

# Madison Traditional Academy **Hoots & Hollers**

## A Word from Principal Duff

Dear MTA Families,

First of all, let me say how excited and proud I am, to be the Principal of Madison Traditional Academy. For the most part, we have had a fairly smooth transition into our new site, but realize we have many wrinkles yet to still iron out.

Secondly, I would like to address the student pick-up and drop-off situation. As stated on the procedures we sent out, this will continue to be a work in progress until we feel we have the best procedures in place to allow the most efficient drop-off and pick-up procedures for you and your child(ren). We have been working closely with the District and the City of Phoenix to help accomplish this goal. Currently, we have closed the pedestrian gate on 10<sup>th</sup> Street and would like to ask your cooperation in not parking on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, so we can use the area next to the sidewalk for cars waiting in line to turn right into the pick-up lane (the pedestrian gate will now be designated off of Maryland). As all crosswalks and signage has to be approved by the City, we believe we should be placing a crosswalk and crossing guard at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Maryland very soon. As you are most assuredly aware, the amount of cars traveling east on Maryland and turning south on 10<sup>th</sup> Street has created a back-up on Maryland, which in turn, blocks the cars attempting to exit the school, which stops our traffic flow. To assist with this situation I am requesting the following:

- 1). Car pool whenever possible. The Guild will be assisting sign-ups for possible carpooling at the Curriculum Nights next week.
- 2). Try to avoid traveling east on Maryland and east on Marlette. Instead, use 10<sup>th</sup> Street north and 10<sup>th</sup> Street south to enter the parking lot entrance. If you are using Marlette, stay on the south side of the road and do not begin a line on the north side of Marlette when traveling east. This blocks the road creating a dangerous situation (not to mention it is illegal).
- 3). Try to avoid walking up to the K-3 pick-up area to pick up your child(ren). The sidewalk area is already crowded and the additional adults are slowing down our process by making it difficult for MTA students to view and identify their parent's vehicle.

Finally, I want to thank you for your use of parking lot CPR (Cooperation, Patience and Respect) as we work through this process together. Each day we have shaved some time off our afternoon pick-up and I will keep you abreast of any future changes.

Sincerely,  
Mike Duff  
Principal

August 12, 2011  
Volume 5 • Number 1

## Important Dates & Events!

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 8/12 | Homeroom Parent Training; all grades<br>8:15am, Cafeteria                       |
| 8/16 | District Board Meeting<br>6:00pm, District Office                               |
| 8/17 | TCT Early Release<br>1:30 pm (10:20am for half-day kindergarten)                |
| 8/17 | Back-to-school Night<br>6p-7:30pm<br>**K-3rd<br>PARENTS ONLY                    |
| 8/18 | Back-to-school Night<br>6p-7:30pm<br>**4 <sup>th</sup> -8th<br>PARENTS ONLY     |
| 8/19 | All Staff/Teacher Breakfast, sponsored by 8 <sup>th</sup> gr. Parents<br>7:00am |
| 8/24 | TCT Early Release<br>1:30 pm (10:20am for half-day kindergarten)                |
| 8/26 | MTA T-Shirt Day!!!<br>Wear your MTA t-shirt<br>(uniform bottoms)                |



## JOIN THE GUILD!

Welcome Back Parents – The 2011/2012 Guild Membership drive is underway. Look for Membership forms coming home in backpacks this week and next week.

The first class to obtain 100% membership wins an ice cream party to be hosted by the Guild Membership Committee! Forms and sign-ups will also be available at Back-To-School Nights on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The deadline to join is September 15, 2011.

Along with your membership in the Guild, you will receive a **2011-2012 Student Directory**. The directory includes students' contact information, MTA Staff and Teacher phone numbers, District Office phone numbers, our School Calendar and other important information. **Ad solicitations** have also begun for full page, 1/2 page and ¼ page ads to be included in the Directory. Forms for ads can be obtained by contacting committee chairs Laura Kirk at [laura897@yahoo.com](mailto:laura897@yahoo.com) or Rhonda Vierra at [rvierra@triwest.com](mailto:rvierra@triwest.com).

### Committee Chairs Needed

We still need a  
Chair for the  
following  
committee:

#### **Procurement**

Contact Bridget  
Querciagrossa if  
interested  
[QBB1@msn.com](mailto:QBB1@msn.com)

### **Summer Volunteers**

A huge thank you to everyone who helped all summer long to get our new campus ready. A special thank you to **Moryha Banks, Anne Grass and Craig Rainbolt** who worked very hard to make our campus beautiful and safe. Also, thank you to **Michelle Colen and Tammy Dorhout** and their committee for putting together the Back-to-school packs. Last, a big, huge thank you to our lunchroom veteran volunteers **Moryha Banks and Kris Baker** for getting lunch and playground duty off to a great start this year!

## SAFE START

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who stood out in the heat to make sure MTA kids were safe. Also, thank you to the **Meissner** family for donating the awesome t-shirts from their company, Icostore. To **Ashley Simpson** and her amazing committee, you all are truly appreciated. Also, thank you to our faculty who do this job year-round to ensure our kid's safety. **Great job!!!**



# MTA Dad's Club

## Annual MTA Dad's Club Kickoff Meeting

### Dad's Club Bowling Day!!!

Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>  
Let It Roll Bowl  
8925 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Come join the fun  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!!!**  
11 am-1:30 pm

Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> 6pm @  
MTA cafeteria

All are welcome and encouraged to attend! I promise you will have some fun and meet some great Dads. We will be signing up new families, updating information for returning families and announcing our events for the school year.

For more information about the **Dad's Club** please contact:

Andy McDonald  
President  
602-363-2489

[Andy@AndyMcDonald.net](mailto:Andy@AndyMcDonald.net)

OR

Jeff Cody  
Secretary  
602-721-5161

[Codyenterprises@cox.net](mailto:Codyenterprises@cox.net)

## *A note from the Guild*

To all new and returning MTA Families, Teachers and Staff, we would like to welcome you to the start of the '11 - '12 school year. It is so wonderful to feel the energy and enthusiasm buzzing around our beautiful, new school! After years of perseverance and anticipation, we finally have a place to call home. We begin this new chapter with other new beginnings - a new principal and 8 new teachers! We would like to extend our warmest welcome to Principal Mike Duff who is coming to us from Cheyenne Traditional in Scottsdale. Principal Duff has hit the ground running with the monumental task of opening our new campus! In addition, veteran teacher Kristin Venberg has accepted the position of 'Teacher on Assignment' focusing on discipline. Mrs. Venberg will split her time between the classroom and her new role. Also, we are very excited to welcome our new teachers: Gina Fastero, Jennifer Wolf, Joyce Carlyle, Melissa Jackson, Erin Stilwell, Amy Hardy, Tara Monashkin and Leah Jenks.

Our PTO organization, the Guild, is comprised of parents, teachers and the Principal. As a group, we are committed to providing the support and funding to ensure that all students reach their highest potential. As state and school district budgets dwindle, it will be crucial for our community to contribute both 'time and treasure'. If any population can offer these things in abundance, it is ours. This is evident through the thousands of volunteer hours given and the overwhelming support and generosity of funds and donations. We have so much to be proud of, and the result of our hard work is found in all of our students' achievements and successes.

We invite and encourage you to join the Guild. Our goal this year is 100% membership! At Back-to-School nights on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be membership forms available. With your membership, you support MTA *and* receive a school directory. We will also have committee information and sign up sheets. Regardless of your schedule, there are many ways to get involved, meet new people and play a role in your child's education. Your membership also helps to provide supplementary curriculum, playground and athletic equipment, library books, art supplies, musical instruments, kindergarten aides and much, much more.

Look for the Hoots and Hollers newsletter every Friday during the first semester for current news and information. Also, please join us at our first monthly Guild meeting on **Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. We sincerely hope you attend to hear all about what's happening at MTA!

We look forward to meeting you on campus! Thank you for your support, as we all embark on this memorable year!

Sincerely,

April Snider & Bridget Querciagrossa

Guild co-Presidents



## Safeway's 10% Back-to-School Program Returns



### Let the Shopping Begin at Safeway -- August 10<sup>th</sup> through September 13<sup>th</sup>!

Maximize the earnings for MTA by purchasing the specific yellow school bus tag qualifying products. Tell family members and friends to look for these products while they shop. Safeway will bank the total monies earned during the 3 week period into an account. At the end, Safeway gives 10% of the total yellow school bus purchases to MTA. If your Safeway Club Card is connected to MTA, then the 10% will go directly to the school. If you or your family members' cards are not connected to MTA, you will want to collect the Safeway receipts beginning September 19<sup>th</sup> and bring to school so that MTA can collect the earnings on the Safeway receipt. There is no additional cost to you!

#### How to spot a Qualifying Product?



**←** \*\*This is the product tag to look for when you are shopping that tells you if it is a qualifying product. Purchase extra items that you will use throughout the school semester such as Ziploc bags, juice, water, Gatorade, and canned goods for holiday food drives.

\*\*Shop at the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Osborn Safeway store. This Safeway location has allowed MTA to collect receipts from shoppers over the past year resulting in over \$16,000 for our school.



**BE GREEN, EARN GREEN!**  
**TURN TRASH INTO CASH FOR**  
**MTA!**

*Our Capri Sun/Honest Kids juice pouch recycle program is well underway. MTA earns .02 cents per pouch and we were able to recycle over 12,000 drink pouches last year. There are two collection bins located in the cafeteria to collect the empty pouches. Please tell friends, family and neighbors not to toss those drink pouches*

As MTA continues to grow, we strive to update our technology and our knowledge base. If you know of someone who did not receive this issue, please have them contact [info@mtaguild.org](mailto:info@mtaguild.org) or email the Committee Chair directly. Thank you for your patience!

## **T-SHIRTS/LOGO ITEMS/SPALDING CARDS**

**Now available -** Short-sleeved polos (\$10) and T-shirts (\$10)  
Hats (\$9) and visors (\$8) - limited quantity  
MTA bumper stickers and Owl patches (\$3)  
Spalding Cards (\$13) and Spalding CDs (\$7)

We will be selling all items at both Back-to-school Nights, Guild meetings and other events during the year. Watch for order forms coming home mid-September to order long-sleeved items, sweatshirts and hoodies.

If you have any questions, please contact Logo Items Committee Chair Michelle Colen at [mcolen@cox.net](mailto:mcolen@cox.net)



**ABSENCES:** If your child is absent or is going to be absent, please make sure to call the MTA office as soon as you know. You can even leave a message in the middle of the night!

**602-745-4021**

## **Lunch Duty Volunteers!**

Come have lunch with your child and get to know the students! Lunch volunteers are always needed. Please contact Moryha Banks for more information or to volunteer.

**[moryha@gmail.com](mailto:moryha@gmail.com)**



## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY!**

Please remember - NO school on Monday, September 5th in honor of Labor Day.