

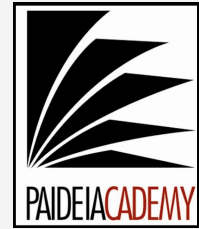
Calendar:

September 2 & 3 Labor Day, No school

September 9 Monday Morning Meeting

September 17 Picture retakes

October 7-18 Fall Break, No school



From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

Only three weeks into the school year, and we've already accomplished so much! This week, we had numerous Board-level meetings that led to some great conversations and also put important policies and systems in place for our school. At Tuesday's Board meeting, the Board approved both our 2013-2014 Personnel Manual and our 2013-2014 Gifted Policy. The Personnel Manual clarifies expectations and procedures for staff, while the Gifted Policy outlines our identification process and how we will support students who are identified as gifted. You can find our Gifted Policy on our website under "School Board".

At our Academic Excellence Committee meeting, we reviewed our 2013-2014 Curriculum Guide and discussed the expectations of our charter and the Minnesota Department of Education (outlined on pages 3-5 of the Curriculum Guide). We recognized the inherent challenge in both improving our performance on standardized, multiple choice exams and continuing to provide students with rich, well-rounded educational programs and developing knowledge and skills that have demonstrated to lead to life-long success, yet cannot be easily measured. This conversation was built on during our Governance & Long Range Planning Committee meeting as we worked collaboratively to begin revising our 3-year Strategic Plan to ensure that we meet both goals.

On Wednesday afternoon, our teachers reviewed the four domains (*Planning & Preparation, Classroom Environment, Instruction, and Professional Responsibilities*) of Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching which guides our observation process. They worked in small groups to closely examine the expectations outlined in the framework, then brainstorm specific ideas about what observers should see at Paideia if they were to rate a teacher as "Distinguished" in a given domain. After completing this activity, we realized that this would be a valuable activity for families to engage in as well, so we will be repeating this activity at the next Academic Excellence Committee meeting on 9/11/13. Our goals are to support a shared understanding of the definition of an "exceptional" educator (as stated in our Strategic Plan), clarify expectations for teachers and observers, and strengthen and individualize our professional development plans and offerings.

On Thursday, we had the first of our five annual fire drills. I was truly impressed by the preparation of staff and students for this drill! The students were quiet, the teachers had all of their required materials, and everyone was where they needed to be. Nice job, Paideia!

On Thursday night, a small group of families joined us at our Special Education Advisory Council meeting to hear a presentation by Cindy Jarvi, legal advocate for Minnesota Disability Law Center. She shared information about the IEP team meeting process and the importance of educating students in the least restrictive environment. She had only praise for our co-teaching model. Families shared some of their own experiences here at Paideia and were able to ask questions of our Special Education Coordinator and Director. We look forward to continuing to serve our students with special needs in an inclusive environment in which we all respect each other's unique strengths and challenges.

Lastly, we are delighted to announce that we inducted 21 6th-8th graders into the Paideia Academy chapter of the National Junior Honor Society! This is a huge honor both for our school, as this is the inaugural year of our active membership with this organization, and for our students who, in their NJHS pledge, promise to "*maintain and encourage high standards of the following ideals: scholarship, leadership, service, and character*". We are so proud of them.

Have a lovely weekend!

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

Important Updates

The Dakota County Galaxie Library would like to welcome back the Paideia students and parents to a new school year! We hope it will be a year of learning, reading and thinking challenges and we are excited to be a part of it. Listed are some behaviors to keep in mind when visiting the library with your class and after school that will make the library visits beneficial to everyone.

Thanks for your cooperation. We look forward to serving you during your new school year.

Galaxie Library Staff

Library Behavior Expectations

1. Please enter and exit the library respectfully, walking and keeping voices lowered. This includes the library entry way and the atrium next door in the Government Center.
2. Please remember that the library is a public space which you are sharing with all patrons. Students should keep their belongings with them at all times. Personal items should not be blocking the access of other patrons as they move about the library.
3. Only capped beverages are allowed in the library. All other drinks and snacks should be eaten before entering the library.
4. Library and Government Center Staff will ask students not following the behavior expectations to leave both buildings for the remainder of the day.

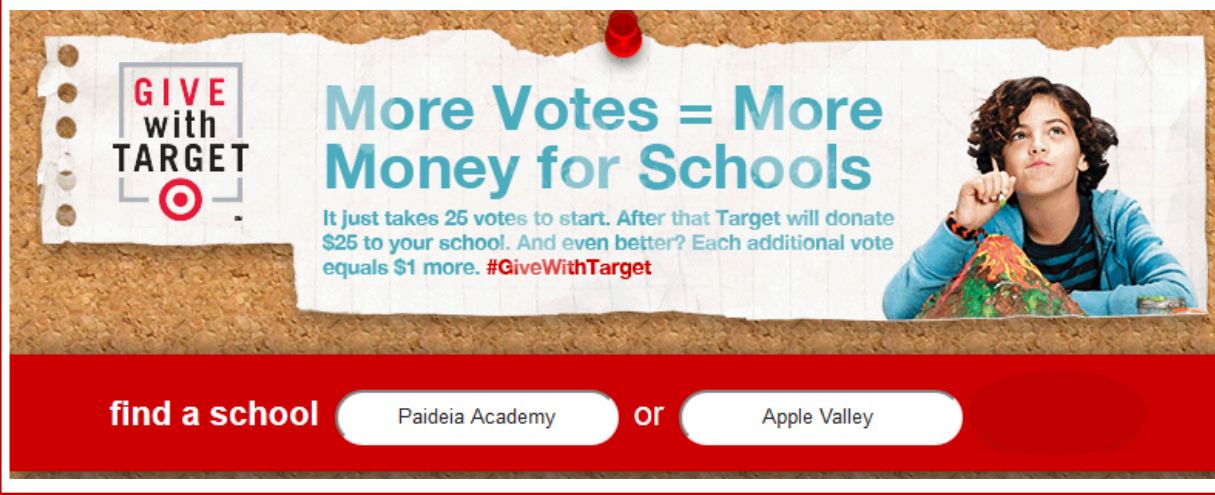
Visitors:

As we wrap up our third week of the school year, we wanted to say Thank You Very Much to all of the parent volunteers who have been in the building and in classrooms helping out! We truly could not do it without you!

In order to increase the safety and security of our school and of your children, we have made some modifications to our volunteer guidelines. Please see pages 23-24 in the Paideia Academy Family Handbook on our website to read through our updated guidelines. The Board will also be developing a Volunteer Policy through the School Culture & Communications Committee. We welcome your input into these conversations. The next two meetings are September 11th and November 13th at 5:00pm. We look forward to continuing our partnership throughout the rest of the year!

Give with Target is back!
Vote for Paideia Academy!

<http://givewith.target.com/>

A promotional graphic for the 'Give with Target' campaign. It features a corkboard background with a torn paper effect. On the left, there's a 'GIVE with TARGET' logo with the Target bullseye. In the center, the text reads 'More Votes = More Money for Schools' in large blue letters. Below this, smaller text states: 'It just takes 25 votes to start. After that Target will donate \$25 to your school. And even better? Each additional vote equals \$1 more. #GiveWithTarget'. On the right, there's a photo of a young girl with curly hair, wearing a blue shirt, sitting at a desk and looking thoughtful with her hand on her chin. At the bottom, there's a red banner with the text 'find a school' followed by two buttons: 'Paideia Academy' and 'Apple Valley', separated by the word 'OR'.

Paideia Community,

We have now completed 1/3 of the first 1/4 of school. How many weeks of school are remaining? {Insert groan here} If you did in fact groan then the September PTO meeting will be a meeting you should attend. The PTO is inviting our teachers to speak on subjects that we want to know more about and up first is Math. For any new families when you start seeing Singapore Math homework don't be surprised if you have some arguments over how math is done! For returning families, you know what I'm talking about! Come to the PTO Meeting on September 10th to find out more about how math is taught in our classrooms (both upper and lower academies) and what resources are available to you so that you can prove to your child that you do in fact understand math.

Fundraising is a never ending process. I was very pleased to present the School Board with a check for \$5,600 on Tuesday. At the August PTO meeting it was voted to fund \$1,500 for Science Lab materials, \$1,600 for a Yearbook after school position, and \$625 for each of the 4 after school Homework Help opportunities. Now this was close to 10% of the \$62,000 we are looking to raise this year; it is a great start. This money was raised last year so it is just putting a dent in our overall goal. I know this community will be able to get behind the need to replace our 4 year old desktop computer lab and anyone who has enjoyed the 1 year old paint in the main commons areas then enters a classroom can see the need for filling 9 years of white board to smart board holes and repainting the classrooms. The PTO will be working in combination with the school to raise this money. To get started our goal for the Innisbrook catalog fundraiser is \$7,000 - easily achievable since we did it in 2011! How about free money? Give with Target on Facebook is just handing out money. Have your friends and family vote for Paideia as many times as it will allow you. At last check we were at \$124 of free money! Follow Paideia Academy PTO on Facebook to be aware of these great opportunities.

Be sure to enter your Innisbrook sales orders online - following the instructions included in the packets - by September 3rd!!!!

Spirit Wear and Gym Uniforms. You can find the order forms for both of these on the PTO website: www.paideiaacademypto.org. This is the first year that the PTO has run the school store and we will be keeping a very lean stock, if any. There will be a stock of Gym Uniforms, but spirit wear will be kept to a minimum, so please be sure to pre-order these items. Speaking of Spirit Wear, be sure to label your student's Spirit Wear, especially if it might be taken off in the middle of the day. It is pretty hard to decide which medium sweatshirt is your child's when it is in the lost and found area - sometimes those chocolate milk stains look a lot like.

Mark your calendars for Wendy's Night - September 3rd from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. During those two hours **all** in-store and drive through sales at the Wendy's on the southeast corner of 42 and Cedar will be donated to the PTO. This is far more than a fundraiser - it is a chance to meet other Paideia families, and let's face it, a reason to not make dinner one night a month isn't necessarily a bad thing. If you are interested in assisting with the coordination of Wendy's Night please contact the PTO at pto@paideiaacademy.org

Be sure to check out our website - you can find the Directory, Car Pool Lists, log your Volunteer hours, Meeting Agendas, Meeting Minutes, and much more there!

Okay, so who figured out the math problem above? Yup - want to meet you at the September PTO Meeting!

Ginie Klopp
PTO President

Follow us on Facebook (Paideia Academy PTO) and find us on the web at
www.paideiaacademypto.org

From the Classrooms

Kindergarten

- **Math:** Number Sense, continuing with math assessments
- **Language Arts:** Sight Word: like, Sight Word Reader: We Like School, Color Review: Red and Blue, Introduction to The Daily 5, We will be starting reading groups this week!
- **Science:** 5 Senses
- **Social Studies:** The world and the globe
- **Advisory:** Friendship, Classroom Routines, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program: Introduction to Class Meetings
- **Announcements:** Weekly homework is due on Friday!
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Morning Dismissal Number Writer: Are you available from 11:40-12:00 to help with writing car numbers at dismissal? If so, please e-mail Mrs. Johnson hjohnson@paideiaacademy.org
- **Inspirations:** Happy 5th Birthday to Carly!

First Grade

- **Math:** We will continue working on number bonds in Chapter two.
- **Language Arts:** We will work on Words Their Way word sorts in Daily 5 small groups.
- **Science:** We will continue our unit on animal habitats. We may begin discussing the food chain at the end of the week.
- **Social Studies:** We will continue our geography unit. We will start working on the 7 continents and the different oceans.
- **Advisory:** We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum with lesson 2.
- **Announcements:** None at this time.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We are going to start using computers in our Daily 5 Centers. We are looking at possibly adding more volunteer opportunities during language arts, 10:54-11:50. Please let us know if you are available.
- **Inspirations:** Cole, Cedric, Luke and Ani retired their clips to the Hall of Fame. Awesome job!

Second Grade

- **Math:** starting our unit on adding numbers to 1,000
- **Language Arts:** finishing introducing Daily 5 and beginning Daily 5 rotations, sorting our spelling words (spelling test—Thursday), poem of the week
- **Science:** finishing plant unit and beginning weather unit
- **Social Studies:** starting our unit on Ancient India
- **Advisory:** discussing our first Olweus rule: We will not bully others
- **Announcements:** Homework comes home on Friday and is due on Thursdays. Spelling tests are also on Thursdays and will start next week.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Email Wendy (2nd grade parent rep) if interested in coming in to help with spelling or copying etc. An email went out about this last week.
- **Inspirations:** Congrats to students who have been super students five days or more and already made it to our "Hall of Fame." ☺

Third Grade

- **Jensen Math:** Multiplication properties, associative property, multiplication by 6, 7, 8 & 9 (3rd grade group), Vocabulary definitions, factors, multiples, rounding and front-end estimation, review (4th grade group)
- **Schnase/Kegel Math:** Rounding, Chapter 2 review, Quiz on Wednesday, addition without regrouping, and addition with regrouping in hundreds.

Language Arts: dictionaries, read-to— someone, Important Book

- **Science:** Balance of nature, basic needs of living organisms, interdependence & the food chain
- **Social Studies:** Using and creating timelines of decades, centuries, and millennia
- **Advisory:** Organization, social skills, Olweus
- **Announcements:** Weekly spelling quiz will be on Friday, Dictionary assessment will be on Thursday
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We currently do not have any volunteer needs at this time. Thank you to everyone who has helped out so far!
- **Inspirations:** 3rd graders are adjusting well to third grade expectations and routines.

Fourth Grade

- **Math:** Estimation and rounding, factors and multiples. IXL standards- 4.1.1.1-4.1.1.4
- **Language Arts:** Students will continue Daily 5 rotations and reading groups.
- **Science:** Students will study microorganisms and vaccines.
- **Social Studies:** Students will learn a decision making process.
- **Advisory:** Students will continue the Olweus curriculum by talking about anti-bullying rules.
- **Announcements:** Please see the curriculum guide online!
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We always have photocopying to do.
- **Inspirations:** The kids are really getting to know the routine and becoming productive fourth graders!

Fifth Grade

- **Math:** Multiplying and dividing two-digit numbers, dividing by 10's, 100's, and 1000's, review and quiz Friday.
- **Language Arts:** In fifth grade next week we will be working on writing a descriptive paragraph about an influential person. We will also continue working on comprehension skills while reading in our Daybooks.
- **Science:** Students will be learning about simple machines. The students will also use the scientific method to perform experiments, while strengthening their knowledge of data collection.
- **Social Studies:** Students will begin learning about Explorers and Exploration. Current Events presentations will be on Friday for those assigned that date.
- **Advisory:** In advisory this week we will be working on Character Strengths, Olweus anti-bullying, and organization skills.
- **Announcements:** Reading Calendars are due September 5th. Be sure students are keeping track of their reading minutes or pages. Parents who want a parent login for Schoology should contact Ms. Sailors for a parent access code. This is not the access code that was previously shared.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Bulletin boards
- **Inspirations:** Students did a great job staying on task while doing work on the computers in Language Arts.

Sixth Grade

- **Math:** Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals, review and quiz Friday.
- **Language Arts:** Students will be writing an informative paragraph about an animal they are interested in. We will be working on the writing process, learning about writing traits, and how to use our knowledge of process and traits to improve our writing. Students will also continue to work on reading comprehension reading in our Daybooks.
- **Science:** Students will continue to learn about the science of engineering, while performing experiments. Students will deepen their understanding of data collection and the metric system. The students will also have a guest speaker come in on Friday to speak about his first-hand knowledge being an engineer.
- **Social Studies:** Students will present their Deserts of the World posters. We will wrap up our geography and deserts units with a review and a quiz. Toward the end of the week we will begin to learn about Minnesota geography. Current Events presentations will be on Friday for those assigned that date.
- **Advisory:** In advisory this week we will be working on Character Strengths, Olweus anti-bullying, and organization skills.
- **Announcements:** Reading Calendars are due September 4th (6B) or 5th (6A). Be sure students are keeping track of their reading minutes or pages. Parents who want a parent login for Schoology should contact Ms. Sailors for a parent access code. This is not the access code that was previously shared.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Bulletin boards
- **Inspirations:** Students were very well-prepared for their "All About Me" presentations in Language Arts.

Seventh Grade

- **Math:** The students will be finishing up their unit on integers (solving inequalities and exponents); they will have an assessment at the end of the week. They will start learning about rational numbers.
- **Language Arts:** Students will continue with the Native American novel study, Daybook lessons, and weekly journal writing. They will practice and apply a convention skill, which will be tested at the end of the week.
- **Science:** In 7th grade this week, students will learn what it takes to plan a successful science experiment! Then, they will plan, carry out, and discuss experiments in class.
- **Social Studies:** This week in 7th grade Social Studies we continued with our theme of “Adventurers, Explorers, and Pioneers” in U.S. History. We watched an educational video and completed graphic organizers to record patterns and changes over time. We also did a Listen-and-Draw activity with a text about the first moon landing. We worked with Quia online study activities, Upfront magazine and The Week in Rap videos, and ended the week with a choice of four readers’ theater pieces about individual American “adventurers”. Next week we will segway into “Inventors” in U.S. History.
- **Advisory:** The students will participate in their second Olweus class meeting.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Bulletin boards. Looking for parent volunteers to make copies for the coming week in Language Arts and Social Studies on Fridays.
- **Inspirations:** Amazing job to all of the 7th graders for their wonderful team work and participation during our outside team-building activity. 7th graders are really enjoying our readers’ theater pieces!

Eighth Grade

- **Math:** The students will continue to solve multi-step equations and will be assessed on chapter 2. They will be moving into solving inequalities.
- **Language Arts:** Students will peer edit and revise their descriptive paragraphs; the narrative essay is introduced. They will continue with Daybook lessons and weekly journal writing.
- **Science:** In 8th grade this week, students will practice collecting and interpreting scientific data from experiments done in class!
- **Social Studies:** This week in 8th grade Social Studies we began building background knowledge about the geography, history, and culture of North America. We are completing a graphic organizer while watching an educational video about each region of the United States; the whole video takes us through an overview of Canada, Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean, as well. We are incorporating current events using Upfront magazine and The Week in Rap videos. We are working most days with short, independent readings to build geographic vocabulary. Next week we will use our two classroom sets of textbooks to search for information about North American geography. We will continue to ask geographic questions such as, “What is there? Why is it there? Why does it matter?”
Advisory: The students will participate in their second Olweus class meeting.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Bulletin boards. Looking for parent volunteers to make copies for the coming week in Language Arts and Social Studies on Fridays.
- **Inspirations:** Amazing job to all of the 8th graders for their wonderful team work and participation during our outside team-building activity. The 8th graders were very interested in expressing opinions about the recent NSA issue in the news!

Physical Education and Health K-8

- **Physical Education:**
 - Lower Academy:** Finish fitness testing and start football
 - Upper Academy:** Finish fitness testing and start football
- **Health: Goal setting**
- **Upper Academy:** Until Physical Education uniforms arrive please remind your student to **pack** gym clothes that follow the school policy.
- **Inspirations:** It was inspiring to see all of the students’ excitement about fitness testing.

Art

Activities:

- **Kindergarten**
Experimenting with scribble, shade, and erase
Using different pencil techniques to create a flower artwork
- **8th Grade**
Looking and sketching famous architecture
Learning about and designing Zentangles

Inspirations:

- **Kindergarten**
Students are connecting art to science by learning each part of the plant before drawing the parts using scribble, shade, and erase.
Students are also reading *Scribbleville* by Peter Holwitz
- **8th Grade**
Students are ready and engaged to learn the new technique of Zentangles.

Standards/unit:

- **Kindergarten**
Flower Drawing: Scribble, Shade, Erase
0.1.2.5.1 Identify the tools, materials, and techniques from a variety of two- and three-dimensional media such as drawing, printmaking, ceramics or sculpture.
0.2.1.5.1 Create original two- and three-dimensional artworks to express ideas, experiences or stories
0.3.1.5.1 Share and describe a personal artwork
- **8th Grade**
Architecture since the Industrial Revolution
6.1.1.5.1 Analyze how the elements of visual art are used in creation, presentation of, or response to visual artworks.
6.1.1.5.2 Analyze how the principles of visual art are used in creation, presentation of, or response to visual artworks.
6.2.1.5.1 Create Original two and three dimensional artworks in a variety of artistic contexts.

Counselor's Corner

- **A Message from your Counselors:** The topic of diversity has been discussed in many classrooms and throughout the school this week. Diversity is more than ethnical or cultural differences; it's an attitude of accepting and embracing others and their differences. Please take some time to talk with your children about their uniqueness and being valued.
- **Counseling Highlights: How can I meet my School Counselor?**
Your School Counselor would welcome an opportunity to meet with you! Feel free to stop by Mrs. Largent's or Mr. Roll's office to make an appointment. You can also write them a note and place it in their mailbox at school. Parents may call to set up an appointment at a time that is convenient for them!
- **Helpful Hints: Top 10 Homework Tips (Part 2)**
 - 6. Make sure kids do their own work.** They won't learn if they don't think for themselves and make their own mistakes. Parents can make suggestions and help with directions. But it's a kid's job to do the learning.
 - 7. Be a motivator and monitor.** Ask about assignments, quizzes, and tests. Give encouragement, check completed homework, and make yourself available for questions and concerns.
 - 8. Set a good example.** Do your kids ever see you diligently balancing your budget or reading a book? Kids are more likely to follow their parents' examples than their advice.
 - 9. Praise their work and efforts.** Post an aced test or art project on the refrigerator. Mention academic achievements to relatives.
 - 10. If there are continuing problems with homework, get help.** Talk about it with your child's teacher. Some kids have trouble seeing the board and may need glasses; others might need an evaluation for a learning problem or attention disorder.
- **New and Noteworthy:**
Olweus class meetings have started in all of the classrooms. Students are engaged in meaningful discussions about the Anti-Bullying rules at Paideia Academy.

Music 4

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Foundations; Understanding Compound vs. Simple Meter
- **Activities:** Learning the difference between triple and duple meter and playing them on the Orff instruments

Music 5

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Foundations; Music Theory Foundations
- **Activities:** Reading with the Orff instruments, Living Piano
- **Inspirations:** 30 students got PERFECT scores on their first note naming quiz!

Music 6

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Latin American Drumming Techniques
- **Activities:** Learning traditional instruments and rhythms of Central & South America and the Caribbean
- **Inspirations:** 6th grade students can play tubanos, cowbells, frame drums, and shakers with correct technique!

Music 7/8

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration
- **Activities:** Exploring the techniques, ranges, and idiosyncrasies of the brass family (trumpet, horn in F, trombone, tuba)

Spanish

Hola! We have completed assessments with our Upper Academy students and are excited to announce that we will begin leveled Spanish classes for our eighth grade students on Monday! The data from our assessments showed that only students in 8th grade have a significant range of abilities in each class. Assessment data also allowed us to determine who our strongest Spanish speakers are in 5th/6th/7th grades. This will enable us to differentiate our instruction and activities within our classes more intentionally to meet the needs of all our students. We have also received and begun using our new 7th/8th grade Avancemos curriculum this week to support higher-level thinking, speaking, and writing. We will assess all Upper Academy students again in the spring to determine Spanish placement for 2014-2015.

**We are a HEALTHY
SNACK / LUNCH
SCHOOL!**



**We ask that no pop, junk food or fast food be brought into the school.
(This includes birthday treats, cakes & cupcakes)**