

# MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

## PTA Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2008 Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 pm.

**In attendance:** Valerie Forshaw, Peter Sullivan, Cindy Katske, Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Susan Gilson, Linda Bartolucci, Theresa Bulan, Regina Dougherty, Kathy Garzillo, Karin Martel, Kathy Pekera, Claire Weitzman, Dodi Hesse, Lynn Cammarota, Kate Donahue, Jill Bohn, Carol Elstein, Dina Sokol, Gayle Yakush, Wendy Mezzanotte, Olga Monteiro, Cathy Hallas

**Secretary's Report:** Motion made by Jill Bohn to dispense with reading of minutes, seconded by Linda Bartolucci, unanimously approved. No changes or corrections.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Mrs. Forshaw

**Principal's Day** – Thank you for the beautiful flowers.

**Teachers Appreciation Week** - Thank you from all the teachers. Dessert day was a hit as always!

**Concerts** – Ongoing...so far they have been fabulous!

**We The People** – This is our third year in competition. Our team took 1<sup>st</sup> in CT and first in all 6 academic units!

**National Endowment for Humanities** awarded us a "We the People" bookshelf in the Media Center providing support materials for Social Studies.

**Governor's Summer Reading Challenge** – Mrs. Forshaw went to Hartford last week to represent Madison who placed in the top 10.

**Lock In** – was held Apr. 4 with 270 students participating and the help of 25 – 30 teachers. They had a great time.

**International Dinner** – was a wonderful event. The flags were spectacular as were the food and dancing.

**Knowledge Masters** – came in 43<sup>rd</sup> out of 750. Came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state by 1 point!

**Rain Forest Club** – received a BEI Grant of \$1,000 with unnamed corporations providing matching funds of \$5,000 and \$2,500. The club has been raising money for endangered species by selling note cards.

**Trumbull Art Exhibit** – begins at the mall this week.

**Retirees:** Madison has six teachers retiring this year: Winston Bish, Carol Brennan, Lynn Fontana, Peter Gouveia, Vincent DeCesare and Barbara Skibiski.

**Budget:** As it is now, Intramurals and Basketball will be cut. Building will close at 6 pm with the exception of 2 nights per month. Text Book accounts and Secretaries also affected. The Media Secretary position has been eliminated and the front desk secretary position has been changed from 12 to 10 month position. Don't know how we will do Scheduling etc. to be ready for Sept. opening without Marcella working during the summer. Board won't know if there are any savings on Health Care until July. Things may change over the summer.

**ASST. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Peter Sullivan:

**Math Magic** was held in April for Grades 6 & 7. It was terrific.

**Holocaust Speaker – Martin Schiller** coming again on May 16 to speak to Grade 8. He complimented last year's students' response to his story.

**Poetry Slam** - coming May 22 – this is performance poetry where the children present their poetry with a very dramatic flair.

**Field Trips:** 6 & 7 Grade field trips coming up as well as all the 8<sup>th</sup> grade special activities: Holiday Hill trip, Bluefish Game, Family Supper and Awards night; Dance with Hillcrest and of course Stepping Forth on June 18. 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents are invited to have breakfast with their children on June 19. A very exciting time for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Last Day of School** – June 20

**Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade** – 290 students

**FACULTY REP REPORT:** Mrs. Forshaw reported that Liz O'Hagan returned from Maternity Leave last week but couldn't be here tonight.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Theresa Bulan reported. Our balance as of May 6 is:

<b>Checking:</b>	<b>\$ 3,636.27</b>
<b>Savings:</b>	<b>47, 631.44</b>
<b>Total Accounts:</b>	<b>\$51,267.71</b>

We have not yet received a bill from the book fair. Wendy Mezzanotte will call them and try to resolve. Theresa stated that the books close June 30 and she urged everyone to get their expenses in for reimbursement as soon as possible.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Recent Events:** See the principal's report on page 1.

**Book Fair** – Susan Gilson reported that we have more than \$5000 credit to be shared between the 3 grades for their in class libraries. Susan will look into having the fair in Dec. There were some discrepancies in perceptions of previous talks with the vendor as to whether or not the book stock would be depleted or restocked for Holiday Sales. Susan will look into this further.

**Teacher Appreciation** – Linda Bartolucci reported that there was a special breakfast held for the teachers, Massages and Desserts. She said there will be a special surprise in the Teachers Lounge on Friday.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Ice Cream Social – May 21** Ann Cheevers has obtained the donation of Ice Cream from Sunny Daes. Toppings were ordered through the cafeteria. Volunteers are needed as are blankets for the kids to sit on in the courtyard.

**New Business:**

**Bylaw Amendment:** Article 6 Section 5B to be changed from “2 consecutive years” to “3 consecutive years”. This will be amended back again next year. Motion made by Kate Donahue to amend as stated above, seconded by Wendy Mezzanotte; unanimously approved.

**Nominating Committee** – Kathy Pekera presented the slate for next year:

President: Lori Hayes-O'Brien

President Elect: Susan Gilson

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Randy Rosen

2<sup>nd</sup> VPs: Karin Martel & Linda Bartolucci

3<sup>rd</sup> VP: Valerie Forshaw

Secretary: Regina Dougherty

Treasurer: Theresa Bulan

**Nominations from the floor:** Lynn Cammarota made a motion to nominate Wendy Mezzanotte for 1<sup>st</sup> VP. Karin Martel made a motion to nominate Olga Monteiro for 1<sup>st</sup> VP. A discussion was held about sharing the position or “shadowing” the position to learn for future. This could be done to get newcomers involved more quickly.

A voice vote was taken and the board was unanimously approved.

**PTA Dinner** - Karin Martel reported that she looked into three restaurants: 707 on Main with choice of 5 dinners at cost of \$28; Marisa's with choice of 10 dinners at cost of \$30 and Testo's in Bridgeport at cost of \$35 which she thought was too high.

It was decided to go with 707 on Main due to some other PTA's going to Marisa's the night before.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: Sept, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.**