

THE *Eagle Eye*



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Eagle Ridge Academy

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March Community Letter

JASON ULBRICH

Executive Director

This month's community letter includes an introduction to fourth quarter testing and a brief welcome to our two new leaders for 2018-19, as well as a summary of school board items regarding new additional staffing for 2018-19 and the decision not to make up the student contact day missed on March 5. Read the full letter in the link below!

**CLICK TO READ
COMMUNITY LETTER**

Meet Our New Leaders (2018-19)

Mr. Kristofer Babler

Activities Director

The ERA School Board approved Mr. Kristofer Babler as Eagle Ridge Academy's first full-time Activities Director. Mr. Babler has experience coaching at both the high school and college level. He has a BA from Gustavus Adolphus College in English Literature and a MS in Applied Kinesiology and Sports Management from the University of Minnesota. Mr. Babler is also a former US Army Public Affairs Officer. Mr. Babler is currently assisting with the transition, collaborating with ISM for fall sports, and planning our fall K-6 Youth Sports.

Dr. Bruce Locklear

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

On March 20, the ERA School Board approved Dr. Bruce Locklear as the principal of Schools of Logic and Rhetoric. Dr. Locklear most recently served as Principal for Edina High School from 2007 until his retirement in 2017. While there, he led the school in being recognized as a Newsweek Top performing high school for numerous years, as well as developed a School within a School program to serve at-risk students (of which 100% of participants graduated!). Dr. Locklear was recognized as the Minnesota Secondary Principal of the Year in 2010. Prior to his time with Edina, he served in many other roles detailed in the community letter.



Fall Olympus Club Members

ROMELLE PORNSCHLOEGL

Assistant Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

The following students' names were unintentionally omitted from the list of Fall 2017 Olympus Club participants. Congratulations on your accomplishment! Way to go, Gryphons.

School of Logic

Owen H., Shivsai K., Shreya N., Ayayo O., Vineel P., and Pomar S.

Spring Break: March 23-30

Our office will be open by appointment only on Friday, March 23, Monday, March 26, Tuesday, March 27, and Wednesday, March 28. We will be available by phone during these days from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **Our office will be closed Thursday, March 29 and Friday, March 30.**





SUSAN BLOOMGREN
Director of Academics

MCA Testing Updates

Testing will begin on Tues., April 17

After spring break, students in grades 3-8, 10, and 11 will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs). See the testing schedule here:

School of Rhetoric: MCA Scores and College Classes

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities may use high school MCA reading and mathematics scores to assist in determining course enrollment by the 2018–2019 school year.

- Students who are at or above an identified score will not be required to take a remedial, non-credit bearing course in the corresponding subject area.
- Students who are below an identified score, which indicates that the student's performance is not on track to meet career and college readiness, may need to take a remedial, non-credit bearing course in the corresponding subject area.

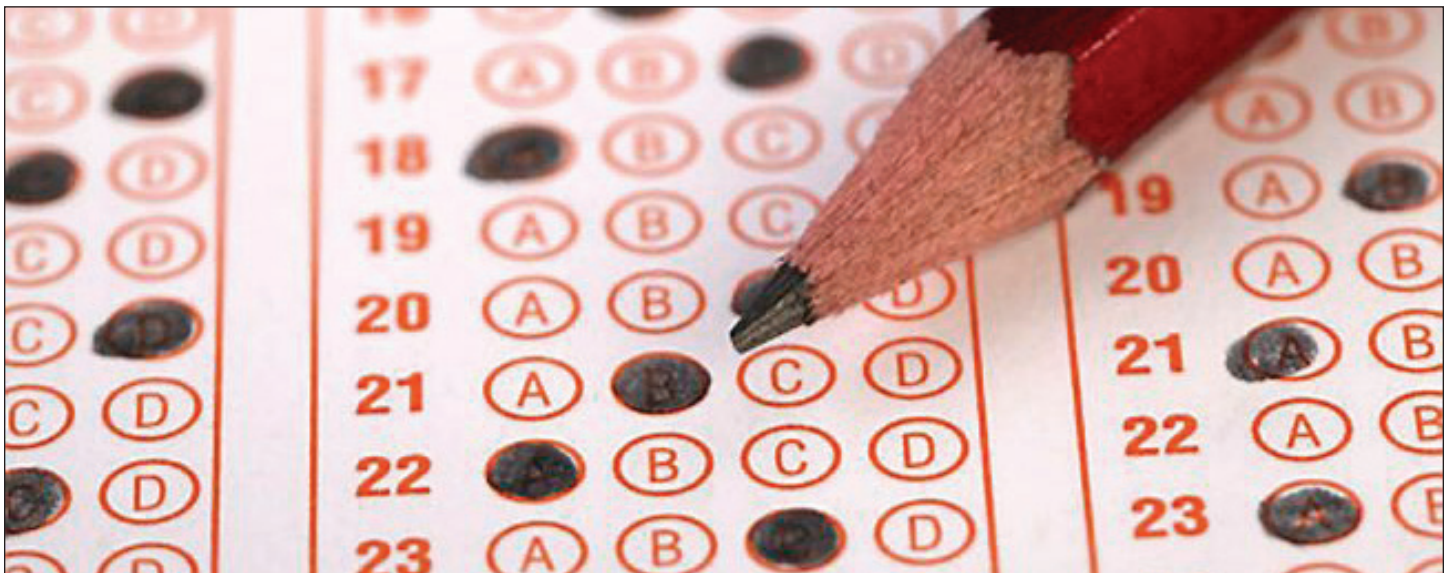
Grade	Math	Reading	Science
3 rd	4/17	4/25	N/A
4 th	4/17	4/24	N/A
5 th	4/19	4/24	5/1
6 th	4/19	4/26 and 4/27	N/A
7 th	4/18 and 4/19	4/25 and 4/26	N/A
8 th	4/18 and 4/19	4/25 and 4/26	5/2 and 5/3
10 th	N/A	4/18 and 4/19	5/2 and 5/3
11 th	4/27	N/A	N/A

Importance of Testing

Starting this year, students who do not take the MCAs will negatively impact a school's MCA proficiency by counting as not passing the assessment. There are several repercussions for the school and the student when a student does not test.

The score does not provide a clear picture of an individual student's performance. When students do not take the MCAs, the not passing score creates an inaccurate picture of school performance, which could negatively impact our charter renewal as well as school-wide and teacher goals linked to performance.

As a result of these changes, it is imperative that students take the assessment during the testing window from 4/17 to 5/3.



SPOTLIGHT ON [DIGITAL] CITIZENSHIP

What does it mean to be a good digital citizen?

Individuals who practice good citizenship are respectful, honest, empathetic, selfless, problem-solvers, proactive, and are critical skeptics. They assume positive intentions, express kindness, and practice integrity of self and others. These qualities also stand true in the digital environment, if not more so because there is no longer a face behind the screen name. Digital citizenship is a journey that we are all embarking on and navigating together. Thus, it is essential that we take charge of teaching our children what it means to be not just good citizens, but also how to be good digital citizens.

What does my student need to know?

Grammar: It's never too early to start talking with your child about what it means to be a good digital citizen. [Common Sense Media](#) recommends beginning to communicate with younger children about safety online, privacy rules, and showing respect for others.

Logic: In the middle grades, families should discuss the quality of sources, the impact of posting online, and the importance of standing up for yourself and others when someone is mean or something doesn't seem right. Middle school is also when many students begin using social media, and it is essential to discuss the difference between an online friend and a friend your child knows personally.

Rhetoric: During the upper grades, begin talking with children about how their actions online can have a more significant impact on others. Often an individual's digital footprint can also impact their future employment and college opportunities since anyone can search them online, and often do.

How can I help my student become a good digital citizen?

Model best practice for your child! One of the best ways for children to learn is through someone else modeling what a good digital citizen is. Create a list of qualities you want your child to possess when using their device, correlate actions to those qualities, and then model those actions on a daily basis for your child.

Dialogue with your child is a great way to start talking about what it means to be a good digital citizen. Ask them what they think it means and how to embody it. Talk about what they are doing on devices, especially the content. Often students will play games like Roblox or Minecraft, which are heavily filtered. However, then students will watch videos on Youtube for how to better play the game which may include more explicit language or content, so ask what they are watching with general interest.

Also, take the time to play with them. Have them teach you something using a new game or technology.

Finally, do your research. Common Sense Media is an excellent resource for parents and educators to learn how to talk to students about media and read reviews on the latest apps, games, TV shows, movies, and even books!

QUICK FACTS

American teenagers (13-19) use an average of 9 hours of of entertainment media use a day. While tweens (8-12) use an average of 6 hours of entertainment media a day.



The number of hours parents spend on media screen time a day, including work.



The online population of youth, in grades 2-11, for boys number at 8,040,000 and girls at 7,927,000

In America, an average of 98% of children **under** age 8 have access to a mobile device at home.



AGE 0 - 8

Kids age 0 - 8 spend an average of 2 hours and 19 minutes with screen media a day.



45% of teens say they get frustrated with friends and family members when they are trying to talk to them and they connect to social media while hanging out together.

20% of 3rd Graders at ERA own a cell phone

60% of School of Logic students have a social media account



Parents can enable restricted mode on YouTube to hide age inappropriate content.



MEDIA MENTOR SPRING BREAK CALENDAR



EMILY ALVAREZ
*Special Education Teacher,
School of Logic*

Thank you, Ms. Alvarez, for this insightful spotlight article!

25

Check your child[ren]'s YouTube setting and help them change to [Safe Search](#).

26

Schedule 30 minutes with your child with all devices turned off.

27

Explore "Do Not Disturb" mode with your child and agree on how to use it.

28

Learn a new skill with your child by watching instructional YouTube videos ([like this one](#)).

29

Get your child to teach you how to do something new on your phone/device.

30

Create a family playlist of songs to listen to. Explore [Spotify](#), or [AmazonPrime Music](#).

31

Search for a new recipe and make it with your child. Try [Pinterest](#) or [Yummly](#) for options.

23

Get your child[ren] to show you one thing they've created on their device this week.

24

Play a video game with a family member.

Developing Connections



KELLY SCHIFFMAN
Director of Development



The Donut Dash 5K and Mini-Donut Dash ½ Mile is 1.5 months away. If you haven't registered yet, to guarantee your shirt and size, please register at www.epdonutdash.zapevent.com. With your participation, you can help us support the purchase of a 10-person activity van to transport our students to athletic meets, club and activity tournaments, and other off-site activities. We are grateful to our sponsors for their generous support: Cargill, Cub Foods-Eden Prairie, Holiday Circuits, Hospitality Management, My Gym, Scheels-Eden Prairie, and State Fair Mini Donuts.

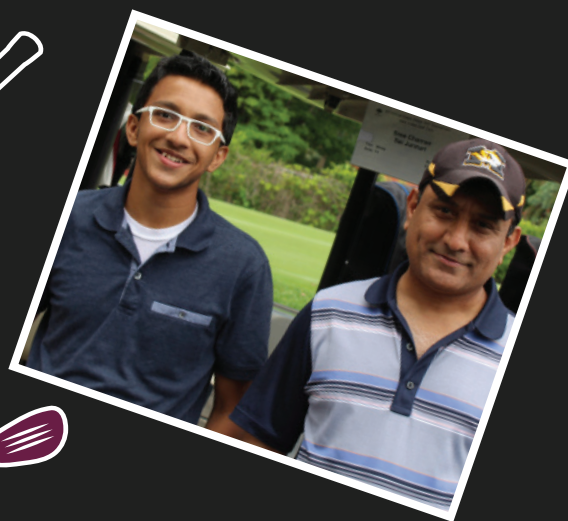
Packet pick-up has been scheduled for Friday, May 11 from 3:30-7:00 p.m. at Eagle Ridge Academy at 11111 Bren Rd. W, Minnetonka.

We are looking for donations of protein bars, bags of chips, coffee, and sports drinks for the participants. Please contact me if you or your organization is interested in this sponsorship opportunity!

Ways to participate:

- **Register today:** <http://epdonutdash2018.zapevent.com>
- **Sponsor** the event with a donation of product or a financial gift—be our Shirt, Tent, Mini-Donut, or Donut Sponsor. Do you work for an organization that would like to participate as a sponsor? Contact me!
- **Volunteer** to help at the race on May 11. We need 40 volunteers.
- **Donate** a 100 percent tax-deductible gift to support the activity van.
- **Help promote** the event by sharing the event on your social media or send via e-mail. Invite your friends and family.

Watch for Sprinkles and Cocoa, our mascot donuts, to make special appearances in the coming weeks!



Calling all Golfers!
Join us on June 11, 2018.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



PROM 2018

Join us for an enchanted evening with friends, music,
dancing, and food!

When: May 5th, 2018 from 7:00-10:30pm

Where: Green Acres Event Center-14150

Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Tickets can be purchased at ERA during the weeks
of April 9-13th, 16-20th, and 24-27th

Upcoming School Events:

March 22 – School of Grammar Variety Show

March 23-30 – No School, Spring Break

April 2 – School Resumes, Start of 4th Quarter

April 2-6 – Pillar Week, Grades 5-12

April 3 – ACT for Juniors

April 5 – Children's Choir Performance

April 6 – Spirit Wear Day

April 10 – Children's Choir to Sing at Twins Game

April 13 – Upper School Variety Show

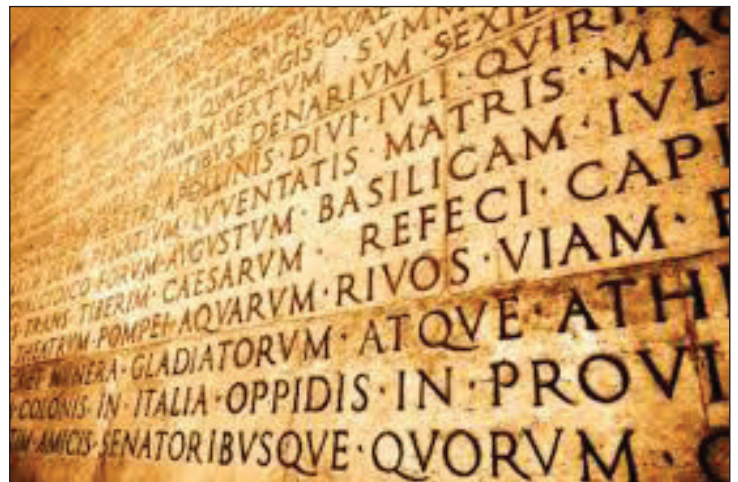
*For more information and more events,
visit the [school calendar](#).*

Junior Classical League Convention

STUDENT REFLECTION

—WRITTEN BY HELENA H., SOPHOMORE

This year's JCL state convention was, as always, an amazing learning experience and a great opportunity to make friends. Eagle Ridge JCLers enjoyed a long bus ride to Fargo, ND where we were able to further connect with each other and enjoy team camaraderie. Over the weekend, we got to know the students from North Dakota and participated in spirit competitions, academic tests, Certamen (Latin quiz bowl), and dodgeball. JCLers ate meals together, competed in catapult building contests, and participated in service projects. Adding to the fun, Eagle Ridge placed first in spirit competitions on Saturday, and many students received high scores in mythology, grammar, history, Roman life and customs, and derivation exams. Everyone was extremely enthusiastic during the entire convention, and it was incredible to see so many people united by their love of Latin and the Classics.



Eagle Ridge Academy students won many awards at the convention! Just a few include our Advanced Certamen team and our Overall Sweepstakes winners. Congrats to all who attended, participated, and excelled!

ADVANCED CERTAMEN TEAM:

Dorie B., Gillian H., Elle F., and Zamaria D.

OVERALL SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS:

Sri G. and Cynthia Z.

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.

Teacher & Staff Appreciation

The PTO is planning a wonderful celebration for our teachers and ERA staff on the week of May 7-11. If you are interested in joining our planning committee please email pto.eagleridge@gmail.com. We will be sharing event plans and how everyone may contribute as the date gets closer.

7th Annual Roller Skating Party Recap

Yay! Another successful skating party was a great hit on March 10 at the Roller Garden. It was a joy to see 299 ERA skaters attend and have fun during the party. We want to thank our ERA families and volunteers for making it a memorable event.

Redemption Program Updates

We recently awarded Mrs. Anderson's 6th grade advisory group with their winning prize for the 3rd redemption contest of the year. They came up with an ingenious idea to partner with Ms. Schmidt's 3rd grade class to teach them a science concept. They used Mrs. Anderson's class winnings from the redemption contest and Ms. Schmidt's winnings from Pennies for Patients to provide all the supplies. It was a fabulous, rewarding time of mentorship and learning. Mr. Vacinek's class won the lower school redemption prize aof Yo Yo Donuts. They also had some funds left over that they can use for their classroom.

Our fourth and final contest of this school year is currently underway. Please bring in all redemption items to your lower school classroom teacher or to the Main Office collection bins. Please make sure your advisor's name is on any submission you leave in the Main Office collection bins so that your advisory group will get credit for those submissions. This contest will end May 24, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. We will be counting and trimming on Thursdays May 3, May 10, May 17, and May 24. We would love your help if you have some extra time. We typically volunteer from 8:00-10:00 a.m. these days. It is low stress and we have lots of time to chat. We collect Box Tops, Coke Rewards, Tyson Project A+, Loaves for Learning, Milk Moola, and old cell phones/used printer cartridges.

We are looking for volunteers to input Coke Rewards codes from home. All you have to do is create a Coke.com account and then input codes that will be allotted to the Eagle Ridge Academy account. Each code is valued a point total and Coca Cola then gives the school a check depending on how many points we have. This is an easy volunteer job that can greatly benefit our school. You can go at your own pace and do it whenever it is convenient for you. Please e-mail Jodi Hogan at jodihogan@q.com for more information. Thanks so much!



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ERA PTO