

THE *Eagle Eye*



September 19, 2019

Eagle Ridge Academy

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Executive Director News

JASON ULBRICH

Executive Director

The start of the school year has been amazingly smooth. Over the past few years, the start of school has taken some adjustments, especially when we relocated. Since our move to the new building in 2016, we have added another 300 students, and our enrollment projections predict another 150 in the next five years. When we built our new facility, we were already tight on space for physical education and extra-curricular activities. We also started budgeting for a new roof and upgrade in HVAC systems. Over the last three months we have received initial bids on a new gymnasium, new roof, increased green space, and cost of upgraded HVAC systems. All of the costs are coming in close to as planned and we are ready to prepare for our next construction project.

With interest rates being the lowest we have ever seen, now is the time to seriously consider, or at least strongly consider, moving forward on these projects. We will present preliminary findings to the Board of Directors on Oct. 8 regarding potential projects, cost, and timelines. If there is a desire to proceed from the ERA Board of Directors and the ERA Affiliated Building Company, we will start moving forward in further defining the project and begin the financing plan.

One step in the process is to start a Phase III stakeholder group. The stakeholder group will be comprised of students, parents, and staff in order to act as an advisory committee for the project. If you are interested in being on this group or would like more information, please email [Mary Cornelius](#).

We will keep you updated monthly on the progress.

Upcoming Events

SEPT. 19 - OCT. 4

- Sept. 19 – Classroom Parent & Parent Advocate Meeting (Morning and Evening Options)
- Sept. 19 – 6th Grade Information Night
- Sept. 23-27 – Homecoming Week
- Sept. 23 – College Boot Camp for Seniors
- Sept. 24 – School Board Meeting & World's Best Workforce Presentation
- Sept. 27 – School of Logic Fall Festival
- Sept. 28 – Rockin' the Ridge
- Sept. 30 – No School - Staff Development
- Oct. 4 – Spirit Wear Day
- Oct. 4 – School of Rhetoric Homecoming Dance
- Oct. 8 – Monthly Volunteer Day

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



Conferences: Oct. 14-15

KAREN CONNER

Operations Manager

Eagle Ridge Academy's fall parent teacher conferences will be held on the following dates:

- Oct. 14, 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 15, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The registration period for fall conferences will be:

- Oct. 3 at 8:00 a.m. through Oct. 10 at 10:00 p.m.

Conferences for all grades should be scheduled using the [online conference scheduler](#). As there are limited spots available, we ask that School of Grammar families schedule only with their classroom teacher and any specialists (music, Latin, art, phy ed) with whom they would like to meet. Please note, you will need to know the teachers you would like to schedule a conference with prior to logging into the scheduler. Your child's teachers may be found under the schedule tab in the left index in your [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#). You will receive an email with the master password and a link to the conference scheduler prior to the sign-up session. You will need to create an account in the scheduler if you do not have one from a previous year.

Homecoming Preview

Upper School: Grades 6-12

ORSPRIT NOWWEEK

September 23 – 27

Monday

9/23

Comfy Cozy

Relax, it's Monday! Throw on your comfy stuff.

Class Colors

Show your class pride by wearing your class color.

6th Grade	Red	Sophomores	Blue
7th grade	Orange	Juniors	Purple
8th Grade	Yellow	Seniors	Black
Freshman	Green	Staff	White

Tuesday

9/24

Wednesday

9/25

Character Day

Dress up like one of your favorite characters from a book, movie, or video game.

Thursday

9/26

Decades Day

Blast from the past! Remember the styles of yesteryear by wearing an outfit from another decade.

Friday

9/27

Spirit Wear

Wear your Eagle Ridge Academy Spirit wear to show your pride. Jeans are allowed!

Lower School: Grades K-5

Students in Grades K-5 are invited to participate in Spirit Week on **Friday, Sept. 27 only**. Lower School students may wear **Spirit Wear** on Friday, Sept. 27, but they may not wear jeans. They should be in uniform for the rest of the week.



Gr. K-5: Silent Dismissal Refresher & Resources

ERIN JOHNSON

Assistant Principal, School of Grammar

Now that the school year is back in full swing, we wanted to take some time to refresh your memory about our end-of-day Silent Dismissal system and direct you to some resources should you need assistance with Silent Dismissal throughout the year. Eagle Ridge Academy uses Silent Dismissal for all K-5 end-of-day student dismissal. Silent Dismissal enables students to get to where they need to go (car pick-up, bus pick-up, or after-school clubs) in an orderly, safe fashion. In the Silent Dismissal system, car pick-up students are automatically assigned to car pick-up and bus students are automatically assigned to their bus beginning the first day of school. The only times parents will need to make changes in the Silent Dismissal system, using the How To Tutorials on the school website, are:

1. If you wish to make a **one-day change** in your child's mode of transportation (i.e., from bus to car pick up, bus to TEL, or Activity Club to bus, etc.), use the [Daily Override tutorial](#) to learn how to make a one-time change (blue checkmark icon).
2. If you wish to make a **permanent change** to your child's mode of transportation (i.e., you are adding your child to a new bus after the school year has begun, you are removing your child from a bus, or you are creating a schedule for TEL after school care, etc.), use the [Edit tutorial](#) to learn how to use the Edit feature (blue pencil icon).

The only time an Eagle Ridge Academy staff member will change your child's Silent Dismissal setting going forward is if they join an after-school activity or club. When the club begins, going to that club is set as the normal mode of dismissal for that day (i.e., Chess Club on Tuesdays). If the club is canceled for some reason, Eagle Ridge Academy staff will override your child back to the original mode of transportation set for your child on that day before the club began (i.e., Bus on Tuesdays).

The Silent Dismissal login, How To Tutorials, and Assistance Request Form are always available on the [Silent Dismissal page of the Eagle Ridge Academy website](#).

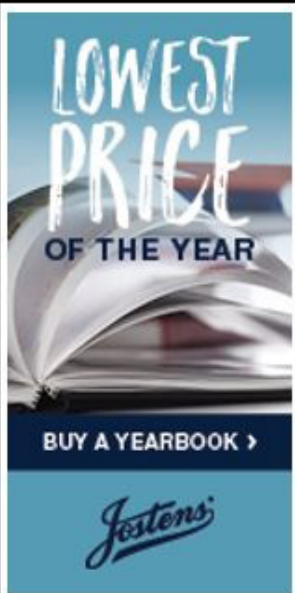
Do you have further questions, need password assistance, or want to report an issue with your account? Fill out the [Silent Dismissal Assistance Request Form](#), and an Eagle Ridge Academy staff member will assist you within two (2) school days. If this is an urgent matter, please call the Main Office: (952) 746-7760.

Community Updates



Grades K-5: Need Help with Silent Dismissal?
Fill out the [Silent Dismissal Assistance Form](#) for help opening your account, retrieving your password, and more.

Gr. K-5 Yearbook Sale:



BUY A YEARBOOK >

828 school portraits make for one amazing yearbook!

Back to School YEARBOOK SALE

ORDER YOURS NOW!

ONLY \$25 ~ Save \$3

Online Sales Only

www.jostensyearbooks.com

> Buy Your Yearbook:
Eagle Ridge Academy Lower School K-5

Call: 1-877-767-5217

Sale Price Ends 10/18/2019

Gr. 6-12 Yearbook Sale:

Fall Sale: Get Your Yearbook for the Lowest Price
Back to School Yearbook Offer! For a limited time only, the ERA Upper School Yearbooks will be only \$40. Please go to Jostens.com and type in Eagle Ridge Academy. Be sure to select Upper School for 6-12 and Lower School for K-5. This offer is only available through Sept. 27, so act fast!

CLICK HERE TO ORDER!

YEARBOOK

CELEBRATING MOMENTS THAT MATTER



Community Updates



Schools of Logic & Rhetoric News

BART JOHNSON

Principal, School of Grammar

The school year is underway and the students are getting into routines that will soon become habits. Please check on your students' progress in school. Look at their grades and delve deeper into their assignments and assessments recorded in the teacher grade books. Do this now so that we can catch them if they are struggling. Let's work together to help steer students toward developing better habits, if necessary. To enter the parent portal for our student information system, Infinite Campus, [follow the link on the school website](#). Parents can see all of the students' assignments and assessments, which are updated weekly. If you have questions about the parent portal of Infinite Campus, please contact [Janice Gearhart](#) in the District Office.

The level of academic press remains high and students are rising to the challenges. Students in 11th grade are currently studying Don Quixote and learning about the historical underpinnings of the story. Honors Latin students are translating a text from Latin to English and comparing their versions to the accepted English translation. Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Programming students are learning to assign variables to data that is to be input for recall or use later. Chemistry students are learning about and practicing lab techniques to be used throughout the year. We are proud of our students and will continue push them to do their very best.

Finally, please encourage your children to join a co-curricular activity. One of our beliefs is that the Pillars of Citizenship, Integrity, Perseverance, Honor, Excellence, and Respect (CIPHER) are practiced and developed in many ways throughout life. Co-curricular activities provide opportunities to develop the Pillars in different venues and in different contexts. We offer a wide variety of clubs, athletic activities, and arts activities. [Find information about our clubs, including how to sign-up, on the school website](#). In late fall, information about how to sign up for winter sports will be available. Stay tuned.

Go Gryphons!

Grades 9-12 | Homecoming Dance on Friday, Oct. 4

Register by Sept. 27 for the \$40 ticket price: [Click Here for Permission Slip](#)

Questions? Ask Ms. Donna Cornelius



School of Logic (Gr. 6-8)

Fall Festival

Eagle Ridge Academy

3:10-6:00 PM

Live Music, Henna, Craft Spot, Food, 9-Square, Photo Ops, Courtyard Activities, Dancing

Cost: \$10

Tickets go on sale at lunch 9/23-9/26

Portions of the event will be held outside. Please dress accordingly.

Students will stay after school on 9/27 and be picked up at the Main Office entrance at 6PM.



Board of Directors Update

JOHN SCHWIRTZ '10

Chair, Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we want to extend our greetings to all new and returning students, parents, faculty, and staff of Eagle Ridge Academy. As the school's Board of Directors, our goal is to ensure that the mission and vision of Eagle Ridge Academy is preserved. Our eleven-member Board is comprised of six faculty seats, four parent seats, one community representative seat, and the Executive Director as an ex-officio member.

In July, the Board voted on new officers for the school year. We are pleased to announce the following: Angela Berger, Treasurer; Jane Wegener-Venema, Vice Chair; April Grabanski, Secretary; and John Schwirtz, Chair.

Get Involved. As a charter school, we depend on parent and community involvement. One way to get involved is through Board Working Groups. Working Groups are established by the Board as advisory groups that research, develop, and recommend best practices and present options to the Board for consideration. Working Groups currently looking for individuals with skills, interest, and ability to commit time to serve are: Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement (CISA), Governance, and Policy. To learn more, please visit the Board of Directors Working Group section of the website here. If you are interested, [please reach out to the Board Liaison as identified on the website by Friday, October 4.](#)



Gryphon Activities: Growing Opportunities

KRIS BABLER

Activities Director

We are so fortunate here at Eagle Ridge Academy. We face a number of challenges that only successful young programs can say they have to take on. I have two examples I would like to share. Our Robotics program, lead by Derek Lutz, has been wildly successful over the last two-plus years.

Mr. Lutz has built the program from the ground up – fundraising and recruiting. He has built out his Lego League youth program and has even secured a bigger space for his students to build. It is not enough! He could easily utilize double the space.

The Cross Country program has grown from seven to 14 last year to 27 7th-12th graders this year plus another 20 youth runners – thanks in large part to the work of the coaches –

Community Updates

Talk to Us. Eagle Ridge Academy's Board of Directors wants to hear from you. The Board holds informal Listening Sessions 30 minutes prior to its monthly workshop. You can come to ask questions or share concerns on any topics related to the Academy, or just come to talk with members of the Board or Administration. The purpose of the Listening Session is to encourage communication between the community, district administration, and school board members on issues that will strengthen Eagle Ridge Academy. We are here to serve the school and welcome feedback from all constituents. Our hope is that you will take advantage of these opportunities to speak with us about your feedback in a more relaxed setting than a regular board meeting.

Board Documents. In the summer of 2016, the Board of Directors adopted "next generation" paperless meeting technology called BoardDocs® for sharing information about our upcoming and past meetings and workshops. Using this platform allows the Board to improve the governance process while saving time, resources, and the environment. To review materials from past meetings and view upcoming agendas, [please visit the Board section of the school's website](#) and click on the BoardDocs logo.

Thank you for choosing Eagle Ridge Academy, for your support, and for your involvement.



Rob Economy, Sam Fransen, and Heidi Sheppard. Our young athletes are running against the best programs in the south-west metro and competing – and we are ordering more jerseys after buying them last year because the growth has out-paced our best projections!

These are good problems to have. Perseverance is a pillar our activities program leaders understand. We are growing. There are challenges that come with that, and that is good. Our students will benefit from the efforts in the end.

GYSL soccer winds up Sept. 28. Varsity soccer, cross country, and volleyball are less than a month away from Section tournament action, and winter sports registration will open soon. Please reach out if you have a program here you have interest in launching. I look forward to continue growing ERA Activities with you!

Community Updates



Ways to Get Involved & Give Back!

KELLY SCHIFFMAN

Director of Development

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

Pledge your annual support to Eagle Ridge Academy with an affordable monthly gift broken down into smaller amounts, which make giving easier, and allow a predictable revenue source for Eagle Ridge Academy.

Be sure to check with your employer on Matching Gift opportunities! [Check here to see if you matches.](#)



SAVE THE DATE: GIVE TO THE MAX DAY ON NOV. 14

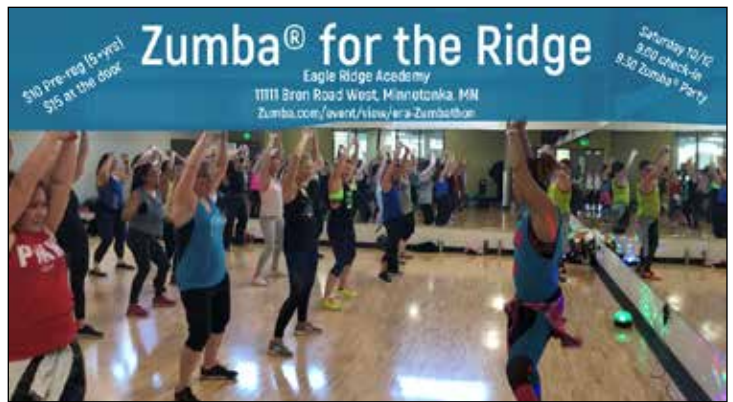
What if you could help our school receive \$1,000 just by giving \$10 or more? On November 14, 2019, you'll have that chance.

Join us for Give to the Max Day on November 14, and you could help us receive \$500, \$1,000 or \$10,000. Just make an online donation on GiveMN.org, and your donation will be entered into a drawing for a \$500 Golden Ticket every 15 minutes for Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy. Here's the really exciting part: One donation made on www.GiveMN.org during the Give to the Max Day campaign will be randomly selected to receive a \$10,000 Super-Sized GiveMN Golden Ticket. Watch for more information and schedule your gift!

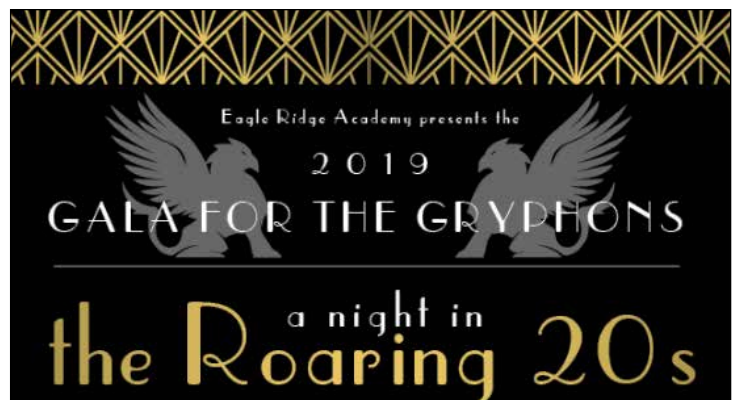
Help us increase our odds and make the most of your gift by making a donation on November 14 on GiveMN.org. Search for Friends of Eagle Ridge Academy then make your donation. Together, we hope to raise more than \$5,000 on Give to the Max Day, and you can help us reach our goal!

For more information on how you may participate in helping develop Eagle Ridge Academy, please contact Kelly Schiffman at 952-746-7760, ext. 1107 or by email at kschiffman@eagleridgeacademy.org. Visit our website for online giving and other important information at www.eagleridgeacademy.org.

Interested in playing the school baby grand piano?
[Sign up here to share your music!](#)



Join the Eagle Ridge Academy community on Saturday, Oct. 12 for a crazy Zumbathon® where everyone is welcome to come shake it and no move is wrong! ERA parent and master Zumba® instructor, Eryn Stennes, will take us on a trip around the world with international music and sweat like crazy, all while supporting the students of Eagle Ridge Academy. Pre-register for \$10 per person (ages 4 and under are free.) Cost to participate is \$15 after Oct. 10 to day of event.
[To register online, click here!](#)



Friday, November 22, 2019
6:00 – 11:00 p.m. • Hazeltine National Golf Club

- Watch for your invitation early October and purchase your tickets. Registration is live now at www.eagleridgeacademy.org/gala
- Put together a themed basket for the Silent Auction or volunteer in your child's classroom to do a class project or themed basket.
- Ask your employer to donate to the Silent Auction or sponsor a table for their employees.
- Honor teachers or staff by donating a ticket.
- Share the [event](#) on your Social Media pages.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28, 3-7pm



**SCHOOL CARNIVAL
for K-5 @ERA**

GAMES-FOOD-FUN-FRIENDS

ROCKIN' THE RIDGE

Rockin' the Ridge, our highly anticipated annual school carnival event for K-5 families, is on for Saturday, Sept. 28 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at ERA! We pull out all the stops to create a fun and memorable evening for the whole family. We're excited to bring back many well-loved events including Laser Tag, Inflatable Slide and Obstacle Course, Game Truck, Carnival Games, Face Painting, Crazy Hair, and so much more! Additionally, we have a delicious food truck lineup, including the Purple People Feeder, Medbox Grill, and Addie's Mini Donuts, along with Culver's Custard and Popped Corn popcorn. Don't miss the debut of our all-new ERA collector water bottle with bottomless lemonade for \$6! See our links below for important information, including Unlimited Fun Wristband ordering.

[RTR INFO SHEET](#) | [RTR FAQs](#)
[ORDER YOUR UNLIMITED FUN WRISTBANDS](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Rockin' the Ridge requires over 200 parent and student volunteers to run smoothly. We truly depend on our community to show citizenship in order to make the event fun and successful. For this reason, we are asking all 6th-12th grade students and/or parents to commit to at least one shift (1.5-2 hours) during the event if possible. Recommended areas for volunteerism are highlighted below:

- **6th-8th graders:** Carnival games, Glamour nails, Forum Activities (Chess, Putting Challenge, Planting, Art, Origami)
- **9th-12th graders:** Forum Activities (Chess, Putting Challenge, Planting, Art, Origami), Crazy Hair, Glamour Nails, Tattoos/Fake Wounds, Henna
- **Parents:** Wristband sales/Will-Call, Parking, Volunteer Check-In, Photo Booth, Laser Tag, Inflatables (mainly line management), Set-up or Clean-Up

[More Details Here](#) | [Sign Up Here](#)



PTO News

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

pto.eagleridge@gmail.com

New this year, we are offering an RTR After Party for all Upper School students who successfully complete at least one volunteer slot. This will include exclusive access to laser tag, Game Truck, and inflatables, as well as free pizza. This will take place from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the evening of the event, so plan to stick around after you volunteer!

ANNUAL FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

We are committed NOT to ask students to participate in any fundraising activities (such as selling food or gift items). For this reason, we ask for an annual tax-deductible donation of \$25 per family, but we appreciate donations of any amount. Please make checks out to ERA PTO and drop them in the school office, or make your contribution online at our [Square Store](#).

PTO SPIRIT WEAR

Still looking for a soft and stylish ERA Spirit Wear tee? We've got you covered! We'll be selling the last of our 2019-20 PTO Spirit Wear near the ticket sales and will call area at Rockin' the Ridge on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. Come see us and grab some new gear!



SEE IT...SAVE IT!

Help win a \$25 Amazon gift card for your classroom! Box Tops is going digital, and we need your help to continue the amazing benefits our school gets from this program. Download the app by scanning the **QR code**, enter Eagle Ridge Academy as your school, and you're ready to start earning money for ERA by scanning your grocery receipts with the app. Until October 1, you can help your class win an Amazon gift card by emailing a screen shot of your app to seeitsaveitera@gmail.com with your teacher's name(s) in the subject line. BONUS: We'll count your entry twice if you've already started using the app and "My Lifetime Earnings" shows any amount over \$0.00!

