

MINUTES of PTA/PAC

Meeting Date: November 16, 2015

Call to order: A monthly membership meeting of the Madison PTA/PAC was held at Madison Elementary School on Monday, November 16, 2015 in St. Cloud, Minnesota. The meeting convened at 6:02 pm. Miranda Gilbert, PTA Chairperson presiding, and Marcus Paden, Secretary

Members in attendance

Miranda G., Julie C., Marcus P., Karen K., Billi R., Rhiannon K., Lissa S., Andi B., Heidi U., Anette H., BriAnne H., Kristen R., Adam R., Jennifer N., Amanda J., Colleen O., Carol B., Jean C., Pam K., Chris T., Carmen H., Amanda H., Alicia C., Matt C., Lisa S., Kim E.

Welcome and Introductions

Guest Speakers

Heather Ebnet, Young Scholars Coordinator for Madison and Discovery
Laura Steabner, ISD 742 Talent Development Coordinator

Madison has three programs: Young Scholars, Chinese Immersion Enrichment (January 2016), and Academic Achievement (Academic Triathlon and Knowledge Bowl)

Young Scholars is a K-5 program that targets students with high potential, focus on developing potential soft skills and academics. Students are identified through performance in class lessons focused on drawing out creativity and critical thinking.

Madison has 80 students in the Young Scholars program with 20 “on watch.” Once students are identified, the goal is to keep students in Young Scholars, while identifying new students every year. Small groups meet weekly and topics include leadership skills, growth mindset, literacy, and to view themselves as learners and academic leaders.

The future of the program includes real world, project based learning, technology integration, with opportunities to share work.

Jaime Conway, 4th grade Madison teacher is the coordinator for Academic Achievement. She coordinates the Knowledge Bowl and Academic Triathlon. Parents are encouraged to contact her if interested in coaching teams. Each team needs a coach so the more parent volunteers the more teams can be created.

Future opportunities include a spelling bee and field trips such as Science Rocks (5th grade) and Young Authors, Young Artists (3rd and 4th grades)

Principal/Assistant Principal's Report

Morning Broadcast – 5th grade students share date, weather, lunch menu, daily trivia, mindful Monday, and Pledge of Allegiance. Students will be able to broadcast on the smart boards in classrooms after Thanksgiving.

Conferences: Thursday, November 19th 4:00pm – 8:00pm and Tuesday, November 24th 4:00pm – 8:00pm

Parent Newsletter/Communication: Make sure school has your current e-mail address to receive bi-weekly newsletter. Updated information can be given to teachers during conferences. Hard copies are also available.

Cafeteria Update: A cafeteria supervision paraprofessional has recently been hired. Grades 2-5 will serve as table washers/inspectors, grades 4-5 will serve as kindergarten helpers.

Hallway Blitz: Mustang Awards are given every Monday and all winners take a group photo. Also reminding students about school-wide expectations (be kind, be responsible, be safe). Taped lines are on the floors to help students stay to one side and in a line. Students receive stickers when observed exhibiting good hallway manners.

Student Safety/Support Staff: Julie Carpenter –Behavior Interventionist K, 2, 4, Stefanie Okeson 1, 3, 5, John Redding – Educational Equity Outreach Coordinator (EEOC) All grades, Ashlul Dahir – Bilingual Cultural Support Specialist (BCSS) All grades

Multi-tiered systems of support (Behavior, intervention, and response – found in Rights & Responsibilities Handbook)

Tier 1 – Core instruction/core prevention (80%)

Tier 2 – Supplemental/Target (15%)

Tier 3 – Intensive individualized (5%)

97% of students have never accessed above Tier 1

Parents feel like there are a lot of behavior issues so the 97% is unbelievable. Children come home and tell stories of bad behavior and language in classes and halls. Consequences occur but must protect dignity of students so those are not discussed publicly. Teachers may not be sending students to the office for higher tiered support. Ongoing training will continue.

Some students will be tier 4 and those students will be moved to Roosevelt once the building is complete, December or January.

Parents are always welcome to speak with the administration. Feel free to call the school to schedule a meeting with the principals, or email.

When parents call the school and enter an extension, it goes to the secretary instead of the person they are trying to reach. The principal will have the district look into it; add extension to health office.

Teachers Report

Teachers use different permission slips so some ask parents to volunteer and some do not. A standardized permission slip will be created. A master list of field trips will be added to the Madison calendar online. The media specialist is working on it.

Collection/Fundraising Report

Students raised \$11,147.76 during the walk-a-thon.

1st graders raised the most and had a root beer float party

Budget Report

We need to brainstorm about how we want to spend our funds.

Volunteer Opportunities

Family Game Night is Wednesday, December 2nd 5:30pm – 7:00pm. Contact PTA chair Miranda Gilbert @ madisonptapac@gmail.com if you can volunteer.

Book fair – Contact Madison Media Specialist Paul Olson at paul.olsen@isd742.org if you can volunteer. Dates and times for volunteers are listed below.

11/24 – 1-4

11/30 – 7:30-11:30, 11:30-3

12/1 – 7:30-11:30, 11:30-3

12/2 – 7:30-11:30, 11:30-3

12/3 – 7:30-11:30, 11:30-3

Dec 4th – Morning with Dad's 6:30am – 7:30am

Dec 11th – Morning with Mom's 6:30am – 7:30am

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.