

## PTO Meeting

with public and Principal and Superintendent

9/8/2021

1. Kenji Matsudo, superintendent, spoke first. He introduced himself and told a bit about his family.
  - He feels like we have gotten off to a great start at MES.
  - In November, a bond and operating levy for the school district will be decided upon. This particular levy addresses concerns on our growing enrollment. This is a one vote, up or down, decision. Operating levies are generally 3 year levies, but they try to make them last 5 years.
    - Mr. Matsudo feels: If the Nov 2021 levy does not pass, the issue will need to be addressed in November 2022, with a higher millage rate at that point. Modular units will be used for several years if that is the case.
    - How does Madeira City School District address our growing enrollment? A lot of young families are moving into this district. Mr. Matsudo and his administrators have been watching the enrollment trend for the last 4-6 years.
      - An enrollment study was done in 2016 and 2018-19.
      - Preschool had to move to the church in order to make room, which has been a great partnership.
      - Aides and additional sections have been added.
      - This 2021-22 school yr required the addition of the modular units (currently used by two 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms).
      - What to do when we get to the middle school? It is currently a 5,6,7,8<sup>th</sup> grade bldg. A feasibility study was done this past school year. In 2023-24 we will be out of space at the middle school. Based on how the middle school sits on the lot, there is limited space to add modular units at MMS.
      - The decision from the Brd was to add an add'l facility at MES, so in 2023-24 MES will be K-5. A mock-up of an addition to the elementary school was shown (Two story addition).
    - Mr. Matsudo explained the basics of the levy. The cost to families will be \$217 per \$100,000 HCA market value (lower for senior citizens). The prediction is that enrollment will keep growing. How can we help, according to Mr. Matsudo? Volunteer with "Residents for Madeira Schools," which is trying to rally our district around the bond and operating levy. He displayed a QR which will lead a reader to more info on district finances and levies. PTO send out a copy of his slide presentation.
2. Chris Flanagan, MES principal, spoke next.

He spoke about the importance of the first 6 wks of elementary school. They have spent these first few weeks building community, within their classrooms and within the bldg.

What can we do as parents? Continue to support your child: keep a routine at bedtime, volunteer, homework encouragement, etc.

He was pleased with the success of the Meet the Teacher nights.

He stated that the MES staff are working trying to plan for and protect against COVID as best they can. He pays particular attention to mask wearing among the students.

3. Yoon Kramer, PTO President, spoke next. She spoke about the various sources of funding for PTO:

- Membership dues.
- Yearbooks are ready to pick up from 2020-21.
- Box tops (no cutting needed!).
- Amazon Smiles is another way to send money to MES PTO.

Yoon spoke about committee positions. If a position is filled, that doesn't mean there is no need for help! Parents should feel free to inquire about ways to help.

4. A recent event: Coffee truck in late August 2021 for the teachers at MES and Pre-school. The teachers loved it. This event cost the PTO under \$500.

5. Upcoming events:

- Picture day in September. Volunteers are needed.
- Changing Hands sale: Saturday, September 18, 2021. Prior to the launch of the Changing Hands sale years ago, MES kids raised funds by selling gift wrap, magazines, etc. For September's sale, volunteers are still needed. The community can shop or consign or volunteer before, during, or at clean-up for the event.

6. Andrea Harth, PTO Treasurer, spoke about the PTO budget.

- Last year, without the Changing Hands sale due to COVID, the big fundraiser was our Membership drive. Last year, overall, we made \$10K, spent \$17K. \$9K of that went back to the school for iPads. 25% of what we made went to Teacher Appreciation in the form of tech purchases for teachers. We spent \$1600 on Got Art week.
- We are hoping, this year, the Changing Hands sales (combined sales of both Fall and Spring sales) makes \$17K. We intend to spend a generous amount on teacher appreciation, teacher meals. We are hoping COSI can come this year.
- A view of the budget will be posted in the re-cap of the meeting. On the MES PTO website, Online form for expense reimbursement is posted.

7. Next mtg: Wed, Oct 13. Yoon closed the meeting.