

Madison Traditional Academy
Hoots & Hollers

Dec. 23, 2011
Volume 5, Number 18

A Note from Principal Duff

December 23, 2011

Dear MTA Parents,

- If have not done so yet, please email Mrs. Grass of your intention (agrass@msd38.org) of any siblings that you currently have attending another school, but would like them to enroll them at MTA for the 2012 - 2013 school year.
- It's not too late! If you have not filed your tax credit deduction (win for you...win for MTA students), you can still file by December 31, 2011 and pay online at <http://www.msd38.org>. Just click the box labeled "Tax Credit", located along the top of the page (third grey box from the left) to begin the process. Be sure to mark Madison Traditional Academy as your designated school!
- Today officially marks the end of the second quarter (first semester) grading period. Report cards will be sent home with students on Friday, January 13, 2012.
- With this two week break upon us, I would just like to remind all of you to monitor your children on their computer usage. This would be a good time to check your filter system and virus protection. I have been aware of students as young as third grade (and girls at that), pulling up inappropriate material at home on sites such as You Tube. Please have these discussions with your children and routinely check on their usage.

Have a safe and blessed holiday!

Mike Duff

Principal

**Important
Dates & Events**

12/23 - Friday
Half-Day 11:30a.m. release
(8:50 for a.m. Kindergarten)
MTA T-shirt Day

12/24-1/8
Winter Break - NO
SCHOOL

1/9 - Monday
School resumes

1/9 - Monday
Guild Meeting 6:30pm
MTA Cafeteria

1/11 - Wednesday
TCT Early Release; 1:30pm
(10:20 for A.M.
Kindergarten)

1/13 - Friday
Teacher Appreciation
Breakfast, 7:00 a.m.
Hosted by 3rd grade parents

1/16 - Monday
MLK Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL

1/18 - Wednesday
TCT Early Release
1:30 (10:20 for a.m.
Kindergarten)
100th Day of School

1/25 Wednesday
TCT Early Release
1:30 (10:20 for a.m.
Kindergarten)

Important Announcements

Dec. 23, 2011
Vol. 5, No. 18

Teacher Appreciation Committee

This month each staff member received a festively wrapped box of peppermint Altoids with the saying, "You were 'mint' for MTA." Thanks to **Brigid Dean** for taking care of this project. They turned out very cute!

If you would like to get hours through the Teacher Appreciation committee please contact **Martha Jacobs** or **Stephanie Espinoza**. Each month we have something planned and need volunteers to help!

PRE-ORDERED LOGO ITEMS

We are unable to deliver your pre-ordered logo items by Friday, 12/23. They will be delivered to your child's class when school resumes. We are sorry for the inconvenience, and have created a Gift Certificate/IOU that you can use if you were planning on giving these items as a gift for the holiday season. We truly apologize. Our new Logo Store will be opening soon, and this should help with any unforeseen trouble in the future.

--MTA Logo Items Committee

Holiday Helping

Holiday Helping is a confidential program MTA offers to assist families in need throughout the holiday season.

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards this year for the Owl Tree. Your generosity and kindness are deeply appreciated.

Have a safe and happy winter break!

Staci Motley
MTA Health Office
(602) 745-4020
slmotley@msd38.org



Be Kind

Be Safe

Be Responsible

Be Your Best!



MTA's Winter Dance

December 16, 2011

The 7th and 8th Graders had a blast! Thank you to Student Council and Ms. Weistart for planning this fun night, and to Carolyn Albin and Kelly Ingram for making the MTA cafeteria look magical!

(Check out the office bulletin board soon for more photos)



Dec. 23, 2011
Vol. 5, No. 18



Mr. David Ginn (Band)... *WHOOOOOOO ARE YOU?*

Where are you from? Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

Where did you go to school? I went to Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA where I studied Music Education.

What was your inspiration to become a music teacher? I was most inspired by the great teachers I had when I was a student. They all had an enormous impact on my life (particularly my music teachers) and I wanted to follow in their footsteps as best I could. I feel very fortunate to have had so many dedicated and caring teachers in my life.

How long have you been teaching? About a year. If you don't count my student teaching in PA, Madison is my first official teaching job!

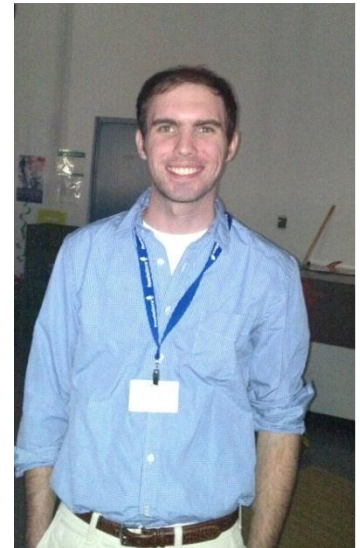
What is your favorite thing about your job? I get to teach kids what I love most... music! Watching students truly succeed at making music is extremely rewarding to me.

Why did you choose working at the elementary/middle school level? I love to see the very beginning stages of my students' musical lives. Middle school, often, is when kids get their first experiences in a real choir, band, solo, or small ensemble setting. It's really exciting to help guide them through these first few steps of their music education.

What do you do when you're not working? I'm a very outdoorsy person. I love kayaking, skiing, hiking, biking, and golfing. I play the guitar, trombone, and I sing. I also love to read and play Nintendo with my friends.

What are your favorite books? I love a good novel, especially something with a twist. I also love science books. Some of my favorite books include: *Einstein's Dreams*, *On the Road*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Brave New World*, *East of Eden*, and almost anything Shakespeare.

What is your favorite food? Pizza!



**MAD
MONEY**



MTA Student Council President and Mrs. Venberg at Fresh & Easy Shopping Night in November

Fresh & Easy Shopping Night Success!

MTA earned \$509 from Shopping Night.



Remember to bring in your Fresh & Easy receipts from September 15th through December 31st. A box is on counter in the MTA office. If you bought a gift card at Shopping Night, make sure you shop by December 31st so you can give the receipt to MTA after winter break.



Have a Happy Holiday Season

Remember to shop Fresh & Easy, Fry's or Safeway to support the MTA store programs. MTA earns money when you shop at Fry's and Safeway and you use your rewards card.

Shop the on-line mall for gifts at eScrip.com and check out the hundreds of stores that give back to MTA. If you need uniform pants or tops, order on-line through the eScrip mall and earn money for the school.

Save those Box Tops, Labels for Education, and Coke Rewards caps & box ends and turn them in to school in January after winter break.

Thank you for your support of the MAD Money programs.

See you in 2012!!!!

