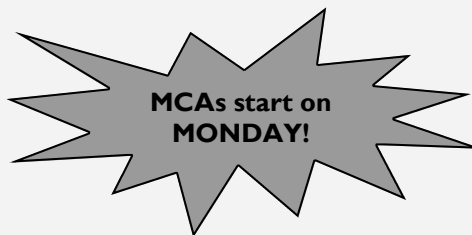


Save the Date:

May 5th Monday Morning Meeting!
May 13th Staff Talent Show
May 20th Board Meeting
May 26th Memorial Day - No School
May 27th -30th DDI Assessments



From the Director

Dear Paideia Academy,

Congratulations to us all! We were informed this week that Paideia Academy has been reauthorized for **5 years!!!** This is a huge accomplishment for us, as it represents our successes and the faith that our authorizer, Friends of Education, has in our continued progress and performance. While we did not meet all of the academic goals of our previous charter (which we endeavor to do with our new one!), our authorizer did consider our designation as a High Quality Charter School by MDE, which demonstrates our progress in closing the achievement gap, as well as our superior fiscal responsibility, which demonstrates Paideia's smart financial decision-making. Our new charter outlines our commitment to each student's success and our dedication to ensuring that Paideia meets the needs of all learners. Our revised mission ensures that we do all of this within the context of a well-rounded academic program that inspires students to do their best and be their best. We have a lot to look forward to in the next five years.

Just this week, Paideia has demonstrated our ability to provide unique and extraordinary opportunities for students. On Monday night, we inducted 15 new members into the Paideia Academy chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. The ceremony, which was largely run by students, was absolutely beautiful! The 18 current members of NJHS truly demonstrated the qualities required to be considered for this honor: *Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character, and Citizenship*. We should all be very proud of them!

On Tuesday night, we held our April Board of Directors meeting where we discussed a variety of topics regarding both this year and next. It was a true pleasure for me to announce that, of the 52 offer letters we provided to staff, all have been provisionally accepted. While I certainly expect there to be some voluntary departures of staff throughout the next few months due to personal choices, I am very happy that we have been able to increase stability at Paideia this year. We are investing in our staff in a variety of ways, including a clear salary schedule, transparent and constructive feedback and evaluation processes, improved professional development, increased voice in decision-making, and greater focus on consistent and effective curriculum, instruction, and assessment. A key goal for us this year was to make Paideia a great place for teachers to work, and I believe we are making strong headway.

On Thursday night, we all watched amazedly as the 3rd and 4th graders performed "The Principal and the Pea", a well-choreographed production led by our wonderful MacPhail Music teachers, Troy Strand and Hannah Rosholt! Thank you to all of the families who invested their time in bringing their children in for rehearsal during spring break, helped them memorize their lines, created and put up the scenery, and were enthusiastic audience members. Many of the staff and students were able to watch their dress rehearsal on Thursday morning, and we all walked away thoroughly impressed by their talents and confidence.

Next week, we begin MCA testing in Reading and Math. Thank you to the PTO for providing snacks! Thank you in advance to all of you as well for making sure that your children are well-rested, de-stressed, and able to focus. I always look forward to receiving the data from our students' exams so we can celebrate successes and strategize how to manage our resources to support each student as best we can. MCAs are certainly not the only measure of our students' knowledge and skills, but they are an important one in the life of the charter school. Our recent designation as a High-Quality Charter School and our 85.4% MMR rating were both based on our MCA scores, as are most of our charter goals for academics.

Director

Continued

We all know that we are more than our test scores, and we do and will continue to support our students in demonstrating their accomplishments through a variety of means. Paideia is committed to a well-rounded education for each student that prepares them to face the known and unknown challenges of high school and adulthood. We focus on their abilities to think critically and creatively, to be kind and respectful to others, to problem-solve, to lead, and to aspire to do great things in the world. Those characteristics cannot be measured by standardized tests.

Soak in some warmth this weekend - I hear that 60's are in the forecast! Have a wonderful few days with your children.

Sincerely,
Marci Levy-Maguire
Director

Financial Update:

Paideia Academy's Finance Committee and School Board approved the final revisions to the 2013-2014 budget at the Board meeting on Tuesday, April 15th. For the first time (and hopefully last time) in Paideia's 9 years in operations, the school will end the year with a budget deficit (expenditures for the year will exceed revenues). The budget deficit was the result of 4 primary factors: 1) enrollment levels were flat compared to prior years, but lower than originally budgeted; 2) Paideia initiated limited enrollment entry points in 2013/14 bringing new students into the school only in the 1st quarter and first few weeks of the 3rd quarter compared to unlimited entry points throughout the year in prior years; 3) Paideia implemented a compensation strategy developed in conjunction with and with the support of teachers to invest more in human resources to retain our staff; and 4) the Board approved some extra one-time investments in the school for curriculum, new computers for our student computer lab and website enhancements that will be put into place this summer. Despite these unexpected impacts on our budget, we are happy to report that Paideia we will end the year maintaining a significant fund balance of more than \$1.3 million, which has been accumulated over the past 9 years at Paideia. Paideia strives to remain fiscally responsible and targets maintaining at least a 20% fund balance to handle any number of unexpected financial situations. For example during the years when the State was holding back up to 40% of our funding, which required most other schools to take out loans to meet their operating needs, Paideia was able to support itself due to its respectable cash reserves. We expect that Paideia will end the year with a fund balance of approximately 30% of annual expenditures. The Board also approved the budget for 2014-2015 at the last Board meeting. In that budget, based upon conservative enrollment projections that assumes enrollment will be 10% lower than current enrollment numbers for 2014-15, Paideia will end with a surplus for the year. If enrollment numbers are higher than budgeted, thereby increasing school revenues, the 2014-15 Board will be able to determine appropriate investments from that surplus for the betterment of the school.

As always, Paideia's Finance Committee meetings are open to anyone who may have questions about the school's budget, spending priorities and disciplines and fiscal responsibility.

Erik Dove
Board Treasurer

From the Office

Attention Special Education Parents: Please complete and return the a Special Education Survey to Marci Levy-Maguire by Wednesday, April 23.

Request for volunteers to gather and inventory all resources at Paideia for teaching reading. Please contact Rchamley@paideiaacademy.org

Construction on Garrett Road

Construction started Thursday on Garrett Road. We have been assured by the construction manager that Paideia arrival and dismissal procedures should only be slightly affected.

They will be closing one to two of the three entrances to the Apple Place Bowl/Paideia parking lots at a time. There will always be one entrance open.

Please be patient with each other and plan to leave a little earlier each day through the end of May to allow for any delay this may cause. School classes start at 8:15 AM and students are expected to be in class at that time.

NJHS inducts new members

On Monday, April 14, the Paideia Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society inducted 15 new members. These students have shown high levels of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. Congratulations to our new members: Kenan, Mara, Hayley, Aaron, Adin, Kira, Kira, Joel, Emily, Evan, Eva, Hailey, Emily, Elise, and Ella. **Our chapter now has 33 members!** We are helping to plan the upper academy dance. Students are also planning individual service projects.

MCA Testing is Next Week!:

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 Test-	Mon. May 12th	Tues. May 13th	Wed. May 14th				
8:30-11:00	MCA Science, 5th Grade	MCA Science, 8th Grade	MCA Science Make-up Testing				

GREAT SCHOOLS
SPRING
SWEEPSTAKES

Parents write a review about Paideia!

Reviews take just a minute to write!

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

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



Our school lunch provider: CKC Foods is happy to share that their own Nancy Close has been chosen a 2014 Women in Business honoree by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal.

Her vision, years of hard work, devotion to clients, unwavering commitment to **serving delicious and nutritious meals to students**, and a heart for the less fortunate have not gone unnoticed!

A free workshop for parents of children with disabilities and for professionals

Dynamic speaker comes to PACER
Free! Please join us!

How do I help my child who is anxious?

Registration required.
To register, please contact:

PACER CENTER
8161 Normandale Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55437
952-838-9000 (Voice)
952-838-0199 (Fax)
800-537-2237 (Toll free)
PACER.org/workshops

**Thursday,
April 24
6:30 to 8:30 PM**



Rebecca Kajander

PTO News

April 18, 2014

MCA Testing—Parents please let your Grade Level Reps know if you can assist with snacks for MCA testing. A healthy breakfast and a good night's sleep is important everyday, but especially on test days.

Calendar Changes:

The Carnival is scheduled for May 16th—watch for pre-order forms.

The Upper Academy Dance is scheduled for May 30th—Paideia Students only.

The Lower Academy Event is schedule for May 30th at Good Times Park in Eagan—watch for pre-order forms.

The Carnival is our school's largest fundraiser—to be a success we need over 100 volunteers so please help out!



**CALLING ALL
VOLUNTEERS**

[Sign up here!](#)

Counselor's Corner

A Message from your Counselors: Standardized Testing

Standardized tests currently play a major role in the United States public schools. Your child may take one or more standardized tests during the school year, and your child's teacher may spend class time on test preparation throughout the year. As a parent, there are a number of ways that you can support your child before and after taking a standardized test, as well as a number of ways you can support your child's learning habits on a daily basis that will help her be more prepared when it's time to be tested.

While many parents, educators, school leaders, and policymakers disagree about the kinds of tests administered, how the scores should be used, and how frequently students should be tested, it is important to be supportive of your child's efforts on standardized tests, and to help her do her best. You can also learn more about testing from teachers, parent liaisons, and your local PTA organization to better understand how testing is being carried out at your child's school, and how the results are being used.

Helpful Hints: Test Taking Tips for Parents (Things you can do at home!)

- Acknowledge test-taking anxiety as normal, but stay positive.
- Encourage your child to think positive thoughts like "I can do this!"
- Give compliments for effort: "I'm proud of how hard you have studied."
- Adequate rest makes a difference! Make sure your child goes to bed at a reasonable time; being active earlier in the day (not right before bed) can help kids get to sleep.
- Nutrition also influences how well children do on test; a good breakfast is important, but a large meal right before the test can be distracting.
- Make sure your student is on time on the days of testing; set a back up alarm to avoid the possibility of oversleeping.
- Help your child learn how to relax. Some find it helps to take a few deep breaths before starting the test; others like to imagine a peaceful place like the beach or park.
- If your child is sick, be sure to contact to school immediately to inform them.

New and Noteworthy:

- April is Alcohol and Drug Awareness Month
- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month
- April is Counseling Awareness Month
- April is National Autism Awareness Month
- April 21-25 is Public School Volunteer Week
- April 20-26 is Administrative Professionals Week
- April 22 is Earth Day
- April 24 is Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

ESL Program News

Here is a reminder that the early ACCESS scores will be available on May 27th. The final scores will be available to districts the end of July.

Students are continuing to work on academic vocabulary in all of their content area classes. Through building academic vocabulary, students will gain more access to the curriculum and improve their reading skills.

DID YOU KNOW??

The National Center for Education Statistics says that the number of students who speak a language other than English in their home has grown from 4.7 million in 1980 to 11.2 million in 2009. That's nearly a 240% increase! Additionally, some groups estimate that nearly 1 in 10 students are English Language Learners.

From the classrooms

Technology

Kindergarten: Both classes used computers to go on Lexia Reading and IXL Math. They also enjoyed a short video and discussion on internet safety from NetSmartz.com and learned how to close the internet browser as well as using the directional arrows of a website to navigate a website.

2nd Grade: Students enjoyed a short video on internet safety from NetSmartz.com. We then had an excellent discussion about being safe online, both at home and at Paideia.

3rd Grade: Students started importing pictures into their Presidential Powerpoints and continued working on slides for their presentation. The majority of students have completed the research phase of this process and are working on layout and design.

4th Grade: These classes spent an advisory period on keyboarding and took a test on www.freetypinggame.com to see what their Words Per Minute score is. About a third of the students in each class is at or above the 20 WPM goal. Remember to keep practicing so you can get your key on the keyboard and so you can choose a prize from room 202!

Upper Academy:

Careers and Technology go together! At least they go together in Advisory once a week over the next 4-6 weeks as Mr. Roll, Mr. Grover, and Mrs. Ekrem work together to help students explore several careers and put their findings in an electronic portfolio. Interviews and Internet research are included in the project along with using Word, Excel, and Powerpoint to present their findings during the last class session next month. Most of the students took a keyboarding test throughout the week and saw improvement in their typing speed. One class of 7th grade also were shown the citation tools in Word and tried citing a book and a web page.

Physical Education

April 21-25

In Gym this week the activities will depend on the weather. The second half of the week we would love to get outside. If we are inside due to wet fields or cold temperatures we will have Team Game activities consisting of Pirate Ball, or Ultimate Frisbee.

Announcement for parents: Please make sure your student is coming to school with tennis shoes for gym class. Ideally students should have proper footwear with them daily for recess, but especially the days they have PE! We want to make sure all students are minimizing their risk for injury. Thanks for your efforts!

Inspirations in PE: Both Ms. Case and Mr. Phillippi were pleased to see that students responded positively to Team Handball, which was a new game activity for most students at Paideia.

Health:

April 21-25

All classes will be learning about Nutrition topics such as healthy eating and energy drinks.

Classical Studies

8th Grade

Standards/Unit: Mesoamerica, The Incans

Activities: Investigate the Inca city Machu Picchu

7th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Greece

Activities: Greek mythology, Greek deity research project.

6th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Rome, Architecture

Activities: Seven Wonders of Ancient Rome

5th Grade

Standards/Unit: Ancient Greece

Activities: No class this week due to MCA testing.

Latin

7-8th Grade

Standards/Unit: Extension activity.

Activities: Meae Familiae Arbor;
Latin Family Tree

5-6th Grade

Standards/Unit: Greek/Latin roots

Activities: Practice school words;
Introduce new roots.

Music

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

Kindergarten

Standards/unit: Carnival of the Animals; Orchestra—Instrument Review (String, Woodwind, Percussion)

Activities: Listening Quiz: Lion, Hens, Tortoise, or Elephant? Jean, Jean; Kye Kye Kule

Inspirations: Micah and Joy were bravo students!

1st Grade

Standards/unit: Add “mystery family” to Music Street, practice singing and reading three solfa

Activities: Xylophones, Bobby Shafto, Plainsies Clapsies

Inspirations: Nick, Bella, and Zachary were bravo students!

2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Prepare for “new family” to move to Music Street

Activities: Listening Quiz Assessment, Bow Wow Wow, Mouse Mousie

Inspirations: Lauren, Jalen, Megan A, and Julie were bravo students!

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Review pre-musical concepts: pentatonic scale, all known rhythms

Activities: Ida Red, Chicken on a Fencepost, Rhythmic Dictation

Inspirations: 3rd graders did a FABULOUS job with their musical!

4th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Process: Respond or Critique; Musical Theater

Activities: Learning musical theater terms and conventions

Inspirations: Students in 4th grade put on an amazing show for the Paideia community!

5th Grade

Standards/unit: Artistic Foundations; Music Theory

Activities: Reinforcing alto/bass clef reading skills on xylophone. Quiz on alto and bass clef notes.

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

6th Grade

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

Activities: Navigating the GarageBand interface and creating instruments. Quiz on creating a project with multiple instruments.

Inspirations: Students in 6th grade know how a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) is laid out!

7th & 8th Grade

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

Activities: Beginning to work on piano inventions. Quiz on invention form and theme tracing.

Inspirations: Students in 7th and 8th grade can identify variations of an invention theme!



Upper Academy families

Students in 6th grade have begun using GarageBand for iPad to produce original music. We are having a blast so far—however, we could be doing so much more with the app! There is a \$4.99 download to unlock all of the app’s instruments—sequencers, strings, brass, smart drums and keyboard, and hundreds of great loops. We would like to purchase this for each of our iPads at a cost of \$119.76. 5th grade and 7th grade are doing this next year, so this will benefit all UA students (even altruistic 8th graders)! Please consider donating \$1 (or more!) to fund this effort to create great music in Upper Academy! Simply bring any money to Mr. Strand for collection. Thank you!

Mr. Strand, Upper Academy Music Teacher

Visual Art

Standards/unit:

Upper: Artistic Foundations, Create or Make

Lower: Artistic Foundations, Create or Make, Respond or Critique

Activities:

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

Totem Poles: Review; using iron oxide, exploring artist statements and writing their own

Lower: Clay: using "scratch and attach"

Prehistoric Art: comparing Lascaux to the movie "The Croods"

Landscape: Painting the sky and land, learning to mix colors

Cityscape: MCA testing

Inspirations:

Upper: Art of Japan

Northwest Natives

Artist Statements

Lower: Sculpture in our World

Lascaux, France Cave Paintings, "The Croods"

Color Wheel

Volunteer Opportunities:

Do you know how to wedge clay to remove air bubbles? Currently, there are many scraps of clay that need to be wedged, and packed away for next year. If you have any clay experience and would like to volunteer to help prepare our clay, please contact Mrs. Shelton or Mrs. Cooper. Thanks!

Mrs. Cooper is still collecting egg cartons! If you have a cardboard egg carton please bring it to the art room. The goal is to collect 75 more!

We need a volunteer to come and hang art! If you are available please contact Mrs. Shelton or Mrs. Cooper!

Announcements:

MCA testing begins this week! Reading tests will be Monday the 21st and Tuesday the 22nd. Math tests will be Wednesday the 23rd and Thursday the 24th. These tests will be in the morning from 9am through 11:30am. **Due to these tests, any students in grades 3-8 will miss MORNING specials during the above times.** Specialists will be helping administer tests during their normal specialist classes. Also, if you have a **K-2** student with morning specials, your student will have their **specialist class in their own classroom** to allow extra space for testing.

In 3 weeks, 5th and 8th graders will also have Science MCAs. They will test Monday the 12th and Tuesday the 13th from 8:30am through 11:00am. Their specialist classes will not be affected.

Spanish

Kindergarten

Standards/unit: Animals

Activities: Old McDonald Song, homework pages 4 & 5

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Blake & Lola!

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love volunteers to help check student homework.

1st Grade & 2nd Grade

Standards/unit: Parts of the Body

Activities: Hokey Pokey Song, homework page 4

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Cole, Alina, Jalenae & Lauren!

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love volunteers to help check student homework.

3rd Grade

Standards/unit: Parts of the Body & Prepositions

Activities: Hokey Pokey Song & SMARTBoard matching activity– No homework because of MCAs.

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Rylee & James!

Volunteer Opportunities: We would love volunteers to help check student homework.

4th Grade

Standards/unit: No Spanish this week- MCA Testing. No Spanish homework.

Inspirations: Bravo estudiantes this week: Josh & Abilyn!

Spanish Academy

7A & 8A

Standards/unit: Describe yourself and others, identify people and things.

Activities: Quiz on adjectives, Avancemos workbook activities

Kindergarten

Math: Mrs. Johnson's Group: We will continue working on subtraction. Some of us will be subtracting from 6 and some of us will subtract from 12. Our vocabulary will continue include subtraction, take away, minus and how many are left.

Ms. Stevens' Group: We will continue working with non-standard measurement and start addition.

We will assess on non-standard measurement on Monday. New vocabulary will include addition, add, plus, equal, put together and how many all together.

IXL Skills to Try at Home: Ms. Stevens' Group: I.1, I.6 Mrs. Johnson's Group: J.1, J.5

Language Arts: Sight Words: go, so

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

Mrs. Johnson's Group: We will continue working with rhyming words as some of us are still struggling with this concept. We will also introduce the _og and _op word families. Sight Word Readers: You Can Go. Please continue practicing sight words at home.

Science: We will continue learning about living and non-living things. We will be going outside and looking around for these types of things.

Advisory: We will continue to work with our new Unthinkable: Topic Twister-meister.

Announcements:

—We have revealed that we will be going on a field trip to the MN Zoo on Friday, May 16th from 9AM-2PM. The students are extremely excited about this. We will be looking for some parent volunteers to come with us and help chaperone a group that day. If you are interested, please let us know by—

—April 25th. All interested names will go into a drawing for the 4 spots that we have available. Field trip permission slips will go home on Friday, April 25th and will be due by Friday, May 2nd.

Report cards are now available on SchoolView. If you have any questions about your child's report card, please do not hesitate to ask!

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: We have been incredibly amazed by the beautiful flowers that we are seeing come in for homework this week. We are looking forward to decorating our kindergarten hallway to Spring it Up!

First Grade

Math: We will work on Chapter 15, using a calendar and telling time. We will do Math centers. Your child can work on IXL: S.1-S.12.

Language Arts: We will work in Daily 5 reading groups. We will work in guided reading groups.

Science: We will continue working on the human body. We will work on the digestive system.

Social Studies: We will learn about Earth Day and write about ways we can help the Earth this week.

Advisory: We will continue the Olweus Anti-Bullying Curriculum. We will practice asking someone to play and letting someone join our game at recess and choice time.

Announcements: Please watch your child's backpack for "buddy room forms". Students who land on "teacher's choice" on the clip chart will be sent to "buddy room" for 15 minutes to take a break. The "buddy room form" needs to be signed by a parent and returned to school the next school day. Thanks!

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: Will, Britton, Luke, and Charlie retired clips this week! Way to go!

Second Grade

Math: finish unit on creating and obtaining information from tables, bar graphs, and tally charts and start unit on solving addition and subtraction sentences with unknowns

(IXL math skills: G10, H10, R2, R3, R6, R7)

Language Arts: Daily 5 rotations, reading groups, writing supporting details, irregular/plural nouns, and Words their Way spelling words (spelling test for Thursday)

(IXL LA skills: D1-D3, E1, E2, F1, F2, X1, X2, X3, Z1)

Science: ants and other social insects

Social Studies: Earth Day and how the environment influences people

Advisory: star of the week, working together, buddy reading

Announcements:

—We would still love more items for the treasure box!

—Mrs. Cooper is asking that students bring in empty cardboard egg cartons for an art project.

—We will be going to a “bug” field trip to Lebanon Hills on May 15. Look for a permission slip in your child’s take home folder.

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. We will also need 6 volunteers for our bug field trip! Please let your child’s teacher know if you are interested in going.

Inspirations: The students enjoyed watching the 3rd and 4th graders perform in their dress rehearsal for their music program on Thursday!

Third Grade

Math: Jensen: Factors, MCA testing

IXL Standard: 3.1.1.3

Schnase/Kegel: Metric Measurement Review, MCA testing

IXL Standards: 3.3.2.1 Use half units when measuring distance, 3.3.2.3 Measure distances around objects

Language Arts: Book Study, Pre-reading activities are due Monday

Science: The Sun

Social Studies: Anasazi, Mound Builders, Eastern Woodlands, Earliest Americans review, quiz on Monday

Advisory: Test prep, President research

Announcements: There will be no spelling or weekly homework this week due to MCA testing. MCA testing will be from 9:00-10:00 and 10:30-11:30 Monday-Thursday. Please make sure your child gets adequate rest, eats a good breakfast, and is at school on time so they are prepared for the test.

Ms. Schnase’s class is in need of glue sticks to finish out the year. Please send some in if you are able to donate.

Field trip permission slips are coming home on Monday. Please fill these out and send them back to school. If you are interested in getting your child a school bag lunch that day, please let your child’s teacher know.

Volunteer Opportunities: Ms. Schnase has a social studies project that she needs help with. Please contact her if you are available to help. This is a project that can be done at home.

Inspirations: Way to go 3rd graders!! We are so proud of how well you did during your concert. You are all very talented!

Fourth Grade

Math: We will be taking the MCA’s.

Language Arts: We will be taking the MCA’s.

Science: We will be learning about heart health.

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.

Continued.

Social Studies: We will be studying heraldry and making a coat of arms. Castles due May 22nd.

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

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. School store donations are needed: school supplies, new/gently used toys or books, etc.

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: I was impressed with how well our Mean, Median, Mode and Range posters turned out. Some of the most complete, neat and thorough posters are displayed in the hall! Good work, 5th Graders!

In preparation for next week's MCA exams, we've been practicing test-type questions in class with fun games and activities. To help your children prepare and be successful next week, you can:

Eat a good dinner and get a good night's sleep the night before the test. Relax the night before and try not to stress. Start the day with a good breakfast!

On Monday morning, go to the classroom where you are taking the MCAs. Don't be late. They may not be allowed to let you in if testing has already begun.

Follow the teacher's instructions carefully. They will read out loud a series of rules for the test given to them by the state. Follow them! If you break one of these rules (such as having a cell phone or talking with a friend) your test may be invalid!

During the test, take short, 2 minute breaks to rejuvenate. Roll your neck, break some tension, and breathe! Just make sure not to daydream or lose track of time.

Language Arts: Students will be completing activities in their Work on Words and Work on Writing Packets, as well as completing choice boards. We will also be listening to "The Red-Headed League," a Sherlock Holmes story and part of the Core Knowledge Sequence. Students should be reading at home every day and filling out their reading calendars. Reading calendars are due May 5.

Social Studies: Students will explore the Constitution and then begin exploring the various parts of this document, starting with the Preamble. ABC books were due on April 18. If they were not completed, please keep working on them and turn them in as soon as possible.

Science: Students will continue to learn 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: Thank you to all volunteers this school year!

Inspirations: It was inspiring to see students working hard to understand poetry by reading poems three times and asking peers and teachers for clarification on meanings of words and ideas in those poems.

6th Grade

Math: In preparation for next week's MCA exams, we've been practicing test-type questions this week in class with fun games and activities. Our 6th graders showed incredible sportsmanship during our "Mathketball" review tournament. I am amazed how well they do with these math concepts. I know we are going to have a great MCA week!

To help your children prepare and be successful next week, you can:

Eat a good dinner and get a good night's sleep the night before the test. Relax the night before and try not to stress. Start the day with a good breakfast!

On Monday Morning, go to the classroom where you are taking the MCAs. Don't be late. They may not be allowed to let you in if testing has already begun.

Follow the teacher's instructions carefully. They will read out loud a series of rules for the test given to them by the state. Follow them! If you break one of these rules (such as having a cell phone or talking with a friend) your test may be invalid!

During the test, take short, 2 minute breaks to rejuvenate. Roll your neck, break some tension, and breathe! Just make sure not to daydream or lose track of time.

Language Arts: Students will continue to work on root words in "Vocabulary from Classical Roots." Students will receive a study packet for their workbooks that they will be allowed to take home to study. These packets will be checked periodically for completion. Students will also continue work with poetry, and have recently completed a free verse narrative poem.

Social Studies: Next week students have fewer social studies classes due to MCAs. We will continue learning about economics (examining the budgets of early immigrants, examining their goals, income, and needs/wants). Students will have a test next Friday on economics vocabulary. Students can go online to study their words at: quizlet.com/41037843/economics-flash-cards/History. Mini-books were due on April 18. If they were not completed, please keep working on them and turn them in as soon as possible.

Science: Students will begin a project using potential and kinetic energy.

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. 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 (we are learning about World War II). **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: Thank you to all of this year's volunteers!

Inspirations: It was inspiring to see students practicing reading poems out loud with enthusiasm.

7th Grade

Math: The 7th grade students will be taking their MCA tests this week. Please make sure they get a good night's sleep and eat well-balanced meals. They will not have homework this week, but please encourage them to practice IXL.

Language Arts: Students will be taking reading MCA tests this week! 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. (Students have the option of completing a fiction and/or a nonfiction book review for extra credit!)

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies 7th graders continued to learn about wars in U.S. history from the Civil War to the present; students worked in small groups to research one war and create a poster to hang in a timeline around the classroom; Ms. Hood also used a PowerPoint presentation with note-taking, visuals, and lecture, as well as a board game about "militarism," which students really enjoyed!

Science: Next week in science, 7th graders will continue learning about 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.

Continued.

Announcements: MCA testing is next week! There is an overnight field trip scheduled for May 9th-10th to the SeaLife aquarium at the Mall of America; permission slips were due Wed., April 16; no late permission slips will be accepted. The 7th/8th team is in need of spaghetti and marshmallows for a 3rd grade buddy project!

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! Thank you to all the parent chaperones who volunteered to attend the SeaLife field trip!

Inspirations: Mrs. Sherrard is very impressed with the scale drawings completed by all 7th graders. Ms. Hood was inspired by how much fun the 7th graders had with the "militarism" board game in Social Studies!

8th Grade

Math: The 8th grade students will be taking their MCA tests this week. Please make sure they get a good night's sleep and eat well-balanced meals. They will not have homework this week, but please encourage them to practice IXL.

Language Arts: Students will be taking reading MCA tests this week! 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. (Students have the option of completing a fiction and/or a nonfiction book review for extra credit!)

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies students learned about the branches of U.S. government; they also read and analyzed the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution in small groups.

Science: Next week in science, 8th grade students will continue learning about the inner and outer planets of 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: MCAs are next week! There is an overnight field trip scheduled for May 9th-10th to the SeaLife aquarium at the Mall of America; permission slips were due Wed., April 16; no late slips will be accepted. The 7th/8th team is in need of spaghetti and marshmallows for a 3rd grade buddy project!

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! Thanks to all the parents who volunteered to chaperone the SeaLife field trip!

Inspirations: Ms. Hood was inspired by the 8th graders' interest in and behavior during the 3rd & 4th grade musical this Tuesday! 8B did a fantastic job on their scatterplot quizzes in Math!

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.