

MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
PTA Meeting
May 3, 2006

In attendance: Valerie Forshaw, Peter Sullivan, Liz O'Hagan, Kate Donahue, Jill Bohn, Wendy Mezzanotte, Cathy Outhouse, Regina Dougherty, Theresa Diaz, Lynn Cammarota, Barbara Kapell, Cindy Katske, Judie Galaty, Naila Haroon, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Joan Cederbaum, Kathy Pekera, Janet DeVos, Rachelle Rousso

Meeting Called to Order at 7:40 pm.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Terry Diaz to dispense with reading of minutes, seconded by Liz O'Hagan, unanimously accepted. Minutes are available on Madison Middle School website.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Forshaw

- **FCS Room was cleaned** – Thanks to parent volunteers who helped FCS teachers on a Saturday.
- **Internet Safety Fair** was 4/26. This was a collaborative effort between the PTA, Staff and the Trumbull Police.
- **Talent Shows** – earned about \$800 for charity & **Lock-In** took place.
- **We The People Competition** – this was our first time participating and Trumbull came in 2nd place.
- **Anti-Tobacco Prevention Campaign** – Seventh grader Amisha Sisodiya's graphic design was selected to be part of a presentation shown in the Crown Marquis Movie Theaters.
- **International Dinner** is tomorrow.
- **Pep Rallies** were held. Students beat teachers in basketball.
- **Knowledge Master** - 21 students from Madison competed on April 26. Madison's team scored 1568 out of 2000 points to place 1st in the state and 48th overall.
- **Ginger Katz** - coming to 8 graders (Madison & Hillcrest together) about "The Courage to Speak". She visited Madison about 7 years ago. Her son died of a drug overdose.
- **June 6 Civil War Presentation** will be given by the 7th grade.
- **Budget** - \$412,000 was cut in all – the BOE will decide exactly what will be cut.
- **Racism in Trumbull Schools** - dialogue being created by Board of Ed, faculty to address this issue with focus on:
 - When incidents occur, they must be addressed immediately (investigated and followed through)
 - Staff training to make sure of sensitivity to this issue and to be culturally aware. This includes the curriculum teaching about all cultures.
 - Recruit minority teachers

Lori Hayes-O'Brien was at the Board of Ed meeting where this came up and she felt that an important point was that every child has the right to be heard and children should not get lost at the High School level.

A discussion took place about the differences between CASAP and CAPT and other testing taking place and the purposes of each.

Assistant Principal's Report: Peter Sullivan

- **Nice weather** can cause students to lose focus. Pep talks are given, expectations are reiterated, reminders of consequences of improper behavior can be to lose some of the privileges or fun events/trips that are coming up.
- **Dress Code** – nice weather brings lighter clothing which can be inappropriate. Clothing should not be revealing. There should not be inappropriate slogans on tee shirts (ex. Liquor, drug connotations). Footwear can be dangerous especially flip-flops. Sandals need to be sturdy. Danger is falling on stairs. Some jeans/pants/shorts are low cut and show too much when girls are sitting in open back chairs. Boys are distracted. Parents have been called to bring another set of clothes if student doesn't have gym clothes to change into when their original outfit is inappropriate. Bending, sitting and using stairs can be problematic when clothing is too short or low cut.

Treasurer's Report: Cathy Outhouse:

Checking Account:	\$17,545.19	as of 4/30/06
Dedicated Savings:	\$5,907.96	as of 3/31/06
Reserve Savings:	<u>\$2,571.51</u>	as of 3/31/06
Total Accounts:	\$26,024.66	

We are in good shape for next year. We still have to pay out about \$10,000 in bills before the end of the year. Cathy requested that all outstanding bills be submitted so she can finalize the books.

Committee Reports:

Giveback Program: Joan Cederbaum reported there should be \$30 coming for box tops. Campbells Labels has a catalog from which Mrs. Forshaw will pick items. Ink cartridges were collected all year but only received one box worth which was recently mailed.

A discussion ensued about the collection boxes being used for garbage disposal. This will be addressed – boxes may need to be closed; receptacles provided for garbage near the doors.

8th Grade Health – Kate Donahue reported that she is not sure how Sally Kenler made out with the “Eat Right Calendar” weekly tracker, student participation or who won the gift card.

Publicity –Judie Galaty wants lots of photos of year-end activities so she can keep Madison in the paper over the summer. (It was noted that Cathy Hallas’ mother is ill.)

TPSLD –Jill Bohn reported for Monica Welch that the last seminar on April 26th on “Parent/School Communications” was not well attended perhaps because it was the same night as the Internet Safety Fair.

BBQ/Ice Cream Social – May 17 - Terry Diaz: If it is nice weather, the 8th graders will be allowed outside. Need parents to man the ice cream table and to be outside. Valerie Forshaw noted that there are new picnic benches.

Stepping Forth – Jill Bohn – June 20 Need parent volunteers to set up and serve refreshments. June 21 is Celebration Day where they will see their video. Need parents to help with breakfast, ice cream station and clean ups. Also need parent volunteers to help burn CDs for the each 8th grade student.

School Beautification – Kathy Pekera

Bulbs came up – need more. Need to empty garbage and cigarette butts out of planters. Discussion came up about the graffiti students put on the snowmen not once but several times.

Teacher Appreciation Week – Jill Bohn reported that letters went home with suggestions and asking for donations. Special events are planned for each day some of which include Breakfast, Massages, Gourmet Desserts and a raffle.

End of Year Housekeeping - If committee chairperson(s) moving on, please hand over your notes/folder. Please include feedback as to what to do differently and especially whether or not your committee needs more or less money. This info is needed to develop next year’s budget over the summer.

Terri Diaz is leaving her volunteer library job which she did once a week. It consisted of printing notices for the librarian and putting them in the teacher’s mailboxes. She said it was a good way to keep an “ear to the ground”.

PTA Dinner – Wed. June 7 at 7 pm – Vazzy’s Osteria on Route 25. Need a RSVP but can pay \$30 at the restaurant.

Gifts to School – Jody requesting a laptop computer and a 10 disc CD burner. (She currently burns the 8th grade end-of-year video’s one at a time!!) Would be used for other grades as well. Also, the PTA would like to purchase a second refrigerator for the Teacher’s Lounge. 80 staff members trying to store their lunch in one refrigerator!!

We were reminded to put sticker on items saying “Property of Madison PTA”.

Motion was made by Kathy Pekera to get the laptop; seconded by Terri Diaz; unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Terri Diaz to get the refrigerator; seconded by Lynn Cammarota; unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Wendy Mezzanotte to purchase a CD burner but to limit the purchase to \$1000 or under; seconded by Kathy Pekera; unanimously approved.

Cathy Outhouse was able to get prices of CD burners during the meeting. Prices range from \$845 to \$1500. Mrs. Forshaw recommended talking to the Trumbull Tech person to make sure we are in compliance with their specs.

Nominations – Lori Hayes O’Brien presented the slate of nominees except for the Treasurer’s position which has not yet been filled. Nominees were voted in unanimously as follows:

- Co – Presidents: Kate Donohue and Cindy Katske
- 1st VP – Judie Galaty and Susan Gilson
- 2nd VP – Naila Haroon and Lori Hayes-O’Brien
- 3rd VP – Valerie Forshaw
- Secretary – Regina Dougherty

THANK YOUs: Kate and Jill thanked everyone for their help and participation throughout the year.

- Valarie Forshaw and Peter Sullivan for always being available
- Faculty Reps: Bob Schmidt and Liz O’Hagan

New Committees this year:

- Give Back Program – Sue Flack and Joan Cederbaum
- School Store – Pat Mahoney and Gina Zuk
- Wellness – Sally Kenler
- Get Out the Vote – Regina Dougherty
- Publicity Revival – Cathy Hallas and Judie Galaty

“Retiring” Committee Chairs:

- Career Night – Cynthia Davis
- BBQ/Ice Cream Social – Terry Diaz and Janet DeVos
- Health – Wendy Messanotte and Cathy Outhouse
- Magazine Drive – Anne Pearson and Wendy Mezzanotte
- Membership – Cathy Outhouse
- Office Volunteers – Barbara Kapell
- Teacher Appreciation – Sandy O’Neill
- PACT – Margaret Sullivan and Terry Diaz

Returning Committee Chairs:

- E'mail Coordinator – Regina Dougherty (need to address gathering of data at Back to School Night)
- Board of Ed Liaison – Cindy Katske
- Book Fair – Nancy Saad and Laurie Lynch
- School Apparel & Sunshine – Virginia Green
- School Beautification – Kathy Pekera
- Volunteer Coordinator – Cindy Lavoie
- School Photos – Rachelle Rousso and Barbara Kapell
- Hospitality – Lynn Cammarota and Diane Pikikero
- Locker Ladders – Kim Huebner
- Newsletter – Lori O'Brien
- TPSLD – Monica Welch
- Reflections – Sherry Fogel and Evelyn Taylor

Important Upcoming Dates:

May 4	World Language Dinner
May 5	Ginger Katz Assembly for Grade 8 Madison & Hillcrest
May 8-12	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 9,10,16,18	Spring Concerts
May 17	BBQ/Ice Cream Social
May 23	Progress Reports Distributed
May 30	8 th Grade Holiday Hill trip
June 2	Band Trills & Thrills Trip
June 7	PTA Dinner at Vazzy's Osteria
June 8	8 th Grade Awards Dinner
June 9	Broadway Babies
June 16	8 th Grade Dance with Hillcrest
June 20	Stepping Forth Ceremony
June 21	8 th Grade Celebration Breakfast
June 22	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 PM NEXT MEETING In the FALL!!