



# EAGLE SCHOOL

## Aerie-Gram

www.eagleschool.org

(608) 273-0309

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**EAGLE School of Madison is an independent school dedicated to serving the educational needs of gifted and talented children, kindergarten through eighth grade, in the greater Madison area.**

### Looking Ahead

|    |      |                                                              |
|----|------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| F  | 7/29 | <u>Registration Materials Due in Main Office</u>             |
| Sa | 8/20 | Work Morning, 9:00 am-1:00 pm                                |
| Su | 8/28 | Back-to-School Ice Cream Social,<br>McKee Park, 1:00-4:00 pm |
| M  | 8/29 | New Student Orientation & Pizza Lunch,<br>8:25 am - Noon     |
| T  | 8/30 | First Day of School, 8:25 am – 3:10 pm                       |
| R  | 9/1  | 3/4-7/8 Band/Strings Meeting,<br>Auditorium, 7:00 pm         |
| M  | 9/5  | No School (Labor Day)                                        |
| W  | 9/7  | Back-to-School Night, 7:00 pm                                |
| W  | 9/28 | Picture Day                                                  |

### Orientation for Nest, Primary, and New Students

This year we will once again have a special morning of orientation just 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 29, from 8:25 to 11:20 AM** to meet teachers and gain some EAGLE insights as we launch into the 2016-17 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

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

**9:45 – 10:15** ⇒ “What’s Best for the Nest?” with Jane Kufel and Traci Murphy **OR** “Taking the Mystery Out of Math” (Math teachers share tips for helping your child transition to EAGLE math.)

**10:15 – 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 and enjoy lunch 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.



### 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, Carole Mason, has 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 e-mail and published weekly on the school website. **Please establish a habit of reading it every Thursday, as it contains valuable information.** (We do not send home paper copies, but a few are always available in the Main Office for quick reference.)



### Ice Cream Social at McKee 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 28, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM** at McKee Park (rain or shine). Come celebrate our new families and reunite with old friends. Hope to see you there! Call or text EPO president Tanya Buckingham at 576-3382 if you have any questions.



### First Full Day of School

On **Tuesday, August 30**, 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 in operation, 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 the bus or Study Club.)

### **Deadline for Registration is Important!**

Along with this newsletter you are receiving some very important forms and information. Please complete all registration materials and return them to the office **by Friday, July 29**. Why so soon? We must have emergency information on file for each child before the first day of school, and we need time to distribute information (e.g., allergies, health concerns) to all staff members. We also need to compile lists and assign tasks to parent volunteers. Please help us by getting your forms to the office before **July 29**. Thanks!



### **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.)

### **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 in the multi-purpose room or lower level classrooms, and the second hour will offer students an opportunity for recreation in the Commons, gym, or on the playground. Cost: \$12 per hour, per student. However, if registering two or more days in advance, the cost is \$10 per hour, per student. On any given day, students may attend for either hour or both hours. Information regarding Study Club registration will be emailed to all families in mid-August.

## **Parent Volunteers Needed**

### **SCHOOL CLEAN-UP**

On Saturday, August 20, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, we will be working to prepare our building for the start of the new school year. Parent volunteers are needed to help with, cleaning, painting, organizing, and small repairs. If you are able to join us, please sign up on the school volunteer form, mark your calendars and plan to attend. (Only mature, hard-working children should accompany parents.)

### **LIBRARY**

If you would like to get ahead on volunteer hours, consider helping in the EAGLE School library this summer. Any amount of time you can spare will be appreciated. To volunteer, please email librarian Ellen Bunn at [ellen@eagleschool.org](mailto:ellen@eagleschool.org)



### **Building Access Codes Assigned**

With student safety in mind, we have continued to examine the process by which individuals enter and leave our building, and we have recently implemented one important change. The main front doors have been replaced and will now be locked during the day; they will open with the use of a keypad attached to a door release system. Parents will be given an access code, which they may use to enter the building. Other visitors must use the intercom near the door to request access from office staff. Before releasing the door, an outside camera will allow office staff to see anyone wishing to enter.

An information sheet containing your assigned access code is included in your registration packet. Please review this sheet carefully to learn more about our new system for entering and leaving our building.



### **EAGLE Bus News**

Planning is now underway for bus students who live in west and far west Madison neighborhoods as well as a portion of Verona.

The morning route will likely begin near Ashman Library at High Point and Old Sauk Roads and include stops near Hilldale, Shorewood Hills, UW, and Edgewood schools. The second morning bus route will travel through the Hawks Landing area and include stops in subdivisions along Highway PD. The afternoon bus will stop at Sequoya Library and Ashman Library, and in several neighborhoods between those libraries. Students may ride in the morning only, the afternoon only, or both ways. If you are interested in riding the bus on a regular basis and haven't yet indicated your interest to us, email [moira@fitzgeraldconsultancy.com](mailto:moira@fitzgeraldconsultancy.com) no later than Monday, July 18. Any bus-related questions may be directed to our volunteer bus coordinators, Moira Fitzgerald (mom of Quinn Kammer, 5/6) and Erika Kluetmeier (mom of Luka, 5/6) at any time. Details about bus costs, routes, and new online registration will be emailed to registered families in late July.

### **EAGLE Family Handbook Going Paperless!**

Recently, all families should have received an email from Ann in the Main Office with several important attachments including our EAGLE Family Handbook. In the past, a hard copy of the handbook was included with our family directory; however, this year, to conserve resources, we have sent each family an electronic version of this important document. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with its content, as it provides answers to many of the questions that typically arise during the school year.

During the first week of school, our EAGLE School Directory will be distributed to all families. It will include a list of unit parents, EPO officers, and staff email addresses, as well as contact information for all families (addresses, phone numbers, and emails).

## 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 **Wednesday, Aug. 31**, 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 **Thursday, Sept. 1, 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 Eckel (band) may be reached at [ceckel@eagleschool.org](mailto:ceckel@eagleschool.org), Laura (violin and viola) may be reached at [laura.mericle@gmail.com](mailto:laura.mericle@gmail.com), and Mark (cello) may be reached at [cellobridges@gmail.com](mailto:cellobridges@gmail.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 "early arrivals" 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**.



## 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.

## EAGLE Summer Reading Recommendations

Visit the new library page on our EAGLE School website ([www.eagleschool.org](http://www.eagleschool.org)). Using the *Parents* tab, you will find book lists to help fill the summer with great literature 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!



## EAGLE Students Shine at Nationals

During the week of June 12-16, ten EAGLE students and one EAGLE alumna represented Wisconsin at the National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland-College Park. Congratulations to the following participants for their exceptional efforts:

Siena Perna & Lauren Stoneman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Group Documentary (Junior Division)

Ethan Kaji & Jack Knesek, 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Group Website (Junior Division)

Libby Pleva, *George Washington Leadership in History Award*, Individual Performance (Junior Division)



## Create Your 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 they will use 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 <http://www.signupgenius.com/> to learn more.



## Reporting an Absence

Parents should call school by 8:45 AM when a child is going to be absent. An email to a teacher or to the office does not take the place of a phone call. In the case of a planned absence, parents should notify the child's teachers, as well as the office, via **email**. (Teachers' email addresses will be available in the EAGLE Family Directory.) This will allow teachers to directly respond in regard to make-up work.



## We Appreciate Our Gardener

We extend our sincere appreciation to Vicki Lee-Springman, former EAGLE parent and volunteer gardener, for continuing to maintain the lovely flower gardens in the front of the school. They are truly a sight to behold!