

# MED-GRAM



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON MEADOWS MIDDLE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2020

ISSUE I



Hello Meadows Families,

A lot of people have asked me how things are going - being new to the district, in a campus under construction, during a unique school year. While there have definitely been some interesting challenges, I have loved every minute of my time in Madison. I'm sure some people are surprised by my positivity, but I can't imagine leading (or living) any other way.

We have a choice in how we approach our personal challenges and I am thankful that my parents gave me a gift by modeling resilience, joy and kindness when faced with adversity. I am so appreciative that our Madison Meadows community members are modeling those same traits as we face new challenges this year.

Thank you for your continued support of your students, our teachers and office staff members.

**Katy Clark**

Principal

Madison Meadows Middle School

WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS

**TOGETHER**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 9/2 - PTM Meeting  
5:30 via Zoom

Mon 9/7 - Labor Day, School Closed

Tues 9/8 - Dads Club Meeting  
6:00 via Zoom

9/2, 9/16, 9/23 - TCT Days  
2:10 Release

9/15 - Take Out Tuesday - AZ Pops

9/23 - Fall Fundraiser Raffle Kick Off

Fri 10/2 - Half Day  
12:05 Release

Mon 10/5 - Fri 10/9  
Fall Break - No School

### FALL FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

We are launching our PTM Fall Fundraiser Raffle in a few short weeks. The planning committee needs your help! Are you able to **virtually** help with any of the following:

- Sponsorships
- Prize Donations
- Graphic Design
- Organizing and Logistics

Please contact Aaryn Colosimo:  
vpffameadowsptm.org or  
Angel Conaway copresameadowsptm.org

Thank You!

# Meet the new Teachers!

## Heather Bursell 7th/8th Science Teacher

Hello! I am new to Meadows this year, but this will be my 4th year teaching. I did my student teaching at MTA then taught science for 3 years in PVUSD. I am a native Phoenixian, and went to school for my Bachelors at Grand Canyon University. Traveling, reading and spending time with friends and family are my favorite things to do!



## Joe Scaminaci 7th/8th Grade Math

My wife and I just moved to Arizona from Illinois and couldn't be more excited. I received my Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University and my Master's degree in Technology from Northern Illinois University. I have been teaching middle school math for the past 5 years. Outside of school, I like golfing, exercising, skateboarding, playing Nintendo 64, making computer games, programming, and watching Netflix.



## Johnny Spinelli 7th/8th PE

Hey guys! My name is Johnny and I grew up in Central Oregon and then moved down to Phoenix to get my degree from Grand Canyon University. This will be my first year teaching and I feel like Meadows is a great place to start my career. I love watching sports, playing golf, and fishing. I look forward to meeting and working with you all!



## Anna Paulson 5/6 PE

Greetings! I am a midwestern cheesehead through and through. I was born and raised near Green Bay, WI and moved to MN for undergrad and to start my career. My husband and I moved to AZ a year ago to escape the long winters and for a change of pace. I received my Bachelors in Health and Physical Education and DAPE minor from Bethel University and am currently pursuing my Masters in PE at ASU. It will be my 7th year teaching and I am excited to start my journey at Meadows! I love to be active including hiking (when it isn't 100+ degrees), swimming, golfing, and I enjoy playing a good badminton game! I also enjoy exploring new spots, checking out restaurants, reading a good book, and gathering with friends and family.



## Megan Tracy IB Visual Art

I LOVE IB and I have been a champion for the curriculum at Simis over the last 5 years as a parent, substitute teacher, and Digital Art teacher. I love to collaborate and believe that the creative arts are the perfect way for success in interdisciplinary studies! Please reach out if you have ideas. I am thrilled to be a part of the Meadows team. Together we can innovate and make it a great year, despite our new challenges!

I have lived in central Phoenix for 5 years with my Air Traffic Controller husband, Daniel, and my kids, Liam (6th grade) and Jack (4th grade). We love the outdoors, cooking, eating, traveling, and creating.



## Michael Vontsolos 5/6 Spanish

Greetings new colleagues. First, thanks to everyone who I met last year as a sub for the support, and in advance for future support! This year I'm officially a first-year teacher. Born and raised in Phoenix, I attended Rose Lane, #1 and North High. In 2007 I left ASU prematurely with other adventures in mind, but I went back in 2015. I lived in Brooklyn for a few years before moving to Portland, OR where it occurred to me that I might like to learn a second language. I ended up in Spain twice, most recently for two years, and now I'm back in my home district. In my free time I maintain a vegetable garden, hike and play soccer. Be ready for all my questions, this should be quite a year!



## Courtney Wessel 8th ELA & 8th Advanced ELA

Hello everyone! I was born and raised in Colorado and have lived in Arizona for the last 7 years where I attended Arizona State University and recently obtained my Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education-English. This will be my very first year teaching and I could not be more excited to join the Meadows team! I completed my student teaching in PVUSD and even though I love high school kiddos, my heart kept drawing me back to middle school! I love getting lost in a good book, crime documentaries, or any documentary really, and hanging out with my puppy and family! I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you!



## Jason Bruso 7/8 Digital Design

I grew up in Phoenix, went to school at North high school and NAU. 2020 is my 14th year of teaching. My wife, two kids and I have a small backyard farm where we grow fruits, veggies, herbs and animals. I love design because I love to solve problems with creativity and a method.





## Dear Meadows Students and Families,

Welcome Virtually Back to School! This school year will look very different but our mission remains the same. We are doing our best to navigate this situation and we want to find creative ways to connect with you.

Meeting you and getting to know our community is an important part of the Parents and Teachers at Meadows. We want to continue that connectivity even virtually. Please join us as we get creative with an online agenda!

Email any with questions, comments and suggestions (we love to hear your ideas). Thank you for your patience and support.

Kind Regards,

Chris, Angel, Aaryn, Charlotte, Sara, Kerrie & Britton

### PTM 2020 -2021 Executive Board

Co-President



Chris Goodfarb  
pres@meadowspdm.org

Co-President



Angel Conaway  
copres@meadowspdm.org

VP Fall Fundraising



Aaryn Colosimo  
vpff@meadowspdm.org

Communication Secretary



Charlotte Shaff  
comsec@meadowspdm.org

Recording Secretary



Sara Santibanez  
recsec@meadowspdm.org

Accounts Receivable



Kerrie Wallace  
ar@meadowspdm.org

Accounts Payable



Britton Sanchez  
ap@meadowspdm.org



## Congratulations to Mrs. Sanabria-Aguilar!

Leovanni Xavier Aguilar was born on  
July 10, 2020 at 2:25 am  
6lbs 5 oz, 19 inches



*Let's try and stay connected  
during this separation!*

Join us via Zoom for this month's  
PTM General Meeting! Join the  
conversation, listen to school  
updates or just smile and wave!

Wed, Sept 2 @ 5:30pm

Meeting link will be sent via email and  
posted to our Facebook page!

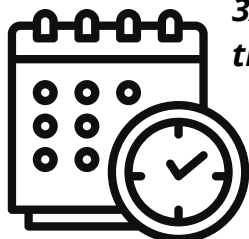
Link to Join Zoom Meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 736 9004 9229

Passcode: kPp8BL

## Daily Schedule

Students will follow a block A/B schedule and will attend classes 1A, 2A, 3A one day and then 1B, 2B, 3B the next day. We will continue to follow the A/B schedule throughout the semester including TCT and Half Days.



NORMAL DAY SCHEDULE (M, T, TH, F)		TCT DAY SCHEDULE (WEDNESDAY)	
1ST PERIOD/HR	8:30 - 10:40	1ST PERIOD/HR	8:30 - 10:10
2ND PERIOD	10:50 - 12:45	2ND PERIOD	10:20 - 11:50
LUNCH	12:45- 1:35	LUNCH	11:50 - 12:40
3RD PERIOD	1:35 - 3:40	3RD PERIOD	12:40 - 2:10

# Sponsors Needed!



**Madison Meadows  
Middle School**



## Why do we need to Fundraise?

The Parents and Teachers at Meadows raise funds every year to help support the school in ways that are not covered by the district. Programs such as Art Masterpiece, Teacher Appreciation, Community Donations, Team Uniforms, Camp Friendly Pines and much more. We fund the purchase of needed iPads, Chromebooks, Charging Carts, PE Equipment, Library Books and Band Equipment. We also spend a large part of our budget to cover the cost of lunch/duty aides and Team Leaders Stipends that are not provided to the school by the district.

## What do we need from you?

The PTM is planning our Annual Fall Fundraiser that will take place the first two weeks of October 2020.

We want to hold a raffle and put some amazing prizes in the hands of our Meadows Families and we need your help. With the toll the past few months has taken on all of us, we are ready to see some smiles! This raffle will be a great opportunity to raise money and give back at the same time!

## How do you become a Sponsor?

Contact our Co-President Angel Conaway [copres@meadowsptm.org](mailto:copres@meadowsptm.org) or 602-299-5411 by **Sept. 9, 2020** regarding the following sponsorship packages. Donations can also be sent directly to our school: Madison Meadows 225 W. Ocotillo Phoenix, AZ 85013



### Grand Prize Sponsor - \$2500

This sponsorship can be customized to fit your specific needs. Additional Grand Prize Sponsor benefits include a direct connection with our families by providing the only sponsor direct link to your website from our website. Your company will be promoted as our Top Sponsor before, during and after the fundraiser. Not valid for in-kind donations.

### Premier Sponsor - \$500

In addition to the sponsorship benefits listed we will extend the time our Premier Sponsors are promoted. We are also able to send home promotional material from our Premier sponsors. Promotions will run two week prior to our raffle and one week after the drawing. Not valid for in-kind donations.

### Partner Sponsor - \$250

In addition to the sponsorship benefits listed the Partner Sponsor can participate by sponsoring a prize with a \$250 value. Your company will be promoted from kick off through the duration of the fundraiser.

### In-Kind Donation Sponsor

This sponsorship is a great way to promote your business through products and/or donations of services. Your company will be promoted from kick off through the duration of the fundraiser.

**PTM WILL SHARE YOUR  
SUPPORT WITH  
OVER 800 MEADOWS  
FAMILIES IN THE CENTRAL  
PHOENIX AREA!**



Promoting you  
on our Website  
and Eblasts!



Promoting you  
through printed  
material!



Promoting you  
through our  
social media.



# Seeking to Raise \$28,000!

## PARENTS AND TEACHERS AT MEADOWS (PTM) ANNOUNCES OUR SECOND ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER



# RAFFLE

**\$2500 CASH GRAND PRIZE**

**\$1000 MORE IN ADDITIONAL PRIZES!**



- Tickets are \$6 each
- Tickets sold virtually on PTM Website
- Ticket Sales Start: September 23, 2020
- Ticket Sales End: October 12, 2020
- Raffle Drawing: October 14, 2020
- Drawing will be during virtual PTM Meeting
- Need not be present to win



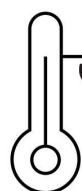
## WE ALSO HAVE AN AMAZING STUDENT DRAWING!



Students will have an opportunity to enter a special student drawing held the same day. Entries will be given for : Ticket sales (1:1 ratio) and participation in different fundraising activities and contests.

Teachers will also be able to give away student entry tickets based on students demonstrating responsible behavior during class.

Please join Parents and Teachers at Meadows to meet our fall fundraising goal!



**\$27,000**

**GOAL!**



**\$36**

PER STUDENT!





## From the Library

by Tracy Haddox

**DID YOU KNOW???** THE MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS THOUSANDS OF ELECTRONIC BOOKS (EBOOKS) AVAILABLE IN THE MEADOWS LIBRARY CATALOG.

EVERY STUDENT HAS BEEN ASSIGNED A USERNAME AND PASSWORD TO ACCESS THESE BOOKS AT ANY TIME.

HERE'S HOW:

1. GO TO THE MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT HOME PAGE [HTTP://MADISONAZ.ORG](http://MADISONAZ.ORG)
2. UNDER THE "FAMILIES" TAB, CHOOSE "PARENT RESOURCES"
3. CHOOSE "MADISON MEADOWS"
4. CHOOSE "ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOG"
5. DESTINY DISCOVER HOMEPAGE – CLICK "LOG IN" IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER
6. CHOOSE "SIGN IN WITH GOOGLE"
7. SCROLL DOWN TO FIND THE EBOOKS SECTION
8. CLICK ON A TITLE. THEN YOU CAN EITHER "OPEN" THE BOOK OR "CHECKOUT" THE BOOK. THE LOAN PERIOD FOR EBOOKS IS 5 DAYS.

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MRS. HADDOX AT [THADDOX@MADISONED.ORG](mailto:THADDOX@MADISONED.ORG)

**DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN ANY OUTSTANDING LIBRARY BOOKS TO THE MEADOWS OFFICE!**



**Virtual  
BOOK  
FAIR  
2020**



Scholastic Book Fair that your kids love is going on NOW!

**[Click here to shop!](#)**

**Sale ends 9/4**

### New Library Procedures 2020/2021 Pandemic Edition:

While online eBooks are a viable option for anyone interested in it, I would also like to offer pickup of books students place on hold. These books would be ready on the next school day once the student has placed the book on hold. In order to hold a book, the student must be signed into the library catalog with their Google credentials (don't include the @madisoned.org part). I will pull the book/s, check them out to that student, bag them and place them in the office for pickup. The office will only hold them for one week for pickup. You will receive an email when your hold is ready for pick up. The office will only hold them for one week.

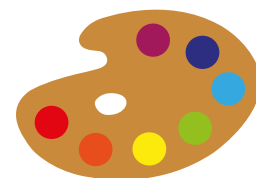
Once returned, the books will be treated (Lysol spray) and quarantined for a week. Only then will they be ready to be checked out by another student. Check out times are 2 weeks, and 2 books at a time.

Other resources available to students are the public library and World Book Online. The [public library](#) has online content as well as curbside pickup similar to ours. World Book Online is a resource the Madison District provides to all of our students. To use simply go to [www.worldbookonline.com](http://www.worldbookonline.com) and sign in using

**login: msd38 and password: 4reading.**

## Art Corner

by Megan Tracy



### Introducing Blue Ribbon Art

Each week I will choose students from each grade level for their exceptional work!

Last week, using the medium of choice, Students created a black and white portrait showing line. View our [Online Blue Ribbon Gallery here](#)

Not in art - but want to create? You can also try for a Blue Ribbon!

This week we are making a Pop Art Portrait.

Email your work to [mtracy@madisoned.org](mailto:mtracy@madisoned.org)

# Free \$\$ for Meadows!

## TUFT & NEEDLE



Did you know?

When you purchase a new mattress from Tuft and Needle they give 25% to Meadows PTM!!!

Check out:  
Tuft & Needle  
Fry's VIP  
Amazon Smile  
Box Tops



This program makes fundraising easy by donating to our school based on the shopping you do every day.

Once you link your Card to Meadows, all you have to do is shop at Fry's and swipe your Shopper's Card.

**Thank you for taking a few minutes to do this now. The next time you stop at Fry's they will give back to Meadows!**



*Have you linked your Amazon account to Meadows yet?*

Generate easy donations to Meadows when you shop at Amazon!

Shop at smile.amazon.com and they donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to Meadows PTM fundraising—no fees, no extra cost.



## SHOW US THE BOX TOPS!

Send us a picture of your box top collection at home!

Clip them and save them the old school way or scan your receipt the digital way.

**THESE TINY TABS EARN US \$\$ FOR MEADOWS PTM!**







## Meadows Dads Club

*Dads Making a Difference*

[www.meadowsdadsclub.com](http://www.meadowsdadsclub.com)

[www.facebook.com/MeadowsDadsClub](https://www.facebook.com/MeadowsDadsClub)

Our mission is to increase fathers' involvement in the Madison Meadows Community through comradere, fundraising, and philanthropy. As a part of Parents & Teachers of Meadows (PTM) we provide dads a place to volunteer, network with other dads and do activities with our kids to help support the parents, teachers, staff and community.

Some of what we do:

Monthly meetings (usually at a local establishment)

Christmas Tree pick up fundraiser (great kid/dad activity)

Dodge Ball Tournament (family fun at its best)

FIRST MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 8TH (via Zoom)!

Contact [MeadowsDadsClub@gmail.com](mailto:MeadowsDadsClub@gmail.com) to be added to email list about upcoming events!

# DADS: WE NEED YOU!!!!



# Welcome Back!

PTM welcomed back our teachers on August 5th!

PTM treated them to a delicious boxed lunch delivered from Miracle Mile Deli, Classroom Supply Check and a new PTM mask!

Thank you Josh, Britton and Chris for all the help!



**DON'T MISS  
IMPORTANT DATES!  
SIGN UP FOR PTM  
ALERTS IN THE  
REMIN APP.  
CLICK "JOIN A  
CLASS" AND TYPE  
@PTMMM**





**MESSAGE FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER,  
MRS. WILLIAMS, AND OUR COUNSELOR,  
MS. MEDOLE**

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO COMPLETE THIS  
SHORT SURVEY WHICH WILL HELP US TO  
KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW WE CAN SUPPORT  
OUR AWESOME PARENT COMMUNITY!

**CLICK BELOW TO TAKE SURVEY**

**Madison Meadows Parent Support Survey**

PLEASE ALSO VISIT:

**[MEADOWS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SUPPORT  
WEBSITE](#)**



**Don't forget to pay your  
\$50 Activity Fee for the  
2020-21 School Year. Also,  
take advantage of the  
Arizona School Tax Credit  
and assign your \$\$\$ to  
Meadows!**



**ATTENTION 6TH GRADE  
PARENTS & CAREGIVERS!**

PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD IS  
UP TO DATE ON THEIR SHOTS.

THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH SERVICES **REQUIRES**  
**ALL 6TH GRADERS** TO GET A  
TETANUS BOOSTER, TDap, AND  
THE MENINGITIS SHOT.

Please bring in a copy or email  
records to Nurse Sharon  
sseivert@madisoned.org



**Follow PTM on  
Instagram at  
[@MeadowsPTM](#)**



**If you purchased a  
2019-2020 yearbook,  
they are available  
for pick up in the  
office.**

## MAP TESTING

### Measure of Academic Progress

MAP is a computerized adaptive formative assessment our students will take a few times this year. The results help teachers identify gaps in knowledge and areas for student growth as well as allow teachers to change or inform their instructional practices. Meadows students will be taking the math assessment this Thursday (7th and 8th grades) and Friday (5th and 6th grades) and the ELA assessment next week Tuesday and Wednesday during block classes as outlined in the table below.

	Math	ELA
8th Grade	Thursday, Sept 3rd - 1B	Tuesday, Sept 8th - 2B
7th Grade	Thursday, Sept 3rd - 2B	Tuesday, Sept 8th - 1B
6th Grade	Friday, Sept 4th - 1A	Wednesday, Sept 9th - 2A
5th Grade	Friday, Sept 4th - 2A	Wednesday, Sept 9th - 1A

**Thursday, September 3rd**  
Period 1B - 8th Grade - Math  
Period 2B - 7th Grade - Math

**Friday, September 4th**  
Period 1A - 6th Grade - Math  
Period 2A - 5th Grade - Math

**Tuesday, September 8th**  
Period 1B - 7th Grade - ELA/Reading  
Period 2B - 8th Grade - ELA/Reading

**Wednesday, September 9th**  
Period 1A - 5th Grade - ELA/Reading  
Period 2A - 6th Grade - ELA/Reading



**[Click here for the Schoolology Parent Guide](#)**



# DID YOU KNOW?

## Owls have long legs!

## JOKES AND FUN!

1

WHEN DOES A JOKE BECOME A "DAD" JOKE?

2

WHAT DO YOU CALL A DUCK THAT GETS ALL A'S?

STUDENTS, TEACHERS,  
STAFF & PARENTS:  
SEND US A FAVORITE  
STORY, JOKE, RIDDLE OR  
PHOTO FOR THE  
MED-O-GRAM  
PRES@MEADOWSPTM.ORG

**MAY MED-O-GRAM ANSWER KEY:**

**1. BETWEEN YOU AND ME, THERE'S SOMETHING THAT SMELLS    2. SNAP CHAT**