



MADISON MEMO

650 Territorial Road NE | Blaine, MN | 55434 | 763-506-3300

Dorothy M. Olsen, Principal

September 2019

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September 11

PTO Meeting, 6:30 PM, Media Center

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Mustang-a-thon

Important Numbers

Absence Line: 763-506-3306

Main Office: 763-506-3300

Kitchen: 763-506-3311

Adventures Plus: 763-506-3313

Community School: 763-506-3312

Fax: 763-506-3303

Web: www.ahschools.us/madison

Twitter: @AH_Madison



Dear Madison Families,

Welcome to the start of the 2019-2020 school year! It was wonderful to see so many families at Open House and I extend a special welcome to our new families at Madison. The "Madison Memo" will be available both electronically and in hard copy. Beginning in January, 2020, it will only be available electronically. Thank you for reviewing the information each month.

We welcome the following new staff to Madison:

Kate Aschliman - Mental Health Therapist

Lucy Murzyn - Nurse

Sally Pearson - Media Specialist

Melissa Eilertson - Explorations Teacher

Akiko Bureau - Elementary Para

Nicole Holley - EL Teacher

After working at Madison for 18 years, Mrs. Jean Parupsky, Grade 3 teacher, submitted her letter of retirement this summer. We thank her for her commitment to Madison students and wish her all the best as she moves on to new adventures!

Regular attendance sets up a good pattern for your child's entire school year. Please put school first by trying to keep days off for illnesses and family emergencies. We also appreciate when routine doctor and dentist appointments are scheduled for after school or over school breaks.

Madison teachers work hard to help every student reach their potential, are dedicated to your children and value the support of our families. Working together, we can make great things possible during the 2019-2020 school year!

Your principal,

Dorothy M. Olsen

Anoka-Hennepin seeks parents/guardians to participate in Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

Anoka-Hennepin is seeking parents/guardians to join the district's Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) for the 2019-20 school year.

Specifically, SEAC (pronounced "seek") is comprised of parents/guardians of students in the district who receive Special Education services. The intent of SEAC is to advise the Anoka-Hennepin School District on different aspects of special education, such as policies, procedures, and communication.

"It's a way for us to get the perspective of parents/guardians, and then try to improve our services and programming, and processes and procedures," said Stacey Dahlby, the district's director of Special Education for secondary schools. "And it's a chance for parents/guardians to give us feedback on the impact these areas have on students with disabilities."

The first SEAC meeting will be held on October 11, with three other meetings to follow on November 14, February 27 and April 16. Child care is provided by the district, and meetings are always held at the district's Educational Service Center (ESC), located at 2727 North Ferry Street in Anoka. Meetings begin at 5:30 PM with a light meal, and the meeting commences at 6:00 PM and last about an hour and a half.

Topics will be generated ahead of time, based on district initiatives and SEAC member feedback. Those interested should RSVP by contacting Mary Gale at 763-506-1362, or Mary.Gale@ahschools.us. Parents/guardians who wish to be part of SEAC are asked to make an effort to attend all four meetings as council members.

Volunteer Corner

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! We have a great year with many fun events before us and will need many volunteers to help make these a success for our students. Please consider giving of your time and talents by volunteering to take part in these opportunities.

The Anoka-Hennepin School District requires that volunteers complete an application process each school year. Please note, some volunteer opportunities, including field trip chaperones, challenge reading and math plus leaders and book fair workers require additional processing by the volunteer coordinator. Please notify the volunteer coordinator at least two weeks prior to volunteering for these opportunities.

- Complete a Volunteer Application Form. The application can be found on Madison's website under the involvement tab and volunteer opportunities. All applications are online this year. You will need to set up a new account and password.
- Complete the Criminal Record History Release Form online. If you do not have Internet access, please contact the volunteer coordinator for a paper copy.
- The Volunteer Coordinator will contact you by email once the paperwork is processed.
- When volunteering, please sign in and out in the school office and wear a nametag while in the building. Other helpful information can be found in the Volunteer Handbook, located on Madison's website or from the volunteer coordinator.

Here is a list of our current and upcoming volunteer opportunities:

Breakfast Helpers:

Volunteers are needed to help during school breakfast as students enter, select their breakfast and then dump their garbage and put away their trays. Breakfast helpers are needed from 8:15 to 8:45 AM.

Lunchroom Helpers:

We need volunteers to help with our younger students in the lunchroom during the first weeks of school as they learn the lunch routine and memorize their Student ID numbers.

Weekly Packets (Staple Club):

We need volunteers to staple take-home papers on Tuesdays @ 2:15 PM in the cafeteria. This will be ongoing through the school year. This is a great way to keep papers going home organized and distributed.

Mustang-A-Thon:

The Madison PTO Mustang-A-Thon is Friday, September 27. We need several volunteers to help during this fun event. Please contact Sue Pomeroy ASAP for details.

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students):

Calling all men! We need male role models to volunteer one day during the school year. To learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity, please RSVP for our pizza launch dinner on October 10 at 6:15 PM. I will also need several volunteers to help serve the pizza that evening.

Clerical Projects At School:

We have ongoing clerical needs throughout the school year from our teachers. These can include making copies, sorting, cutting, laminating, etc. If you are interested, please contact Sue Pomeroy for more information.

At Home Projects:

There are several opportunities to help even if you're not able to volunteer during school hours. Teachers frequently need laminated projects cut out and sorted. If you are interested, please contact Sue Pomeroy for more information.

Challenge Reading:

We are looking for several individuals that would be willing to lead a challenge reading group after school. The goal of challenge reading is to provide additional, on-going literature experiences for interested students in K-5 grades. Please contact me if you are interested. Training and materials are provided by the district. The first training is 10/22/19.

K Skillbuilder:

We are looking for volunteers to work one-on-one practicing literacy and math with kindergarten students. Training and materials are provided. The first training will be 9/24/19.

Thank you for supporting staff and students at Madison!

Sue Pomeroy

Volunteer Services Coordinator

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 AM - 3:15 PM / (763) 506-3340 / susan.pomeroy@ahschools.us

PTO Corner

Madison PTO is excited about the new school year! Please review the PTO Welcome Packet. It includes our meeting dates, scheduled activities, and our contact information. Even if you have not joined us in the past, please do so this year.

Our first PTO meeting will be held Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 PM in the Media Center. We would love for as many parents and staff as possible to join us. All are welcome!

The 12th annual Mustang-a-Thon will be held Friday, September 27. Students will be encouraged to ask family and friends to pledge them for this event. Money raised from the Mustang-a-Thon will be used towards projects such as field trip assistance, teacher reimbursements for classroom supplies, Patrol Camp, WATCH Dog supplies, Destination Imagination t-shirts, and much more! In recent years, we raised money for a climbing wall in the gym and a gaga ball pit on the playground! On the day of the Mustang-a-thon, we will be walking on the sidewalk and trails around Madison. Please come the day of the event to help cheer on the students and celebrate Madison pride!

Madison Mustang Spiritwear is available for sale through our current inventory. If you wish to purchase a shirt before the Mustang-a-Thon, this is an opportunity to do so.

Support Madison PTO when you shop Amazon. [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) offers cash back on each purchase you make to support charitable organizations. Simply go to smile.amazon.com when you shop. It is the same great Amazon shopping experience and same prices too. The first time you go to this site it will ask you to choose your charitable organization. Please choose "Madison PTO, Blaine, MN" When you do, the school will receive a percentage of every purchase you make going forward and it doesn't cost you a penny! Thanks for your support!

Join the Madison PTO group on Facebook for the latest updates and reminders! Search "Madison Elementary Happenings (Madison PTO)" and click join!

Attendance

From the desk of Ms. Megan, our health para, please make note of these changes:

New school hours this year are:

- First bell rings at 8:35 AM
- Tardy bell rings at 8:45 AM
- School ends at 3:15 PM

If your child is going to be absent, please call the ATTENDANCE LINE at 763-506-3306 before 9:30 AM.

Attendance is now being done by an automated system.

1. Teachers take attendance soon after the 8:45 AM bell rings. They indicate if a student is absent.
2. Any students who arrive after the bell rings, must check in at the office.
3. The office will update the student's attendance.
4. The parents of any students who are still marked UNVERIFIED as of 9:30 AM will be contacted by the automated system. Parents may receive phone calls, texts and/or emails.

5. Those parents must then call the ATTENDANCE LINE at 763-506-3306 to update the office.

Thank you for your patience as we are all learning this new routine for attendance.

Madison Memo is Going Digital

Starting with the January 2020 edition, the Madison Memo will be distributed using the parent/guardian email information in the *My Student Info*, which is located under Anoka Hennepin Lock & Key. Please ensure your email address, as well as all your student information, is up-to-date. Access instructions to *My Student Info* are on the following page. Please contact **763-506-HELP** or **506HELP@ahschools.us** for assistance.