

Paideia Academy

November 9, 2012

Calendar:

November 12 - PTO Meeting

November 20 - Board Meeting

November 21-23 - Thanksgiving Break

Take Note of Board
Meeting Date Change!

**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,

It's been another busy week at Paideia! Our 7th and 8th graders attended Math Day at the Minnesota Zoo, our 5th graders led the Lower Academy in the Pledge of Allegiance in Spanish, students have spent time honoring veterans in a variety of ways to celebrate Veterans' Day, and everything was heightened by the excitement of national, state, and local elections this week. While one big week winds down, another one awaits...

On Monday, we will honor our Veterans at Morning Meeting. We hope you will join us and share in the experience. On Wednesday evening, the Marketing Committee will meet to prepare for our upcoming Open House in December and to discuss how we can best publicize Paideia as the unique and special educational opportunity it is for students and families.

Thursday, **November 15th is MN Give to the Max Day**, a day when non-profit organizations seek as many donations as possible to support their organizations. Our hope at Paideia is that our families, local community organizations, and anyone else who believes in our educational mission and vision will give what they can to ensure that our students get the best education possible. Please spread the word and ask your friends and family to support our school by clicking on the link on our website to make a donation.

Next Friday night, November 16th, is our school-wide dance! We're looking forward to enjoying this evening of celebration with our families, but we need parent volunteers to make it happen. Please contact the PTO to see how you can help. pto@paideiaacademy.org

Saturday, November 17th (10am-4pm) is a free Math and Science Family Fun Fair at the University of Minnesota. To learn more about this opportunity, see http://cse.umn.edu/k12/CSE_CONTENT_254378.php. It's a great opportunity to engage your children in fun activities that help them see the connections between how what they learn in school is applied to the real world.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our wonderful faculty and staff for all the amazing work they do every day! This week, during collaborative planning time, teachers provided each other with feedback on assignments, activities, and assessments to better support individual students in the classroom. They shared best practices, strategies for motivating students in and out of the classroom, and ideas to help students be more productively active during class. This is all in addition to the great works they do every day.

Educating children requires not just physical energy, but lots of emotional energy as well. Please remember that our faculty and staff thrive on positive emotional energy so they can pass that on to your children all day every day. Anything you can do to add to their bank of positivity is greatly appreciated – smiles and thank yous during morning arrival, a note, or a statement of encouragement or appreciation at any time. We give what we receive, and I, personally, would like to thank you for all the encouragement I have received from our families.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

Give to the Max day. Please consider supporting Paideia Academy with a tax-deductible donation on November 15th. In past years Paideia has used these funds to greatly improve the technology our teachers and students use in education. This year we will use your gifts to provide many opportunities to our staff to achieve higher goals in teaching and educating our students. Join us in making Paideia Academy one of the top schools in the area.

<http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Paideia-Team>

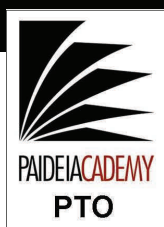


Technology in the Classroom



Mr. Olofson's seventh grade students use the iPads to take a quiz on the parts of the microscope. The website they are using, Quia, helps teachers administer tests and quizzes by scoring them for the teacher.

In addition, Quia provides immediate feedback to students so they know how well they understood the material. In addition to web browsing, Paideia's classroom set of iPads have over 200 educational apps loaded on them and can be used as cameras, video-recorders and interactive whiteboards.



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 attending 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

Letter from the PTO President

Dear Paideia Parents and Guardians,

I wanted to take a moment and fill you in on the work that is taking place behind the scene with regard to Paideia Academy PTO. Previously the parent group was called PIE (Parents In Education). This group was a sub-committee of the School Board and like the school it evolved and grew. At the end of the 2010-2011 school year it was decided by the sitting PIE Committee to move forward with becoming a separate entity and become a PTO. This process has been bumpy, but is well underway. The School Board recognizes the PTO as a separate entity and partner. The state of MN recognizes Paideia Academy PTO as an Incorporated Non-Profit. We are also working to file for the IRS designation of a 501-c3 organization which will make it possible for our families to use donations to the PTO as a charitable organization and be tax benefit base on those donations.

The PTO will continue to put on the events you know and love. The Movie Night on October 26th had one of the highest turn outs we have yet to see! The upcoming Fall All School Dance is another community event that allows students and families to meet and spend time together outside of the school day. We will continue to have monthly PTO meetings with speakers and presentations on topics that will provide you information on what is happening at the school or interesting parenting topics. If you haven't heard, the Carnival is back on the calendar for this school year (mark those calendars for April 26th).

Though many things are the same, many things are changing. The biggest change between PIE and PTO is membership and voting. All parents and guardians of Paideia Academy students and Paideia Academy Staff are considered members of the PTO. This means that you have voting rights. As the PTO Board makes plans and puts forth options, you the voting members will be able to direct the course of the PTO and have a say. Attendance at the PTO meetings is all that is necessary to be a part of the decision making process.

Due to the turn over of 3/4 of the Executive Officers on the PTO Board we got a late start to planning the 2012/2013 school year, but we're reorganizing and putting things back on course. We need your help. Small things like providing security (watching a set of stairs to keep students downstairs) during the dance are just as important as being a Board Coordinator (we still need a Volunteer Coordinator and a Student/Family Programs Coordinator).

I'm excited about the direction of the PTO, for this year and next year and beyond. I'm excited to continue to meet families and hear their new ideas. I'm excited to partner with the Board and Administration to support our teachers and students in new ways.

I hope you will join me in this excitement. I would love to see you at PTO meetings, there is always something that needs to be done and I hope you will join the Paideia Academy PTO team any way you can (we'll provide introductions of officers and coordinators in upcoming newsletters).

If you have questions, concerns or ideas please contact us at pto@paideiaacademy.org.

See you next week at the Dance!

Ginie Klopp

PTO President