Paideia Academy

Newsletter September 13, 2013



Save the Date:

September 17 Picture retakes & Board Committee Meeting, Governance and Long Range planning 7:00 PM

September 19 Board Committee Meeting, School Culture & Communications 5:00PM, Marketing & Enrollment 6:00 PM

September 27 All school DANCE! 6:30-8:30 PM

October 7-18 Fall Break, No school

From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

Thank you to all of you who attended our Monday Morning Meeting this week! Thank you, especially, to the 7th/8th grade team who took the lead on putting it all together, to Mr. Strand for leading our Orchestra in playing Tchaikovsky's *Little Russian March*, and to our Kindergarten and Science teachers who provided samples of students' creative work (Kindergarteners' self-portraits and 7th & 8th graders' Draw a Scientist drawings). It was a wonderful opportunity for us to focus on our character strength of the month, CREATIVITY, and to celebrate many of our students' accomplishments. We celebrated Upper Academy Students of the Month, school-wide Student Superstars, Random Acts of Kindness, National Junior Honor Society members, Presidential Physical Fitness award recipients, student Ranch Hands (who support our technology usage by making sure our laptop and lpad carts get to the right places at the right time, are charged, and computers are put away appropriately), and our parent volunteers. We are excited for next month's MMM on October 21st when our 8th graders will be focusing on LEADERSHIP.

We had three great committee meetings this week – Academic Excellence, Human Resources, and Operations. Thank you to the staff and parents who joined us at these! It has been wonderful to see some new faces at these meetings and to be able to have thoughtful, candid conversations about important-school-wide issues. At the Academic Excellence meeting, we talked about how we define and demonstrate academic excellence at Paideia Academy, and we reviewed the domains and subdomains of the Danielson Framework for Teaching that we use for teacher observations. At the Operations meeting, we focused on technology and how we can use it most effectively to support teaching, learning, and communication. At the Human Resources meeting, we reviewed draft evaluation models for all staff for 2013-2014 and discussed the legislative requirements for teacher evaluations for 2014-2015, specifically the requirement that 35% of a teacher's evaluation must be based on "value-added assessments". As a school, we will need to make some decisions about what this actually looks like for each teacher and each subject, and I look forward to your participation in these discussions.

Lastly, I would like to invite you all to next Tuesday's Board meeting, at which we will be continuing to discuss some of the above, as well as reviewing our 2012-2013 Annual Report draft, our 2014-2017 Charter Reauthorization Application, and a proposal for the 2014-2015 academic calendar, in addition to other topics.

Thank you all for being supportive, engaged families! Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely, Marci Levy-Maguire Director

Important Updates from the Office

Dismissal:

Families are to arrive in the carline / gym before 3:45! (2:45 on Wednesdays)
Our pick-up process is moving along very quickly, yet we often have a few students still here at 4:00 PM!



We want to thank all the parent volunteers we see everyday in the building! Our new sign-up ahead of time system is working great; this allows both the office and the teachers to now who is coming and when! We have gotten to meet many new parents this year; it's great to see you here!

If you are unable to volunteer during the school day, we still have opportunities for you to help with after hours projects and events. Contact the PTO for upcoming opportunities! (One is listed below!)

project for volunteers! We need the shrubs, bushes and plants out front of the building trimmed and weeded! (Especially the purple shrubs to the right of the front door / driveway) You can come whenever you wish, you will need your own tools and be sure to keep track of your entire family's time so you can log it in the volunteer book! (Staff will not be present)

If you haven't already, please check out your student's grades in Schoolview.

https://www.tiescloud.net/schoolview

If you need help with your password, please email Tonya Lundstrom
tlundstrom@paideiaacademy.org



Proper attire for clubs: Please be advised that students must wear their uniforms during clubs.

Photo Retake day is Tuesday!

Students are to be in uniform and will need one of the following:

Students who are getting Retakes:

1. Will need to bring in the unwanted photo package they received in August. (no order form needed)

Or

Students who missed August photos will need one of the following:

- **1.** Picture pass printed from home with confirmation of online order.
- **2.** A completed order form (they are on the parent table in the lobby)

2 Volunteers needed from 8:00 AM to noon to help with photos. If you are available please email swatkins@paideiaacademy.org.

Do you know what the Kwik Trip Gas Card Program is?

Purchase a Kwik Trip card at the office and 9% of the purchase price will be put into individual student accounts to be applied to FUTURE Upper Academy field trips costing in excess of \$100!

It's that easy!

The Kwik Trip fundraising program was put in place to provide a way for families to offset the cost of the Upper Academy Field Trips. These field trips can range from \$125 - \$1300 depending on the destination.

Who can participate? All Paideia Families are eligible to participate

What is the Kwik Trip fundraising program? Families can purchase Kwik Trip Gift Cards in \$25 and \$100 denominations. 9% of the purchase price will be put into individual student accounts to be applied to Upper Academy field trips costing in excess of \$100. Families still get the full value of the gift card purchased.

How do I participate? Families <u>must</u> fill out the Kwik Trip Upper Academy Field Trip Form to receive student credit. Any purchase made without the form will go to the general SCRIP fundraising account. You can drop off your form and pick up your Kwik Trip Cards either at the front desk, or at the SCRIP Table before and after Monday Morning Meeting.

Why would a Lower Academy family want to participate in this program? Some of the field trips can be costly. Lower Academy students will have more time to build up savings account balances for when they reach Upper Academy grade levels.

What happens to unused money in my account? If you leave Paideia any unused money will be put back in the school SCRIP fundraising account. If there are siblings still attending Paideia Academy, funds can be transferred to their account.

To purchase, just stop by the office anytime (except during dismissal time, please.)

Community

Show your support for the Community!
This Saturday, September 14
35th Annual Apple Valley

Firefighter's Relief Association's BOOYA

From the Classrooms

Kindergarten

- Math: Mini-Lesson: number sense and color song green. We will be switching for math groups and working on math station activities after our mini-lessons.
- Language Arts: Sight Word: the, Sight Word Reader: The Leaves.
 - Ms. Stevens' Reading Group: Continuing to work on building stamina and word work as part of our Daily 5 reading time. We will also introduce listen to reading.
 - Mrs. Johnson's Reading Group: Continue working on building stamina and word work for Daily 5. We will also introduce listen to reading
- Science: Apple Science- Making predictions
- Social Studies: Johnny Appleseed/John Chapman
- Advisory: Friendship, Classroom Routines, Olweus Bullying Prevention Program: Class Meeting #5, Rule #4: We will tell an adult at home and at school if we feel we are being bullied. We will be introducing Superflex a social thinking curriculum on Wednesday.
- **Announcements:** Weekly homework is due on Friday! We are still missing a few art shirts in both classes. Please send them in as soon as possible!
- Volunteer Opportunities: Copying/Stapling: We are looking for volunteers on Thursdays and Fridays to help out with copying weekly homework and weekly sight word readers. If you are available to help out, please contact Shannon Bradley at mnbradleys@gmail.com or visit Volunteer Spot to sign up. http://vols.pt/vmRPSZ

First Grade

- Math: We will continue working on Chapter 3; adding up to 10 using a number sentence.
- Language Arts: We will continue Daily 5 Centers. We will write in our journals. We will begin learning about correct handwriting skills.
- Science: We will begin our Life Cycle Unit. We will learn the life cycles of butterflies and frogs.
- Social Studies: We will begin our unit about Mexico with a Mexican Independence Day Fiesta! We will learn about Mexican culture, history and geography in the coming weeks.
- Advisory: We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum. We will work on using "I statements" for conflict resolution. We will practice using manners like "please" and "thank you".
- **Announcements:** The Spanish Teacher has a sub and homework has not been sent home. We will let you know when Spanish homework starts again.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Thank you for all who have helped! We could also use volunteers from 1-1:40 every day for Math Centers. Please let Stacey Thorpe know if you are available.
- Inspirations: Ani, Vera, Rachel, Emmie and Britton retired clips this week! Great job guys!

Second Grade

- Math: starting our unit on subtracting numbers to 1,000 (with and without regrouping); MAP testing
- Language Arts: Daily 5 rotations, sorting our Words Their Way spelling words (spelling test—Thursday), poem of the week
- Science: finishing our weather and water cycle unit
- Social Studies: starting our unit on the geography and culture of ancient China
- Advisory: star of the week and discussing our fourth Olweus rule: If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at school.
- **Announcements:** Starting this week we are sending home different math homework depending on which math class your child is in. See the attached math sheets in their homework packets. Also, there is no more Spanish homework for the remainder of the quarter. It will resume 2nd quarter.
- Volunteer Opportunities: Email Wendy (2nd grade parent rep) at devriesw@yahoo.com if interested in coming in to help with spelling, copying, etc. We would love more help! Also, check out the facebook page she created entitled "Paideia Class of 2020" to connect with other parents.
- **Inspirations:** Great job to students who have made it to the hall of fame or have read over 100 minutes last week! Also, thank you to parents who have volunteered this week!

Third Grade

- **Math:** -Jensen Math: multiplying ones, tens and hundreds with regrouping, chapter 7 test (Thursday), mental division (3rd grade group); line graphs and chapter 4 test (Friday)
 - -Schnase/Kegel Math: Subtraction review, Quiz on Tuesday, real-world problems with addition and subtraction
- Language Arts: Lowercase Cursive Letters n, o & p; Daily 5: Listen-to-Reading; sentence and story organization; prefixes
- Science: Food pyramid projects and pollution books/posters
- Social Studies: Comparing and contrasting ancient calendars and maps, historical inventions
- Advisory: Staying on task, compliments, Olweus
- Announcements: Our weekly spelling quiz will be on Friday. Ms. Schnase & Mrs. Kegel's subtraction quiz will be on Tuesday.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** We are taking our bi-weekly library field trip on Thursday from 10:15-11:30 and we will be doing our weekly spelling quiz on Friday from 10:15-10:45. If you are able to help with either of these opportunities, please contact your child's teacher.
- **Inspirations:** Congratulations to 3rd grade for having the highest number of hours and the highest number of problems completed on IXL!!!

Fourth Grade

- Math: Multiplication and division. IXL standards- 4.1.1.1 through 4.1.1.4
- Language Arts: Students will continue Daily 5 rotations and reading groups.
- Science: Students will study the rock cycle and minerals.
- Social Studies: Students will begin a unit on geography.
- 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 had a great time creating and selling their products at the fourth grade market!

Fifth Grade

- Math: Word Problems, Adding/Subtracting Like Fractions, Quiz on Wednesday
- Language Arts: Students are working on an essay about an influential person in their lives. Vocab quiz and Daybook skills quiz on Thursday.
- Science: Students will be learning about force and motion.
- Social Studies: Students will finish their work on Explorers. We will be learning more about the motivations of explorers and things they were looking for. We'll also read about some respected explorers who turned to a life of piracy (Sept. 19 arghhh, matey).
- **Advisory:** Students continue to work on character strengths, organization, and the Olweus anti-bullying curriculum.
- **Announcements:** Students should be continuing to work on their September reading calendars, due September 30th.
- Inspirations: Students in 5th grade Language Arts worked very hard on their new vocabulary assignment.

Sixth Grade

- **Math:** Adding/Subtracting/Multiplying/Dividing Fractions, Reviewing Word Problems, Quiz on Wednesday & Friday.
- Language Arts: Students are working on an essay about a favorite animal. Vocab quiz and Daybook skills quiz on Thursday.
- Science: Students will be doing activities using metric conversions.
- **Social Studies:** Students will learn about Minnesota's pre-history. We will do some reading and complete an experiential activity looking at an archaeological dig site.
- Advisory: Students continue to work on character strengths, organization, and the Olweus anti-bullying curriculum.
- **Announcements:** Students should be continuing to work on their September reading calendars, due September 30th.
- Inspirations: Students in 6th grade Language Arts worked hard on completing their choice board activities.

Seventh Grade

- **Math:** The students will continuing working on chapter 3--Rational Numbers. They will focus on adding and subtracting with mixed numbers, using a calculator to understand rational numbers and order of operations, comparing rational numbers, solving equations and inequalities with rational numbers. Please view my classroom webpage for a complete listing of IXL skills to master as well as other various math resources.
- Language Arts: The students will continue with Daybook lesson 5. They will be finishing the Native American novel and begin analyzing story elements. Students will continue documenting on the reading calendar.
- **Science:** Students in 7th grade will be quizzing on atoms and the periodic table. They will also be doing a project on an element of their choice.
- Social Studies: This week in 7th grade Social Studies we completed our readers' theater puppet show presentations about Inventors & Discoverers in history. Students were able to choose from four readers' theater pieces: Marie Curie, Albert Einstein, George Washington Carver, Louis Pasteur. It was really fun to see the students' creativity and hear the voices they created to accompany the characters! The 7th graders as a whole have been very enthusiastic about readers' theater pieces, so expect many more in the months to come! Students also completed some mapping activities to identify states in the United States and worked on global current events with our Upfront magazines, Double Entry Journal Responses, and "The Week in Rap." Next week we will move on to studying Athletes throughout U.S. History.
- Advisory: The students will continue to work on study skills and organizing their binders/lockers. Time will be spent participating in their 5th Olweus class meeting and working on "I messages."
- **Announcements:** Each student has access to Schoolview; they should be checking their grades at least 2 times per week. The September Reading Calendar begins 9/8!
- Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers could be used on Fridays to make copies; please contact us if you are able to assist.
- **Inspirations:** Both 7th and 8th grade Social Studies students have shown great interest in global current events! We have had some rich, spontaneous class discussions about the George Zimmerman court case, Syria, and animal poaching in Asia. The students are very eager, curious learners! They get genuinely excited about our Upfront classroom magazines and "The Week in Rap" videos!

Eighth Grade

- **Math: 8B:** The students will continue in chapter 3. The topics will include solving inequalities with variables on both sides, solving compound inequalities, and a chapter review to prepare for an assessment the following week.
- Math 8A: The students will be starting chapter 4 on Functions. The topics will include: graphing relationships, relations/functions, writing/graphing functions--there will be a quiz on Thursday. Please view my class-room webpage for a complete listing of IXL skills to master as well as other various math resources.
- Language Arts: The students will be reading Daybook lesson 5. Students will finish their rough draft of their phase autobiography; peer edits and teacher conferences will be conducted before the final paper is due. Students will continue documenting on the reading calendar.
- **Science:** Students in 8th grade will be quizzing on mixtures, pure substances, and separation methods. They will begin comparing and contrasting metal and nonmetal elements.
- Social Studies: This week in 8th grade Social Studies students continued learning about the history, geography, and culture of the U.S. and Canada. We watched educational videos about The Midwest and Western regions of the U.S. and completed graphic organizers to record facts about geography, history, and culture in these regions. Students worked with our National Geographic online textbook and resources, as well as Google Earth and global news sources to learn more about current events issues in the U.S. and Canada. Next week we will be learning about geographic features (e.g. plateaus, plains, deltas), as well as the geography of Mexico.
- Advisory: The students will continue to work on study skills and organizing their binders/lockers. Time will be spent participating in their 5th Olweus class meeting and working on "I messages."
- **Announcements:** Each student has access to Schoolview; they should be checking their grades at least 2 times per week. The September Reading Calendar begins 9/8!

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ART

Standards/unit:

Upper: Artistic Foundations

Artistic Process: Create or Make

Lower: Artistic Foundations

Artistic Process: Create or Make

Activities:

Upper: Drawing value
Drawing trees
Drawing architecture

Sketching Tips/Techniques

Lower: Line quality

Drawing from imagination

Drawing from life

Finishing and labeling artwork

• Inspirations:

Upper: Art History: Impressionism/Post- Impressionism

Art History: Non-Representational

History: Architecture since the Industrial Revolution

Current Artist #hashtags

Lower: Science: four parts of a habitat History: art of the Ojibwa

Literature: Just Like Me Stories and Self-Portraits by Fourteen Artists Edited by Harriet Rohmer

Music 4

- Standards/Unit: Artistic Foundations; Understanding Complex Rhythms
- Activities: Creating unique rhythms in Monkey Machine, an online drum computer, then writing them in music notation
- **Inspirations:** Students in 4th grade know the Indian terms for speech rhythms!

Music 5

- Standards/unit: Artistic Foundations; Music Theory Foundations
- Activities: Sight reading three- and five-note melodies on Orff instruments
- **Inspirations:** Students in 5th grade have used Orff instruments to play new music they've never seen before!

Music 6

- Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Indian Drumming Techniques
- Activities: Utilizing Indian speech rhythms to play drum music; learning about the Indian tabla.
- Inspirations: 6th grade students know how to correctly step to salsa music!

Music 7

- Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration
- Activities: Exploring the software program MuseScore for notating and composing music.
- Inspirations: 7th grade students are beginning to make personal decisions about scoring and orchestration!

Music 8

- Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Scoring & Orchestration
- Activities: Reviewing ranges of orchestral instruments, applying accurate transcription to scoring projects.
- Inspirations: 8th grade students are beginning to make personal decisions about scoring and orchestration!

Counselor's Corner

• A Message from your Counselors: Think Positive!

Thinking positive thoughts is more likely to lift your spirits and leave you feeling less stressed! If you or your child tend to be a "glass half empty thinker," try the following activity called "Possibilities."

Start by being aware of negative thoughts. (Example: your child says, "Joey didn't invite me over today. He must not like me anymore.")

Respond by saying, "Okay, that's on possibility."

Next, challenge your child to brainstorm other possibilities. (Ex: "Maybe Joey had to run errands with his mom today so he isn't able to invite a friend over to play.")

Together, see how many possibilities you can brainstorm. It's okay to create some silly possibilities too!

Helpful Hints: Kid Fitness ~ When Your Child Won't Exercise (Part 1 of 3)
 12 Tips to Get Your Couch Potato Moving.

Kid Fitness Tip #1: Think outside the playing field

Not everyone is drawn to organized sports such as soccer or baseball. Look for other activities your child will enjoy – like dancing, rock climbing, swimming, or martial arts. And have patience – it may take some trial and error before your kids finds the right fight.

Kid Fitness Tip #2: Join in the game

Kids love it when their parents play with them. So encourage children's fitness by taking a family hike. Have a game of catch. Walk or bike to school together. Play hopscotch. "You don't need a lot of fancy equipment or special classes to encourage your child to exercise," says Patricia Nixon, PhD, president-elect of the North American Society of Pediatric Exercise Medicine.

Kid Fitness Tip #3: Limit screen time

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that kids get no more than one to two hours of screen time a day, whether that's watching TV, surfing the Internet, or playing video games. But many children spend four or more hours each day in front of a screen. Encourage active alternatives to these passive pastimes, such as shooting hoops at the local playground, walking the dog, or a game of tag. To help keep temptation at bay, remove TVs from bedrooms and put the computer in a shared space where you can supervise. If you have teens, set guidelines about other sedentary pursuits like chatting on the phone or text messaging.

Kid Fitness Tip #4: Lead by example

If you vegetate in front of the TV every night, the remote control in one hand and a bag of chips in the other, your not practicing what you preach. And your kids aren't likely to respect restrictions you set on their screen time either. So check your own viewing behavior and serve as a role model by incorporating physical activity into your everyday life. When you can, walk instead of driving. Climb the stairs rather than wait for the elevator. Regularly participate in active pursuits that you enjoy and let your kids see – and hear about – how much you enjoy them!

• **New and Noteworthy:** 18 kids were recognized during this week's Monday Morning Meeting for their Random Acts of Kindness! According to the random acts of kindness foundation, "Studies show that practicing random acts of kindness improves your overall mental health in addition to benefitting the ones you gift." Check out this article about the mental health benefits of being kind! http://www.randomactsofkindness.org/kindness-research/755-random-acts-of-kindness-help-mental-health

Spanish

- We are excited to announce that we have a candidate who has accepted the part-time Spanish position beginning second quarter! Pending final paperwork, she will begin on our professional development day, October 18th, and will be ready to meet our students on Monday, October 21st. Paulino will be with us for the remainder of the first quarter, and we cannot thank him enough for all of his hard work and the excitement he has built in our students about the Spanish language!
- Homework update: there will be no homework for students in Ms. Sullivan's classes for the remainder of first
 quarter as they progress through their cultural studies. Regular, language-based homework, will resume at the
 start of second quarter.

Physical Education and Health K-8

Physical Education Class:

Lower Academy: Soccer

Upper Academy: Soccer, emphasis on dribbling, passing, and teamwork

Health: Environmental Health

Identify ways the environment affects health

Mind web how environmental health affects body system

Community resources—asking for help

Staying safe in public places (mall, park)

Announcements:

Upper Academy: Please remember to bring gym uniforms for class. If you placed an order recently and are waiting for arrival, please wear spirit wear with black shorts in the meantime.

- **Volunteer Opportunities:**
- **Inspirations:** It is inspiring that the students want to set goals to reach presidential for the next fitness testing!



www.cityofeagan.com/Alive









Health Fair

Blade / Bike

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.

THIS SUNDAY! 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