

## Kim Klayum

**From:** Sandy Watkins  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2011 1:31 PM  
**To:** Kim Klayum  
**Subject:** Newsletter March 4, 2011

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03/4/11

### Newsletter



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#### Save the Date:

**March 21- April 8** - Spring Break!

Office Hours: 8 AM-1 PM

**April 16** - Lower Academy Spring Concerts at Rosemount Community Center

12:00 - Grades K-2 Concert

2:00 - Grades 3 & 4 Concert

**April 22** - Teachers Workshop - No school

**May 7** - Upper Academy Spring Concerts at Rosemount Community Center:

11:00 - Band Performance

1:00 - Grades 5/6 and 7/8 General Music Concert

3:00 - Strings Performance



### From the Director

Dear Families:

On Monday, Sandy, our receptionist extraordinaire, shared with me that our past newsletter was "opened" (and thus hopefully read) 203 times. My mom didn't receive this newsletter, so that must mean that 203 people associated with Paideia Academy read it. This is very exciting to us because the newsletter is a key component of our communication with families; thus the higher the readership, the better. So for all of you who have been reading, thanks! I appreciate your help in encouraging others to read it as well.

During the past few weeks, our staff gathered together for two staff meetings, held from 4-5PM on Wednesdays. It has been invaluable to spend this much needed time together. A large portion of the time was spent writing our staff norms. Norms are present whether they are

spoken or unspoken. When they are formalized, however, it gives a team an agreed upon way to operate. It is how a group agrees to "do business." High functioning teams generally have formalized norms.

Our staff followed a process to create our shared norms so that we could all take ownership. Each staff member wrote out 10 norms, one on each note card. I divided the team up into 9 groups with staff members who do not normally interact with one another. Each individual in the group shared their norms, and everyone worked to combine the common ones together. Then I moved the 9 groups into 4 groups to repeat the exercise-share out norms and combine the common ones together. Again, I moved 4 groups down to 2 to repeat the exercise. By this time, not surprisingly, we had pared down all of those individual note cards into approximately 14 common themes. We then separated back into our 9 groups. Each group received 1-2 stacks of organized, theme-based note cards. The goal was to write a norm that clearly expresses the meaning of each stack.

As each group finished writing, I typed them up and projected them onto a screen so everyone could read them. There was some overlap so we worked together to edit and word-smith to better represent the meaning of each norm. At the end of all this, we came down to 6 comprehensive norms in draft form. Here's an example of one: **COMMUNICATION: Be open and honest. Deal with conflict and/or concerns directly in a positive manner for the purpose of problem solving. Give the facilitator full attention. Keep side conversations to a minimum. Speak your truth.**

All staff members have 2 weeks to review and reflect upon the norms. At our next meeting, we will edit if needed and then fist-to-five our approval. Once our norms are adopted by staff, we will read them at the beginning of every meeting (when two or more gather), assess our adherence to the norms at the end of every meeting, and most importantly, hold one another to them on as individuals.

At the end of the day, I do not expect us to be best friends with everyone on our team. In fact, it is our differences that make us stronger. However, I have every expectation that we will operate as a high functioning team through commitment to our norms.

Thank you for reading this lengthy edition of the weekly newsletter! The next time you see me, give me a high five. And as always, please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns, props (praise), and/or suggestions.

Warmly,  
Joyce

## From the Office

Remember!

**If your student is tardy** - you are to accompany them into the office to sign them in. Please do not drop students off at the door if it is after 8:15!

**Summer Fun Camp!** July 11 - 29<sup>th</sup> are the dates for Summer Fun Camp. We will be providing reading and math small group classes for students who receive special education services and for students who are having difficulty with either reading or math. More details will follow after spring break.

**Kinder-Enrichment** payments are due.

## **PIE**

**PIE nomination Forms Due TODAY!** PIE is taking applications/nominations for the following positions for 2011-2012: Co-Chair, Kindergarten, 4th Grade, 5th Grade and 7th Grade. Please see the PIE website for Nomination forms. Applications can be submitted to the office via paper or e-mailed to [PIE@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:PIE@paideiaacademy.org). Being part of PIE is an excellent way to be in touch with what is happening at school, meet other parents in your child's grade level and get your volunteer hours completed.

The next PIE Meeting will be held Monday, March 7 at 6:30 pm in the large commons. Speakers will include a Wrap-up from Family Night, Bret Walsh (Board Co-Chair and Chair of the Expansion Committee) speaking about a potential Paideia expansion, and Joyce Lee speaking on Teacher Collaboration. We hope you will join us; remember attending PIE Meetings counts for volunteer hours as well. The Carnival Committee will be meeting after the PIE Meeting in the small commons.

### **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's**

Mark your Calendars and watch backpacks today for All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's order forms. Join PIE on March 19 from 8 am to 10 am at Applebee's on 147th and Cedar. Meet other Paideia families, invite extended family and be served by the PIE Committee! Be careful, we might munch on your pancakes as we bring them to your table...

You must pre-order, tickets will NOT be available at the door.

Please click the link below for ticket order form.

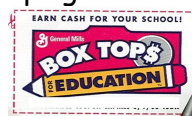
[Applebee's order form](#)

## **Fundraising**

### **BOXTOPS for Education Contest!**

**Contest runs March 1 until April 11.**

**Start clipping those box tops!**



**Tell your friends and neighbors too!**

Collection pails for each grade will be in the commons area near the office.

The winning grade will get an out of uniform day!

Money raised helps the school pay for field trips.

### **CARNIVAL GAME SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.**

Attention Paideia families. Are you looking for a great, inexpensive way to advertise your (husband/ wife, grandma/grandpa's) business to an appreciative audience? Carnival night is only a couple of months away and we are looking for businesses or organizations that would be interested in sponsoring a game for the Paideia carnival.

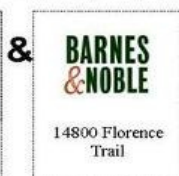
Sponsorship cost can be as little or as large as your budget will allow! Sponsorship donations help defray the cost of prizes for the game and we will gladly acknowledge your company's generous gift. Age appropriate give-aways (t-shirts, water bottles, USB/thumb drives) left over from your last marketing campaign (with prior Paideia approval) may be used as partial sponsorship donations.

Not a business owner but an employee? No problem - please check with your employer as they may have an interest in a low budget, high touch kind of advertising event.

For additional information, please contact either Phil Ramsland (651-319-1434 / [phil.ramsland@yahoo.com](mailto:phil.ramsland@yahoo.com)) or Laurie Holmberg (612-940-6822 / [laurieholmberg@cs.com](mailto:laurieholmberg@cs.com)) from the carnival games committee. Sponsorship deadline is Friday 4/1/11 but don't wait - call today. First come, first serve on your choice of games. Opportunities exist for sponsorship at all ages, including an expanded selection of "grownup games", at this year's carnival!! THANKS!

# PAIDEIA ACADEMY APPLE VALLEY ART CRAWL

See the students art  
work displayed at:



**NOW  
SHOWING!**

**Artwork will be displayed March 2 - April 11**



Paideia Glee Club at MOA

Last Thursday, the Paideia Academy Glee Club was lucky enough to compete in the Fox 9 Glee Invitational in the Rotunda at the Mall of America! The group sang the song "Fireflies" by Owatonna's own group Owl City. They did an AMAZING job! They



were one of the youngest groups there, and still managed to hold their own. They had some great feedback from the judges and received many compliments on their mature poise and technique from mall viewers. As the glee club leader, I am VERY proud of my group. They continue to work really hard and impress me every day with their dedication. I am very lucky to work with all of them!

Also, starting on Monday the 7, our glee club's "Wake Up With Fox 9" jingle video will be up on myfox9.com for people to vote for! Please go to the site and vote as many times as you can for our little group! If they win, they will be able to sing that song in a Fox 9 commercial!

Thanks for the support!

~Ms. Simon

## **Y Schoolage Care**

*Family Dodge Ball was a smashing success!*

*We had a great turn out, great food, and a great time! We hope to see you at our next YMCA sponsored event. Details coming soon.*

**Give your kids fun, friendships and experiences to grow on during Rally Days from Friday, March 4 - Sunday, March 6, and receive special deals on Summer Programs.**

- :: \$50 off (no registration fee) on Summer Power (ages 5 - 12) and Uproar (ages 12 - 14)
- :: \$25 off per camp session on Overnight Teen Wilderness Camp sessions
- :: Discounts on Day Camp, Summer Sports and Extreme session-check your local branch for details

Need more information?

**Summer Programs Fair | Saturday, March 5 | 9 am - Noon**

- Meet the staff and talk to the experts
- See videos of summer programs in action
- Fun activities for the kids.
- At all YMCAs

## **Time to register for Spring Break!**

**March 21-25 @ Highland Elementary**

Activities and trips to include:

Target Field Tour, Eagan Ice Arena, Theme days and more!

**March 28- April 1 @ Paideia Academy**

Art Themed Week "Finding Art Everyday"

Learn to see art in everything you do with Guest Artist, Bonnie Lindberg, Use your new "seeing art" skills at the Walker Art Museum, Test your artistic abilities with a visit from the ScrapMobile and oh so much more!

**April 4- 8 @ Paideia Academy**

"Survivor Week" a Nature Skills Themed Week

Learn about outdoor shelters with a trip to a cave, Quiet a hungry belly with an outdoor cooking day, and rejuvenate your soul with a hike through Lebanon Hills Nature area among other wilderness-inspired activities!

Daily schedules to come out Monday March 7. Stop by The Y SAC table to talk to Liz or Robert, your friendly YMCA School Age Care Staff!

### **Our Vision**

We envision a new generation of engaged, productive global citizens.

### **Our Mission**

The Mission of Paideia Academy is to challenge and inspire learners by providing a rigorous, content-rich, classical education incorporating languages, music, and the arts while nurturing positive character.

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