



DaVinci Connection

DATES TO REMEMBER

School Board Election

Now through Friday,
February 10 (Poll closes at
5:00 pm)

Communications Committee

Tuesday, February 7
5:00 pm
Room 302

Fundraising Committee

Wednesday, February 8
4:30 pm
Room 305

Compensation Committee

Wednesday, February 8
6:00 pm
Room 305

Finance Committee

Wednesday, February 8
7:30 pm
Room 305

Annual Meeting

Monday, February 13
6:00 pm
Room 302

Talent Show

Monday, February 13
7:00 pm
Gym

Find more upcoming events
on the DaVinci Academy
home page, or go to the
"Calendar" page for future
important dates.

[http://davincicharterschool.org/
Calendar.aspx](http://davincicharterschool.org/Calendar.aspx)

13001 Central Ave NE
Blaine, MN 55434
763-754-6577

www.davincicharterschool.org

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2012-13

(by Cory Klabunde, School Director)

I hope everyone is having a great new year, and your resolutions are still alive and active. My personal resolution this year is to keep more balance in my life. To that end, I must be very organized and constantly look forward to what is coming up.

This same thing applies for our school. Now is when DaVinci Academy administrators really start looking at what we need to put in place to improve our programs for the 2012-13 school year.

One way you can help DaVinci Academy improve is by becoming a parent volunteer on school board committees starting this year. Currently, we have seven committees that meet monthly to discuss the needs of the school. The committees are: Communications, Compensation, Facilities, Finance, Fundraising (new), Policies/Procedure, and Technology. Each committee is valuable to the success of DaVinci Academy!

Each committee has some volunteers on them, but we still need more parent participation. Parent input is crucial to the success of DaVinci Academy, and your time and talents will be used to their fullest potential. Being active on these committees will help you better understand what it takes for DaVinci Academy to become a model charter school. Check out the school board web page (<http://davincicharterschool.org/board-of-directors>) to see the board calendar and more detailed descriptions of the committees. Simply email the committee chair or myself if you have any questions or are interested in participating.

Committee Highlights

The new Fundraising Committee is organizing our first big fundraising event – a golf tournament on August 3, 2012, at Majestic Oaks! This committee has approximately six members, and we are looking for additional volunteers to help organize the event, request grants, and assist with the innumerable items required to host a golf tournament. This endeavor is much too large for six people, so if you have an interest or experience in fundraising, join us on the committee.

Two other committees I would like to highlight are the Facilities and Technology Committees. Over the next several months, both of these committees will be heavily involved in planning and executing our next building expansion. With the addition of 9th grade next year, the Facilities Committee will continue to plan for the high school location.

In conjunction with the expansion, the Technology Committee is presently updating our three-year Technology Plan. It is examining what facility changes will or may occur and how they will affect us over the next three years. If you have a talent and interest in technology, your participation is needed on this committee.

Over the next several months, the school board committees will work hard to improve this in all aspects of DaVinci Academy. Your help on these committees is crucial, and the time to take an active role in your child's future at DaVinci Academy. I look forward to seeing new, excited faces on the committees. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email me.



100TH DAY CELEBRATION

(by Cristina Mitchell, AM Kindergarten Teacher)

For most of DaVinci Academy, the 100th day of school went by unnoticed, but kindergarten made it an all-day celebration! Friday, January 27, was the 100th day of school, and it was a day the students had been looking forward to all year.

We celebrated the number 100 in everything we did, including entering the classroom by crawling through big "100" sign, searching around the room to find 100 hidden cubes, drawing what we would look like at 100 years old, making crowns, reading 100th day books, and singing songs. We also compared and weighed our 100th day collections that students brought from home!

In addition, each student had a chance to earn a dollar bill by reaching into a container of pennies and trying to pull out exactly 100. Some students were close, but we were unable to give the money away this year.

Since community service is part of DaVinci Academy's mission statement, kindergarten also did a 100th day canned food drive. Our goal was to collect 100 cans, but we ended up with 157 cans of food that will be delivered to a local food shelf! As we collected the cans, we stacked them in groups to practice counting to 100. The children were very proud the day we reached 100 cans!

VOLUNTEER CORNER

(by Lee Swearingen, Volunteer Coordinator)

When volunteering at DaVinci Academy, please sign in and out at the HelpCounter kiosk located at the front desk. Not only does this log your hours, it also allows the school to know who is in the building at all times. Also remember to take a "Visitor" badge.

Current Volunteer Opportunities:

- Catalog unused books
- Catalog technology equipment
- Ongoing copying projects

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

--Mother Teresa

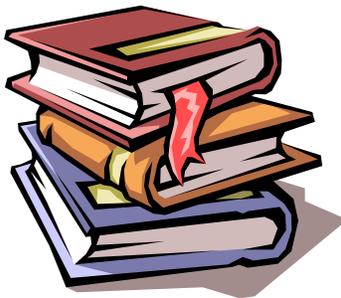




PTO PLACE

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1-29 ~ Read-a-Thon
 February 8, 7:30-8:30 am ~ Muffins with Moms
 February 10, 5:00-7:00 pm ~ Book Swap/Bingo
 February 15, 7:30-8:30 am ~ Donuts with Dads
 February 28 ~ PTO Meeting
 March 1 ~ Chili Feed/All-School Celebration



READ-A-THON EVENTS

- Stop by on Wednesday, February 8, from 7:30-8:30 am for "Muffins with Moms." This is a chance to share special time reading with Mom. State Senator Michelle Benson will read aloud during this time, along with other guests.
- And, of course, Wednesday "Donuts with Dads" is on February 15, from 7:30-8:30 am. This is a perfect time to get some reading minutes in and also spend quality time with Dad! State Representative Branden Petersen will read aloud, along with other guest readers.
- Don't forget about our Friday night Book Swap/Bingo! Join us on February 10, from 5:00-7:00 pm (in the commons area) to play some free bingo and swap gently used books.

For more Read-a-Thon information, contact [Tammy Ness](#).

QUESTIONS ABOUT FAMILY READING LOG

This year, the Read-a-Thon includes the whole DaVinci Academy community by promoting family reading time. If a family member reads with a DaVinci Academy student, we will add those minutes to our total as well. The only requirement to include family member minutes is that everyone is together; minutes reading aloud, reading silently, or listening to audio books count as long as everyone is in the same room. Research shows that reading aloud to children of any age improves their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and best of all, their attitude about reading!

ORDER YOUR SPIRITWEAR

Order your long sleeve polo shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts with the embroidered DaVinci Academy logo! The PTO will place a Spiritwear order on February 15, so get your order form in. All items are red in color, and the logo is white. Get your high-quality Spiritwear in approximately two weeks. The order form is attached to this email. If you have questions, contact [Tammy Ness](#).

WAYS TO GIVE

Help effortlessly support DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science! With our new toolbar, every time you shop at one of more than 1,600 participating stores, a percentage of your purchase will automatically go to our cause (at no extra cost to you)! Visit [Goodsearch.com](#).

WE NEED YOU

Do you need to get your 40? The PTO needs volunteers to help collect pledges for the Read-a-Thon during all lunch hours in February between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. We also need volunteers to help with the Book Swap on February 10, Wednesday morning reading times with moms and dads on February 8 and 15, and the All-School Celebration on March 1. Various help is needed, so please contact [Dina Lantzer](#).

We also need extra hands to help with the Silent Auction/Spaghetti Dinner in April. To volunteer with this event, contact [Lisa King](#).

