

**Parent's Representative Council Meeting**  
**Friday, January 18, 2019**  
**12:00-1:30PM**  
**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**

September 21	January 18	May 17
October 19	February 15	No June mtg.
November 16	March 15	
No December mtg.	April 26	

**AGENDA**

**Attendees:**

<b>Superintendent</b>	Tom Scarice
<b>PRC Chairperson</b>	Maureen Lewis
<b>Hand</b>	Keiler Snow, Ann Sherer
<b>Polson</b>	Sarah Valentine
<b>Brown</b>	Tina Phelan, Jan Scott
<b>Jeffrey</b>	Liz Kench, Jessica Maynard
<b>Ryerson</b>	Bee Gordon
<b>Island</b>	Nancy Costanzo, Kara Shia

**Meeting Notes**

**1) Welcome/Introductions**

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

**2) Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Scarice provided the following:

- An independent study project is currently ongoing at Hand. The project concludes with a real world experience and each student presents to a panel of teachers and administrators (which Superintendent Scarice serves on).
- We are partnering with Madison Youth & Family Services & the Madison Police Department to bring Decker, the drug sniffing dog, into the high school in an effort to deter students from vaping. This is not intended for the purposes of arresting a student. We want students to have an opportunity to witness how he works; however, his presence will occasionally be unannounced. We have also placed adults within close proximity to the bathrooms.
- Smoke Screen event well attended (60 people). MYFS recorded the event.
- Superintendent Scarice reported on meetings that have taken place with the First Selectman, MYFS and MADE to discuss issues that affect today's youth. MYFS referred to a list, "40 Developmental

Assets” and the findings are, the more of these assets a child possesses, the less likely they are to engage in risky behavior. The superintendent is working to join town and school programs together and would like to partner with the PRC as well.

- The school district has held two Public Forums, both of which were well attended, to address the ongoing issue of aging school facilities. April 1 is the deadline for the Tri-Board School Facilities Working Group to present ideas to the Boards of Education, Selectmen and Finance. The working group has 3 guiding criteria:
  - Board of Education: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning
  - Board of Finance: must be reasonable
  - Board of Selectmen: will monitor all that is happening within the Town
- The Board of Education will vote on the budget next Tuesday, January 22, 2019. We are currently contracting out for speech & language pathologists at the elementary level and have added that position to the budget, as well as a literacy coach at the high school, a school counselor at the elementary level and continuing the Chrome Book initiative at Hand. Budget is flat / decreasing. After the Board adopts the budget, we will do internal assignments and send the info out to staff on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Brown playground - Brown Middle school was originally built for grades 6, 7 and 8 and we are now rebranding the school for the elementary/intermediate level. The first step is to make the land ready for a secure, ADA-accessible playground which will be in the back of the school.

### 3) Review/ Approve Minutes

Motion to approve November 16, 2018 meeting minutes by Keiler Snow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah Valentine, all in favor.

### 4) Round Table:

**Polson:** Over 50 parents, students and town representatives attended the Smoke Screen event. The presentation began with a history of tobacco and moved on to the huge push against cigarettes during which time e-cigarettes (vaping) came along which are filled with toxins. They are easily accessible and also easy to hide. A discussion panel followed which spoke to the need of focusing on younger kids.

Be Smart presentation scheduled for March. A joint PTO meeting will be conducted with Brown. Looking into a joint after school game event – hoping to open the gym and media center.

**Ryerson:** into our 3<sup>rd</sup> week of winter after school programs which are going well. Popcorn & movie night scheduled for February 8; mini-golf with Jeffrey on February 28. Looking into a pasta night in March.

**Hand:** Career fair scheduled for March. Night in Hand coming up. Changes to Program of Studies, science & CTE curriculum. Spending a lot of time on vaping. MADE has presented and T. J. provides updates at every meeting.

**Jeffrey:** PTO Be Smart campaign presentation next Wednesday; Ryerson and Island have been invited to attend. Family Math night scheduled for January 31. Mini golf with Island to occur on March 1.

**IAS:** Holiday shop had great reviews and pajama drive went well. Winter workshops up and running. Cultural Arts Assembly scheduled for January 28; mini golf with Jeffrey March 1. March is Science month.

**Brown:** March Madness Basketball-themed Box Top event ongoing. Book fair scheduled for end of March; Ecology Day scheduled for April 11. Discussing a student get together, possibly at the Arts Barn. Teachers were presented with Brown t-shirts.

## 5) Subcommittee Reports

**Island – Food Services:** no update.

**Ryerson – Transportation Council:** new bus routes biggest issue.

**DHHS – M.A.D.E. –** Smoke Screen event successful. Narcan training in the spring. Going forward, M.A.D.E. will be removed from the agenda and reporting will occur under MYFS.

**Polson – MYFS:** Currently working on reorganization due to absorption of M.A.D.E.

**Brown – K12 Art Show Hospitality:** no report.

**Jeffrey – Custodian Appreciation:** no report.

Motion to adjourn at 1:30 p.m.