

# THE *Eagle Eye*



May 9, 2019

Eagle Ridge Academy

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## Why Do Charter Schools Exist?

**JASON ULBRICH**

*Executive Director*



On April 30, Eagle Ridge Academy was presented with a **Best High Schools** recognition by U.S. News & World Report. Eagle Ridge Academy ranked 5th in Minnesota. While we do not intentionally run our program to be rated highly, it is a true testament to the power of a high quality Classical, liberal arts program.

Upon reviewing the top five schools, three of the five schools are charter schools, which speaks to the power of and need for school choice in Minnesota and how blessed our families are to have school choice.

Minnesota was the first state in the nation to pass charter school legislation in 1991. Eight charter schools opened in 1992, with the first being City Academy, which is still open today.

Charter schools in Minnesota exist to:

### 1. **Increase accountability for academic performance.**

Charter schools must perform academically on Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments, and they are usually compared to the districts in which they draw students. The accountability is explained in the contract that schools have with their authorizer. For example, in our charter school contract with our authorizer, Friends of Education, one of our goals states that “ERA must perform 17% higher than the state average on the math, science, and reading MCAs.” Authorizers may not offer another contract if academic performance goals are not met.

### 2. **Achieve while being cost efficient.** Charter schools receive less funding per student than conventional public schools. Eagle Ridge Academy receives about 25% less funding than the local public schools. This is about \$3M per year in less funding.

### 3. **Provide operational autonomy.** Charter schools originally had less mandates than conventional public schools. Over the past 25 years, more mandates have been added;

## Upcoming Events |

MAY 10 - MAY 23

- May 10 – 11th Annual Art Expo (Gr. 6-12)
- May 10 – Spirit Wear Day
- May 11 – Donut Dash 5k & Mini-Donut Dash
- May 13 – Spring Choir Concert
- May 16 – Spring Band Concert
- May 17 – A Night of Improv Comedy
- May 18 – First Lego League Tournament
- May 19 – Community Garden Build
- May 19 – Varsity Sports Banquet
- May 20 – Annual Blood Drive
- May 21 – Spring Choir Concert
- May 24 – Two-Hour Early Release
- May 24 – Free Dress Day

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



however, we still have our own independent, teacher majority school board which allows ERA more flexibility.

### 4. **Serve as an incubator for innovation to spread to conventional schools.** Charter school best practices were supposed to be shared with conventional public schools through a collegial relationship. While charter school success has improved conventional public schools, it has been through competition and not as much of a collaborative process.

To learn more about the inception and purpose of charter schools, I recommend reading *Zero Chance of Passage* by Ember Reichgott Junge.

# Community Updates



## Logic & Rhetoric News

**BRUCE LOCKLEAR**

*Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric*

### SENIOR WEEK: MAY 28-21

Senior week begins Tuesday, May 28 and concludes Friday, May 31. The week is a celebration filled with activities and events for our seniors, including cap and gown photos, a senior field trip day, and a senior breakfast served by staff. ERA will also host a [Graduate Recognition Breakfast](#) on May 31 for our seniors and their parents/guardians (RSVP by May 23!). We are excited for the Class of 2019 and truly look forward to concluding the year while honoring the Class of 2019!

### SEMESTER 2 FINALS WEEK: JUNE 3-5

See schedule to right. Early release and late arrival are available during finals week for students in grades 9-12. Details and parameters are available on the attached form, due Friday, May 31 at 3:09 p.m.

## SCHOOLS OF LOGIC & RHETORIC

### FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

2018-19 • Semester 2

Time	Monday, June 3	Tuesday, June 4	Wednesday, June 5
8:00-8:50	Period 3	Period 1	Period 2
8:55-9:45	Period 3	Period 1	Period 2
9:50-10:30	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory
10:30-11:00	Logic: Lunch Rhetoric: Advisory	Logic: Lunch Rhetoric: Advisory	Logic: Lunch Rhetoric: Advisory
11:00-12:01	Period 5	Make-up and structured study hall in Advisory	Period 4
12:06-12:45	Period 5		Period 4
12:45-1:15	Logic: Advisory Rhetoric: Lunch	Logic: Advisory Rhetoric: Lunch	Logic: Advisory Rhetoric: Lunch
1:20-2:12	Period 7	Period 6	Advisory/Locker
2:17-3:09	Period 7	Period 6	Clean-out



## 2019-20 Classroom Parents (K-5) & Parent Advocates (6-8):

**DONNA CORNELIUS**

*Activities Specialist*

Join our parent volunteer team! The goal is to have at least one Classroom Parent for each classroom (K-5) and three parents per grade in the School of Logic (6-8). [Learn more about this opportunity here.](#)

**DATE** 2019 06/07 **ISSUED TO** EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY Senior Class

**fun! Celebrating Graduation friends and food! ON TO THE NEXT CHAPTER!**

**Party June 7th, 2019 9:45pm - Midnight**

**AirMaxx Trampoline Park**  
7000 Washington Avenue S.  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

**1 TICKET**

**Please bring check for \$35 to "ERA PTO" with form to Mr Sutton by Monday, May 27th, 2019. Arrive between 9:30-9:45. Late arrivals will not be admitted.**

*Smarter Owl says: Bring Casual Clothes & socks for the Party & have fun!*

*celebrate together!*

*make memories*



## ATHLETICS

### Athletics Banquet: May 19

Athletes are invited to join the Husky-Gryphon Booster Club on May 19 for the 14th Annual Varsity Sports Banquet, which honors our ERA/ISM athletes who played on junior varsity or varsity sports teams this school year. The evening at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis will include a silent auction, dinner, and award presentations.



## Get Involved in Upcoming Events!

**KELLY SCHIFFMAN**  
*Director of Development*



### 2019 Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut Dash

The Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut Dash ½ Mile is this Saturday, May 11! We are

excited to welcome everyone for a wonderful day of fun and community involvement while raising funds for the new Eagle Ridge Academy pep band.

Packet pick-up is scheduled for **Friday, May 10 from 3:30-7:00 p.m. at Eagle Ridge Academy at 11111 Bren Rd. W, Minnetonka.** We encourage people to pick up their race packets and shirts the night before if possible, as the morning will be busy.

1. Online Registration closed Wed., May 8 at 11:59 p.m. Paper registrations will be accepted at school through Fri., 5/10 at Packet Pick-Up and Same-Day at the event on Sat., 5/11.
2. Volunteer to help at the race on May 11. There are still a few spots left.
3. Can't participate but want to help? Donate a 100 percent tax-deductible gift to support the new pep band.

### THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS WHO MAKE OUR EVENTS POSSIBLE!

BREINER LAW FIRM, LLC · CARGILL · CHICK-FIL-A (CHANHASSEN AND ST. LOUIS PARK) · CUB FOODS-EDEN PRAIRIE · HEALTHSOURCE OF EDEN PRAIRIE · HOLADAY CIRCUITS · HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS · HYVEE-PLYMOUTH · JERRY'S FOODS · KOWALSKI'S · KWIKTRIP · LUNDS & BYERLYS-EDEN PRAIRIE · MOMS ON THE RUN-EDEN PRAIRIE · ORANGETHEORY FITNESS · JOSH RAYMOND · SARA NIELSEN PHOTOGRAPHY · SCHEELS · SCHMITT MUSIC · STATE FAIR MINI DONUTS · SUMMIT PRIVATE WEALTH GROUP · TC RUNNING · WALMART



## GRYPHON CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT:

June 17 • Register Now



### 2019 Gryphon Classic Golf Tournament

The 6th Annual Gryphon Classic Golf Tournament is on June 17 at beautiful Bent Creek Golf Club in Eden Prairie! You don't have to be a great golfer to participate—this event is a best-ball golf scramble, designed for any level of golfer—novice to competitive. Proceeds will help support robotics and pep band at Eagle Ridge Academy.

Online registration is open—[reserve your spot now](#). See the [Golf Brochure](#) for more details on the event. Find a partner or create your own twosome or 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 do not golf but would like to sponsor a teacher or staff member, come out for lunch or happy hour, sponsor a contest hole, donate a raffle prize, or help in another way, please contact me [via email](#) or by phone at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107. For more information, [visit our website](#).

### THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

UNIVERSAL CLEANING & SERVICES · ROCHON CORPORATION · NORTH RISK PARTNERS, LLC · MANAGED SERVICES, INC. · JOHNSON CONTROLS · BERGAN KDV · CADAN TECHNOLOGIES · RIVERA ARCHITECTS · PIPERJAFFRAY · METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION NETWORK, INC. · CENTRAL TELEPHONE · THE LOCKER GUY · STRATEGIC STAFFING SERVICES · TAHER CATERING · DIGITAL RIVER · THE SIVILAY FAMILY · JBS LOGISTICS/KOCH LOGISTICS · RAMBOW, INC. · BESTER BROS. TRANSFER & STORAGE · VEIL ORTHODONTICS · ERA PTO · INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS

# Activities Updates



## The Home Stretch

**KRIS BABLER**  
*Activities Director*

It feels like we just started, but here we are running down the last stretch of the year and winding down what has been an exciting year in Eagle Ridge Academy activities. Ultimate Frisbee and Track & Field are off and running. We have launched middle school baseball, girls badminton, and a Gryphon Strength program for our 7-12th grade students all this spring.

Over the course of the year, our K-12 registrations for sports, clubs, and activities have increased by 50%. Student participation in a variety of co-curricular activities is a testament to the value of a high-quality liberal arts education. Continuing to build Gryphon arts, activities and sports offerings enriches student experience here at Eagle Ridge Academy.

We have secured membership in the newly formed Minnesota Classic Athletic Association, an athletic conference for our upper school teams. This league will provide great competitive opportunities for our students for years to come.

Looking ahead, this summer will provide camp opportunities for all of our students from Robotics to Basketball. Keep your eyes open for those registrations, which will be available soon. Gryphon Youth Sports League – Soccer will be back for our K-5th grade friends, too. And, once those begin, we'll be off on another race!



**GR. 6-12**  
**11TH ANNUAL**

# Art Expo

**Friday, May 10 • 6:30-9:00 p.m.**  
**EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY**  
View and Purchase Student Art!

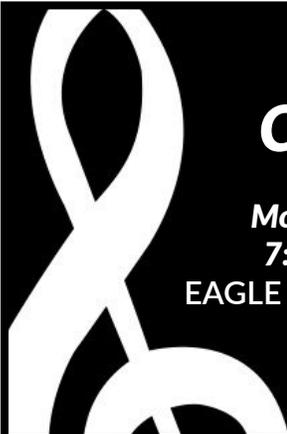


*Students had fun in last year's summer robotics camps!*

**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
SUMMER ROBOTICS:**  
REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

**Gr. 3-5**  
*Eureka Engineering*  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., M-Th  
JUNE 24-27 OR AUG. 12-15

**Gr. 6-8**  
*Tech Trek*  
1:00-4:00 p.m., M-Th  
JUNE 24-27 OR AUG. 12-15



## Choir Concert

**Monday, May 13**  
**7:00-8:30 p.m.**  
EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY

## Band Concert

**Thursday, May 16**  
**7:00-8:30 p.m.**  
EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY

## Orchestra Concert

**Tuesday, May 21**  
**7:00-8:30 p.m.**  
EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY





# PTO News

## PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

[pto.eagleridge@gmail.com](mailto:pto.eagleridge@gmail.com)

### PTO BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

We are excited to announce and welcome our new 2019-20 ERA PTO Board Members, who were voted in at our PTO Quarterly Meeting on April 29:

**CO-PRESIDENTS:**  
Christie Wills\*\*  
Resmy Kurian\*

**TREASURER:**  
Tina Loutsch

**CO-VICE PRESIDENTS:**  
Samantha Hudson\*\*  
Elena Ryabinin\*\*  
Penny Teder

**SECRETARIES:**  
Amanda Weidner\*  
Sabiha Khandwalla

**TEACHER/STAFF LIAISON:**  
Jessica Bergeron\*\*

*\*\* indicates 2018-19 Board Member returning to same position  
\* indicates 2018-19 Board Member in new position*

We offer our sincere appreciation to our departing board members, Jen Lundquist and Shilpi Khare, who have faithfully served the ERA PTO this year. Thank you for your dedication and hard work!

### 2019-20 SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS:

We are excited to be working with School Tool Box again this year. Teachers are able to set their classrooms up for success by tailoring grade level supply lists to their needs. School Tool Box allows us to provide families with a convenient and cost-effective way to purchase school supplies with a School Year Guarantee. Kits can be customized and will be delivered directly to your home. Quality and brand name supplies matter:

- Our teachers are experts at knowing what works best in their classroom
- Shared classroom supplies are ALL at the highest quality
- Preservation of our school equipment by using the right products
- Online ordering is open at [schooltoolbox.com](http://schooltoolbox.com). Suggested order by date: August 5 to ensure delivery for Meet Your Teacher Night.

Contact Jodie at [jodielynn20@yahoo.com](mailto:jodielynn20@yahoo.com) with questions or for assistance.

### END OF THE YEAR COOL TREATS

The tradition continues! The ERA PTO is excited to celebrate the last day of school with our students and teachers on June 5 and 6. For more information about the treats being served, [visit the school website](#).



### SEE IT...SAVE IT!

The final contest ends on May 29 and it is in full swing! If you have Box Tops, Coke codes, Loaves4Learning or Tyson Rewards hiding in your cupboards, now is the time to hunt them down and turn them in. Visit the [PTO website](#) and click on See it...Save it for more information.