



Madison Academy

SCHOOLDAZE NEWS

September 18, 2009

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE:

September 15-30

Fall Scantron
Grades 2-8

Deadlines:

Complete and current **Emergency Card** information (with active phone number for emergency contact) and **Signed Permissions Page** (the last page of the handbook must be completed for each student) are both due to the Main Office before Friday the 26th or students will not be permitted to attend beginning Monday the 28th.

Math Department:

Here at Madison Academy we are striving for a better education for your children. Throughout the course of the year our main objective is to find the best materials to help with instruction. In order to get and keep each student motivated, we need to make learning as fun and enjoyable as possible. We are hoping to attain these goals by using out-of-the-box thinking and very imaginative approaches to teaching.

The math committee consists of eight teachers from different grade levels and Timothy Stokes, a parent volunteer. With this configuration we can fulfill all of your students needs for math, because we get the views from students in our classroom and some of your views from our parent volunteer.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Math committee with any questions, comments or suggestions that you may have.

Please send all questions to jkelly@madison-academy.org

Thank you,

Madison Academy Math Committee



Social Studies Department:

The Social Studies Committee goal is to teach students to apply historical and geographical skills in an effort to bring meaning to current issues and events. We do this by utilizing a hands-on project based curriculum that allows students to engage in active inquiry and critical and creative thinking.

The purpose of the Social Studies Committee is threefold. We collaboratively evaluate course content, develop methods of evaluating student progress, and exchange information about learning and teaching resources that can be utilized in our curriculum. We are currently looking for a parent volunteer to join our committee. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Hirth via email at: mhirth@madison-academy.org. You may also email Mrs. Hirth if you have any ideas or suggestions that will enhance our program. We look forward to hearing from the parents - our partners in education.

English Language Arts Department:

The committee of Madison Academy English Language Department approaches the teaching of ELA with the simple goal of assisting students in their journey as they become more critical readers, thoughtful writers, in-tuned listeners, and effective speakers. This process begins as young as Kindergarten and will continue to build throughout their education and into adulthood. At Madison Academy we strive to give students the necessary tools they need to not only achieve this goal, but to also enjoy the journey. We expect students to read carefully, speak deliberately, and revise their writing regularly. We believe in the merits of empathizing with a character, speaker or even an author whose life or experience may take us beyond our own lives. More than anything, we have a love for the word. Whenever possible, teachers use art, music and film to broaden students' understanding of the theme or setting of a literary work. Of course, as with any great quest, it takes a team to ensure success in the journey.

In the same way invaluable treasures are stored in a safety deposit box, with two keys needed to unlock it, it takes the teacher and support from home to unlock the excitement of the literary world within each student. The ELA committee welcomes and encourages questions from our community of parents/guardians that will contribute to this learning process. Our parent contributor, Monika Ehrlich, brings to the committee a vast literary background from her experience as both an English high school teacher and now a college professor. Ms. Ehrlich will be an invaluable asset to our committee.

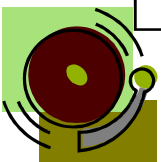
Feel free to contact the school either through phone or email, attention to the ELA Committee, with your preferred way to communicate, and someone will follow-up with you promptly.



Campus Safety:

With today's changing times, it is important to make sure our school is prepared for any emergencies, catastrophes, or unexpected events. Keeping this in mind, Madison Academy has formed a Crisis Team to review, modify, and implement specific procedures from a crisis manual for the students and staff to follow in the event of a crisis. The crisis manual is a document that is under continuous review to make sure that our school has a safety procedure and process for any unfortunate event that may arise. Keeping our learning environment safe for our students is a top priority for Madison Academy.

My name is Laurie Miller and I am the chair of the Crisis Team. Our team consists of teachers representing various grade levels. We are looking for a parent to join our team. The Crisis Team meets 2-3 times per month for about one hour. Recently, we have been meeting on Monday at 3:45p.m. Parents are an important part of the team and we value their input. If anyone is interested in joining our Crisis Team, please contact me at 655-2949 ext. 120. Thank you for your time and cooperation!
lmiller@madison-academy.org



911

PTO:

The PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization) of Madison Academy is here to serve the parents, students, and staff of this school. The PTO is an organized group with acting officers. Shelley Larson is the PTO president. Lisa Willey is the vice president. Julie Jonascu is the secretary and Correen Morones is the treasurer.

The PTO is in charge of fundraising for the school, coordinating parent volunteers, and organizing some extra curricular activities. All of the monies raised or acquired by the PTO directly fund Madison Academy education, activities, and athletic events.

Several projects are already in the works, including the purchase of a security buzzer system for the doors of the school and our first fundraiser of the year.

We invite parents to attend monthly PTO meetings. Look for announcements in the weekly school newsletters and in student planners. If you cannot attend a meeting, you can acquire the minutes of the meetings by e-mail request.

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” ~Henry Ford

We are working together to make Madison Academy successful!!!

Athletic Department:

Hello to all new and returning students and parents. There have been a number of changes to the athletic department over the summer in order to create a more comprehensive athletic program. Should you have any questions regarding after school activities please do not hesitate to contact the Athletic Director Matt Mills, e-mail is the most effective way (mmills@madison-academy.org) however I do return phone calls! (810-655-2949). Another great resource is the athletics website which can be found at www.madison-academy.org, then click on the athletics link. I will endeavor to keep this as up to date as possible so please check there for information on a regular basis.

Girl's volleyball (grades 4-8) and boy's soccer have both begun practicing, they will be playing games throughout October so please come and support our teams. A number of other sports will be starting soon; more information about this will be coming.

On a final note students who owe any money to the school, whether it be for lunches purchased, uniforms or anything else, your child will not be allowed to participate in afterschool events. If you owe any money to the school please make sure it is paid as soon as possible. Thanks.

