

# Madison News

NOVEMBER 2010

## Student Led Conferences

“Students Learning to Set and Achieve Goals”

Madison staff are currently gearing up for our Student Led Conferences. We are excited that there is a time slot for each and every parent to meet about the progress of their child. Conferences are Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> (4–8 pm) and Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> (1–8 pm), with an early release time of 12:30 pm on Wednesday. ***There will be no school for Madison students on Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.*** By now you should have received a scheduling letter to select a 20 minute conference time. Please fill it out and return it to the office as soon as possible as we will schedule conferences on a first come-first served basis.

During the conference, both parents and teachers will listen to students as they use their portfolios to present what they are learning and their grade progress. One of the main purposes of these conferences is to identify goals to provide the student support needed for continued skill development. In preparation for conferences, students will practice goal setting and communication skills. Students are also thinking about their work and what they wish to accomplish this year.

With students in charge of the conference, an agenda with a check list will be used to assure planned areas are covered. Tests, assignment samples, progress reports and teacher comments will be included. As we move closer to our conferences, we hope to see evidence of student expressions of creativity, resourcefulness, understanding, respect and love of learning. Your attendance and participation are very important and will help make this a successful event for everyone involved.

**Parental participation is key to the success of student led conferences!!**

### Madison Strings

Parents, did you know Madison has a great Orchestra program? They perform several times throughout the year and there are still openings! If you are interested in having your student join, call Vira in the front office at 541-790-4305.



- 2 Site Council 3:45 pm
- 5 **NO SCHOOL for Madison students!**
- 9 Student Led Conferences  
4 - 8 pm
- 10 Early Release @ 12:30 pm  
  
Student Led Conferences  
1:00 - 8:00 pm
- 11 **NO SCHOOL**
- 12 **NO SCHOOL**
- 16 MPO Mtng. 7:00 pm
- 18 Talent Show 7:00 pm
- 19 Early Release @ 12:30 pm  
Mid-Sem. Progress Rptrs.
- 25 **NO SCHOOL**
- 26 **NO SCHOOL**



# Principal's Letter:



If you have watched the news or read the paper lately, you have seen stories about students being harassed and bullied. These stories have at times had tragic endings. Each year I am reminded that this topic is the one we must constantly address with our students. As educators and parents it is important to teach our children how harassment manifests itself, and to teach them what to do about it when it happens.

No student should ever have to experience being bullied or harassed. Unfortunately, from time to time, bullies or harassers at school victimize other students. Students need to know what to do about it in a responsible way. Some of the bullying takes place in the form of physical intimidation - i.e., threats of being hurt, pushing, shoving, and sometimes even fighting. Other bullying takes the form of vicious teasing, sometimes called harassment because of the fear that it strikes in the hearts of its targets.

The staff at Madison Middle School is making a concerted effort to work with all our students to provide a school environment where everyone feels welcomed and safe in our school. We have orange forms called *Incident Reporting Forms*. *All staff members have these forms. We ask students to fill one out and give to an adult when harassment or bullying occurs. All forms are acted upon by the administration and are used for documentation.*

This year we are piloting a program called *Expect Respect*. *These lessons are being taught in Advisory. The four-part program focuses on the role and the power of bystanders. Through role-playing, videos, and discussion, students learn the power bystanders have to stop bullying. Students are taught and practice strategies for stopping bullying as well as developing a personal safety plan.*

We continue making headway in our effort to stop harassment and bullying. However, we are realistic and know this is a continual process of teaching and re-teaching. Again, students at Madison know there is a documentation process for reporting harassment. This can be done at the classroom level or in the office. Further, students know that any staff member can help them when they are unable to do it on their own. They also know they are not to threaten others with physical harm or in other ways force someone to do something that s/he does not want to do. Instead, they are to focus on their own behavior, go about their own business, and let the other person go about theirs.

Students have become more sensitive to words that hurt people of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. However, we have more work to do to help our students understand the hurt and fear caused by teasing and harassment that too often occurs as they study and hang out together. You can help us at home by talking with your student about the serious hurt caused by all harassment. Talk to them about what they see at school. Ask them what they can do about it, even as a bystander. Together, we can help them become more sensitive to the impact of their words and actions on others.~

Rick Gaultney

# Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible!

# Students of the Month

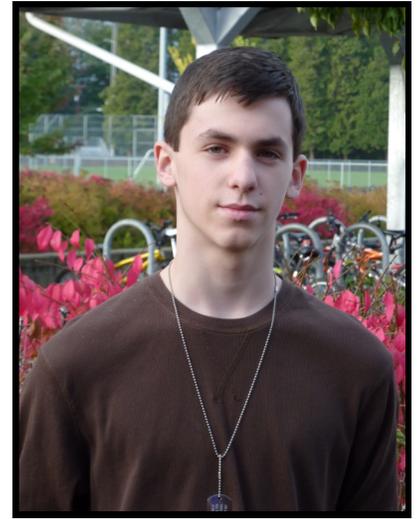
## October



**6th Grader  
Brandon Hertz**



**7th Grader  
Salvador Garcia**



**8th Grader  
Anthony Sparks**



**6th Grader  
Hanna Briggs**



**7th Grader  
Ally Ganchegui**



**8th Grader  
Brooklyn Kelley**

Congratulations to Madison's October Students of the Month! Reasons that these student have received this award include academic performance, academic improvement, and/or good citizenship. Each month, teachers nominate a boy and a girl for Student of the Month and then staff members vote on the nominated students. One boy and one girl from each grade level receives the Student of the Month honor. Students of the Month have their names read during the daily announcements and will have a pizza lunch with Mr. Gaultney They also get to invite a friend to come with them for this special occasion!

# CONGRATULATIONS!!!

# INFLATEABLES



## Safety Tips for Riding LTD

If you plan to cross the street after getting off an LTD bus, please cross *behind* the bus. Wait on the sidewalk for the LTD bus to pull away from the curb, then using a marked crosswalk if available, cross the street when you have a safe interval between traffic.

The rules are different than when you are riding on a yellow school bus, where the driver expects you to cross in front of the bus. Here's why: regular traffic is not allowed to pass a school bus that is stopped and has its red lights flashing. But traffic is allowed to pass by an LTD bus. If you cross the street in front of an LTD bus, you may not see oncoming traffic before it's too late. We want you to be safe!

Also, did you know that LTD is part of the national Safe Place program? The program allows LTD bus operators and staff to provide youth with immediate help and safety. If ever you feel threatened, you can ask a bus operator to help you and as a daily practice, it's a great idea to sit toward the front of the bus, closer to the driver.

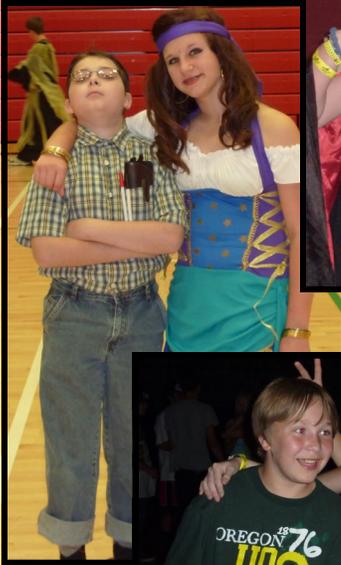


## Family Fun Night Donations Needed!!

The Madison Parent Organization is asking for donations to support our Positive Behavior System as well as prizes for our annual Family Fun Night. If you are a business owner or if your employer is interested in donating money or a gift certificate in exchange for the Madison Parent Organization advertising for you, please contact Nancy Collie at 790-4313 or [collie\\_n@4j.lane.edu](mailto:collie_n@4j.lane.edu)

**8th Grade Parent Meeting**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 17**  
**6:30 pm in the Library**

# ACTIVITY NIGHT



# SPIRIT WEEK

RETRO DAY

TWINS DAY



TEAM COLORS DAY

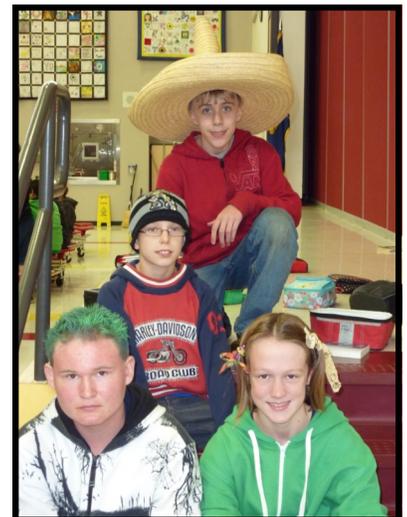


# SPIRIT WEEK

CLASH DAY



CRAZY HAIR/HAT DAY



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# We Love Our Volunteers!!

Looking for involvement and fun at Madison? Check out these upcoming volunteer opportunities. Some are one-time-only while others are ongoing. You may contact Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Collie at 790-4313 or email her at [collie\\_n@4j.lane.edu](mailto:collie_n@4j.lane.edu). *When volunteering at Madison, please remember to sign in and out in the front office and get a volunteer badge.*

## **Coming Up:**

- **Talent Show:** Need 2 parents to take/sell admission tickets (*Nov. 18, 6:40 pm*)
- **PBS Celebration:** Help with popcorn and cookies (*Dec. 3, 2:45-3:30 pm*)
- **Monarch Celebration:** Help set up, monitor event, and clean up (*Dec. 16, 2:30-3:30 pm*)

## **Mentors Needed!!!!**

If you or anyone you know are interested in being a Mentor for a student at Madison, we would love to have you! Please contact Nancy Collie at 790-4313.

## **A Big Thank You!**

Thanks so much to all of our wonderful parent volunteers who have shown their support at Madison by helping in the office, library, classrooms and at special events. A special thank you goes out to all the parent chaperones and staff for helping make our Fall Activity Night a fun and successful evening. We understand your time is valuable and want you to know how much you are appreciated!.