

Madison Messenger



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and Madison Home & School Association

Visit our website at www.ncusd203.org/madison

April/May 2004

Home & School President Report

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

As I sit down to write my final newsletter, I can't believe that summer is here again! Not only is another school year coming to an end but so is my term as President of our Home and School Association. It has been my absolute pleasure working with all of you over the last two years doing whatever we could to make the Junior High experience better for our teachers and kids. Thanks for all of your support.

Congratulations to Mike Jaensch who will be the new H&S President next year. Jill Neufeld, Kathy Meyer, and Robyn Grooss have graciously agreed to continue on in their roles as Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary to make for a smooth transition. They are all highly capable individuals whose experience will be invaluable to Madison next year.

INSIDE THE MESSENGER

STAFF

Career Exploration	9
District 2004-05 Calendar	8
Exploring the Exploratories	
Art Department	4
Music Department	3
Health Office (Emergency Cards)	8
Principal Message: Noteworthy Thoughts	2
School Supplies	4, 8
Study Skills	7
Summer Reading	6
Summer School	9

HOME & SCHOOL

3D Team	4
Author Visits	9
Foreign Language	7
H&S Volunteers	7
Parent Volunteers	9
President's Report	1
SFCP Parent Involvement News	5
Social Committee	8

Our final H&S meeting will be held on May 25th. At that meeting it will be announced that H&S raised nearly \$40,000 for the school. All of this money will be funneled back into Madison to enhance classrooms and the building itself. Some of the items H&S purchased or funded for Madison this year included the following:

- The championship banners mounted on the gym walls
- School assemblies and author visits for all grades
- We helped offset the cost of field trips by over \$12,000
- New PC software for our coaches
- The new fitness center
- Books for our classrooms
- Financial support for Madison's Student Council
- \$50 for each of our teachers to help add to their classroom instruction

All of this was funded by our Magazine Drive. This is the only fundraiser at the Jr High level and without the support of our Madison families, these purchases would not have been possible. Amazing!

Please remember that at anytime during the year, if you are renewing a subscription, you can do so online at WWW.QSP.COM by clicking on the "your purchase will benefit" link, Madison will continue to receive credit. Thank you again for your support.

This summer, when you receive your packet of Madison information, you will have the chance to sign up for volunteer opportunities online! Thank you Dave and Gay for automating this process!

As we prepare for another school year to come to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who helped make this past year, and the programs we sponsored, so successful. To each H&S member, who did more than was expected of them, you were great and I enjoyed working with each one of you. To our teachers and staff who I have so enjoyed getting to know better, you're truly a dedicated group who bring out the best in our children. To our administration, Shanna,

continued on page 2

Message From Our Principal

NOTEWORTHY THOUGHTS . . . From Madison Junior High

By Erin K. Anderson

The spring is a magical time of coming together with a renewed sense of energy. Walking the halls of Madison Junior High over the past several weeks it is evident that our energies are high and our enthusiasm strong. This is a time for us as a community to come together to celebrate with our eighth graders, the many accomplishments of the past three years. As a class, this group of students have successfully demonstrated the strength of unity and leadership. Under the strong leadership of the student council executive board Madison had a variety of community service projects and school spirit events. This year's leaders designed a new "tradition" of having three pep assemblies a year to honor students involved in extra curricular events and as an opportunity to unite the entire Madison family. We will miss the leadership, enthusiasm and positive attitudes of the following 8th grade leaders:

Kevin Ondyak, Tyler Hoffman, Pat Idstein, Kelly Harrington, Lindsey Rose, Kali DelCarlo, Brittany Burde, Eman Suleman, Jyoti Mishra. Best of luck in the future!

We are excited to have our 8th graders be part of the new Madison tradition which is already well established across the junior highs of Naperville School District 203 and that is to conclude the year with a "Movin' On" ceremony celebrating their work for three years. Besides a ceremony and reception with families on June 4th, students will load onto coach busses and travel to Navy Pier where they will travel in style on the *Spirit of Chicago*. This new Madison tradition is a wonderful opportunity for our 8th graders to enjoy lunch, dancing and memory making with their Warhawk classmates, prior to their departure to new adventures at the high school.

While we begin wrapping up with celebration the achievements of our outgoing eighth graders, we eagerly await our newest Warhawks from River Woods, Scott, and Meadow Glens. During April and May we were very excited to meet our new friends during a variety of orientation activities, concluding with the orientation evening for parents. We appreciate the positive feedback on the orientation and invite families to visit our website for more detailed information about Madison.

As we close the year, we are already well into plans for next year. We wish Mrs. Mary Currier, Mrs. Gundy Sprouse, and Mrs. Carol Carius-Vermaat a relaxing and

enjoyable retirement. Their years of dedication and commitment to the students and teammates of Madison are very much appreciated and will be missed next school year.

The summer will be a fun and invigorating time for our kids to kick back and relax. We encourage them to have fun and stay involved. Get some goals for the summer and stay active in being the best that they can be. Families can expect to receive



the summer mailing which includes registration and fee information, Home and School information and other general Madison announcements during the last week of July.

Once again, we wish our eighth grade Warhawks the best of luck as they soar with pride to their next educational experience and we warmly welcome our

new Warhawks as they fly with honor to Madison this fall. Have a safe and wonderful summer.

Visit us at www.ncusd203.org/madison/.

Erin K. Anderson

Home & School President Report

continued from page 1

Matt and especially Erin, I have enjoyed working with each of you this year. You continue to carry on the great Madison tradition with your unique style and incredible energy. You guys are the best!

To our 8th graders, good luck to each of you as you progress to high school. You are an extraordinary bunch of kids that are limited only by your attitudes not by your opportunities. I have no doubt that you will find success in whatever you choose to do. From author James Allen, "*The key to happiness is having dreams; the key to success is making them come true.*"

Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our incoming 5th grade students and their parents. Madison is an exciting school with a wonderful staff, an energetic administration, and tremendous group of volunteers that our students thrive under. There are wonderful opportunities for both you and your child to become involved here and I would encourage you both to take advantage of them.

I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing summer.

Sincerely, Gretchen Zelinski
President, Madison Home & School

"EXPLORING THE EXPLORATORIES" MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Exploring the Exploratories

Jerry Zitko, MJHS Orchestra Director and
Music Department Chairperson

Erika Owen, MJHS Band Director

David Carroll, MJHS Band Director

Janet Kurinsky, MJHS Choral Director



"Spring has sprung" and the students and faculty of the Madison Music Department have been "busy bees" since before spring break "buzzing" along with a very active concert schedule.

The Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Miss Owen, kicked off the spring performances on Saturday, March 13th when they performed for the Naperville Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast at NCHS. Members of the MJHS Bluegrass Strings also performed that day combined with Bluegrass Strings members from the other District 203 Jr. High Schools. The MJHS combined 6th/7th/8th Grade Symphonic Orchestra performed in concert along with the MJHS 6th Grade Chorus on Wednesday April 21st. The Bluegrass Strings participated in the tour to the feeder elementary schools along with the MJHS Jazz Band and 8th Grade Chorus on March 25th. Other upcoming Orchestra performances this school year are the District Orchestra Festival #1 (grades 4, 5, 6) on May 13th at LJHS; the District Orchestra Festival #2 (grades 7 and 8) on May 20th at MJHS; and Bluegrass Strings participation in the Naperville Memorial Day Parade.

The MJHS Choruses under the direction of Mrs. Kurinsky have been "humming" along with a flurry of activity lately with a terrific performance by the 7th and 8th Grade Choruses at the MJHS Spring Concert #1 on April 27th. The 8th Grade Choir also participated in the MJHS Music Tour to the feeder elementary schools on March 25th. The 6th Grade Chorus performed (as mentioned before) in the MJHS Spring Concert #1 on April 21st. 6th and 7th Grade Choral students will be performing at Navy Pier in Chicago on May 18th and the 8th Grade Chorus will perform at the MJHS Awards assembly on June 4th. Also, the MJHS Jazz Choir and Jazz Lab Band will perform at the Naperville Riverwalk on June 5th.

All of the MJHS Bands began a busy spring season with the 7th grade Band performance, directed by Mr. Carroll at the Spring Concert #2 on April 27th. The 8th Grade Band, directed by Miss Owen, gave an outstanding performance at the Elementary/Jr. High Band Festival held at MJHS on April 28th. Especially impressive was the combined 5th Grade and 8th Grade Band performance of Paragon. The 6th Grade Band under Miss Owen's direction performed in the MJHS Spring Concert #2 on April 27th.



The Madison Jazz Bands have been going non-stop this spring with performances at the Naperville Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, the Elementary/Jr. High Band Festival, and the MJHS Music Tour to the feeder elementary schools.



As another extremely successful school year comes to a close, the Music Department Faculty thanks all students and parents for their efforts in juggling a "bizzy" concert schedule this year. We also give special thanks to Mrs. Cindy Silke, our Music Department Volunteer Coordinator, and the Madison Home and School Association for their support and assistance throughout the concert season! We feel confident that our departing eighth graders will carry on the fine music tradition they have helped establish at Madison to their respective high schools.

May you all enjoy a wonderful spring and summer, filled with magical, musical moments. We look forward to working with many of your sons and daughters again next year!

Strike Up The Band (and Bow)!

Preparation for the Naperville Memorial Day Parade is in full swing! Bring out your flags to cheer on our Madison Marching Band, Warhawk Wings (flag team), and the Bluegrass Strings Float. ALL Band students participate in this event.

Mr. Zitko will have information for all Bluegrass Strings members that wish to participate.

Summer Music Camps

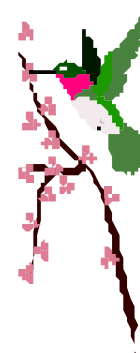
Information about summer music camps is available in the Band, Orchestra and Chorus Rooms.

Students can expand their musical horizons by attending a variety of camps on a variety of college campuses. During these camps, students are directed by exceptional conductors, have sectional rehearsals with college professors and in some cases will have private lessons and exposure to small chamber ensembles.

Students can also participate in the District 203 Summer Music Program. Band and Orchestra ensembles meet 4 days per week for 5 weeks. The summer sessions culminate with a final performance in July.

We highly recommend that current band and orchestra students continue with their musical efforts over the summer. Their technical skills and musical development will be "kept in tune". It makes a great difference in the fall!

If you have any questions about any specific camps or would like a recommendation for your student, please contact Mrs. Kurinsky, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Zitko, or Miss Owen at 420-6407.



"EXPLORING THE EXPLORATORIES" ART DEPARTMENT

By Mrs. Rathunde, Art Dept

It's Never Too Late to Celebrate

As part of our celebration of Youth Art Month (YAM), during the month of March, the annual Naperville District 203 Student Art Show was on display in Naperville's Municipal Center in downtown Naperville. Junior high students, along with elementary and high school students from our schools had their artworks exhibited and received award certificates. The Art Show extended from March 15th through April 20th and was viewed by hundreds of Naperville residents who recognized students' outstanding efforts and skills. We are especially proud of our own sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students at Madison for all their creative accomplishments and hard work in creating some wonderful pieces that were displayed in this exhibit!

We, also, wish to congratulate Madison art students, who had paintings and drawings on display at DePaul University's Naperville Campus, during February, as part of the Naperville District 203 Students' Art Exhibit. Students' work was very creative! Representatives of DePaul University thought so, too, because Yue Xu, an eighth grader at Madison, received the very prestigious honor of having her painting chosen to become part of the University's permanent art collection. Her artwork will be installed in DePaul's gallery and shared with Naperville audiences as well as those from surrounding communities. It is inspiring to know that our students' art is so highly valued!

Currently, in classroom studio activities, eighth graders are discovering surprising ways to make their water-media paintings more expressive and more personal. They are discovering colors, techniques (such as brushwork applications and masking techniques), textures, and so on that they can use to paint their favorite subjects in watercolors. In seventh grade, art students are exploring every aspect of their creativity while designing "Incredible Cultural Artifacts" in clay. Students view and discuss artifacts from other cultures and are challenged, as product designers, to apply what they have learned in imaginative ways. Students may even be able to play tunes on some of their artifacts, giving their clay a "voice," if they decide to sculpt ocarinas, or transform what they know about traditional Russian, Mexican, or Pre-Columbian whistles in making whistles of their own. Afterwards, seventh graders will be exploring creative possibilities in printmaking by practicing the historic process of Gyotaku, "Japanese fish printing", using synthetic models. Practicing this art form will give students invaluable insights into authentic printmaking processes and opportunities to produce rich and varied artworks. On the other hand, sixth-grade students, entering fourth quarter Art, are experiencing new insight and using their imaginations as they present their projects on "Loco Logos," (illuminated name portraits), demonstrating that they can draw logos that represent them as well as communicate their personalities like everyone's favorite logos do in advertising. Most important, sixth graders are seeing and making exciting artwork and getting a close-up view of the entire creative process from concept to finish. In the process, students are expanding ideas they bring to their projects. These experiences help us, all, get our ideas flowing! That's something to celebrate!!!

INTERNET SAFETY

If you were unable to attend our Internet Safety Night, Naperville Detective Mike Sullivan has written a book highlighting what was presented that evening. It is called *Safety Monitor, How to Protect Your Kids Online* and is available at Anderson's Bookstore and Barnes and Noble. H&S has purchased a copy of this book for our LRC and it may be checked out through the circulation desk.

School Supplies

Save time and money – plus support Madison's Home & School efforts. Order your complete school supply packet from Home & School. FINAL DEADLINE May 30.

*Contact Joanne O'Toole 357-0667 or
Denise Shepardson 778-7034*

3D TEAM

The 3D team would like to extend a big thank you to Madison alumnus, Ben Budzak! Ben has been working with the 3D Team Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons as part of his *Introduction to Teaching* class at Naperville Central High School.

Ben has shared his expertise in the field of electronics and continually amazed students with his knowledge of magic.

When Madison 8th graders went to Central to see the spring musical "Bells are Ringing", the 3D Team was very proud to claim "Mr. B." as their own. His rendition of the music writing dentist was superb.

As a special gift to the 3D team, Mr. Budzak donated 3D glasses so that the team could watch the movie "3D Spy Kids". His enthusiasm and dedication is appreciated by all of his students! Thanks Mr. B!



WHAT IS THE SFCP?

I am often still approached and asked, “What the heck is an SFCP?” When I answer, “The School-Family-Community Partnership, formally known as the Parent Involvement Team,” I get this glazed-over look and the conversation rapidly drifts to the weather or a local sports team. So for those who are interested, here’s a little history how the SFCP started:

BACKGROUND

During the winter of the 1995–96 school year, a focus group of parents and community members met to discuss how the District 203 staff could improve communication between our schools, families and community members. A recommendation from the focus group suggested a need for more parent involvement in our schools. As a result, the District researched different Parent Involvement models throughout school districts in the U.S.

Representatives attended a seminar at The Institute for Development of Education Activities where they were introduced to the Joyce Epstein Framework of Six Types of Involvement as a foundation to promote better parent involvement in our district.

The District adopted this model and the Parent Involvement Core Team (or School Family Community Partnership as it is now called) was initiated during the summer of 1996. SFCP teams at the individual schools were organized during the fall of 1996. Today, there are over 260 parents, teachers, administrators and community members actively involved in this initiative across our 21 schools sponsoring 100+ individual programs.

Since the start of this initiative, many of our schools’ best practices have been featured in the National Network of Partnership Schools annual Promising Partnership Practices book. In addition, three of our schools have received the National Network’s Partnership School Award for Excellence and the District Core Team has received the Network’s District Award for Excellence four years in a row.

DR. JOYCE EPSTEIN’S MODEL

In her research report titled *Caring for the Children We Share*, Dr. Epstein states, “The way schools care about children is reflected in the way schools care about the children’s families. If educators view children simply as students, they are likely to see the family as separate from the school. That is, the family is expected to do its job

and leave the education of children to the schools. If educators view students as children, they are likely to see both the family and the community as partners with the school in children’s education and development. Partners recognize their shared interest in and responsibilities for children, and they work together to create better programs and opportunities for students.

There are many reasons for developing school, family, and community partnerships. They can improve school programs and school climate, provide family services and support, increase parents’ skills and leadership, connect families with others in the school and in the community, and help teachers with their work. However, the main reason to create such partnerships is to help all youngsters succeed in school and in later life. When parents, teachers, students, and others view one another as partners in education, a caring community forms around students and begins its work.”

That last sentence really drives to the heart of our mission. We are truly all partners in our children’s education and when we work together and with each other, it benefits our kids tremendously. We in the SFCP do whatever we can think of to create, build, strengthen, and nurture this partnership for one purpose—the best possible education for our children.

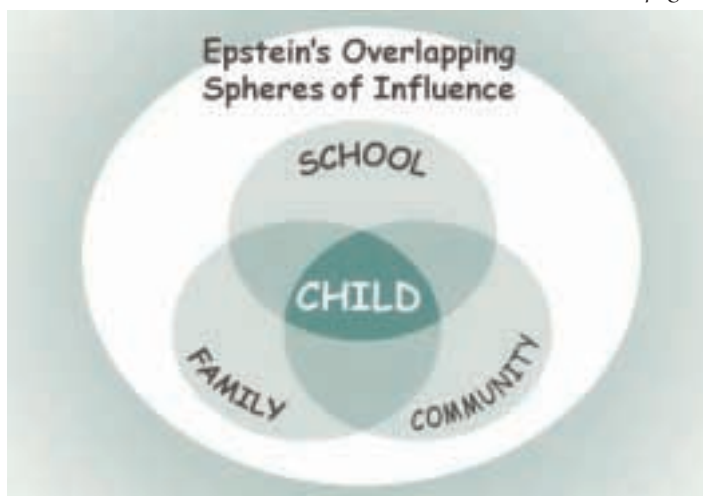
DR. EPSTEIN AND THE SFCP

I’m going to describe the specific model that is our guide. Dr. Epstein is a professor at Johns Hopkins and has dedicated herself to improving the school environment for the student. Here you will be able to see her philosophy, and our model, in a little more depth

EPSTEIN’S OVERLAPPING SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

The overlapping spheres of influence recognize that there are three major contexts in which students learn and grow—the family, the school, and the community. In this model, there are some practices that schools, families, and communities conduct separately and some they conduct jointly in order to influence children’s learning and development.

continued on page 6



The model locates the student at the center. The inarguable fact is that students are the main actors in their education, development, and success in school. School, family, and community partnerships cannot simply produce successful students. Rather, partnership activities may be designed to engage, guide, energize, and motivate students to produce their own successes. The assumption is that if children feel cared for and encouraged to work hard in the role of student they are more likely to do their best to learn to read, write, calculate, and learn other skills and talents and to remain in school.

EPSTEIN'S SIX TYPES OF INVOLVEMENT

A framework of six major types of involvement has evolved from many studies and from many years of work by educators and families in elementary, middle, and high schools. The framework allows schools to develop more comprehensive programs of school, family and community partnership.

Parenting	Communicating	Volunteering	Learning At Home	Decision Making	Collaborating with Community
Assist families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level. Assist schools in understanding families.	Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.	Improve recruitment, training, work and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audiences at the school or in other locations to support students and school programs.	Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.	Include families as participants in school decisions, governance and advocacy through PTA/PTO, school councils, committees, action teams and other parent organizations.	Coordinate community resources and services for students, families and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, and provide services to the community.
TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	TYPE 5	TYPE 6

Each type of involvement induces many different practices of partnership and implementation of partnerships will vary. However, if done well, all can positively impact students, teachers and parents. A well-designed and well-implemented program will include all six types of involvement to some degree and be linked to the individual school goals.

WHAT NOW?

Well, if you made it this far, it's obvious you really care about our children's education. If you find this interesting and want to get involved, please contact me at any time. Even if your time is limited and you just want to offer some ideas, please do so. The more people who get involved at any level, the better off our kids will be.

Mike Jaensch, Madison SFCF Team Leader
Mike@Jaensch.us
428-3901

SUMMER READING

I'm Bored! What can I read this summer?? Madison's Webpage has some suggestions.

Students can find suggestions of books to read this summer on Madison's Webpage.

- Student Links
- Summer Reading List
- Rebecca Caudill Master List of 2005
- Madison's Best 100
- Rebecca Caudill Webpage (Listing of past books that may be of interest)

If students have read a book during the school year and can't think of the title or the author, they can also access Madison's Online Catalog. They can then find a title they may like to read and find it at the public library or Anderson's Bookshop.

- Madison's Webpage
- District Links
- School District #203
- School District #203 Home Page
- Schools
- Libraries
- Check from Home
- Madison Junior High

There are many other opportunities for summer reading!

Summer Literacy Links

Students can participate in Madison's Summer Reading Program called *Summer Literacy Links*. This will be automated this summer. Students who would like to take part may contact their language arts teacher or Mrs. Hill, out reading specialist.

Naperville Public Libraries

NPL is again sponsoring a Summer Reading Program. Their website can be accessed through Madison's Webpage.

- Student Links
- Reference Shelf Links
- Naperville Public Library Online

Welcome Picnic

We are hosting a picnic for new sixth-graders in the fall.
The date is Sept 2. We are looking for volunteers.

Help us welcome the newest Warhawks!
If interested, contact Enakshi Singh-Gutkowski at
630-664-6862 or via email at e_gutkowski@yahoo.com

STUDY SKILLS

Keeping Up as the Year Winds Down

For most students the time after spring break is more academically challenging because they are in “spring fever” mode and there are “outside” distractions that are creeping in to invade school work habits. To keep up with the good study skills they have been using throughout the school year, students may need their parents’ help with reinforcing those good habits. What can you do to help your son/daughter? Here are a few suggestions:

- Get a supply of stickers (yes, middle school students really do still like stickers) and each night the assignment notebook has been filled out, put a sticker on it. Maybe you can come up with a small incentive for a week’s worth of stickers, etc.
- Clean out folders/binders weekly. Help them organize their materials; recycle old papers, re-fill supplies. (If he/she is not sure whether to recycle a paper or not, keep a special folder at home with the questionable work. That way if it turns out it is needed, it will be accessible.)
- Go to the Madison Student Links page on the web site and investigate different links that might enhance certain subjects. For example, there are some great math links that are specifically designed for the middle school student.
- Study Skills Websites: There are several websites that give suggestions for anything from scheduling time to

preparing for tests. These sites might be of some interest and help. (Ex: <http://www.keene.edu/aspire/obj.cfm>)

- Keep language arts reading calendars on the refrigerator or posted somewhere where they will be visual reminders to keep up with the reading schedule.
- Make an after school/homework schedule with a time grid and fill it out ahead of time. Make sure to include a snack break and of course a dinner break, but try to keep the time pretty consistent. This really will help keep a routine going. Again, visual aspect is so helpful.
- Remind students to use as many “at school” resources as they can. For example: sixth graders have an opportunity to attend the Lunch Bunch Club during 5th period lunch where they can eat while doing homework. Seventh and eighth graders who have lunch 4th period have a Lunch Homework Club available during that lunch period for extra homework time as well. They can see their teachers or Mrs. Lints for details about these clubs. Students can also work in the LRC and computer lab after school.

By keeping the suggestions above in mind, your son/daughter should be able to survive the spring fever (or “eighth-grade-itus” that hits the eighth graders about this time) that wants to invade your child’s study habits. Other suggestions are available from Mrs. Lints, who runs the *Academic Support program*. The program is for any student who might need some assistance in maintaining success in their academic classes.

by Mrs. D. Lints

WE WANT YOU!!!

Madison Home & School is recruiting to fill committees for next year (2004/2005). Parents of 6th and 7th graders are encouraged to consider joining a committee. The positions and responsibilities vary from a one-time commitment to year round leadership roles. The board meets once per month on Tuesday mornings. Home & School leadership positions are listed below. Not all positions will be available due to current members returning to their committees.

Call Gay Burns at 630.753.0699 if you are interested in joining the board of Madison Home & School.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

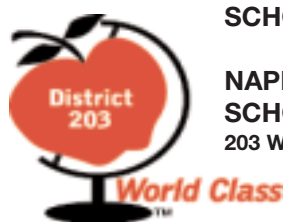
Fine Arts	LRC Coordinator
Fundraising	Newsletter
Great Books	Nominations
Greeter	Parent Awareness
School Supplies	Historian
Social	Hospitality
Staff Appreciation	Health/Safety/Sunshine

MADISON FOREIGN LANGUAGE IS FUN

Many students at Madison greet their friends with “Hola” or “Bonjour” every day. District 203 students who take Spanish, French, or German in both seventh and eighth grades may jump right into Level Two of their foreign language in ninth grade! Students who continue through twelfth grade can earn college credit for foreign language.

Besides learning beginning reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills, foreign language students are exposed to the culture of Spanish- or French-speaking countries.

For example, French students celebrated Mardi Gras, and Spanish students will celebrate Mexico’s Cinco de Mayo. Eighth graders will go to a French or Hispanic restaurant in May as the culminating activity for their French or Spanish food chapter. Whether it’s a fashion show, a restaurant simulation, “There’s a big problem!” stories, vocabulary bingo, or the fly swatter game, something interesting is always happening in Miss Hall and Mrs. Gropp’s classes! (Have you played the fly swatter game lately? It has nothing to do with flies. Ask a Madison Spanish or French student . . .)



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2004-05

NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

203 W Hillside Rd., Naperville, IL 60540-6589

(630) 420-6300
www.ncusd203

Aug 19 & 20	New Teacher Orientation
Aug 23	Teacher Institute Day
Aug 24	Teacher Work Day
Aug 25	Classes Begin
Sept 6	NO SCHOOL, Labor Day
Sept 24	Half-Day Institute
Oct 7	6-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:30p.m.
Oct 8	NO SCHOOL, K-5 Institute Day 6-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
Oct 11	NO SCHOOL, Columbus Day
Oct 29	End of First Quarter
Nov 11	NO SCHOOL, Veteran's Day
Nov 16	End of First Trimester
Nov 18	K-5 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:30 p.m.
Nov 19	NO SCHOOL, 6-12 Institute Day K-5 Parent/ Teacher Conferences
Nov 24	NO SCHOOL Staff Development
Nov 25-26	NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving
Dec 20-31	NO SCHOOL, Winter Vacation
Jan 17	NO SCHOOL, M.L. King Day
Jan 20	End of First Semester
Jan 21	NO SCHOOL, Semester Day
Feb 21	NO SCHOOL, President's Day
Feb 24	End of Second Trimester
Feb 25	Half Day, Institute Day
Mar 4	Full Day Institute
Mar 10	K-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:30 p.m.
Mar 11	NO SCHOOL, K-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
Mar 23	End of Third Quarter
Mar 24	NO SCHOOL, Staff Development
Mar 25	NO SCHOOL
Mar 28-April 1	NO SCHOOL, Spring Vacation
Apr 28	NO SCHOOL, Institute Day
May 6	Half-Day Institute
May 30	NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day
TBA	Commencement
June 8	Classes End (tentative)
June 9, 10, 13	Emergency Days (if needed)

PORTABLE STORAGE FOR STUDENTS

USB FLASH DRIVE

The Madison Computer Lab is recommending that students come to school next year with one of the new "flash drives" for transporting files. USB flash drives are compact and easy-to-use devices that are similar in use to a computer hard drive. USB flash drives slip into your pocket, conveniently around your neck or on a key chain for ultimate portable storage. These devices are **much** more reliable than the old floppy disks and have a **much** larger capacity.



Parents: please shop for bargains or rebates from the electronics stores this summer. They are often offered on sale and with significant rebates – sometimes FREE (after rebate). Don't pay retail! These devices come in many sizes but 32 MB is sufficient for junior high students.

You can affix an address label to the side of the drive to identify it and/or attach it to your student's key ring.

Note: (If they do not have a "flash drive", students must have several floppy disks. They do not need both.)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Home and School Social Committee would like to thank all the terrific volunteers for their help with both the Seventh Grade Bowling Party and the Sixth Grade Medieval Celebration. We are grateful to all the moms who helped set up at Brunswick Zone and served pop and pizza to our Seventh Grade students! There were over 40 moms AND dads who helped serve the 50+ donated pies at the medieval "feast". The students really enjoyed seeing their parents and everyone enjoyed the afternoon's festivities! VOLUNTEERS, WE THANK YOU!

Linda Meek and Eileen Radsevich

HEALTH OFFICE – EMERGENCY CARDS

Just a reminder for next year, PLEASE turn in your child's emergency cards completely filled out at registration, and also include an alternate person and phone number in case you cannot be reached. **It is very important for the school to have this on file should your child become ill or injured.**

Prior to giving any medication (long term, short term, prescribed, or over the counter) at school, the medication permission form shall be completed authorizing the school to administer the medication. Please remember that **permission forms shall be renewed every year or whenever changes in medication or the health of the child occurs and filed in the health office.**

CAREER EXPLORATION

Did you know that some two-ton machine parts have a tolerance of 1/1000 of an inch? Or that the workers at Cougars stadium will have a three week stretch with no days off this summer? Or that some commercial mixers are as tall as a seventh grader? Or that some bosses give the “window offices” to their staff as a reward for their hard work? Madison’s seventh grade teams had the opportunity to find out these real life World of Work facts during their recent Career Exploration trips into the community. We greatly appreciate the generous commitment of time and resources of the companies that helped our students observe the application of the skills they are developing at Madison!

Carol Stream Postal Distribution Center
Cosley Zoo
DACO Manufacturing
Kane County Cougars
Lisle Hilton
Naperville Fire Department
Naperville Police Department
Packer Engineering
Sikich Group

SUMMER SCHOOL 2004

Materials for summer school are available in the counseling office. This program is four weeks in length and is held June 14 through July 9 at Washington Junior High. Tuition is \$100 per course. Enrollment continues until May 21. Junior High offerings are:

- Developmental Reading/ Language Arts
- Enrichment Reading/ Language Arts
- Math
- Study Skills

The high school program is six weeks in length and is held June 14 – July 23 at Naperville North High School. These courses are offered for credit. Tuition is \$320 per one credit course and \$160 per half credit course. Enrollment after May 28 will be assessed a late fee. Courses for which incoming Freshmen may enroll include:

- Algebra 1 (1 Credit)
- Introduction to Algebra (1 Credit)
- Plane Geometry (1 Credit)
- Keyboarding (.5 Credit)

If you have questions regarding the appropriateness of summer school for your child, please feel free to contact the subject area teacher or grade level counselor.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Madison’s LRC has had a great “crew” of volunteers this year. These volunteers work in the computer room, as well as the LRC. Jobs include:

- Checking books in and out
- Putting away books
- Laminating
- Pulling books from bibliographies for research
- Processing new materials
- Working on displays and bulletin boards
- Working with students in the computer room
- Computer maintenance and updating
- Other “assorted” tasks

We want to take this opportunity to thank the following volunteers who have been invaluable to us:

Jackie Braun	Tom O’Sullivan
Dave Gary	Jamie Parker
Robin Horina	Joyce Peterson
Rebekah Jaensch	Joe Petrauskas
Karen Johnson	Kathy Placek
Sue Keough	Cathy Richier
Teresa Lin	Sue Ruhland
Dee Loughmiller	Beth Ryser
Amy Mayer-Barger	Kathy Sakats
Susan Nerlove	Mary Thomas
Jill Neufeld	Debbie Wayne

We also look forward to welcoming parents of incoming students who would like to volunteer next year, as well as those of current students who would like to join the LRC “group”.

AUTHOR VISITS

Through the generosity of Madison’s Home and School, students were able to experience several authors this year. In many instances, these visits were tied to the curriculum. The following authors were welcomed to Madison this year:

October 28, 2003: Candace Fleming of *Ben Franklin’s Almanac*, 8th Grade

January 8, 2004: Sally Walker of *Fossil Fish Found Alive*, 7th Grade

May 20, 2004: Laura Ruby of *Lily’s Ghost*, 6th Grade

Poetry Alive performed at our Fall Festival of Literacy and Anderson’s Bookshop provided Wendy Mass, author of *Mango-Shaped Space* and *Leap Year* on April 16th.

During presentation, students hear the author’s research process and writing process. The anecdotes presented bring connections to our students’ learning and thinking.