

THE *Eagle Eye*



April 6, 2017

Eagle Ridge Academy

Volume 13 | Issue 14



Executive Director News

[JASON ULBRICH](#)

Executive Director



Lower School Updates

[MELANIE BAIER](#)

Principal, School of Grammar

“What a relaxing experience in the school pick-up lane,” said no one! While the school pick-up and drop-off is never a pleasant experience, I do not believe it is so bad to cause ill behaviors in adults. Much like our morning commutes, the Eagle Ridge Academy parking lot is too often a display of lack of self-control. After observing the drop-off when there are many ERA staff present, the system works. The problem is that we are not able to have 10-12 staff present on a daily basis. Thus, here are some reminders and request of parents:



“The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper.” *W. B. Yeats*

Our teachers are constantly working to create wonder and awe in the classroom. Sometimes this happens simply through words read or conversations that take place. Other times events are a bit more dramatic and can be shared with others throughout the community. Today was one of those times when a dramatic event occurred that captured the attention of the community.

Mrs. Grabanski’s class has been patiently incubating chicken eggs in their classroom. They have watched them diligently seeing the life grow inside them over the past few weeks. Their patience and good care was rewarded on Monday with the hatching of the first chick from its egg. The delight from the teacher and students could not be contained. Thanks to Mrs. Grabanski for sharing this journey with the entire school. Everyone has followed with rapt attention and gratefulness at being involved from the beginning. Just another case of seeing beauty in a life event we usually just take for

- 1. Plan ahead:** Drop off will take five to ten minutes. Plan accordingly and you will be less stressed and impatient. The drop off lane is wide open 7:30am-7:45am. If you arrive after 7:50am, expect delays and chaos.
- 2. Follow the rules and system:** By not following the system and rules, you negatively impacts others. You must drop off in the designated lane or park to drop off. If your child(ren) are under 5th grade, please walk them to the sidewalk. There is plenty of parking in the middle of the lot. It only takes one minute to walk your child(ren) safely to the sidewalk, say good-bye, and give them a big hug.
- 3. Relax:** There is no reason to begin your day on the wrong foot. Please be courteous to your fellow ERA parents, give pedestrians the right of way in the parking lot, and let people merge.
- 4. Stay off your phone:** I observe multiple parents texting and driving in the parking lot. This will not be tolerated because it is a safety concern and sets a terrible example for the students.



5th Grade Chicks



Upper School Updates



ERICA POWELL
Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

"Rest is the sweet sauce of labor." *Plutarch*

I have used this quote in the past and will use it again this year prior to Spring Break, as it is so fitting. The above quote is for all of our students, parents, and staff. I hope that spring break is a wonderful time of rest, rejuvenation, and relaxation for everyone. As Plutarch says, it "...is the sweet sauce of labor." Everyone has put much time, energy, work, and focus in the past three quarters of school. Let this break be a restful time for all!

ACT[®]

All Juniors will take the ACT on
Wednesday, April 19
during the school day.

Questions?
Contact *Mrs. Susan Bloomgren.*

Congratulations, March Pillar Award Winners!

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Citizenship: Aarushi	Citizenship: Mason H.	Citizenship: Molly
Integrity: Ashwika	Integrity: Arvind M.	Integrity: Haley M.
Perseverance: Wyatt	Perseverance: Hunter L.	Perseverance: Elijah M.
Honor: Lilli	Honor: Surin P.	Honor: Thanya R.
Excellence: Shreya	Excellence: Khaia K.	Excellence: Grace L.
Respect: Sophie	Respect: Soren H.	Respect: Thai L.

9th Grade: Madelyn J.

10th Grade: Clara H.

11th Grade: Zach B.

12th Grade: Alex H.

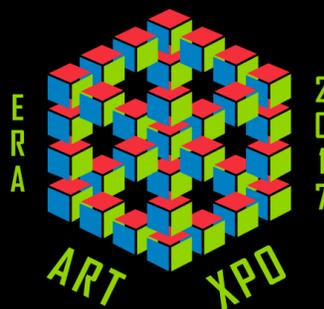


LAST CHANCE TO BUY A 2017 UPPER SCHOOL (gr. 6-12) YEARBOOK!

Online ordering is now closed, but you can reserve your copy today with Dr. Brennan in person (room 1602) or via email: cbrennan@eagleridgeacademy.org.

Then bring \$60 cash (optimal, exact change) or check made out to ERA to school, give it to Dr. B before or after school or during lunch, and you'll be issued your very own yearbook on the last day of school like your friends!

Hurry! **Only 30 copies left!** First-come-first-served!
Absolute last day to purchase is 3:30pm Friday, May 26th.



People's Choice voting
Friday 7:00 - 7:45pm!

Opening Reception: Friday May 12th 7:00 - 9:30pm,
Gym Commons (enter the school via
door #4 near the gym and busses)

Award Ceremony: 8:00pm in the Gym

Open Gallery: Saturday, May 13th 10:00am - 12:00pm
Free admission both days!



Only \$15!

Order your 2017 ART XPO t-shirt today!
On sale now until 3:30pm May 1st.
Click to download your order form.

Can be worn with uniform bottoms
Friday, May 12th to celebrate the annual
Art Xpo and on spirit wear days!

Community Updates



MCA Testing will begin on Tues., April 18

SUSAN BLOOMGREN

Director of Classical Curriculum & Professional Development

After spring break, students in grades 3-8, 10, and 11 will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs). Below is the testing schedule as well as ways you can support your child.

Grade	Math	Reading	Science
3 rd	4/18	4/25	N/A
4 th	4/18	4/25	N/A
5 th	4/19	4/28	5/4
6 th	4/19	4/26 and 4/27	N/A
7 th	4/20	4/26 and 4/27	N/A
8 th	4/20	4/26 and 4/27	5/2 and 5/3
10 th	N/A	4/20 and 4/21	5/2 and 5/3
11 th	4/21	N/A	N/A

Important reminders that will help your child do his/her best:

- Make sure he/she gets plenty of rest and a good breakfast.
- Be well-hydrated - the brain performs better when it has plenty of water.
- Remind your child to take his/her time. The MCA test is not a timed test. We can make arrangements for any students that need more time for completion.
- Remind your child to relax: MCA is just one test. It is important that every student takes it seriously and does his/her best, but they should not stress out about it.
- Be on time to school: Arriving when the test begins or after it has started puts the student at a disadvantage right from the start. Make sure your child arrives to school with plenty of time to get settled before the testing begins.

Legislative Changes Impacting H.S. MCA Testing

Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.30 indicates that Minnesota State Colleges and Universities may use high school MCA

reading and mathematics scores to assist in determining course enrollment by the 2018–2019 school year. An analysis has been conducted by Minnesota State to identify the scores to be used.

- Students who are at or above an identified score are expected to be able to successfully complete credit-bearing coursework without the need for remediation at a two- or four-year college or university, or other credit-bearing postsecondary program. These students must not be required to take a remedial, non-credit course in the corresponding subject area.
- Student scores below the identified score indicate that the student's performance is not on track to meet career and college readiness, and additional information is necessary for course enrollment.



Upcoming Varsity Competitions:

April 6

Ultimate Frisbee: AWAY v. Edina, 6:00 p.m.

Track & Field: HOME, 4:00 p.m.

April 13

Ultimate Frisbee: AWAY v. Henry Sibley, 6:00 p.m.

Track & Field: HOME, 4:00 p.m.



Get Involved in Upcoming Events!

KELLY SCHIFFMAN
Director of Development



2017 Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut Dash

The Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut Dash ½ Mile is May 13! If you haven't regis-

tered yet, to guarantee your shirt and size, please register at www.epdonutdash2017.zapevent.com. With your participation, you can help us provide fitness equipment and a walking track for the Academy.

Packet pick-up has been scheduled for Friday, May 12 from 3:30-7 p.m. at Eagle Ridge Academy at 11111 Bren Rd. W, Minnetonka.

We are still looking for donations of protein bars, bags of chips, or other post-race snacks for the participants. Please contact me if you or your organization is interested in this sponsorship opportunity!

Ways to participate:

1. Register today.
2. Sponsor the event with a donation of product or a financial gift—be our Shirt, Tent, Mini-Donut, or Donut Sponsor.
3. Do you work for an organization that would like to participate as a sponsor?
4. Volunteer to help at the race on May 13. We need 40 volunteers.
5. Donate a 100 percent tax-deductible gift for fitness equipment and walking track
6. Help promote the event by [sharing the event](#) on your social media or send via e-mail. Invite your friends and family.

Watch for Advisory and Grade Level Contests to be announced after Spring Break!



2017 Era Golf Tournament

The 4th Annual Eagle Ridge Academy Golf Tournament is on June 12 at beautiful Bent Creek Golf Club in Eden Prairie! You don't have to be a great golfer, or even a good golfer, to participate—this event is a best-ball golf scram-

ble, designed for any type of golfer, novice to competitive. All proceeds will support the addition of new athletic and activity fields at the Academy. With your participation, our students will have outdoor green space.

Online registration is open and waiting for you! See the attached [Golf Brochure](#) for more details on the event. Find a partner or create your own foursome. Want to come as an individual? No problem ... we will place you on a team. Join us for a day of great fun benefitting your students.

If you don't golf but would like to sponsor a teacher or staff member, come out for lunch, sponsor a contest hole, or donate a raffle prize, or help in another way, please contact me at kschiffman@eagleridgeacademy.org or by phone at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107. For more information, [visit our website](#).





★★



PROM
★ Gr. 11 & 12 ★
May 6 | 6:30-10:00 pm
Jonathan Padelford

Tickets:
April 3-21, \$60/ea
April 24-26, \$70/ea

★



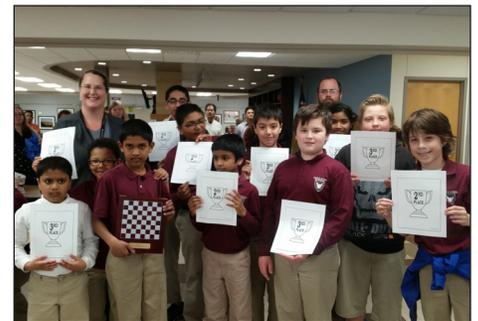
Save the Date:
May 21, 5:00 p.m.

High School Sports Banquet

Invitation will be mailed to athletes & families.

Chess Club is the largest club at ERA with over 115 students per session. It is open to students in grades K-12. We have lessons for all levels of players from newbies through advanced. Students also get a chesskid.com account which allows them to play with other ERA chess students, do puzzles, and take online lessons. Every spring we have a Chess Club tournament for students beyond the beginner level where students can compete to win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophies. Chess Club is managed by [Mrs. Grabanski](#) and [Mr. Sutton](#).

Chess Club is finished for the 2016-17 school year, but watch for it again this fall!



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY
MRS. GRABANSKI



Club Terra is Eagle Ridge Academy's newest club bringing students and staff together to celebrate environmental friendliness. Club Terra will focus on making Eagle Ridge Academy a green school by addressing issues such as school-wide recycling, water and energy conservation, sustainable plant life, edible and roof-top gardens, composting, and spring and fall clean-up of grounds.

While Club Terra will eventually tackle many areas, the first area of focus will be spring planting. The students will focus on beautifying the Academy's indoor and outdoor spaces with plant life, to include perennials and annuals—both plants and flowers—no vegetables at this time.

The club is seeking volunteer donations of seedlings, soil, decorative pots, or cash donations to purchase necessary items to plant. You may even donate cuttings from your own house plants by immersing it in water and transplanting it into a small pot! For those interested, please contact Mrs. Carolyn Sommers-Tillotson at csommerstillotson@eagleridgeacademy.org. Your donation will be tax-deductible.

On April 21, to celebrate Earth Day, students in Club Terra will do a spring clean-up of our school grounds, aided by some of our Kindergarteners. In addition, Club Terra is recruiting interested students in grades 6-12 who care about creating an eco-friendly school and earth. There is no fee to join this club. For more information, please visit our [webpage](#).

Upcoming School Events:

April 7 - 20

For more information and more events, visit the [school calendar](#).

April 7 – Spirit Wear Day

April 7 – 8:15 a.m.-2:40 p.m. – 4th Grade Field Trip: Robin Hood Play

April 10-14 – No School, Spring Break (Office Hours: 9:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m., M-Th)

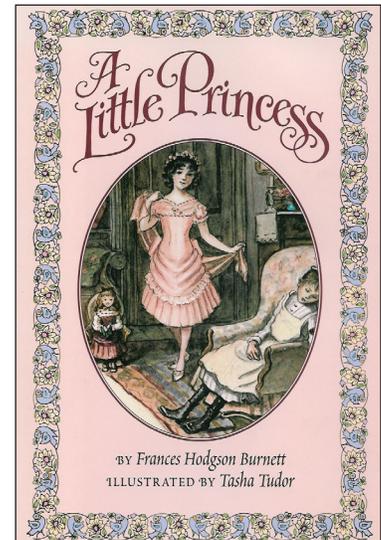
April 19 – 1:00-2:00 p.m. – Nancy Carlson Author Visit

April 20 – 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. – 7th Grade Science Fair

Spring Play is April 21-22: *The Little Princess*

Reserve your tickets now to see Eagle Ridge Academy's students perform *The Little Princess*, a touching story about a young girl named Sarah who is sent to a boarding school by her father, who is a British soldier. Sarah's imagination and stories about her life in India capture the hearts of the other girls. While being buffeted by the stern headmistress, Miss Minchin, and the school bully, Sarah receives some heart-breaking news and is forced to work in servitude. As she struggles to keep her spirits up, fate steps in and she discovers some remarkable news that just might change her seemingly bleak fate forever.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Performances will be held on Friday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 22 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. You may pay for and pick up the tickets one hour prior to the start of the show. The performance will be held at the Chaska Community Center Theater, 11661 Park Ridge Drive, Chaska, MN 55318.



Parent Teacher Organization News



PTO SECRETARIES

pto.eagleridge@gmail.com

Teacher Appreciation the Week of May 1 – 5

On behalf of our ERA families, the ERA PTO is sponsoring a fun week of events for our teachers and staff! We will be decorating our school with signs of gratitude, providing a "Pick Me Up" with an afternoon of healthy treats, serving an Asian lunch buffet, a sweet and salty bar, and fun gift cards as a token of our appreciation along with cookies. We need your help putting together the sweet and salty buffet with a popcorn bar and supplying cookies for an end of the week treat. Sign up to drop off contributions [here](#). Thank you for your support of our wonderful ERA community.

Save the Date: Summer Used Uniform Sale

The PTO will be holding its annual PTO Kick-Off and Used Uniform Sale on July 25 from 5-8:30 p.m. More details to come. [Visit our webpage](#) for more information.

2017-18 School Supply Kits

We are excited to announce that Eagle Ridge Academy has partnered with SchoolKidz to offer 2017-18 pre-pack-



aged school supply kits designed for your class by your teacher, with the exact styles and brands you need. Plus, value pricing, convenient online ordering, and classroom delivery for Meet your Teacher Night. Online ordering is open **May 1 - June 5**. More information will be sent home soon. Look for flyers, and emails after Spring Break. For any questions or assistance, contact PTO Member Jodie at jodielynn20@yahoo.com.

Citizenship IN ACTION

My son Derek T.(4th Grade), Paige M. (5th Grade) and I went hiking last Sunday on a set of trails Derek and I visit frequently. This trail system houses two monument sites whose locations are not disclosed for their own protection. The sites, if commonly known, would be at risk for individuals desecrating them and stealing valuable artifacts.

The first site is an ancient summer planting village frequented by Paleo-Indians (ancestors to the Dakota) as long ago as 100 C.E. and forward to the Wahpeton Dakota Tribe in the early 1800s. The second site, equally as old if not older, is a series of effigy mounds.

Here is where our story begins. The effigy mounds are sacred space and a burial site of long lost Paleo-Indian culture. We do not visit this site often but make a point in our frequent treks to swing through and ensure the site is not being harmed. Derek, when visiting this site, makes a habit of circling the site and checking the mounds. In the past, we both have found evidence of old desecration to the mounds, and the violation has made us protective of the site.

While visiting and paying respects at the site we came across signs of recent grave robbing. Five mounds towards the far back showed signs of fresh digging, the damage covered by leaves and freshly cut branches. As this site is a protected monument. These disruptions are not a good thing and needed to be reported. Derek and Paige located and numbered all of the newly desecrated sites and I worked to take pictures, document the damage and get GPS coordinates recorded.

We gathered the information together and looked for whom to report this and were immediately put in touch with a very nice man named Mr. Wabasha. He took our information and coordinated it with The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council. An individual from the council was quickly in touch with me, connected back with Mr. Wabasha and went out that same morning to investigate with him. The information Derek and Paige gathered was taken and quickly put to use to help stop further damage to this site. There is no doubt the issue is now in very capable hands and that action has been taken to further protect them.

At the time I didn't know who I was talking to, but this kind, calm man is the Hereditary Chief of the Mdewakan-ton Sioux, Leonard Wabasha. He extends his gratitude and respect to Derek and Paige for their vigilance and protection of this amazing site and its important role in history.

Well done, Derek and Paige!

- submitted by Mali Trefethren