

Madison Highlights

September 7, 2016

First PTA Meeting!

Thursday, September 8, 2016

5:30 – 6:30 in the library

We would love to have you join us!

Reminder: Donuts for Dads is this Friday from 8:00 – 8:45 in the café. Wear your favorite team gear. Please remain with your child until we have on-site supervision at 8:30.

Teaching Kindness, Charity, and Giving through a focus on Community Service

This school year, Madison staff and students are embarking on a journey of good citizenship through a focus on giving back to our community through Community Service projects. As a staff we reflected on how important it is to be a productive member of society. Teachers and staff are purposeful in teaching these concepts and ideals to our students in an ongoing manner. In our reflections we noted we lacked a ‘hands-on’ aspect to our instruction. As a result, we have determined the old adage, ‘It is better to give than receive’ is best taught using actual projects that have a positive impact on our community. Some of our celebrations are connected to traditional parties. As you can see by the chart below we have fewer ‘parties’ (No Halloween or Winter party) but many additional celebrations in conjunction with Community Service Projects.

Event	Date	Description
PTA’s Hall-O-Ween	October 28	An evening event in which students dress up in their Halloween costume and trick-or-treat the halls of Madison with hot cocoa in the café.
Linn County Food Bank Food Drive	November 14 - 22	Each grade level is given a different type of food and brings it in during the week. On November 22 nd we have an assembly and celebrate our efforts. Afterwards we head back to our classrooms for a tasty treat.

Sing-A-Long	December 21	We celebrate the holiday seasons by getting together as a community and singing holiday songs. Afterwards we head back to our classroom for a tasty treat.
Linus Project Madison's Grandparent's Day	Late January	In small groups or as classrooms we will be making fleece tie blankets to be donated to NICU, Shelters, or Nursing Homes. We share a tasty snack while we make the blankets. We enjoy all this with grandparents who are available to assist.
Valentine's Day Party Pennies For Patients	February 14 February 13 -23	In each classroom we share cards and goodies. We collect pennies for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
Earth Day	April 21	Each classroom is given a portion of the landscaping around Madison and take time to spruce it up.
Love Thy Neighborhood	Late April or Early May	Students make cards of thanks and deliver them to our wonderful neighbors in the Madison Community.

We will need a lot of volunteers to assist us in our endeavors. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these events and celebrations, please contact us!

Birthday Celebrations

Last year Madison School put the CRCSD's Wellness Policy into practice in the way we celebrate student birthdays. Each month we set aside a few minutes to celebrate students who have birthdays that particular month (We celebrate June and July birthdays in January and February). Students come to the café for a mouth-watering granola bar, enjoy the Birthday Song being sung to them by the Student Ambassadors and get a pencil from Mr. Girdner. We celebrated August birthdays last week!

In accordance with the CRCSD's Wellness Policy, birthday treats are graciously turned down and returned home uneaten. Thank you for your support of the healthy choices we are making for our students.

Madison Blues

Dr. Todd, one of our music teachers, is currently accepting fourth and fifth graders into the Madison Blues before school class. Students will be practicing each week on the first Day 1 of the week. They will be practicing from 7:45 AM to 8:30 AM. Madison Blues will be performing at Cocoa and Carols at

Kennedy High School in December and possibly have additional public performances the remainder of the school year. If your fourth or fifth grader did not bring home a sign-up form, let the office know.

Garden Club

Last call for students in third, fourth or fifth grade to join the Madison Garden Club! Matthew 25 partners with Madison School for this great opportunity. Students meet on Tuesdays from 3:45 to 4:45 in the art room and in the school garden. If your third, fourth or fifth grader did not bring home a sign-up form, let the office know.

Boy Scouts

Madison's Cub Scouts, Pack 88, is hosting their Cub Scout Recruitment Night on Monday, September 12 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM in the Madison café. There are sign-up sheets on a table in the main hall. Boys that join Cub Scouts will be entered in a raffle the new bike on display in the Madison foyer.

Operation Backpack

The HACAP food-reservoir partners with local schools to provide kid-friendly, non-perishable food for students for the weekend and school breaks. Madison also partners with Stonebridge Church who picks up the food and their youth program gets the food bagged for us and they bring to us on Friday's to distribute.

For those students who sign up, Mrs. Druschel will place a bag of food in their cubby at the end of the day Friday (early out) or whatever the last day of the week will be. We will start as soon as we get students signed up and Stonebridge Church can start on their end.

Students may join or discontinue the program at any point in the year. Please contact Mrs. Druschel, school counselor, if you are interested in signing up for this program.

Madison Supports Ronald McDonald House through Pop Tab Collection

POP TABS WANTED!! Madison Elementary School will be participating in The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois (RMHC – EIWI) ninth annual **Pop Tab Collection Contest!** Last year, Madison Elementary students, families, and staff collected over **137 pounds** of pop tabs and came in 1st out of the CRCSD schools!! We hope to encourage kids to learn about recycling and to contribute back to their community by simply collecting and turning in pop tabs again this year. There is some background information below explaining the pop tab collection program.

We have until **April 1, 2017** to collect and turn in pop tabs to RMHC-EI. Each classroom will have a cardboard Ronald McDonald house where students can put their pop tabs. The student ambassadors and Mrs. Druschel will collect the pop tabs from each classroom and keep a running count starting Monday, September 19th, 2016. We still have a large collection container in the school foyer as well. The two winning schools will be announced in April 2017 in coordination with Earth Day on April 22, 2017. RMHC-EIWI will coordinate with the two winning schools to plan the prize and presentation ceremony.

