

THE *Eagle Eye*



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Eagle Ridge Academy

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Executive Director News

JASON ULBRICH

Executive Director

Introducing "Our Story"

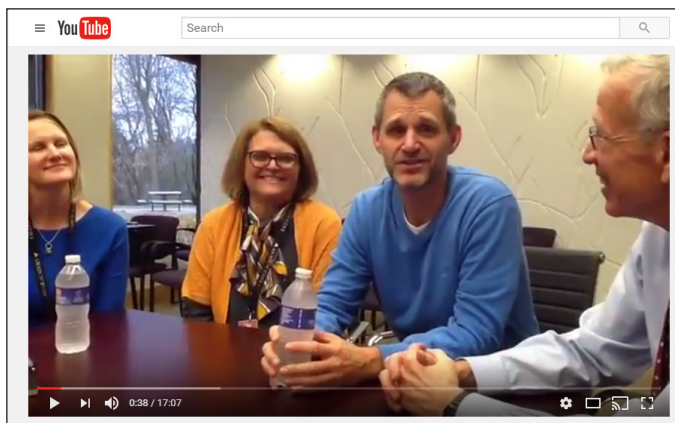
Eagle Ridge Academy opened during the 2004-2005 school year to just over 100 students in Grades 6, 7, and 9. Since those early years, we have expanded multiple times. Today we have about 1,230 students in grades K-12.

While many great things are happening at ERA because of our growth, it is often difficult to stay connected and maintain that small school feel.

Thus, we have started "Our Story," a video cast at ERA. "Our Story" will be published via our YouTube channel about once per month. The videos will focus on who we are and introduce you to various community members. The purpose of "Our Story" is to help us stay connected.

This month, "Our Story" will introduce you to four of our founding teachers, and you will hear a conversation they have about the good ole' days at ERA.

[Click Here to View "Our Story"](#)



Lower School Updates

MELANIE BAIER

Principal, School of Grammar

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend." *Melody Beattie*

I have often spoken of gratitude. I truly believe it is what transforms our lives and helps us find the happiness we are always seeking. At this time of year, gratitude is often acknowledged more and we find those acknowledgements more poignant. However, gratitude is truly important every day the whole year through.

The beauty of gratitude cannot be denied, especially when it is expressed in the words of a child. Every year, the School of Grammar students share what they are thankful for with the school community through our "Thankful" wall. This year the wall is in the Forum by the entrance to the School of Grammar. If you are in the building, you should take some time to read some of the words of gratitude from our students. I have posted a picture of the wall below if you are not able to see it in person.



Community Updates



Upper School Updates

ERICA POWELL

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

Eagle Ridge Academy will be having their 3rd Otium Classicum on Dec. 6. The Physics Force from the University of Minnesota will be coming in to do an interactive presentation to students in grades 6-12. The Physics Force is a K-12 outreach program through the University of Minnesota. The program's greatest success is generating an interest in science in K-12 students. They go above and beyond to educate and entertain. The Physics Force does things on a grand scale to bring excitement and wonder to the thousands of students who attend their shows every year.

The November Pillar Awards were presented to students at the Schools of Logic and School of Rhetoric assemblies on Nov. 30. Below are the students who were nominated and voted on by staff as the Pillar Award winners. Congratulations!

November Pillar Award Winners

6th Grade

Citizenship: Aniketh H.
Integrity: Sarah B.
Perseverance: Muniiba A.
Honor: Reeya A.
Excellence: Safiya Z.
Respect: Muntaaz C.

7th Grade

Citizenship: Andrew M.
Integrity: Akash K.
Perseverance: Sophia W.
Honor: Andrea M.
Excellence: Christiana J.
Respect: Karin S.

8th Grade

Citizenship: Jahlea H.
Integrity: Dana M.
Perseverance: Jillian S.
Honor: Cambrie S.
Excellence: Elke S.
Respect: Owen H.

9th Grade: Helena H.

10th Grade: Matt V.

11th Grade: Lizzie C.

12th Grade: Ian M.



Developing Connections

KELLY SCHIFFMAN

Director of Development

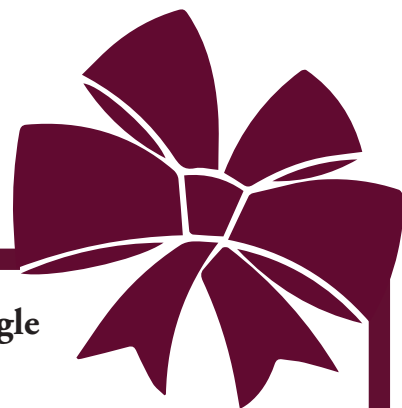
I am thrilled to announce our final results from our 2016 Gala, *"A Night on Broadway."* After all expenses, our final proceeds end up to a total of \$33,000, with more still pending.

This type of event could not happen without the help of many people, whom I wish to thank:

- The Gala Committee for their hard work and creativity: Melanie Baier, Danielle D'Alessandro, Julia Demakis-Haustein, Clare Murray, Sonia Pandey, Jenny Peitz, and Erica Powell
- Volunteers who gave of their time during the event to make it run smoothly: Emily and Craig Alvarez, Mary Bradley, Janice Gerheart, Lisa Johnson, and Sara Johnson
- Leadership and Board members for the donation of wine
- Friends of Education for their \$10,000 matching gift
- The many organizations and donors who donated to the Silent Auction
- Our photographer, Chris Gerber, for beautifully capturing the event
- All in attendance for including us in your weekend plans and supporting the event and ERA
- Anyone who purchased a silent auction item, made a donation, or supported the event in any way

For your enjoyment, [please visit the slideshow of photos](#) from Chris Gerber. Chris is available for photo sessions for your family, event, or senior photos!

In closing, thank you again for making this year's Gala very special and memorable.



Consider a Gift to Eagle Ridge Academy!

This being the season of giving, please consider Eagle Ridge Academy in your year-end gift planning. A 100% tax-deductible gift to ERA will benefit our students and fill our hearts with gladness. Consider giving a gift in honor of a teacher, staff member, or even your student or family member. All gifts, no matter the size, make an incredible difference in our goal to keep Eagle Ridge Academy a high quality school of choice and an outstanding place for our students and families to call home.

Donate online [here](#), mail or drop off gift to 11111 Bren Rd. W, Minnetonka, MN 55343 (Attn: 2016 Year End Gift), or call 952-746-7760, ext. 1107. Unless designated, your gift will go to the area of greatest need at Eagle Ridge Academy.

Thank you for your important support and for choosing Eagle Ridge Academy.

 EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY		
College Recruiter Visits		
 North Dakota State University	 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS	 U.S. ARMY
Friday, Dec. 2 12:45-1:45 pm Room 1620	Wednesday, Dec. 7 11:00-11:30 am Room 1620	Thursday, Dec. 8 12:45-1:45 pm Room 1620



College Representatives Visiting this Week

WENDY KLUTE
Academic Counselor

North Dakota State University admission counselor, Ty Olschlager, will be in Room 1620 meeting with students to answer questions regarding NDSU on **Friday, Dec. 2** from 12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

A representative from the University of Minnesota-Morris will be available in Room 1620 on **Wednesday, Dec. 8** from 11:00-11:30 a.m.

United States Army Recruiter, Joshua Meek, will be here on **Thursday, Dec. 8** from 12:45-1:45 p.m. in Room 1620.

Students may go to meet these representatives during lunch or obtain a pass from Miss Klute for times outside of the regular lunch period.



Now Hiring Lunch / Playground Assistants

KARI LYON
Human Resources Manager

Work a few hours mid-day. See your child and get paid! Join our great team by applying today. Visit our [employment page](#) or [email me](#) for an application.

\$12.00 / hour 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. or 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
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Board of Directors Vacancy and Call for Nominations

ANN WATANABE
Board Chair

The Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors currently has an opening for a parent or community member. As indicated by the Academy's Bylaws, the Board of Directors will appoint a new member to complete the term of the vacated seat. The Governance Work Group is coordinating the process of recruiting candidates and accepting nominations for the Board to consider.

To make a nomination of an individual with the competence and vision to be a Board member, please discuss the nomination with that person to ascertain their commitment to the criteria listed [here](#), and then contact the members of the Governance Work Group, Pete Larson, plarson@eagleridgeacademy.org, or John Schwirtz, jschwirtz@eagleridgeacademy.org.

The deadline to make nominations or self-nominate has been extended to Friday, Dec. 9 at 5:00 p.m.



US-169 Construction to begin in January

KAREN CONNER
Operations Manager

The Nine Mile Creek Bridge replacement project and road closure on US-169 between Bren Road and 7th Street (the 5th Street/Lincoln Drive interchange) will begin Tuesday, Jan. 10. Work is expected to last through late Oct. 2017, weather permitting. This will impact families traveling US-169 north of the Academy. Please take some time to find an alternate route by visiting the website below.



For more information about this project, visit the [Minnesota Department of Transportation webpage](#) or contact Dave Aeikens, Communications and Engagement, at David.Aeikens@state.mn.us or 651-234-7511.



PTO News & Information

PTO SECRETARIES

pto.eagleridge@gmail.com

PTO Ski & Snowboard Club

Ski and Snowboard season is here and begins next week on Friday, Dec. 9. **The Dec. 2 date has been cancelled due to lack of snow.** Discount lift tickets (\$20) and rentals (\$17) will be available for purchase from the ERA PTO inside the Hyland chalet. Pass by the ticket windows by the main door and head upstairs. Turn right and look for the ERA PTO table to purchase your tickets and rentals. Proceeds from the lift ticket purchases help fund our potlucks and end of season pizza party. Potlucks and pizza party dates will be announced soon! Anyone can come weekly – you do not “join” ski/snowboard club – come once, come every week. Even friends and family can take advantage of our special rates. Group lessons will also be available weekly for \$10, with prepay by the Friday before the lesson. If you want to have a lesson on Dec. 9, please pay for your lesson no later than noon, Friday, Dec 2, and remember to indicate if taking

a ski or snowboard lesson. All lesson payments are due at noon on the Friday before the lesson (so the Dec. 16 lesson payments will be due by Dec. 9). All waivers and payments should be placed in an envelope with PTO on the front and brought to the Activities Office for Mrs. Strand. [Please refer to our FAQ page for more information.](#)

PTO Directories Now Available

Printed Directories have arrived and will be sent home this week or next (depending on your child's teacher). Only one per family will be sent home, so check your child's backpack for it. The online directory will be updated once a month during the school year.

Festival of Treats | Sign Up Now

Festival of Treats is an annual tradition to provide some festive treats in the break room for our teachers and staff to enjoy. This year, we have chosen Monday, Dec. 19, with leftovers munched on the rest of the week. Please consider making a traditional treat that represents your unique heritage, or a family favorite to contribute. Or, choose a treat category and pick up something yummy at the store to send into school. [Sign up here.](#)



*For game and practice information,
visit the [TCAC Calendar](#).*

Athletics

4th/5th Grade Team

12/3 - 9:15 a.m.
HOME - Gray vs. Our Lady of Grace

12/3 - 10:30 a.m.
HOME - Maroon vs. Nativity of Mary

12/10 - 9:15 a.m.
AWAY - Gray vs. Shakopee Area Catholic

12/10 - 10:30 a.m.
AWAY - Maroon vs. Chapel Hill Academy

Boys Middle School

12/6 - 4:30 p.m.
AWAY vs. St. Michael's Catholic Grade School

12/8 - 5:30 p.m.
HOME vs. Our Lady of Grace

12/12 - 4:30 p.m.
AWAY vs. Calvin Christian

12/15 - 4:30 p.m.
AWAY vs. St. Therese of Deephaven

Girls Middle School

12/8 - 6:45 p.m.
HOME vs. Carondelet

12/13 - 7:00 p.m.
AWAY vs. Benilde-St. Margaret's

Boys Junior Varsity

12/2 - 5:30 p.m.
HOME vs. Rockford

12/5 - 6:00 p.m.
AWAY vs. Spectrum HS

Boys Varsity

12/2 - 7:00 p.m.
HOME vs. Rockford

12/5 - 7:30 p.m.
AWAY vs. Spectrum HS

12/8 - 7:00 p.m.
AWAY vs. MN State Academy for the Deaf

12/13 - 7:00 p.m.
AWAY vs. Christian Life School



Activities & Events

Upcoming Events

Dec. 1 - Dec. 16

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

Nov. 28 - Dec. 9 – Fall Driver's Education Class

Dec. 2 – 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. – Kindergarten Parent Coffee (Palm & Mills) at YUM! Bakery

Dec. 2 – 9:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m. – Art History Field Trip to Minneapolis Institute of Arts

Dec. 2 – 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Home Boys JV & Varsity Basketball Games vs. Rockford

Dec. 5 – 9:00 a.m. – School of Logic & Rhetoric Tour

Dec. 7 – 9:00 a.m. – School of Grammar Tour

Dec. 9 – 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. – Kindergarten Parent Coffee (Gillitzer & Woolf) at YUM! Bakery

Dec. 9 – 9:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – 1st Grade Field Trip to Old Log Theater

Dec. 13 – 5:30 p.m. – School Board Listening Session, Rm. 1202

Dec. 13 – 6:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop & Meeting, Rm. 1104

Dec. 13 – 6:30 p.m. – Upper School Coffee House & Variety Show

Volunteer Opportunities

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.



New 6th Grade Concert Date

[ERICA HIGGINS](#)
[Band Teacher](#)

Due to a high number of students in 6th grade band and orchestra this year (it takes a little longer to ensure everyone is on the right track!), I have decided to postpone the winter concert for 6th grade students.

The new concert date is Thursday, Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Please check your family calendar and inform Mrs. Erica Higgins via e-mail at ehiggins@eagleridgeacademy.org if you have any conflicts.

Winter Music Concerts

Dec. 8, 6:30 pm: Gr. 7-12 Orchestra
Dec. 12, 7:00 pm: Gr. 7-12 Choir
Dec. 15, 6:30 pm: Gr. 7-12 Band
Feb. 16, 6:30 pm: Gr. 6 Band & Orchestra

