Calendar:

November 7 - Strategic Long
Range Planning Committee Meeting
7 PM & Technology Committee
Meeting, 6 PM
November 12 - PTO Meeting
November 14 - Board Meeting
November 21-23 - Thanksgiving
Break

All School Dance! November 16 6:30 - 9:00 pm

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 development.

From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

Thank you to all of you who have expressed concern about my friends and family affected by Superstorm Sandy. My heart has certainly been on the east coast this week. Fortunately, all are safe, though most are without power and phone. The situation back east is frightening, and it is a true reminder for all of us unaffected by it to be thankful for all the good things in our lives.

Paideia has been celebrating our good fortune in many ways in the past week. The fun started last Friday night when the school was taken over by costumed children ready to nestle up with their families and friends to watch a movie in the gym. It was an amazing sight to see ladybugs, princesses, superheroes, a banana, ninjas, and a variety of other costumes on our students as they enjoyed being together. Thank you to Ginie Klopp for organizing such a great event!

Wednesday's Kindergarten sock hop was a huge success, and classroom parties and activities provided opportunities for students to have fun together while continuing to develop their skills. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who participated in these events.

Lastly, our Family Night last night could not have been more enjoyable! Our School-wide Events Committee, led by 4th grade teacher Crystal Creighton, did an amazing job of organizing educational and fun activities for children and their families to participate in. Our entire staff and community members did a fabulous job leading *Passport Around the World* activities, including African dancing, Antarctic ice studies, Karate in Asia, and other cultural explorations. In addition, we were honored by the presence of five local candidates for State Senate and House of Representatives who were thrilled to be able to speak with the more than 50 students and their families who attended the event before elections next week.

It certainly does seem that life is non-stop around here, but, after living in NYC for nearly twenty years, I must like it that way! The next two weeks continue to include busy evening schedules, including a Technology Committee meeting (Wednesday, Nov. 7^{th} – 6pm), a Governance and Long-Range Planning Committee meeting (Wednesday, Nov. 7^{th} – 6:30pm), a PTO meeting (Monday, Nov. 12^{th} – 7pm) focused on ensuring students' physical and online safety, and our November Board meeting (Weds., Nov. 14^{th} – 7pm). I look forward to seeing you at these events!

Sincerely, Marci Levy-Maguire Director From the Office Page 2

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures:

Time for a REFESHER!

We ask that everyone please read page 18 of the Family Handbook to make sure proper procedures are being followed.

PLEASE SLOW DOWN AND FOLLOW THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC - It's for the safety of all children!

October 23, 2012 Board Meeting Highlights:

- Paideia has adopted a new working budget, using an enrollment of 380 students, to use for the remainder of this year. Paideia is still in excellent financial standing despite minor changes to contracts and expenditures.
- Round one of Data Driven Instruction (DDI) assessments and analysis meetings have been completed. The next step is writing Reading/Language Arts assessments to administer in second quarter. Re-teaching and enrichment plans were developed and implemented the first week of second quarter. Teachers met in cross-grade level teams to examine MCA item samplers and state standards to begin the process of closing instructional and content gaps. Round one of teacher observations has been completed.
- Paideia's Annual Report and Family Handbook were both approved and will be posted to the school website in the near future. Contract positions for Heidi Clendening (2nd Grade) and Tom Szewczyk (Special Education) were added and approved.
- Volunteers are needed to research transportation options and crosswalk guard grant funding for our school. If you are interested in helping, please contact Rachel Chamley at <u>rcham-</u> ley@paideiaacademy.org.
- Major technology initiatives of the month include: DDI testing using Quia and Apperson software, Apperson scanner machine purchase for DDI, report cards available on Schoolview on 10/11/2012, teacher website development, assistive technology conference, classroom set of iPads ready to be used in classrooms, teacher development for SmartBoards and SmartResponders.
- PTO update: Innisbruck fundraiser earned \$3000 for our school, a poster maker will be purchased using those funds and additional funds; the book fair is coming to Paideia November 26-30; poinsettia sales are coming up soon; a \$1000 loan from the Board to PAPTO has been repaid; PTO has been re-filed as a corporation; the Family Directory will be posted in November; the meeting on November 12th will focus on cyber safety.
- Next steps: continue developing community partnerships, increase student recruitment efforts, work to increase consistency of curriculum and instruction across and between grade levels, update marketing websites and publications, look into combining with a District 196 trapshooting team, create a locker policy for winter gear (coats, boots, snow pants, etc.), support a second round of teacher observations, and collaborate about the Gifted & Talented identification process.
- There is a Technology Committee meeting at 6:00 on Wednesday, November 7th, and a Governance & Long Range Planning Committee meeting at 7:00 on Wednesday, November 7th. Both are open to the public.
- An open house is planned for December 13th to showcase Paideia as a local option and to high-light the programming that we have.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 14th at 7:00. Please join us!!!



PTO Meeting November 12 at 6:30 - Safety Night

Our police liaison officer, Officer Demming will be presenting to parents and bringing in the Geek squad. After viewing the chilling video, Tracking Theresa, you'll be glad you attended this PTO meeting and learned ways to keep the people most precious to you (your children) as safe as possible.

All School Dance November 16 at 6:30 - 9:00 pm

The annual All School Dance will be held on Friday, November 16th. This is an excellent chance to meet other Paideia families and have some fun with your students dancing the night away! Concessions will be sold - only pre-packaged non-dinner items will be available. Please no outside food or drinks, the PTO sells concessions to cover the cost of this event. Volunteers are needed for the concessions and security - these events can't take place without your help! Please contact pto@paideiaacademy.org if you can volunteer.

Volunteers needed

Please contact PTO at pto@paideiaacademy.org if you are able to help at the:

All School Dance - November 16th, 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Book Fair - November 26th - 30th, hours to be determined

Poinsettia Sale (PTO Fundraiser) - Delivery Date: December 4th, 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm - shifts available

