



DaVinci Connection

DATES TO REMEMBER

Orchestra, Band, & Choir
Concert

Tuesday, May 15
6:30 pm
Gymnasium

PTO General Meeting
Wednesday, May 16

6:30 pm
Room 305

School Board Meeting
Monday, May 21

6:00 pm
Room 305

Intersession
May 21-May 25

No School
May 21 - June 1

Facilities Committee
Wednesday, May 23
6:30 pm
Room 302

School Resumes
Monday, June 4

SEAC Meeting
Thursday, May 17
6:00 pm
Room 302

Policies/Procedures
Committee
Monday, June 4
6:00 pm
Room 302

Technology Committee
Monday, June 4
6:00 pm
Room 305

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

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

www.davincicharterschool.org

DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

*(by Gregg Eldred, Student
Development Coordinator)*

Warmer weather is here, but it's still important to follow DaVinci Academy's Dress Code guidelines. Common springtime dress code violations include:

- shirts not tucked in
- wearing jeans or sweatpants
- wearing no socks
- wearing a red shirt that is not polo style
- wearing a shirt underneath the polo shirt that's not red or white
- wearing shorts or skirts that aren't knee length or longer
- wearing flip flops, beach shoes, or slippers

School Uniform Policy Enforcement:

Some DaVinci Academy students have had two or three uniform policy violations. If a student receives a 4th violation, after-school detention is scheduled, and a parent meeting is scheduled either in-person or over the telephone. If you are unsure about an article of clothing or footwear, please call me at (763) 754-6577, x116, or visit www.davincicharterschool.org/uniform-policy, and review the current approved uniform policy.

1st Violation - Verbal warning

2nd Violation - Slip sent home (needs to be returned the next day or the student will miss recess the next day)

3rd Violation - Loss of recess

4th Violation - After-school detention/
parent meeting

SCIENCE CORNER

*(by Holly Fischer, Instructional
Coordinator, & Michelle Berth,
4th Grade Teacher)*

On May 1, DaVinci Academy 4th graders had the exciting opportunity to meet with WCCO Meteorologist Chris Schaffer. As part of the 4th grade science curriculum, students have been exploring the fascinating elements of weather around the world.

Chris spoke to students about different weather phenomena, how to be safe in dangerous weather situations, and what it takes to be a meteorologist. He mesmerized the students for an hour while he shared personal experiences and allowed them to share with him. Students had time to ask some intriguing questions, a few of which even stumped Chris!

Overall, the students had a great time learning and exploring the world of meteorology and were excited to take their knowledge home to their families. The 4th graders were even featured for a few moments on television during Chris's May 1 weather forecast. Find it [here](#).





ART FAIR A SUCCESS

(by Molly Platisha, Art Teacher)

The 4th Annual DaVinci Academy Art Fair was a huge success! We had 100% participation from the students and are extremely proud of all of their work!

The theme was Color and Light, and it was neat to see each individual's interpretation. There were a variety of ideas -- from paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, woodwork, to food art. There was a little bit of everything in our gallery show!

Thank you to all who attended the Art Fair and for the hard work by our volunteers!



SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

(by Therese O'Meara, School Development Committee Chair)

The School Development Committee has undergone some changes but is rolling along with everything. These changes have included the change in committee name from the formerly titled "Fundraising Committee" to the currently titled "School Development Committee." This was brought about as the committee was developing its procedure and found it is dedicated to organizing many items that benefit in development of the school, such as grants, and not just fundraising.

A current project in the works includes grant writing for new curriculum focused on K-2. In addition, we have the wonderful Friends of DaVinci Golf Tournament fast approaching on Friday, August 3, at Majestic Oaks Golf Club. Volunteers are needed and you can contact Mary Walker, Golf Tournament Coordinator ([see May 1 newsletter article](#)). This includes items to be completed in the evenings and on weekends, allowing for more flexibility for parents who can't fulfill daytime volunteer hours.

The fundraising calendar is currently being organized for the 2012-13 school year. Please contact us if you anticipate leading any event that would raise funds or resources on behalf of DaVinci Academy, as we are working to make this a more organized process given stakeholder feedback. We can be reached by clicking [here](#).

Lastly, the School Development Committee Chair has also transitioned from Dale Lieb to myself. Dale has remained in the picture as a mentor and stable transition piece until things are smooth in their new leadership. I appreciate Dale's assistance as I am new to the Board as a whole. Thank you, and I look forward to the many opportunities to come through this committee!



IPADS IN THE CLASSROOM

(by Stephanie Severson, Librarian & Technology Instructor)

Second graders are wrapping up a unit on fairy tales. This has involved writing their own fairy tale, illustrating pictures, and then putting everything together on the iPads. The iPad 2s were used to take pictures of the illustrations, then students typed their stories using the Book Creator app. The pictures were imported to the correct pages, and then finally, the students used the voice recorder on the iPad to insert their own voice reading the book. The books were exported to the bookshelf so everyone in the school could read and listen to them.

Many times, the iPads are used to teach a new skill or reinforce an emerging skill. With the Book Creator app, the iPads are now being used to create new things -- a higher level thinking skill that we promote at DaVinci Academy.

The books are limited to our virtual bookshelves. Unfortunately, there isn't yet a way to export and mail them home. Please stop by and ask to see your children's work the next time you are at school.

FRIENDS OF DAVINCI ACADEMY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Your help and support is needed to make DaVinci Academy's first major fundraiser a success! The 2012 Friends of DaVinci Academy Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, August 3, at Majestic Oaks Golf Club in Ham Lake.

If you golf, please grab some friends to join you. If you belong to a country club, please ask for a twosome or foursome donation. Please ask your employers to sponsor or donate to our event. All monies raised will go directly to DaVinci Academy.

Please distribute the attached flyer to friends, employers, and family. If you need assistance or more copies, contact [Cory Klabunde](#) or [Mary Walker](#).



MOTHER/DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB

(by Eleanor Thomas)

All are invited to the Coon Rapids Mother/Daughter Book Club, which meets the 1st Friday of each month from 7:30-9:00 pm at Burger King, 13005 Riverdale Drive, Coon Rapids.

This book club is a great way to bond with your pre-teen daughter. We welcome all mothers and daughters (ages 9-12) from the Minnesota area. Come and see how much fun we have! If you would like to join us, contact Staci Martin or Eleanor Thomas through [Facebook](#). Also check out a recent article about our book club by clicking [here](#).

ORDER SPRING PHOTOS BY MAY 18

Lifetouch pictures went home with your student last week. If you are interested in purchasing the pictures included in your packet, please send payment in the return envelope (by Friday, May 18) to the school office (checks payable to Lifetouch) or pay online at mylifetouch.com.

Any and all photos you are not interested in must also be returned to the school office by May 18. If we do not receive either your payment or the unwanted pictures included in the packet, you will be charged a \$43.00 fee.

If you are interested in purchasing more pictures, order online through the code included in the packet, or turn the order form in to the school office.

There will be no picture retakes for the remainder of the year.

DAVINCI ACADEMY YEARBOOK

(by Molly Platisha, Art Teacher)

DaVinci Academy's 2011-12 yearbooks are on their way! Order forms will be sent home with students this week and must be returned by June 5 if you would like to order a yearbook. The cost is \$20.00 per book.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

DaVinci Academy students Andrea F. and Maria F. will perform in the Dance Moves production of *Follow the Yellow Brick Road*, an original story ballet. The performances are Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20, at 3:00 pm at Century College, 3300 Century Ave. N., White Bear Lake. Tickets are \$17 at the door.

Purely PTO

DaVinci Academy PTO

May 15, 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 16 – PTO Meeting
6:30 p.m. (change due to concerts)
- June 14 – All School Dance
“Back to the 80’s”

MAY GUEST SPEAKER

Lindsey Carlson from MADD Minnesota will be presenting a program called The Power of Parents at our next PTO Meeting on Wednesday May 16 at 6:30 p.m. Mothers Against

community members. Do you own, operate or are you employed at a business that would benefit from participation of DaVinci stakeholders? We will make available a simple listing of DaVinci Businesses to all our stakeholders by the end of the school year. If you would like to be featured in the Directory please email [Lee Zimbleman](mailto:Lee.Zimbleman).

“Together We Teach We
Learn We Grow”

Drunk Driving (MADD) offers a resource that gives parents the tools they need in speaking to their teenagers about drinking. The Power of Parents: It's Your Influence™ workshop provides an overview of MADD's research-based parent handbook to equip parents and other caring adults with the tools and strategies to effectively talk with teens about alcohol.

DAVINCI BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The DaVinci PTO would like to encourage our community to ‘buy local’ by providing a listing of all businesses and services that are owned, operated by or who employ our fellow DaVinci



PTO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Childcare during PTO meeting - May 16
- Chairperson to collect Teracycle products

Please contact Dina if you are available to help with any of these opportunities.

BASKETS!!!!

It's that time of year again when the PTO would welcome donated baskets that you find at garage sales for next year's silent auction!

CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION

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Great job to everyone who has been bringing in their Campbell's soup labels over the past few months! Don't forget, UPC's on your kids Goldfish snacks, PopSecret popcorn and Spaghettio's can also be collected for the LFE campaign! For more info, check out this website: www.labelsforeducation.com



PTO EMAIL LIST

If you would like to be added to our PTO email distribution list, just click [here!](#)



FACEBOOK

Check out the [DaVinci PTO on Facebook](#). “Like” our page to keep up to date on everything that's happening!



DaVinci PTO's mission is to enrich the learning opportunities and environment at DaVinci Academy.