

# THE *Eagle Eye*



March 8, 2018

Eagle Ridge Academy

Volume 14 | Issue 12



## First Amendment Rights at Eagle Ridge Academy

**JASON ULBRICH**

*Executive Director*

The tragedy in Parkland, Fl. has inspired a movement among students across our country, and Eagle Ridge Academy is no exception. In the past two weeks, student leaders in the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric have expressed a desire to demonstrate citizenship by exercising their first amendment rights in support of the students in Parkland. Today during both School of Logic and School of Rhetoric lunch periods, students were provided with an open space to share their thoughts and discuss potential actions.

As we plan ahead as a school, if students choose an action that may include missing school, school leaders will follow our normal attendance procedure to mark students as "Absent Excused" if the office receives a message or note from a parent/guardian explaining their child's absence. When details of the student plan are made available, we will communicate these with all families. We understand that there are multiple viewpoints and opinions regarding school safety and that civil discourse is needed to better seek a solution. This is why Eagle Ridge Academy exists.

Eagle Ridge Academy wants to graduate students capable of engaging in civil discourse on issues of significance. In their Great Conversation, America's founding fathers modeled dialogue, which leads to wisdom and virtue. In general, contemporary American society often finds itself at odds with this notion. However, the pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness through learning is inherent in cultivating wisdom and virtue. The process of listening to our students and encouraging them to listen to each other regarding this tragic event is a learning opportunity that we must seize.



## AP Exam Registration Available

**ERICA POWELL**

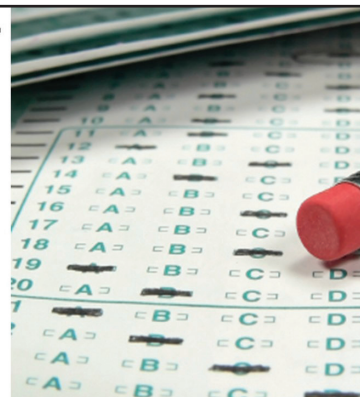
*Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric*

Advanced Placement exam registration forms will be going home this week. Students in AP classes will have these distributed by their instructors and reviewed with them. Students in junior and senior Humanities classes will be given the forms, and there will be a short discussion on the preparedness of students from Eagle Ridge Academy regarding the course content in AP Language and Composition and AP Literature and Composition. Students that are interested in taking an AP test in a subject area for which we do not offer the course should fill out the form and check the "other" box and note the exam they wish to take. | [VIEW PRINTABLE FORM](#)

The **ACT**<sup>®</sup>

For Juniors  
on April 3, 2018

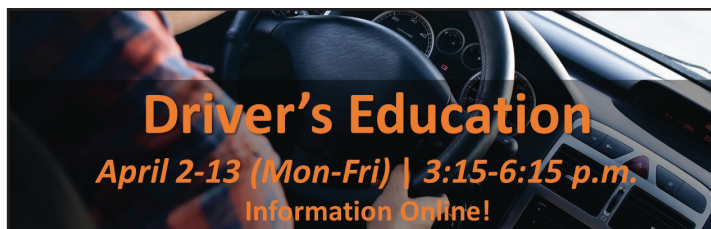
Turn in your  
registration forms by  
March 9!



## PENNIES FOR PATIENTS UPDATE

**\$6,354.87 Raised!**

Thank you for a wonderful Pennies for Patients drive! As a school, Eagle Ridge, was able to raise \$6,230.03! This is 1.5 times what we raised last year. The top two classrooms in the Lower School were Ms. Palm (\$466.09) and Ms. Schmidt (\$421.80). The top first hour classrooms in the Upper School were Ms. Conner (\$115.63) and Ms. Kelash (\$107.87). Thank you also to **Ms. Erin Schmitz** for organizing the event! You may read Dylan Schmitz's biography [here](#). •



**Driver's Education**

**April 2-13 (Mon-Fri) | 3:15-6:15 p.m.**

**Information Online!**

2017 FALL SEMESTER

EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY



# Olympus Club

*Students listed are recognized for achieving a grade-point average of 3.33 or higher in the Fall 2017 semester. Way to go, Gryphons!*

## SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

Hope A.
Nikki A.
Tanya B.
Isabel B.
Eudora B.
Katelyn B.
Alexander B.
Josephine C.
Elizabeth C.
Gabriella C.
William C.
Ashlyn C.
Emma D.
Zachary D.
Zamaria D.
Thomas D.
Eden E.
Samantha E.
Arrianna E.
Lisha F.
Joshua F.
Ellie G.
Alexa G.
Naomi G.
Anna G.
Nathaniel G.
Sridhatri G.
Elliot H.
Saeda H.
Clara H.

Caityana H.
Maxwell H.
Gillian H.
Ariannya H.
Margaret H.
Meghan H.
Helena H.
Laurel H.
Sanjana J.
Bunny J.
Madelyn J.
Nicholas J.
Mia K.
Makenzie K.
Jessamine K.
Shea K.
Henry L.
Kaitlyn M.
Taylor M.
Jackson M.
Jakob M.
Isaac M.
Dominic M.
Sophia M.
Emma M.
Abigail M.
Julia M.
Hayley M.
Madeleine M.
Sunan M.

Shamis M.
Dexter M.
Eric O.
Grace O.
Mitchell O.
Jack O.
Max P.
Tapan P.
Isabella P.
Lauren P.
Melanie P.
Kylie P.
Anusha R.
Vivian R.
Alita R.
Beatrice R.
Cailyn S.
Ekaterina S.
Julia S.
Anna S.
Emily S.
Jillian S.
Hunter S.
Emma T.
Signe T.
Emilia T.
Piper W.
Talia W.
Catherine W.
Elliot Z.

Aisha A.
Sivaani A.
Carter A.
Nitiya A.
Saham B.
Livia B.
Niyathi B.
Micah B.
Madison C.
Isabelle C.
Abhinav C.
Rahul C.
Valeria C.
Arie C.
Margaret C.
Natasha D.
Jack D.
Aarya D.
Bhavishya D.
Daniel D.
Elsa D.
Emily E.
Arjan E.
Arasely E.
Aafia F.
Anthony F.
Fionnuala F.
Maren F.
Naomi G.
Gabriel G.
Logan G.
Natalie G.
Pranav G.
Dhruv G.
Marit H.
Aniketh H.
Eimaan H.
Zoe H.
Gretchen H.
Lahari H.
Kayden J.
Jay J.
Darcy J.
Gabriel J.
Kathryn J.
Mia J.
Nora J.

Benjamin J.
Sanchaya J.
Matthew K.
Kristina K.
Gabriella K.
Timothy K.
Roshni K.
Abhinov K.
Aditya K.
Thor L.
Maneeya L.
Greta L.
Walter L.
Kaelen L.
Andrea M.
Lasya M.
Paul M.
Isabel M.
Emma M.
Andrew M.
Sofia M.
Muthuvignesh M.
Dhruvi M.
Ava M.
Connor M.
Elise M.
Sophie M.
Sihaam M.
Maya M.
Dhruvi M.
Paige M.
Keerthik M.
Viswa N.
Navya N.
Evan N.
Sudeeksha N.
Joseph N.
Lillian N.
Claire O.
Surin P.
Gracie Q.
Theodore R.
Ananya S.
Donya S.
Lorelei S.
Shruti S.

Devang S.
Karin S.
Celia S.
Emma S.
Joel S.
Grace S.
Sophie S.
Aditya S.
Jackson S.
Jack S.
Sudiksha T.
Siri T.
Devh T.
Divyesh T.
Winston T.
Alexander T.
Amoligha T.
Karis T.
Navroz V.
Ellie W.
Andrew W.
Kaya W.
Delaney W.
Luc W.
Ava W.
Luke W.
Jonah W.
Abigail W.
Noelle W.
Rhea Y.
Ming Wei Y.
Nisanth Y.
Angelina Y.
Fardausa Y.
Mariam Z.
Alexandra Z.
Cynthia Z.

# Developing Connections



**KELLY SCHIFFMAN**  
*Director of Development*



**\$25 for ERA  
students &  
\$30 for all other  
runners!**

Join us for the sweetest Saturday in spring!  
The Donut Dash 5k & Mini- Donut Dash are  
back on May 12. [Click here for details.](#)



Register at [www.epdonutdash2018.zapevent.com/](http://www.epdonutdash2018.zapevent.com/)

It's not too early to start thinking about nicer weather. With the spring and summer weather comes outdoor activity! Registration is open for the Donut Dash 5K (May 12) and the Gryphon Classic Golf Tournament (June 11). Runners, walkers, and golfers, no matter your skill level, are welcome to register for these two events supporting the students of Eagle Ridge Academy. Proceeds will help support the purchase of an activity van to transport our students to athletic meets/practices, club tournaments and events, and other off-site events.

- <https://www.eagleridgeacademy.org/donut-dash-5k/>
- <https://www.eagleridgeacademy.org/gryphonclassic/>

Any questions or organization referrals for sponsorship or donations may be directed to Kelly Schiffman at [kschiffman@eagleridgeacademy.org](mailto:kschiffman@eagleridgeacademy.org) or 952-746-7760, ext. 1107.



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

**THRIVENT CHOICE®  
ENROLLED  
ORGANIZATION**

[Learn More](#)

Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy has partnered with **Thrivent Financial**. One way eligible Thrivent Financial members can show their thanks is by directing Choice Dollars to Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy. If you're a Thrivent member who has Choice Dollars, take this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funds by directing them to **Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy**.

If you are looking for an easy way to help support the Academy, look no further than Thrivent Choice®, Thrivent Financial's member-advised charitable outreach program. Thrivent Choice lets eligible Thrivent members recommend where they feel Thrivent should distribute some of its annual outreach funding by choosing from thousands of enrolled churches and nonprofit organizations nationwide, including Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy.

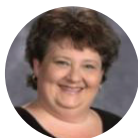
Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31** to direct them. If you are a Thrivent member and haven't yet participated in Thrivent Choice but would like to learn more about participating in it, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

*Calling all Golfers!*

**Join us on June 11, 2018.**  
**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**







Students  
pictured from  
left to right  
beginning  
with the top  
row: Laila B.,  
Nikitha V.,  
Adithya P.,  
Gigi H., Aahil  
G., Addie C.,  
and Roland D.

Not pictured:  
Ms. Hudak  
and Mrs. Dias  
(Team  
Managers).

**PHOTO  
PROVIDED  
BY ASHLEY  
HUDAK**



## First Year Destination Imagination Team Will Compete at the State Tournament in April

Destination Imagination (DI) is a club that offers students challenges to solve in STEM, improv, the visual arts, and service learning. Students use their imagination and innovation to create solutions to the challenges provided by DI. Students learn how to work well as a group, think creatively, and use citizenship to build on their strengths. Each team is comprised of one adult team manager and two to seven students in grades K-12. This year, DI was comprised of one team manager (Ms. Hudak) and seven students (pictured above) from the 3rd and 4th grades. The team selected to compete in the improv challenge titled "Treasure!" in which they had to incorporate two world explorers, an unusual setting, and a setback/problem into a five minute skit. As an additional part of the tournament, the students participate in an instant challenge where they were given a task to solve in a finite amount of time.

The team just completed a regional tournament at Maple Grove Senior High School on Saturday, Feb. 24. Because the team placed within the top three places, they will advance to the state tournament on Saturday, April 14. Ms. Hudak shared, "I am SO PROUD of our team and how hard they have been working. I am also looking forward to continuing our journey throughout this spring!" In order to offer and expand this club, the school is in need of more volunteers for team managers. If you are interested, please [reach out to Ms. Ashley Hudak](#) for more information. For more information about the Minnesota Destination Imagination organization, [visit their website](#). • Submitted by Ashley Hudak

## Upcoming School Events:

**March 8** – Spring Athletics Parent Meeting (Gr.

7-12) | 6:00 p.m. at ISM

**March 9-10** – JCL Convention in North Dakota

**March 10** – PTO K-8 Roller Skating Party

**March 9-13** – Share Your Talent Day (3-5, Times Vary)

**March 12** – **GOOD LUCK AT STATE, MATH TEAM!**

**March 14** – College Admissions Information Night  
at ERA, 6:30 p.m.

**March 16** – Spirit Wear Day

**March 16** – Two Hour Early Release for  
Professional Development

**March 17** – High School Winter Formal

**March 20** – Special Education Advisory Council

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

Spring Athletic  
Parent Meeting

March 8  
@ 6 p.m.

International  
School of  
Minnesota



## Spring Sports (Gr. 7-12)

### Limited Registration Available

Registrations have re-opened for Gr. 7-12 Track and Field and Ultimate Frisbee. A \$25 late registration fee will be applied. Track and Field practice begins at ISM on Monday. Be sure to get your eligibility forms turned in to Mrs. Strand if you haven't done so yet this year.

Questions? [Contact Mrs. Strand, Activities Specialist.](#)



**MARILYN STRAND**  
*Activities Specialist*



## Activities & Events

### *Free Dress Day* **Thursday, March 22**

2017-18 FREE DRESS DAY DATES:  
Oct. 6, Dec. 19, **March 22**, & May 25

#### **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:**

March 19-21: K-12 students may bring \$5 to their homeroom or first hour teacher in order to participate in Free Dress Day.

#### **The Day of:**

March 22: 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.

#### **March 22 Free Dress Day funds are going to support:**

- *4th and 5th Pi Day Celebration*
- *Children's Choir Minnesota Twins trip*
- *Robotics Tournament*
- *Latin JCL - Ludi Romani*
- *K-8 Reading Intervention*
- *Athletic Scholarships*

**Questions? Contact *Lower School* or *Upper School Principals*.**



### *Youth Leadership Conference* **STUDENT REFLECTION**

WRITTEN BY GABBY C., JUNIOR

Last week I went to the Youth Leadership Conference. Going into it, I didn't know what to really expect. I thought it was going to be a lot of sitting around with lectures on how "you can be a leader," but I was strangely surprised (in a good way). The conference had a lot of interaction, including playing games that unknowingly demonstrated how we can be, or are, leaders.

One thing that I really enjoyed was that the Conference mixed up everyone so that we weren't with people from our school. This conference really opened my eyes to show me that sometimes the little things can make a huge impact on your whole school. I would love to go back and experience this again.

LEFT: *Students attended the Youth Leadership Conference on Thursday, March 1.* | **PHOTO BY STEPHANIE GROVES**



## JOIN US ON SATURDAY!

**7th Annual Roller Skating Party**  
March 10 | 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Roller Garden in St. Louis Park

Join us for the popular annual event! Admission includes a free glow necklace for every skater. This is a private party for K-8th grade families. [Please see our flyer for more info!](#)



### Have you considered being part of the PTO board committee?

Now is the time to nominate yourself or someone else for the upcoming 2018-19 school year. We are looking for enthusiastic, engaged ERA parents, as well as teachers and staff to help fulfill our mission of creating fun student events and supporting our teachers.

If interested, [please submit the nomination form](#) by **Monday, April 9**. All nominations to the PTO board will be published in Eagle Eye on April 12.

### Save the date for the next PTO Quarterly meeting!

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 24 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the ERA forum. We encourage you to attend the meeting to get involved in planning our upcoming events.

### Redemption Program Updates

Thank you to everyone who sent in redemption items for the third contest of the school year. We had great participation from many classes and advisory groups. Congratulations to Mr. Vacinek's 2nd grade class for winning the lower school prize. They will be receiving a donut party as their reward. Big hurray for Mrs. Anderson's 6th grade advisory group as they won the upper school prize. They are currently deliberating on what they want to do for their reward and we are looking forward to spoiling them for all their great efforts!

Here are the results of the top five classes/advisories:

#### Lower School:

1. Vacinek (991)
2. Ward (707)
3. Stangler (395)
4. Gillitzer and L. Hopper (385)- TIE!

#### Upper School:

1. S. Anderson (1,126)
2. Dill (994)
3. Kelash (293)
4. O'Brien (217)
5. Goedjen (156)



Keep those redemption items coming in! Our fourth and final contest of this school year is now in full force, and it will end in early May. We collect the following items. Bring them to your classroom teacher, advisory teacher (6th grade) or the collection bin outside the Main Office!

- *Box Tops, Coke Rewards*
- *Tyson Project A+*
- *Loaves for Learning*
- *Milk Moola*
- *Old cell phones/used printer cartridges*