

Save the Date:

September 2 & 3 Labor Day, No school, if
September 9 Monday Morning Meeting, 8:15 AM
September 17 Picture retakes & Board Meeting 7:00 PM
October 7-18 Fall Break, No school



From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

This week, all of Minnesota is talking about MCA scores. You may have read in the newspapers that Reading MCA scores have generally decreased throughout the state due to the new test that was given for the first time this spring. The assessment focused on the Common Core Standards, which are much more rigorous than the previous reading standards. The Math MCA was the same assessment that has been given for the past three years, so the expectation was that schools' proficiency rates (the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations) would remain approximately the same. Similarly, the Science MCA assessment remained the same.

So, how did Paideia students do on our MCA tests? Well, our results are rather mixed. While our science scores outdid those of the state (63.8% proficient at Paideia vs. 52.1% proficient in the state), our Reading scores were barely above the state average (60.3% proficient at Paideia vs. 57.8% proficient in the state) and our Math proficiency was just below the state average (60.3% proficient at Paideia vs. 62.6% proficient in the state). You'll notice that our percentage of proficient students is exactly the same on the Math and Reading MCAs, though this does not mean that the same students were proficient in both areas.

All data are available to the public and can be viewed at <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Reports.jsp>. At this site, you can view our school-wide data, examine subgroup data, see grade-level data, and compare our data to the state, other districts, and other individual schools. In terms of our charter, our authorizer compares our data with that of Greenleaf Elementary and Valley Middle School, so you may want to do the same.

Our MCA scores demonstrate that, while we have certainly been successful in specific areas compared to the state and other schools, we still have a lot of work ahead of us to improve our academic performance school-wide, within grade levels, and among our traditionally underperforming subgroups. If you look at our Curriculum Guide, you will see how Paideia and all Minnesota schools are evaluated with the Multiple Measures Rating (MMR) as well as the expectations of our charter, which is up for renewal this June. The staff and the Board of Directors are working hard to better understand the strengths and challenges of our school that affect our students' performance, and we have already made improvements that we expect will lead to greater success for all of our students. These improvements include:

- Greater focus on student-level data by the administration and teachers
- Our revised academic program for 2013-2014

- A stronger, more consistent emphasis on foundational skill development in the elementary grades (i.e. – the Daily Five reading program)
- Stronger alignment of our curriculum, instruction, and assessments with the knowledge and skills required to demonstrate proficiency on the Minnesota State Standards
- Better understanding of the MCA assessments à what topics they address, how questions are designed, etc.
- Alignment of Kindergarten – 2nd Grade standards, instruction, and assessments to the 3rd Grade MCA assessments
- Application for Title I Targeted Assistance and Title II funding to support professional development for teachers and increased support for struggling students

The Minnesota Department of Education provides many resources to support us in this work, as does Friends of Education, and this work is already underway. We are working to verify our data in comparison to the state and surrounding schools. Due to the MN Department of Education website being temporarily unavailable, we will send these data out in a separate email. We are currently developing plans for sharing each child's individual student data with him/her and his/her family. We will keep you posted on our plans for this. I look forward to our continued conversations about how we can support all students in meeting and exceeding the academic expectations of our state and our school! Thank you for your continued involvement in making this vision a reality.

Sincerely,
 Marci Levy-Maguire
 Director

Important Updates

Our website was hacked Thursday night and we have been working diligently to restore our website with the proper information. Be assured that there is no personal student or family data on our website that can be seen or altered by a hacker. Our TIES SchoolView system is in a completely different and secure location. We are very sorry for the confusion or offense that the hacker may have caused you. Hopefully by the time you read this,

Fundraising!

Paideia's fundraising this year is focused in three specific areas with a total goal of \$62,400.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
 Facilities and Equipment
 Extra-Curricular Activities

Thank you to Paideia Academy's PTO for the \$5600 donation.

This donation will specifically support additional science lab supplies, Yearbook Club and Homework Help.

How can you help?

As a charter school we do not benefit from tax levies; our only source of addition revenue is fundraising and donations.

Participate in the PTO and School fundraisers

Tax deductible donations are always welcome

Participate and help spread the work for **Give to the Max Day** on November 15th!

USED UNIFORMS

We truly appreciate all the used uniform donations, however we have run out of storage room.

From this point forward, we would like families to hold on to their donations until we post an official "Drop Off Day". (*This date will be a few days before the next Used Uniform Sale.*)

At this time we do not have a date scheduled but we will share it with you as soon as we do!

Happy Labor Day!

Be sure to enter your Innisbrook sales orders online - following the instructions included in the packets - by September 3rd!!!! Our fundraising goal for this catalog sale is \$7,000. Be sure to bring order forms and catalogs to those family gatherings this weekend. We're ahead of all other schools in our area as many don't even start school until Tuesday.

Want a chance to meet with other Paideia families? Need a reason to not make dinner one night this next week? Why not do both at the same time? Join the PTO and other Paideia Academy families for Wendy's Family Night! On Tuesday, September 3rd the Wendy's at the South East corner of Cedar and County Road 42 will donate 10% of all sales between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm. All SALES! Dine in and drive through, anyone who decides to have dinner out that evening. Hope to see you there and finish our 4 day weekend with a bit of fun and relaxation.

The PTO is inviting our teachers to speak on subjects that we want to know more about at our PTO Meetings. 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.

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 please be sure to pre-order these items. Gym Uniforms should be delivered next week, be sure to watch back packs.

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

Have a safe and healthy Labor Day weekend!

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, finishing up math assessments
- **Language Arts:** Sight Word Review, Sight Word Reader Review, Building stamina during Daily 5 reading time. We started reading groups this past week and the students are adjusting well to switching classrooms!
- **Science:** Continuing the 5 Senses
- **Social Studies:** No social studies this week due to a shorter week
- **Advisory:** Friendship, Classroom Routines, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program: Class Meeting #3, Rule #2
- **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 6th Birthday to Raine and Torgee!

First Grade

- **Math:** We will have our Chapter 2 test on Thursday. We will use both math periods Wednesday for review.
- **Language Arts:** We will begin writing in our writing journals on Thursday. We will continue working on Words Their Way in our Daily 5 reading groups.
- **Science:** We will begin our unit learning about the food chain.
- **Social Studies:** We will continue working to identify the 7 continents. We will also talk about the different oceans and the North and South Poles.
- **Advisory:** We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum with lesson 3: We will try to help students that are bullied.
- **Announcements:** Friendly reminder that homework is always due the following Thursday. This week you will see a reading log attached to the homework as well. Please make sure your child reads every day.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Thank you for all who have helped! We could still use more volunteers, especially during reading centers 10:54-11:50.
- **Inspirations:** Ryan, Ella, Zach, Vera, Emmie, Melody, Kadin, William, Sam A., Charlie retired clips this week! And Cedric retired his second clip to the hall of fame this week!

Second Grade

- **Math:** continuing our chapter on adding numbers to 1,000, including adding 3-digit numbers with regrouping in the ones and tens place
- **Language Arts:** beginning our Daily 5 rotations; introducing using Lexia
- **Science:** continuing weather unit
- **Social Studies:** continuing unit on the culture and geography of ancient India, discussing Buddha and King Asoka
- **Advisory:** introducing Star of the Week and discussing our second Olweus rule: We will try to help students who are bullied.
- **Announcements:** There is no spelling this week since it is a 3-day school week.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Email Wendy, our 2nd grade parent rep at devriesw@yahoo.com if you're interested in coming in to help with spelling or copying etc. Also, if you would like to donate something to our classes, we would love more items for our treasure boxes! Small party favors work well!
- **Inspirations:** Enjoy a nice long weekend! We will see you on Wednesday!

Third Grade

- **Jensen Math:** Division-finding the number of items in each group, division-making equal groups and chapter test (3rd grade group), Whole number multiplication and division (4th grade group)
- **Schnase/Kegel Math:** Addition with regrouping in the ones, tens, and hundreds; review
- **Language Arts:** Lowercase cursive letters j & k, connections, thesaurus
- **Science:** The food chain
- **Social Studies:** Timelines & examining historical records and artifacts
- **Advisory:** Cooperation and Olweus

Third Grade Cont.

- **Announcements:** Please help your child get his/her weekly homework turned in each Friday to earn the next piece of his/her end of the quarter ice cream sundae. Ms. Schnase/Mrs. Kegel's math group will have their math quiz on Monday.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We will be taking our biweekly library field trip this Thursday. Please let your child's classroom teacher know if you are able to join us from 10:15-11:30 this coming Thursday.
- **Inspirations:** The 3rd graders had a blast this week with Market Day and learning how to be producers and consumers! Ms. Jensen's class also welcomed two new friends to the classroom this week, Raven and Miley.

Fourth Grade

- **Math:** Estimation and rounding, factors and multiples, prime and composite numbers. 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 vaccines.
- **Social Studies:** Students will start an economics unit..
- **Advisory:** Students will continue the Olweus curriculum by talking about anti-bullying rules.
- **Announcements:** Grades are now online! Check your child's grades and keep up with their missing work!
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We always have photocopying to do. Please let us know if you would be willing to correct homework at home!
- **Inspirations:** The kids are starting to get in the process of handing in daily work and homework!

Fifth Grade

- **Math:** Division with two digit numbers, review, and quiz Friday.
- **Language Arts:** Students will continue work on descriptive paragraphs about an influential person, and begin work on descriptive essays. Students will also be working on reading strategies for nonfiction text. Reading calendars are due Thursday, September 5th.
- **Science:** Students will be analyzing data and creating graphs. They will also be taking a quiz on simple machines and graphing.
- **Social Studies:** Students will continue learning about the Age of Exploration. We will learn about the influence of Marco Polo, the Silk Road, Columbus and the Columbian Exchange.
- **Advisory:** Students will continue to work on organization and study skills. In Olweus we will talk about appropriate ways to help students who are bullied.
- **Announcements:** New reading calendars should have come home on Friday. If you need another copy, please log on to the Language Arts page on the 5th and 6th grade classroom pages. Reading Calendars are due Monday, September 30th.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Volunteers are welcome to help with cleaning/organizing Language Arts classroom library.
- **Inspirations:** It was inspiring to see many of the 5th graders being helpful and polite in class.

Sixth Grade

- **Math:** Dividing with decimals, review, and quiz Friday.
- **Language Arts:** Students will continue working on writing about a favorite animal focusing on sensory details and organization. Students will begin work on essays, and begin tracking their writing progress to look for areas of strength and areas for improvement. Reading calendars are due Wednesday, September 4th (6B) and Thursday, September 5th (6A).
- **Science:** Students will be testing their tall towers to see which one can stand for 2 minutes. The students will also be analyzing data and creating graphs.
- **Social Studies:** Social Studies: Students will participate in activities to learn the important lakes and rivers, cities, border states/provinces, and biomes of Minnesota.

Sixth grade Cont.

- **Advisory:** Students will continue to work on organization and study skills. In Olweus we will talk about appropriate ways to help students who are bullied.
- **Announcements:** New reading calendars should have come home on Thursday (6B) or Friday (6A). If you need another copy, please log on to the Language Arts page on the 5th and 6th grade classroom pages. Reading Calendars are due Monday, September 30th.
Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are welcome to help with cleaning/organizing Language Arts classroom library.
- **Inspirations:** Students in 6th Grade advisory listened to a portion of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech on its 50th anniversary. We briefly discussed events that occurred before and after this speech. Students knew about those events, but their recognition and puzzlement about why they happened is inspiring. Our students are living in a very different time and while we still have our challenges

Seventh Grade

- **Math:** The students will be starting chapter 3 on Rational Numbers. They will focus on what is a rational number and adding, subtracting, and multiplying rational numbers.
- **Language Arts:** Students will continue reading Heart of a Chief or Touching Spirit Bear with response notes. Reading calendars, with parent signature, is due! (7B 9-4, 7A 9-4).
- **Science:** In science this week 7th graders will finish talking about the experimental method and will conclude the experiments they've planned.
- **Social Studies:** This week we finished up our unit on Explorers, Adventurers, and Pioneers in U.S. History. We used the National Geographic website to read up about the work of modern "Emerging Explorers". Towards the end of the week we moved on to Inventors and Scientists. We are focusing on how inventions and scientific discoveries impact society and the lives of individuals.
- **Advisory:** The students will continue to work on study skills and organizing their binders/lockers. Time will be spent participating in their 3rd Olweus class meeting and working on conflict resolution.
Announcements: Midterm for quarter 1 is on Wednesday.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Volunteers could be used on Fridays to make copies.

Eighth Grade

- **Math: 8B:** The students will be reviewing the concepts from chapter 2 and will be assessed on Thursday. 8A: The students will be working on solving inequalities with variables on both sides and solving compound inequalities.
- **Language Arts:** Students will be introduced to the phase autobiography; they will begin brainstorming and completing a gathering grid. Reading calendars, with parent signature, is due on 9-4!
- **Science:** In science this week, 8th graders will be moving on to matter and the elements. They will be exploring the elements and the properties that make each element unique.
- **Social Studies:** This week we began the first of many "Mapping Labs" using our new Geography, Alive! materials. Our essential question was "How do geographers show information on maps?" Students completed short sections of reading followed by a series of map tasks. They are sincerely enjoying these activities, which is so exciting! Our next Mapping Lab will be about "Settlement Patterns in Canada", as we continue to build knowledge about the geography of North America.
- **Advisory:** The students will continue to work on study skills and organizing their binders/lockers. Time will be spent participating in their 3rd Olweus class meeting and working on conflict resolution.
- **Announcements:** Midterm for quarter 1 is on Wednesday.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Volunteers could be used on Fridays to make copies.
- **Inspirations:** The 8th graders have been truly enjoying our new Global Studies Mapping Lab materials! Each Mapping Lab takes multiple days to complete and begins with a fun hands-on, movement based activity. There are even sound effects included!

- **Physical Education and Health K-8**

- **Physical Education:**

- Lower Academy: Teaching Football skills consisting of throwing catching and working on accuracy.

- Upper Academy: Teaching Football skills consisting of throwing catching and working on accuracy. Also teaching about the different positions and roles of a football team.

- **Health: Cyber bullying**

- **Announcements:**

- Upper Academy: Until Physical Education uniforms arrive please remind your student to pack gym clothes that follow the school policy.

- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Any parent who is interested in possibly helping out with this unit can notify Mr. Phillippi regarding helping students travel across the street to use the fields and to help supervise football related skill development activities.

- **Inspirations:** For the younger students, it has been exciting to see their enthusiasm for coming to Phy Ed as they arrive in the gym. For the older kids they are always asking throughout the day what we are doing in PE for the day!

Music 4

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Foundations; Understanding Complex Rhythms

- **Activities:** Reviewing rhythms from 3rd grade (paired eighths, quarter, half, whole notes, rests)

- **Inspirations:** Students in 4th grade know how to conduct in 3/4 and they know the features of **waltz music!**

Music 5

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Foundations; Music Theory Foundations

- **Activities:** Note/rest durations (grouped sixteenths, paired eighths, quarter, half, whole notes, rests), reading with Orff instruments

- **Inspirations:** Students in 5th grade know all the notes of the treble clef up to three ledger lines above and below the staff!

Music 6

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Latin American Drumming Techniques

- **Activities:** Singing Call & Response, composing Call lyrics, creatively moving to salsa music

- **Inspirations:** 6th grade students can play traditional Latin American rhythms on claves, maracas, congas, & guiros with correct technique!

Music 7

- **No Music next week due to Labor Day weekend!**

Music 8

- **Standards/unit:** Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration

- **Activities:** Exploring the techniques, ranges, and idiosyncracies of the orchestral percussion family (keyboards, drums, auxiliary percussion, piano, timpani, cymbals)

- **Inspirations:** Every student can transcribe music from one instrument to another!

Spanish

Hola! In our efforts to have transparent communication with families, we would like to update you on the Spanish program at Paideia. We are very excited about the energy level of our students in the classroom and the enthusiasm they have demonstrated for Spanish class during our first four weeks of school. Unfortunately, staffing this specialty program has been a challenge this year. Our long-term substitute teacher for Ms. Sullivan accepted a new position elsewhere, and we need to find a new long-term substitute for the rest of the quarter in addition to finding someone to permanently fill our 0.4 position. The pool of qualified candidates is small, but we are sure we will find highly-qualified candidates who will be great additions to our staff. While we are extremely grateful to the University Language Center for providing us with experienced, dynamic instructors for the opening of school, this program is, unfortunately, cost-prohibitive. Our hope is to finalize the hiring process for both positions as soon as possible and continue to enrich students' lives through Spanish instruction. We will keep students and families posted as we have more information, and we greatly appreciate your understanding as we work through this transition together!

Art

- **Standards/unit:**

Upper: Artistic Foundations
Artistic Process: Create or Make
Lower: Artistic Foundations
Artistic Process: Create or Make

- **Activities:**

Upper: Elements of art representing emotions
En plaine Air sketching
Sketching/Zentangles
Lower: Cut and glue, watercolor, stitching

- **Inspirations:**

Upper : Art History: Impressionism/Post- Impressionism
Art History: Non-Representational
History: Architecture since the Industrial Revolution
Lower: Science: Parts of a plant
Science: Animals and Habitats
History: Art of the Ojibwa

Counselor's Corner

- **A Message from your Counselors:** National Health Observances (NHOs) are special days, weeks or months dedicated to raising awareness about important health topics. Each NHO presents an opportunity to educate and energize students, families and the community, as well as promote healthy behaviors! As school counselors it is our job to support students in their academic, personal social, and career interest development, and our hope is that you and your family will benefit from the information we provide about each of these NHOs throughout the year!

- **Counseling Highlights: Random Acts of Kindness**

In the interest of encouraging students to support one another, we have created a Random Acts of Kindness bulletin board, located near the computers in the Upper Academy Hallway. Already we have 7 names of students who have gone out of their way to help out a fellow classmate. We'll also be recognizing students at monthly Monday Morning Meetings.

Helpful Hints: *Healthy Snacks: Quick Tips for Parents*

- o "Ants on a log" (celery with peanut butter and raisins)
- o Fresh or canned fruit (in 100% juice, not syrup) with fat-free or low-fat vanilla yogurt
- o Whole-grain crackers with low-fat cheese
- o Frozen grapes (rinse and freeze grapes overnight)
- o Whole-wheat bread or apple slices with peanut butter
- o Quesadillas (low-fat cheese on a whole-wheat tortilla)
- o Unsalted pretzels or air-popped popcorn
- o Baked tortilla chips and salsa
- o Whole-wheat pita bread with hummus
- o Water or fat-free or low-fat milk

- **New and Noteworthy:**

September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month! According to letsmove.gov, "Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled, and today, nearly one in three children in America are overweight or obese. The numbers are even higher in African American and Hispanic communities, where nearly 40% of the children are overweight or obese." Check out more information at <http://healthfinder.gov/NHO/SepResources.aspx>

FREE!



EAGAN STREETS *alive!*

SHOWCASE EAGAN

www.cityofeagan.com/Alive

**Visit our booth and
see Mr. Phillippi and
Ms. Case! Wear your
Paideia T-Shirt and
show your PRIDE!**

**Sunday,
Sept. 15, 2013
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

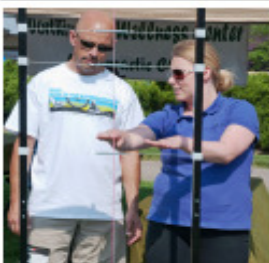
Community Connections

- New residents
- Families & individuals
- Seniors & teens
- Fitness enthusiasts
- Walkers, runners, bicyclists, rollerbladers & skateboarders

Activities

- Family walk 1:15 p.m. starts at Eagan Community Center
- 60+ community & City booths
- Get up close to City vehicles
- Food & farmer's market
- Health fair, yoga & ZumbaFest
- Live music & dancing
- Ride your bike, rollerblade, walk, or skate
- Kids activities
- Bike giveaways

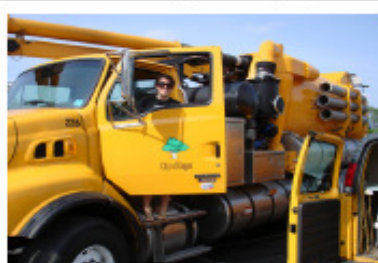
The City of Eagan is closing two major streets and opening them to fun activities from behind Byerly's all the way over to the Eagan Community Center. With activities appropriate to all age groups, there are dozens of kid's activities, a special Sunday farmer's market, more than five dozen community organizations and displays of City vehicles and departments. There's a health fair and free samples too. Enjoy a 1.5 mile family walk at your own pace starting at 1:15 pm near the Community Center start of the Streets Alive route.



Health Fair



Blade / Bike



Touch a Truck



Booths