

MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
PTA Meeting Minutes
Sept 26, 2007 Meeting Called to Order at 7:40 pm.

In attendance: Valerie Forshaw, Peter Sullivan, Liz O'Hagan, Allison Karkut, Kate Donahue, Cindy Katske, Regina Dougherty, Theresa Bulan, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Susan Gilson, Anne Cheevers, Linda Bartolucci, Gayle Yakesh, Donna Dupnik, Cathy Hallas, Margaret Sullivan, Wendy Mezzanotte, Kathy Garzillo, Karin Martel, Audrey Brunetti, Kathy Pekera, Annette Lifrieri, Cheryl Suss, Jill Bohn, Jannise Castaldi, Diane Pikikero, Lynn Cammarota, Robin Bova

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Kate Donahue to dispense with reading of minutes, seconded by Jill Bohn, unanimously accepted. No changes or omissions. May Minutes were approved unanimously. Minutes are available on Madison Middle School website.

Thank you cards were received for Teacher Appreciation Week from: Valerie Forshaw, Peter Sullivan, Lyn Fontana, Liz Doherty, Barbara Harmon, Olga Fryz, Joan Newman, Doris Whelan, Madison Kitchen Crew, Library Media Personnel, Allison Karkut, Carol Brennan, and Pat Blank.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mrs. Forshaw

School Opening - Went very well. Busses were on time. Infinite Campus Schedule Module went off without a hitch. 875 students enrolled. 10 were enrolled the day before school opened with another 3 or 4 this week. We are 10 above projection.

She expressed thanks for Back to School Lunch for teachers, and beautiful bulletin board which went up yesterday with tons of pictures of the students.

Bleachers –expect them the first week of Oct.

Sewing Room – refurbishing taking place. Waiting for Furniture. Students began in the cooking area.

New Staff – Last one on board will be starting in Oct, Chris Boyle from Watertown our new school psychologist.

New Tradition – students are now doing the morning announcements.

Upcoming Events – see calendar at end of minutes

MADISON IN THE NEWS – Recent newspaper reports about CMT results at Madison may have been misleading. Madison was identified as a failing school under the NCLB act because less than the required percentage (74% in Math, 68% in Reading) of a specific subgroup of forty or more students met proficiency. Subgroups can include Special Education, ELL, specific minority groupings, and free or reduced lunch students. On a whole Madison students did quite well with 96% of students meeting proficiency in Math, 95% in Reading, and 97% in Writing.

ASST. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Peter Sullivan:

Security – Report received from consultants who toured the schools in June. Results and recommendations will be reviewed. There is a committee within Madison to address our specific needs. A Fire Drill and Lock-Down Drill was held already.

Drop Off - Children should not be dropped off earlier than 7:10 am. There is no one to supervise them this early.

Late Busses: Two busses at 3:20, one going North and one South. Three busses at 3:55 numbered Bus #3, #4, #5. Students are unsure and confused since the late buses don't always stop at the same place on the way home as where they are picked up in the morning. Schedules will be posted around the school and handed out at Back to School Night to try to remedy the situation. Also, please be aware that late buses are only available on Mon, Wed and Thursday, NOT EVERY DAY.

FACULTY REP REPORT: Liz O'Hagan & Allison Karkut – They are glad to be back!

TREASURER'S REPORT: Theresa Bulan reported that we changed our accounts to Webster Bank. Our balance is:

Checking:	\$1,908.08
Savings:	16, 893.03
Total Accounts:	\$18,801.11

The proposed budget was explained. Motion to accept was made by Diane Pikikero and seconded by Lynn Cammarota; approved unanimously. Procedure for deposits and reimbursements was reviewed.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Open Committees: Cindy Katske reviewed the openings which are: 2nd VP needed; Board of Ed Liaison – need co-chair; Career Night – need co-chair; 8 grade Activities – need chair; Father's Club – need chair; PACT – need co-chair. A discussion took place about what this committee does as well as the TPAUD focus on underage drug and alcohol use in Trumbull. Red Ribbon week coming up Oct 23 – 31 to focus on prevention. Different activities each day of the week planned to get the kids to think about the issue. Wellness – Need chair.

Recent Events:

PTA Membership: Regina reported we have 280 applications for membership already. Teacher memberships are still being collected. We are way beyond where we were at this time last year. Membership entitles you to be on the e-mail list for Madison E-news.

School Photos: Took place, two cameras broke. Looking for feedback from parents on choice of poses, charging for change of background color, etc. These things may just make the process too complicated and be the cause for do-overs and returns.

Locker Ladders: Numerous orders already received.

Publicity: Cathy Hallas and Naila Haroon will be heading this committee this year. They put up the first bulletin board of photos opposite the Auditorium. Naila will be handling the newspaper releases. They would like more input from teachers about student accomplishments. A suggestion was made to have large signs made to direct visitors to the Office and the Nurse.

Upcoming Events:

Magazine Drive – Will be Oct 11 – 22. Biggest fund raiser of the year. Lynn Cammarota and Wendy Mezzanotte asked volunteers to bring a calculator and a pencil with an eraser when they come in to work on the orders. Other volunteers welcome to help with lunch tickets, prizes, etc.

School Apparel: Already on display outside Auditorium. Order forms are coming soon.

Pumpkin Run – Oct. 21 runs organized by age groups

PACT Red Ribbon Week Oct 23 – 31 see Open Committees above.

Grade 6 Health Nights – Girls Oct 22, Boys Oct 23 – Highly recommended for all to attend with their parents. Doctors give information about bodies development. Kids may not want to go, but the information learned is invaluable.

Grade 8 Career Night – Oct 25: Diane Pikikero suggested George Buzel who is a pilot and Philip Reardon who is an electrician be contacted to represent their industries.

Halloween Dance – Oct 26: parent volunteers needed to bake or donate snacks; other parents needed to attend event and sell the snacks.

Parent Visitation Day – Nov. 14: parents volunteers needed to man the doors and give out ID tags so that the office is not swamped.

Other Committee Reports:

TPSLD – flyer went out via email about upcoming events.

Give-Back Program: We are accepting ink/toner cartridges, cell phones, Campbell's Soup Labels and Box Tops for Education. Collection boxes are by the door near the Auditorium.

WEBSITE – Linda Bartolucci is working on getting this updated.

Cell Phone Policy – was reviewed. Student's cell phones must be kept out of sight and turned off. They are too much of a temptation – texting answers to exams, texting each other during class time taking photos of kids in locker rooms or bathrooms; taking photos of exams, etc. Pay phones are available during school hours at \$.50 a call. Cell phones can be used after dismissal time.

If a teacher sees a cell phone or it rings during the day, the teacher will take it and the parent will be called to come and get it.

New Business:

Library Committee – new committee this year. **Linda Bauer** will be chairperson. Need volunteers to shelve books and do other tasks so librarian can focus on children's needs.

PTA Council Delegate Vote: Valerie Forshaw, Cindy Katske, Ann Cheevers are automatically delegates in virtue of the positions they hold. Kate Donohue, Brian DeSanty and Regina Dougherty volunteered to be alternates. A motion to accept these delegates was made by Jill Bohn, seconded by Cheryl Suss and unanimously approved.

Second Vice President Vacancy – see Open Committees above.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 p.m.

Next Meetings: Nov 7, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.