



# EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY

Dear Eagle Ridge Academy,

June 7, 2018

The days have become longer, the sun more intense, and there is an energizing crispness to the morning air. Early summer in Minnesota begets a sense of nourishment and renewal of the soul, a long awaited respite from the winter freeze. As the students and staff of Eagle Ridge Academy set forth on their three month sabbatical from the classroom, I am reminded of a summertime poem authored by William Butler Yeats in 1888, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree."

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;  
Nine bean rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.  
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;  
There midnight's all a-glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evening full of the linnet's wings.  
I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements gray,  
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

In Yeats's poem, he captures and appreciates what is good and beautiful in nature and peace. He identifies Innisfree as a place that is personal to him from his childhood and is now a place of relaxation and contemplation. Yeats longs for the simplicity of cabin life in the country as a way to escape his busy work life in London.

Minnesotans are able to relate to Yeats as we visit family cabins or campgrounds with our families, enjoying time when untangling the fishing line is the concern of the day. Adults long to slow down, and our children need to be taught the simple pleasures of the simple life. My hope is that your family takes time to slow down and step away from the technology and organized activities. Step into the natural world and enjoy what is good and beautiful.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Volunteer Saturday: Mark Your Calendars for Aug. 4!**

We invite all students, staff, and family to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Volunteer Saturday on August 4. We need your help to prepare for the return of our students and staff. Most importantly, this is an event that encourages and promotes community building and meeting other families. More information will follow in the next few weeks.



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## **After Expansion Review Data and Process**

The 2017-2018 school year for students and staff officially ends today! Now our planning begins for 2018-2019 and beyond. The data from the recent survey and focus group meetings will guide ERA for the next couple years to become the best versions of ourselves. Eagle Ridge Academy employees, board members, and parents were provided the opportunity to participate in the survey. We had 220 completed surveys followed by a focus group meeting that included over 40 participants. The data is reviewed by both ERA leadership and the school board. We will use what we've gathered to inform and guide our Strategic Plan. We invite you to review the [summarized data](#) from the surveys.

## **Introducing Taher: New Food Service Partner for 2018-19**

Eagle Ridge Academy is proud to announce our partnership with Taher, Inc. to provide our food service for the 2018-19 school year. ERA chose Taher for their high quality offerings as well as their ability to provide a greater variety of options for students to choose from each day.

"We are excited that we have been chosen to partner with your School and provide you with an exciting and nutritionally-balanced school food service program," Taher shared. "The most exciting change for your lunch program is the addition of equipment that will allow us to prepare meals on-site by your local food service team. Our breakfast, lunch, and a la carte items will be made in your school kitchen which means they are prepared closer to the time of meal service, served fresh and hot!"

[Learn more about Taher, Inc. here.](#) They will be on-site during Meet Your Teacher Nights (Aug. 21 for Schools of Logic & Rhetoric; Aug. 22 for School of Grammar), so stop by for a taste!

## **Teacher Surveys**

In years past, Eagle Ridge Academy has provided surveys to families in order to provide feedback to their teachers. This year we are focusing our attention and energy on the After Expansion Review survey data and will not have a formal teacher survey. However, we welcome feedback for our teachers through a different format. The best way to provide feedback to our teachers is by emailing them directly. This is meaningful because they are able to have context and follow up with you as needed. You may also communicate with the school principals via email: Ms. Mellgren, [jmellgren@eagleridgeacademy.org](mailto:jmellgren@eagleridgeacademy.org) for the School of Grammar and Dr. Locklear, [blocklear@eagleridgeacademy.org](mailto:blocklear@eagleridgeacademy.org) for the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric.

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful, relaxing, and peaceful summer break.

Sincerely,

Jason Ulbrich, Executive Director