

MINUTES of PTA/PAC

Meeting Date: October 19, 2015

Call to order: A monthly membership meeting of the Madison PTA/PAC was held at Madison Elementary School on Monday, October 19, 2015 in St. Cloud, Minnesota. The meeting convened at 6:03 pm. Miranda Gilbert, PTA Chairperson presiding, and Marcus Paden, Secretary

Members in attendance

Karen K, Annette H, Amanda J, Matt C, Alicia C, Colleen O, Marcus P, April P, Dan S, Carmen H, Chris T, Julie C, Billi R, Rhiannan K, Brenda E, Jennifer U, Kirsten W, Carissa H, Jesse H, BriAnne H, Marsha B, Jean C.

Welcome and Introductions

Housekeeping Items

Membership forms are available. Make sure to complete the form so you can receive Madison PTA correspondences.

Sonia Dickrell was unable to attend the meeting. Volunteer applications and background checks must be completed to volunteer in the district. Paper applications and background check forms are available. They can also be completed online. More information can be found on the district's website at <http://stcloud742.schoolwires.net/domain/501>.

Principal/Assistance Principal's Report

[Marsha Baisch, Assistant Superintendent] "A letter will be sent home about the change in leadership. Mr. Okerlund is the Assistant Principal at North Junior High. Leadership changes happen. The situation is confidential so it will not be discussed. That's all I'm going to say about it. If you have any questions, you can contact me (320-253-9333 ext. 1024, marsha.baisch@isd742.org) or Superintendent Willie Jett (320-253-9333 ext. 1001, willie.jett@isd742.org). Jean Clark is the interim principal through the end of the school year.

Q: What happens after the end of the school year?

Marsha Baisch: A plan will be developed for the future.

Jean comes to Madison as a very accomplished elementary principal with her Ed.S. in Educational Leadership and many years leading a large elementary school with 800 students. Jean retired from the Sauk Rapids School District in 2010 after winning numerous distinctions as a principal at the local, state and national level. Jean serves as a faculty member for St. Mary's University Graduate programs and supervises student teachers for St. Cloud State.

Bully prevention curriculum will start in the classrooms and picture day is October 21, 2015.

New drop of procedure for late students: If students are late to school, they should be brought to the office, signed in, and left there. The students will either receive a pass to class or someone will escort them to class. The person bringing the student to school will no longer take them to class. The goal is to cut down on the number of adults walking around the building who are not signed in as visitors.

Construction is complete in the building.

Officer's Report

Billi Rudnigen appointed to the position of Treasurer.

Committee Reports

Box Tops: The box tops for this term are due Wednesday, October 28, 2015. They can be left in the white bins by door 8.

Family Night/Fundraising: Walk-a-thon was a success! Students raised \$10,000.31 and money is still being donated. First graders raised the most money and will receive their choice of a pizza party or root beer float party.

The Fall Event is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2015, 5:30pm – 7:00pm. There will be campfire stories with snacks in the small gym, drawing family trees in the large gym, and coloring sheets in the cafeteria. A representative from the Vote Yes! Referendum Committee will be in the cafeteria with information and to answer any questions.

Annette Huling appointed Labels for Learning coordinator.

Rhiannan Knutson appointed Labels for Education coordinator.

Miranda Gilbert will research e-cycle to see if it is worth continuing.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed for the Fall Event. Contact Miranda Gilbert if you are available to help.

Guest Speaker: Dennis Whipple, ISD 742 School Board Chairperson

Facilities have hampered opportunities within the district. The day Sauk Rapids opened a new high school, 150 students from St. Cloud open enrolled even though our district has more programs.

A new building raises test score 5% - 10%.

A 10-year study recently completed that recommended building a new high school. A 90-member community group worked together and decided it was best to build a new Tech High School and renovate Apollo High School before it turns into Tech.

Tech High School - \$113.5 million

Apollo High School Renovations - \$46 million

District-wide technology improvements - \$4.2 million

District-wide security improvements - \$2.5 million

Learning communities will be created to build stronger relationships in schools and group curriculums together.

The new early childhood center, welcome center, and media services building at Clark Field is not part of the referendum.

Q: Will maintenance be maintained on new buildings? A lot of the old buildings new owners seem to make them work.

A: New buildings will be cost efficient. Groups who purchased the old district buildings can receive tax breaks and incentives to restore them. The district cannot access those funds.

Q: There were significant delays at North. Will clauses or penalties be added to the contracts for Tech and Apollo if they don't finish on time?

A: No. The district takes the lowest bid, not the fastest construction. All contractors have to meet a minimum standard for supplies and materials. Part of the problem at North was a late permit and weather. Will check to see if something could be added to the RFP.

Q: Will open comments be allowed before the RFP (request for proposal) is finalized?

A: They are open to the public.

Q: When the referendum passes, when will ground break?

A: Spring of 2016. Sport fields will be built first because the district currently leases space. Tech will open in the fall of 2018.

Q: Technology is only 4.2 million, is that infrastructure?

A: That money will go towards one-to-one MacBook's for high school students and iPad's at the junior high level. We have to be able to respond to the needs of students. The district is currently behind in technology that students already know.

The vote is Tuesday, November 3, 2015. If the referendum fails, the district can levy \$100 million to renovate Tech and Apollo.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.