

During the 2006-2007 school year, class sizes rose to a point where two sections will no longer facilitate the enrollment numbers in some grade levels. Therefore, the district planned to create 3 sections for grades K-3. The ability to support these additional classrooms is not possible for the long term under the current elementary building structure. These additional sections were added during the 2007-2008 school year, but this was only able to be done by combining some classes, moving some classes, and turning one of the administrative building rooms into a morning classroom for the year. If there is the need for an additional section in grades 4-6 during the 2007-2008 school year, the elementary, literally, does not have any space to put another class.

The enrollment projections provided by the Iowa Department of Education for Madrid during the next five years, especially in the elementary, are quite dramatic. Even though these are projections, and no one has the proverbial “crystal ball” to look into, these projections are usually quite close. And with the addition of a new development south of town, these projections may be conservative. During the 2009-2010 school year, six of the seven grades in the elementary are projected to be over 50 students, and in 2010-2011, all seven are projected to be over 50 students per grade. During this time, there is a total K-12 projected enrollment growth from a 2006-2007 enrollment of 612 students to a projected enrollment of 677 in the 2011-2012 school year. This is an enrollment growth of over 10% in just five years.

The vote will be on Tuesday, December 4, 2007.

Some permissible uses for PPEL funding

Some of the permissible uses for the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy include: purchase and improvement of grounds; construction of schoolhouses or buildings and opening roads to schoolhouses or buildings; purchase of buildings and the purchase, lease, or lease-purchase of a single unit of equipment or technology exceeding five hundred dollars in value; payment of debts contracted for the erection or construction of schoolhouses or buildings; procuring or acquisition of library facilities; repairing, remodeling, reconstructing, improving, or expanding the schoolhouses or buildings and additions to existing schoolhouses; expenditures for energy conservation; rental of facilities under chapter 28E; purchase of transportation equipment for transporting students; lease-purchase option agreements for school buildings and for equipment exceeding in value five thousand dollars per single unit; equipment purchases for recreational purposes.

PPEL funds **CANNOT** be used for wages or benefits of school employees.

Local Area School Districts FY 2007 PPEL Tax Rates* (Includes both board and voter-approved PPEL)

Ankeny Community School District	\$1.67
Gilbert Community School District	\$1.67
Johnston Community School District	\$1.67
Saydel Community School District	\$1.67
West Des Moines Community School District	\$1.67
Boone Community School District	\$1.67
Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District	\$1.28
Ogden Community School District	\$1.18
Ballard Community School District	\$1.00
Bondurant-Farrar Community School District	\$1.00

North Polk Community School District	\$1.00
Woodward-Granger Community School District	\$.33
Madrid Community School District	\$.33

For Further Information

Madrid Community School District welcomes your comments and suggestions about the additional PPEL levy. Please feel free to contact:

Brian Horn	Sandy Johnson
Superintendent	Business Manager
515-795-3241	515-795-3241

OR any of the following members of the Board of Directors:

Terry Ostendorf	Lou Galetich
Linda Ahrens	Emily Schieltz
Marvin Ostrander	

*Source: Iowa Department of Management

(Note: All future dollar amounts are approximate and based on current District taxable valuation.)

FIRST GRADE FUNDAMENTALS

What a great Fall we have had! School has gotten off to a great start and our first graders have been working hard on following the rules and using good listening skills. Mrs. Becker, the Guidance Counselor, has been helping us with the Pillars of Character. We are trying our best to be good students!

In reading we have just finished the first book and have taken a unit test. We are working on word fluency lists and enjoying reading stories. Our favorite had to be “Peanut Butter and Jam”. It is about two bears who are going on a picnic but need to go grocery shopping first. Any help that parents can give in practicing the words and word lists would be greatly appreciated. We can use that time as part of the “PAWS and READ” minutes. The K-6th grades are working together to read to one million minutes. That will take a lot of reading!

In math we have begun to work on addition and number sentences. We have even practiced a doubles rap that helps with facts that have two addends that are the same. You can’t truly experience rap until you’ve done it with a class of eager first graders.

Just a reminder that the weather is changing. A check of the weather each morning may be necessary to determine whether a jacket or a pair of shorts is needed. The weather in Iowa is just not to be counted on unless it is for inconsistency.

We’re all hoping to see you at conferences. Enjoy the lovely Fall weather while you may.

Haley Hippen, Nikki Paradise-Williams, and Linda Silver, First Grade Teachers

THIRD GRADE THOUGHTS

With the first quarter of school over, the students (and teachers) are well into the routine of school with our schedules easier to remember and follow.

Cursive writing has begun with the students learning and practicing many letters and forming those letters into words. The students are enthusiastically looking forward to writing in cursive this year.

Positive work and study skills will be taught all year. Each student is encouraged to organize his/her time to stay with an assignment until it is neatly and correctly completed on time.

Homework consists of two types. Most unfinished work should be taken home daily, completed, and then returned to school the following day. On Tuesday, an assignment will be given specifically as homework. The same guidelines should be followed: taking the assignment home, completing it, and returning it on Wednesday.

Corrected work is usually sent home each Friday. We encourage parents/guardians to sit down with their child to discuss this together; stressing the positive and encouraging their child to do his/her best.

We want to thank all our parents who have volunteered to provide snacks for the students in their child's class. The students look forward to the daily snack time, and these healthy snacks help keep the students' attention on their schoolwork rather than on their grumbly, rumbly tummies, since we eat lunch at 12:30 daily.

On October 5th, the third graders took an all-day field trip to Living History Farms. Students enjoyed visiting and learning about life in Iowa from the time of the Ioway Indians through the pioneer settlements of the mid-1800's and the farms of the early 1900's. This was of particular interest to the students since they study pioneers as part of the third grade social studies curriculum.

We want to thank our parents/guardians for the cooperation and support you have given us so far this year.

Denise Hiveley, Annette Polich, and Mandy Zimmerman, Third Grade Teachers

FIRST RATE FIFTH GRADE

What a great start we've had this school year! It's hard to believe that fall conference time is upon us.

The fifth graders are working from our McGraw-Hill language arts series. We finished our study of sentences, and we've been working on unit 2 nouns.

The students were quite creative in collecting and displaying their items for the Nature Scavenger Hunt project earlier in the fall. Ms. Huisman was very proud of their efforts. In our new science series we are working the life science unit studying classifying, cells, plants, and ecosystems.

In Ms. Huisman's homeroom a different student is featured each week on the "Top Banana" board. A name is drawn each Friday to see who'll take the Top Banana bag home and fill it with interesting pictures and items that help us get to know them better. A sheet listing suggestions of items to bring is also sent home in the bag.

In Math, students have been reviewing skills and learning some new ones. Please encourage students to practice their math facts **often**. It is difficult for students to learn long processes in multiplication and division when they have difficulty with their basic facts. I have extra sheets for home use practice-just let me know.

We started our S.S. year with discussions about what social studies is. We are also reviewing some important geography and map skills. This review led us up to the overview where we learned about the people and the land that makes up the United States. We now have begun our journey into US History where we are learning about the first peoples of the Americas. It will be exciting!

Just a reminder...when you purchase books from the monthly Arrow Book Club and want to write a check, please write the check to **Arrow Book Club**.

Fifth grade students are **required** to keep a binder containing their weekly assignment sheet, assignment folder and other important papers. The binder serves as an organizational tool as well as a communication tool. **Please ask to see your child's binder to see what they are up to each day.**

Most of the students are returning their signed **Friday Folders** on Mondays. However, some are coming back not signed. Please help your 5th grader by signing the folder chart right away after you examine the contents each week. Thank you.

Chris Eustice and Cathy Huisman, 5th Grade Teachers

MADRID BANDS: EPITOME OF STYLE, SOUND, AND SCHOOL SPIRIT!

The Junior High/High School Marching Band has been working hard the first two months of school to entertain the crowd at the Madrid home football games. The Band also participated in the Oktoberfest parade in Marshalltown on September 22 and earned a 2nd place finish in Class 1A. The students had a wonderful time and are excited to go back next year and improve upon their 2nd place finish. You can look forward to seeing and hearing the band at the last 2 home football games on October 19th and 26th.

The 5th and 6th grade bands are preparing for their first concert of the year, which will be the Winter Concert on December 13th. The concert will be held in the High School gymnasium and will include the Junior High Concert Band, the High School Concert Band, and the High School Jazz Band. This is the first ever 5-12 Madrid Tiger Band concert, and should prove to be an entertaining and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Hope every one has a wonderful start to the fall. Go Tigers!!

Brad Cook, 5-12 Instrumental Instructor

MADRID JOINS NEW CONFERENCE

The Madrid music department has joined the West Central Conference this year. Schools involved in this conference are Coon Rapids-Bayard, East Greene, D.M. Christian, Glidden-Ralston, Earlam, Guthrie Center, Madrid, Van Meter, Panorama, and West Central Valley. Earlam will be hosting the West Central Conference Vocal Festival this year on Tuesday, November 13. The students will rehearse in the afternoon and perform a concert for the public at 7:00 p.m. that night at the Earlam high school gym. The choir will consist of approximately 200 students. Madrid will have 28 vocal students attending the festival. They are Michelle Trainum, Sarah Snider, Natasha Myers, Kalen Carlson, Aubrey Christensen, Maria Milani, MacKenzie West, Abbie Wibe, Sydney Hudnutt, Brittany Swanson, Ashley Nickens, Elizabeth Baumgarn, Ashley Peters, Jessica Mathre, Jared Simmons, Matt Drilling, Simon Burke, Nick Baumgarn, Tjaden Ahrens, Mike Sievers, Marshall Harvey, John Veencamp, Drew Loew, Jacob Gibbons, Nate Efkamp, Tyler Ahrens, Joel Veencamp, and Mitchell Wilkening.

HY-VEE HALL PERFORMANCE

The Madrid Men’s and Women’s National Anthem groups will perform “The Star-Spangled Banner” for a special Veteran’s event on Thursday, November 8 at the Hyvee Hall/Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. The group was selected by a taped audition and a letter of application by Mrs. Schmitz. Student members are Elizabeth Baumgarn, Emily Bell, Brooke Manthe, Maria Milani, Sydney Hudnutt, Natasha Myers, Ashley Nickens, Sarah Snider, Michelle Trainum, Abbie Wibe, Tyler Ahrens, Tjadens Ahrens, Simon Burke, Nick Baumgarn, Matt Drilling, Drew Loew, Jared Simmons, Joel Veencamp and John Veencamp. The groups have also been performing at local athletic events.

ELEMENTARY HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Due to the elementary enrollment and concert attendance increasing, the Kindergarten – sixth grade students will be divided into **two separate** concert nights this year. **This year, the Kindergarten and first grade will have their Holiday program on Thursday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the high school.** Please note the **time change!** All students are required to attend. More details will be sent home later with your child. **Grades 2-6 will have their Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the high school.** More information will be sent home with your child towards the end of November. **Mark your calendars at home for BOTH concerts!!!!**

7-12 HOLIDAY VOCAL CONCERT

The Madrid Music Department is trying a few different things this year with the concerts. As you already know, a Fall concert was eliminated due to other expectations in our programs. This year we will also try a **separate** band and vocal concert for the Holidays.

The 7-12 Holiday vocal concert will be held Monday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the high school. The choir and band will have joint concerts for the March(Music In Our Schools Month) and for the Spring Concert. All vocal students are required to be in attendance for all concerts. Hope to see all of you there to celebrate the Holidays!

7-12 GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER

College Planning- The list of the scholarships available to seniors is updated weekly and is posted on the office window as well as on the schools website. Please take note of the due dates and requirements and apply early.

Seniors should have received information provided by Iowa Student Aid; which included instructions on how to apply for financial aid, scholarship and grants, nursing/teacher loan forgiveness programs, parent-plus loans, tax benefits, career planning, and a college overview book. They also will receive a folder from the Iowa Regents with admission information for Iowa State, Iowa, and UNI. Please take time to review these with your students.

Please make note of the following dates:

Jan. 24 @6:30	Financial Aid Presentation	Seniors/parents
Feb. 4 2-7:00	Filing FASFA Forms Program	Seniors/parents
Mar. 4 @ 6:30	College Planning Program	Sophs/Juniors/Seniors

ACT Testing	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
	Dec. 8	Nov. 2
	Feb. 9	Jan. 4
	Apr. 12	Mar. 7
	June 14	May 9

Career Fair- We are in the process of putting together a career fair to take place in the month of March. If you know someone who has an interesting career and who would be willing to present please send us their name, job title, phone, and email. Contact info. can be sent to jcarter@madrid.k12.ia.us or mknnox@madrid.k12.ia.us or call 795-3240.

Other Events- A group of student council members Chad Cosens, Cassie Bloomer, Jessica Mathre, Brett Mathes, Emily DeWall, and Kelsey Schieltz will be attending the Think, Build, Act Conference at Simpson College. The conference is designed to empower students to eliminate bullying and harassment in our schools.

We are also in the process of creating the Madrid High School chapter of SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving). The chapter will be service oriented and provide member students the opportunity to make a positive difference in the community. Further information will be provided.

Jason Carter, 7-12 Guidance Counselor

YEARBOOK NEWS

Orders for the 2007-2008 Yearbook will be taken using Jostens Solutions. Every student in the Jr./Sr. High School will have the opportunity to fill out an order form at school to order a yearbook with any options. After the orders are sent in to Jostens, a confirmation mailing will be sent home. At that time, parents may make adjustments to the order, cancel the order, or even make a payment on the order. Final payments for the yearbook need to be made by

April, 2008. The 2007-2008 Yearbook will be delivered to the school district in September, 2008.

There are a few copies left of the 2006-2007 Yearbook. Purchase your school memories for only \$50.00. They'll last a lifetime!

PHOTOS! PHOTOS! PHOTOS! If you happen to have photos from any events that you would be willing to share with the yearbook staff, please contact Mrs. Troendle to find out how you can submit those photos for publishing!

Feel free to contact Mrs. Troendle at 515-795-3240 or jtroendle@madrid.k12.ia.us for any yearbook information.

FLU CLINIC

There will be a Mass Flu Shot Clinic on Saturday, November 17, 2007 at the Boone DMACC campus in the Lloyd Courter Center from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The cost of the flu shot is \$10 for children through age 18 and \$22 for adults. If you have any questions contact Homecare at 515-432-1127.

Madrid Community School District
201 N Main
Madrid, Iowa 50156

Nonprofit Org
Carrier Route Presort
Madrid, Iowa
Permit #20

**POSTAL CUSTOMER
MADRID, IOWA 50156**