



Paideia Academy

October 7, 2011

Quick Links

Paideia Website

www.paideiaacademy.org

PIE Committee

pie@paideiaacademy.org

SchoolView Questions

mnufer@paideiaacademy.org

Lunch account balances

[FeePay](#)

Attendance

swatkins@paideiaacademy.org
952-953-6200

Mark Your Calendar!

October 10 thru 21- Fall Break - Enjoy!

October 12- Grades Available on SchoolView

October 22 - Uniform Swap / Sale 9 AM - 12 PM

October 24th- Paideia Academy Special Education Parent Support Group 4 PM - 6 PM.

Important Music Dates to remember:

Concerts (Location: Paideia)

December 13 - 6:30 PM Grades K & 1

December 15 - 6:30 PM Grades 5,6,7& 8 Strings and Band concerts

March 1 - 6:30 PM Grades 2 & 3

March 15 at 6:30 PM Grades 4 & 5 (general music only)

May 31- 6:30 PM Grades 5,6, 7 & 8 Strings and Band concerts

Music Field Trip

February 28 - Minnesota Orchestra Field Trip, "Peter and the Wolf"
Grades K - 4

Dear families:

I am not a crier. Typically, I cry once a year and usually it's because someone close to me has passed away or there is a catastrophic tragedy (ie. the World Trade Center attacks) or I'm overwhelmed with stress. These past few weeks, I have cried on a daily basis, usually while I'm at school when I'm alone in my office and make the mistake of taking a moment to think about not being here come October 24.

Despite my own sadness, I have a vision of what I would like to see and hear about Paideia a year from today. I envision people in the Paideia community from all different walks of life and backgrounds working together for the common purpose of educating the future generation of our great nation. I envision stakeholders assuming the best in others and finding a way to come to consensus. I envision a school community that is built upon trust and mutual respect where bridges are built rather than walls. I believe that the Paideia community will rise to the occasion and take its place as the number one school of choice in Dakota County.

Words cannot express how much I have enjoyed being a part of the Paideia community and how much I will miss so many aspects of being the director here. To name a few: greeting students first thing in the morning and having lunch together, working with the staff during collaboration time, and getting to know parents/guardians through the various events that bring you into the school. My sincerest gratitude to all of the wonderful Paideia families, Board members, students, and staff! Stay the course.

Have a restful, rejuvenating break!

All my best,
Joyce

Teacher's Corner: Jessica Stevens Kindergarten Enrichment Teacher

How I decided to become a teacher:

I realized that teaching was my passion when I was very young. I used to love playing school with my siblings and neighbors and I was always the teacher. Despite this, I originally decided to pursue journalism in college. I have always loved to write and enjoyed working on the school newspaper in high school. One day, after giving a presentation in my French class, the French teacher asked if I was going to go to school for education. When I said no, she frowned and said, "well you really should consider it. It's very obvious you enjoy teaching other people." It was at that moment I realized she was right and decided to go to school for education. I am so glad I did because now, I cannot imagine doing anything else!

Some of my past experiences with students:

I have spent a lot of time working with students. When I was in college, I was involved in the local YMCA tutoring program where I tutored five children in math and literacy on a weekly basis. For the past six years, I have been the lead school-age teacher at KinderCare Learning Centers, as well as the lead half-day kindergarten enrichment teacher. While teaching kindergarten, I have thoroughly enjoyed watching my students discover the joy of learning. There is simply nothing more exhilarating as seeing a child light up with excitement over a science experiment or experience that 'ah-ha moment' when a concept finally clicks.

What I like to do in my free time:

I like to keep busy and am always on the go! Besides working at Paideia, I work as a supervisor in the child center at Lifetime Fitness and I watch two-year-old twins every other weekend. When I am not working, I can usually be found out and about with friends and family, curled up with a good book, shopping or simply at home, relaxing!

If I could have one wish, what would I wish for?

If I could have one wish, I would wish to pass on the love of learning to every child I meet.

Staff Member's Corner: Ann Palmer, Instructional Assistant 2nd grade

Hi! I'm Ann Palmer. I'm an Instructional Assistant in Special Education here at Paideia Academy. Before joining the Paideia community in August 2010, I worked at Visitation School in Mendota Heights coordinating parent volunteers. I received my Bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota (way back when), and my Master of Arts in Education from the University of St. Thomas in 2008, focused on Curriculum and Instruction. Since then I have also completed a graduate certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders from the University of St. Thomas.

My interest in autism spectrum disorders was prompted by my son's diagnosis with Asperger's Syndrome when he was ten years old. At that time, support resources for students and families dealing with autism spectrum issues were just beginning to emerge. As I learned more about Asperger's Syndrome it became clear that education, advocacy, and sharing our experiences as an "Asperger's" family would be key elements in our future. With autism spectrum diagnoses on the rise it is important to share our knowledge and experience with others who find themselves and their families in similar situations.

I've always been an "artsy" kind of person and I continue to quilt, knit, bead, and do needlepoint on a regular basis. I own a large floor-standing harp that I'd love to learn how to play, and at some point there's probably a stained-glass workshop in my future. But what I'd really like to figure out is that "Bewitched" trick of cleaning my house just by wrinkling my nose!

If I could have one wish, I would wish to have everyone treat others, especially those with challenges or disabilities, as the special individuals that they are. I see each person as someone's friend, sibling, parent, or son or daughter, with all of the same hopes and dreams as every other person across the globe. It is each person's unique personality - quirks, mysteries, talents, tears, and smiles all included - that makes our world such a wonderful place.

From the Office

Drop off / Dismissal

Please use the crosswalk that is patrolled by our staff. If you cross in an area that is not patrolled, it creates unsafe traffic patterns putting both pedestrians and automobiles in harm's way as well as slowing down the dismissal process. Thank you for your cooperation!

Paideia Academy offers families access to SchoolView, an online service that is easy to access and will enhance teacher/family communication. In SchoolView you can:

- Find information about your child's schedule, attendance, discipline, demographic information and academic performance.
- Subscribe to an email alert system that will automatically send an email when your child is absent.
- Pay for and check your student's lunch balances.
- Update your phone numbers and e-mail addresses as well as update student health information.
- **Grades will be available in Schoolview on Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 8 AM.**
- *If you do not have a Schoolview account, please complete the Schoolview access form located on the website or stop by the office*

Attention 8th Graders!

We want you to create your best original cover idea and enter it into the yearbook cover art contest. The winner will have their design featured on the cover of the yearbook and receive a free copy of the yearbook!

Here are some helpful tips when designing your cover:

1. It must fit the theme - "Be the One"!
2. Student work only, with name on the back of entry
3. Must be 8.5 x 11 inches in size
4. Must be school appropriate
5. All entries are due by October 25th (Tuesday after Fall break) - No late entries
6. Submit in a sealed envelope and drop of at the front desk addressed to yearbook committee. (Envelopes will be available at the front desk.)
7. Judging will take place and winners will be announced the first week of November

Club Updates:

It is time to register for 2nd Quarter Clubs! registration forms are on the website and in the lobby.

The Trap Shooting Club will be held during 3rd - 4th quarter not 2nd quarter. The reason it is out in the 2nd quarter club form is because Dave Gunawan, the parent who is organizing the club, needs to submit information regarding how many students will be participating to the gun range and the league, thus the enrollment deadline is Dec 15th. Club fees are due by Dec 15.

PIE / Fundraising

Pizza contest!

Please save your boxtops, Coke caps, Kemps caps, Kwik trip milk caps and donut price stickers, and Land O Lake caps for the contest. The class with the most collected will get a pizza party. We will collect them in January.

Uniform Swap Day & Spirit wear / Polo sale! October 22, 2011 9 AM-Noon

Guidelines:

Our purpose is to be green by reusing clothing that is still in good shape and to provide an economical way for Paideia families to get the uniform clothing that they need.

Sellers:

Please arrive 15 minutes early to grab a spot. If possible let us know you'll be there so we can ensure enough space for everyone. If you have any questions please email pafundraising@paideiaacademy.org. Please bring in gently used, laundered items for resale or trade.

We will provide a section of table to lay items out for display. You are responsible for keeping track of and collecting money for your own items.

We will have suggested prices for the items.

We leave trades to the discretion of the involved parties.

We will collect leftover items sellers no longer want for either the school office or Goodwill (depending on condition).

Buyers:

Please try to bring cash in proper denominations.

Please be respectful of items and sellers.

The school store will be there with **new** red polos, spirit wear, fleece and sweat shirts.

* **Please note:** Paideia offers all **families on free / reduced lunch** to visit our surplus of donations anytime! Items are located in the office and are free of charge.

Technology



Two of Mrs. Johnson's kindergarten students practice putting the alphabet in order on the SmartBoard. Students are able to interact with the SmartBoard by touching each letter in the proper order. Everyone in Mrs. Johnson's room gets a turn on the SmartBoard and students get very excited when it is their turn! Kindergarteners also use the SmartBoard to take attendance in the morning, practice their lettering and learn math skills. [Click here to see a SmartBoard in action.](#)

Special Education

Dyslexia Awareness Month

IDA-UMB will celebrate Dyslexia Awareness Month by hosting a free screening of the HBO film, "Journey Into Dyslexia", on Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 2 p.m. at the University of St. Thomas O'Shaughnessy Educational Center (OEC) Auditorium.

Open to the public. Please register to reserve your seat by calling 612-486-4242.

Seats are limited so register today!

Paideia Academy Special Education Parent Support Group meeting from 4 PM - 6 PM on October 24 with childcare provided.

Renaissance Festival Field Trip



Students in the GT grades 3-5 classes as well as an enrichment Young Author's Group had a splendid day in the warm September sun exploring the time period called the Renaissance period at the MN Renaissance Fest. After enjoying a visit with the king, having two winners in the costume contest (Anna Amodeo and Elliot Brown) and then viewing the joust, students went on a treasure hunt to find the lost treasures of the Renaissance that Mrs. Belleveau had hidden around the festival grounds with clues. The 5th grade girls found Galileo's telescope, Leonardo Da Vinci's works and journals and many other items that typified that time of great learning and exploration and were the winners despite the 5th grade boys keeping one item out of their hands (a map of Italy). A huge thanks to all parent volunteers and especially a big HUZZAH to Tedra Johnson who coordinated the process.

Girl Scouts

1st grade Daisy Girl Scouts

Paideia 1st grade has formed a troop with leader Melyssa Lloyd and co-leader Stephanie Siddiqui

Parent/Child Information session is on Thursday, October 27th at 3:45pm at Paideia Academy

Please RSVP by Tuesday, October 24th if you are coming to this new meeting.

Melyssa at melyssa96@gmail.com, 952-212-9096 & Stephanie at sgsiddiqui@yahoo.com, 612-851-0232

Generally, the meetings will be once a month at Paideia Academy on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 2:30 to 4pm. There will be a second monthly meeting as an outing at a different time.

Thank you for your interest in Daisy Girl scouts!

Melyssa at melyssa96@gmail.com, 952-212-9096 & Stephanie at sgsiddiqui@yahoo.com, 612-851-0232

COMMUNITY EVENTS PROVIDED by the Diversity Equity Committee (DEC)

- Harvest Festival at the MN Zoo. Every weekend in October. This weekend is BlueGrass Fest Weekend. Check it out at: http://www.mnzoo.com/events/Events_harvestweekend2011.asp
- Free Family Flicks -Every Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m.at the Mall of America Theatre. The entire

family can enjoy select movies for FREE every Saturday. First-come, first-served as seating is limited to the theater capacity.

- Int'l Folk Dance on October 07, 2011 Friday, 7:30-9pm in Tapestry's large dance space. For more information: http://tapestryfolkdance.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1
Admission cost (at the door): \$8/\$5 students (w/ student ID) FREE for kids ages 13 & under (must be supervised by an adult)
- Anthony Caponi Book Launch at Caponi Art Park in Eagan. Sunday, October 9, 1-4 p.m. in the Sculpture Garden. Book reading of Meaning Beyond Reason by Anthony Caponi at 2 p.m. [More information here](#)
- 20th annual Haunted Forest at North Park in Lakeville. Saturday, October 22, 5:30-8:30 p.m. All ages, families encouraged to attend. \$10 per carload or \$3 per person, plus a non-perishable food item. [More information here](#)
- 29th Annual Halloween Festivity at Central Park in Rosemount. Saturday, October 2pm, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more information: www.rosemountevents.com
- St. Paul Interfaith Network Fall Dialogue Series Think of a moment in your experience when you powerfully "saw" racism. That memory will be unique to each of us, and yet it can be shared in ways that open other eyes to what we have seen. When we come to see differently, we are never the same again. St. Paul Interfaith Network Fall Dialogue Series, will meet on Mondays, October 10, 17 and 24, 7:00pm-9:15pm for a series called, Eyes Wide Open -A Conversation about Racism, Discrimination, Prejudice and Meeting the Other. The panelists represent Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Baha'i, and Hindu leaders and include African American, Hmong, Latino, Caucasian and Native American people. <http://spinterfaith.org/annual-fall-dialogue-series.html>

~ 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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