

Save the Date:

- April 12** Applebee's Fundraiser Breakfast! Space still available!
Drop in! \$7 pay at the door!
- April 15** Out of uniform day—Wear Purple!
Governance and Long Range Planning 6 PM
Board Meeting 7 PM
- April 16** Enrichment choice forms due to main office (Grades 5-7)
- April 17** 3rd & 4th Grade Music Concert!



From the Director

Dear Paideia Community,

Hello! It's been a great first week back here at Paideia. I've been very impressed by your children's eagerness to be back at school and their ability to transition back to classroom learning after the long break. It's always fun to see the suntans, the newly-lost teeth, the growth spurts, and the haircuts. It is clear that we all benefit from a little rest and sunshine in our lives.

This week, our students have been participating in re-teaching activities to help them prepare for MCAs and/or ensure that they have mastered previously learned content. There are many different ways that we assess your children's progress and performance, and we are looking intently at each assessment we give, its purpose, and how we use the data from it. Rachel Chamley and I have been working with our teachers to create a Comprehensive Assessment Plan that captures the assessments we use and helps us plan for next year's assessments. We want to make sure that we are not over- or under-assessing students, and that we have accurate data to help us plan and deliver appropriate instruction to help each child succeed.

In addition, we will be using student data for another purpose beginning next school year. Last spring, the Minnesota legislature passed legislation regarding teacher evaluations that requires that, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, 35% of each teacher's evaluation be based on students' assessment data. Throughout the year, we have been working together to determine exactly what this will entail, and we are continuing to do so. I look forward to discussing our 2014-2015 Comprehensive Assessment Plan and 2014-2015 Teacher Evaluation Plan with you once they are finalized. If you have any questions or ideas in the meantime, please feel free to ask or contribute.

We have a lot to look forward to next year, but there is still much to be excited about in this fourth quarter - staff and student talent shows, the Lightbulb Fair, music concerts, our choir singing at the MacPhail Music Matters Luncheon, our first 8th grade lock-in, moving up ceremonies, and, last but not least, our 8th grade graduation. This year will be our first time graduating students who have been here since Kindergarten! There is much to celebrate, while still much to do. Thank you for your continued investment in your child's education and in Paideia! Enjoy the sunshine .

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

From the Office

It's shorts season!

Make sure your student is wearing correct uniform shorts!

Correct style

- Fingertips or longer
- No cargo pockets
- Black or Khaki



Incorrect Styles



GREATSCHOOLS
SPRING
SWEEPSTAKES

Great Schools Reviews \$5,000 sweepstakes

Tell GreatSchools what you think of Paideia Academy

and our school could win \$5,000!

Parents write reviews about your school here: <http://www.greatschools.org/minnesota/Apple-Valley/3923-Paideia-Academy-Charter-School/?tab=reviews>.

Reviews are anonymous and just take a minute to write. Parents, teachers and students age 13 and older in K-12 schools can write reviews.

Once your school has a new review this month, it's entered to win \$5000!

Increase your school's chances to win. Every new review this month gives your school another entry into the drawing — up to 10 entries.

Hurry! The GreatSchools Spring Sweepstakes is only running during April.
Log into Greatschools.org now!

MCA Testing dates & times:

Things parents can do to help!

- Eat breakfast!
- Arrive on time!
- Don't schedule doctor or dentists appointment during testing times!
- Plan ahead!
- Get a good night's rest!

MCA Testing	Mon. April 21st	Tues. April 22nd	Wed. April 23rd	Thurs. April 24th	Fri. April 25th	Mon. April 28th	Tues. April 29th
9:00-10:00	MCA Reading, Section 1	MCA Reading, Section 3	MCA Math, Section 1	MCA Math, Section 3	MCA Make-up Testing	MCA Make-up Testing	MCA Make-up Testing
10:00-10:30	Break in Classrooms	Break in Classrooms	Break in Classrooms	Break in Classrooms	Break	Break	Break
10:30-11:30	MCA Reading, Section 2	MCA Reading, Section 4	MCA Math, Section 2	MCA Math, Section 4	MCA Make-up Testing	MCA Make-up Testing	MCA Make-up Testing
MCA Testing	Mon. May 12th	Tues. May 13th	Wed. May 14th	Watch for info. about healthy snack requests!			
8:30-11:00	MCA Science, 5th Grade	MCA Science, 8th Grade	MCA Science Make-up				

PTO News

April 11, 2014

Carnival Silent Auction

The games are the fun, the silent auction is the “fun”draiser! The carnival is an event for the entire family, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Come for the games and stay for the awesome stuff you can bid on!

Do you own a business or work for a company that would be interested in donating an item to the Carnival’s Silent Auction? If so, please contact Jane Hendrickson at jane.hendrickson@comcast.net or 952-388-8384.

Help make this Carnival a huge success!

*Carnival Volunteers
will be able to sign
up online soon!
Watch the PTO
website and this
newsletter for more
details. Pre-orders
will be out at the
end of April.*



See you TOMORROW!

Applebee's
Pancake
Breakfast
Tomorrow—
4/12/14
8:00—10:00 am
Space still
available, pay at
the door.
\$7.00 per plate

Counselor's Corner

A Message from your Counselors: Testing Anxiety

Welcome Back! We hope everyone enjoyed Spring Break. It is so nice to see the days getting longer and the weather getting warmer! As we look forward to quarter 4 we see that MCA testing is right around the corner. We'd like to share some information about Testing Anxiety and ways to identify and reduce testing stress. It is normal for kids to feel a little nervous before a big test, but some kids get so anxious that it affects their health, their attitude, and their grades. Test anxiety has become more common as schools have put more emphasis on standardized testing. All types of students can get stressed out, including those who usually get good grades.

Here are some signs that a child is overly worried about tests:

- Doesn't want to go to school, especially on test day.
- Cries over small things during the days leading up to a test.
- Changes eating and sleeping patterns in the days before a test.
- Won't complete even simple homework assignments.
- Is distracted and unable to focus.
- Puts herself down or calls himself, "stupid."
- Has an upset stomach or a tension headache before a test.
- Performs well on practice tests but not on the real test.

Schools, principals, teachers, and communities are increasingly judged on their test scores, making everyone involved overly anxious, says Joseph Casbarro, a former New York principal and school system administrator. As standardized test scores became powerful numbers, driving student promotions to the next grade, a school's reputation, and even real estate prices, he observed that most students began experiencing stress to some degree. "It seemed to be getting out of control," says Casbarro, now an education consultant. "Test scores occupied every waking moment." To help kids, parents, and teachers understand where stress comes from and how to alleviate it, Casbarro wrote the book *Test Anxiety and What You Can Do About It*. He says it's in everyone's best interest to help kids feel less stressed.

Helpful Hints: Here are some of Casbarro's tips for helping kids overcome testing anxiety:

Look in the mirror. "Parents should ask themselves, 'Am I the prime contributor?' " Some parents unwittingly heap stress on their kids by talking frequently about tests and sending the message that they measure their child's worth in terms of grades and test scores. "Parents think so much of their child's future hinges on tests and performance," Casbarro says. "Parents think if they don't push their kids they are being irresponsible."

Find balance. By praising your child for accomplishments other than test scores and grades, you send the message that other pursuits, such as the arts, sports, and relationships, are important, too.

Highlight successful people who weren't good test-takers. From his poor scores on high school math tests, you wouldn't have known that Werner Von Braun would grow up to be a rocket scientist. Gaston Caperton, president of the College Board, which oversees the SAT, is dyslexic. Look for examples in your family and community.

Talk about a variety of careers. It's tempting to focus on doctors, lawyers, scientists, and other fields associated with prestige and big salaries. Make sure your kids know there are other satisfying career options, and that the most important thing is that they are happy in their career choice.

Don't expect all kids to excel equally. You may raise your kids under the same roof, but they are all different. One may do well on tests without much preparation, while the other may struggle just for an average score. Avoid the temptation to constantly heap praise on the good test-taker. Sometimes it's the kid who didn't do well on tests who has more success in after-school pursuits. "Be realistic about your kids' interests and strengths," Casbarro says.

Encourage healthy habits. Kids need to eat healthy meals, exercise regularly, and get a good night's sleep. Parents can help by modeling these healthy habits and making sure the child has the opportunity to make healthy choices. Parents can stock the fridge with healthy snacks, for example.

ESL Program News

ACCESS 2.0 Field Test RESCHEDULED

Due to software updating issues, we were unable to administer the ACCESS 2.0 field test. It will be rescheduled for **next Wednesday, April 16th**.

DID YOU KNOW??

There are nearly 65,000 English learner students enrolled in Minnesota schools. Of these 65,000 English learners, there are more than 200 languages represented! In addition, Minnesota ranks 15th nationally for language diversity.

From the classrooms

Technology

Lots of planning for the quarter is taking place this week!

2nd Grade: Students in second grade had a group discussion on how to remain safe while using the internet. They had some excellent ideas about keeping information private, being good digital citizens and digital citizens and being respectful while using technology.

4th Grade: This week, students in Mrs. Matschiner's class worked hard on their typing goal of 20 words per minute. Students who achieved this goal were able to put their key on the class keyboard and choose a small prize. Students will have another opportunity to practice typing in two weeks. Mrs. Daugherty's class will work on this skill next week.

6th Grade : Students have begun a project using Garageband with Mr. Strand. They will be using the app on the iPad to produce their own music.

5th through 8th Grade: Students will be beginning career exploration with Mr. Roll during Advisory. During this unit, they will be interviewing two adults about their careers, completing an interest inventory and researching several careers on the internet. Students will present their findings to their classmates toward the end of the quarter.

Enrichment Courses for 14-15

5th and 6th graders chose enrichment courses for next year. They printed off their choice to bring home and share with parents/guardians. These sheets should be signed and returned by **April 16th**. 7th graders will have the opportunity to do this on Monday.

Physical Education:

April 14-18

Paideia Students will continue Team Handball. Team Handball is a challenging game that requires teamwork and cooperation and has similar strategies of basketball and soccer.

Announcement for students with Asthma: Please remind your son or daughter to please take their inhaler before coming to PE.

Inspirations in PE:

The students have shown great teamwork and enthusiasm for Team Handball!

Health:

April 14-18

All classes will be learning about Injury prevention as well as common injuries that happen in PE.

Music

Volunteer Opportunities: Looking for an accompanist for the June 5th choir concert. Please contact Mrs. Rosholt if interested!

Kindergarten

Standards/unit: Steady Beat, Faster Vs. Slower, Orchestra-Percussion Family

Activities: Jean Dressed in Green, Carnival of the Animals, High and Low Improvisational Conversation

Inspirations: Isabella and Mohamed were bravo students!

1st Grade

Standards/unit: Sol and Mi on Music Staff, Ta, Ti-Ti, Rest, Prepare "la"

Activities: Foam Melodic Dictation, Bobby Shafto, Mystery Song on Music Staff

Inspirations: Lucy, Ryan, Sasha, and Alina were bravo students!

2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Practice do + known rhythms

Activities: Can You Hear It? (Aural Comprehension) Make up your mind, DO!

Inspirations: Connor, Anna, Sai, and Rachel were bravo students!

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Principal and the Pea! (Musical)

Activities: Final week—polishing performance; dress rehearsal

Inspirations: 3rd graders are sounding GREAT and are really excited to show off their singing and acting skills! Hope you can make it for the concert next week: Thursday, April 17th at 6:30 pm!

4th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Perform or Present; Musical Performance

Activities: Dress rehearsals for our spring musical, *The Principal and the Pea*. Our performance is on 4/17!

Inspirations: Students in 4th grade are ready to perform for your family!

5th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Foundations; Music Theory

Activities: Practicing notes on bass clef and learning notes on alto clef.

Inspirations: Students in 5th grade can identify notes of the bass clef!

6th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Create or Make; Music Production

Activities: Learning about Digital Audio Workstations Reason & Logic.

Inspirations: Students in 6th grade have begun learning how to use GarageBand for iPad!

7th & 8th Grade

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

Activities: Learning about piano inventions.

Inspirations: Students in 7th and 8th grade have begun learning about instrumental genres!

Classical Studies

8th Grade

Standards/Unit: Mesoamerica, The Incans

Activities: Introduce the Incan civilization.

7th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Greece

Activities: Greek mythology, the 12 Olympians.

6th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Rome, Architecture

Activities: Seven Wonders of Ancient Rome

5th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Greece

Activities: Myth Stories, Creating comic strips.

Latin

7-8th Grade

Standards/Unit: Latin Alive! Ch. 7

Activities: Introduce new vocabulary and notes.

5-6th Grade

Standards/Unit: Greek/Latin roots

Activities: Practice school words; introduce new roots.

Spanish

Kindergarten-

Standards/unit: Reciting the Spanish Alphabet

Activities: Song, SmartBoard activity and letter dice. No homework this week.

1st Grade

Standards/unit: Singing the Spanish Alphabet & recognizing the new letters.

Activities: Song, SmartBoard activity and letter dice

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Ryan & Sam! No homework this week.

2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Identifying the letters in the Spanish alphabet.

Activities: Song, SmartBoard activity and letter dice

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Austin & Ella! No homework this week.

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Recognizing words that are spelled using the Spanish letters.

Activities: Song, SmartBoard activity and listening activities

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Jaidyn & Tristan! No homework this week.

4th Grade

Standards/unit: Spelling words using the Spanish alphabet.

Activities: Song, SmartBoard activity and letter dice

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Helded & Afia! No homework this week

5th and 6th Grade

Standards/unit: Preliminary Unit in Avancemos

Activities: Numbers

Inspirations: Me gusta...

7th and 8th Grade

Standards/unit: Unit 6 leccion 2 - Avancemos

Activities: Working more with the Preterite (-er/-ir verbs)

Volunteer Opportunities: We are looking for parents to help put posters up on the walls to help decorate the Spanish classroom.

Visual Art

Standards/unit: Upper: Artistic Foundations, Create or Make

Lower: Artistic Foundations, Create or Make

Activities: Upper: Japanese Kimono: Vocabulary review; finishing design; painting a base coat

Totem Poles: Review; using iron oxide.

Lower: Clay: What is sculpture?

Prehistoric Art: What are cave paintings?

Landscape/Cityscape: How do we mix colors?

Inspirations:

Upper: Art of Japan, Northwest Natives

Lower: Sculpture in our World, Lascaux, France Cave Paintings, Color Wheel

Literature: *Sky Tree* by Thomas Locker; *The Secret Cave: Discovering Lascaux* by Emily, Arnold McCully

Volunteer Opportunities: The art room is looking for donations. Please bring in paper egg cartons (dozen size, not Styrofoam) and cereal boxes or other boxes of similar size and material. Also, we are looking for a parent to change out our current art display. Please contact an art teacher for more information on how you can help.

Announcements:

The Minneapolis Institute of Art has a Matisse exhibit currently on display through May 18th. The exhibit showcases the largest collection of Henri Matisse work ever assembled in Minneapolis. Check out more information about the exhibit as well as the ticket costs at: <http://new.artsmia.org/matisse>.

Kindergarten

Math: Mrs. Johnson's Group: We will be working on subtraction. Our vocabulary will include subtraction, take away, minus and how many are left.

Ms. Stevens' Group: We will start our unit on length and height. Our vocabulary will include long/longer/longest, short/shorter/shortest, tall/taller/tallest.

IXL Skills to Try at Home: Q.1, Q.2, Q.3

Language Arts: Sight Words: this, that

Ms. Stevens' Group: We will work in Daily 5 stations, learn about syllables and read books at our levels in guided reading groups.

Mrs. Johnson's Group: We will continue working with rhyming words. We will also introduce the _it and _in word families. Sight Word Readers: (Two this week) Look at THAT Egg. THIS Is My Pet. Please continue practicing sight words at home.

Social Studies: We will sort pictures into two categories: goods and services.

Science: We will introduce the concept of living and non-living.

Advisory: We will introduce a new Unthinkable: Topic Twister-Meister. This Unthinkable gets people to twist the topic around to what they want to talk about.

Announcements:

- Please make sure that your child has a sweater, sweatshirt or jacket that is labeled with their name at school at all times.
- Report cards are now available on SchoolView. If you have any questions about your child's report card, please do not hesitate to ask!
- Shhhh! We will reveal that we are going on a field trip and where we are going on Monday (4.14) by using a mystery box filled with different items. Please ask your student to share with you where we are going! (Please keep May 16th on your calendars as ALL kindergartners (all-day and half-day) will attend ALL DAY that day.)

Volunteer Opportunities: We are looking for volunteers to work with students in math and language arts, as well as make copies for us. Please visit volunteer spot (<http://vols.pt/vmRPSZ>) if you are available to help out!

Inspirations: Happy Birthday Presley (4/17)! We have been impressed with how well the kindergartners have done with transitioning back into school this week! They are starting to look more and more like first graders every day!

First Grade

Math: We will work on Chapter 13 and 14. We will work on word problems and mental math strategies. Students can work on IXL A.9, A.10, B.18, D.16 at home for extra practice.

Language Arts: We will work in Daily 5 reading groups. We will assess students' reading levels using Running Records.

Science: We will continue working on the human body. We will learn about the muscular system.

Social Studies: We will finish reviewing important American symbols. We will begin learning about Earth Day.

Advisory: We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum by practicing including everyone at recess and choice time.

Announcements: We will be looking for a parent volunteer to help put together homework packets every Thursday morning from 9-10. If you are interested please email your child's classroom teacher.

Volunteer Opportunities: Please go to <http://vols.pt/dL1y1z> to sign up for volunteer opportunities for reading and math. Please let us know if you are having troubles signing up online.

Inspirations: Emmie, Jameson, Avery, Rachel, Jenna and Emilie retired clips this week! Way to go! Keep working hard!

Second Grade

Math: new unit on creating and obtaining information from tables, bar graphs, and tally charts
(IXL math skills: R2, R3, R6, R7)

Language Arts: Daily 5 rotations, reading groups, writing letters and using commas in greetings and closings, capitalizing proper nouns, and Words their Way spelling words (spelling test for Thursday)
(IXL LA skills: X1, X2, X3, Z1)

Science: lifecycle of insects that go through metamorphosis

Social Studies: taking care of natural resources; how people affect the environment

Advisory: star of the week, thinking of others, buddy reading

Announcements: We would still love more items for the treasure box! Also, Mrs. Cooper is asking that students bring in empty cardboard egg cartons for an art project.

Volunteer Opportunities: See volunteer spot (<http://vols.pt/5pnfmn>) for quarter 4 volunteer opportunities. If the link doesn't work for you or you have more questions, email Wendy, our 2nd grade parent rep, at devriesw@yahoo.com.

Inspirations: It has been great to hear about all of the students' adventures over spring break! We hope you have been enjoying the warm, spring weather this week!

Third Grade

Math:

Jensen:

3rd Grade Group: Place value of whole numbers up to 100,000, estimation and factors

IXL Standard: 4.1.1.2., 4.1.1.4

4th Grade Group: Extension project

Schnase/Kegel: Metric measurement: meters, centimeters, kilometers, kilograms, grams, liters and milliliters

IXL Standard: 3.3.2.1

Language Arts: Antonyms, book study, daily 5

Science: The sun and the solar system

Social Studies: Vikings quiz (Monday), Earliest Americans: Beriniga, the Inuit, the Anasazi, and the Mound Builders

Advisory: Olweus, President research

Announcements: The optional fourth quarter homework will be coming home with the students on Friday! Please remember to send back your student's MCA notes! Reminder that our music concert is on Thursday April 17th at 6:30, please have your students at school by 6:15!

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love to have help with office work! We are also looking for volunteers to help give spelling tests on Friday from 10:15-10:55. Please let your student's teacher know if you are able to help.

Inspirations: The third graders have been so engaged and motivated to learn about Astronomy and are doing an excellent job, keep it up!!

Fourth Grade

Math: We will be reviewing decimals, 2 by 2 digit multiplication, multi-step word problems, equivalent fractions, and area.

Language Arts: We will be reviewing reading standards not mastered on the DDI.

Science: We will be learning about what is in our blood.

We will need 44 wide mouth plastic bottles by the end of the quarter for a science project, 16oz

Gatorade or powerade bottles work the best. Please send them in cleaned and empty if you can.

Social Studies: We will continue to study Medieval Europe and castles.

Advisory: We will work on team building and how to work collaboratively.

CONT.

Announcements: Mrs. Daugherty's class won a pizza party from Penny Wars. It will be on Wednesday, April 23rd. Hot lunch orders have already been cancelled for that class. Students may bring their own drink and sides. MCA's will be the week of April 21st. Please ensure your child gets enough sleep, a healthy breakfast, and is at school on time.

Volunteer Opportunities: *Please let your child's teacher know if you were volunteering in a certain area last quarter and can continue with it for 4th quarter.

Daily 5 help - Tues/Thurs 10-11am.

Library Trips - every third Friday 10-11am

Correcting work at home (contact teacher)

Inspirations: We hope you get outside to enjoy the warm weather!

Fifth Grade

Math: Next week we will be covering mean, median, mode and range in math class. Students will be completing classroom posters to help us learn these terms, and to determine how they differ from one another when analyzing data. We will also be using Mean, Median, Mode, and Range in a weather forecasting activity! The remainder of the week will be spent reviewing for our MCA math tests the following week.

Language Arts: Fifth grade will be starting to work on Daily Five activities that include a variety of reading and writing activities. We will be planning future library trips to allow students time to check out books. We will reach out to parents for volunteers to support these trips. Fifth graders will begin to discuss poetry in class.

Social Studies: Students will begin learning about the Articles of Confederation, Federalism, and the Constitution. Their Colonies and Revolution ABC books are due on Thursday, April 17.

Science: Students will be learning about the metric system.

Advisory: Students continue to use Advisory time to work on character education, organizational/study skills, and Olweus Anti-Bullying.

Announcements: Students will go to Fort Snelling on the morning of April 30. 5th grade students will participate in the Living History tour. When they return to school they will complete some language arts activities. This will also be an introduction to Minnesota history for their 6th grade year. Permission slips will be coming home and need to be returned by April 23. Students will have lunch at school that day.

Volunteer Opportunities: Mr. Leckband has volunteer opportunities; please contact him for details.

Inspirations: Ms. Kitts was inspired by the stories from all of our 5th graders who traveled the country over spring break. We learned a lot about other states and attractions. I love having "sharing time" with our students!

6th Grade

Math: Next week we will be reviewing concepts and learning test-taking strategies to help us with the MCA tests which are scheduled for the week of April 21st. Some of the concepts to be reviewed are: Finding percent of a number, percent of increase, finding equivalent fractions, decimals, and percents, and calculating surface area of 3-dimensional figures.

Language Arts: Students are reading poetry in preparation for a class reading of *The Odyssey*.

Social Studies: Students will begin learning about Immigration and the different groups that have settled in Minnesota. We will also look at immigration patterns in US history as well as reasons for immigration. Our goal is to have an Evaluated Class Discussion on Friday, April 18. Students also have a mini-book project they began the week of April 7 that will be due on April 18 (though it's recommended they complete the work by April 14 to avoid an overload of work during the week of the 14th).

Science: Students will be learning about potential and kinetic energy.

Advisory: Students continue to use Advisory time to work on character education, organizational/study skills, and Olweus Anti-Bullying.

CONT.

Announcements: Students will go to Fort Snelling on the morning of April 30. 6th graders will participate in a program called Perspective, Choice and Change. During this program students will strengthen their historical thinking skills by exploring the complex and varied experiences and perspectives of Fort Snelling's past. Students exercise their collaborative and critical thinking skills by examining digitized primary sources, analyzing historical objects, and participating in interactive simulations based on historic events (we will be learning about World War 2). **Permission slips will be coming home and need to be returned by April 23. Students will have lunch at school that day. Students need to bring headphones or earbuds to every music class for fourth quarter.**

Volunteer Opportunities: Mr. Leckband has volunteer opportunities; please contact him for details.

Inspirations: We have been discussing what it means to "be healthy" and brainstorming our ideas on poster paper around the room. (We titled our posters Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Societal, and Spiritual). Ms. Kitts was really impressed by how knowledgeable our 6th graders are about caring for themselves and those around them!

7th Grade

Math: The students will continue to review concepts from quarters one to three. Geometry concepts from my maternity leave will be a priority. The activities will be either individual, small group or whole group. The students should continue to work on the 7th grade state standards on IXL.

Language Arts: Students will be exploring multiple perspectives through persuasive nonfiction articles in Daybook readings. Also, they will begin the writing process for their persuasive letter. Students should be reading either a fiction or a nonfiction book for the April Reading Calendar. The April Reading Calendar is due May 6, 2014.

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies students created movement-based DDI review games based on their demonstrated needs on the Q3 DDI quiz. They also identified and evaluated arguments "for" and "against" a variety of debatable issues in current events, using classroom magazines and "The Week in Rap" videos. We also continued our study of wars in U.S. history; students worked in small groups to create posters about wars in U.S. history from the Civil War to the present day.

Science: Next week in science, extension projects are due TUESDAY! Students will present their projects before moving on to new material. Once presentations are complete we will begin our unit on DNA and genetics!

Advisory: 7th graders are discussing character traits such as hope and self-control, and working on getting organized and caught up for midterm, and continuing with Olweus Anti-Bullying topics. Students also did some MCA test prep this week in Advisory.

Announcements: There is an overnight field trip scheduled for May 9th-10th to the SeaLife aquarium at the Mall of America. Permission slips went home with students Thursday, April 10th. Signed permission slips are due Wednesday, April 16th. **NO LATE PERMISSION SLIPS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Volunteer Opportunities: Ms. Hood, Mrs. Kempf, and Mrs. Sherrard would appreciate help making copies and tidying up their classrooms during quarter 4! Please contact them for details! Thank you!

Inspirations: Ms. Hood was inspired by how well 7th graders worked together in assigned groups to create movement-based review activities and posters about wars in U.S. history!

8th Grade

Math: 8A: The students will continue to review some of the 8th grade standards with a focus on scatterplots. They will also review and start working on chapter 9 (solving quadratic equations by various methods). The students should continue to work on the 8th grade state standards on IXL. **8B:** The students will continue to review concepts from quarters one to three. The activities will be either individual, small group or whole group. Scatterplots will be a priority during the next few weeks. The students should continue to work on the 8th grade state standards on IXL. Spending time preparing for the MCA will be a priority.

Language Arts: Students will be analyzing and creating poems during the poetry unit. Students should be reading either a fiction or a nonfiction book for the April Reading Calendar. The April Reading Calendar is due May 6, 2014.

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies students worked in small groups to create movement-based review games based on demonstrated needs on the Q3 DDI test results.

Science: Next week in science, extension and enrichment packets are due MONDAY! Students will present their extension projects and then we will be starting our unit on the solar system!

Advisory: 8th graders are discussing character traits such as hope and self-control, working on getting organized and caught up for midterm, and continuing with Olweus Anti-Bullying topics. Students also did some MCA test prep this week in Advisory.

Announcements: There is an overnight field trip scheduled for May 9th-10th to the SeaLife aquarium at the Mall of America. Permission slips went home with students Thursday, April 10th. Signed permission slips are due Wednesday, April 16th. **NO LATE PERMISSION SLIPS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Volunteer Opportunities: Ms. Hood, Mrs. Kempf, and Mrs. Sherrard would appreciate help making copies and tidying up their classrooms during quarter 4! Please contact them for details! Thank you!

Inspirations: Ms. Hood was inspired by how well many 8th graders performed on their Q3 DDI quizzes in Social Studies!

To challenge and inspire learner by engaging each student in a rigorous, content-rich education incorporating classical studies, languages, music, and the arts while nurturing positive character development.