

THE *Eagle Eye*



September 20, 2018

Eagle Ridge Academy

Volume 15 | Issue 2



ERA Recognized for "Beating the Odds"

JASON ULRICH
Executive Director

A special report by the Star Tribune last week identified Eagle Ridge Academy as a school that "beats the odds." According to the Star Tribune, "There is a long-standing and well-documented connection between a school's poverty rate and achievement on standardized tests...schools with lower poverty rates tend to have higher scores." To find schools who beat the odds, they factored in a school's poverty level alongside its academic proficiency. A school's poverty level is based upon the percentage of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch rates.

Eagle Ridge Academy's 7-12 program outscored the Star Tribune's predictions in math and reading by 10% in both areas. In grades K-6, students beat the odds by 15% in math and 3% in reading. [To view the Star Tribune's original analysis, view their report here.](#)

Since 2016, Eagle Ridge Academy has added about 600 students in grades K-12. Some of these students were not at grade level for math or reading. The staff of Eagle Ridge Academy immediately went to work to identify and support the students not at grade level. We believe we have an obligation to do everything in our power to ensure students are able to read and do math at grade level so they may access the high quality, rigorous, Classical Education that Eagle Ridge Academy provides. Being identified as a "beating the odds" school by the Star Tribune really validates the hard work and dedication of not only our staff, but of all our students, no matter their socioeconomic circumstance.



Photo Retakes: Sept. 28 and Oct. 12

School portrait retakes will take place on **Friday, Sept. 28 for the Schools of Logic & Rhetoric (Gr. 6-12)** and on **Friday, Oct. 12 for the School of Grammar (Gr. K-5).**

To have their photo taken, students must be wearing formal uniform attire. For details regarding the formal uniform, visit the [School Portrait Info](#) page of our website.

Lifetouch encourages students who are getting retakes to bring their original picture package with them to the camera, therefore ensuring the correct order is printed for their retake picture.

Upcoming Events | SEPT. 21 - OCT. 10

Sept. 28 – Formal Dress Day (K-12)

Sept. 28 – School Portrait Retakes, Grades 6-12

Oct. 5 – Free Dress Day (details on *Eagle Eye* Page 5)

Oct. 6 – 3:00-7:00 p.m., Rockin' the Ridge, Gr. K-5, ERA PTO

Oct. 9 – 7:00 p.m., Winter Athletics Meeting

For more info and events, visit the school calendar.

Community Updates



Logic & Rhetoric Update

BRUCE LOCKLEAR

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

Greetings! September is quickly fleeting and we are in the midst of seasonal change. We slowly creep from the comfort of warm, sometimes hot, beautiful days into the deep freeze known as Minnesota winter! This is only tempered by a brief glimpse of the fall that we appreciate even more knowing what is around the corner.

Change. Our Schools of Logic and Rhetoric were faced with the change of a new administrator and a few new ways of doing things. To date, I have been so pleased with the reception we have received from students, and our teachers are an absolute pleasure to work with as they continue their focus on classically educating our students. Thank you to both groups for their kindness and openness in welcoming me into our school.

Parents, as we attend events together, please feel free to say hello. I look forward to meeting you and sharing the great things happening at ERA! Speaking of those great things, please allow me to share a few. First, our advisory launched and we are in our second week as of Sept. 18. The premise of our revised advisory program is to allow students to be leaders in our school. Juniors and seniors are responsible for leading advisory classes from grades 6 through 10. This peer-to-peer interaction gives our juniors and seniors an opportunity to serve, lead, and be role models ... something we need more of in today's society. The curriculum for the retooled advisory is premised on character development and leadership. We are excited about the opportunities for our students.

Speaking of opportunities, we are in the midst of reviewing data from a survey conducted last year on potential new course offerings. More information will follow regarding our findings and next steps.

ZERO HOUR | Ms. Faulk, Math Teacher. Zero Hour is an option available to Schools of Logic and Rhetoric students (Gr. 6-12) that occurs from 7:00-7:50 a.m. in Rm. 1223. Zero Hour is an opportunity for students to get help with math beyond the standard school day. Students should come when they need that extra help. It also provides an opportunity for students to make up paper tests they have missed in any class offered by the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric. Students must be at the main Entrance, Door 2 by 6:58 a.m. to be admitted. Students coming any later than at that time will not be admitted. For math questions, this is a drop-in program so you need not schedule ahead of time. For paper tests, however, you must schedule this in advance with the teacher whose test you need to take. *PLEASE NOTE: This is for grades 6-12 only. If you are a parent with students also in the School of Grammar (K-5), you may not drop off your younger students before 7:30 a.m. even if your older student is participating in Zero Hour. No students below Gr. 6 students will be admitted.*



PSAT

Eagle Ridge Academy will be offering juniors the opportunity to take the PSAT during the school day on Oct. 10. This is a free opportunity for juniors to prepare for college readiness. Students are automatically screened for the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and scholarship. There is no need to sign up; juniors will automatically take the assessment.



Upcoming College Prep Night & College Visits

WENDY KLUTE

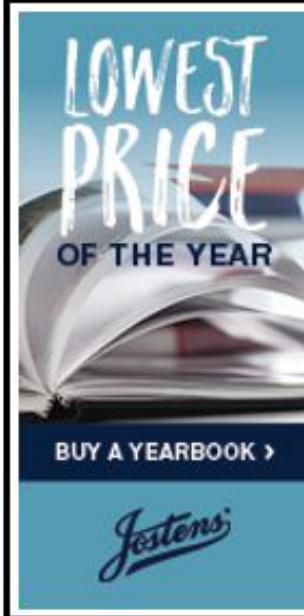
Academic Counselor

College Prep Night: Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Join Beth Kreusch, College Counselor, for an overview of how to help your junior or senior build a college application list, choose a major, prepare applications, write essays, and understand college cost and aid. Bring your questions and plan for an evening with lots of information and resources about the college application process!

Upcoming College Rep Visits: Find more information on our [College Prep webpage](#).

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|
| • Sept. 24 | U of M-Morris | 11:00 a.m. |
| • Sept. 24 | DePauw | 12:30 p.m. |
| • Sept. 24 | St. Kate's | 1:30 p.m. |
| • Oct. 3 | St. Mary's | 1:00 p.m. |
| • Oct. 10 | Mizzou | 1:00 p.m. |
| • Oct. 24 | Biola | 2:15 p.m. |
| • Oct. 26 | U of Miami OH | 9:30 a.m. |

Community Updates



LOWEST PRICE OF THE YEAR
BUY A YEARBOOK >
Jostens

828 school portraits make for one amazing yearbook!

Back to School YEARBOOK SALE

ORDER YOURS NOW!

ONLY \$25 ~ Save \$3

Online Sales Only

www.jostensyearbooks.com

> Buy Your Yearbook:

Eagle Ridge Academy Lower School K-5

Call: 1-877-767-5217

Sale Price Ends 10/6/2018



Join the Flag Detail Team

CATHERINE WOODS

MAX HASERT

Students, Grade 12

Four years ago, Eagle Ridge Academy started a Flag Detail Team comprised of students of all ages. By honoring the American Flag, we represent Eagle Ridge Academy to the United States of America in a way that would make our Founding Fathers proud. This year, the Flag Detail Team is led by seniors Catherine Woods and Max Hasert.

We are accepting volunteers of all ages to join the Flag Detail Team for 2018-2019. The responsibilities of the Flag Detail Team are to post the American Flag the first day of every week and safely recover and fold the flag at the end of the week. A ceremonial team will be formed to present the colors at special events like Veterans Day and graduation. We will have at least two Flag Detail Teams. One team will meet at 8:00 a.m. on the first day of the week to post the colors and another team will meet at 2:45 p.m. on the last day of the week to recover the colors. We are looking for individuals who are trustworthy and who uphold the pillars in their daily and scholastic lives. Please respond to Catherine and Max at CatherineL.woods@comcast.net and happy.max.has@gmail.com if you are interested in undertaking this patriotic endeavor by **answering the following questions by Friday, Sept. 28**. Feel free to ask any clarifying questions you may have.

In your e-mail, please include and answer the following:

1. Name, Grade, and Homeroom or Advisory Teacher.
(All ages are welcome!)
2. What does the American Flag mean to you, and how does it relate to Eagle Ridge Academy and the United States of America?
3. What team would you prefer to join? Posting the colors on the first day of the week at 8:00 a.m. or recovering the colors the last day of the week at 2:45 p.m?

Conferences: Oct. 15-16

KAREN CONNER
Operations Manager

Eagle Ridge Academy's fall parent teacher conferences will be held on the following dates:

- Oct. 15, 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 16, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The sign-up session for fall conferences will be:

- Oct. 4 at 8:00 a.m. through Oct. 11 at 10:00 p.m.

Conferences for all grades should be scheduled using the [online conference scheduler](#). As there are limited spots available, we ask that School of Grammar families schedule only with their classroom teacher and any specialists (music, Latin, art, phy ed) with whom they would like to meet. Please note, you will need to know the teachers you would like to schedule a conference with prior to logging into the scheduler. Your child's teachers may be found under the schedule tab in the left index in your [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#). You will receive an email with the master password and a link to the conference scheduler prior to the sign-up session. You will need to create an account in the scheduler if you do not have one from a previous year.

Grades 9-12 | Homecoming Dance on Oct. 12

Register by Oct. 5 for the \$40 ticket price! Questions? Ask [Ms. Donna Cornelius](#)



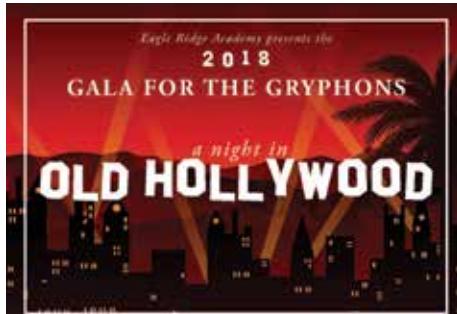
Developing Connections

KELLY SCHIFFMAN
Director of Development

ANNUAL GALA FOR THE GRYPHONS, "A NIGHT IN OLD HOLLYWOOD" ON NOV. 16

Ways to Support:

- Watch for your invitation early October and purchase your tickets. Registration is live now at www.eagleridgeacademy.org/gala/
- Put together a themed basket for the Silent Auction or volunteer in your child's classroom to do a class project or themed basket.
- Ask your employer to donate to the Silent Auction or sponsor a table for their employees.
- Share the event on your Social Media pages.



PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

Pledge your annual support to Eagle Ridge Academy with an affordable monthly gift broken down into smaller amounts, which makes giving easier, and allows a predictable revenue source for Eagle Ridge Academy. Be sure to check with your employer on Matching Gift opportunities! [Check here to see if your employer matches.](#)

EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY IS CELEBRATING GIVE TO THE MAX DAY ON NOV. 15!

- What if you could help our school receive \$1,000 just by giving \$10 or more? On November 15, 2018, you'll have that chance.

Community Updates

- Join us for Give to the Max Day on November 15, and you could help us receive \$500, \$1,000 or \$10,000. Just make an online donation on [GiveMN.org](#), and your donation will be entered into a drawing for a \$500 Golden Ticket every 10 minutes for Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy. Here's the really exciting part: One donation made on [GiveMN.org](#) during the Give to the Max Day campaign will be randomly selected to receive a \$10,000 Super-Sized GiveMN Golden Ticket! Watch for more information and schedule your gift!
- Help us increase our odds and make the most of your gift by making a donation on November 15 on [GiveMN.org](#). Search for Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy then make your donation. Together, we hope to raise more than \$5,000 on Give to the Max Day, and you can help us reach our goal!

SHOP WITH SCRIP

SCRIP is an online gift card shopping program 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. It's not too soon to start your holiday shopping, gas up, buy your groceries, or purchase fall clothing!

Kelly Schiffman is your contact for any of the above opportunities. For more information on how to participate, receive the enrollment code for SCRIP, to provide a referral or connection to a funding source, or other ways to support ERA, please contact her at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107 or [by email](#).



PHYSICAL EDUCATION SHOE BANK: *School of Grammar*

Mr. Jensen and Mr. Duske are asking for your help in creating a shoe bank for Physical Education classes. When students come to class in their street shoes, they are unable to participate because of the risk of slipping and damaging the newly finished gym floor. The last thing we want is to have students miss out on Phy. Ed. activities. We have started a shoe bank that offers tennis shoes for the day for kids who have forgotten to bring gym shoes. We need gently used shoes for Gr. K-5 in various sizes from 1-10. If you have any shoes that your child has outgrown, we would love to add them to our bank. Simply have your child drop them off with their gym teacher. Thanks for your help.

Free Dress Day

Friday, Oct. 5

2018-19 FREE DRESS DAY DATES:
Oct. 5, Dec. 20, March 22, May 24

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. 2-4: K-12 students may bring \$5 to their homeroom or first hour teacher to participate in Free Dress Day.

The Day of:

Oct. 5: 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. 6 Free Dress Day funds are going to support:

- Club Terra
- Framing Student Artwork
- Concert Accompanist for the school year
- Bus for 3rd Grade Field Trip to the Dodge Nature Center

Activities & Events



The volleyball team rallies during their game against Bethany Academy on Sept. 4.

PHOTO BY JEFF MAGNUSON



Growing Mind, Body and School Spirit: *Go Gryphons!*

KRIS BABLER

Activities Director

We are off to a sprint this year in the activities department. We are mid-way through the volleyball, cross country, and soccer seasons. Each sport has enjoyed competitive successes worth mentioning early in the year. However, I believe it is the right time to breathe and reflect on why Eagle Ridge Academy pursues these endeavors and tell you about what is to come.

The Activities Department's mission is to strive to grow to our full potential individually and as members of a team. Everything we do reflects the pillars of Eagle Ridge Academy: Citizenship, Integrity, Perseverance, Honor, Excellence, and Respect.

We have seen the results of our students' work in competition, in a performance, or in the classroom, but what has been remarkable to me has been the commitment to our community that several of our groups have demonstrated. The girls' soccer team has been volunteering on Saturdays with the youth soccer league. The Robotics team has been working volleyball games. National Honor Society and Student Senate have been involved all over the school. These are just a few of the stories.

In the coming week, **we will begin advertising for the 30 K-12 club offerings for this academic year. Registration will open in the next week for boys' and girls' basketball, with offerings for Gr. K-12.** On Tuesday, Oct. 9, I will be hosting our winter activities eligibility meeting for all varsity, JV, and C-team participants. Our Gryphon athletics and activities programs are growing toward our full potential – along with the minds, bodies, and school spirit of the students we serve.

Parent-Teacher Organization

ROCKIN' THE RIDGE, our highly anticipated annual K-5 school carnival event, is on Saturday, Oct. 6, 3:00-

7:00 p.m. at ERA! We pull out all the stops to create a fun and memorable evening for the whole family. We're excited to share many new events and the return of some classic favorites! You'll find Laser Tag, Inflatable Slide and Obstacle Course, Game Truck, Carnival Games, Face Painting, Crazy Hair, and so much more. We've expanded our food options this year to include food trucks from MedBox Grill and the Purple People Feeder, in addition to Addie's Mini Donuts, Culver's Custard, and Popped Corn popcorn. Don't miss the debut of our all-new ERA collector water bottle with bottomless lemonade for \$6! See our links below for important information, including Unlimited Fun Wristband ordering.

RTR Info Sheet

RTR FAQs and Wristband Order Form

**Buy Wristbands online at our
PTO Square Store**



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Did you know that RTR is staffed almost exclusively by wonderful parent and Upper School student volunteers? Over 400 to be exact! It's a great place to meet other ERA parents, log some volunteer hours, and have fun while doing it. We have many opportunities that only require 1-2 hours of your time and suit a wide variety of skills and interests. Parent help in the 2nd half of the evening is especially appreciated to ensure our activities are open to the end of the event. [Sign up today!](#)

New ERA Directory App, My School Anywhere, is LIVE

This is a one-stop app that will help families Search, Signup and Connect through our PTO web and mobile app. PTO encourages you to register if you haven't had the chance. More information on how to register can be viewed under PTO directory on the [PTO website](#). Remember, this is the only way to connect with other families at Eagle Ridge Academy.

See it...Save it!

Did you know that our See it...Save it! program collects Coca-Cola GIVE codes in addition to Box Tops and others items? Look under the cap or inside the box of any product you see here. If you see a code, bring it to school! It earns your class points for the See it...Save it! contest and our school earns money! Look for more info under the See it...Save it! tab on the [PTO website](#).

The first contest ends at 9:00 a.m. on Oct. 25! So start finding and collecting redemption items on products that you already have in your cupboard, clip them out and send them to school with your student. Students in grades K-6 may drop them in the collection bin in their classroom; grades 7-12 may deposit their bag of items (labeled with their adviser's name) in the collection bin by the Main Entrance.

