



# DaVinci Connection

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**First Day of School**

**August 8, 2011**

**Open Houses:**

**Grades: K-2**

**Tuesday, August 2**

**5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Grades: 3-5**

**Wednesday, August 3**

**5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Grades: 5-8**

**Thursday, August 4**

**5:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Welcome Picnic**

**Thursday, August 11**

**5:00—7:00 p.m.**

**Picture Day**

**Friday, August 19**

**PTO General Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 23**

**6:30 p.m.**

**School Supplies Link:**

**[Davincicharterschool/  
School Supplies](http://www.davincicharterschool.org/School_Supplies)**

**13001 Highway 65 North**

**Blaine, MN 55434**

**763-754-6577**

**[www.davincicharterschool.org](http://www.davincicharterschool.org)**

## A MESSAGE FROM TERRI SHEEHAN, DAVINCI ACADEMY BOARD CHAIR

All of us at DaVinci Academy are looking forward to the beginning of our fourth school year. Our administration, teachers and staff are excited to welcome our students back for what we know will be an enjoyable, challenging year.

As our school has grown and developed over the past three years, your School Board decided it was appropriate to take a look at our mission and vision statements and the pillars we use as the foundation of everything we do at DaVinci Academy. This was a significant undertaking.

We have revised all three documents to more concisely reflect our current mission and vision and to more accurately describe the components of the pillars we use to accomplish our mission and vision. You can find them on our website, [davincicharterschool.org](http://www.davincicharterschool.org), found under the "About Us" tab.

We encourage you to take the time to review them. Although our basic mission and vision have remain unchanged, the Board believes the revised statements more accurately reflect our current focus. The revised pillars include the key elements in our curriculum and educational process that are the foundation of the learning experience we deliver at DaVinci Academy.

As always, we welcome any comments or questions you may have. Please direct them to me or Mr. Cory Klabunde, our School Director.

## **OPEN POSITION: 3 HOUR POSITION IN THE KITCHEN**

Currently, DaVinci Academy has an opening in the kitchen for a person interested in serving healthy food to our students. This position will start approximately on August 3 to meet with the other kitchen position and to get the kitchen ready for school. This position starts at 10:30a.m. and then will be done at 1:30p.m. If you are interested in this position, please send an email or mail to Cory Klabunde, [cklabunde@davincicharterschool.org](mailto:cklabunde@davincicharterschool.org) with your letter of interest and a resume. You will also need to fill out an employment application from the school's website <http://www.davincicharterschool.org/davinci-employment>.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

- Volunteers are needed to help with a partial media/technology center rearrange. Needs include moving books, bookcases and computer desks, as well as re-wiring the computers after the desks have moved.
- We will be re-arranging the library on Wednesday, July 27 at 5:00pm. Please call Cory Klabunde at 763-754-6577 if you are able to help in any way.
- An opportunity to use your organizational skills – We are looking for several volunteers to clean and organize the school's store room. This room needs your assistance and we are thinking it will take three to four people a couple of hours to make this store room ready for the new school year. Please contact Cory Klabunde at [cklabunde@davincicharterschool.org](mailto:cklabunde@davincicharterschool.org) or



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## FROM THE DESK OF THE STUDENT DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

My name is Gregg Eldred. I am married to my wife Linda and have three grown children, Brad, Nicole and Kyle. I have been in education for twenty-six years. I taught Physical Education, Health and Adaptive P.E. as well as coached Football and Wrestling for twenty-one years. The last five years, I have been in administration. Most recently, I was a Principal of a Pre-K Charter School and an Assistant High School Principal in the Sparta Area School District, in Sparta, Wisconsin. I am very excited to be the new Student Development Coordinator and look forward to working with the students, parents, staff and school board at DaVinci Academy.

I will be working with the staff this year to promote positive behaviors in students along with helping the teachers create student management plans for their classrooms. I believe it's important to be consistent when dealing with student behavior. If a student receives a discipline referral, a parent/legal guardian **will** be notified by the teacher or me.

The Uniform Policy (<http://davincicharterschool.org/uniform-policy>) will be strictly enforced this year. We have developed a new Uniform Violation Form which students will be issued when they are in violation of the policy. If a uniform violation occurs, a **Uniform Violation Form** will be completed and sent home. Parents/legal guardians are asked to sign the form and return it to school with their child the next school day.

We have implementing a new **Discipline Referral** form which will be issued to students if they display inappropriate behaviors that are listed as category two or category three behavior violations. You will receive a phone call from the school if your child receives a discipline referral and a copy of a completed form will be mailed home.

We also will be implementing **Positive Referrals** to recognize students that are displaying positive behaviors. When a student receives a positive referral, I will bring the student to my office. I will call one of the student's parents or guardians and let the student read it to them. A copy will be sent home while another copy will be placed in the student's file. We want to recognize good behavior.

Please see the attached documents to the newsletter email to see examples of the referral forms.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the Open Houses and during the school year. If you have any questions, please email me at [gedred@davincicharterschool.org](mailto:gedred@davincicharterschool.org) or call me at 763-754-6577 ext. 116.

## 2011-12 BUS ROUTE SCHEDULE

Attached to the newsletter is the 2011-12 school bus route schedule. Through the family survey, parents replied that they are very interested in lowering the amount of time on the school bus. The administration and the school board listened and will be adding an additional bus route. We will now have four buses that will be picking up and dropping off kids this year. Please review the new 2011-12 bus route schedule, carefully, because some of the stops have moved to a different bus route color.

We will have a red, blue, yellow, and a green bus route. Please review the attached schedule to see what bus stop or route will work for your family. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Klabunde.

## BUS DISCIPLINE ISSUES

Through the parent survey many parents replied with concerns about discipline behavior on the bus. Gregg Eldred, our new Student Development Coordinator, will be working with our bus contractor to improve the students' behaviors on the school bus. Last week, the School Director, Cory Klabunde, met with the bus contractor to discuss the stakeholders concern with bus safety, the length of the bus ride, and other comments that were reported through the family survey. The bus company was very accommodating and is willing to improve and correct any issues parents have. If you have any concerns or issues with the school buses, please contact Gregg Eldred or Cory Klabunde so the school can address and correct your concerns or issues right away.





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## NEW MILK OFFERINGS

New from Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), schools must offer two low-fat milk options. Last year we offered 1%, 2%, and Chocolate milk as our milk offerings. Next year, students will choose from Skim, 1%, and Chocolate milk as their options. The change you will notice we will no longer be offering 2% milk and we have switched to Skim milk. MDE does not recognize 2% milk as a low-fat milk product. If your child drank 2% milk last year, please let them know that this has changed and they will need to choose another type of milk product.

## PRETEENS NEED SHOTS, TOO!

Call to schedule your child's pre-teen doctor visit today! The preteen doctor visit is key to a healthy start for adolescence. It's also the perfect opportunity to discuss ways to stay healthy, such as eating right, being active, and standing up to peer pressure. The doctor will also recommend immunizations to protect your child from some serious diseases. Some immunizations help strengthen your child's baby shots and others are new for pre-teens. If you are concerned about the cost of shots, free or low cost immunizations are available. Talk to your doctor or clinic. (Compliments of the Minnesota Department of Health- MDH)

## ROAD CONSTRUCTION

County road 14 (Main Street) will be under construction until August 2012. Along with this, the service road on the west side of Highway 65 by 129<sup>th</sup> street is also under construction. Please be aware of these road improvements and plan accordingly when you are driving to DaVinci Academy.

## PTO Place

### MEET N' GREET

Announcing our first ever PTO and Administration Meet n'Greet on August 25th! Parents will be invited to come meet the PTO and Administration on a grade level basis. Look for more information to be provided in upcoming newsletters.

### INTEREST & TALENT

Be on the look-out for our new Interest & Talent Survey to be coming out to you soon. It will provide you with many different opportunities and ways of successfully reaching your volunteer hour goals with the school. Examples of these opportunities can vary from things such as classroom time to field trips, construction or even serving on a committee.

### UNIFORM SWAP & SPIRITWEAR

The PTO will be holding it's annual Uniform Swap during the Open House. Bring in your gently-used uniforms and receive an article of clothing for each that you bring in. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee that all sizes are available. We will also be selling DaVinci SpiritWear and will have some in stock and available for purchase the night of Open House. Stop by and see us!

## PTO LOGO ART CONTEST

The DaVinci PTO would like to create our own distinct logo and would like to incorporate and showcase the art from one of DaVinci Academy's own students.

Rules:

1. Must be "drawn" art, not photograph
  2. Must include the words: DaVinci PTO
  3. Must incorporate children or hands into the drawing in some way
  4. Must be black & white, no color please
  5. Contest ends September 30th
- Please submit all entries to front desk and Ms. Bouwman will put them in the PTO mailbox. The winner will receive a prize, yet to be determined.

## BASKETS, BASKETS, BASKETS

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who has donated baskets for the Silent Auction in the upcoming school year. Our goal is to have 60 baskets or containers and we are half way there! Please keep us in mind if you see any baskets, or containers that could be useful while you are out at garage sales. Feel free to think outside the box! If you would like to donate, please contact Jill at [jmechelke@live.com](mailto:jmechelke@live.com).