



EAGLE SCHOOL

Aerie-Gram

www.eagleschool.org

(608) 273-0309

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Looking Ahead

Saturday, August 18

- ◆ Work Morning, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sunday, August 26

- ◆ Back-to-School Ice Cream Social, McKee Farms Park, 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Monday, August 27

- ◆ New Student Orientation & Pizza Lunch, 8:25 AM to 12:00 PM

Tuesday, August 28

- ◆ First Day of School, 8:25 AM to 3:10 PM

Monday, September 3

- ◆ No School (Labor Day)

Tuesday, September 4

- ◆ 3/4-7/8 Band/Strings Meeting, Auditorium, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 12

- ◆ Back-to-School Night, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, September 18

- ◆ Picture Day

Important Announcements

Welcome to EAGLE School!

We are very happy that you have decided to be part of the EAGLE School community. We have a staff of outstanding teachers who are ready to welcome your children, and many veteran parents who are quite willing to answer questions for new parents. Our Director maintains an “open door” policy for parents and tries to meet with them promptly when they have questions or concerns. Our primary means of communicating with you is through the *Aerie-Gram*, sent home via email and published weekly on the school website. **Please establish a habit of reading it every Thursday, and each week, if you move it to a special Aerie-Gram folder in your email, you will always have easy access to the valuable information published in each newsletter.** (We do not send home paper copies of our newsletter, but a few are always available in the Main Office for quick reference.)

A Message from Director Andy Wright

Greetings! Since being hired as the new Director last March, I have been making occasional visits to EAGLE for new staff hiring interviews, some end-of-year events, and even as a hamburger flipper during the May FUNdraiser. As of July 2, I began full-time, and I have moved into the Director’s office at school. I am working with Carole and the rest of the summer crew to learn as much as I can every day about my new role and responsibilities.

I’m thrilled and honored to finally be here. EAGLE is a remarkable learning community, and I’m reminded of this daily as I see student work, meet staff, and hear from people in the Greater Madison community.

Summer is a quiet time, perfect for construction projects and future planning. The real fun begins when students return. I’m seeing just a touch of this during these two weeks of summer school, but I can’t wait until August 28, the day all of our students return. I look forward to eventually meeting all of you once we are in session. Meanwhile, if you find yourself in school before then, please come by to say hello.

Ice Cream Social at McKee Farms Park

All EAGLE families are invited to kick off the school year in style by attending our **Back-to-School Ice Cream Social** on **Sunday, August 26, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM** at McKee Farms Park (rain or shine). Come celebrate our new families and reunite with old friends. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact EPO president Stella Krall (stellakrall@gmail.com).

Orientation for Nest, Primary, and New Students

We will have a special morning of orientation for new students and their parents. All kindergarten (Nest), first grade (Primary), and new students in all other units should plan to attend school on **Monday, August 27, from 8:25 to 11:20 AM** to meet teachers and gain some EAGLE insights as we launch into the 2018-19 school year. Although attendance by parents is not required, it is highly encouraged, as the following information sessions will be offered to assist new parents with the transition to EAGLE:

8:30 – 8:45 ⇒ Introductions (Auditorium)

8:45 – 9:30 ⇒ Expectations, Communication, Q&A with Director Andy Wright & Carole Mason

9:30 – 10:15 ⇒ “What’s Best for the Nest?” with Jane Kufel, OR “Taking the Mystery Out of Math” (Math teachers share tips for helping your child transition to EAGLE math.)

10:15 – 10:30 ⇒ Break / Social Time

10:30 – 11:00 ⇒ EAGLE Technology: Website, E-Mail, and ThinkWave

11:00 – 11:20 ⇒ EAGLE Parent Organization (EPO)

11:20 – 12:00 ⇒ Pizza Lunch – Students and parents will have the opportunity to meet the EAGLE staff (Gym) and enjoy lunch (Commons & Multi-Purpose Room) before heading home or back to work. (No need to bring anything—food and beverages will be provided.)

We look forward to seeing all of our new students (including Nesters and Primaries) on this important orientation morning. **An invitation with more information will be emailed to families in early August.** Please let us know if your child is unable to attend.

First Full Day of School

On **Tuesday, August 28**, we will welcome all students to their first full day of classes. We will have regular hours that day, **8:25 AM to 3:10 PM**, with bus service available to those who have signed up. EAGLE’s after-school Study Club will be up and running, and lunch milk will be available for those students who have ordered it by the deadline. (See articles in this newsletter if you would like to sign up for daily bus service or Study Club.)

School Supplies

[Supply lists](#) for each unit are now posted on the EAGLE website. If you plan to shop at Office Depot, present our EAGLE School ID number (70109367) at the register and our school will receive credit towards free supplies equal to 5% of your qualifying purchases. (The ID number is also printed at the top of each school supply list.)

Basketball Moving to a New League – Information to Help you Plan

Our basketball teams will move to the [MAISL league](#) this year. Games will no longer occur during the week; all games will be played on the weekend. Practices will be held on their traditional days during the week—younger girls on Monday, older boys on Tuesday, younger boys on Wednesday, and older girls on Thursday. The season will begin in early November and run through early March. If you would like to view sample MAISL schedules from last year's 6th grade girls' and 8th grade boys' leagues, email jack@eagleschool.org.

EAGLE Band & Strings Information

Band ⇒ The Band Program will continue under the direction of Mrs. Christine Eckel. Small group lessons will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays. Flight (Advanced) Band will rehearse on Monday afternoons from 3:20 to 4:00 PM, and Beginning Band will practice on Mondays during recess from 11:50 AM to 12:20 PM.

Strings ⇒ The EAGLE Strings Program continues to grow and is particularly looking for more cellists! Laura Mericle (violin and viola) and Mark Bridges (cello) will offer private and group lessons, which will be scheduled during QRTs. Ensembles will rehearse on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Instrument Demonstrations and Trials ⇒ On **Tuesday, Sept. 4**, Christine, Laura, and Mark will conduct an instrument demonstration for all Junior 3/4s and any older students who are interested in joining band or strings for the first time. The demonstration will be held in the Auditorium from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. Instrument trials for strings and mouthpiece trials for band will take place throughout that day. An additional string instrument demonstration/trial for younger students, ages 5-8, will be scheduled on a separate date, yet to be determined.

Parent Meeting ⇒ An informational meeting for the parents of Beginning Band students, new band students, and new strings students is scheduled for **Tuesday, Sept. 4, at 7:00 PM**, in the Auditorium. If you cannot attend a meeting but would like to inquire about lessons, please contact the respective directors/teachers. Christine (band) may be reached at ceckel@eagleschool.org, Laura (violin and viola) may be reached at laura.mericle@gmail.com, and Mark (cello) may be reached at bridgescello@gmail.com.

August Aerie-Gram

In mid-August, all families will receive another Aerie-Gram containing details and sign-up sheets related to fall sports and after-school clubs/activities (including Study Club). If your child is interested in participating in extra-curriculars this fall, please read this newsletter and sign up by the designated deadlines.

Action Items!

Create Your *SignUpGenius* Account

As we organize various activities throughout the year, we often use *SignUpGenius* (SUG), an online program for managing events and volunteers. Every EAGLE family should open a FREE *SignUpGenius* account, which will be **used this summer** for certifying that you have read the school handbooks, and in the future for selecting conference start times, registering for Study Club, and/or volunteering for EPO-sponsored activities. Creating your account now will make it easy to manage your EAGLE School sign-ups down the road. Go to [SignUpGenius](#) to learn more.

EAGLE School Handbooks

All families are required to read all three of our school handbooks. The [Family Handbook](#) lists our expectations of students. Please read these EXPECTATIONS with your children. The [Volunteer Handbook](#) contains important information all adults should know about volunteering at EAGLE School. The [EPO \(EAGLE Parent Organization\) Handbook](#) provides a great overview of EAGLE culture—activities, events, and volunteer opportunities. After clicking on the above links and reading the information provided, please [click here](#) and check the appropriate boxes to indicate that you have reviewed all three handbooks.

Health Updates

If any changes related to your child's health (medications, allergies, physical limitations, etc.) have occurred this summer, please email updates to annlarget@eagleschool.org.

General Information

After-School Study Club

Each day from 3:25 to 5:30 PM, Study Club will be available for students in Nest-7/8. This teacher-supervised time will be broken into two one-hour segments. The first hour will consist of quiet study time, and the second hour will offer students an opportunity for recreation. Cost: \$12 per hour, per student, or \$10 per hour if registering two or more days in advance. On any given day, students may attend for either hour or both hours. Click [here](#) to learn more about EAGLE's [Study Club](#).

EAGLE Bus

Planning is now underway for this year's bus routes! Students may ride in the morning, the afternoon, or both ways. If you are interested in riding the bus on a regular basis and haven't yet indicated your interest to us, please email nadav.shelef@gmail.com **ASAP**. Bus-related questions may be directed to our volunteer bus coordinators, Denise Martin (denise.ek.martin@mac.com), Sara Guyer (guyer@wisc.edu), or Nadav Shelef at any time. Details about bus costs and routes will be emailed to families who registered for the bus later in the summer. For more information or to view last year's (2017-18) routes and rates, visit <http://eagleschoolbus.weebly.com/>.

Arriving Early at School

Students who must arrive at school before 8:00 AM should enter the building through the back doors of the Commons, where there will be a teacher supervising from 7:40 to 8:00 AM. These students will be expected to wait patiently and quietly in the Commons until they are dismissed at 8:00 AM. Early arrivals should not be dropped at the front doors, and no student should be at school before 7:40 AM. We are offering this "before school option" to families who must head to work early; it is our hope and recommendation that most students will continue to arrive between 8:00 and 8:20 AM, with every child in a classroom and ready for the start of the day at 8:25 AM.

School Calendar

View the latest version of our 2018-19 [school calendar](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

School Clean-Up

On Saturday, August 18, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, we will be working to prepare our building and grounds for the start of the new school year. Parent volunteers are needed to help with cleaning, painting, organizing, and weeding. Those who have already signed up via the school volunteer form will receive a confirmation email in early August. If you would like to help but have not signed up, please email carole@eagleschool.org to volunteer. (Only mature, hard-working children should accompany parents.)

Help in the Library

If you're available to volunteer in the library during the first two weeks of school, please contact librarian Ellen Bunn (ellen@eagleschool.org) with your preferred day(s) and time(s).

Special Recognition

EAGLE Students Shine at NHD Nationals

During the week of June 10-14, three EAGLE students, all part of "Team Wisconsin," participated in the National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland-College Park. Congratulations to **Hannah** and **Katherine** for placing 5th in the Junior Division for their group documentary, *Living with the Iron Curtain: The Conflict and Compromise of the Cold War in Europe*. We are so proud of these young historians!



EAGLE Students Travel to Costa Rica

In mid-June, five EAGLE students and one EAGLE alum journeyed to rural Costa Rica with chaperones Johel Saborio, Sara Bembenek and Jessica Devine. During their ten day stay, the travelers lived in the community of La Flor (300 residents), teaching English classes daily at the local elementary school. They also engaged with community members of all ages by hosting activities that incorporated indoor & outdoor games, science projects, and arts & crafts. In their leisure time, group members enjoyed touring a pineapple plantation, visiting an animal refuge, planting fruit trees at the school, and hiking through the forests and fields of Arenal

Volcano National Park. With the purpose of improving their Spanish, learning about Costa Rican culture, exploring nature, and providing service, these adventurous students greatly appreciated the many opportunities they had to learn and experience the Tico lifestyle.

Library News

EAGLE Summer Reading Recommendations

Visit [Summer Reading Recommendations](#) to find lists of great books for children and young adults. The lists use the EAGLE School library's K-8 labels as a guide to book selection and favor titles published recently. The site also includes tips for choosing a "good-fit book" and offers the opportunity to find "read-alike books" of a particular title or author. There's something for everyone, so be sure to check it out!

Search for Missing Books

Summer is a good time to ask your student(s) to look around at home, in the car, in school backpacks, etc., for EAGLE books that may have wandered away from the library or classrooms. Our books usually have a spine label and a library barcode. We welcome back to school any books that you happen to find.