



December 13, 2013

Dear Parents,

December and January are exciting times at Madison Elementary not just because we are preparing for a wonderful holiday season, but for many other reasons. Below are some important things to note about Madison School this winter:

Holiday Giving: The Madison Mitten Tree and District 200's Christmas Sharing program provided students with an opportunity to donate clothing, toys and other items to those in need. Our monthly lunch hour service project activities will begin in January as well.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Madison School is getting ready to launch three new school-wide rules or "Guidelines for Success". The first of our three new rules or guidelines is "RESPECT," which will be unveiled at a school assembly the day we return from Winter Break on Mon., Jan. 6.

Mid-year Assessments: Each December and January our students take mid-year reading and math assessments. Since most of these assessments are completed online, teachers have results instantaneously, which help them plan future instruction. Please contact your child's teacher or me for further details.

iPad Collections: We have already received iPad donations from within and outside the Madison community. We also received 50 new and durable iPad cases from www.uzbl.com. We look forward to accepting more iPads of any model and get them in the hands of our students. We hope to report some fun learning examples in the January Madison Memos.

District 200 Community Engagement: Through a series of community workshops, community members have an opportunity to learn about all aspects of the District. More importantly, District residents will be asked to provide feedback regarding opportunities and challenges facing the District. All District 200 residents are invited and encouraged to participate in this engagement process that will help guide the direction of the District. Interested parents and community members can email me at timothy.callahan@cusd200.org to register for this opportunity.

Thank you so much for partnering with us in your child's education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Callahan". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Tim Callahan, Principal

Thank You for Supporting Madison Multicultural Day 2013

Madison Multicultural Day 2013 was a true celebration of this community's rich diverse cultures. It was a great opportunity for the Madison students to learn about our many differences as well as the many ways that we are all alike. A large group of volunteers pulled together this event that has become a Madison tradition, including parents, grandparents, extended family members, local business owners, and former Madison families. So many Madison families donated supplies and other items that we could not possibly list all of them here. Please know that your support and generosity are truly appreciated.

Our heartfelt thank you,
Alis Priebe and Jennifer Pashup-Graham, Co-Chairs

Classroom leaders - Jody Gosain, Monica Wagner, Nicole Klotz, Kirsten Borrink, Kelly Masse, Melissa Oker, Dawnelle Muff, Margit Spires, Louise Kirkman, Amy Fiorato, Leigh Ann Gaul, Kris Olson, Julie Garnache, Debbie Buttell, Julie Fasano, Evelyn Mosca, Amy Spayth, Lisa Szudarski, Susan Nordmark, and Katie McBride.

Plan and prep team - Jeff Hasbrouck, Jacqueline Smith, Tammy Quentin, Diane Augustine, Marla Parent, Jennifer Guevara, Penny Wilson, Dawn Draus, Deby Ying-Orjuela, Megan Savitt, Holly Bourne, Lisa Miller, Gina Smethells, Mujo Kliko, Victoria Samala, Monica Fahey, Paula Duebener, Lainey Turner, Naoko Lee, Kyoko Ito, Yukiko Meldrum, Satsuki Toriyama, Anne Valente, Jaime Szafranski, Chris Borrink, Geena Caputo, Meghan Orr, Gulorna Fazilova, Lynn Tucker, Kerry Holy, Don Muff, Anne Nigrelli, Sue Adkins, Bharadwa Anjali, Debbie Glasgow, Kevin Klotz, Debbi Gonzalez, Simone Morton, Barb Goldsborough, Jamie Torne, Krista Caprini, Edith Goetz, Janet Mathis, Guy Spayth, Sheri Badgley, Stacy Circelli, Amy Schmidt, Kevin Wagner, Bruce Lauer, Rene Lauer, Ellen Joyce Tomes, Michele Foster, Terri McCue, Tricia Webber, Bob McBride, Sybil Scaccia, Paige Mamula, Kim Cooper, Amy Tavolino, Heidi Rousseau, Dani de Leon, Michele Triscik, Sarah Johnson, Pat Jamen, Meg Jamen, Mary Boedigheimer, Joo Chang, Christine Kroeze, Lisa Maher, Jill Carr, Esther Torne, Sri Malu, Amy Stout, Suzie Weber, Mike Cooper, Alma Kuruppacherry, Arlene Welninski, Stephanie Brown, Faith Brennans, Katie Morris, Rebecca Cummings, Sarah Gochee, Teresa Van Winkle, Joanne Bassett, Brit Schumacher, Amy Bornheimer, Dana Anliker, Denise Greene, Megan Day, Shannon Klopfenstein, and Sandy Armstrong.

Luncheon and breakfast – Michele Triscik (Luncheon Coordinator) Pat and Meg Jamen, and Sarah Johnson; Marianne Kratz and Susan Sanders (Breakfast Coordinators); and many additional PTA hospitality committee members.

Outside sponsors, presenters and donors: Language Stars, Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and NW Indiana, WWSHS Key Club Members, Madison BASP, Home Depot in Carol Stream, Swedish American Museum, Kerstin Lane, OECGraphics, Institute of Diving in Glen Ellyn, Yong-In USA, Flowers by Mirian, Annie Vail from McNulty Irish Dancers, Chipotle/Roosevelt Rd. location, Capri Pizza and Pasta, Noodles & Company, Uncle Julios, Dominick's, Ultra Foods, Jewel/Danada location, Costco/Bloomington location, Mariano's Fresh Market/Wheaton location, Nothing Bundt Cakes, and Panda Express.

Special thanks to Mrs. DiOrio and Mrs. McCafferty in the Madison Office and to the Madison Custodial Staff for their tremendous dedication and help with this day. Additional thanks to Mr. Callahan and the Madison faculty and staff. Your support and input continue to be valued and appreciated.

Multicultural Day would not have happened without the collaboration, time and talents of so many people. Please forgive us if we have missed a name - each individual's talents are truly appreciated. Thank you again for helping to make Multicultural Day a wonderful experience for our Madison students.

Looking for an end-of-year tax deduction?

Please consider a donation to the Madison PTA. Your tax-deductible donation will put smiles on Madison kids' faces in 2014 and in the years to come. We've negotiated a discounted rate of \$8926 for a climbing wall if we can pay for it and have it installed by spring break. The 40-foot wide, 10-foot high climbing wall will be a permanent fixture in the Madison gymnasium. You'll see kids developing strength and confidence during P.E., Explore More Day, TV turnoff week, B.A.S.P., indoor recess, winter carnival, the fifth grade year-end party and so much more. Classroom teachers can use it as an incentive for excellence in reading, math, spelling and other core subjects. It can be a reward for good behavior. The possibilities are endless.

If you are looking for charitable giving opportunities for the end of the year, please consider a donation to the Madison PTA. Please make checks payable to Madison PTA and write "climbing wall" in the memo line. Questions? Please contact Mr. Cortesi or anyone on the PTA executive committee: Janet Mathis, Sarah Johnson, Robyn Beres, Amy Schmidt and Amy Fiorato.

Mark your calendar for group yearbook photos

Color Portraits will be taking group photos for the 2013-2014 Madison School yearbook on Fri., Jan. 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the gym.

- Orchestra (no instruments)
- Band (no instruments)
- Chorus
- Patrol (with belts)
- Chess Club (with shirt, if available)
- Battle of the Books (with shirt, if available)
- Before and After School Program
- Spanish Club
- Reflections Finalists
- Math Club

If your son or daughter belongs to any of the groups listed above, please have them available at this time to participate. There will be no retakes. Morning Kindergarteners who wish to be included must arrive by 2:15 and be accompanied by a parent. Any questions, please contact Dawn Draus at (630) 221-1514 or dmdraus@ameritech.net.

Plan to attend the Pancake Breakfast

The annual pancake breakfast is Sat., Jan. 25. Flyers will be going home on Dec. 16. Questions? Please contact Shannon Graves shannonmom76@yahoo.com or Monica Fahey monicafahey@hotmail.com.

Recycle holiday lights

Madison is collecting working and non-working strands of incandescent or LED holiday lights and extension cords Nov. 25-Feb. 10. A collection box is in the school office. Madison will then pass them on to the Wheaton Public Works Department who will strip and recycle the copper and plastic parts. No materials will be shipped overseas.

Questions? Please contact Moyra Gorski at moyragorski@comcast.net.

Explore More Day committee members needed

Want to help organize what could be considered the most exciting day of the school year? Explore More Day co-chairs are especially looking for committee members who have younger children who could help continue this event in the coming years.

Explore More Day is always the Friday before Memorial Day. It's a day when kids "explore" new things—from a new sport to a new food to a science experiment or craft—kids learn something different. Kindergartners and first graders have their classes planned for them; second through fifth graders choose from about 40 classes. If you'd be interested in being on the committee, contact Dani at dmdeleon@sbcglobal.net or Stephanie at powell06@comcast.net.

PACE testing to begin in Spring 2014

In March/April 2014, the Program of Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment (PACE) will host testing for currently enrolled second through fifth grade students.

Students currently in PACE classes do not need to re-test for 2014-2015. Students may be recommended for testing by their teacher and/or parent. The deadline for a parent to request PACE testing is Fri., Jan. 24, 2014.

Save the dates

Click on the [calendar](#) on the Madison section of www.cusd200.org to view upcoming dates. See below for some highlights:

Dec. 17: Winter Concert

Dec. 20: Classroom winter parties

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3: Winter break

Jan. 6: Madison Memos deadline

Jan. 9, 12:15 p.m. Madison PTA membership meeting

Jan. 22: Market Day Pick up

Jan. 25: Pancake Breakfast

