

Madison Public Schools
Parents' Representative Council Meeting
Friday October 18, 2024
9:30 AM
Hammonasset Room

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome/Introductions

Sarah Drought

2. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- Polson Project Updates
 - Budget passed to incorporate HVAC into entirety of building. After further discovery, moving forward with adding split unit ACs to rooms that do not already have AC. To use the remainder of budget to update auditorium (Sound, seating, stage, painting)
 - TBD on when work will start
- DHHS 2024 National Blue Ribbon School
 - Only High School in CT to receive this award and one of very few across the country
 - Won the award for High Achievement
 - Celebrations to come
- Joint Spring Budget meeting
 - Planning joint Spring Budget meeting for all schools in town
 - Date TBD
 - Parents or anyone that has suggestions or concerns around budget should share in November/December via an email to the board
 - Likely planning for a lean budget again TY due to 6 sites reducing to 4

3. PRC Bylaws

- School PTO leads to review proposed draft and report back in November meeting

4. Review of the September 20, 2024 Minutes

- After a slight correction on the Jeffrey team, all approved

5. School Update Report

- Ryerson
 - Fall Fundraisers all going strong
 - Fall enrichment classes for students recently concluded
 - Karen Alquist photos were a first for us and successful
 - Fall Flower Power fundraiser was another first and successful
 - Pies and cookie dough popular repeat fundraiser from years past
 - Focusing efforts on a successful Scholastic Bookfair starting next week 10/28 and running through 11/1
 - Trick or Treat on the Hill is scheduled for the middle of Halloween week (where kids trick or treat at school and parents then have an opportunity to shop the book fair)
 - Susan Verde, author of I am We, came to the school for a reading for our students on 10/4
 - Partnered with Jeffrey and Brown on a successful Beach Day cleanup 10/5
 - Partnering with Jeffrey on a Movie Day coming up on 11/5 at the Madison Cinemas; we will be marketing non-perishable food donations for the Madison Food Pantry
 - We will be hosting a Ryerson Family Bingo Night at the school on 11/8
 - Upcoming November/ December Events, Fundraisers and Happenings:
 - Charleston Wrap Fundraiser
 - Thanksgiving Teacher Appreciation
 - Adrenaline Rush Day (Students can visit Adrenaline Rush and a portion of proceeds goes back to Ryerson)

- Food Drive
 - Toy Drive
- Jeffrey
 - October
 - Chamber of Commerce Arts, Artisan, & Antique fair 9/28 (end of September)
 - Did a craft/just a great community event
 - Beach Clean up 10/5 8am-10am: with Ryerson Jeffrey and Brown
 - Great turn out! 1873 pieces of trash collected (photos at the bottom)
 - Data collection went to “save the sound” to be part of their report
 - General PTO meeting: 10/8 6:30-7:30
 - Zoom and in person option (great turn out)
 - Amanda Russel local author and mom with a child who has autism came to discuss inclusion- excellent turn out
 - Plan to have her do an assembly with Jeffrey students like she did for Ryerson and Brown last year
 - Planning for Cultural Fair which will be held on 11/14 is underway
 - Get approx. 12 families to share their culture
 - Rotating station activity- get a passport at check in with passport photo- rotate to the different cultures/countries to learn about each to celebrate diversity
 - Second annual- such a fun night
 - Will create a volunteer sign up genius for Hand – Jeffrey volunteer is reaching out to the Spanish, French, Chinese clubs at hand to see if they’d like to do anything at the fair
 - Chess Night: 10/19
 - Held at the Lutheran Church in Madison
 - With Ani De
 - Pizza and Chess
 - Drop off event
 - Fall Halloween Night 10/25 4:30-6pm
 - Monster theme
 - Scavenger hunt of 6 different stations to do fun activities/crafts
 - Donuts and cider
 - Polson and Hand Volunteers for family nights: please click here for google forms to distribute
 - Had RJ Julia Author visits
 - 10/4 Susan Verde
 - 10/11 Chris Grabenstein
 - Hospitality:
 - Custodian appreciation
 - Halloween treats for staff
 - Fundraisers: Variety to provide opportunities for everyone - don’t have to participate in all
 - Karen Alquist photo fundraiser- went well!
 - Mabel's labels
 - Flower power (ends 10/15)
 - Minted code
 - tea code (ended 10/8)
 - Shoe fundraiser
 - Lyman Pie fundraiser (ends 10/15)
 - Second round of workshops start 11/11 (for both enrichment and fundraising for Jeffrey)
 - Advertised BOO baskets for Daniel Hand
 - Upcoming:
 - Movie day with Ryerson PTO Nov. 5th: election day SING 2
 - Cultural Fair 11/14
 - Veterans day signs:
 - Planning on doing this again with Brown and Ryerson this year too
 - Families can send photos of their veterans in their families, and we will make signs that are displayed in front of the schools on yard signs- kids can take them home afterwards.

- Printing through Tyco
- Brown
 - October
 - Supported 5th grade trip to Madison Cinemas on 10/4 to view new film The Wild Robot
 - School Store returns on the first Friday of the Month
 - 10/5 Beach cleanup with Jeffrey and Ryerson – great turnout
 - First general meeting on 10/9 at 9:30am with school counselors. Best turnout yet between Zoom and in-person attendees (appx 30 ppl)
 - Brown Movie Day at Madison Cinemas – sold out- donated about 200lbs of goods to the food pantry along with a \$100 donation
 - Halloween activities being planned for 10/31 – DJ, games, treats
 - Workshop registration open (session runs 11/5 – 12/18) 8 classes, 3 teacher led
 - Fall catalog fundraiser closed with almost double the sales of LY
 - Looking forward
 - Election Day bake sale
 - Veterans Day signs
- Polson
 - Grant from Arts for Learning CT will support work in Tech Exploration classes
 - Coffee with the Counselor 10/25 at 8am
 - MYFS Fall Parent Workshop 10/23 7-8:30pm
 - Come and join Nicole McDonough and MYFS for our Fall Parenting Workshop. We have heard from our families that stressors are on the rise (social media concerns, school work stress, sports/activities commitments, EVERYTHING), and we've heard how much parents want to stay close and connected with their kids. In this workshop we will be exploring practical ways to stay connected and calm through the nonstop stressors of modern family life. Join us on Oct 23rd from 7-8:30, for the FREE workshop.
Email michaudl@madisonct.org for registration
 - Academic intramurals registration is open
 - Preparing for Veteran's Day breakfast for ~50 veterans on 11/11 at 8:30am
 - Preparing for Election Day Bake Sale at Polson on 11/5, *please support*
 - Spirit wear will remain open until mid-October
 - Still collecting PTO dues
 - Confirmed Book Fair 12/9 – 12/13
 - Polson PTO is working in January social media awareness/internet safety event for parents (TBD all schools except DHHS)
 - Youth Entrepreneurs Holiday Market (MYFS-See flyer)
 - Madison Advocates for Youth (M.A.Y.) are looking for Youth (2nd-12th grade) entrepreneurs to participate in our Youth Entrepreneurs Holiday Market. Youth are welcome to sign up for a table for the event on November 7th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and sell their crafts, products, or extra toys, pokemon cards etc. Space is limited so sign up quickly! Suggested donation to secure a table is \$5 and all proceeds go to MYFS' helping families with holiday gifts during December. Groups/teams/clubs are welcome to register for a table as a fundraiser! Contact Justin Zeigler at zeiglerj@madisonct.org for more information or register here. <https://scranton.librarycalendar.com/event/youth-entrepreneur-holiday-market-38750>
- DHHS
 - 101 families to date paid dues/donations
 - 11/12 MYFS meeting at 7pm
 - PTO organized staff/faculty kudo board for Principal Appreciation (month)
 - Starting to organize first blood drive of the year
 - NIH planning meetings have started

6. Accessibility

- Four community members joined to speak about their experience and children's experience and needs for the new playgrounds being built at Neck River and Brown
- Suggestions were outlined in a document shared with the team as well as given to Dr. Cooke

- Dr. Cooke and school principals to review final playground designs and will circle back with the team
- PTO teams offered to raise specific funds if necessary to cover playground toys needed

****Meeting adjourned before addressing the below items (7-9)****

7. PRC/PTO Reminders/Discussion/Subcommittee Assignments –

- Political Action (Candidates Forum/Vote Campaign/Signs)
- PTO Best Practices Task Force:
- Transportation Council (Attend Quarterly Meetings & Bus Driver Appreciation)
- Food Council (Attend Quarterly Meetings)
- MYFS/MADE (Attend Monthly Meetings)
- PTO Best Practices Task Force:
 - By-laws/ Budgets/Treasurers Reports/Insurance/Websites
 - PTO Websites/Forms/Fundraising/School Gifts/Forms
- Staff Appreciation: Custodians & Banner
- District Wide Outing or Social Event Ideas
- PRC Speakers

8. Old Business

9. Future Agenda Items

10. Adjournment