

Madison Highlights and Happenings

October 8, 2016

From the Gym

My name is Kendra Holland and I am one of the PE teachers at Madison Elementary. I have recently set up a twitter account through the Cedar Rapids Community School District. I will plan on posting pictures of the different types of activities that I do with my students during gym class. Please feel free to follow me @CRHollandPE.

Second Grade Prime Time

Prime Time is a demanding academic program serving second and third grade students in the Cedar Rapids Community School District. Traditionally, the program has offered two semester-long units each academic year, varying in their content area and focus. Students participating in a unit are determined at the beginning of each semester based on screenings and other available data. The goal is to identify students showing the highest level of readiness for advanced work in a particular area. The small groups for Prime Time units usually meet twice a week for approximately 40 minutes.

For the 2016-2017 school year, the PACT department made the decision to use the time in the fall to explore ways to better identify and serve second grade students who demonstrate high potential. Interventions may look different in our diverse buildings, but all will share the same goal of identifying and developing students' talents. Second graders will, however, be screened for the semester-long Prime Time unit in the spring of 2017.

If you would like further information or have questions about Prime Time here at Madison, you may contact Ann Lassen: alassen@cr.k12.ia.us

PTA's Yankee Candle Fundraiser - **Sales Extended to 10/14**

Due to the week of no school and the confusion brought by many individuals receiving another school's group number, PTA has decided to extend the Yankee Candle Fundraiser through Friday, October 14.

Thank you for your support of the Madison PTA!

The Yankee Candle Fundraiser is the PTA's major source of income to support all the activities and projects they generously provide Madison students. Please consider all the great things which result from this fundraiser for our students and then consider purchasing or selling to friends, family members and co-workers.

Counselor's Corner

<https://www.smores.com/uyv4z-counselor-s-corner>

In this edition of the Counselor's Corner:

- Coats for Kids-Coat Giveaway
- Toys for Tots and Holiday Food Registration
- Classroom Guidance and Growth Mindset

*Home connection

Painting

It is Madison's turn to have the interior painted. The CRCSD uses a ten-year rotation schedule to paint the interior of schools. Many people wonder why the buildings are not painted in the summer when there are no students. One reason is the conflict of cleaning the buildings and painting at the same time. Another is the lack of personnel. With over thirty buildings in the district, it is not feasible to have each building painted in the summer without a huge crew! The paint crew will begin working at Madison on Tuesday, October 11. Students will be displaced from their rooms for up to two days and relocated in room 109 while their classroom is painted. The paint is a low-odor latex which dries quickly.

Conferences

Madison School will be using an online sign-up system for conferences coming up on October 20th and October 25th. We will be using the PTCFast website to sign up for conferences. On Monday October 10, 2016 your child will be sent home with a short letter with information for you to use when signing up for conferences. The letter will have the website you need to log onto as well as a code specific to your child. You will need the code in order to sign up. If you do not have access to the internet, you will need to contact your child's teacher to sign-up for conferences. We believe this process will make the sign-up experience go quickly and smoothly for everyone.

Hall-O-Ween

Madison PTA hosts Hall-O-Ween each school year providing a safe indoor venue for Trick-or-Treating. Students dress up in their Halloween costume, enter the building from the west entrance and Trick-or-Treat the halls ending up in the café for some hot cocoa. This year PTA is adding some great games in the gym! It is a great time!!!

In order to make the event a success, PTA needs candy and volunteers! Sign up using the SignUpGenius link below.

[Madison Elementary HALL-O-Ween](#)

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0b4ea8a72da13-madison>

Snow Gear Exchange

PTA is organizing a 'Snow Gear Exchange' from October 17 – 27. The idea is for families to go through last year's snow gear (hats, boots, coats, gloves and snowpants) determine which items the kids have outgrown and are in good condition and drop them off at school. These items will then be made available to other Madison families. More information about the process coming soon!

Upcoming PTA Events

Snow Gear Exchange – October 17 - 27

Hall-O-Ween Event – Thursday, October 27 – 6:30 – 8:00

Calendar Reminders

Early Dismissal on Friday, **October 14th** – Students are dismissed at 2:15.

Family Conference Night, **Thursday, October 20th** – 4:00 – 7:00.

America Reads Day, **Friday, October 21st**.

Early Dismissal on Friday, **October 21st** – Students are dismissed at 2:15.

Family Conference Night, **Tuesday, October 25th** – 4:00 – 7:00.

No School on Friday, **October 28th**

Every Friday is Early Dismissal at 2:15!

Virtual Backpack

Check out the CRCSO 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>

[Pink the Rink - Event Date: \(10/21/2016 - 10/21/2016\)](#)

[UI Children's Hospital Grand Opening Community Event - Event Date: \(11/5/2016 - 11/6/2016\)](#)

[Kennedy Cougar Den On-line Order Pick-up - Event Date: \(10/5/2016 - 10/28/2016\)](#)

[Volunteer for FIRST LEGO League in Cedar Rapids - Event Date: \(11/12/2016 - 11/12/2016\)](#)

[Between Friends Book Club Flyer - Event Date: \(10/3/2016 - 6/5/2017\)](#)

[Cougar Volleyball Club Information - Event Date: \(10/3/2016 - 10/17/2016\)](#)

[Playtime Poppy 2016-17 Season - Event Date: \(10/27/2016 - 4/22/2017\)](#)

Madison's Website

We are working to improve the Madison School website.

Improvements include:

- Updated pictures (see all the pictures from Muffins with Moms!)
- A link to Madison Highlights with archived editions
- Calendar of upcoming events

The web address is: <http://madison.cr.k12.ia.us/>

We will continue to work on improving this resource.

Cedar Rapids Comm School Dist would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Cedar Rapids Comm School Dist directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm:

[Unsubscribe](#)

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