

# Paideia Academy

## Newsletter

October 4, 2013



### Save the Date:

**October 7-18** Fall Break, No school

**October 21** Monday Morning Meeting 8:20 AM

**October 22** Board Meeting 7 PM

**October 23** Report Cards available on School View

**October 24** Evening Conferences 4 PM—8 PM

**October 25** No school; Conferences 8 AM to 3 PM



### From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

This has truly been a wonderful first quarter of 2013-2014! We have successfully implemented our new academic program; done some great professional development with our staff; approved our 2012-2013 Annual Report, Charter Reauthorization Application, and 2013-2014 Evaluation Processes; developed our Title I program; and utilized our new Board-level committees as forums to promote more collaboration and transparent communication regarding school-wide decision-making. As you have read in our previous newsletters this year, your children have been involved in amazing learning opportunities, have celebrated many successes, participated in fun and educational extracurricular programs, and have benefited from your involvement in our school both in and out of their classrooms.

In addition, we can now celebrate our 2012-2013 Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) and Focus Rating (FR), both of which increased significantly since 2011-2012!! These ratings are based on students' MCA scores only. MMR results are based on three categories: Proficiency, Progress, and Achievement Gap Reduction. FR results are based on two categories: Focused Performance and Achievement Gap Reduction. (You can find additional information on the descriptions of each category on the Minnesota Department of Education website (<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/ESEA/FedAcc/005949>).)

### Multiple Measurement Ratings & Focus Ratings For Paideia Academy and D196 Comparison Schools

**\*\*From <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Reports.jsp>\*\***

School	2012-2013		2011-2012	
	Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) <small>((points earned/75) x100)</small>	Focus Rating (FR) <small>((points earned/50) x100)</small>	Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) <small>((points earned/75) x100)</small>	Focus Rating (FR) <small>((points earned/50) x100)</small>
<b>Paideia Academy</b>	<b>85.40%</b>	<b>81.93%</b>	<b>74.86%</b>	<b>76.05%</b>
<b>Greenleaf Elementary (K-5)</b>	85.91%	87.33%	73.34%	71.16%
<b>Valley Middle School (6-8)</b>	85.26%	86.00%	21.70%	22.75%

Cont.

As you may notice, a major component of these ratings is how effectively we are closing our achievement gap, which the Minnesota Department of Education defines as “how the growth of [a school’s] students from the seven lower-performing subgroups (Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian, English Learners, free and reduced lunch, and special education students) compares to the statewide average growth of higher-performing subgroups”. The goal of tracking these data are to motivate schools to provide equal access to educational success for all students, regardless of race, socioeconomic class, or academic need.

As a school, Paideia Academy has been relatively successful for the past two years in meeting our Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets, which determines our Proficiency scores (*24.99 out of 25 points for 2012-2013*) and in helping our students make progress on their MCA scores from year to year, which determines our Growth score (*23.08 out of 25 points for 2012-2013*). At the same time, it is clear that we have work to do to decrease our Achievement Gap Reduction scores (*15.98 out of 25 points for 2012-2013*). This is something I know we can do! We have already put some structures in place this year to support this initiative, including our Title I program, increased focus on individual student data with teachers, and increased alignment between our DDI tests and the MCA tests. Our students’ success is our success, and we should all take great pride in the work we do to help them do the best they can. Thank you for all the support you provide to your children and our staff!

I hope you all enjoy a wonderful fall break with your children. I also hope to see you at our October 21<sup>st</sup> Morning Meeting when we will be treated to the inaugural performance of the Paideia Academy Choir!! I was lucky enough to get a sneak peek yesterday, and I was truly impressed by their focus and professionalism, not to mention their beautiful singing voices. Enjoy the next two weeks with your amazing children! We look forward to seeing you after the break.

Sincerely,  
Marci Levy-Maguire  
Director

## Important Updates from the Office

### Upper Academy Student Schedules

While there have been many benefits of our new academic program, one disadvantage was that middle school students remained with the same students all day long, instead of getting the opportunity to learn with a variety of students. Both teachers and students have requested that we make some changes to address this concern, which we feel is completely valid. We encourage students to get to know different people in new ways, and, as a school community, it is important that we support them in developing new relationships in and out of the classroom. For those reasons, we will be redistributing 5th-8th grade students in their non-core classes. Student rosters for core classes (Math, Language Arts, Social Studies & Science) will remain the same, and rosters for all other classes will be the same as Advisory groups. Teacher teams will review and provide students with their new schedules after Monday Morning Meeting on the first day back to school after break (10/21). We will let you know after break when you will be able to view your child’s new schedule in SchoolView. Please contact your child’s Advisor if you have any questions.

### Spanish Class Update

We are very excited to welcome back Mrs. Sullivan after her maternity leave during the first quarter! We are also happy to announce that, per Board approval, our second Spanish teacher will begin her tenure with Paideia Academy beginning second quarter. We look forward to having a fully staffed program that will better support our students’ Spanish language progress and performance. All students will be receiving a pass/fail grade for the first quarter. Second through fourth quarter grades will be determined using the grading policies outlined in our Curriculum Guide. Gracias!

### Kinder Enrichment

Kinder Enrichment payments are due. If you need to drop off payment, the office hours during break are 8 AM—2 PM; or you can place payment in the gray drop box located to the right of the main door.

# OUTSTANDING

**Melissa Selim** for providing us with curriculum and sub plans for the entire first quarter while Mrs. Sullivan is home with her new baby!

**Barrie Marasco** for her countless hours of creating our new inventory system! She has spent 2 days week working on it since the beginning of summer!

**Tonya Hansel** for stepping up and helping with Kindergarten dismissal!



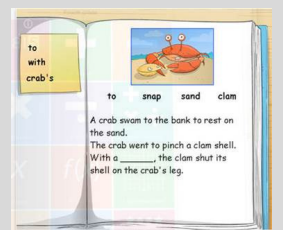
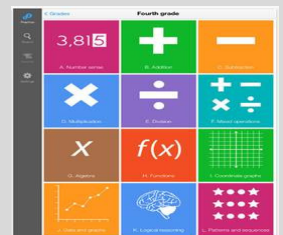
Wendy Clark	Andrea Anderson	Deb Stapleton	Tracey Williams	Sue Rohlwing
Amy Jarpe	Crystal Kohler	Carrie King	Robyn Ramos	Lydia Blustin
Jami Shull	Becky Watzak	Tasha Erikson	Christina Rost	Andi Arntz
Courtney Cardwell	Gina Wilson	Andrea Stone	Sarah Wright Walstrom	Peter Thorpe
Andrea Dobberman	Melissa Rensch	Tonya Joubert	Kim Glogowski	Jane Hendrickson

## Students can continue to learn and grow during break!

Paideia Academy provides several resources for students to use on the computer or ipad at home, or at the public library. Students in grades K-3 have access to Lexia Learning at [www.lexialearning.com](http://www.lexialearning.com). Lexia provides systematic, personalized learning of foundational reading skills for students of all abilities. Students in grades K-8 have access to IXL Math at [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com). IXL math makes reviewing old and learning new math concepts fun. Students can earn virtual medals as they progress through each level of learning. For a reminder of your password, please email [mekrem@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:mekrem@paideiaacademy.org).

Lexia app: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lexia-reading/id555676901?ls=1&mt=8>

IXL app: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ixl-math-practice/id693689912?mt=8>



## YMCA SCHOOL AGE CARE

YMCA School Age Care will be available for care on October 7-11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30am-6:00pm and on October 14-16<sup>th</sup> at the same times. On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> there is care at other locations such as Highland Elementary and Westview Elementary. We have some fun activities planned for those days!

You can register online at [ymcatwincities.org](http://ymcatwincities.org).

Please feel free to contact Hannah at [Hannah.craven@ymcatwincities.org](mailto:Hannah.craven@ymcatwincities.org) with any questions. Rates are \$40 a day when you register before Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> and \$50 a day after that date.

Hope to see you here!!

**Hannah Craven**

YMCA School Age Care Site Director at Paideia Academy

## Class Grades

Class grades are the overall grade for the class. This is the grade that will appear on the report card. Class grades can be viewed by logging in to Schoolview and clicking on grades. They look like this:

02	Math: 311355 <a href="#">view all definitions</a>	Mon, Sep 30, 2013 at 8:31:37 AM	E (91%)	exceeds standards
03	Language Arts: 311735 <a href="#">view all definitions</a>	Mon, Sep 30, 2013 at 8:59:58 PM	M (87%)	meets standards

### Possible grades for Lower Academy are:

E= exceeds standards

M= meets standards

P= partially meets standards

N= does not meet standards

X= student has not been at Paideia long enough to earn a grade

Upper Academy is graded on an A-F grading scale.

## Course Definitions (Assignments)

To look at the assignments in a specific class, **please click on “view all definitions” next to the course name and number.**

Math: 311355 [view all definitions](#)

This will allow you to view the course definitions (assignments) and scores your student has earned. Values should be numerical unless the student was absent (A), the assignment is missing (M), the student was exempted (E), The assignment was turned in but not yet corrected (T), or the assignment is a work in progress (W).

Course Definitions	Assigned	Due	Score	Possible
Extra Practice 119-120	9/27/2013	9/27/2013	4	4
Weekly homework 9/27	9/27/2013	9/27/2013	4	4
Workbook Pages 153-154	9/26/2013	9/26/2013	4	4
8.3 Homework pages 151-152	9/25/2013	9/25/2013	3	4
9/24 Homework Extra Practice 115-116	9/24/2013	9/24/2013	4	4

The distinction we'd like to draw your attention to is the “M” for “Meets Standards” and the “M for “Missing assignment.” If you are viewing the overall class grade (first image), “M” means “Meets Standards.” If you are viewing the course definitions (second image), “M” means “missing assignment.” This is true of “E” as well. If you are viewing the overall class grade, “E” means “Exceeds Standards.” If you are viewing the course definitions, “E” means “Exempt” from the assignment.

## From the PTO

Dear Paideia Community,

Offda! Just had to throw a little Midwestern Scandinavian sigh of relief into the last newsletter of first quarter. Yup - we made it through the first quarter and if you are like me you are wondering where the time went and why you have a sinking feeling that before we know it you'll be reading about the end of second quarter and winter break will be upon us!

We hope you got your Winter Spirit Wear orders in! We are doing Pre-Order only for spirit wear this year as the PTO is working to ensure we do not tie up funds in school store stock.

Looking back on our accomplishments I am happy to say that the PTO is off to a strong start. Our Innisbrook fundraiser brought in approximately \$4,500 in profit and the PTO will be making another disbursement to Paideia Academy at our next meeting. Be sure to be there to help decide how the funds are earmarked. We hosted two successful Wendy's Community Nights and had a blast at the All School Dance last Friday. Attendance at the PTO meetings is up and we will work to continue to provide you relevant content and presentations. A big Thank you to Rachel Chamley, Officer Virden (Apple Valley Police Department) and Surge (Geek Squad) for their presentations on Tuesday.

When you return after two weeks of rest and relaxation (yeah - right!) be sure to pick up your Innisbrook orders on Tuesday, October 22nd. Fourth and Fifth Grade families will be hosting a pot luck for our teachers on October 24th as they spend a full day at school only to spend a full night with us at conferences. Please be sure you are signing up so your Grade Reps know what food to expect. Upper Academy Families mark your calendars for October 29th for High School Night. Start planning now for life after Paideia. From 6:30 to 8:00 pm various high school representatives will be in the large commons to tell you more about the opportunities available through their programs. Public, private and charter schools have been invited.

Our November PTO presentation topic is Literary Arts, more information about presentations will be forth coming. We'll also be deciding the movie that will be shown at Movie Night on November 15th so another great reason to attend! The Poinsettia sale and Book Fair are just around the corner - volunteer opportunities abound please contact us at [pto@paideiaacademy.org](mailto:pto@paideiaacademy.org) if you are interested. Always watch our ever improving website for more information and ways to get involved. You can still enter your information on the directory or in the car pool list, enter your volunteer hours, give props to teachers, see teacher wish lists and much more. [www.paideiaacademypto.org](http://www.paideiaacademypto.org) - visit us often!

Thank you everyone for a successful first quarter. I hope you have a healthy and relaxing fall break.

Happy Fall Break!  
Ginie Klopp  
PTO President

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website [www.paideiaacademypto.org](http://www.paideiaacademypto.org)



### Our Vision

We envision a new generation of engaged, productive global citizens.

### Our Mission

The Mission of Paideia Academy is to challenge and inspire learners by providing a rigorous, content-rich, classical education incorporating languages, music, and the arts while nurturing positive character development.