

Paideia Academy

January 17, 2014

Save the Date:

January 20 No School, Martin Luther King Day!
January 22 Board Meeting
February 3 Morning Meeting
February 13 K-3 Music Concert
February 17 No School President's Day



From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

Thank you so much to all of you who attended conferences this week! I hope that your discussions with teachers were productive, helped you understand your child's academic strengths and challenges even better, and provided you with some tools to continue their learning and development at home. We have made a number of changes this year to better communicate with families that we hope have provided and you and your children with more specific feedback and strategies to support their progress, including:

- Changing conference dates to better coincide with report card distribution
- Modifying our report cards to include strands for Process, Performance, and Progress
- Providing families of students in grades 2-8 identified as gifted or high-performing with grade-level specific extension activities for each subject area during the second semester
- Administering a Family Satisfaction Survey to gather feedback to help guide our work and better meet the needs of our students and families
- Providing mid-quarter progress reports to all students who are at risk of not meeting expectations by the end of the quarter.

Our first week back has been great! The kids have been enthusiastic and full of energy, and it's been exciting to hear about all the fun activities they did during winter break. We started the week with an amazing Morning Meeting focused on Bravery, our character strength of the month. We all took great pride in our vibrant and joyful student, Macey, who has demonstrated bravery throughout her experiences this past year as she received and learned to walk (and run and dance and skip and everything else!) on a new prosthetic leg. Some encouraging staff members from Shriner's Hospital helped Macey share her story with our community, and it was clear that our students were enthralled by everything they saw and heard.

On Monday, we also held our first Coffee with the Director, which was a great success! Five parents joined us, and we had a number of great conversations about a variety of topics, including special education, gifted education, supporting students through difficult transitions and conversations, the resource challenges of charter schools, and the benefits of a Paideia education. Thank you to those of you who were able to attend! I look forward to speaking with more families at future events.

Lastly, I would like to send out a warm welcome to our new families!! This week, 21 new students joined the Paideia family, and we still have another week of open enrollment before our enrollment period closes. Spread the word!

Thank you so much for everything you do to support Paideia! We truly enjoy partnering with you to provide your children with a great education.

Sincerely,

Marci Levy-Maguire

Director

From The Office

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting

All Paideia Academy parents/guardians welcome to join us to discuss Special Education services at Paideia Academy.

Date: January 23, 2014

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Paideia Academy

Topics: Components of the Individualized Education Program (IEP), Least Restrictive Environment, Special Education services at Paideia Academy

Thank you to the entire Paideia community for making our American Red Cross blood drive a huge success. We collected **37 pints** of blood! Numerous staff donated in addition to members of the community and Paideia family members. The NJHS students who volunteered did a fantastic job and the Red Cross staff were very pleased with their assistance.

NJHS also wants to extend a thank you to the Paideia community for the generous clothing donations. The clothing will be used by the members of the Kika Dance Troupe while they are visiting Minnesota from Uganda. We are looking forward to their performance at school.

The National Junior Honor Society has two service projects coming up during third quarter. We are participating in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Pennies for Patients" campaign. We will also be doing volunteer reading event at Target on February 22. Please watch for details coming up about these events.

Counselor's Corner

A Message from your Counselors: Reflecting on Conferences

When discussing the conference with your child afterward, stress the good things that were covered and be direct about problems that were identified. Watch your child's behavior and check on classwork and homework. Ask how the student feels about schoolwork. Stay in touch with the teacher to discuss your child's progress. Express appreciation as progress is made. A good way to promote a continuing relationship with the teacher is to say "thank-you" with a note or a telephone call. Continuing to keep in touch with the teacher, even if things are going well, can play an important role in helping the child do better in school. When a child knows parents and teachers are regularly working together, the child will see that education is a high priority requiring commitment and effort.

Counseling Highlights: Several 8th grader students visited Eastview and Apple Valley High Schools this week. The students were well behaved, and did very well with representing Paideia Academy. During their visits students were provided with useful information such as how to register for classes, academic programming, graduation requirements, and went on a tour of the school. This opportunity allowed students to gain insight into what the high school setting provides and what they will be experiencing next in their academic journey. Please contact Mike Roll if you have any questions about the transition to High School!

Helpful Hints: 10 Ways To Teach Your Children To Be Brave (part 2)

6. **Building Confidence and Conviction:** Proper parenting insists that we build and nourish confidence within our children. While parenting styles may vary, this is a constant truth. Confidence regarding courage stems from deep belief in knowing what is right and what is wrong. From that platform, acts of bravery come forth. "All the strength and force of man comes from his faith in things unseen. He who believes is strong; he who doubts is weak. Strong convictions precede great actions." – James Freeman Clarke.
7. **Differentiating When Violence Meets Bravery:** When we consider bravery, most envision some sort of physical encounter—standing up to a bully or coming to the aid of a friend in harm's way. The trick here is to teach your child the appropriate time to be physically brave. Teach them righteous justice.
8. **Role Play:** Get creative. Television is mostly mind mush, so instead of sitting in front of it watching something that is teaching your child improper behavior, create your own live action dramas. Come up with different scenarios involving potential acts of bravery and courage.

Cont.

6. **Constant Communication:** Courage is basically wisdom, and much can be gained just by talking. There are no stats to prove this, but it could be contended that 99% of all problems could be solved with a little common sense and real and honest communication. Talk to your child constantly and openly. Share with him things that happened to you at his age and how you dealt with them. Encourage him and create an environment where he feels safe to share the important things going on his private life. If your child can openly talk to you about his problems, then you are able to help him come up with real solutions.
7. **Spiritual Foundation:** Our Creator has given us all the tools we need to be great human beings. Since that is the case, then within every living soul lies a brave heart. Give your child a solid and life-lasting spiritual foundation.

New and Noteworthy:

- January is National Mentoring Month
- January is National Blood Volunteer Donor Month
- January is National Thank You Month
- January 19th is World Religion Day
- January 20-24 is No Name Calling Week

Classroom Pages

Classical Studies

8th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Introduce Meso-American Civilization

Activities: Introduction, terminology, geography

7th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Mesopotamia

Activities: Quick review, terminology

6th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Ancient Rome

Activities: Roman mythology stories

5th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Ancient Greece

Activities: Introduce mythology, Greek mythology

Latin

7-8th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Latin Alive Ch. 5

Activities: Nouns, Case

5-6th Grade: **Standards/Unit:** Q2 Review

Activities: Introducing Q3, Extensions

Spanish Lower Academy

Kindergarten

Standards/unit: Seasons & Weather

Activities: SMARTBoard activities and songs

1st Grade

Standards/unit: Family

Activities: Stations, SMARTBoard activities and songs

2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Feelings

Activities: Role playing with puppets, Jeopardy with the SMARTBoard

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Telling Time

Activities: Make individual clocks to practice time with, SMARTBoard activity

4th Grade

Standards/unit: Question Words

Activities: Stations, SMARTBoard activities and songs

5th & 6th Grade:

Introductions and Greetings

7th Grade:

Continue working on greetings and we start class presentations on greetings. We will also have a lesson on structuring sentences.

8th Grade:

We will review adjective agreement from page 66 in our books.

Music

Kindergarten

Standards/unit: Steady Beat, Concert Preparation

Activities: Little Red Hen, Apple Tree

Inspirations: Bravo Students this week were: Reagan and Carly

1st Grade

Standards/unit: High vs. Low, Practice ta, -ti-ti, rest, Concert Preparation

Activities: Little Red Hen, One, Two, Sky Blue

Inspirations: Bravo Students this week were: Jameson and Ani; Will and Lillie

2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Practice la, sol, mi, and do; Concert Preparation

Activities: Learn 'do' on music staff; Little Red Hen

Inspirations: Bravo Students this week were: Kiya and Ella; Riley and Xavier

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Practice tika-tika, practice reading 're' from staff

Activities: Rhythm Telephone, Mystery Song, Tideo Circle Game, 8 melodies

Inspirations: Bravo Students this week were: Musse and Zoe; Michayla and Landon

4th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Respond or Critique (Opera)

Activities: Learning new terms used in opera like *aria*, *recitative*, and *da capo*. Listening and watching opera performances.

Inspirations: Students in 4th grade have begun the process of understanding opera!

5th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Foundations; Music Theory

Activities: Learning how minor scales sound and compare to major scales.

Inspirations: Students in 5th grade can identify sharp and flat key signatures!

6th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Guitar

Activities: Learning how to hold the guitar and strum with correct pick technique

Inspirations: Students in 6th grade can identify the major components of the guitar!

7th & 8th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Harmonic Composition

Activities: Exploring the vocal ranges of soprano, alto, tenor, and bass.

Inspirations: Students in 7th & 8th grade have expanded a piano score to four voices!

Physical Education:

January 21-24

We will be continuing floor hockey for all grades in Physical Education.

Paideia Academy will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart this year. Please ask your student for the handouts about the event if you are interested in learning more! The event will take place the week of February 10-14.

Inspirations in PE: It is very inspiring to us that many students expressed they stayed active over break!

We encourage families to continue to get their student's active over weekends and breaks!

Health:

January 21-24

All classes will continue to learn about the benchmarks for Personal Health and the Human Body such as: Endocrine System/ Hormones, examine how body changes in puberty, and personal self care in adolescence.

Visual Art

Standards/unit:

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

Activities:

Upper: Perspective Drawing of a room
Clay Totem Poles
Lower: Watercolor Techniques
Clay Pinch Pots
Gesture Drawing and Proportion

Inspirations:

Upper: Renaissance, One Point Perspective
Northwest Natives, Totem Poles
Lower: Vincent van Gogh and Georgia O'Keefe Flowers and Still Life Works
Musical Instruments: Rattles
People and Movement

Volunteer Opportunities:

Thank you to Tonya Joubert who has changed out our displays this past week!

Announcements:

Triarco Arts Magazine has announced it's 2014 art competition! In the past, Paideia students have had the opportunity to enter this competition through an in-class project. However, due to our artist in residency this year (see below) Mrs. Shelton and I are introducing the competition as an out-of-school learning opportunity. If your student is interested, please have him/her pick up the competition information sheet from the art room. Also, please know that your student may use art room supplies if needed. This project will not be part of your child's grade and/or accepted as an extra credit assignment. However, there are prizes given to both the winning students and our school if the created artwork is selected by Triarco Arts Magazine. Entries are due to Mrs. Shelton or Mrs. Cooper by March 14th.

7th and 8th Grade— Plastic Shopping Bags

As we begin the construction of our clay totem poles, each student needs to bring in one plastic shopping bag for proper storage. They can bring it into the art room at any time, thanks!

Kindergarten

Math: Mrs. Johnson's Group: Introduce solid and flat shapes, continue practicing number bonds and writing numbers higher than 20. Ms. Stevens' Group: Continue with 3D shapes, shapes can be used to create pictures, shape patterns.

Language Arts: Sight Words: for, has. Ms. Stevens' Group: Continued work with vowel sounds and CVC words. Daily 5 rotations. Mrs. Johnson's Group: sight word reader: The Mitten (continuing to work with this book and practice sequencing the story). Beginning to practice hearing beginning and ending sounds in words.

Science: Continued work with seasons: Winter— weather/clothing

Advisory: Review Superflex strategies, friendship, respect

Announcements: Thank you to everyone who was able to come for conferences! It was a great chance for us to share with you all of the wonderful things that your kindergartner has been up to. Please, please, please practice tying shoes at home!

Volunteer Opportunities: Please check volunteer spot for volunteer opportunities for third quarter. We have opportunities for you to help out in the classroom with the kindergartners or in the copy room with copying, laminating, stapling, etc... We greatly appreciate the help you are willing to give!

Inspirations: We have been very impressed with how well the kindergartners have done with returning to school after a long break! They came back excited to learn and jumped right back into the routine of kindergarten! WAY TO GO!

First Grade

Math: We will begin chapter 9, learning about length. We will use words like “tallest, shortest and longest” to compare objects. We will also measure things using non-standard and standard objects.

Language Arts: We will do Daily 5 centers. We will begin assessing students’ reading level for the beginning of quarter 3. We will work on writing skills and phonics.

Science: We will explore each planet. We will explore one planet a day. We will begin by learning about the sun.

Social Studies: We will learn about Martin Luther King, Jr. We will learn about why we celebrate MLK Day. We will compare life before MLK to our lives today.

Advisory: We are continuing to work on how to make sure everyone feels included, especially at recess. Ask your child to share how he/she can help to make sure everyone feels included at recess.

Announcements: Field trip permission slips were sent home Wednesday. If you are interested in volunteering please send your child’s classroom teacher an email by Tuesday, January 21st. We only have 3 parent tickets so we will have a drawing on Wednesday. We will contact you by email if your name is chosen.

Volunteer Opportunities: Please go to <http://vols.pt/dL1y1z> to sign up for volunteer opportunities for reading and math. We especially need help during centers, 10:54-11:50 and 1:00-1:40. Please let us know if you are having troubles signing up online.

Inspirations: Charlie, William, Ani, Zach S. and Dylan retired clips this week! Way to go!

Second Grade

Math: new chapter on estimation and mental math

Language Arts: continuing Daily 5 expectations review, folktale read alouds and reading activities, small group reading groups, and Words their Way spelling words

Science: beginning of digestive system (teeth)

Social Studies: Martin Luther Kind Jr. and civil rights

Advisory: start of the week and Olweus

Announcements:

—Please make sure your child has appropriate clothes for outside recess (snow pants, boots, warm jacket, gloves, hat, etc.). Please also mark all of their snow clothes and extra sweaters/sweatshirts so that we know whose they are if they get misplaced. Thank you!

—Both classes would love more items for our treasure boxes. Party favors work great!

—No school on Monday January 20th for Martin Luther King day.

Volunteer Opportunities: We’re now using VolunteerSpot (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our classroom volunteering now. Please sign up for Classroom volunteering - here’s how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/5pnfmm>
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. Sign up! Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

More questions?? Email Wendy, our 2nd grade parent rep, at devriesw@yahoo.com

Inspirations: It has been good start to quarter 3! We have enjoyed seeing parents for conferences!

Third Grade

Math:

Jensen:

3rd Grade Group: Measuring length, measuring weight and measuring capacity

IXL 3.3.2 Understand perimeter as a measurable attribute of real-world and mathematical objects. Use various tools to measure distances

4th Grade Group: Squares and rectangles, properties of squares and rectangles

IXL 4.3.2.3 Understand that the area of a two-dimensional figure can be found by counting the total number of same size square units that cover a shape without gaps or overlaps. Justify why length and width are multiplied to find the area of a rectangle by breaking the rectangle into one unit by one unit squares and viewing these as grouped into rows and columns.

Schnase/Kegel:

Telling time, converting hours and minutes, adding & subtracting hours and minutes

IXL 3.3.3 Use time, money and temperature to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

Cont.

Language Arts: Descriptive writing, Judy Blume book study, voice

Science: Reflecting Light, Lenses and Light and Color

Social Studies: Landforms, Geography review, quiz on Friday

Advisory: Olweus

Announcements: Weather permitting, the library field trip will be on Thursday, January 23rd from 10:15-11:45. There is no school on Monday due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day. No spelling this week, we will begin new sorts next week.

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love to have some volunteers to help us on our library field trip on January 23rd. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help out.

Inspirations: Thank you to everyone who came to conferences! We enjoyed sharing your child's successes with you.

Fourth Grade

Math: Fractions on a number line, adding and subtracting fractions, function tables, double digit multiplication. Beginning next week **ALL** students will be bringing home daily math homework (even if it is completed in class), for your review. It should be returned and turned in the following day.

Language Arts: We will practice our Daily 5 rotations and work on reassessing reading levels.

Science: We will continue learning about the states and properties of matter.

Here is the site for the States of Matter song!

<http://studyjams.scholastic.com/studyjams/jams/science/matter/solids-liquids-gases.htm>

Social Studies: Students will work on a project about a chosen physical or human characteristics of the United States.

Advisory: We will review the Olweus rules.

Announcements: We are going on a field trip on Tuesday, January 21. Students may wear spirit wear. Please provide a bag lunch for that day.

Volunteer Opportunities:

IXL help Monday's 2:30-3:15pm.

Inspirations: Welcome to our five new fourth grade students!

5th Grade

Math: Next week we will be starting our unit on Decimals and Place Value. We will learning to read a place value chart down to millionths, and also learn how to find 0.1 and 0.01 more and/or less than a given number.

Language Arts: : Students will be working on making inferences and comparing and contrasting different texts. We will be reviewing expectations for reading, writing, and working on vocabulary independently. Students should be selecting a "just right" book for reading in class. If your student does not have a book from the Language Arts Library, please help them select one from their own collection or the library.

Social Studies: Each student will be assigned one of the thirteen original colonies to research and they will create a Glogster poster. Students will have a map test on the colonies on Friday. They will label each colony, major cities, rivers, mountains, oceans, and they will mark which are considered Southern, Middle, or New England colonies.

Science: Students will continue to review the scientific method and variables by doing a gummy bear lab.

Advisory: Students are working on organizational skills. Next week they will organize binders and discuss effective ways to keep their materials organized.

Announcements: Welcome to Ms. Alyssa Mackay! She is our new fifth grade special education co-teacher.

Volunteer Opportunities: Mr. Leckband has some opportunities for reading to students and listening to students read. Please contact him for details.

Inspirations: Mr. Leckband was inspired to see students working hard at reviewing skills they did not master last quarter.

6th Grade

Math: Next week we will be starting a unit called “Building Blocks of Geometry”! We begin by classifying angles and angle relationships. For additional practice, you can look at common core standards 6.3.2.1 and 6.3.2.2 on IXL. We will start to utilize IXL more in the coming weeks!

Language Arts: Sixth graders will begin reading Literature Circle novels and working on critical reading and writing skills. Students should have brought home their Literature Circle packets for a parent signature.

Social Studies: Students will learn about the Dakota-US War of 1862. They will read our Northern Lights text and short biographies of individuals who played important roles in the war. We will also examine some primary source documents. Students will begin working on a writing project at the end of the week. For the project they will assume a Role (and will write from that perspective) and write about a Topic to their selected Audience. They will have some choice about the Format of the work they do. The project is called a RAFT. Students will be assessed on the historical evidence they use in their writing in addition to being assessed on their writing.

Science: Students will begin learning about distance and average speed.

Advisory: Students are working on organizational skills. Next week they will organize binders and discuss effective ways to keep their materials organized.

Announcements: Welcome to Ms. Susan Kelnberger! She is our new sixth grade special education co-teacher.

Volunteer Opportunities: Mr. Leckband has some opportunities for reading to students and listening to students read. Please contact him for details.

Inspirations: Mr. Leckband was inspired to see students working hard at reviewing skills they did not master last quarter.

7th Grade

Math: 7A and 7B: Students will begin Chapter 7 next week. We will be learning about ratios, proportions, and rates. Students may practice the following IXL skills: J.1, J.2, J.3, J.4, J.5, J.6, J.7, J.8, J.9

Language Arts: Students will take a quiz analyzing the author’s purpose of a text, evaluating evidence in a text, and analyzing how an author organizes non-fiction text. Students should spend some time studying their notes! 7th grade students will be studying direct and indirect objects. Students will also be receiving a journal booklet. The purpose of the journal is for students to practice different types of writing. We will continue studying poetry in the Daybook lessons and practicing writing poetry as well. **Reminders:** All students should be reading a book, either nonfiction or fiction. They will be documenting their reading minutes and page numbers on their January reading calendar. An extra copy can be downloaded and printed on the 7th grade Language Arts website. The January reading calendar is due 02/04/13.

Social Studies: This week we focused on reteaching and extension activities based on our Q2 DDI test results; students self-selected individual topics to review and extend into; every student was required to complete both review and extension activities in Quia and Discovery Education. DDI results suggested that, on the whole, 7th graders needed to review content-area vocabulary, particularly as related to the Labor Movement and judicial branch of U.S. government; we completed a variety of whole group activities to reteach and reinforce vocabulary terms from Q1 and Q2. We also enjoyed catching upon current events using “The Week in Rap,” as well as classroom magazines and text coding. Next week we will learn about the Women’s Suffrage Movement in the United States.

Science: Next week in science, 7th graders will learn about how and why cells divide and reproduce. They will use baker’s yeast as a demonstration of this process. Science menu projects have been assigned and students are expected to complete a menu by the end of the quarter.

Advisory: Students went over announcements about conferences and reviewed their Q2 Report Cards. Students will also be working on Q3 goal-setting.

Announcements: No school on Monday!

Volunteer Opportunities: Ms. Hood would appreciate help making copies and tidying up her classroom!
Thanks!

Cont.

Inspirations: Ms. Hood was inspired by how welcoming 7th graders were to new students this first week back! Congrats to Josh L. for receiving Student of the Month award in Social Studies! Congratulations to Natalie for receiving the Student of the Month in Language Arts class! Mrs. Kempf is extremely proud of the 7th graders. They have welcomed many new students and have demonstrated leadership in the process!

8th Grade

Math:

8A: Students will be continuing to study the Pythagorean Theorem and the Distance Formula. They will have a quiz on Friday on both. Students may practice the following IXL skills: O.1, O.2, O.3, O.4, O.5

8B: Next week students will be starting Chapter 6. We will be learning how to solve systems of linear equations by graphing and by substitution. Students may practice with the following IXL skills at home: Y.1, Y.2, Y.3, Y.4, Y.5, Y.6, Y.7, Y.8, Y.9

Language Arts: This week, students finish writing their character analysis about Francisco Jimenez ("The Circuit"). Students will be comparing and contrasting two readings about migrant-child labor and they will be given an article related to this issue. Students will prepare for the article by answering questions and analyzing the text. We will watch a video where middle school students participate in a Socratic Seminar. The Socratic Seminar is to teach students how to conduct intelligent conversations, explain their ideas, and support their answers with evidence. All students will take turns observing, discussing, and analyzing/taking notes about the discussion. Also, students will be studying subject/verb agreement, which will be assessed the following week. **Reminders:** All students should be reading a book, either nonfiction or fiction. They will be documenting their reading minutes and page numbers on their January reading calendar. An extra copy can be downloaded and printed on the 8th grade Language Arts website. The January reading calendar is due 02/04/13.

Social Studies: This week we focused on reteaching and extension activities based on our Q2 DDI test results; students self-selected individual topics to review and extend into; every student was required to complete both review and extension activities in Quia and Discovery Education. DDI results suggested that, on the whole, 8th graders needed to review content-area vocabulary, particularly as related to types of maps and the 5 Themes of Geography; we completed a variety of whole group activities to reteach and reinforce vocabulary terms from Q1 and Q2. We also enjoyed catching upon current events using "The Week in Rap," as well as classroom magazines and text coding.

Science: Next week in science, 8th graders will learn about how geologists determine the age of rocks and fossils, how they use rock layers to infer the environment of the past. Science menu projects have been assigned and students are expected to complete a menu by the end of the quarter.

Advisory: Students went over announcements about conferences and reviewed their Q2 Report Cards. Students will also be working on goal-setting for Q3.

Announcements: No school Monday!

Volunteer Opportunities: Ms. Hood would appreciate help making copies and tidying up her classroom! Thank you!

Inspirations: Ms. Hood was inspired by how excited the 8th graders were following their high school visit field trips this week! Congrats to Emily Sailors for receiving the Student of the Month award in Social Studies! Congratulations to Josiah for receiving the Student of the Month in Language Arts class! Mrs. Kempf was delighted to hear that Max, Joe, Kira, Adin, Pierce, and Joseph took the conversation to the next level and for demonstrated leadership during a pre-test Socratic Seminar about migrant-child labor.

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.