



Paideia Academy

November 30, 2012

Calendar:

December 4 - Technology Committee Meeting 4: 00 PM

December 6 - Winter Music Concert - 6:30 PM
(Performance by Upper Academy Band & Strings)

December 11 - Programming (Scheduling) Committee Meeting 4: 00 PM

December 13 - OPEN HOUSE 6:30-7:30 PM

December 24 through January 11 Winter Break

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.

***The Paideia Academy Instrumental Music Program,
in partnership with the MacPhail Center for Music, cordially invites you to attend:***

A Celebration of Dance: Paideia Academy Winter Music Concert

Thursday, December 6th at 6:30 PM

We will be playing music people have danced to throughout history and across the world including hits from Adele, LMFAO, Katy Perry, and Ludwig van Beethoven.

Students participating in instrumental music are required to be at the school at 5:45 PM.

More information is available on your child's

From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving break with your children! It was certainly nice for us to see everyone again on Monday morning. Though we had a short week the week of Thanksgiving, we certainly got a lot accomplished! The Board approved a new Strategic Plan which was designed to clarify our school-wide goals for the next three years and increase our focus on student performance and what it takes to help all students meet high expectations. This document will be used to guide our work and help us assess our school's progress and performance. The Strategic Plan is now on our website - please take a few moments to read it when you have a chance.

Thank you to the Upper Academy families who attended our meetings this Tuesday to discuss our upcoming field trips to Concordia Language Village (6th) and Wolf Ridge (7th & 8th)! We are very excited about these overnight trips, both of which are firmly aligned to what students are learning in their classes and support our school mission and vision. Our goals for field trips are to: 1) align all field trips to Paideia curricula, 2) keep all trips cost-effective, 3) ensure 100% student participation, and 4) minimize the amount of staff time used for trip planning. We are already starting to plan for next year (I know, it seems early, but you can never plan too early in schools!), and we will be reaching out to you for ideas for field trips in addition to input on our academic and extracurricular programs. Please see the below announcement regarding our first 2013-2014 Programming Committee meeting on Dec. 11th.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Upper Academy Winter Music Concert next Thursday! (I'll be the one playing the tambourine. J) Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

November 20, 2012 Board Meeting Highlights:

- The 2011-2012 audit rating issued to Paideia was “clean.” This is the best rating that charter schools can receive, and the auditor was happy to report that Paideia does not exhibit any of the typical setbacks or issues normally faced by charter schools.
- A final copy of the 2012-2015 Long Range Strategic Plan has been approved by the Board. Several board policies were revised and approved. The 2012-2013 Gifted and Talented policy was approved, with a plan to make revisions for the 2013-2014 academic year. A Director Evaluation model and proposal for a Teacher Workplace Satisfaction Program were both approved for implementation this year.
- Second round teacher observations, quarter 2 DDI assessments, partnerships with District 196 schools and other community organizations, grant proposals for science-related professional development, new marketing strategies, alignment of the Core Knowledge curriculum and MN state standards, and a Paideia chapter of the National Junior Honor Society are all underway and will continue to be a focus in the upcoming month. Paideia is hosting an Open House on December 13th to showcase what we have to offer – please spread the word!
- 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 rhamley@paideiaacademy.org.
- Major technology initiatives of the month include: assessment software deployment, Cognos student records/information training, technology meeting to discuss increasing parent involvement with SchoolView and our current website, assistive technology training, TIES training on integrating technology into the curriculum, possible increased partnership with Synergy for maintenance and troubleshooting, iPad integration into classrooms, and use of SmartResponders.
- PTO update: wonderful attendance at the all-school dance (thank you to volunteers); Scholastic book fair the week of 11/26-11/30; December meeting to discuss the PTO’s plan, voting rights, and spirit wear for families; grade level reps will be sending out agendas and minutes to all families to increase participation.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 18th at 7:00. Please join us!!!

Spread the News!
Paideia will be hosting an Open House event on
December 13th

From the office

Have you checked the lost & found lately

The lost and found is overflowing!
Please make a point of stopping by to check it out.

Warning

Do not park right outside the building (carline area) if you are coming in the building!
Cars cannot be left unattended anytime while next to a yellow curb.

Technology Committee Meeting

Dec 4, 2012, 4:00

Small Commons

Please join us to discuss teacher laptop use, technology expectations for teachers and a 1:1 laptop program for middle school students. Parents/guardians, teachers, students and staff are welcome.

Programming Committee Meeting

Dec 11, 2012, 4-5:30pm

Small Commons

Please join us to discuss scheduling changes for next year. Topics will include specialist schedules, middle school core classes, electives and more. Parents/guardians, teachers, students and staff are welcome.

Volunteers opportunities

• Interested in earning volunteer hours from home?

Maggie Ekrem, mekrem@paideiaacademy.org, needs help coordinating the STEM speakers series for 6-8 students. It involves emailing potential speakers, solidifying times and determining topics. Less than 30 minutes per week is required. Please contact Maggie if you are interested. Thank you!

• **Do you have a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math?** Would you be willing to come in and speak to 6-8th grade students during their lunch hour? Do you know someone with a career in one of these areas who would be willing to come in and speak? If so, please contact Maggie Ekrem at mekrem@paideiaacademy.org. This optional speaker series for students takes place Fridays from 12:35-1:10 and we're looking for members of the Paideia community to share their careers and backgrounds with the next generation. Thank you!

• Interested in completing your parent volunteer hours in the community?

The Community Service Committee is partnering with Augustana Senior Health Care Center of Apple Valley in an effort to expand volunteer opportunities serving seniors in the community. Augustana is looking for volunteers of all ages to help transport residents to and from activities, running a popcorn machine, serving refreshments, playing games, assisting with bingo, and reading and visiting with residents. This is a great way to serve your community and engage in a family activity, while fulfilling some of your Paideia Academy volunteer hours. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, Dec. 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th, Jan. 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th. from 10:15 am - 11:30 am. The sign-up sheet is located at the volunteer table. For further information, please contact Mike Roll at 952-953-6200.