

THE *Eagle Eye*



September 29, 2016

Eagle Ridge Academy

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Executive Director News

[JASON ULBRICH](#)

Executive Director

Mr. Ulbrich composes and publishes a community letter on the last Thursday of each month. September's letter is available [here](#) and is also posted on the front page of the [ERA website](#). This month's letter introduces the operations staff and gives updates regarding the parking lot and playground.



Upper School Update

[ERICA POWELL](#)

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

I wanted to send a reminder this week of why we have formal dress days, as many students and parents have inquired about their purpose. We want students to be able to practice their formal dress wear prior to our first event that requires formal dress. Field trips, concerts, and other school events throughout the school year prompt us to ask students to wear their formal uniform. We do this because we want our students to look their best on these days, much like they would have to when they enter the workforce, have their first job interview, or need to attend an event that asks for more formal attire. When practicing our formal wear, we can remind students and parents what is required without making it a discipline concern. If your child was out of formal uniform on Wednesday, you may have gotten a friendly reminder of what they were missing. Our students did a great job with their first formal dress day!

National College Fair

Attention parents of Juniors and Seniors: The National College Fair is being held on Oct. 4 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Eagle Ridge Academy will be offering a field trip to students in grades 11 and 12 to attend this event. Forms were handed out in advisory and are available in the Academic Counselor's office. Forms may be handed to [Wendy Klute](#). The fee is \$10.00. I encourage all Juniors and Seniors to attend the college fair. NOTE: For your child to best prepare, please have them pre-register at [this website](#). This will allow them to skip the registration process when they get to the college fair.



Lower School Update

[MELANIE BAIER](#)

Principal, School of Grammar

“The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.”

Denis Waitley

As parents, you are used to your children being dependent on you. As your children grow older, their dependence on you should naturally decrease. When children start school, they should take a huge leap in learning responsibility and gaining independence. I say “should” because it is the tendency of many parents to want their children to still be dependent on them. It is difficult to let them spread their wings and try things on their own. You worry they will make mistakes and struggle. They *will do* both of those things and *should do* both of those things. Letting your children make mistakes and struggle are some of the best gifts you can give them. They will never learn to be responsible for themselves if you do not let them try. The tendency to save your children from difficult things is a struggle that shows you, too, will continue to grow and learn throughout life. We can all work together to create an environment where children can learn to be responsible and independent, where mistakes are embraced and learning from those mistakes is supported.

One way to help your children develop the “roots of responsibility” is to give them things to be responsible for and not save them from when they forget to be responsible. For example, when you bring your child a forgotten item from home (water bottle, lunch, homework, shoes for physical education, etc.) you are not allowing them to learn how to be responsible for that item. If someone will always bring it to me, why would I learn to not forget it? Responsibility for simple items is just the first step in the journey toward independence, but an easy one to try in the beginning.

There are many wonderful articles on helping raise responsible, independent children. Please check out the rest of my [blog](#) for some links to those articles.

Community Updates



Developing Connections

KELLY SCHIFFMAN

Director of Development

Our 2016 Fall Gala, "A Night on Broadway," will be held on Nov. 18 at the beautiful Bearpath Golf & Country Club in Eden Prairie! A Save the Date was sent out last week, and a formal invitation will come shortly. Join us on the red carpet for a wonderful evening of camaraderie between parents, staff, and community all coming together for an evening of glamour, delicious food, excellent music, a silent auction, and a fantastic program—all benefiting the students of Eagle Ridge Academy! Proceeds from the Gala will support the Academy's new auditorium, on which construction will start after school concludes in June. In addition, five percent of funds raised will help start up an endowment for the future of Eagle Ridge Academy. We hope you will join us to help make this happen!

Invitations go in the mail in two weeks, so watch your mailboxes. In the meantime, please have sneak peak of the event information. Registration is officially open at <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2016GALAERA>. Tickets are \$80 per person or \$750 for a table of 10. Gather four other couples or a group of friends and enjoy a night out, celebrating in style. Our entertainment, musician and pianist Chris Ganza, will regale us with a fine collection of show tunes, lovely piano classics, and upbeat entertainment!

We are currently building an exciting silent auction for all tastes! Parents: I invite you to donate to the silent auction by considering a number of different options.

Do you ...

- Own a cabin or timeshare that you would like to donate for a week or long weekend?
- Have seasons tickets or have connections to a Minnesota sports team (Vikings, T-Wolves, Twins, Gophers, or Lynx), theatre (Guthrie, Ordway), or museum (Walker, MIA, Science Museum)?
- Own a business or work for a business that would donate an item, gift card, or experience?
- Frequent a health club, spa, restaurant, or other establishment that you could approach to donate something?

Everything that is donated brings more to the bottom line. We appreciate your help!

Parents ask each year how they may support the teachers/ staff and "host" them at the event. We are happy to accept donated tickets for our staff for a cost of \$60 per ticket. You may designate a staff member to attend or donate a ticket to the general pool and we will draw names of those interested in attending. Please call me with any questions, comments or donation suggestions or stop by my office while you are in school!



September Board of Directors Update

ANN WATANABE

Board Chair

Please take a few moments to read an important update from the Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors [found here](#).

Now is the time to get involved and use your experience and interest in helping the Academy. Parent participation is needed on the following Board work groups: Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement (CISA), Governance, and Policy.



Parent-Teacher Conferences

KAREN CONNER

Operations Specialist

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 18 from 3:30–8:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 19 from 7:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Eagle Ridge Academy has made a small change to the fall conferences, as there will be one session that are available only by teacher invite (Oct. 6) and another session (Oct. 18-19) that will be held with open sign up.

All families should use the [conference scheduler](#) to schedule conferences with their child's teacher. As there are a limited number of conference times available, we ask that families in the School of Grammar (grades K-5) schedule only with their child's home room teacher and any specialists (Art, Music, Latin, and Phys. Ed.) with whom they wish to conference. Families in the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric who will be conferencing with multiple teachers should remember to leave some hallway travel time between conferences. Please have a list of the teachers you wish to conference with prior to logging into the conference scheduler, as the conference scheduler will not have a list of your child's teachers. The conference scheduler will open on Oct. 7 at 8 a.m. and close on Oct. 17 at 11 p.m. Conference times fill up quickly, so please sign up early. You will receive an email with the master password for the conference scheduler. If it is your first time using the scheduler, you will need to create an account in the system. The [conference scheduler](#) can be found under the "Current Families" tab on the [Eagle Ridge Academy website](#).



Schools of Logic & Rhetoric Portrait Retakes

KAREN CONNER
Operations Specialist

School portrait retakes for the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric (grades 6-12) will be on Friday, Sept. 30. Students will need to wear formal dress for their school portraits. Boys should wear the long sleeved white oxford shirt with the burgundy tie and khaki pants. Girls should wear either the long sleeved white oxford or the princess cut blouse with the plaid skirt. If your child did not take their portrait on the original portrait day, [please use this form](#) to purchase a portrait package. If you were unhappy with your child's original portrait, please send the package of pictures back with your child to turn in on portrait retake day.



Lower School Yearbooks

LAURIE BASIC
1st Grade Teacher

A limited number of School of Grammar Yearbooks are available this year. Purchase yours now by visiting [the Jostens website](#) to ensure you have one! Students love looking at their school memories at the end of the school year. Be sure to get this 2016-2017 keepsake.

BUY YOURS TODAY!
jostensyearbooks.com | 1-877-767-5217

Yearbook	\$25.00
Signature Package Includes: Yearbook, Personalization, Color Autograph Section, Autograph Pens	\$38.00
Personalization	\$5.00
Icons	FREE!
Donate a Yearbook	\$25.00

*Tax and handling will be added, if applicable

There's nothing else like getting your copy of the Eagle Ridge Academy Lower School K-5 official yearbook. It's the limited edition collection of our school's stories for this year. Don't let your student miss out on sharing and reliving the big events that make this year special.

Our book is now on sale for the lowest price of the year. **ORDER NOW AND SAVE \$2.00**

BOOK PRICE: \$25.00
ORDER DEADLINE: 10/07/2016



Updates from the Upper School Art Department

COLLEEN BRENNAN
Art Teacher

Art Department Seeks Sawdust, Wood Chips and Fire Wood Donations for the Pit Fire

This year our Pit Fire event will be held on Friday, Oct. 28 as part of Homecoming week, and we are hoping it's our best yet! We are seeking donations of sawdust, wood chips and fire wood. These materials give pit fired ceramics the most exciting colors and surface decoration. If you'd like to make a donation, please [contact Dr. Brennan](#) by the end of the day on Tuesday, Oct. 25 and we can make arrangements to take it off your hands!

Buy Your 2017 Yearbook Now & Save Money!

Upper School (grades 6-12) Yearbooks are on sale now for only \$40. This Back-to-School Deal includes the opportunity to personalize your yearbook with 3 icons for only \$5. Don't wait! Take advantage of this deal today because the yearbook price goes up incrementally each month starting on October 28. Ordering instructions and information can be found at: <http://www.eagleridgeacademy.org/current-families/yearbook>

Senior Yearbook Photos Due Feb. 22, 2017

It may seem too early to think that far ahead, but it will be here before we know it.

Email your digital senior photo to Dr. Brennan as an attachment anytime: cbrennan@eagleridgeacademy.org. Your photographer may send your photo on your behalf. Photos must be in portrait orientation (taller than it is wide), and your file must be a high resolution JPEG between 500 KB and 5MB. Strike a pose!



Art Department Seeking Items for Project

LISA JOHNSON
Art Teacher

The Art Department is looking to borrow rotary cutters and cutting mats for a school-wide project on Oct. 12. If you're able to share these items, please contact Ms. Lisa Johnson, Art Teacher.



PTO News & Information

PTO SECRETARIES

pto.eagleridge@gmail.com

Rockin' the Ridge

Rockin' the Ridge, our Annual Community Festival, will occur on Friday, Sept. 30 from 6–9:30 p.m. DJ Lutz will step out of his science classroom and spin the tunes. Teacher/Parent Variety Show will be at 7 p.m. Chess is available all evening! All information on the event is [at this link](#), including wristband and drawing purchase flyer, volunteer sign up, Uncle Franky's food truck menu, and activity points information.

We have lots of fun volunteering opportunities: The sign up for parent, staff, and student volunteers [is here](#). Student volunteers receive a 10-point punch card or a raffle ticket as a thank you for volunteering. Students may also sign up in many 6-12 classrooms.

PTO Annual Contribution

The PTO is accepting annual contributions (formerly known as Dues) with a thank you gift of our window clings, which will be sent to you. Your contribution supports our teachers, staff, and students in many ways. More information is detailed on the contribution form. Paid your contribution and haven't received your clings? Stop by at the ticket counter at Rockin' the Ridge to pick up, or we will send them to you in early October.

PTO Directory

Ensure your students are included in the Directory. Family information will be available online and in print. Families of grades 6-12, [please include information for each student](#). Families of K-5 students, please fill out the form in your Back to School folder. Are you a small business owner and would like to advertise in our print directory? Please review [this letter](#) for information from Fun2Raise to promote your business and support our school.

Used Uniform Sale

Mark your calendars! The next Used Uniform Sale will be Saturday, Oct. 29, 1-3 p.m., with an open gym event for the

kids. Details still to be determined. Start tagging your garments to be sold. [Find more information here](#).

Redemption Program

Did you know there is a group at ERA that loves to collect seemingly worthless stuff and translate it into \$\$\$ for our school? The Eagle Ridge Redemption program is a group of parent volunteers who have banded together to collect, organize, and submit these items. We collect:

- Box Tops
- Coke Rewards caps and/or 12/24 pack codes
- Labels for Education (program ending at the end of this school year)
- Milk Moola
- Loaves for Learning
- Tyson Project A+
- Used Ink Cartridges/Old Phone Recycling

For more detailed information about these programs, please [visit our webpage](#). To submit items, please have your Lower School student(s) give them to their teacher(s). Each Lower School teacher has a designated bin for their collection efforts. All Upper School students and parents may bring redemption items to the maroon painted redemption collection cart located just inside Door 2. When depositing items into the cart, please make sure your Upper School student's advisor's name is written on the bag containing your items. This allows us to designate contest points for those items to the deserving advisory group.

We will be creating extra enthusiasm with redemption item collection by having three contests throughout the 2016-2017 school year.

Our first contest begins now and will end at 9 a.m. on Oct. 26, 2016. We will have a Lower School classroom winner and an Upper School advisory group winner for each contest. If your classroom or advisory group brings in the most redemption items (with a minimum of 400 items received), you will win the prize! We are not certain what the prize will be for this first contest. We may offer up some choices to the winning class and advisory group. In the past, we have done pizza parties, donut parties, trivia game time with prizes, Eagle Ridge water bottles, and outdoor time with frozen treats. If you are interested in volunteering with this group, we would love to have you! We will be meeting at Eagle Ridge to

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Community Updates, continued

trim and count redemption items on Wednesdays, Oct. 5, Oct. 12, Oct. 19, and Oct. 26. We are typically there from about 8-10 a.m. and it's a very enjoyable, social volunteering opportunity. If you think of it, please bring some paper and a pair of scissors. Check in at the front office, sign in, get a volunteer badge, and we will lead you to our work area.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact Jodi Hogan (jodihogan@q.com) or Staci Long (staci2012@hotmail.com).



Register for Winter Sports

Visit our website's [Athletics](#) page to sign up for 4th/5th grade basketball, MS basketball, and HS basketball teams.

Athletics



MARILYN STRAND
Activities Specialist

ERA/ISM Huskies Competition Calendar

October 2 - 15

Sun. 10/2

Mon. 10/3

Girls Soccer (V):
Away, 7 p.m.
v. Nova Classical

Tues. 10/4

Boys Soccer (MS):
Away, 4:30 pm
v. Nativity of Mary

Volleyball (JV):
Home, 5:30 pm
v. Christian Life

Volleyball (V):
Home, 6:30 pm
v. Christian Life

Wed. 10/5

Boys Soccer (V):
Away, Tournament
vs. TBD

Thurs. 10/6

Fri. 10/7

Girls Soccer (V):
Away, Tournament
vs. TBD

Sat. 10/8

Girls Soccer (V):
Away, Tournament
vs. TBD

Sun. 10/9

Mon. 10/10

Boys Soccer (MS):
Home, 4:30 pm
v. Our Lady of
Grace

Tues. 10/11

*Boys Cross Country
(V):* Meet @ Elko
Backen

Wed. 10/12

Thurs. 10/13

Boys Soccer (MS):
Home, 4:30 pm
v. Benilde-St.
Margaret's

Fri. 10/14

Volleyball (JV):
Home, 6:30 pm
v. Nova Classical

Sat. 10/15



Upcoming Events

Sept. 30 - Oct. 15

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

Sept. 30 – School Portrait Re-take Day (6-12)

Sept. 30 – 6-9:30 p.m. – Rockin’ the Ridge, at ERA – Sponsored by the PTO

Oct. 3 – No School, Gr. K-12

Oct. 4 – 9 a.m.-12 p.m. – College Fair for Juniors and Seniors, Contact: [Ms. Klute](#)

Oct. 5 – 8:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. – Kindergarten Field Trip (Palm, Gillitzer, and Toso) to Gale Woods Farm

Oct. 6 – 8 a.m. – 3rd Grade Parent Coffee at YUM! Minnetonka

Oct. 7 – Free Dress Day, K-12

Oct. 11 – 8 a.m. – Mrs. Sahli's Class Parent Coffee at YUM! Minnetonka

Oct. 11 – 5:30-6:30 p.m. – NHS Induction Ceremony, ERA Forum

Oct. 12 – 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. – 4th Grade Field Trip to Target Field

Oct. 14 – Spirit Wear Day, K-12

Oct. 14 – School of Grammar Portrait Re-take Day

Oct. 14 – 8:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. – Kindergarten Field Trip (Mills, Woolf, and Soash) to Gale Woods Farm

Oct. 14 – 6:30-8 p.m. – 4th Grade Movie Night at ERA

2016-17 Activity Clubs

K-12 Activities and Clubs will be held in 2 sessions this school year:

Session 1: Oct. 10 – Dec. 16, 2016

*Online Registration: Sept. 20-30, 2016

Session 1 Activity Club [online registrations are open](#) – 1 day left to register! There are many great Activity Clubs to participate in:

- Art Club – Gr. 1-5**
- Chess Club – Gr. K-12**
- Club Terra – Gr. 6-12**
- Debate Club – Gr. 7-12**
- Drama Club – Gr. 9-12**
- ERA Children’s Choir – Gr. 3-6**
- Film Club – Gr. 11 & 12**
- Japanese I Club – Gr. 9-12**
- MS Math Team – Gr. 6-8**
- Math Team – Gr. 9-12**
- Radio Play Club – Gr. 6-12**
- Spanish Club – Gr. 9-12**

This schedule does not include year-long clubs, student led clubs or athletics: JCL, Debate, and NHS.

Further information and online registration for these clubs can be found on the [Activity Clubs](#) page of the ERA website. Questions? Contact [Mrs. Marilyn Strand](#), Activities Specialist (K-12).



Transportation Reminder

School of Grammar families: Please email the School of Grammar Receptionist, [Mrs. Marilyn Strand](#), by **12 p.m.** if you are picking your child up in the car pool line instead of having him/her take the bus for that day.



Free Dress Day **Friday, Oct. 7**

2016-17 FREE DRESS DAY DATES:
Oct. 7, Dec. 21, March 24, and May 26

What is Free Dress Day?

Free Dress Day is a school fundraiser for various departments at Eagle Ridge Academy. Students pay \$5 to be able to wear non-uniforms to school on specific "Free Dress Days".

One Week Before:

Oct. 4 - 6: K-12 students may bring in \$5 to their homeroom teacher or advisor in order to participate in Free Dress Day.

THE DAY OF:

Oct. 7: The cost is \$6 if students pay on the actual Free Dress Day.

Guidelines for Free Dress Day from the ERA handbook are:

All shoes must have backs, boots are permitted. Long and short sleeve shirts are permitted. No strapless, spaghetti straps, or sleeveless tops are permitted. Jeans are permitted; however, jeans with immodest rips in them are not. Sweat pants are permitted. Any logos on clothing must be school appropriate. Shirts are not to be tied back with elastic bands, but may be untucked. Heels should be no more than 1". Skirt and shorts length should be modest, and no more than 2" above the knee. Costumes and masks should not be worn. No hats are permitted. Leggings and yoga pants may only be worn with modest shirts, tunics, shorts, and skirts.

Oct. 7 Free Dress Day funds are going to support:

- **Music Department** – Choir Accompanist
- **2nd Grade** – Author visit with Nancy Carlson
- **6th Grade** – Field trip bus transportation fee
- **1st Grade** – Books for STEP 1-4 for emergent and beginning readers.
- **2nd Grade** – Raz-Kids subscription for all 6 classrooms

Questions? Contact Lower School or Upper School Principals.



Volunteering is a great way to get to know other ERA families as well as help and support our school. A complete list of volunteer opportunities with sign-up links can be found on the [Volunteer page](#) of the school website.

Volunteers Needed this Week:

- [Enrollment Open House Event](#), Saturday, Oct. 1
- [Lunchroom Team](#)

