

Parents' Representative Council Meeting
Friday, November 11, 2016
12:00 – 1:30 PM
Central Office – Hammonasset Room

Purpose

The general purpose of the Parents' Representative Council (PRC) is to advise the Superintendent regarding parental concerns about the schools, to provide a forum for parent liaisons from each school to have a voice in decision making and problem solving and to foster a spirit of cooperative community and parental involvement in the promotion of the Madison Public Schools.

PRC Meeting Dates

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|--------------|-------------|------------|
| September 16 | January 20 | May 19 |
| October 21 | February 17 | June - TBD |
| November 11 | March 17 | |
| December 16 | April 21 | |

AGENDA

Attendees

PRC Chairperson

DHHS

Polson

Brown

Island Ave.

Jeffrey

Ryerson

TCLC

Maureen Lewis

Katy Wallace

Jen Thompson

Denise Fogleman

Sarah Drought

Nicole Wiles

Dori Antonette

Bee Gordon

Christine Piteo

Keiler Snow

Kirsten Adams

Chris McSweeney

Grace Brueckner

Lisa Lee

Tracy Hardy

Michelle Menard

Candace Barnes

Jennifer Greenwald

Meeting Notes

1) Welcome/Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Maureen Lewis.

2) Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Scarice advised that the Board is currently reviewing a draft of next year's school calendar and will be taking action shortly. The first day of school will again be the day after Labor Day, September 6, 2017. The 2018-2019 calendar is under development as well.

Superintendent Scarice addressed the topic of PTO fundraising and presented the PRC with an idea regarding the distribution of funds. Superintendent Scarice discussed looking at ways to enhance curriculum with real experiences. Mr. Scarice gave an example of a 4th grade math assessment that utilized paper t-shirts, suggesting this would have been a good opportunity for wearable t-shirts which students could keep.

3) Review /Approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of October 21, 2016 meeting, with two changes noted. Motion to approve by Jen Thompson, 2nd by Candace Barnes.

4) Subcommittee Reports / Updates:

- a) **DHHS – M.A.D.E.:** Katy Wallace reported that M.A.D.E. has created a plan for the year. LEAD, the youth group led by M.A.D.E., is creating plans for PAW groups at the high school. Stress was addressed at a recent PAW group meeting; this week is “breathe” week. Wristbands, stress balls, pajama day, therapy dogs and coloring are a few of the stress relieving items and exercises sponsored by the group. A billboard has been placed on Route 1 and white flags have been placed on the Town Green, representing the 11% of students who have considered suicide. November programs focus on stress reduction, spring’s focus will be avoiding stereotypes and prom season will focus on substance abuse. ROAR is the program at the jr. level which focuses on bullying. Next M.A.D.E. meeting – November 22.

Superintendent Scarice informed the group about the District-wide committee that is looking at social/emotional learning, a “whole child advocacy” approach with participation from Scott Cochran from M.A.D.E.

- b) **Polson – Food Council – Meeting dates:** October 20, December 22, February 23, April 25. Jen Thompson reported on the October 20 meeting. A lot of discussion took place regarding the new lunch program. DHHS student(s) created a promotional video shown in the café the first few days of school and a “Tiger Talks” video shows students being interviewed. Food is being consumed at a higher rate than last year. Serving food at afterschool activities/sports at Hand is under consideration and a survey will be issued to Hand students in the near future. Although the district is not technically “nut free”, no nuts or nut oil is used in food preparation/cooking.
- c) **Brown – Transportation Council. Meeting dates:** October 6, December 8, February 9, April 6. October meeting cancelled; next meeting December 8.
- d) **Jeffery – MYFS:** A staff presentation was given by M.A.D.E. on November 1. Their drug-free communities grant will end in 2018 and they are currently working on finding the funding needed to continue their programs. The Madison Police chalk board presentation was held last night, November 10. An anti-bullying musical titled “Stand Up and Speak Out” will be performed on November 17 at the Clinton Town Hall. More information can be found at standupandspeakoutmusical.com.
- e) **Ryerson – Art Show.** Nothing to report.
- f) **TCLC – Christine Piteo** reported on two upcoming events: SEPTO night out at Moxie on Wall Street from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. and a presentation “Understanding the IEP” at Madison Town Campus November 17 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

5) Review: Roundtable

- a) **DHHS – Homecoming dance** November 5. Pink Panther theater performance November 17, 18 and 19. LEAD gave a presentation at the last PTO meeting and at the December PTO meeting, Principal Salutari will give an overview of changes to the Program of Studies. Katy Wallace

reported the PTO has offered \$4,000 to Mr. Salutari which he will discuss options with department heads.

- b) **Polson** – Executive Board met today; general meeting scheduled for November 21. Hosting a holiday breakfast on Tuesday, December 13 with Principal Henderson and Assistant Principal Frost in the Polson cafeteria. The documentary “Screenagers” will be shown January 23, 2017 at Polson.
- c) **Brown** – Movie night successful and Election Day bake sale very successful – raised \$2,300.
- d) **Island Ave** – Fall festival held October 29 – lack of volunteers. Moving night scheduled for November 18.
- e) **Jeffrey** – Halloween mini golf event was successful. Book fair scheduled for first week in December. Looking to partner with a local restaurant as a potential fundraiser.
- f) **Ryerson** – Book fair done; money distributed to teachers for classroom books. Mini-golf on Monday; starting online spirit wear store.
- g) **TCLC** – PTO met yesterday – the goal is to have the budget voted on at the November 17 meeting, 2 p.m. at TCLC. Thanksgiving feast scheduled for November 21 at 2:15 p.m. A 2-hour pajama party is scheduled in the evening of December 15 to allow for parents to have some free time. A similar event in February is under consideration as a fundraiser. Wish list for budget: field day t-shirts, field trip with Ranger Russ to the Nature Center. Would like to use the library/art room as an actual library.

6) Wrap Up/Things to do/Share with your PTO etc.

1) Madison Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO)

SEPTO Communications Director: Lisa Nee - lisa@allennee.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MadisonSEPTO/

2) M.A.D.E in Madison.

Website: www.madeinmadison.org/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MADE.in.Madison/

3) Madison Youth and Family Services.

Website: www.madisonct.org/469/Youth-Family-Services

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MadisonYouthandFamilyServices/

Motion to adjourn at 1:19 p.m.

**** NO SOLICITATIONS!**