

Madison Highlights and Happenings*

April 7, 2017

Facility Master Planning Community Input Sessions

I strongly encourage Madison families to attend one of the three Facility Master Planning Community Input Sessions the CRCSD is hosting this month. The committee is recommending changes at the elementary level, which may have impact on our school. More information in the link listed below.

April 11, 2017 – 6 – 8:00 PM – Arthur School, 2630 B Ave NE, Cedar Rapids

April 12, 2017 – 6-8:00 PM – Van Buren School, 2525 29th Street SW, Cedar Rapids

April 13, 2017 – 6-8:00 PM – Nixon School, 200 Nixon Dr., Hiawatha

<http://www.cr.k12.ia.us/community-invited-to-join-facilities-conversation/>

Fourth and Fifth Grade Concerts

Monday, April 24 – Café

Fourth Grade – 6:00 PM

Fifth Grade – 6:45 PM

Incoming Kindergarten Spring Visit

Kindergarteners starting next fall have an opportunity to come visit Madison School on Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Families will enjoy a tour of the school, kids will go to classrooms and learn a bit about kindergarten while parents go to the library to learn about Madison.

Calendar Changes!

Walk-A-Thon/Spring-A-Thon – Carnival – May 19 (calendar shows May 26)

Western Day/Learning Celebration – May 26 (calendar shows May 19)

Earth Day and Love Thy Neighbor Day

Madison students are continuing to participate in Community Service Projects this school year as we work to instill good citizenship and caring for those in our community. On April 21st classrooms will be taking a 'walking field trip' into our immediate neighborhood to deliver 'Thank You for Being Our Neighbor' cards to homes. Each class will also participate in cleaning up a portion of the Madison Campus to celebrate Earth Day.

Western Day and Learning Celebration

Each May Madison School enjoys 'Western Day'. On Western Day (May 26) staff and students dress up in their western gear and enjoy a grilled hot dog lunch outdoors. We always greet and eat with many parents on this fun day. This year we are adding another layer to the day: Learning Celebration!

The idea behind a 'Learning Celebration' is to continue to great conversations students have with their families at the October and February Parent/Teacher Conferences. At both the conferences, students show and share their learning using their Data Binder/Folder. Madison staff continue to assist students to add to their Data Binder/Folder after the February conferences but felt little emphasis was placed on the students' hard work and parents did not get to enjoy seeing the growth of their child from August to the end of the school year in May.

Please make plans to join us on Friday, May 26 during your child's lunch hour for a time to eat together, and be dazzled by your child's learning and enjoy one another's company. More details to follow.

School Start and End Times Changing for 2017-18 School Year

The Cedar Rapids Community School District will adjust start and end times by five minutes for elementary and middle schools **for the 2017-18 school year**. The revised schedule will provide bus drivers a full hour instead of 50 minutes to complete their elementary routes, ensuring that all students arrive to school in time for breakfast and start the school day with their peers.

"Under the current schedule some students are arriving late for breakfast, making for a rushed start to the day," explained Val Dolezal, Executive Administrator of Preschool – 8th grade.

"Adjusting the school times slightly is expected to resolve this. In addition, all of our schools will start at 50 minutes after the hour, which is easier for everyone to remember."

Starting with the 2017-18 school year:

- Elementary schools will **begin classes at 8:50 a.m. and dismiss at 3:50 p.m.** Early dismissal time will be 2:20 p.m.
- Middle schools will **begin classes at 7:50 a.m. and dismiss at 2:50 p.m.** Early dismissal time will be 1:20 p.m.
- High school classes will continue to **begin at 7:50 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.** Early dismissal will be at 1:30 p.m.

The 2017-18 calendar can be found on the District website at www.cr.k12.ia.us

Upcoming PTA Events

Madison Day at the Kernels – Sunday, April 23

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 1 – 5

PTA Meeting – May 4 – 5:30 – Library

Walk-A-Thon and Running Club Races – May 19 – 12:30 - 2:00

Spring-A-Thon Carnival – May 19 – 6:00 – 8:00

Calendar Reminders

April 10 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 10 – Garden Club 3:45 – 4:45

April 13 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 17 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 14 – No School

April 17 – Garden Club 3:45 – 4:45

April 20 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 21 – Early Dismissal – 2:15

April 21 – Earth Day Activities – all day

April 24 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 24 – Garden Club 3:45 – 4:45

April 27 – Running Club - 3:45 – 4:30

April 27 – Incoming Kindergarten Spring Visit – 6:00 – 7:00

April 28 – Early Dismissal – 2:15

May 5 – Early Dismissal – 2:15

May 12 – Kindergarten Author’s Luncheon

May 12 – Early Dismissal – 2:15

May 19 – Walk-A-Thon and Running Club Races– 12:30 – 2:00

May 19 – Spring-A-Thon Carnival – 6:00 – 8:00

May 19 – Early Dismissal – 2:15

May 26 – Western Day and Learning Celebration

May 26 – Early Dismissal

May 29 – No School – Memorial Day

June 1 – Mad-I-Sun Day

June 2 – Last Day of School – Early Dismissal – 2:15

Every Friday is Early Dismissal at 2:15!

Virtual Backpack

Check out the CRCSD Virtual Backpack for information and opportunities for families. Go to the link below to access information on the events/opportunities listed below.

<http://webapps.cr.k12.ia.us/virtualbackpack/FlyerLinks.aspx?school=Madison>

[Soccer Shots Noelridge Park Program - Event Date: \(4/8/2017 - 6/3/2017\)](#)

[Physics for Iowa Little - Event Date: \(4/21/2017 - 4/21/2017\)](#)

[Cedar Rapids Track Club - Event Date: \(4/10/2017 - 6/26/2017\)](#)

[Free Tutoring Opportunity - Event Date: \(5/11/2017 - 6/1/2017\)](#)

[Cedar Rapids March for Babies - Event Date: \(4/23/2017 - 4/23/2017\)](#)

[Cedar Rapids Arthritis Walk - Event Date: \(5/20/2017 - 5/20/2017\)](#)

***You can access Madison Highlights at <http://madison.cr.k12.ia.us/>**