

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LION NEWS AND VIEWS

1225 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA (360) 596-6300

"We Succeed with Pride"

September, 2008



MADISON MISSION

To create a nurturing environment for students, their families, staff, and the community which encourages caring, respect, academic excellence, life-long learning, and citizenship.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

School's off to a fantastic start this year. It's wonderful to see so many returning students and their families, and a special greeting to our new students as well! We have 166 students including preschool for 2008-09...about the same number as last year. Our amazing staff welcomes everyone to the Madison Family!

Our theme for the year: "*Focus on the Whole Child*". There are many new projects, staff, and students this year which bring exciting changes ahead for us. You might want to find out about Tools of the Mind (Pre-School) and Daily Five (K-5 classrooms)

Building Facility News...

- Check out the Playshed's "silhouette figures." Thanks to PTO's Lynn Reed and Michelle Giordano who spent most of the summer retouching the silhouettes-at-play, adding color to the USA map on the asphalt and the playground equipment.

Welcome New Staff Members:

- Due to budget cuts last spring we lost a teacher, Mr. Shepard who is now at Pioneer.
- However, we have gained a new district program in Room 7: **Robin Osborn** is our new pre-school (AM) and integrated kindergarten (PM) teacher. She comes to us from Pioneer with great enthusiasm. **Sopheap Uch** will assist as a para-educator. We are looking for a 6 hour paid paraeducator position in that classroom, so please apply if interested.
- **Kim Swanson**, our new and part-time Social Services Coordinator, is full of new ideas and lots of energy! She comes to us from McKenny.
- **Sarah Greenwell** has returned as our Homeless Liaison after spending a year at home with her baby Phoenix. You will see her smiling face most often in the Welcome Room. We are happy to have her daughter, Madrona, too.
- **Jennie Peterson and Mark Favre** are our newest Americorps members. They are a dynamic duo hoping to organize games, clubs, and a lot of other student & family activities.
- **Michaela Miller**, OSPI's National Teacher Board Coordinator, will be helping out as our principal intern this fall. She will be here mostly on Wednesdays when Gayle Mar-Chun goes to Knox and fulfills her other duties as Title 1 Director for the district. Gayle is a part-time principal.
- **Pamela Solarz** will be doing her student teaching with Susan Stillwell this fall in the 2nd-3rd grade classroom.

EARLY RELEASE —

SEPTEMBER 26

DISMISSAL TIME - 12:52pm

Make childcare arrangements now!



CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thursday, September 18

Primary/West Wing: 5:30-6:25pm

Intermediate/East Wing: 6:30-7:30pm



OFFICE REMINDERS

First Day Packet Information is due as soon as possible so we have student emergency contacts and parent information.

Students get stressed out when their end-of-the-day routines are different! Let the office know of changes ahead of time.

Make sure your student has \$\$ in their lunch account for their "debit card". It is not a credit card.

Free and reduced breakfast and lunch applications can also be obtained in the office.

PTO FALL FUNDRAISER

Please check your child's back pack for the fall fundraiser catalog. Questions? Contact Denise Pigue: 412-3133



PTO will be notifying families about how the PTO funds will be used for the coming year.

PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF

- 8:55 - First Bell
- 9:00 - School starts (Tardy after 9:00)
- 8:35 - Breakfast
- 8:45 - All other students in gym
- 3:22 - School ends



Do not park or leave your car unattended. **This is especially important before school.**

To lessen traffic, please park at the church lot on Legion Way across the street. You can walk through the front entrance and pick up your child.

Children are to be picked up or dropped off at the curb.

If your child takes the bus, encourage him to follow all the bus rules including waiting at the bus stop and walking straight home.

LIKABLE LIONS

Likable Lions are our "students of the week." They are recognized for their unique talents, interests, and hobbies at our weekly Celebration Assemblies. Each classroom selects a student to be honored.



Please note: Likable Lions will be recognized on **Thursday afternoons from 2:45-3:15 weekly.** Likable Lions will have lunch with the principal on Fridays.

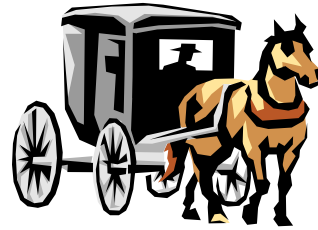
A-TEAM

Students on A-Team are great self-managers. Any student can be part of A-Team with continued good effort. We are not expecting perfection, but want to recognize those who are "trying hard." They will be recognized at our assemblies.

Attendance + **A**ttitude + **A**cademics =
A-Team!

Territorial Stagecoach Run Friday, Sept. 19 - 9:15-noon

Come see a real stagecoach with horses and "pioneers" on their way for a 3 day trip to Longview!



PARENT HANDBOOK

We are trying to go green and use less paper this year. We have decided to place the Madison Parent Handbook on our school's website <http://madison.osd.wednet.edu/> If you need a hard copy, we have a few copies available in the office. Check out the handbook since it explains many of our school rules and procedures.

NEWS FROM MS. SWANSON "COMMUNITY SERVICE"



5th grade students will be helping out our school in a variety of ways as community service workers. This "job" is an important one in which they take responsibility for doing quality work to make a difference in our school.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers for the classroom, reading buddies, lunch buddies, and Passports Club.

Please stop by the office and pick up a volunteer application form.



BOWER'S BUZZ

On July 23rd, we had an open house for students in our "Summer Reading Splash." Students came with their parents between 4:00 and 7:00. Each student was able to choose six books to read and keep. We served hot dogs, chips, and lemonade. It was a great "celebration."

Read - it makes a lasting impression



Madison also received a grant from First Book, an organization that wants to get books into the hands of children. We were able to give new books to all of our pre-school through third grade students. Thank you, First Book!

The most important thing you can do as a parent is to read to or with your child for at least twenty minutes each day. Ten Ways To Become A Better Reader: Read, Read, Read, Read, Read, Read, Read, Read, Read, Read!!!

MADISON - TITLE 1 SCHOOL



Title 1 is the largest federal aid program for our nation's schools. The intent of Title 1 schools and No Child Left Behind is to improve the performance of all our students. Each state receives a basic grant for the program annually. The state then sends allotments to school districts

based on the number of low income families. Madison is a schoolwide Title 1 School because its free/reduced lunch count is 63%. Each eligible student generates funding for this program. It allows us to provide extra help to students in reading or math.

What are title 1 funds used for at Madison?

- Salaries for our Title 1 teachers and para-educators
- Extra supplementary books and software
- Parent education classes and family literacy activities

Key Elements of the No Child Left Behind Act

- **Highly Qualified:** Teachers and paraprofessionals must be highly qualified. All of our staff meets this rigorous standard.
- **Student Accountability:** Each 3rd-8th grade student is tested on the WASL in reading and

math. Students who do not meet the standard on the tests are given extra support and placed on student learning plans.

- **Adequate Yearly Progress:** Each school is given a "Report Card" which tells how successful a school has been in reaching all groups of students. Madison not only makes adequate yearly progress, but exceeds many other schools with like-student population in academics.
- **Parent Choice in Failing Schools:** More choices are given to parents in schools that are failing to meet adequate yearly progress. Parents can transfer their child from a failing school or be provided supplemental services if the school is not meeting adequate yearly progress. Fortunately, Madison is not a failing school, and students continue to learn and grow each day.
- **Parent Involvement Plan:** Madison has written an annual Parent Involvement Plan. Several parent representatives have reviewed and revised some of the plan. Additionally, we are looking for two parents to serve on the district's Advisory Committee. They meet 3-4 times a year to help the district review and evaluate the entire district's Title 1 program.

District Seeks Volunteers for Facilities Committee

The District needs volunteers to serve on the Ad Hoc Citizen's Advisory Committee on Facilities. Facility needs and conditions are assessed every seven to ten years by this Committee. Committee members will meet approximately two times each month (during evenings) to analyze the condition of existing facilities, consider enrollment projections and program needs, and make recommendations to the school board. The recommendations from the committee will be used to develop a proposed bond for school remodeling, renovation and expansion. Contact Timothy Byrne tbyrne@osd.wednet.edu or Tricia Johnson tjohnson@osd.wednet.edu in the District's Capital Planning and Construction office at 596-8560. Applications are due by September 30, 2008.

KUDOS TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WOMENS' GROUP!

A special thanks to the United Methodist Women for their generous donation to the Madison Library for books and library materials. We thank them for their support!

SCIENCE COMMUNITY FORUM

Monday, October 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Olympia High School Commons

The district would like to hear from parents and the community about their priorities for science education.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

- 11- Likable Lions Assembly 2:45
- 12- PTO Fall Fundraiser Kick Off Assembly 9:15
- 16- 4-5th grade Field Trip
- 18- Curriculum Night 5:30 and 6:30
- 18- Likable Lions Assembly 2:45
- 22- 3rd graders receive free Dictionaries from Lions Club
- 23- Reading Buddies/Tutor Training 1:00
- 24- Reading Buddies/Tutor Training 1:00
- 25- Likable Lions Assembly 2:45
- 25- 4-5th grade Field Trip
- 26- Early Release 12:52

October

- 1- Weekly Primary Nutrition Classes begin. Parent Permission needed
- 2- Anti-Bullying Assembly 9:15
- 3- Passports Check
- 8- Madison Walk or Bike to School Day
- 10- Individual Picture Day
- 13-17 Fall Conference Week 12:52 Dismissal
- 24-Teacher Inservice Day – No School
- 30-NW Fundraiser Assembly for Top Fundraisers



| MADISON | STAFF | 2008-09 |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Mar-Chun | Gayle | Principal |
| Neely | Michele | Pre-School |
| Osborn | Robin | PS/Int K |
| Rosenkranz | Paula | Kdgn |
| Holmeide | Jenny | 1st |
| Stillwell | Susan | 1st-2nd |
| Ideker | Anita | 2nd |
| Hammaker | Leslie | 3rd-4th |
| O'Donnell | Suzette | 4th |
| Flynn | Carolyn | 5th |
| Bower | Joan | Lit Spec |
| Long | Kathy | SpEd |
| Swanson | Kim | Social Services |
| Moore | Kathy | Library |
| Miller | Michaela | Admin Intern |
| Solarz | Pam | St Teacher |
| Classified | | |
| Wesselman | Anita | Office Prof |
| Gibbons | Maria | Para Ed |
| Kolowinski | Toni | Para Ed |
| Lantz | Leif | Para Ed |
| Maycumber | Jackie | Para Ed |
| Walsh | Debbie | Para Ed |
| Kutch | Mary | PS |
| Leicht | Pam | PS |
| Fatula | Christy | PS/Hearing |
| TBA | TBA | PS |
| Uch | Sopheap | PS |
| Peterson | Jennie | AMC |
| Favre | Mark | AMC |
| Greenwell | Sarah | Homeless Liaison |
| Delgado | Bernie | Cook |
| Ouvng | Khoeuth | Custodian |
| Yost | Karl | Custodian |
| Certificated Support | | |
| Grimstad | Karin | SLP |
| Spencer | Tara | PE |
| Joyner | Maria | Orch |
| Holder | Keith | Band |
| Grimm | Suzanne | Music - Primary |
| Schwartz | Dan | Chorus - Interm |
| Audrey | James | Nurse |

IMPORTANT!

No paper copies of the newsletters will be made in the future. You may read it on our school website or you may give us your accurate and neatly written email address so we can send it to you directly. Please return to the office as soon as possible.

Your Name:

Your email address:

Child's Name: