



Paideia Academy

April 12, 2013

Calendar:

- April 26** - CARNIVAL 6:30!
- May 16** - K & 1st grade General Music Concert, 6:30 PM
- May 20** - Final Spanish Camp payment due
(Checks payable to Concordia)
- May 29** - Final Wolf Ridge payment due
(Checks payable to Paideia)

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.

From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

What a fantastic first week of the fourth quarter! It's always great to see the smiles on our students' faces when they return from break – even if they're slightly sleepy smiles. They've spent much of their week in their core content classes participating in re-teaching activities to make sure they master the skills of the third quarter. Our third through eighth graders are definitely now prepared for their MCA tests that begin next week! The staff have been hard at work making sure that the school is prepared for testing, and the PTO has been generously organizing snacks for students to have during testing breaks. A big thank you goes out to Lynda Cavanaugh (Special Education Coordinator), Maggie Ekrem (Technology Integrationist), and Rachel Chamley (Lower Academy Dean) for taking care of so many logistics!

This week, I was able to share with the community the highlights of the 2013-2014 programming work we've been doing. It's been exciting work that has allowed us to be more intentional about what we are trying to achieve as a school and how we can reach those goals. I look forward to discussing these plans with you more over the next few months. The main goals of the new programs are to:

- Ensure safety
- Ensure that MN legal requirements and requirements of our Charter are met
- Enact Paideia mission and vision
- Support the Paideia 2012-2015 Strategic Plan
- Build on results of staff survey
- Support teacher retention, recruitment, and development
- Improve school-wide data (i.e.- MMR data)
- Support student/family retention and recruitment

Next week, we have lots of meetings scheduled to support families, students, and staff. On Monday, the Curriculum Committee of the Board will be meeting to discuss curriculum needs for next year. On Tuesday, any interested parties are invited to attend a Uniform Committee meeting to discuss our current and future uniform policies. Tuesday evening will also include a meeting to learn more about our ESL program, a Human Resources Committee meeting, and our April Board meeting.

On Wednesday, we will host a parent workshop by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) on "Supporting Parents With Their Children's Mental Health Concerns" (see below for more information). While it is often difficult to know if children and adolescents are just "going through a phase", having relationship or identity issues, or is truly struggling with mental health concerns, I encourage you to attend this informative workshop if you have any questions or concerns.

So, with all of this going on, I urge you all to get lots of rest and relaxation with your children this weekend! I look forward to your active participation in our upcoming events – including the CARNIVAL on April 26th. Happy Friday!

All the best,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

From the Office

No Monday morning meeting:

Due to MCA testing, we will not have a Morning Meeting on Monday, April 15th.

Volunteer needed:

One volunteer needed for school year 2013-2014 to work with the office staff in running the Scrip and Kwik Trip gift card program. Susan Carter has done a wonderful job organizing this year and it should be an easy role to step in to. The volunteer will need to get trained in this quarter by working with Susan a few Monday mornings.

Does your student eat lunch?

An important part of every student's school day is eating lunch! A healthy lunch provides your child with the energy he/she needs to be successful and to learn throughout the whole school day. Please remember to sign your child up for hot lunch or send him/her with a healthy lunch from home every day. You can find monthly lunch calendars at www.paideiaacademy.org. Here are a few helpful links regarding healthy lunches and snacks to send from home:

- http://www.nbcnews.com/id/8913826/ns/health-childrens_health/t/home-packed-lunches-your-kids-will-eat/
- <http://www.parenting.com/tags/kids-lunch-ideas>
- <http://www.parents.com/kids/nutrition/lunch/healthy-school-lunches-snacks/>

Spring Clean Up Event!!!

The Community Services Committee announces the annual Paideia grounds clean up. Join us after school on Tuesday April 30th from 3:30 to 4:30 (Thursday May 2 in case of rain) to pick up the garbage and yard waste revealed after the long winter. We will clean up the school grounds and the Augustana field. Meet us on the playground and pick up a waste bag. Please bring your own gloves. Don't forget to log in your volunteer hours.

Outreach

New Mayo Clinic research finds that anxiety can grow in children who are permitted to avoid scary situations.

<http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/health/201856621.html>



Recognizing Early Warning Signs of Mental Illness in Children and Adolescents

Early intervention and treatment is essential for a child's success. This two-hour workshop provides information on the biological nature of mental illness and how parents and teachers can work together as allies to support these students.

April 17, 2013
5.30pm – 7.30pm
Paideia Academy (The Great Room)
7200 West 147th Street
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Please register at
<http://ews-april2013-applevalley.eventbrite.com>

NAMI Minnesota, 800 Transfer Road, Suite 31, St Paul, MN 55114 - 651 645 2948
www.namihelps.org

Paideia Academy PTO

The Carnival Committee has been hard at work planning this year's Carnival - the 5th Annual! We still need your help and there are still lots of ways to pitch in. The Silent Auction has some amazing items on the auction block this year so you'll definitely want to come check that out, but if you have anything you or your company would like to donate please turn that into the school office by April 17th. If it is a larger item, please contact [Ann Swartz \(swartz@frontiernet.net\)](mailto:swartz@frontiernet.net). Please be sure to include your name, contact information and item value when you drop it off.

WE NEED YOU! Volunteers are needed the night of the Carnival, April 26th. If you are able to volunteer during the carnival please click here to [sign up \(http://bit.ly/XAm3zi\)](http://bit.ly/XAm3zi). Set-up begins immediately after school at 3:30 pm and help is needed for Food/Concessions, Games and Silent Auction. The Carnival begins at 5:30 and each of these areas has one hour shifts (5:30, 6:30, 7:30). We will also need security the night of the Carnival - this is simply making trips around the interior and exterior of the building ensuring our student body has remained in the school building and within designated areas. Finally a clean-up crew is needed to put the school back to normal operating position. Without your help we won't be able to run all the areas that make our Carnival so much fun. We need at least 100 volunteers the day of the Carnival; I know we can count on you to get the job done! Those with Upper Academy Students, your students are eligible to volunteer as well. We do require that at least one parent volunteer at the same game or in the same room to oversee operations; I'm sure you can appreciate the reason behind this requirement.

Many of you asked what games can we expect. Be prepared to be amazed! The Games Committee has been hard at creative work and is prepared to run: Bottle Blast, Can Bean Bag Toss, Cupcake Walk, DVD/CD Bowling, Duck Pond, Face Painting, Goldfish Ping Pong Toss, Hamper Toss (Pickup your room), Hula Hoop Balloon Toss, Ice House Fishing Pond, Jail, THE MAN CAVE, Mickey and Minnie Coin Toss, Potty Toss, Plinko, Ratz Splat, Teacher Shaving Cream Toss, Spin and Win, and A SPA. Now I know you can't wait to come!

Supplies are still needed. Starting April 11th through April 24th, please send any of the following items to school with your students. There will be a bag in their classrooms for them to drop off donations. We need: Bottles of anything (Plastic, unopened, unexpired, non-perishable bottles, i.e. shampoo, soda, lotion, etc.); Used, but in working condition, DVDs or CDs; Goldfish Crackers (snack bag size); Cans of Shaving Cream (gift certificates to the Dollar Store is also acceptable); Face Paint. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will help make our games all the better!

Don't forget to pre-order your meals! The order form is attached and due Friday, April 12th (or at least before school on Monday, April 15th!). We need to pre-order meals and will have a very limited number of meal tickets available for purchase the night of the Carnival. If you plan to eat dinner at school, please plan ahead. Game tickets will be on sale all night!

Now on to PTO specific business. Good news actually came in the mail from the IRS; this time of year that is unexpected! I know. The Paideia Academy PTO was approved for non-profit status. This huge accomplishment comes with many thanks to Kristine Ziegler who worked diligently on a 30+ page application. This approval means that the PTO Officers must go into elections. Attached you will find an application/nomination form. The positions of President, Vice President, Treasure and Secretary must be newly elected. Please complete the attached form if you or someone you know would be interested in sitting as a PTO Officer. Please note the required terms on the form. These forms must be returned to the school office by Monday, May 6th. The PTO will be hosting the School Board Candidate forum at our scheduled May meeting on Monday, May 13th. Prior to this forum we will hold brief PTO Officer Elections; these will be held by voice and all in attendance are eligible to vote. If we have more than one candidate for a position we will hold paper voting and the process will be explained at the May meeting.

This year has been a year of progress for the Paideia Academy PTO. I can't thank enough the sitting Officer Board and the current Committee Coordinators for all their efforts and hard work. Thank you, parents and guardians, for making it through this very long e-mail and for volunteering at the Carnival! If you have questions please contact us at pto@paideiaacademy.org and be sure to [Like us on Facebook \(https://www.facebook.com/PaideiaAcademyPTO\)](https://www.facebook.com/PaideiaAcademyPTO) to stay informed!

See you at the Carnival!