



# DaVinci Academy

## OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

CULTIVATING CURIOSITY | IGNITING EXCELLENCE



### School Links

[DaVinci Academy](#)  
[Staff Directory](#)  
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### Important Dates

9/26 School Board Mtg,  
6 pm

10/17 & 10/18 Parent  
Teacher Conferences

10/17 -10/21 No School

### Food Service Program

Current Lunch prices -  
including milk

Hot, Alt. or Emergency  
Lunch:

- Full Pay = \$3.50;
- Free/Reduced = \$0.00

Vegetarian Lunch:

- Full-pay = \$4.50;
- Reduced-price =

## Greetings!

To the left, you will find helpful links to important pages on our website (School Links), and will provide a quick list of upcoming events (Important Dates.)

## Basketball Tryouts

It's that time of the year again! Basketball is about to start here at DaVinci Academy. Please print out the attached flyer for details.

Tryout dates and times are as follows.

Boys & Girls, grades 2 to 4: Monday 10/3, 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm  
Boys & Girls, grades 5 to 8: Friday 10/7, 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm

See attached flyer for more information.

[Basketball Tryouts Flyer](#)



## Parent Teacher Conferences and The Scholastic Book Fair

Mark your calendar!

**Parent Teacher Conferences** will be held on October 17 & 18 from noon to 8pm.

**The Scholastic Book Fair** will be Oct 13th (preview day), 14th (during school, until 3:30) and Oct 17 & 18 (during conferences). If you are interested in helping with the book fair, please contact [Mrs. TenNapel](#) directly.

Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters and Bloomz announcements.

- \$0.40;
- Free = \$0.00

A La Carte Items -  
charged to ALL students:

- Milk-only = \$0.50;
- Pre-Ordered Extra slice of pizza = \$1.50,
- Emergency meals = \$3.50
- Extra Entree (Grade 6-8 only) = \$1.50

Current Breakfast Price:

- Full-pay = \$1.75
- Kindergarten = \$0.00
- Reduced-price = \$0.00
- Free = \$0.00

Go [here](#) to apply for free or reduced-price meals or to find out more about the food service program.

### PTO News

Link [here](#) to the PTO website or download the most recent [newsletter](#) (dated April 2016) for recent information.

### Label All Apparel

Help reduce our lost and found! Please label all clothing, outdoor and lunch boxes.

(Consider using [NameBubbles](#))

## Fill the New School with Books!! DaVinci Academy Book Drive

With the upcoming expansion, our new classrooms will also require an expansion! Research has shown a close link between "print-rich" classrooms and higher reading abilities.

The researchers examined the print climate in classrooms of three California communities. They found that students in schools with book ratios of only three books to every one pupil (versus the national average of 18:1) had low reading scores and few students went on to college.(1) The average of 18 books per child would be about 500 books per classroom. We want DaVinci Academy to be ABOVE AVERAGE! Help us achieve our goal of creating new print-rich classrooms for the expansion.

We will immediately begin accepting book donations for all reading levels. Need ideas for gathering books?

- Donate the books your children grow out of
- Find gently used books at garage sales or thrift stores
- Instead of sending birthday treats, come to class to read a book and then donate that book
- Purchase books from our upcoming Scholastic book fair

All donated books will be placed on display in our two book cases by the front entrance. Help us fill our shelves - several times - before the end of the year! You can see we have already started.



1) Sharpe, Wesley, Ed.D. "Reading Aloud – Is It Worth It?" Education World, 28 July 2009. Web. 20 Sept. 2016.

# 2016-2017 Academic Competitions

[\(Terry Moffat\)](#)

Below you will find a listing of the current academic competitions that are accepting participants. There is no charge to participate in these activities, however the school does pay a fee for most of them so it is important that your child commit to an activity if they are signing up. If the activity has an asterisk (\*) behind it, you need to either sign up on the enrollment form attached or have your child sign up in class. Please also note that most of these activities require study outside of the school day, so again, make sure your child is committed to that activity prior to registering.

## **Continental Math League (Grades 2 - 8)**

Continental Math League is a competition for students in grades 2 - 8. Students in grades 4 - 8 compete in five tests and students in grades 2 - 3 compete in three. All of the tests will take place during math classes this year. Students do not need to sign up to take the tests, but in order to qualify for the program, students need to take ALL of the tests. The tests consist of six questions and students have 30 minutes to take each test. The first test will be given in November. If any students would like to practice for the tests, all of the math teachers will have packets in their classrooms that can be taken home.

## **National Science League (Grades 5 and 8)**

All students in grades 5 and 8 will take the National Science League test. This is one test and it will take place on May 2. This is a good way for students in these grades to prepare for the Science MCA. The National Science League test is 40 questions and covers life science, earth science and physical science.

## **Wordmaster's Challenge (Grades 3 - 8)\***

Wordmaster's Challenge is for students in grades 3 - 8. In order to participate in this program, students **need to sign up**. There are three tests during the year which are 20 questions in the form of analogies. For this challenge, students do need to study outside of school. To this end, after the word lists are released, each grade group will have one day to stay after school to study. The tests will also be given after school. All of the dates will be confirmed with the participants once they have signed up. The first test will be given in November and the word lists will be handed out in October.

## **National Geographic Geography Bee (Grades 4 - 8)\***

This year we are going to join the National Geographic Geography Bee. Students who are interested in competing will receive study materials in early October. The studying will need to be done outside of the school day. On January 19, 2017, the school Geography Bee will be held. The winner of the school bee will take a state bee qualifying test on February 9. If the student qualifies, the state bee will be held on March 31. There is the possibility of going on to the National Geography Bee, but those details will be made available as necessary! Students do need to sign up for this activity in order to receive the study packets.

**To sign up for Wordmasters Challenge or National Geographic Geography Bee, please click on the link below.**

[Sign Up Form](#)

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# Ham Lake Site Update



Do you recognize our Ham Lake property? The land has been graded and is ready for the foundation to be dug during the first weeks of October. Until then work will be done to prepare the parking lot. Look for walls to start going up sometime after Thanksgiving.

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## Did Your Child Lose a Personal Device?

On September 14th a personal device was left on the red bus. If your child is missing it please see [Mrs. Fischer](#).

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## 2017-18 Enrollment is Now Open

We are now accepting applications for the 2017-18 school year for students who would like to attend DaVinci Academy for grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. To complete an application for the next school year click [here](#). Click on the Online Enrollment. Sign up through our new online enrollment system and then complete and submit the application.

All new students who are interested and not currently enrolled at DaVinci Academy, including siblings, must complete an application. Applications are due by January 31 to be included in the lottery for the 2017-18 school year.

Our next Information Session for prospective families is September 27th at 6:00 pm. Information Sessions are for those who may be interested in attending DaVinci Academy. Please feel free to share this information with your family or friends.

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# Eagle Bluff Wrap-Up

(Aaron Melander)

The 6-8 grade team embarked on the annual Eagle Bluff trip this past August for a three-day adventure-filled experience. The students received the opportunity to blend education with teamwork, courage, exploration, and lots of physical activity at the Eagle Bluff campus near Lanesboro, MN.

Students stayed in dorms and participated in several classes. Among the classes were: canoeing, treetops ropes and zip line courses, pioneer life, rock climbing and exploration of the ecosystems of Eagle Bluff. Judging by the smiles and excitement during the trip, and the exhausted students after the trip, it is safe to say the trip was a great success.



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## Valuable free resource for families, students and schools

Read this informative article that was published this past August on [HometownSource.com](http://HometownSource.com).

"Reach for the Stars catalog is a free, remarkable resource for Minnesota families, students and schools. It lists more than 100 local, statewide and national opportunities for young people ages 5-18 to learn, compete and share what they know."

[Link here for the full article and catalog](#)

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## 2015-16 Yearbooks for Sale

If you didn't get a yearbook *last year* and would still like to purchase one, we have a small quantity available. The price is \$20 per yearbook. Send check or cash to the school office with a note "15-16 yearbook purchase". They will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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## Food Service

[\(Lee Swearingen\)](#)

All students that want to have school provided breakfast or lunch are **required** to order meals. Please see the food service [web page](#) for details on ordering and paying for meals.

Emails are sent out around the 15th of each month. If you are not receiving both the breakfast and the lunch order emails and would like to order meals, please send a request [here](#).

If you want to apply for free or reduced price meals, please complete and return this [Application for Educational Benefits](#).

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