

THE *Eagle Eye*



September 5, 2017

Eagle Ridge Academy

Volume 14 | Issue 1



Executive Director News

JASON ULBRICH

Executive Director

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. We look forward to partnering with families to ensure your children can attain their highest potential. In order to do this, they will need support from both home and school.

As partners, we share the responsibility for your child's success and want you to know we will be good stewards. Some of the best ways that you are able to support Eagle Ridge Academy in educating your children include:

- Make sure they attend school daily and arrive on time, ready for the day's learning experience.
- Provide a quiet time and place each day for your child to complete their schoolwork.
- Encourage them to read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills.
- Ask your children specific questions about their school experiences.
- Expect him/her to succeed in school.

Please consider joining our [school PTO](#) or [volunteer at school](#). The hard working and dedicated staff of Eagle Ridge Academy appreciate your partnership and thank you for choosing to be a Gryphon.



Logic & Rhetoric Update

ERICA POWELL

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

“We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we’re curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.” *Walt Disney*

I am so happy to say that we have finished week one in the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric. This past week your children were given some of the handbook information in either their advisory class or in their humanities class. You also should have received a copy of the student handbook at Meet the Teacher night. Please take time to review the student handbook with your children. There is a lot of important information that will help you and your children navigate Eagle Ridge Academy this year.

Tuesday, Sept. 12 is School of Logic and School of Rhetoric curriculum night from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The purpose of this evening is for parents to better understand the curriculum at Eagle Ridge Academy and have a short sample of what your child's day looks like at school. You will check in and receive a copy of your child's schedule. From there we will have a short presentation in the Forum and then you will travel to each of your child's classes for 7 minutes each. It is a great night to ask the teachers questions about the curriculum and get a better understating of what goes on in the classroom. Please leave children at home as we will not have childcare available.



*Welcome
back,
Gryphons!*

Community Updates



School of Grammar Update

JANELLE MELLGREN

Principal, School of Grammar

It has been a wonderful beginning for us at Eagle Ridge Academy School of Grammar. Although road construction and traffic have created a bit of frustration for us adults, the students have come to school ready to engage in learning and growing.

As educators we have the privilege each day of providing our students with many great opportunities for learning and it's one we take seriously. This year as we settle fully into our new building, space, and grade level sections, our School of Grammar staff is focusing on stewardship.

Stewardship is a word which has been a part of language since the 15th century according to Merriam-Webster. The definition and usage has changed somewhat over time. Initially it represented a person entrusted with managing an estate. As often happens, the definition has shifted and it now represents so much more than it once did. One of my favorite current definitions of stewardship is "the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care" (Merriam Webster dictionary).

I believe this definition captures the deep value and worth associated with the endeavor of education as well as all the learning involved in that process. At ERA School of Grammar this year stewardship will come into play in many ways as we work to care for students, their learning, one another, and our beautiful new building. You may hear some of your children talk about stewardship during the course of our school year. We encourage you to share what this means in your family as well.

Looking forward to a wonderful year full of many opportunities to put stewardship into action!



Free & Reduced Lunch

KAREN CONNER

Operations Manager

If you may qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch benefits, we invite you to fill out the [Application for Educational Benefits form](#). **It must be filled out each year to receive benefits.** If you need any assistance filling out the form, you may visit our office between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday-Friday and a staff member will assist you.



The Importance of School Attendance

ERIN JOHNSON

Assistant Principal, School of Grammar

As we begin a new year, we want to highlight the importance of school attendance for your child's success. Did you know that if a student misses:

- 1 day of school that equals 270 minutes of quality instruction
- 3 days of school that equals 810 minutes of quality instruction
- 1 week (5 days) of school that equals 1,350 minutes of quality instruction
- 2 weeks (10 days) of school that equals 2,700 minutes of quality instruction
- 3 weeks (15 days) of school that equals 4,500 minutes of quality instruction

When you look at these numbers, it is shocking how many minutes behind students can get if they miss a broad range of school days. Of course, when sickness strikes we all need to address that. However, excessive absences such as these leave the children significantly behind their classmates. It also makes it that much more difficult to get caught up. Eagle Ridge Academy, as per our [attendance guidelines](#), will excuse up to 10 days per year, with the exception of prior approval from an administrator, a doctor's note, or other special circumstances.

All absences without prior approval from an administrator after the 10th absence are unexcused, and all unplanned absences that are not reported to the school are unexcused. Please report all absences to the front desk by calling 952-746-7760 or using the [online attendance link](#). Please note, we cannot approve absences that extend beyond 14 consecutive school days.

If you have further questions regarding attendance, please contact [Mrs. Erin Johnson](#), Assistant Principal of the School of Grammar (K-5), or [Mrs. Romelle Pornschloegl](#), Assistant



Developing Connections

KELLY SCHIFFMAN

Director of Development

Community Updates

Welcome back for another eventful school year at ERA! My name is Kelly Schiffman and I oversee fund-generating and community-building activity at the Academy, including three events (Annual Gala in November, the Donut Dash 5K in May, and the Golf Tournament in June), grant writing, individual and corporate development and donations, spirit-wear coordination, and many other programs such as SCRIP, corporate gift and volunteer matching, and in-kind gift donations. I also serve as the Executive Director of the Academy's foundation, Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy (FERA), whose purpose is to raise funds to support and sustain the future of Eagle Ridge Academy.

There are several ways to participate in giving at Eagle Ridge Academy. As a tuition-free, public charter school, we receive 25 percent less per student from the State than conventional public schools. It's very important to stay competitive and true to our Classical roots; therefore, philanthropy has never been more important. Enjoy giving from the heart for a good cause with the benefit of receiving a tax deduction. Following are several options:

- **One-Time Gifts:** Cash, Check, or Credit Card
- **Monthly Giving:** Pledge broken down into smaller monthly amounts which make giving easier, and allow a predictable revenue source for Eagle Ridge Academy.
- **Matching Gifts:** Many employers offer matching gifts for employee contributions, some matching 100 percent dollar for dollar for contributions made. Ask your Human Resources department.
- **Volunteer Match:** Many employers offer a matched gift to the charity of your choice for volunteer hours served. Ask your Human Resources department.
- **Planned Giving:** Donate through your estate plan, make a bequest, give a gift of life insurance, or other trust. Ask your financial planner how to properly invest your resources now for the best tax deduction.
- **Events:** Attend one of our three events—enjoy socializing with other ERA families and friends while benefiting the Academy.
- **Shop With Scrip:** [Shop With Scrip](#) is online gift card shopping that allows people to purchase gift cards from more than 300 retailers at face value and the retailers give a percentage back to Eagle Ridge Academy. Use the Enrollment Code 961LF2D642179 and register with PrestoPay.

- **Corporate Sponsorships:** Do you work for an organization that would like to affiliate itself with Eagle Ridge Academy and its reputation for excellence in Classical Education? There are many financial and reputation benefits to being a corporate partner.
- **Volunteer:** Consider serving on a planning committee for one of our three events, Development Department assistance, or serve on the Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy Board.

Mark your calendars and save the date for the following Eagle Ridge Academy events.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| -November 10, 2017 | <i>Gala for the Gryphons,
"A Night to Soar"</i> |
| -May 12, 2018 | <i>Donut Dash 5K</i> |
| -June 18, 2018 | <i>Golf Tournament</i> |

For more information on how you may participate in helping develop Eagle Ridge Academy, please contact me directly at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107 or by [email](#). Visit our website for online giving and other important information at www.eagleridgeacademy.org.

Eagle Ridge Academy's foundation, **Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy (FERA)**, is the Academy's primary funding entity. With the immense growth and critical need for philanthropy, FERA is the main conduit for all funds for the Academy, who will disburse funds to the critical needs of the Academy. FERA is a certified 501(c)(3) entity under the Internal Revenue Code, with funds accepted going only to Eagle Ridge Academy. FERA is qualified to receive tax deductible donations, bequests, stock transfers, and gifts, and is classified as a private foundation for its sole beneficiary, Eagle Ridge Academy. We promise to be good stewards of your generous resources.

Athletics Calendar

Subject to change. Please visit the online [athletic calendar](#) for up-to-date competition information.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>11 SOCCER Girls Varsity HOME vs. Nova Classical Academy, 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>12 VOLLEYBALL Girls JV AWAY vs. Hiawatha Collegiate, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>SOCCER Boys Varsity HOME vs. Liberty Classi- cal Academy, 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>13 SOCCER Boys MS AWAY vs. Benil- de-St. Margaret's, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Boys JV HOME vs. Nova Classical Academy, 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>14 SOCCER Boys JV AWAY vs. Hiawatha Collegiate, 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>15 VOLLEYBALL Girls JV AWAY vs. St. Paul Prep, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Girls Varsity HOME vs. St. Paul Prep, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SOCCER Boys Varsity AWAY vs. St. Paul Prep, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Girls Varsity HOME vs. Cristo Rey Jesuit HS, 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16 SOCCER Girls JV Tournament @ Mayer Lutheran HS, 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Girls 4-6 HOME vs. Caron- delet, 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Boys 4-5 HOME vs. Our Lady of Grace, 10:00 a.m.</p>	17
<p>18 SOCCER Girls Varsity HOME vs. Mayer Lutheran, 5:20 p.m.</p>	<p>19 VOLLEYBALL Girls JV AWAY vs. AFSA, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Girls Varsity AWAY vs. AFSA, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SOCCER Boys Varsity HOME vs. Shattuck-St. Mary's, 5:20 p.m.</p>	20	<p>21 SOCCER Boys Varsity HOME vs. Calvin Christian, 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>22 VOLLEYBALL Girls JV AWAY vs. MN State Academy for the Deaf, 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Girls Varsity AWAY vs. MN State Academy for the Deaf, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SOCCER Boys Varsity AWAY vs. Ches- terton Academy, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Boys JV TBD vs. Prairie Seeds Academy, TBD p.m.</p>	<p>23 CROSS COUNTRY Milaca Mega Meet @ Stones Throw Golf Course, 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>SOCCER Girls 4-6 HOME vs. Our Lady of Grace, 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Boys 4-5 HOME vs. Notre Dame Academy, 10:00 a.m.</p>	24



Activities & Events

Sept. 12 – **School of Grammar Portrait Day**

Upcoming Events

September 7 - October 6

Sept. 12 – 6:00-7:30 pm, **Upper School Curriculum Night**, Grades 6-12

Sept. 14 – **Lower School Curriculum Night**

6:00-7:00 pm: Grades 1-3

7:00-7:30 pm: Specialists

7:30-8:30 pm: Grades 4-5

Sept. 15 – **Spirit Wear Day** (K-12)

Sept. 29 – **Formal Dress Day** (K-12)

Sept. 29 – **School Portrait Retakes**, Grades 6-12

Oct. 6 – 6-9:30 pm, **Rockin' the Ridge**, sponsored by the ERA PTO

For more information and more events, visit the school calendar.



Save the Date: Nov. 10

GALA FOR THE GRYPHONS *a night to soar*

Join us at the beautiful Bearpath Golf & Country Club in Eden Prairie. Watch for your invitation and more information at the end of September for this enjoyable evening of spirit-lifting festivity with friends of the Eagle Ridge Academy community, **supporting school enrichment to help students soar.**

Dinner, entertainment, silent and live auction, signature drinks, games and fun activities.

We are seeking donations for our **Silent Auction and Live Auction**. If you own a business, work for an organization that would like to donate, frequent places of businesses you love, or would like to make a personal donation of a product, timeshare, or other gift, we would welcome your generosity.

If you have specific questions or wish to donate to the Gala, email kschiffman@eagleridgeacademy.org or call 952-746-7760, ext. 1107.

Transportation Reminder

School of Grammar families: Please call or email Mrs. Julie Twetan by 12 p.m. if you are picking your student up in the car pool line instead of having him/her take the bus for that day.





PTO News

PTO SECRETARIES

pto.eagleridge@gmail.com

PTO Spirit Wear Final Order

This includes our very popular short sleeve t-shirts for \$5 (our cost), plus the classic design on a long sleeve performance wear t-shirt for \$18. Men's and women's joggers approved for all grades, and Youth sized sweatpants or K-6. All orders due by Wednesday, Sept. 20, which will be delivered the week of Oct. 9 for the Oct. 13 spirit wear date. Order forms will be arriving home in the K-6 folders, or [available at this link](#).

Carpool Matching

Interested in finding a potential carpool match? Your PTO keeps a database of interested parents and provides match information to those individuals in the database. Please fill out information [at this link](#).

PTO Family Directory

Register your family for the K-12 ERA PTO Sponsored Family Directory. This directory will be available online in October for use by ERA families with a password sent out via email. [Fill in the data here](#). All information is not required, but information will not be edited so please double check for accuracy.

Annual Family Contribution

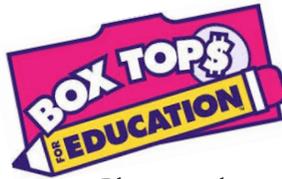
We are continuing to accept an Annual Family Contribution for benefit of our community events. Please find information [at this link](#) on how your contribution goes back into our community and how to easily make your contribution!

Save the Date: Rockin' the Ridge is Oct. 6

Mark your calendars for our Annual Community Event – [Rockin' the Ridge!](#) Friday, Oct. 6 from 6:00-9:30 p.m. at ERA. We expect record crowds and will need lots of volunteers to help our families have a great time! Please consider signing up [at this link](#).

PTO Redemption Program

Do you have a yearning to support our fabulous school from the comfort of your home? Have we got a deal for you! Collect items, caps, codes, and UPC labels that will turn this "garbage" into cash for our school! We receive substantial dollars from these corporate programs, but we need and greatly appreciate your help. Send in the following items with your ERA student(s) and we will count, organize, and send them off for money that we use to support our Parent Teacher Organization, PTO, efforts.



Please send in:

- Box Tops
- Coke Rewards (send in codes on bottle caps, cardboard on 12/24 packs, and on plastic wrap of 48 packs)
- Milk Moola (milk caps or milk refill pull-off strips from Kwik Trip stores)
- Loaves for Learning (UPC labels from Country Hearth and Village Hearth bread products)
- Tyson Project A+ for Learning (special cut out piece from Tyson chicken with the Project A+ logo)
- Used ink cartridges and old cell phones (We take these to Cartridge World in Eden Prairie. They give us cash for recycling them.)

We are beginning this school year with an early and rewarding contest. Our first contest begins now and will end on Thursday, Sept. 28 at 9:00 a.m.

We will award every student in one class from every lower school grade level with a coupon to be used at Rockin' the Ridge on Friday, Oct. 6. Each grade level K-5 has six sections so one class will win in each grade level, meaning 6 winning classes just in lower school! Wahoo! For upper school advisories, we will have a similar prize and we will have multiple advisories win. We are still working out the details on how many advisory groups can win because it will depend on the breakdown of grade levels and number of students in each advisory group. Stay tuned!

To submit items:

- For upper school students, send them with your student and he/she or you can drop them off in the collection cart just inside Door 2, in the vestibule across from Mrs. Strand's desk.
- For lower school students, please send them with your student and he/she can give them to their teacher. Each teacher in the lower school has a collection bin in their classroom.

If you'd like to do more than just send these items in (which, in itself, is amazing!), we'd love for you to volunteer with us when we count and organize these items. This month we will be volunteering on Thursdays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please bring a pen, some paper, and a pair of scissors, if you think of it. Check in at the office desk inside Door 2 and they will let you know where we are working that day.