

DaVinci Connection

DATES TO REMEMBER

Special Education Advisory
Council

Thursday, March 21
6:00 pm

Talent Show
Thursday, March 21
6:00 pm

April Lunch Menu Due
Friday, March 22

Spring Break
Monday, March 25-
Wednesday, April 3

Communications Committee
Tuesday, April 9
6 pm

School Development
Committee
Monday, April 15
4:30 pm

Policies and Procedures
Committee
Monday, April 15
5:00 pm

Compensation Committee
Monday, April 15
6:00 pm

Facilities Committee
Monday, April 15
6:00 pm

Technology Committee
Monday, April 15
6:00 pm

Finance Committee
Monday, April 15
7:30 pm

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www.davincharterschool.org

THANKS TO OUR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

(by Debra Lach, School Director)

We would like to express our gratitude for those DaVinci Academy School Board members who recently completed their terms:

Levi Bouwman
Doug Dinndorf
Ravi Raghavapudi
Terri Sheehan

These board members dedicated their time, energy, and ideas to make DaVinci Academy a positive learning environment for all students. Thank you for your service to our school. Your support will continue to make a difference in the lives of students for years to come.

Our new board members, Kevin Furst and Ross Meisner, both parents of DaVinci Academy students, joined the School Board at the February 25 meeting. We want to welcome them and thank Mr. Furst and Mr. Meisner for stepping up and offering their services to the school.

Every charter school is required to have an independent Board of Directors by statute, and the school board has a critical leadership role in overseeing the fiduciary, legal, policy, and accountability practices that ensure student achievement. The School Board meets every month, and board members also participate in a number of committees.

Parents are encouraged to attend both board and committee meetings and can find the meeting calendar on the DaVinci Academy web site.

There are still two open positions on our school board, one for a community member and the other for a parent. The school board will fill these positions via appointment, as soon as potential candidates are identified.

FACILITIES PLANNING: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

(by Doug Hiatt, Facilities Committee Chair)

As you are aware, DaVinci Academy has had space and parking issues, and we continue to find creative ways to deal with them. In order to offer the best educational program and fulfill our K-12 charter, we must find a long-term solution to these issues.

DaVinci Academy has seven more years on the lease for the current location, so the current location has to be part of any near-term planning. In January, DaVinci Academy filed a site expansion application with its authorizer (Friends of Education). If approved by Friends of Education, the application would be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education for approval. If the application is denied, the Facilities Committee will have to create plans to expand the current site. This will require working with our landlord to acquire the land to the north of the school and building additional space and parking connected to the existing site in a way that doesn't just create space and parking issues a few years down the road.

If the application is approved, the Facilities Committee will need to do a lot of work in a short period to make a recommendation to the Board regarding the best long-term solution. Possibilities include expansion of the current site or establishing a second site in an existing or new building. The Facilities Committee has compiled an initial list of properties that need to be visited and evaluated as part of this process. The second site could be one that fills a need temporarily while a more long-term solution is found using the existing location or another second site. The second site could be one that is intended to always be a second site or a location where the entire school could come back together when the lease at our current location ends. A second site has a



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number of issues that need to be considered including, but not limited to, the appropriate grades to have at a second site, transportation for both sites versus one site, parking, and other related topics.

These and a lot of other tasks need to be completed so the best decision can be made. We need volunteers and parent input on these and other important facilities matters. If you have ideas about creative space planning, current school facilities, or general interest in next steps for facilities planning for DaVinci Academy, your participation is needed on the Facilities Committee. Email me at dhiatt@davincicharterschool.org if you can help.

STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

(by Terry Moffatt, Academic Director)

On the weekend of March 9-10, our 6th and 7th grade boys basketball teams played in the state tournament. Both teams lost their first game but worked hard to come back from the early loss. The 7th grade team won its next two games despite being down to only six players. On Sunday morning, they were defeated by a strong Buffalo team so finished the tournament in 7th place.

The 6th grade boys team fought back after losing its initial game and won its next two to end the first day at 2-1. The team then won all three games on Sunday, including a one-point nailbiter against St. Louis Park. They played extremely well and brought home the 3rd place trophy!

We are extremely proud of the girls and boys basketball players and coaches for their hard work all season. They all showed a great deal of dedication, and all the teams improved throughout the season. Thank you to the parents, coaches, and players for another great season of DaVinci Academy basketball!



MCA TESTING DATES

(by Terry Moffatt, Academic Director)

It is that time of year again when state testing is looming over the horizon. It is important to note the testing dates so that students get lots of sleep the night before and a good, hearty breakfast on the days of testing. The reading and math tests are for all students between 3rd and 8th grades, and the science test is for grades 5 and 8 only. The math test is a little different this year as the students only get one attempt. We have taken two practice tests, but they do not count as a score. For reading, we will take the paper test again this year. Here are the dates for testing:

Reading: April 16-18

Math: April 30-May 2

Science: May 8-9

It is extremely important that your children are in school on the testing days. Please do not plan family vacations or appointments on these days.

END OF THE DAY TRAFFIC SHIFT

(by Holly Fischer, Instructional Coordinator)

In an effort to make DaVinci Academy's end of the day pick up more efficient, we have tried a new traffic pattern. So far, this small change has made a big difference in the amount of time it takes people to get through the line and out of the parking lot with their kids.

Once the buses leave at 3:07 pm, we will wave exiting cars through the bus lane so there is no longer a build-up of waiting cars to leave the lot. Please watch for the orange cone blocking the exit, and be prepared to take a right into the bus lane in order to leave the lot. Thank you.

ART CORNER

(by Holly Fischer, Instructional Coordinator)

Congratulations to the Artists of the Month for February. Their artwork can be seen framed in the main hallway.

K	- Chaise O.	5 th	- Lauren K.
1 st	- Josie M.	6 th	- Jacob T.
2 nd	- Elliot Z.	7 th	- Tommy K.
3 rd	- Lucas S.	8 th	- Ian G.
4 th	- Aiden K.	9 th	- Bella T.

**SECOND TRIMESTER HONOR ROLL**

DaVinci Academy is pleased to announce the students who have earned their place on the honor roll for the 2nd trimester. Congratulations to all of these students!

HIGH HONORS

The following students earned **high honors**, which indicates they maintained an A in all classes during the trimester.

3rd Grade

Tim B.
Elijah H.
Reema I.
Josiah L.
Saketh M.
Alekszander M.
Isaac S.

4th Grade

Aubrey B.
Grace G.
Ashley G.
Nathan K.
Zennon K.
Rishi R.
Regan V.

5th Grade

Boatemaa A.
Sarah B.
Emma B.
Reece D.
Erin F.
Josh Y.
Eliza H.
Lauren K.
Brooke L.
Jack L.
Micayla M.
Greta S.
Sierra S.

6th Grade

Maaz M.
Ashley P.
Ethan Z.
Jacob S.
Claire Y.

7th Grade

Durowaa A.
Samantha B.
Andrea F.
Jackson F.
Casey F.
Lilly K.
Nathan P.

8th Grade

Emma N.
Sarah P.
Quinn S.
Kayleigh S.
Anna T.

9th Grade

Bella T.



HONORS

The following students earned **honors**, which means they maintained A's and B's in all classes for the 2nd trimester.

3rd Grade

Jaya B.
Chloe B.
Jac C.
Elizabeth D.
Andra G.
Jabarie H.
Corrin H.
Hailey H.
Nathaniel H.
Anna M.
Victoria M.
Jaden N.
Grace T.
Grace P.
Elizabeth R.
Lucas S.
Seth S.
Rhaya S.

4th Grade

Alex B.
Simon B.
Liam B.
Tom B.
Rahul B.
Addie C.
Peter C.
Marian F.
Sam F.
Emma F.
Joshua W.
Varsha U.
Ashlyn G.
Katya H.
Molly H.
Mia K.
Aidan K.
Riley K.
Ellie K.
Aidan M.
Phi T.
Bassaa T.
Joshua T.
Grace S.
Leah S.
Tatum S.

5th Grade

Sydney B.
Ken B.
Emma B.
Christian E.
Sandy W.
Natalie H.
Mark H.
Lillian J.
Michael K.
Emma S.
Kaden K.
Meghan K.
Dessa K.
Kylie N.
Olivia T.
Elijah T.
Alex T.
William R.
Allison R.
Max W.

6th Grade

Carter A.
Furaha A.
Tim B.
Faith B.
Sierra B.
Elise B.
Cy B.
Samra C.
Shawn C.
Simenta F.
Nellie F.
Cole W.
Victoria W.
Autumn G.
Reese K.
Jacob T.
Jayden T.
Grace S.
Maddie S.
Julia S.

7th Grade

Danny B.
Darin C.
Ryan F.
Riley W.
Ava I.
Mike K.
Ritvik M.
Evan M.
Will T.

8th Grade

Sam C.
Brian N.
Connor S.

9th Grade

Angelisa P.
Anna M.



CONGRATULATIONS!