



Madeira Board of Education, 7465 Loannes Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45243
Kenji Matsudo, Superintendent
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From Madeira to Maui, With Love

The Madeira High School (MHS) Key Club is a community service-oriented group of students that meets monthly to discuss ways to help others through service and fundraising. Some of their many projects are a Rake and Run for local senior citizens, Pictures With Santa in conjunction with the City of Madeira, a Halloween Costume Drive, and an Oyler School Food Drive with the Madeira Woman's Club. During the month of October, they also held a fundraiser for victims of the August wildfires in Maui, Hawaii.

The most devastating of the Maui blazes was in Lahaina, where an estimated 2,170 acres burned claiming property and taking people's lives. The MHS Key Club had a connection with the disaster as Lahaina is the hometown of Madeira Superintendent, Kenji Matsudo's father. The Matsudo family has several members who completely lost their homes and one who lost his life. The MHS Key Club advisors and officers asked Matsudo to kick off their fundraiser by sharing his family's story with the club's students. He created a video to show them and included photos of his family and images of the devastation.

The Key Club members came up with Pie a Teacher – an event that gave the district's high school and Madeira Middle School (MMS) students a chance to throw a pie in the face of one of their school's teachers. Students could purchase one ticket for \$1 or six for \$5. Tickets went in the box of each teacher with more tickets increasing the chances of that teacher getting 'pied.' Students who elected to put their names on the tickets they purchased had the chance of being selected to throw a pie. At MHS, social studies teacher Dan Brady, and Foreign Language teachers Julie Lueggers and Amie Bates were the recipients of a pie in the face. Madeira Middle School teachers who got 'pied' were Language Arts teacher Conner Higgins, Social Studies teacher Brandon Opichka, and Language Arts teacher Kathleen Margraf. Families at Madeira Elementary School were also given the opportunity to donate to the cause.

"I'm thrilled that the Key Club would take this opportunity to raise funds for those victims and families in Maui," Matsudo stated, "and know that the funds that you are raising will be much appreciated." He explained to the young philanthropists that in Hawaii Mahalo means thank you, and that Aloha means love, compassion, mercy, peace, kindness, and gratitude. He ended his video by saying, "Know that those residents there in Lahaina would say Mahalo, and much Aloha to our Madeira family back here on the mainland."

The events raised \$1,300 that went to two relief efforts for the Maui residents. \$600 was donated to the Maui Food Bank, and \$600 was donated to the Lahainaluna High School Foundation Fire Relief Fund. Key Club Advisors are Kim Homer and Julie Lueggers.



(Left) MMS student Wade Swarts throws a pie at music teacher Conner Higgins at Pie a Teacher. (Right) MHS Key Club members with Superintendent Kenji Matsudo.

