



Paideia Academy

December 14, 2012

Calendar:

December 17 - Goodbye breakfast (after morning meeting)

December 18 - Technology Committee Meeting 6:00 PM
Board Meeting 7:00 PM

December 24 through January 11 Winter Break

January 2 - Grades available in Schoolview, 8:00 AM

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,

Last night's Open House for prospective families was a truly amazing event! I was so proud of our students, staff, and families for sharing the wonderful experiences they have had at Paideia and for fielding questions from interested families during a tour of the school. Of the 18 families who attended, nearly half of them reported that they were referred to us by friends, so thank you for sharing your enthusiasm for Paideia with others. We truly demonstrated Paideia Pride last night!

On Wednesday, we were fortunate enough to have the Eastview Chamber Singers perform for our students as well as a celebration of the holiday season. The singers were fantastic, and our students were thoroughly impressed by their talent.

Later that afternoon, we held our first 2013-2014 Programming Committee meeting. It was well-attended by staff and parents, and, after analyzing our current programs, we started putting together some great ideas for the future. This work will certainly continue throughout the rest of the year, and we look forward to getting more people involved in this important conversation about how we best use our resources to meet our school-wide, grade-level, and individual goals.

While there are many incredible goings-on at Paideia Academy, two of our wonderful staff members will be saying goodbye to our community next Friday to move on to new professional opportunities. Paul Graversen, 5th grade Special Education teacher, has accepted a new teaching position with Minneapolis Public Schools. We wish him all the best and thank him for his work here this year.

With sadness for us, but with great excitement for her, I must also announce that Ashley Gillingham has also accepted a new position with Minneapolis Public Schools. She will be taking the extraordinary education she has gotten from her 7 ½ years at Paideia and putting it to use to support numerous schools in northeast Minneapolis. While we will miss her smiling face and exuberance tremendously, I am so happy that Ashley has this opportunity to continue supporting staff and students, developing her leadership skills, and ensuring that excellent educational opportunities are available for all students. We hope that you will be able to join us after our 12/17/12 Morning Meeting for a short breakfast to celebrate all she has done for Paideia Academy.

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

Dear Paideia families,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform the Paideia community of my resignation from my position as dean of students. I have accepted a position as an instructional leader in school improvement with Minneapolis Public Schools and my last day will be Friday, December 21. I am honored to have worked with the staff, the students, and parents of Paideia Academy — together we have created an outstanding school.

The staff at Paideia is an exceptional group of people. I am proud of their dedication to make our school a great place for learning. The teamwork between teachers, administration, instructional assistants, and office staff sets a high standard and creates a sense of pride to be at Paideia.

I will truly miss the students. I love starting and ending my day greeting students and families. My favorite memories are of those as a Paideia Academy fourth grade teacher. I will miss their stories, smiles, and lunchtime chats.

Finally, I want to express a special thanks to the Paideia Academy community. You are strong advocates for quality education and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you these past eight years. Paideia is a special place and I will miss you all!

With warm regards,
Ashley Gillingham

PTO

Thank you to everyone who attended the PTO Meeting on Monday evening. It was great to have our second meeting with Parent Members voting on the direction of the PTO. Some very exciting things will be coming the second half of the school year!

We are thrilled to welcome Michael Bahr to the PTO Board as the Volunteer Coordinator. Michael is taking on the job of figuring out our Volunteer Management software that will allow you to track your volunteer hours online as well as sign up for volunteer opportunities.

Watch for information on another Rebate drive (Box Tops, Labels for Education, etc.) when you return from break. We'll also be holding a pre-sale for Parent Spirit wear and are very excited to be able to show our Paideia Pride!

The next PTO meeting is January 14, 2013. We will be meeting that first Monday back from school. Again, you are encouraged to come and express your opinion, bring up topics of concern and let your voice be heard through your vote.

Enjoy your last week of school before break!
Ginie Klopp
PTO President

JANUARY
Lunch Menus are now available
and all orders are due on
Friday, December 21.

It's Spelling Bee Time!

If your child would like to view all of the spelling bee study words, visit Mrs. Pettinger's webpage and look in the resources section. Students will take a written test in their language arts class during the last week of December to qualify for the Spelling Bee. Three (3) students will be selected from each class with a total of 6 representing each grade in the school bee. Students who qualify will receive a letter on December 21. Spelling Bee finalists can prepare for the final bee over winter break. Good Luck!



Our **Paideia Spelling Bee for grades 5-8 will be Tuesday, January 15** starting at 2pm and running until the end of the day. It will be held in the Great Room. Study sheets have been posted on Mrs. Pettinger's classroom page in the Assignments/Resources section. **Grades 2-4 will have their Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 29** starting at 2pm in the Great Room. Families are welcome to attend the January Bees.

Mrs. Pettinger is looking for spelling bee volunteers. She needs several parents to help score the classroom spelling tests on Wednesday and Thursday, December 19 and 20 any time after 10:30. We also need 2 judges during each of the bees to help verify the spelling of words. Please send an e-mail to Mrs. Pettinger if you are interested in v-o-l-u-n-t-e-e-r-i-n-g , volunteering. Thanks!

Volunteers opportunities

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 in transporting 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. 15th, 22nd, 29th, Jan. 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.



Support our School!

Last chance to custom order Scrip
before the holidays!

I will be placing an order on Monday, December 17th for Scrip Gift Cards. If you want to order any of the over 200 cards available, please see me at the Scrip table at Monday Morning Meeting. I will have order forms available. You will need to pay for the order and you can pick it up on Thursday December 20th. We do keep over 30 popular cards in stock as well. If you have any questions, please e-mail Susan Carter at skarter1@yahoo.com.