



# 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

M	8/3	<u>Registration Materials Due in EAGLE Office</u>
Sa	8/22	Work Morning, 9:00 am-12:00pm
Su	8/23	Back-to-School Ice Cream Social, McGaw Park, 1:00-4:00 pm
W	8/26	New Student Orientation, 8:25 am - Noon
R	8/27	First Day of School
R	9/3	3/4-7/8 Band/Strings Meeting, Auditorium, 7:00 pm
M	9/7	No School (Labor Day)
W	9/9	Back-to-School Night, 7:00 pm
W	9/30	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 Wednesday, August 26, from 8:25 to 11:20 AM to meet teachers and gain some EAGLE insights as we launch into the 2015-16 school year. Although attendance by parents is not required, it is highly encouraged, as the following informational 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

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

**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 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 students, 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 Friday, as it contains valuable information. (We do not send home paper copies, but a few are always available in the office for quick reference.)



### Back-to-School Ice Cream Social

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 23, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at McGaw Park (rain or shine). Come celebrate our new families and reunite with old friends. Hope to see you there! Call or text EAGLE parent Jodie Johnson at [608-358-6289](tel:608-358-6289) if you have any questions.



### First Full Day of School

On Thursday, August 27, 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 later in this newsletter if you would like to sign up for the bus or Study Club.)

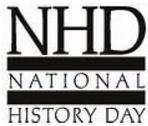
### **Deadline for Registration is Important!**

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 Monday, August 3.** 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) 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 August 3. 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.)



### **EAGLE Students Shine at Nationals**

During the week of June 14-18, seven EAGLE students and three EAGLE alumnae 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, 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Group Documentary (Junior Division)

Anna Stoneman (class of 2013), 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Individual Paper (Senior Division)

Laura Nicholas (class of 2014) was awarded the *Salute to Courage Award* and will represent Wisconsin at the opening of the new "Road to Tokyo" exhibit at the WWII Museum in New Orleans this December.

## **Parent Volunteers Needed**

### **SCHOOL CLEAN-UP**

On Saturday, August 22, from 9:00 AM to noon, 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 can spare some time during the weeks of August 10, 17, 24, or 31, please consider volunteering in the school library. If interested, email librarian Ellen Bunn ([ellen@eagleschool.org](mailto:ellen@eagleschool.org)) with your availability. Thanks!

### **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: \$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; however, if you would like your child to attend Study Club on the first day of school (August 27), please let us know via email at [studyclub@eagleschool.org](mailto:studyclub@eagleschool.org). For additional Study Club details, please see the flyer in your registration packet.

### **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, inked stamp inside the book, and/or library barcode. We welcome back to school any books that you happen to find.

### **Family Handbook & Directory**

In early September, our 2015-16 Handbook & Directory will be distributed to student lockers, one per family. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with this booklet, as it contains answers to many of the questions that typically arise during the school year.



### **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 Handbook & Directory.) This will allow teachers to directly respond in regard to make-up work.

## **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. Advanced lessons will begin on either Wednesday, Sept. 9, or Monday, Sept. 14, based on students' QRT schedules. The first full Flight (Advanced) Band rehearsal will take place, on Monday, Sept. 14. Beginning Band and lessons will begin on Monday, Sept. 14.

**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. Rehearsals and lessons will begin the week of Sept. 7. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

**Instrument Demonstrations and Trials** ⇒ On Wednesday, Sept. 2, Mrs. Eckel, Laura Mericle, and Mark Bridges 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. Look for an announcement in the next Aerie-Gram.

**Parent Meeting** ⇒ An informational meeting for the parents of Beginning Band students, new band students, and new strings students is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 3, 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).



## **EAGLE Bus News**

The big news for bus riders is that First Student Bus Company, which provided our school with service for 18 years, will close its Verona branch office on August 31. However, with our new bus company, Riteway, service to and from EAGLE will continue as usual with routes similar to last year's. Planning is now underway for bus students who live in west and far west Madison neighborhoods. The morning route will likely begin near Ashman Library at High Point and Old Sauk Roads and include stops near 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 around and 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 Fitzgerald at [moira@fitzgeraldconsultancy.com](mailto:moira@fitzgeraldconsultancy.com) no later than Monday, July 27. Any bus-related questions may be directed to our new parent volunteer bus coordinators, Moira (mom of Quinn, 4/5) and Erika (mom of Luka, 4/5) at any time. Details about bus costs and routes will be emailed to registered families in early August.