

**Parent’s Representative Council Meeting**  
**Friday, February 26, 2021**  
**11:30 AM – 12:30 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**

January 22, 2021  
February 19, 2021 – rescheduled to February 26  
March 19, 2021  
April 23, 2021  
May 21, 2021  
June 4, 2021

**Attendees:**

<b>Superintendent</b>	Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.
<b>BoE Chair</b>	Galen Cawley
<b>PRC Chairperson</b>	Maureen Lewis
<b>Hand</b>	Keiler Snow
<b>Polson</b>	Christina Morris, Kim Yahara
<b>Brown</b>	Tina Phelan, Bee Gordon
<b>Jeffrey</b>	Liz Tucker-Plasky
<b>Ryerson</b>	Candace Barnes

**1) Welcome/Introductions**

Maureen Lewis called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Chair Cawley spoke briefly about the budget which the Board of Selectmen approved last Monday, noting it is being kept as lean as possible.

Dr. Cooke plans on doing a write-up once the budget passes through the Board of Finance, and well in advance of a budget vote, for the PRC to share and promote. Dr. Cooke spoke to the highlights of the budget which will help move the district forward – math interventionist at the high school, interactive whiteboards, technology support for all the devices now in the district, security initiatives, etc.

**2) Superintendent’s Report**  
**Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.**

**COVID Update**

Last week, Governor Lamont announced priority will be given to vaccinate people working in schools and as a result, we will begin administering vaccines next week, with Thursdays as our scheduled day. We are hoping not to alter the school day but may need to do so after receipt of the second shot. For the first time since November, we are not in the “red” (which requires minimizing contact in the buildings) and have moved back to orange (which the state says if decreasing, look to return to in person). We plan to survey DHHS parents regarding their comfort level to return full in or keep cohort

as an option. Eating is a big concern at the high school and there are many details to work out. Communication will be going out this afternoon.

### **Building Project Update**

Dr. Cooke reported there is a lot of ongoing work happening and we are currently working on preparing an application to the State for reimbursement. The enrollment report should be available next week. Starting to plan for families who are returning from home schooling, as well as an influx of enrollment and identifying the need for additional teachers at Jeffrey & Ryerson based on what we believe is coming.

A question and answer period ensued regarding construction of a new elementary school, and renovations to Brown and Polson. Maureen Lewis suggested a write-up, (similar to the budget) focusing on “selling” points of the building project would benefit the PRC.

### **Review / Approve Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes from the January 22, 2021 meeting by Christina Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Candace Barnes, all in favor.

## **3) Round Table**

### **Ryerson**

Candace Barnes reported:

- Just celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School
- Next week: Dr. Seuss Celebration
- March 8 – starting virtual book fair
- Over the next month – spirit wear order
- Two weeks ago – breakfast delivered to the teachers and on March 11 (Professional Development), Meriano’s will deliver cupcakes
- Yearbook will be wrapping up within the next few weeks

### **Jeffrey**

Liz Tucker-Plasky reported:

- Wrapped up Spirit Week with Valentine’s Day on 2/12
- Jitterbug delivery to the teachers
- This week – 2 nights with Amato’s pizza (sponsored contribution to the school)
- Offering an early bird discount for yearbooks
- Conducted a cookie dough fundraiser
- Still collecting recipes for the Jeffrey Family Recipe Book
- Next PTO meeting scheduled for March 3 – Nurse Maura Cutler will give a COVID update and Counselor Rachel Lynch will give a mental health update

### **Brown**

Tina Phelan reported:

- The PTO conducted its General Meeting on February 8 with Dr. Cooke.
- The yearbook is done, paid for by the PTO.

### **Polson**

Christina Morris reported:

- General PTO meeting this morning: “Parenting During Uncertain Times”. Angela Ahern and Taylor Scalia from MYFS spoke and Dr. Cooke was in attendance. Well attended by approximately 50 people.

- Assembling gift bags for students (similar to what was done for teachers) as well as Valentines
- Looking forward to possibly organizing a spring event for 8<sup>th</sup> graders – dance?

## **Hand**

Keiler Snow reported:

- February meeting has been cancelled twice due to weather and has been moved to March. Students will be presenting as well as MYFS.
- Scott Cochran spoke at our Executive Meeting this past week and we will be conducting another meeting on March 23 at 8 a.m. to do the QPR (suicide prevention) training. Also trying to schedule training for Polson. Training at Hand will be recorded and added to the recorded minutes.
- Starting to plan a teacher appreciation lunch for May 4 during the ½ PD day.

Keiler also report social services provided by MYFS are up by 63% this year. MYFS has asked we spread the word regarding the suicide prevention training. Hand student reps are hoping Wellness Wednesday will continue after COVID. Plans for an outdoor Night in Hand are currently underway.

### **4) PRC Subcommittees – (from the previous meeting)**

There have been no food services or transportation council meetings this year. It was decided that the elementary schools will handle bus driver appreciation and Polson/Brown will handle custodian appreciation. Hand will be responsible for MYFS.

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.