Performances, The Citizens (Harmony's Rock Band), Newsies "Ripped from the Headlines Performances", Hornet Express, Relay for Life Bake Sale, and PTA Pizza Dinner.

Art Students Excelling

Sophia Rey Yaloung was selected to attend PAVAN, a Regional Governor's School for the Arts. Analeigh Darr displayed artwork at the Appalachian Trail Art Show at the Round Hill Arts Center. Analeigh Darr and Cam Mitchley created a design that was chosen for the new Harmony LOVE design and will be displayed and marked on the Virginia Loveworks website.



NOVA Math Team Tournament

Our Math Team competed in the NOVA Math Team Tournament at Stone Hill Middle School on May 4 and did very well.

Members include: Elliott Gilcrest, Kailey Hoffman, Hunter Tagge, Hiram Sadri, William Kamakawiwo'ole, Slawhudeen Uslum, Isaac Den Herder, and Anne Vermette

Coaches: Mr. Beytullah Arikan and Ms. Kerry Pascarella



Student Council Association (SCA)

Our SCA was involved with many things this year. They connected with a district in Buncombe County, NC after a hurricane and collected supplies for schools. They also collected 68 toys through Toys for Tots and donated to the Salvation Army. They also created 3D signs and with the help of the Art and Tech Ed., designed a sign that will be displayed outside of Harmony.

Cooper Wood - President
Charlotte Strahan - Vice President
Khloee Boatright - Secretary
Amara Horton - Treasurer
Tessa Adlung - Historian
Zoey Schutte
Tristan Gessner
Noah Baldwin

Caden Vannoy
Eli Rivas
Callie Littlefield
Mason Setser
Charlotte Strahan
Talya Adlung
Kaitlyn LaForty
Charlotte Lilienkamp



NIGHT of UNITY

Harmony had a wonderful time promoting cultural diversity at our Night of Unity. Our foreign language teachers and PTA Liaison provided a night of fun activities to demonstrate the diversity within our school. The food was magnificent.



Wellness Day

Harmony MS held their Wellness Week on April 1-3rd. Daily lessons and activities were delivered through Advisory highlighting physical health, mental health, emotional health, and social wellness. Students were greeted each morning by a Harmony Musical Group and a Musical Preview of Newsies, Jr. On Thursday, April 3rd, students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of outdoor activities (Yoga, Volleyball, Basketball, Sand Art, Coloring, Music, Board Games, and a Physical activity led by Coach Strahan from Fitness Image Results) during a 25-minute rotation with their grade level peers. The Harmony UMHT partnered again with Nick's Way and handed out Nick's Way 365 Days of Kindness Challenge Bracelets.

This year we received \$620 in donations for Nick's Way.



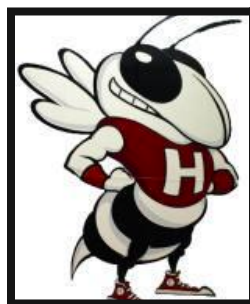
OUR United Mental Health Team

Alysia Brown, Teri Wilson,
Sarah Miller, Jamie Sharp,
Christy Pierson, Debbie Kimball,
Bryan Pecoraro, Ashley Warfield



"Feet Meet"

Students from Harmony joined 47 other LCPS schools at LVHS for the 3rd Annual "Feet Meet." Our students in Ms. Hatch's and Ms. Blemle's classes all went with an 8th grade buddy to have a chance at every outdoor activity.



All our Heroes

Our Custodians are a tremendous asset to our school.
They work hard everyday to make sure Harmony is
always at its best.

To Our Fantastic Custodians

In the halls of Harmony MS, where we learn and grow,
There's a team of heroes, more than you know.
Led by Richard, with a heart so grand,
Our school shines bright, thanks to his guiding hand.

Melissa, Jennie, Howard, Cesy, Maria too,
Santa and Tania, we're so grateful for you.
The floors are so clean, they sparkle and gleam,
So spotless, the principal would eat off them, it seems! (he would)

With smiles on their faces, and joy in their stride,
They work together, side by side.
This summer they toiled, through heat and through pain,
Ensuring our school is perfect again.

We see your hard work, your dedication and care,
And we want you to know, we're so glad you're there.
From the bottom of our hearts, we send our love,
You're our school's angels, sent from above.

Our Kitchen Staff does a great job everyday making sure all our students have what they need during lunch - thank you!

We were visited (unannounced) by the Health Department. They were completing their surprise Food Inspection. And, as we do each year, WE PASSED. Congratulations Nancy James (cafeteria Manager) and the entire crew. Way to go Nancy, Gary, Jill, Sharon, Sonia, and Claudia. (They looked for things like protection from contamination, proper temperatures, approved food sources, good hygiene's practices, safe food and water, and several other areas.)

THANK YOU PTA BOARD

Thank you PTA Board members for your time and commitment to Harmony kids and staff this year. We could not have done it without you!

President - Ms. Jai Park

Vice President - Ms. Monica Horton

Treasurer - MS. Kristan Adams

Secretary - Ms. Sabine Campbell

Volunteer Coordinator - Ms. Laura Kannengieszer

Events Coordinator - Ms. Ali Gillingham

And all other volunteers!