



## Regional Spelling Bee Winners

The top winners from MCA's school spelling bee traveled to Salisbury this month to the Western Regional Spelling Bee. There they competed against twenty spellers from a total of seven schools. **Anna Windsor**, eighth grade, took home top honors winning first place with the word "Olympian," and fifth grader **Benjamin Hiatt** earned second place overall. Commenting on the experience, Anna described it as one that "takes skill and learning," and mentioned that she has a "special passion for spelling". Anna will move forward to the Winston Salem Journal Spelling Bee in March.



Benjamin Hiatt and Anna Windsor, spelling champs!

## MCA Wins Big at North Carolina Science Olympiad

North Carolina Science Olympiad is an organization which promotes science, technology, engineering, and math among middle school and high school students in North Carolina by hosting rigorous, academic, interscholastic competitions.

On February 25, two teams of MCA students traveled to Wake Forest University and competed in events ranging from tests on invasive species, to creating and building a hovercraft device powered by battery-operated fans which they wired. Students also participated in events such as "crime busters and forensics," through which they learned about evidence, fingerprints, shoeprints, and powders.



This celebratory photo of both teams with Coach Brittany Branch was taken at Wake Forest University following the Regional NCSO tournament awards ceremony. Twelve schools from eight counties participated in Division B (middle school grades), and sixteen schools from eight counties participated in Division C (high school grades).

The MCA Division B team, grades six through nine, won fourth place overall, and the MCA Division C team, grades nine through eleven, won third place overall. The latter, along with six members from the Division B team, will move to the state level of competition held at NC State University in April. If you'd like to see a team hovercraft in action please visit the school's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/millenniumcharteracademy/> and watch the latest video clip. This hovercraft, built by **Anna Gibbons** and **Jacob Smith**, was the only craft in the competition to run the entire length of the track.



## Meet Millennium's NCSO Teams

### Middle School – Division B, grades 6-9

- 4<sup>th</sup> : Roads Scholar- **Zachary Wardle & Zeke Harrison**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> : Reach for the Stars- **Ava Utt & Matthew Lee**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> : The Wright Stuff- **Luke Robinson & Cole Waddell**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Hovercraft- **Anna Gibbons & Jacob Smith**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Fast Facts- **Jacob Majure & Ashton Rierson**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> : Anatomy- **Cameron Shaw & Ashton Rierson**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> : Mission Impossible- **Ava Utt & Cameron Shaw**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> : Microbe Mission- **Jon Williams & Jacob Majure**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : Disease Detectives- **Will Erickson & Maggie Glenn**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : Food Science- **William Erickson & Anna Gibbons**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : Meteorology- **Elisha Spencer & Cameron Shaw**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Towers- **Elisha Spencer & Zachary Wardle**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Wind Power- **William Erickson & Jacob Majure**
- Others Events: **Nate Sapp & Christian Watson**

This team placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall, and the six highest scoring students will proceed to the state competition in April.

### High School - Division C, grades 9-11

- 2<sup>nd</sup> : Wind Power- **Jacob Hiatt & Alexis Watson**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : Write it, Do it- **Sarah Shepherd & Georgia Chapman**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> : Disease Detectives- **Jacob Hiatt & Emily Brooks**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Duct Tape Challenge- **Jack Bevard & Hemil Hira**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : Electric Vehicle- **Laurel Petri & Sarah Shepherd**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Forensics- **Sydney Watson & Alyssa Collins**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Helicopters- **Emily Brooks & Leah Childers**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> : Invasive Species- **Kathlyn Mauck & Alayna Smith**
- Other Events: **Dalton Collins, Oscar Hampton, Jessie Hinson, Kathlyn Mauck**

This team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, and will move to the state level of competition in April

## Basketball season results score big!



High School Girls' Team, left to right" **Emily Brooks (top), Kayla Friend, Anna Gibbons, Claudia Cooke, Alayna Smith, Laurel Petri, Sarah Shepherd, Leah Childers, Caroline Reid**

Three out of four Lion's basketball teams proudly represented MCA in the state basketball tournament. The high school ladies' team finished the season with a 12-4 record. After finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the conference, the Lady Lions received a first round "bye" in the state, and then won their 2<sup>nd</sup> round game against Miller's Creek, 30-27 in order to play a 1<sup>st</sup> round game against Sugar Creek in Charlotte. The Lady Lions were defeated by Sugar Creek, but Coach John Lovill was pleased with their perseverance and dedication to doing their best.

Although the Lions Men's basketball team did not advance to the state tournament, their skill level improved impressively throughout the season resulting in their most conference wins ever at the high school level. Teamwork and cooperation were key. Add to this "pushing personal limits," which is exactly what **Kaine Lovill**, captain of the high school men's team, did as he led the entire Central Carolina Conference in points per game, assists, steals, and blocked shots. He finished the season ranked 40<sup>th</sup> in the state of North Carolina for steals, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state for blocked shots, which translates to 18<sup>th</sup> in the nation, according to MaxPreps, a leading source for high school sports rankings.



**Kaine Lovill**



In middle school action, the girls finished the regular season 14-4 securing second place in the Central Carolina West Conference. Improving on their skill each game and led by coach Kevin Gwyn, these girls put up a formidable offensive wall against their opponents.

Middle school boys boasted a 9-6 record finishing fourth in the Central Carolina West Conference. Coach Tim Tucker pushed the boys to reach for the personal best each game. The large number of eighth graders moving to the high school team next fall are adding an impressive amount of height, speed, and skill to aid the Lions Men's team for the 2017-2018 season.



The Middle School Girls Team, Third Place Conference Winners, left to right, front row: **Abby Simmons**, Coach Kevin Gwyn, **Karlie Gwyn**, **Kaybri Jones**; Back row, **Leah Shaw**, **Cameron Shaw**, **Kamber Lovill**, **Hailey Perry**, **Madison Maurer**, **Sophia Kiser**, **Eliana Spencer**, and **Grace Phillips**

The Middle School Boys Team, Third Place Conference Winners, left to right, front row: **Andrew Brooks**, **Cooper Motsinger**, **James Marion**, **Foster Baird**; Middle: **Kendall Gause**, **Brady Wolfe**, **JT Tucker**, **Matthew Chapman**, **Wil Danley**; Back: **Jacob Harris**, **Cameron Adams**, **Grant Routh**, **Kas Sanders**, Coach **Tim Tucker**



Special thanks go out to high school coaches John Lovill and Brian Busick, and assistant coach, Patrick Blevins (MCA alumnus); Middle School girls coach, Kevin Gwyn; Middle School boys coach, Tim Tucker; Cheerleading coach, Kayley Umstead (MCA alumna); Spirit Squad coach, Mandy Tucker (and many mom helpers); Athletic Director, Rodney King; MCA Athletic Boosters, our bus drivers, and especially to our parents for your support in making this a great winter sports season.