

# THE *Eagle Eye*



March 9, 2017

Eagle Ridge Academy

Volume 13 | Issue 12



## Executive Director News

**JASON ULBRICH**

*Executive Director*

Each year the Eagle Ridge Academy Leadership Team meets during Winter Break to have a Strategic Planning Meeting. The meeting includes a review of the year to date, a discussion of opportunities for growth for the remainder of the school year, and an analysis of staffing needs for the next school year. During the staffing discussion, we ask three foundational questions:

1. What positions are needed to accommodate our planned growth?
2. What positions are needed to address a significant student need or to improve our service?
3. What positions are no longer needed or should be revised?

For the 2017-2018 School Year, Eagle Ridge Academy will add or make changes to the following positions:

- School of Grammar Principal will be hired, due to the resignation of Mrs. Baier.
- Two Assistant Principals will be hired, one for each school. This will better meet the needs in addressing student behavior in a proactive manner and support the principals in their work. This also allows for an organic succession plan.
- The Dean of Students position will be eliminated and replaced by the Assistant Principal positions.
- We will contract for 18 hours a week for school counseling in the School of Grammar to better meet the social and emotional needs of our students.
- One K-8 Literacy Specialist will be added to coordinate assistance for students not reading at grade level and to provide professional development to teachers.
- At least one full-time English Language Teacher will be added to meet the growing need.
- Director of Operations will be eliminated; Operations Manager will be hired instead.

- One full-time Registered Nurse will be hired to meet the increased student population.
- A part-time Administrative Assistant will be added to meet enrollment growth.
- A part-time Food Service Assistant will be added to increase service.
- Approximately 12 Full Time Equivalent Teachers will be added to meet enrollment growth.

The total staffing increase to the general fund expenditures:

Additional Gen Fund	\$600,680.00
ADM % Total Increase	-0.42%
Operations % Total Increase	12.90%
Special Serv. % Total Increase	9.92%
Gen. Ed % Total Increase	77.60%



## Save the Date: Board Candidate Forum April 4

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Eagle Ridge Academy*

Parents and staff of Eagle Ridge Academy: Join us on April 4 for a great opportunity to demonstrate the pillar of Citizenship by attending the Candidate Forum for the upcoming Board of Directors election. The Forum is the best way to get to know the candidates and their views so you can be well informed when casting your vote in the election.

Please plan on attending the Forum on Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m. at the Academy.

## College Visits



**March 14 • March 28 • April 24**

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)



## Lower School Updates

**MELANIE BAIER**

*Principal, School of Grammar*

### "The Little Boy and the Old Man"

by Shel Silverstein

*Said the little boy, "Sometimes I drop my spoon."  
 Said the old man, "I do that too."  
 The little boy whispered, "I wet my pants."  
 "I do that too," laughed the little old man.  
 Said the little boy, "I often cry."  
 The old man nodded, "So do I."  
 "But worst of all," said the boy, "it seems  
 Grown-ups don't pay attention to me."  
 And he felt the warmth of a wrinkled old hand.  
 "I know what you mean," said the little old man.*

A few weeks ago we celebrated the 100th day of school for the year. Students in second grade took some time to think about what life would be like when they turned 100 years old. They wrote stories, made bucket lists, and created pictures of themselves at that age. When you are seven, twenty years old is a long way off (much less a 100). Trying to understand life as a senior citizen is difficult at that age, but they did a nice job putting themselves in that place.

Teaching students empathy and respect for our elders is important at Eagle Ridge Academy. It starts when kindergarten students visit assisted living facilities to sing songs and share cards. Those visits are valued by young and old alike! Perhaps your family could visit older family members or make a visit to a senior center. It is certainly time well-spent!



## Community Updates



## Upper School Updates

**ERICA POWELL**

*Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric*

### "Believe you can and you are half way there." Theodore Roosevelt

Thank you to all of the parents and students who came out to parent/teacher conferences. We had a wonderful turnout. If you were not able to attend, please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers to check in on their progress. The end of quarter three is Friday, March 24.

The beginning of March has schools starting to think about preparation for the end of the year. With the planning for the end of the year also comes planning for spring testing. AP test registration information went out to students in their advisories and the form can be found on the School of Rhetoric webpage. The [AP registration forms](#) are due to the school by March 15.

All juniors at Eagle Ridge Academy will be taking the ACT on April 19. This test will be given during the school day.

### Congratulations, February Pillar Award Winners!

#### 6th Grade

Citizenship: Saunak G.  
 Integrity: Ruhi D.  
 Perseverance: Victoria P.  
 Honor: Niyathi B.  
 Excellence: Lahari H.  
 Respect: Yusra H.

#### 7th Grade

Citizenship: Evan N.  
 Integrity: Timofey I.  
 Perseverance: Brody M.  
 Honor: Owain M.  
 Excellence: Maneeya L.  
 Respect: Lida D.

#### 8th Grade

Citizenship: Anna S.  
 Integrity: Jack M.  
 Perseverance: Sahra G.  
 Honor: Sania C.  
 Excellence: Tory D.  
 Respect: Sarah M.

9th Grade: Laurel H.

10th Grade: Max H.

11th Grade: Micah H.

12th Grade: Lexi W.

6  
7  
8



*February Pillar Award Winners, School of Logic.*  
 PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIN JOHNSON

# Community Updates



## Math Team to Compete at State on March 13

**STEPHEN MACLENNAN**

*Teacher, Math*

In only its second year, the Math Team at Eagle Ridge Academy has qualified for the Minnesota State High School Mathematics League (MSHSML) State Tournament, to be held Monday, March 13, at South St. Paul High School. ERA partners with the International School of Minnesota and competes in the Canterbury Division of the MSHSML. The ERA/ISM team is one of 176 teams in the state, and 38 teams are invited to the State Tournament.

Members of the ERA Math Team are Sri G. (8), Owen H. (8), Helena H. (9), Sai J. (11), Jessamine K. (11), Lauren P. (11), Anusha R. (10), Emily R. (11), and Nitya S. (10).

ERA student Sri G. (grade 8) completed the regular season as the top-scoring individual in the Canterbury Division for the second year in a row. Consequently, in addition to participating in the State Tournament's Team Event alongside her teammates, she will also participate in the Invitational Event with about 70 top-scoring students from around the state.

The ERA Math Team is coached by ERA Mathematics Teacher Mr. Stephen MacLennan, and the ISM Math Team is coached by ISM Mathematics Teacher Mr. Vin-ton Geistfeld.

**[Read more in the Sun Sailor!](#)**



*The ERA Math Team will compete in the state meet on March 13.*  
**PHOTO BY YEARBOOK STAFFER NEWAL M.**



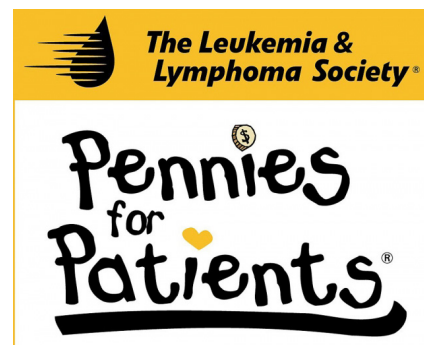
## Pennies for Patients Fundraiser: March 13-18

**ERIN SCHMITZ**

*Special Education Paraprofessional*

Eagle Ridge Academy will be participating in Pennies for Patients this year the week of March 13-17. We are raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The class that raises the most money (K-2,

3-5, and Upper School) will earn a party for their classroom. Students will bring their money to their homeroom teacher or advisor. We will be raising money again in honor of Dylan Schmitz. Dylan was diagnosed with leukemia at 19 months. After fighting for 9 months, it took his life. [You can read more about Dylan and the Honored Heroes here.](#)



## Call for Lower School Yearbook Pictures

**LAURIE BASIC**

*Teacher, Grade 1*

School of Grammar families: do you have photos from ERA events that you would like to submit for the 2016-2017 yearbook? If so, please [email your submissions](#) to Ms. Laurie Basic as soon as possible.

## Congratulations, Srijani D.!

Srijani D. (Grade 6) competed with the Eden Prairie community team called "Team Curiosity" in the First Lego League State Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 25. Srijani's team placed 7th out of 633 teams. The team also got the following awards in the the State Tournament: Global Innovation Award, Strategy and Innovation Award (2nd place), Robot Performance Award (2nd place), and 3rd Place out of 60 teams in Head to Head competition.





# Spring Athletics



**MARILYN STRAND**  
*Activities Specialist*

**There are still spaces available on all of our spring athletic teams. Read below to learn more about our interscholastic competitive and intramural club opportunities!**



Spring activities are right around the corner with our competitive activities starting on March 13. We want to provide an update on each of our activities and give families a final reminder to register! We'll need to cancel some activities if we do not reach the minimum number of registrations. Please let us know if you have any more questions. [You can register by going to our website's athletic page.](#)

***All* spring sports will take place at ISM**

## Interscholastic Competitive Activities

<i>Activity</i>	Boys Track & Field	Girls Track & Field	Boys Ultimate Frisbee	Girls Ultimate Frisbee
<b>Grades</b>	6-12	6-12	7-12	7-12
<b>Cost</b>	\$250	\$250	\$175	\$175
<b>Dates</b>	March 13 - early June	March 13 - early June	March 13 - May 30	March 13 - May 30
<b>Days</b>	M-F	M-F	M, T, Th, F	M, T, Th F
<b>Currently Registered</b>	23	34	11	1
<b>Minimum Registrations</b>	10	10	8	8
<b>Maximum Registrations</b>	50	50	21	21
<b>Notes</b>				*combined with Boys team

\*Note: Boys Baseball has been cancelled this season.

## Intramural Club Activities (No Activity Bus Provided)

<i>Activity</i>	Coed Golf	Coed Tennis	Coed Track & Field	Coed Soccer
<b>Grades</b>	1-12	1-12	1-5	1-3
<b>Cost</b>	\$275	\$275	\$75	\$75
<b>Dates</b>	April 18 - May 11	April 4 - May 11	April 18 - May 12	April 17 - May 11
<b>Days</b>	T, Th	T, Th	T, F	M, Th
<b>Currently Registered</b>	5	6	4	2
<b>Minimum Registrations</b>	2	8	6	6
<b>Maximum Registrations</b>	16	24	24	24




## Activity Club Spotlight: Ballroom Dance

The ERA Ballroom Dance Club had eight members competing in the U Dance Fest this past weekend. Newcomers to the competition, they participated in waltz, tango, foxtrot, cha cha, rumba, and swing. Mrs. Nehrbass, a ballroom dance teacher from the University of Minnesota, has been working with these ERA dancers since November, teaching those six dances over the course of six lessons. Although Fest is over, the ERA Ballroom Dance Club is just beginning; members of the club look forward to improving their dance skills in lessons next year. | *The Ballroom Dance Club student leader is Jessamine K.*



*The 2016-17 Ballroom Dance Club at U Dance Fest.*  
**PHOTOS  
COURTESY OF  
JESSAMINE K.**



**2017 Donut dash 5k**  
Saturday, May 13  
at Purgatory Creek Park  
**Register Now!**

**4th Annual Golf Tournament**  
Monday, June 12  
1:00 p.m.  
Bent Creek Golf Course  
**Register Here!**



### Upcoming School Events:

March 10 - 24



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

March 10-11 – 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 a.m. – [High School Lock-In \(Gr. 10-12\)](#)

March 11 – 4:30-6:30 p.m. – [PTO 7th Annual Roller Garden Event \(K-8\)](#)

March 13-17 – [Pennies for Patients Fundraiser](#)

March 13 – 12:45-1:15 p.m. – [Army ROTC Visit](#)

March 14 – [Pi Day for 4th & 5th Grade, Forum](#)

March 17– [JCL Roman Murder Mystery](#)

March 14 – 12:45-1:15 p.m. – [College Visit: University of Minnesota-Morris](#)

March 14 – 5:30-6:00 p.m. – [School Board Listening Session](#)

March 14 – 6:00 p.m. – [School Board Workshop](#)

March 17 – [Spirit Wear Day](#)

March 20 – 7:00 p.m. – [Choir Concert \(Gr. 7-12\)](#)

March 23 – [2nd Grade Field Trip: Minnesota History Center](#)

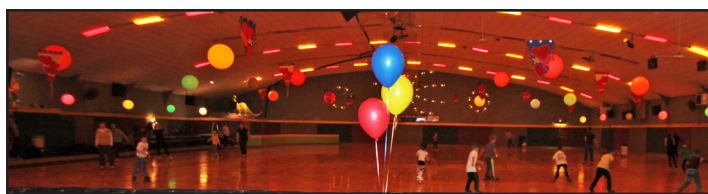
March 23 – 3:45-4:00 p.m. – [ERA Children's Choir Club Performance](#)

March 24 – [Free Dress Day](#)



### 7th Annual Roller Garden Event | Saturday, March 11

K-8 families, join us for the 7th annual Roller Garden roller skating ERA Private Party Event this Saturday, March 11 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. This annual event will take place at the Roller Garden in St. Louis Park. This is for ERA families only (including siblings of all ages). All skaters will receive a free Glow Necklace! We all love the Roller Garden. No drop-offs are allowed; parents or chaperones must attend. Please bring a food pantry canned good or boxed food item (including gluten-free or vegetarian products)! [More details are available here.](#)



### Ski / Snowboard Club: Ended for the Season

Here are some exciting stats from the 2016-2017 Ski / Snowboard season!

- **299** tickets sold
- **110** lessons taken
- **120** packets of hot cocoa mixed up
- **Three** pasta potlucks enjoyed
- **120** slices of Costco pizza consumed at the pizza party
- **Five** Texas sheet cakes baked and eaten
- **Lots of snowy fun!**

Ski Club ended last week, but will begin again on Dec. 1, 2017. Enjoy summer and see you at Hyland next year!

### Teacher Appreciation Week 2017

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 1-5, and planning has already begun. Join the team of six community members planning the fun event. Email us at [pto.eagleridge@gmail.com](mailto:pto.eagleridge@gmail.com) to get involved.



### Community Uniform Sale was a Success!

Our uniform sale resulted in \$1,700 in sales for benefit of families and PTO. We are creating a uniform team for next year, who will focus on improved signage, layout, and logistics, in order to prepare for many new families to join our school. We have two enthusiastic co-chairs for the team. Please [email us to join the team](#) if you love uniforms, being organized, and/or helping our families! We appreciate the parents and students who volunteered their time and talents to support our community sale.

### Extra PTO Spiritwear is Available

The PTO has some select spirit wear sizes still available for sale. These shirts are perfect for middle school gym class or spirit wear dates. [View the order form here.](#)

### PTO Board Nominations due Friday, March 17

Our PTO operates as a Tax Exempt 501 C3 group. We need a board to operate. Nominations are open now through March 17 at 9:00 p.m. for board positions for next year. We have some board members returning and some new members joining the team. We value pairing up to support committee leadership and board positions. Join a team, or nominate yourself or another parent or staff member for a board position. [Email us for more information!](#) Our team has great fun serving our community.

