

THE *Eagle Eye*



June 4, 2020

Eagle Ridge Academy

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Board of Directors Updates

[CLAIRE MURRAY](#)

[Board of Directors Policy Representative & Election Coordinator](#)

2020 Board of Directors Elections Results

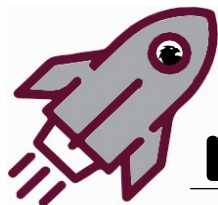
On behalf of the Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors, it is our pleasure to announce the newly elected (or re-elected) members of the Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors:

- Jane Wegener Venema (Teacher)
- Anne Bartow (Teacher)
- April Grabanksi (Teacher)
- Penny Teder (Parent)
- Rahul Deep (Parent)

We would also like to take a moment to acknowledge our departing Board members and thank them for their dedication and service to the Academy. Their commitment and passion has helped create a thriving Academy, leaving a lasting legacy for years to come.

- Lisa Johnson (Teacher) – 2 years
- Kathy Oberstar (Parent) – 7 years

Lastly, we want to thank the community for participating in this year's election. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of each candidate, and your active participation in the election process. We also want to express our sincere gratitude to all the candidates. Your willingness to serve demonstrates your commitment to the mission and vision of the Academy. Commitment and dedication from community members and staff are what make Eagle Ridge Academy such a wonderful place to teach and learn.



2020-21 SUMMER LAUNCH PACKET

As summer draws near, we know the next school year may be the last thing on your mind. Stay strong, Gryphons! Give yourself the gift of a stress-free break. Take note of all [Back to School forms and their deadlines](#), and get them done on time so that come August, your child is **READY TO LAUNCH!**

New Principal Hired for the Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

On May 22, Eagle Ridge Academy interviewed Mrs. Erin Johnson as a candidate for the Principal of the Schools of Logic and Rhetoric. The twelve person interview team, comprised of staff, parents, board members, and students, agreed that Mrs. Johnson would be an excellent choice to fill the position. On May 26, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve a two year agreement between ERA and Mrs. Johnson. We are excited to have her rejoin the ERA team. She brings a relational leadership style and is an experienced Classical Educator.

Policy 504: Student Dress and Appearance

The Board of Directors voted to approve Policy 504: Student Dress and Appearance. As shared in an earlier communication, the change to this policy includes a directive stating, "The administration will develop gender neutral uniform guidelines that specify what items are appropriate for students at each stage." The purpose of this change is to allow for ease of enforcement by staff, compliance by parents, as well as comfort and accessibility for all students. Over the last few weeks, many questions have arisen in regards to how this policy change will affect the uniform options in the student handbook. There are no anticipated changes to the uniform options moving forward. Jumpers, dresses, and skirts will still remain available for students to wear. Administration and staff will be working to make adjustments to the procedures. We will also have a few parents look through the draft for feedback as well. The hope is to get an updated copy of the uniform procedures out to the community by the middle of June.

Summer Office Hours

June 8-Aug. 21 | 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday, District Office Entrance

Closed Fridays
Closed July 3-10 | Independence Day



Fall 2020 Task Force

JASON ULBRICH

Executive Director

Dear Eagle Ridge Academy Families,

My son Jamison recently graduated from high school with the Class of 2020! They chose the saying, "Class of 2020, Class of Perfect Vision." What a great tagline that was when they chose it this past October! However, with the times we are in right now, 2020 seems anything but perfect vision. I find myself thirsting for clarity and truth, yet we keep getting bombarded with more uncertainty. I am praying and constantly pursuing the virtues of patience and empathy right now. The sooner we are able to come to the realization that uncertainty is the certainty and that flexibility is a commodity right now, the more focused we will be on the future.

The future of education, especially the start of school this fall of 2020, is at the forefront of my mind. As an organization, we need to come together to develop plans for next year and to develop a mindset that will allow us to pivot at a moment's notice.

In the May 7 edition of the Eagle Eye, we invited volunteers to participate in the Fall 2020 Task Force, which is now made up of more than 30 parents and faculty members. The task force is an advisory team that is responsible for presenting plans to the Eagle Ridge Academy Board of Directors for final approval and whose purpose is to research and develop plans in order to deliver a high quality Classical Education in a safe environment.

The task force will develop multiple plans in order to be ready for different situations that may present themselves throughout the school year. The Fall 2020 Task Force has five different subgroups:

- Curriculum and Instruction: Develop plans to deliver a high quality Classical Education to include:
 - Classical Education Assurance
 - Distance Learning Plan
 - Professional Development
 - Scheduling
 - Curriculum Implementation
- Technology: Determine technology systems that support teachers and students to deliver and receive a high quality Classical Education.
- Operations and Public Safety: Develop support systems that ensure students receive a high quality Classical Education in a safe environment.
- Special Service Delivery: Remove barriers by providing individual support to receive a high quality Classical Education.
- Human Resources: Ensure compliance with state and federal laws, adapt staffing structure to match the instructional delivery and budget model, and provide resources for staff to help them stay positively engaged and be the best versions of themselves.

The task force will work in five stages:

- Group assignment and group norms
- Information seeking: staff and community surveys, small group discussions, data review, and expert advise
- Planning and feedback
- ERA Board of Directors consideration
- Professional Development and implementation

On June 10, ERA will have a website to communicate the Fall 2020 Task Force updates and an email address to which you will be able to provide feedback or ideas.

The most valuable thing we can do right now is to develop a growth mindset and understand that information will change. Our goal is to be on-site as safely as possible. A high quality Classical Education is best served when in-person instruction is able to occur. However, we also know that ERA must have an online option for families that have medical conditions that make them susceptible and for families that are just not ready to physically return.

Sincerely,

Jason Ulbrich

Community Updates



Schools of Logic & Rhetoric Notes

BART JOHNSON

Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

The Eagle Ridge Academy Class of 2020 invites you to join their virtual commencement ceremony this Friday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. The ceremony will be livestreamed via Facebook Live and YouTube Live for your convenience. Once the virtual commencement ceremony has finished, we will be uploading the livestream to the Eagle Ridge Academy YouTube channel, as well as our website. We are so proud of our 2020 grads and we look forward to having you join us to celebrate them!



P/NP Grade Change for SoL Interventions

ROMELLE PORNSCHLOEGL

Assistant Principal, Schools of Logic & Rhetoric

Starting this semester, the School of Logic students who are enrolled in math or reading interventions will receive the following grades; "P" Pass or "NP" No Pass. Prior to this change students were given a "P" if they met growth and showed progression and an "F" if they were not progressing as expected. The intervention program assesses where students are academically and an individual program is built allowing students to progress towards grade level comprehension. Students exit math and reading support upon reaching their individualized prescribed goal once they reach grade level proficiency.



School of Grammar Notes

JANELLE MELLGREN

Principal, School of Grammar

School of Grammar Families,

At the beginning of our school year who could've imagined all the circumstances surrounding its ending? There has been much to grieve, and rightly so. During chaotic times often the very worst and the very best of people is on display and seeing it all jumbled together is confusing and hard. Yet, I feel hopeful. Together at Eagle Ridge Academy we have and will continue to partner as we seek to show and teach all our children what depth of character looks like-what truth, beauty, and goodness look like so they will recognize it when they see it, no matter the circumstances.

While we here in the School of Grammar do not do this perfectly, we continue to seek to do so with humility and gratefulness for the opportunity to work in partnership with our children and families. We will be learning how to do things anew again next fall in some way, shape, or form and we are willing and able to take on this challenge, with your help.

I will be here working during the summer, should you need something, please reach out. On behalf of our School of Grammar staff, I wish each of you a summer filled with meaning, fun, and rest.



Community Updates



Classic Learning Test for College Entrance Assessment

SUSAN BLOOMGREN

Director of Academics

With the cancellation of all ACT testing that had been scheduled to occur in June, we want to provide students with an alternate college entrance exam opportunity.

The Classic Learning Test (CLT) is a college entrance assessment rooted in measuring a student's ability to critically think and reason using passages from great works studied within the Classical tradition.

This past April, a small group of juniors took the CLT and not only scored quite well, but said the experience was engaging, efficient, and rigorous. Eagle Ridge Academy will pay for any student that is going into 11th or 12th grade who is interested in taking the exam on June 20. Please sign up by June 10 using [this link](#).

We believe that this exam will not only provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate to colleges how their Classical Education produces a well-trained mind, but will also have the ability to provide Eagle Ridge Academy with information on how to improve our courses and instruction.

What sets the CLT apart from other admissions tests like the SAT and ACT? See the numbered list to the right.



1. Academic alignment with a Classical Education: The CLT is better suited to a Classical Education as it draws test passages from the greatest authors from a diverse background, including many authors studied in our curriculum. The CLT also reintroduces logic as an academic standard for students, giving Eagle Ridge Academy students an advantage. Their CLT score will also set students apart from students with similar SAT scores when competing for college admission.
2. Next-day test results: The CLT is taken online through the CLT online platform, providing students their scores within 24 hours.
3. Scholarships: CLT partner colleges offer CLT-specific scholarships on top of general scholarships offered by the universities. Some are full tuition scholarships, and dozens amount to \$10,000 or more! The total number is now over \$65 million. See the full list at www.cltexam.com/scholarships.
4. It is free to send scores to colleges: Students may send their scores to as many partner colleges as they like. If they're interested in a college that isn't yet a CLT partner, the CLT score sharing portal makes it easy to send scores to that school's admissions department - all for free!

Developing Connections



KELLY SCHIFFMAN
Director of Development

Celebrating Our Seniors

Administration and teachers had fun delivering caps, gowns, awards, and lunches to our wonderful seniors! It was great to honoring them and enjoy seeing them in person.



Teachers and Staff are Thankful

The Eagle Ridge Academy staff and faculty were grateful for the beautiful gestures of kindness, and deliveries of flowers and gift cards! They certainly felt appreciated and loved. Thank you!



2020 Gryphon Classic Golf Tournament

Eagle Ridge Academy is ready for our 7th annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 8! We are looking forward to welcoming out 70 golfers from our community for a day on the links supporting the students of Eagle Ridge Academy. Watch for photos on Facebook next week!





Special Services Summer Update

AMBER DAHLSTROM

Director of Special Services

We have received final guidance from the Minnesota Department of Education on summer programming and are in the process of making program decisions about summer Targeted Services. We thank you for your patience.



Final Reminder!!

All unclaimed Lost & Found items will be donated at the end of the school year.



PTO NEWS

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

pto.eagleridge.com

PTO UPDATE

Since we had to extend our nominations for the 2020-2021 ERA PTO Board until the end of the school year, the current board will vote in the new PTO board on June 9. Please stay tuned through the ERA PTO Facebook page and the PTO website when we announce our new PTO Board for the upcoming year.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School Supply kits (grades K-8) and updated classroom supply lists will be available soon. We are awaiting school supply lists that will fully equip our families for the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you for your patience.

STAY CONNECTED WITH FRIENDS USING OUR SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Nominate yourself or connect with our ERA community through the K-12 Parent Directory. Please note that My School Anywhere is now Membership Took Kit.

Step 1: Create an account at eagleridgeacademy.membershiptoolkit.com.

If you already have an account from last year, using My School Anywhere, you can use the same email and password to log in. You can then confirm or edit your information.

Step 2: Click "verify my email" and check your email for a link to complete the process. Questions? Please contact Anu: anu.philip@gmail.com or Jodie: jodielynn20@yahoo.com.