

Parent's Representative Council Meeting
Friday, March 19, 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:

Superintendent	Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.
PRC Chairperson	Maureen Lewis
Hand	Keiler Snow
Polson	Christina Morris
Brown	Tina Phelan
Jeffrey	Liz Tucker-Plasky, Meghan Hogarth
Ryerson	Candace Barnes, Jen Gordon

1) Welcome/Introductions

Maureen Lewis called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

2) Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

Dr. Cooke reported the district is done with round one of the vaccine. Approximately 200 people are scheduled for their second dose on April 8 and in anticipation of potential illness, April 9 will be a remote learning day from 9-1. An announcement will be going out this afternoon.

Hand will reopen on March 29 and tents are up for use. Dr. Cooke noted we are not seeing a spread of the virus in schools; there has been more of an impact in athletics. If we start to experience a spread, we will return to cohorts. Dr. Cooke was in the school yesterday and noted there were a good number of students in the building.

Work continues on the building project, which will be addressed at length during tomorrow's Board retreat. Dr. Cooke noted the PRC provided him with good information on how to "sell" Brown during the last PRC meeting.

The Board of Finance had passed the Board of Education budget with a 5-3 vote. However, after further review, a request was made to reduce the budget by \$100,000 and to fund that amount with grant money. Dr. Cooke noted that the district has been awarded \$1.2M in grants (after the budget was established) designated to address COVID issues.

Dr. Cooke discussed the need for a full-time social worker, the need to build a social/emotional learning program and the need for a reading intervention teacher at Ryerson & Jeffrey. Dr. Cooke also spoke to the recently completed enrollment projection study in which the demographer has noted the district has “hit bottom” with regard to enrollment and will start to experience an increase over the next 10 years.

A question and answer period ensued.

Review / Approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from the February 26, 2021 meeting by Tina Phelan, 2nd by Keiler Snow, all in favor.

3) Round Table

Ryerson

Candace Barnes reported:

- Cannoli truck came during the March 12 Professional Development
- Online bookfair ongoing
- Yearbook almost complete
- Third grade celebration scheduled for June 10 – rain date June 11

Jeffrey

Liz Tucker-Plasky reported:

- Great parent participation with Amato’s take out
- PTO General Meeting March 3 with Nurse Maura Cutler and School Counselor Rachel Lynch – discussed COVID concerns and anxiety
- Cookie dough fundraiser and Jeffrey family cookbook have concluded
- Science Week (this week) virtual assembly: Secret World of Robots
- Received request to fund Nutmeg Books for the library
- Still working on yearbooks

Brown

No report

Polson

Christina Morris reported:

- Days off for certain teams due to teacher vaccination
- After school clubs have started
- Looking forward to some type of 8th Grade celebration (no dance or Stepping Forth ceremony)
- Promoting MYFS QPR (Suicide Intervention) which will be available to anyone

Hand

Keiler Snow reported:

- Rescheduled February PTO meeting finally occurred in March – students presented about what clubs have been doing
- MYFS gave a report on current services and what they would like to restart
- QPR training 8:00 a.m. Tuesday; Polson – April 22 at 6:30 p.m.
- Planning teacher appreciation lunch
- Spring sports begin at end of the month

4) PRC Subcommittees

No updates

5) PRC/PTO Reminders/Discussions

Liz-Tucker Plasky initiated a discussion on the nomination process for each PTO and how to make parents aware of board position openings. PRC members suggested placing a form online with a submission date which would give parents the opportunity to apply when openings occur. PTO board position term limits were also discussed.

6) Old Business - None

7) Future Agenda Items - None

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.