



Madrona Elementary School

Lise Van Brunt - Principal
Dayle Powell - Office Manager

520 Detrick Drive
Grants Pass, OR 97527
(541) 476-6624

Dear Mr. Kantola and Esteemed Board Members,

It has been a very busy last few months as you can well imagine. We have had some fun and engaging activities at our school recently. We held our annual PTO carnival. It is one of our major money making activities. It was fun and our brand new PTO board did a fantastic job of putting it all together! We also enjoyed our Artist in Residence for the last two weeks. She taught drumming techniques and music from Africa. It was \$1,400 dollars well spent! The kids and staff loved everything about this residency and the teacher. The kids learned so much. Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students did an amazing performance for the school and parents last week, complete with costumes! Our PTO pays for that amazing experience each year for our school. It's such a valuable experience for our students.

As you can imagine the anxiousness we have all had about our budget and the impact it has on our staffing and our staff itself has been difficult. As we finally get some things resolved, folks are more able to relax and focus on enjoying their last days with students.

We have a few classes still going on field trips this week. Third grade went to Table Rock on Tuesday and just missed the downpour. Friday our fifth grades travel to Medford for a fun excursion of ice skating and bowling. They have earned the trip through a money make and good behavior. We finish up next week with our whole school awards assembly to honor those kids who have earned special recognition for their academic success in reading or math or their citizenship. We also recognize those with perfect attendance. The fifth graders will "Move On" with a fun performance for their school and parents on June 8th at 12:30. You are cordially invited to attend that event.

I want to thank each of you for putting much thought into each decision you make as you approve the final budget. I personally appreciate your consideration of the Late Start schedule. I think the benefits are huge for staff which ultimately is who impacts student learning the most. We will all live and work with your decision one way or the other, but wanted you to know that fact you are even thinking about it means much to me as an educational leader in our district.
Sincerely, Lise Van Brunt

