



# DaVinci Academy

## OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

CULTIVATING CURIOSITY | IGNITING EXCELLENCE



### School Links

[DaVinci Academy](#)  
[Staff Directory](#)  
[Food Service](#)  
[School Calendar](#)  
[School Supplies](#)  
[Volunteer Information](#)  
[Anti-Bullying Policy](#)

### Important Dates

(subject to change - see  
[online calendar](#))

**12/11 Finance  
Committee Meeting,  
6:00 p.m.**

**12/12 5th/6th grade  
Band/Orchestra  
Concert, 5:00 p.m.  
7th/8th grade  
Band/Orchestra  
Concert, 7:00 p.m.**

**12/18 School Board  
Meeting, 6:00 p.m.**

**12/18-12/20 Middle  
School Eagle Bluff  
Trip**

**12/20 Kindergarten  
Penguin Party,  
1:30 p.m.**

**12/21-1/2  
No School - Winter  
Break**

## Greetings!

To the left, you will find helpful links to important pages on our website (School Links).

## NEED TO KNOW.....

### Winter is Here



Please don't forget to leave  
with plenty of time to get your  
child to school before the 8

o'clock bell. Drop off takes much longer when everyone  
arrives at 7:55 a.m. The best time to drop off between  
7:30 - 7:50 a.m.

### Session 2 Extracurricular Registration is Now Open

Registration for session 2 of extracurricular activities is  
now open.

Session 2 will run January 8 - February 16, from 3:15  
p.m- 4:15 p.m. The deadline for registration is December  
15, at 5:00 p.m. Please remember that you need to pick  
your child up from the classroom when class is done at  
4:15 p.m.

Click [here](#) to register for classes.

## 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 = \$0.40;
- Free = \$0.00

A La Carte Items - charged to ALL students:

- Milk-only = \$0.50;
- 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.

## Band & Orchestra Concerts

([Mr. Hebert](#))

DaVinci Academy bands and orchestras are performing on Tuesday, December 12th, and they are ready to shine!



The 5/6th grade concert is at 5:00 p.m. and the 7/8th grade concert is at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center (PAC).

This event fills up fast, so please come early for a good seat.

See you soon!

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## Middle School Winter Choir Concert 12/14

([Mr. Hanson](#))

6th Grade Choir, 7th & 8th Grade Choir & Chamber

Choir will perform on Thursday, December 14th at 6 p.m. in the auditorium.

Students should arrive 30 minutes before the concert (5:30 p.m.) in the choir room.

Concerts are required for all choir students. If you have a family emergency or other excused event (wedding, funeral, major sickness, etc.), please contact Mr. Hanson ASAP.

**All students will need to wear a white dress top, black dress bottom, black socks and black shoes. Girls can wear a dress with black tights as long as it is white on the top and black on the bottom half.** Yoga/athletic pants or leggings/jeggings are not acceptable.

Looking forward to sharing our music with you!

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## Ways to Get Involved With the DaVinci Academy Board

(Mr. Meisner)

Given the many new families at DaVinci Academy, I imagine parents are curious about how they could get involved to support our school's success. Some of you may be able to spend time in the classroom, others may participate in the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization), and some may want to learn about school governance: the DaVinci Academy Board of Directors. Our school board is a group of nine volunteers - parents, teachers, and community members - that are responsible for setting the overall direction for DaVinci Academy and ensuring we comply with all our legal, financial, and academic obligations. Each board member's term is for three years, with elections each February. [DaVinci Academy Board Nomination Form](#)

If the idea of serving on the board interests you, there is also an excellent and important way that parents or guardians can start to engage with the board and "learn the ropes": it's by volunteering for a board committee. Our bylaws set up a committee-based board system, where a handful of committees are responsible for areas of operation, and those committees bring issues and recommendations to the board for final decisions by board vote. Our current committees are Finance, Policy, HR/Compensation, Tech/Curriculum, and Development (fundraising). Each committee needs a few volunteers to help research and consider issues, and develop recommendations. It's an easy and low-pressure way to get involved. Feel free to reach out to me [rmeisner@davincicharterschool.org](mailto:rmeisner@davincicharterschool.org) or any of the committee leaders listed on this page: <https://davincicharterschool.org/our-school/board-of-directors/#committees>.

And thank you for any way you choose to support our school.

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## Pick Up

(Mrs. Fischer)



On busy pick up days when there are cars waiting on the street to get into the parking lot it works best if cars can take the spots on the left of the pick up lane. As long as you give your kids a wave so that they see you across the parking lot they can cross at the cross walk and take the sidewalk to meet your car. Please let your kids know that you might park on that side sometimes and take those spots as they open up. Thank you for your help!

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## Lost and Found

Please check this area before the holiday break because there are lots of outdoor things that might be needed!

On December 22nd all items will be donated to the National Honor



Society at Andover High School. They are collecting gently used items for children in need in Anoka Hennepin schools.

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NICE TO KNOW.....

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## Honor Band

[\(Mr. Hebert\)](#)

We have four students who were selected for the CMBDA 6-8th grade regional honor band this



year. Congratulations to Ellen F, Elma H, Bryce N, and Sophia Z.

If you see them give them a high five and tell them job well done for being great musicians who have earned the right to represent DaVinci Academy at this annual event!

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## Teacher of the Week!



Congratulations to Ms. Arboleda for being chosen for KS95 Teacher of the Week. Thank you for all your hard work and everything you do for your students.

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## Exciting News From the Cafeteria

[\(Mrs. Anderson\)](#)

I wanted to share some exciting news that I have received after our audit by Anoka County Recycling & Resource Solutions. This information was based on one day of measurements.

Overall there were 13.1 pounds of trash ( 6.7%), 34.1 pounds of recycling ( 17.3%) and 150 pounds of organics (76%) collected at lunch. This is an overall diversion of 93.3% of waste being kept out of the landfill everyday. That comes out to 14.52 tons of organics, 3.44 tons of recycling and 1.33 tons of trash that is produced during the lunches throughout the whole school year. These are awesome results.

Also, we are proud to be one of the first in Anoka County to continue to strive to help stamp out hunger by providing our students with a "Sharing is Caring" bin located at lunch time. For those of you unaware of this awesome program, here is how it works. As students bring their trays up to dispose of its contents, they are allowed to place any unopened and wrapped items into the iced bin for another child to eat or drink. We have noticed a huge reduction of food and milk being wasted!

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## Upcoming Annual Holiday Party for Our Teachers & Staff

[\(Ms. Higgins\)](#)

This year, the event will be catered right here in our beautiful new building! The PTO will contribute funds toward the event and would be honored if you would help too!



Please consider Sponsoring a Teacher for the event. A donation of \$20 pays for one teacher or staff member to attend the party. Cash and Checks (made out to DaVinci PTO) may be sent to the school office with your student in an envelope marked "Sponsor a Teacher" through December 15th.

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## There's Snow Place Like the



# Library

[\(Mrs. Brown\)](#)



Overdue book reminders will be coming home soon. Please check at home and help get them into backpacks.

Oh the weather outside is frightful, but returned books are so delightful!

Thank you

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## Winter Gear Donations

[\(Mrs. Fischer\)](#)

The Andover  
High School  
National  
Honor Society  
is collecting



hats, mittens, coats, snowpants and boots for its first ever Winter Gear Drive. Please consider donating new or gently used winter gear this holiday season. Snowpants and boots are especially needed.

No child or family should have to face winter (much less a Minnesota winter) without proper supplies.

Donations will support Evergreen Park Elementary in the Anoka-Hennepin School District and Community Emergency Aid Providers in Blaine.

Please bring in donations to DaVinci Academy for collection up through December 22nd, everything helps! A collection box will be located in the Performing Arts Center lobby by the front door.

Thank you for your help making this Drive successful.

Sincerely,

Jack Fischer (NHS Vice-President)

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ONGOING NEWS.....

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## Lunch Account Balances

([Mrs. Anderson](#))

Parents can always view their student's lunch balance at [SchoolPaymentPortal.com](http://SchoolPaymentPortal.com). To keep the balance positive, one can pay by credit card on the website or bring cash or check to the school office. Please take the time to review your student's account.

If you have any questions contact [Cassandra Anderson](#), Food Service Lead.

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## 2018-19 Enrollment is Now Open

([Mrs. Hartfield](#))

We are now accepting applications for the 2018-19 school year for students who would like to attend DaVinci Academy for grades Kindergarten through 8th grade.

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, 2018, to be included in the enrollment lottery for the 2018-19 school year.

**To complete an application for the next school year click [here](#).** Click on "Online Application". Sign up through our online enrollment system and then complete and submit the application.

Our next Information session for prospective families is Tuesday, January 23, at 6:00 p.m. 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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## Outdoor Attire Reminder

([Mr. Eldred](#))

If there is snow on the playground or field and students want to play in it,



they need to wear snow pants and winter boots. If they do not have snow pants and winter boots, they will need to stay on the sidewalk during recess time.

Please send your students to school with warm clothing for outdoor play as they will go out for recess every day



that the temperature permits.

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## Free Silent Dismissal App

[\(Mrs. Fischer\)](#)



Have you ever been unsure about whether your number got put in to the system at the end of the day? Sometimes frozen fingers make errors. Using the Silent Dismissal app allows you to dismiss your child to your car when you are in the parking lot. We would love for all families who pick up students to download the app. When you do, please [email Nicole Hartfield](#) and let her know what kind of phone you have. That way, she can enable the app for you. **It will not work until this process has been completed.**

Thank you so much!

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